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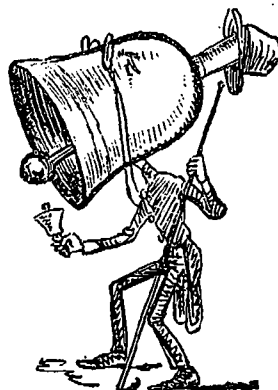
Cartoon Comments.

LEADING CARTOON.—Mr. David Blain, for-
merly Reform member for West York, has
published a long letter in the *Mail* in support
of the allegation that Hon. Edward Blake is
responsible for the destruction of the Grit
party. The *Mail* greets its new correspondent
with effusive affection, and mingles its tears
with his over the destruction aforesaid. The
sublime innocence of Mr. Blain in going to
the chief government organ for consolation in
such a matter, and the equally sublime exhibi-
tion of hypocrisy made by the organ in pre-
tending to pity him, are incidents too rich to
escape the political historian, and are even
worthy of being commemorated as laughing-
stock in these pages.

FRONT PAGE.—The Grand Trunk railway,
already a very powerful corporation, has suc-
ceeded, after many preliminary gulps, in swal-
lowing the Great Western, and henceforth
will be recognized as one of those beneficent
monopolies for which our country is becoming
noted throughout the world. Of course there

is a good deal of grumbling over this develop-
ment in Western Ontario, but this is, to say
the least, very illogical on the part of people
who by a large majority supported the Domin-
ion Government in establishing a similar in-
stitution to rule over the Province of Mani-
toba.

EIGHTH PAGE.—Mr. Premier Norquay of
Manitoba is not too proud to be taught, and
he appears to have the capacity for taking a
lesson with remarkable celerity and in a prac-
tical fashion. As a public man he has hereto-
fore been distinguished by a marked deference
to the will of Ottawa in all matters pertaining
to his Province, and when Ottawa thought fit
to disallow Manitoba charters and otherwise in-
terfere with local rights, Mr. Norquay ac-
quiesced with the utmost politeness. Mean-
time his opponents howled against these un-
just measures. When the Dominion election
came off, and it was found that public opinion
in the Prairie Province was against Ottawa in-
terference, Mr. Norquay at once saw the
point. The local elections are soon to be held,
and that valiant statesman is at present
amongst the loudest and firmest enemies of
Disallowance, and his organ, the *Times*, has
also added the new tune to its repertoire.



THE
CITY
BELL-
MAN.

I went over to Grimsby camp ground the
other day on that solid, steady, and withal
rapid steamer, the "Empress." It was my
first visit, and I was immensely pleased with
the spot. The magnificent grove, crowning
the high bank, from which one could gaze
almost across the lake; the cunning little
cottages; the tents, the hammocks, the happy
faces of the sojourners, all went to form a
beautiful holiday picture.

Truly Toronto is blessed above many cities.
If you don't care to go so far as Grimsby, or
Olcott, or Niagara, or Whitby, or Port Dal-
housie—and you can get to any of those points
for a trifle—why there is Victoria Park, a be-
witching spot and now excellently managed;
there is Lorne Park, a little further off, but
equally lovely; there is High Park, and Sun-
nyside, and Mimico and the Humber, all
within a half-hour of town, and lastly, for a
ten minutes' trip, there is the Island.

That Island, aside from its utility as a break-
water, is worth about \$20,000,000 to Toronto
as a park; and the man who would sell
it to a monopolist for that sum would deserve
the lasting execrations of all future genera-
tions.

I hate monopolists and monopolies; I hate
them with my whole heart and strength. I
don't care what shape they take, whether
railroad, or manufacturing, or land-holding—
they are utterly detestable; against the spirit
of the age, a standing outrage on human
liberty, and a perpetual menace to human
happiness. Away with them!

I recognize and respect only one sort of
monopoly—that of the intellect. If a man
can strike out a line for himself in which he
may stand alone without a rival, I say good
luck to him; I like to see him flourish and en-
joy riches and honor. Take yourself, Mr.
Grip, as a case in point. You have a mono-
poly of the field of comic journalism in Canada
—as absolute as that of the Syndicate in the
West—but nobody hates you; nobody envies
your growing wealth—and you are growing
rich, my ebony bird. I know it!—nobody
feels wronged. Why? Because your mono-
poly is not guarded by acts of Parliament con-
trary to the wishes of the people.

And there's your friend Dr. Wild for another
example. He has a monopoly of the church-
going people on Sunday evening, and he enjoys
a huge popularity with his regular hearers,
and I venture to say there are but a few croak-
ers who grudge him his laurels. I by no
means agree with many of the Doctor's theories,
but I honor him, monopolist as he is.

This reminds me that I have seen some spite-
ful things of late in the papers about Dr. Wild.
He may have got his degree from an obscure
University as alleged, and he may be rather
eccentric in some of his utterances, but he is
now exactly what he was, to my knowledge,
years and years before he came to Toronto.
He did not assume any new role when he
came to Bond-street. And as to his verging
on blasphemy, etc., there is not a more rever-
ent or, as I believe, sincerely pious man in any
Toronto pulpit than the aesthetically-long-
haired gentleman in question.

Mistr Tommis Bengof, who bleeds in
spelling as he rites, sends us the follerin abowt
the Canadyan Shrtthnd Convension to be held
in this sitty on the 29th and 30th inst.:

"Deep interest attaches to this meeting, as
it wil doubtles result in the organization of a
Canadian Shorthand Society combining the in-
fluenc of professionals and amateurs, or, tekni-
cally speaking, of 'Stenografers' and 'Short-
handers.' Alredy the art-science of Shorthand
has taken hih rank in this yung Dominion
—the demand for amanuenses being greater
than the supply. Among the papers to be red
is one by Mr. Wm. Houston, M.A. on 'Fonetic
Shorthand as an Universal Medium in Writing
and Printing.' Rev. Dr. Wild, Rev. Robt.
Torrance, of Guelph, and other prominent
short-hand riters and representativ steno-
grafrs from New York, Buffalo, Chicago,
Detroit, and other American cities, will parti-
cipate. Shorthand riters and learners will find
the meetings very profitabl. Reduced fares
hav been secured for delegates." Ald. John
Taylor is Chairman of the Committee. The
Secretary's address is No. 11 King St. West,
Toronto.

Our Funny Contributor, having occasion to
send many newspapers, etc., to his friends,
uses up a good deal of wrapping paper. Ask-
ing for some one day lately in a store in Lind-
say, a clerk remarked, "we can't afford to
give away so much paper, wrapping paper is
going up." "Well," rejoined our contributor,
"this is going up too, it's going up to To-
ronto."