

G R I P.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

The grabeſt Beaſt is the Aſs; the grabeſt Bird is the Owl;
The grabeſt Fiſh is the Oyeſter; the grabeſt Man is the Fool.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1874.

TO CORRESPONDENTS AND CONTRIBUTORS.

RICHARD DE DICKE.—Lecture to hand; corn acknowledged; apology tendered.

SCRIBO.—Our regular rate for the present is at the rate of \$2 per column for contributions when accepted.

THE NEW BANNOCKBURN.

Sors, wha hae wi' Bacchus bled,
Sots wham Drink has often led,
Rouse up, every whiskey head,
To real Bravery!

Now's the day and now's the hour;
See the grog-shop bosses lour!
Burst ye from the Rum King's power—
Chains and Slavery!

Wha would aye for liquor crave—
Wha would fill a drunkard's grave—
Wha sae base as be a slave,
Let him be a beat.

Wha for decency and law,
Temperance sword would stontly draw,
Sober stand or 'sober fa',
Let him to his feet!

By Society's high claims,
By the tippler's servile chains,
Fight ye on till naught remains
Of DRINK'S dynasty!

"God" and "RIGHT," your battle cries—
Trusty hearts and steadfast eyes—
Men of Canada, arise!
Forward! do or die!

RUM SORT OF LOGIC.

Tavern-keepers, according to Inspector of Licenses GOWAN, are not to be held responsible for the manufacture of drunkards any more than the maker of gunpowder is to be blamed for the murderous use of fire-arms. Perhaps not, and the Inspector might find numerous other comparisons ready to his hand; to wit, razors, jack-knives, lucifer matches, which he is at liberty to employ for future anti-temperance arguments. Why, as everybody knows, if there was not a licensed grog shop in the land, and people only drank tea, coffee, and cold water, there would still be the same amount of intemperance there is now, and husbands would still stay out of nights to come home reeling drunk in the morning; and young men would be just as likely to get into habits of alcoholic imbibition when they had no place to go to for their liquor, as everybody knows. Tavern-keepers are not responsible when they knowingly sell to a man that with which he, in their presence, makes a brute of himself. So would they not be responsible if they knew a man was prepared to cut his throat, and they sold him a knife to do it, making no effort to stop the suicidal act. Oh, no, the tavern-keepers are not responsible, nor would the apothecary be who should make his living by selling poison to men—the better pleased the more he sold. And there is no power in the land to arrest intemperance, and no one is to blame if health and wealth and manhood wilt before its withering influence.

PROTECTION DEFINED.—TOMMY'S idea that his brothers and sisters should be compelled to buy the marbles, pop-corn and bull's eyes that he makes, and pay him a good price for them, instead of their being allowed to go to JONATHAN'S corner store, or to MOTHER BULL'S candy shop, where they could buy them ever so much cheaper.

CURIOSITIES OF GOVERNMENT LITERATURE.

Our kind friend, the Provincial Secretary, in view of the arduous nature of our editorial labors, has voluntarily supplied us with some pabulum for popular entertainment from a rival periodical, styled *The Registrar General's Annual Report*. From the latter amusing serial we learn that the number of interments which took place in Toronto was 1,840, and of deaths in the whole township of York 982! We must, therefore, insist on the immediate exhumation of the 858 burial cases which constitute the discrepancy; the more so since there is *prima facie* evidence that they are tenanted by barometers, telescopes, impossible books, and other stowaways, which have been so long familiar with an atmosphere of corruption in another sphere that they may yet come forth uninjured, and be convertible into dollars. With regard to births, the Registrar represents that they are *decreasing* at the rate of upwards of 1,400 a year; he kills a lady at the mature age of one hundred and twenty-three, and unsophistically indicates the utility of his labors by informing us that "this table would be of incalculable benefit to the public were the registrations at all approximate to the estimated number."

Our friend meets with a worthy competitor in the Chief Superintendent of the Education Department, for in his report the latter functionary declares the instructive fact that in the "Central West" (of the United States) "the proportion of illiterate criminals is thirteenfold the proportion of illiterate people." So that, according to this gentleman—"learned in the law," as we gather from the "L.L.D." attached to his name—there are thirteen times as many illiterate criminals as there are illiterate people in this ill-starred State. In the South, we are informed, they are more highly favoured. The proportion of their illiterate criminals is only "threefold the proportion of illiterate people," "but this is caused by the great mass of colored people, who make up a large proportion of the whole people." No sooner has our supreme educator spoken of the "whole people" than he proceeds to dilate on the result "when the white population is counted in." We presume these mysteries are traceable to the exalted position maintained by this distinguished Divine, described by himself as his "standpoint of view." He bids us "look at how" this state of things will operate in an intelligent American community. We shrink with dismay at the contemplation of such a spectacle, but humbly suggest that the learned gentleman himself should "look at how," &c. The moral effect of all this upon ourselves has been of the most felicitous description, since it has led us to devote a tenth of the profit of this enterprise to the founding of a hospital for Government Incurables.

LATEST TRADE QUOTATION.

THE unhappy potency of political ambition, and of the struggle for commercial preferment to demoralise the human intellect, has just been painfully illustrated in the case of Mr. CANADA-FIRST HOWLAND. That distinguished gentleman was the other day elected Chairman of the Dominion Board of Trade at its annual meeting, and pursuant to custom he made a long speech. The effort was remarkable, not so much for the abundance of its telling figures—though it was highly mathematical—as for a very original quotation from Holy Writ, when the orator said:—

" * * * Our Government were, as compared with our neighbours, like the man in the Scriptures who was given three talents, but went and buried them, while the man who received only one made the best he could of it."

The Herculean tasks of leading and inspiring a great political party, and at the same time managing the mercantile concerns of half a continent, have evidently left WILLIE H. little leisure to keep up his reading.

MORAL.—Men who can't abear to be quoted shouldn't quote.

UNNECESSARY DRILL.

BURGLARS are, of course, an inscrutable race of beings—it would not be safe for them to be otherwise; but they very rarely do so incomprehensible a thing as we lately read of in the *Mail*. In an account of a deprecation committed on the office of J. B. Armstrong & Co., the *Guelph* correspondent of our morning contemporary describes the *modus operandi* of the thieves as follows:—

"They drilled a hole in the centre of the key-hole, then filed out a deep slit on each side, into which a quantity of gunpowder was introduced and fired with a fuse."

To our unsophisticated mind, the drilling part of that operation was quite superfluous; but perhaps some gentlemanly member of that fraternity—we observe many of them on King Street every day—will find time to drop in and enlighten us. If so, will he kindly bring one of the instruments used for drilling holes in key-holes!