

G R I P.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

The grubest Beast is the Ass; the grubest Bird is the Owl;
The grubest Fish is the Oyster; the grubest Man is the Fool.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1874.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT.

Next week "GRIP" will appear enlarged to eight pages and illustrated with carefully prepared wood engravings. A gentleman of experience and ability has been engaged as Editor-in-Chief, and a staff of able writers secured. The publishers take this occasion to thank the patrons of "GRIP" for the very generous support and encouragement their enterprise has received in the past, and hope that, through a merited continuance of the same, they may be able shortly to announce further improvements. A canvass of the Dominion, for the purpose of securing a large subscription list is being inaugurated, and suitable persons (of either sex), are wanted as agents. To those who have any capacity at all for such work, the undertaking cannot but be very lucrative, as the commission is liberal and the "field" easily worked. All particulars can be learned from Messrs. CLEVER & ROGERS, subscription booksellers, 10 King street east, Toronto. "GRIP" will be mailed to any address for one year on receipt of \$2. Address "GRIP," Box 958.

Grip's Sense of the Session.

May 11.—Senator's minds were exercised about the dismissal of certain officials on political grounds, and Hon. Mr. HOWLAND wanted Government (to use his own exquisitely grammatical expression) to "get up and state" that they would never do so no more.

In the Commons, Mr. CHEVAL thought twenty cent pieces a nuisance (who doesn't?), and asked if Government would abolish them, which GRIP is happy to say they will.

Major WALKER moved for statistics in connection with Civil Service Employees, and wants them to be subjected to the indignity of competitive examinations. Think of it, ye Tom Noddy's and Fitz Noodle's who, according to Dr. TUPPER, are overworked and underpaid, toiling for an ungrateful country from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M.

May 12.—The Premier introduced his Pacific Railway Scheme, and made it rather warm for Sir JOHN in a speech, for which GRIP pats him on the back with an approving croak.

It is to be called "The-Canada-Pacific—part-of-the-way-by-rail-and-the-balance-by-water-in-the-summer-Company," and is intended to utilize those great lakes with unpronounceable names lying between this and the Rocky Mountains.

Of course, in winter, people can stay at home and drink tea (with the tax on), which will swell the revenue, and delight CARRWRIGHT.

\$15,000 was asked for, for unforeseen expenses, but it's no use, ALECK, you can't buy up GRIP. And, at 11:40, members had the usual trouble with their latch keys.

May 13.—They decided in the Commons to sit on Saturday; industrious Legislators!

Mr. FORBES enquired if Government could afford to place a fog whistle on some remote island where one of his constituents lives, but Government wouldn't and couldn't.

Mr. McDUGALL wanted Government to interfere and restrict the St. Lawrence from flooding Three Rivers. Now, Mr. MACKENZIE—emulate CANUTE.

And here GRIP joins with Mr. HOLTON in deprecating the childish practice indulged in by members, of throwing books at one another.

"Some white man's going to get killed with jest sich d—d foolishness as this."

May 14.—Ascension Day, and a holiday. GRIP and the other members adjourned to the cricket match, in which the Commons came out victorious.

Let SOUTHEY sing it—

And if you want to know the man
Who such a match did win,
'Twas he who bowled so straight and fast—
'Twas Dr. LANDERIN.
JAMES YOUNG did well, but 'twas not he
Who won that famous victory.

In the Commons, smokers tried to get the duty off tobacco; failed by 118 to 46.

Old women tried to get the duty off tea—a vote resulted in the following analysis of the House: Old women, 51; others, 108.

What a pity women can't be members? Wouldn't they tuck it on to tobacco, and wouldn't it be "tuck" off the tea?

SMIKE.

PARLIAMENTARY SPEECHES.

It has been hinted that there is to be an official and exact report of all speeches made by members of the Parliament at Ottawa. GRIP regards this novelty with dismay. It is totally subversive of all his ideas of the value of things. These speeches are to be printed, and each member will get two bound volumes and six unbound volumes. GRIP supposes that each constituency will provide a safe—one of Taylor's of course—to hold these invaluable works, so that intellectual burglars shall not steal them. There will be great danger of that! Caw! Caw!! GRIP's well fed sides shako with laughter over that. But, behold what will follow. The Provincial legislators will next want their speeches reported accurately, and printed. Alderman will follow suit, and the archives of the city of Toronto will be enriched with the eloquence of Blunt, Snivel, and Splurge. Lawyers will come in with their demand to be perpetuated; ministers probably, and the chairmen at debating societies certainly. The Pacific Railway is a boy's game compared with this scheme.

After half an hour's unwonted depression of spirits, GRIP has solved the problem of what it all means. Some friend of humanity has devised this plan for cleaning out the House. It is probably another deep laid plan of Sir JOHN's for killing off the majority. Only let them believe their speeches are to be fully reported, he says, and they'll kill themselves talking. GRIP thinks they probably would, but they would take an awful amount of killing, and the story of the dog whose vital spark was quenched with butter rises to view.

After another thirty minutes' deliberation, GRIP abandons the above theory, and now believes that this is one of several steps in a subtle design to advance the interests of the Dominion. It has been already hinted that in the event of a Federal Union of all the portions of the Empire, it would be advisable to remove the center of gravity to some point in Canada, say Toronto; and bring the Queen, Lords, Commons, Squires, men on strike, poor houses, banks, Liverpool docks, Jenkins emigrant agency, everything in fact,—except "Punch," whom GRIP considers a regular allopath in comic practice—and that it would be a fine thing to have a Hansard ready-made for the use of old country wind bags. If it isn't this,—GRIP feels his head giving way—oh, oh, caw! caw!!

After another half hour's insensibility, in an epileptic fit, GRIP gives it up; there is somebody crazy, that's certain, thinks it must be somebody down at Ottawa, or somewhere. GRIP advocates that at the next election a qualification of candidates for parliament be that they shall understand the deaf and dumb alphabet, and be restricted to its use in the debates in the house. Ordinary members to be allowed five minutes each, and the Ministers ten in addressing the house. The reports to be printed in "Hansard" in the ancient Chaldean character. The scheme reminds GRIP of the colored pusson's conundrum—"Why is a rail fence like a hog?" Because it is straight on the whole but crooked in de-tail. We don't want speeches made of de-tail.

A LEGAL LAY.

BY A SPECIAL PLEADER.

My BLACKSTONE! Ah, 'tis with a sigh
I con thy pages tame;
And thou, O COKE, altho' so dry,
Thou feed'st not CURFID's flame!

There is a maiden fair indeed,
Without consideration;
No Notice have I yet to Plead,
Or file my Declaration.

Upon my Suit she seems to smile,
And at my firm adherence,
Should I a Declaration file,
She'll enter an Appearance.

Would that a Habeas Corpus writ
By CURFID signed, could gain her;
Content by my fire-side I'd sit
With such a fair Retainer.

Alas! some weary years I wait
Ere Freedom thou returnest,
Till law has settled in my pate,
And then—a lass in earnest!

SHALL an official report of Parliamentary debates be published? This question has been Hansard.