



TORONTO, SATURDAY, FEB. 13, 1892.

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**

**HUMOR COMPETITION.**

**\$50 in Cash Prizes to be Given.**

With a view to encouraging the humorous pens of the Dominion (and there are many of them as yet unknown to Fame), GRIP has decided to offer the following Prizes:

For the best short humorous article, a prize of \$30 cash will be given. For the next best, a prize of \$20 cash, and for the third in order of merit, a prize of \$10 cash.

The conditions of the competition are:

1st. No article to contain more than 750 or less than 300 words.  
2nd. None but original articles will be entered in the competition. Articles may be in the form of prose or verse, stories, character sketches, satirical skits, or in any other literary form whatever.

3rd. Articles will be judged not so much for literary merit as for the merit of the humorous idea involved.

4th. All articles submitted to be marked "competition," and to be the property of the Grip Printing and Publishing Company.

5th. Mr. J. W. Bengough, Mr. Phillips Thompson and Mr. J. V. Wright will act as judges in the competition.

6th. It is not necessary for any competitor to subscribe for GRIP, nor to send money for any purpose whatever.

7th. The authors of all articles which are, on a preliminary examination, considered meritorious enough to be placed in competition, will receive a copy of GRIP gratis for four weeks from receipt of article.

8th. All articles to be sent in by March 1, 1892, when the competition will be closed.

9th. There is no limit to the number of articles that may be sent in by any competitor.

The result of the competition and the successful articles will be published in GRIP as soon afterwards as possible. The best of the non-successful ones will also appear.

**COMMENTS ON THE CARTOONS.**



ABBOTT TO THE RESCUE.—We are prepared to hear GRIP denounced as a highly unpatriotic print for venturing to picture Canada as in a condition of distress. Patriotism of the fashionable brand requires that facts of an inconvenient kind shall be overlooked. A little lying, indeed, is by no means reprehensible, if it is necessary to make black look like white. As we have no ambition to figure amongst the fashionable patriots, we decline the conditions. It is true—most lamentably true—that this country, from end to end, is suffering from a trade depression. Any intelligent man who entertains a doubt on this point can easily set the question at rest by making a visit to the country, and getting on confidential terms with the first farmer he meets, whether Grit or Tory. He will probably learn that his entertainer has just put another mortgage on the place, in order to raise money for immediate and pressing needs, and that no farmer in the neighborhood is doing more than making ends meet. This being the condition of

agriculture, that of all the other branches of trade and commerce, which depend upon this main vine, can be readily guessed. Now, Canada happens at the moment to enjoy the services of a Government which holds the doctrine that trade depressions are amongst the things which statesmen can control, that is, statesmen who are not mere "flies on the wheel." To her Government, accordingly, Canada turns at this time, to ask the much needed assistance. And she gets it—in the form of perfervid orations on the old flag, and burning appeals to stand by British connection!

VAN'S "RESERVE" PUDDING.—There is a great deal of uneasiness manifested in British Columbia over the grabbing policy now being carried on by the C.P.R., with the consent of the Provincial Government. The Napoleonic Van Horne seems to have set his heart on taking possession of the entire mining region in the "Sea of Mountains," and several great slices of territory have already been reserved in connection with the projected railway to the Kootenay district, which is, of course, controlled by the Canadian Pacific. The Nelson *Miner* has been protesting against the granting of these reserves with all its vigor, but so far quite in vain.



THE Session of Parliament, soon to open, promises to be another season of scandal-investigations. Mr. Haggart is likely to be invited to listen to the inside story of Section B., in the presence of a committee. He will, no doubt, welcome the opportunity of establishing his innocence. Sir Adolphe Caron's management of the

Militia Department is also liable to be enquired into, although that distinguished statesman has been removed to the Post Office Department. It is a pity that the business of the country must thus be side-tracked, for of a truth it requires immediate and careful attention. But the investigations take scriptural precedence—"first pure, then peaceable."

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IT is understood that Principal Grant cast his vote for Mr. Medcalf, at the Kingston election, the other day. Assuming this to be true, we have a right to ask the good Doctor to explain himself. It is not a question of Mr. Medcalf—who is no doubt, a very worthy gentleman, personally—it is a question of principle, and also Principal. The Doctor claims to be an Independent, and he has taken pains to denounce the "foul birds at Ottawa," and more particularly Mr. John Haggart. But according to report, he cast his vote in support of these very chickens, for, of course, he knows that's what a Medcalf ballot meant. Dr. Grant is not a private man. He is a public teacher, who wields an enormous influence, and he, no doubt, has an adequate sense of his responsibility. He must, therefore, feel that he was justified in voting for the government candidate. He ought to publicly state the ground on which he did so. The young men of the country who look up to him are awaiting the explanation.