

GRUMPLETS.

BY THE GROWLING CONTRIBUTOR.

THE *Christian Guardian* is authority for the following item :—

The Rev. J. S. Youmans, formerly of Canada, but for some years a member of the East Ohio Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was given a supernumerary relation at the recent session of that Conference.

If I am asked to pass an opinion on the strictly literal significance of this intelligence, I should say that the Conference had sent the preacher's mother-in-law to live with him.

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"WHEN a man does not know what to do he naturally studies how he can postpone."

I rise from a perusal of a *Montreal Witness* editorial of which the above quotation is the introduction, with a pretty solid conviction that the editor, if he only cared to, could write a powerfully interesting and thoughtful article on Sir John Macdonald and the General Elections. As it is, the editor is only giving us Bulgarian disquisition. Philosophical premises of this order really ought not to be wasted.

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THE Brantford Street Railway Company have adopted a stove for heating their cars. Good! Let the march of civilization and progress take its sway! Let us go on advancing in this direction! Let us have iron dogs on the doorsteps of the street cars. Let us have a chambermaid attached. And a billiard-table. Likewise a barber-shop. Also an orchestra. A free-lunch counter, too. Every modern improvement, including a mortgage! If anyone wants to know what about room for the passengers, I triumphantly point to the roof.

* * *

THIS extraordinary paragraph appears in my morning's paper :—

A single sheet of paper seventy-two inches wide and seven and three-quarters miles long was made without a break in a paper mill at Watertown, N. Y., a few days ago. The sheet weighed 2,207 pounds.

I can verily believe this, and I am pretty certain Rev. Mr. Milligan does too. And I further venture the entertainment of a shrewd suspicion that this Rev. gentleman also surmises that Hon. Oliver Mowat bought and used this very sheet recently.

* * *

If there is anything in this world which invariably meets with my hearty and valuable commendation, it is liberality on the part of school trustees toward teachers. I do not like to find the trustees princely munificent, but would have them just pursue a properly limited course of large heartedness, such, for instance, as the Ancaster Board, who have raised the new head-master's salary to \$480 a year. I quote from one of the local papers :—

The school employs three teachers, one male and two females, and is one of the best public schools in the county. Mr. Hewson has had over twenty years' experience in teaching, and has taught in this county about 16 years with unqualified success. We congratulate the trustees of Ancaster on their wise selection, and feel confident Mr. Hewson will satisfy their most sanguine expectations.

Hear! hear! Any head teacher, of twenty years' experience, should, on a salary of \$40 a month, satisfy any man's sanguine expectations. The only trouble I apprehend in Mr. Hewson's case is the scarcity of Savings Banks out Ancaster way. But probably the trustees will take care of his large surplus.



Notice to Contractors.

TENDERS will be invited in a few days for the construction of the Section of the Cape Breton Railway extending from the Grand Narrows to Sydney, a distance of about 45 miles. This preliminary notice is given in order that Contractors desiring to tender for the work may have an opportunity to examine the location before the winter sets in.

By order,
A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

Dept. of Railways and Canals,
OTTAWA, 26th Nov. 1886.

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