



EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

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

Toronto, Saturday, October 11th, 1873.

THE WATER COMMISSIONERS' PLEAS.

(Written by Mayor M—N—G and Sung with great eclat by J—S—X—R—L.)



THREE cheers for Union and Progress,
And a tiger for the QUEEN!
A gloriouster party triumph
I believe I never seen—
JOHN GREENLEES is elected
And every thing's serene.
'Ip! 'Ip! 'Urray!

'Urray for good pure water;
And good order at the Board,
For the confidence of the country
In the Miistry is restored—
The whole Pacific Scandal
Is now completely flooded!
'Ip! 'Ip! 'Urray!

The Works will now be builded
Without no more delay,
For th' electors of the city
Has voted for JOHN A.
'Urray for "Union and Progress!"
That's all I got to say—
'Ip! 'Ip! 'Urray!

CANADA—AN ESSAY.

(By the Colonial Editor of the *London Times*.)

PERHAPS the most notable of our possessions, in point of territorial extent, is the Dominion lying west of Labrador, and occupying the northern part of the American continent. Until within a few years ago, this tract of land was known as the Canadas, and embraced the Provinces of Upper, Eastern, Western, and Lower Canada, together with the adjacent islands of New Brunswick, Prince Edward, and Newfoundland. A consolidation of these Provinces was effected in 1865, under the premiership of the Hon. GEORGE BROWN, who at that time was and still is Managing Director of *The Leader*, the chief organ of a party derisively yecept the *Grits*. Prominent amongst the compeers of the Hon. Mr. BROWN, during those Parliamentary transactions, were the Hon. JAMES BEARY, (widely famed as the "O'Connell of America,") the late lamented Hon. P. D'ARCY MCGEE, and Sir GEORGE E. CARTIER; Sir FRANCIS HICKS, and the present Prime Minister Sir A. J. MACDONALD, who for some weeks past has been undergoing examination at the bar of the House of Commons, with reference to certain charges popularly styled the "Pacific Scandal," preferred by him against the Directors of the Canada Southern Railway. The government under which the Confederation Act was passed was a coalition, and in the opinion of the simple hearted colonists worked admirably. The Canadian people are, as a rule, slight of stature and sharp featured; nevertheless they are hardy and honest, and in the plainer walks of life are quite competent to conduct their own affairs. Their principal pursuit is trading in furs with the aborigines, who still form the great bulk of the population. Owing to the extreme coldness of the climate, and the almost incessant falls of snow, winter is considered the most cheerful season of the year. For a fortnight or so, during the month of August, something approaching summer weather is experienced, and the inhabitants usually put it to good account, by laying in their stores against the return of the frost king. Travel is, as yet, one of the most serious matters. The native dog-sled is gradually disappearing before more advanced methods

of locomotion, several rudimentary railway lines having been built, through the agency of a few Englishmen who went out to live in the Dominion for the sake of the fishing. The most noted of these railways is that known as the Canada Pacific, which was successfully completed about a year ago by Sir HUGH ALLAN, a well known civil engineer, under the direction of the government of Sir A. J. MACDONALD. This line, which is one hundred and three miles long, connects the Red River Settlement and Manitoba, and has its western terminus at the now flourishing village of Port Hope. The maritime traffic is considerable, owing to the great facilities afforded by the large lakes of fresh water in which the country abounds. Lake Ontario, the most westerly, is navigable its entire length. Vessels trading in furs and Indian trinkets pass daily between Port Garry and Quebec, by way of the Niagara River and Lachine Rapids, which are both easily navigable under the care of an experienced pilot. Canada boasts several cities, or more properly sizish towns. Hamilton, the largest and most ambitious of these, is situated on Lake Ontario, opposite Montreal, and within a short distance of the well known Falls of Niagara. The Canadians, as a people, have inherited to some extent the thirst for knowledge which distinguishes England, and they support quite a number of schools, where the rudiments of education are taught by native masters, at a reasonable fee *per capita*. Of course, the chief men in this, as in other colonies, are old countrymen. London, particularly, has been drawn upon for brain by the Dominion. It is simply wonderful what a profound deference is paid by all classes of Canadian society to persons who, on arriving in the land, are able to announce themselves as citizens of this metropolis; and it is said it becomes tolerably easy in time to make one's residence amongst the Canadians, if one makes up one's mind to "put up" with a good deal of crudeness in all the details of higher civilization. The matter of beer is pre-eminent amongst the defects of the British American possessions, so much so, indeed, that there are several authentic instances of most respectable people having felt constrained to return home to enjoy the national beverage. The Canadians drink a decoction known as Forterod, which is praised by them as possessing many virtues, but one has to reside some time in the country before one comes to appreciate it. Then there are infinite defects in their musical and dramatic affairs, even when the parties concerned are, in point of fact, all natives of England, and even of London. It must be said, in justice to the colonists, that their general information with regard to things about them is fair. There are few, if any, to be found amongst the more intelligent classes who have never heard of England or the Queen. Recently they have even shown an inclination and ability to go the length of supporting a weekly satirical journal, which taste has been excellently encouraged in a publication entitled "Grip," published at the town of Toronto, situated near the mouth of the Humber River.

HOW 'TIS DONE.

If the Rev. Dr. WILKES, of Montreal, has been correctly reported in the *New York Tribune*, we begin to understand how possible it is that persons and newspapers in England and elsewhere should manifest such wondrous want of information about things pertaining to Canada. At one of the sessions of the Evangelical Alliance, the Rev. Doctor delivered an address as a representative Canadian, and in the course of his remarks, according to the *Tribune*, said:

"In Lower Canada (now Ontario) the population is largely made up of the Protestant religion; while in Upper Canada (now Quebec) the majority of the population is Roman Catholic."

MUSIC HATH CHARMS—(AND CRITICS).

A rising young journalist, who attended a private concert the other evening, has sent us a critique, which, for obvious reasons, we reject; The music of the Orchestra was palpatingly sublime. The soft wallings of the Jew's harp blent dulcetly with the modulated whispings of the tin whistle, while crepitating clappers woke images of unimagined grandeur on the attuned soul. The orchestra ran up the whole gamut of human passion, and swept the diapason of emotional mentality. Now like the low sobbings of a spanked child, then it rose to the thunderous carplings of uxorial reproach, while the stately quadrille swept by on a rosy coloured mist, and the graceful waltz tripped on the vermeil bosoms of innumerable flowers.

The touching melody of Mollie Darling (published by Irving, price 5 cents), brought tears to the eyes, and the solemn strains of Yankee Doodle, with accompaniment on a policeman's whistle, was reverential and grand. In the second part the enthusiasm rose to a climax, and we made *excursions dans l'infini*, and when the full orchestra, with rare precision, played "A Frog He Would," to the tune of the Old Hundredth, none could keep their seats, and a wild shout of triumph reverberated again and again from the skyey-roof, testifying to the pleasure received by the thousands present, from one of the most enjoyable concerts ever listened to.