

## GRUMBLES FROM QUEBEC.

Quebec, 16th April, 1863.

MY DEAR GRUMBLER,

Strong as was your contempt for the peoples' representatives, while their dull deliberations were held in Toronto, it could not equal one-half of what it would be if you were compelled to listen to them at present. There is not one of them has the slightest idea that the people want fun as well as legislation; that a well turned joke or a pointed sarcasm would make many a constituency forget its local wants and grievances in the merry humour of the inhabitants. For example sake, suppose John Sanfield were to meet the urgent demands of the member for Huron and Bruce for increased representation by a stunning joke stolen from the sanctum of the *Mercury*, the House would be so tickled that their laughter would render it impossible for the hon. member to repeat his request.

It was thought at one time, and not without truthful cause, that our friend D'Arcy McGee had a spark or two of genuine mirth in him, but I regret to observe that the cares of state are weighing heavy upon him, and the very curls of his luxuriant hair are being strained out by the propriety of his position. Foley, too, has succumbed to the exigencies of state, and will not laugh outright for fear of betraying the governmental policy to the opposition.

T. M. Daly has a jocular countenance, but his gloe is said to be at sight of glittering bait in the shape of contracts which the western members of the Cabinet are dangling before his eager eyes. We would advise him take care, and remembering the fable of the dog crossing the stream—not drop the substance to grasp a shadow.

There is much talk about new appointments, but matters are kept too shady for particulars. There is something afloat, or why this rumoured dodging and manœuvring. Jno. G. Bowes, it is said, is one of the coming men—Jno. Beverley Robinson making way for him in West Toronto, retiring from public life to accept the Toronto postmastership. This is a bid for conservative support to make up for the defection of Gowen's party. Jno. Hillyard Cameron is found impracticable, and, like an ogle cook, "has no followers," although as vain and conceited as the member for Arthabaska.

The contemptible reconstruction of the Cabinet for Upper Canada, is only the substitution of Bowes for Howland; but the changes in the Lower Canadian section will be more complete—the Attorney-General East being the only one to remain. The member for Iberville, Mr. Alex. Dufresne, becomes Provincial Secretary—a decided improvement on the present incumbent, who has neither the learning nor ability of his reputed successor. The accession of strength to the Cabinet by Mr. Dufresne's acceptance will be very great, he being the leader of the Bleu or Papineau faction, the most powerful political party in Lower Canada.

The Hon. Jean Baptiste Jules Prevost, is spoken of as the probable successor of Mr. McGee, as President of the Council. Much as may be re-

gretted, the resignation of the eloquent member for Montreal, it is gratifying to know that he makes way for one who is only second to himself in animated debate and fervid eloquence, and that the dignity of the board o'er which he is called to preside, will be worthily upheld and adorned. We fear one injudicious appointment is about to be made—Mr. Huot, member for Quebec East, as Commissioner for Public Works—a position he is in every way unfit for, from his want of education and position and his well-known and disgraceful political jobbery in the building of the Gaspe light houses. Why this man should have been selected for a seat in the Cabinet it is difficult to determine, his only qualification being business energy, having amassed a large fortune in the manufacture of boots and shoes—in other words, shoemaking. His influence in the ancient capital is undoubtedly great, but it is impossible to think that by prestige of that he has forced himself on Mr. Sicotte who, we fancy, would scarcely like to be seen in conversation with him. No one is yet definitely named for Solicitor General, and it is thought the office will be kept vacant for some time, as in Cartier's regime, until the expectant ones commit themselves fully to the government.

You may expect further particulars next week. There is nothing else worthy of note to write about, these Quebec people being awfully slow. If General Williams deprived them of the society of the military, it is not improbable they would revert to a state of semi-civilization. For the sake of our Canada, let us pray that his wrath may not fall on any other than London the less, which is an upstart city, and will profit by little correction.

GRUMBLER.

Curiosities to be Exhibited at the next Union Electoral Exhibition.

A book from the mouth of the St. Lawrence. The key with which navigation is to be opened. The right hoof of the "High Horse" with which most politicians ride into Parliament.

One of the "signs" hung out by time.

A light from the spark of friendship, said to be the only thing of the kind in the city.

About 25,048 threads, supposed to have been lost by our divines and public speakers in their discourses during the past year.

The (dead) lock which, it is said, the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament will soon come to.

Scene in City Council Chamber.

1st Father—You're a liar.

2nd Father—You're another.

3rd Father—The whole Council lies.

4th Father—That's a stretcher.

And so on—*ad libitum*.

ERRATUM.—From the "Globe."—We forgot to mention in our account of the great Mass Meeting, that at the break up, three cheers were called for and given to the "glorious and immortal memory," and the principal tune played by the band on the way down and while opposite our office, was the "Protestant Boys."

## DIARY OF A PICK-POCKET.

PICKED UP BY DETROIT COLGAN WITH THE POINT OF HIS BAYONET AT THE MEETING IN THE QUEEN'S PARK.

Tuesday.—Arrived from Hamilton by the Western train, and put up at the American Hotel. Biz dull.

Wednesday, nine o'clock.—Picked an old farmer's pocket of a copy of THE GOSPEL. Sold said copy for three cents.

Ten o'clock.—Eased a lady in the street cars of her gold chain, and took \$20 of a young seed fond of display.

Quarter Past.—Asked a middle aged clergyman what time it was, and lifted his watch as soon as he told me. Found on examination that the watch was pinchebeck.

Half Past.—Fell in with a drunken farmer, and told him I had been robbed. The catch succeeded. The greenhorn showed me where he had his money, and fibbed it all in two minutes after. [Mem.—Met him at the market afterwards, and had a horn with him at John Cornell's, in condolence of his loss.]

Three-Quarters.—Walked about the market square and robbed farmers indiscriminately. [Mem.—Contemptibly easy to rob a farmer.]

Eleven.—Saw a drunken fellow displaying his money, and took it from him, for fear he should lose it, before he could wink.

Half Past.—Summed up and found I had made \$250 already. Robbed two policemen out of fun, and put their dirty handkerchiefs in one of their companion's pockets.

Twelve.—Had a drink with Capt. Prince. Picked his pocket, but only found a bit of gold lace and a dog collar.

One o'clock.—Got tired. Went and had a good dinner. Balance of week too rainy to attend to business.

## WISE SAWS—BY A SAWYER.

Never wink at a pretty girl when a fierce looking savage is walking with her.

Never spend ten dollars when ten cents will do instead.

Never spend ten cents when you can run your face for it.

Never walk when you can ride.

Never commit suicide.

Never go to sleep on the railroad track.

Never speak well of any one, especially if you owe him anything.

Never put the lit end of a cigar in your mouth. Never make love to a girl until you have seen every other girl in the neighborhood.

## Perfectly True.

—That Alderman Moodie and Councilman Bennett were proposed for membership at the last meeting of the Hibernians, and were unanimously rejected.

NOTE.—That the *Globe's* stock-in-trade of no-Popery cries and anti-Doganism, which have for some time past been stored away in one of the tumble-down nooks of that un-stable building, will once more be cleaned up ready for use in a corner of the sanctum.