

The gravest beast is the Ass; the gravest bird is the Owl;
The gravest fish is the Osprey; the gravest man is the Fool.

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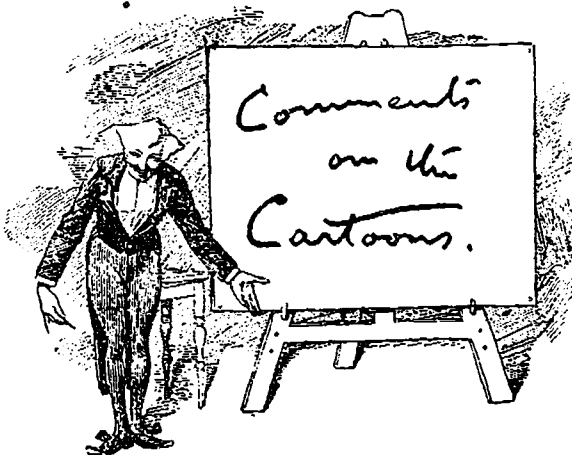
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J. W. BENGOUGH - - - - - Editor.
PHILLIPS THOMPSON - - - - - Associate Editor.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1892.



NOW FOR THE SUPREME EFFORT.—The British elections are over, and once more the destiny of the country is to be entrusted to the hands of Mr. Gladstone. The majority with which he will meet the new House of Commons, however, is a comparatively slim one, by no means the overwhelming force he and almost everybody else had anticipated. The falling off was occasioned partly, no doubt, by the formidable demonstration made by the anti-Home Rule Ulstermen; but is mainly attributable to widespread dissatisfaction among the labor organizations over Mr. Gladstone's refusal to consider the Eight-hour Question. The Grand Old Man, being once more in office, will no doubt address himself to the great culminating task of his life—the felling of the gnarled oak that represents Irish disaffection. That he may live to accomplish this task is the ardent hope of millions all round the world.

AN OBJECT LESSON.—The occurrences at Homestead, Pa., were badly timed, from the point of view of the Republican candidates. Millionaire Carnegie, whose determination to reduce the wages of his workmen led

to the strike and the subsequent fatalities, is one of Harrison's "right bowers." He is a citizen to whom Republicanism may "point with pride" as the product of a high-tariff policy, and he is the very kind of citizen the campaign managers of that party like to have within call when there is fat-frying to be done. But when the campaign is in its preliminary educational stages, men of the Carnegie pattern best serve their friends by lying low, because the "truth" sought to be inculcated is that Protection is a good thing for the workingman. Mr. Carnegie could not, therefore, have chosen a more inopportune moment for locking out his hands. He has thereby created a stubborn fact which everybody can see, and which it will take a powerful lot of Protectionist eloquence to explain away. Put briefly that fact is this: The tariff gives the Carnegie firm a profit of about a million per year, while it does not prevent the workers from being turned out because they will not stand a further reduction on their already slim wages. By his ill timed conduct Mr. Carnegie may be the means of defeating his bosom friend Harrison, and of clearing the way for a "triumphant Democracy" that he doesn't much relish.



THE country is safe for another twelvemonths! On the glorious, pious and immortal twelfth, Toronto and many of the other towns and cities of the Dominion were a blaze of glory, as the loyal Orange lodges paraded the streets and the Protestant boys carried the drum. We regret to observe that our sister Province of Quebec failed to join heartily in the day's fun, but Quebec was always behind the times. There is a suspicion abroad that many people in Quebec dislike the Orange Society, and the feeling is shared more or less by others there and elsewhere who do not belong to the Catholic Church. That's very unreasonable. Orangism is all right; its principles of civil and religious liberty and equal rights to all ought to commend themselves to every reasonable man. The trouble is that Orangemen as a general thing don't live up to their principles. It would probably puzzle a good many of the members to explain what the battle of the Boyne was about.

SPEAKING of the probable early establishment of free trade in the United States, the *London Spectator* says:

We shall feel the rivalry of the Americans, and before a generation has passed the United States will be the most prosperous workshop in the world. But relatively greater prosperity in America is in no wise inconsistent with absolutely greater prosperity at home compared with the present. Besides, to be beaten by America will not count, for the supreme position will still remain in the family.

Free trade in the United States means free trade in Canada, and as the *Spectator* so clearly sees, unexampled prosperity for this continent. But what we wish to call the special attention of Canadian Protectionist organs to, is the generous enthusiasm with which the triumph of American commerce is foretold by this British journal.