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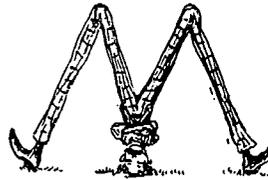


A MEDAL FOR THE MAJORITY. — A medal has been presented to Col. O'Brien, M.P., the leader of the Noble Minority, as a recognition of the service he and they have rendered to the cause of civil and religious liberty by their stand on the Jesuit question. GRIP need hardly say that this presentation meets with his hearty approval; but, being an entirely impartial bird, he cannot permit of the medal business being all on one side. To preserve the balance it becomes necessary to present the leaders of the Ignoble Majority with some similar token of esteem, and as those who approve of their action appear to be "backward about coming forward," it becomes GRIP's duty, of his own motion and at his own expense,

to prepare the medal and perform the ceremony. This he has accordingly done pictorially. In making the presentation he can only say that a medal of this particular design was never more thoroughly deserved.

EDWARD BLAKE'S ATTITUDE.—Mr. Edward Blake may have some very good excuse to offer for the vote he gave on the Jesuit Bill, but if so, he has not condescended to mention it. By this silence he has done his reputation a serious injury, for he has left it to be inferred that he had no stronger reasons for his course than those given by the speakers who opposed the O'Brien motion. Those reasons were unworthy of statesmen. The plea that the Act in question was technically within the powers of the Quebec Government, and therefore should not be disallowed,

whatever its bearing upon the general well-being of the Dominion, was the plea of a mere politician. Edward Blake has been understood to aspire to some nobler character. Canada once looked to him as her most promising son, and to all appearance he had a grand career before him. With magnificent intellectual powers, splendid culture, and high personal character, he was hailed as the coming statesman—by which term was meant one whose mental grasp embraced the broad interests of the State, and whose powers would be exerted to conserve those interests. One or two sad blunders in recent years well nigh dispelled the country's hope, and now, on another great occasion, he fails us. Nobody can be more fully aware than Edward Blake that this whole continent is engaged in a conflict with Jesuitism, and that in a country which believes in British liberty, no policy could be more mad and suicidal than that which now finds favor in Quebec. And yet by his vote and influence he gives that policy countenance. Are we to conclude that after all Edward Blake is only a politician? Has he nothing to say for himself?



R. ALDERMAN HEWITT is being effusively praised for his efforts to suppress the giant evil of banana-peels-on-the-sidewalks. No doubt, if proper measures are taken, many painful tumbles can be averted, and perhaps a few

limbs may be kept whole that would otherwise be broken. But has the alderman no regard for our local humorists, that he would thus ruthlessly sweep away the banana-peel, one of their most serviceable "properties"? The funny-man's vote is evidently an insignificant factor in St. Thomas' ward.

ON motion of a party by the name of Murphy, the State Senate of New York refused to accord to Mr. Premier Mowat, of Ontario, the courtesy of a seat "on the floor of the House," when he happened to be in Albany a few days ago. The reason assigned for this was not—as might have been supposed—Mr. Mowat's life-long defiance of the Catholic vote, but because he is a "dependent of Great Britain." There can be no question that this Hibernian exile, Murphy, is a patriot of the purest water (and whisky). A few more blows like this at the British Government will bring the haughty Saxon to his knees and settle the Irish question for good.

IT is whispered that Mr. Mackenzie Bowell, Minister of Customs, has at last found the right man for the vacant position of the Toronto Collectorship. There is an impression in ribald circles that these "fat sits" are as a rule reserved for political hacks and given as the reward of party services. In this particular case no such suspicion can arise. The Minister has taken ample time to consider the matter, and calmly examine the claims of all the aspirants with an eye single to the securing of the very best man for the place. He has at last decided, we understand, to give it to a gentleman by the name of Mackenzie Bowell.

MR. ERASTUS WIMAN is coming over to address the Ottawa Board of Trade on May 4th, when, he says, he will "do his best to interest and entertain his audience on the subject of closer relations between the two English speaking nations of this continent." This brazen avowal of a renegade's determination to tear down the flag of his country and sell his people to a foreign—come on, gentlemen of the Restrictionist press, this is your cue. Get your slop-buckets ready, and go for him as usual!