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EDITOR.

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NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

OUR friends are reminded that the magnificent lithographed plate, "Prominent Conservatives," issued as a supplement to Midsummer GRIP, will be sent to every subscriber applying for same and enclosing five cents for postage.

THE HOLIDAY "GRIP"

WILL be issued next week, and will contain twenty-four pages. Amongst the attractions will be a very amusing DOUBLE-PAGE CARTOON on the Result of the Ontario Elections, and special contributions by Alex. McLachlan, J. W. Bengough, Scottie Airlie, and other popular writers. The number will be one of the best ever issued. No increase in the price—5 cents per copy.

Comments on the Cartoons.



A FALLACY BROUGHT HOME.—Although we are, with the great body of the Prohibitionists in Canada, sorely disappointed at Mr. Blake's present attitude on this great question, we do not for a moment lose hope in the cause, and what is more, we keep a steadfast eye on Edward Blake as a man who is soon to join our ranks. He is a man of transparent honesty and sincerity—and we can honor him, as we do, though in the meantime we may differ from him upon a matter of opinion. We know that Edward Blake is so great a man that he would not hesitate to acknowledge an error if convinced that he had made one, and he can be relied upon to act in accordance with his convictions regardless of political results. Our hopes for the cause of prohibition are accordingly based upon the confidence that Mr. Blake will soon be convinced that he erred in supposing that Canadian public opinion is not

now ripe for the overthrow of this national crime of the liquor traffic. We believe it is ripe, and that fact would have been demonstrated emphatically had Mr. Blake declared himself for the immediate, total and complete annihilation of the thing. His words would have flashed from end to end of this Dominion, and like a gleam of summer lightning would have brightened a million unhappy homes. In an instant the Reform Party would have been inspired with an enthusiasm which it has never hitherto known, and if there were some defections from its ranks, the gaps would be more than filled by worthier men from the Conservative Party. If Mr. Blake wants to see the grandest display of public joy and fervor that Canada has ever known let him put this to the test. Let him declare now—as he must declare before long—that as a Christian man he cannot and

will not longer hold fellowship with this "throne of iniquity, which frameth mischief by a law." Meantime, in his speech at Aylmer, Mr. Blake entirely overlooked the educative character of prohibitory law. Why is it that in the county of Halton, for example, no professedly decent person will either sell or buy liquor, whereas in Toronto highly respectable people will do both? The people of Halton are on a higher plane, and why? Because the law is their schoolmaster, and has taught them effectually. Decent people respect the law, and other are obliged to. This fact is further illustrated in Mr. Blake's own pleasant home, which is under a Prohibitory law so far as liquor is concerned, and we have taken the liberty to peep in there unbidden for the purpose of pointing the political moral to the Liberal leader.

THE UNRECONSTRUCTED REPORTER.—When the *Mail* declared itself independent of the Conservative Party, it was supposed that the whole staff were made aware of the change. It is quite evident, however, that the reporters are constantly forgetting it, as they keep right on as before describing every Conservative meeting as a "grand triumph," "ovation," etc., etc., with corresponding *diminuendo* for the Grit meetings. Mr. Bunting must be very angry at this, as he has a perfect right to be.

THE FRENCH LANGUAGE.—Mr. Mercier says that English *must* be the language of this continent, and he does not go in for making French the popular tongue. It is suitable for polite society, etc., and should be retained in that sphere only. Mr. M. must, therefore, share the general disapproval of the state of things in Eastern Ontario where, it is alleged, French and French only is used in many of the public schools.



THE annual conversazione of the Commercial Travelers' Association, of Ontario, will take place in the Pavilion, on the 30th inst., when the Knights of the Road and their friends will no doubt be out in full force. Those who remember the brilliancy of the last gathering will make a special effort to be present, we are sure. A splendid musical programme has been prepared, as a preliminary to the ball.

"THE Great Home Rule Debate," a highly amusing contribution in the North and South of Ireland dialects, by J. W. Bengough, in the Holiday GRIP next week. Look out for it.

A G-ROSS ERROR.

OUR esteemed artistic contributor, M. Coté, has been caught in a big blunder—so an esteemed correspondent thinks. In the cartoons in which he has recently pictured the fortunes of the Quebec Premier, M. Coté has presented the Gritt Ross instead of the Tory ditto. This, our correspondent thinks, argues an inexcusable ignorance of the fact that Quebec as well Ontario rejoices in the possession of two Ministerial Rosses, and that the present premier is *not* the Ross who was lately a colleague of Mr. Joly. No; M. Coté is not an ignoramus, but he is a sly dog, and he correctly guessed that *we* were mixed on the Ross question. He took advantage of this to help his party a little by making fun of the Rouge Ross instead of the Bleu. But his trick is now found out, and hereafter we will insist on the right boy getting the birch.

GRIP is the cheapest 16-page comic paper in the world.—\$2 per year.