

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

BY THE

Grip Printing and Publishing Co.

26 and 28 Front Street West, Toronto, Ont.

President
General Manager
Artist and Editor

JAMES L. MORRISON.
J. V. WRIGHT.
J. W. BENGOUGH.

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

PAYABLE STRICTLY IN ADVANCE.

To United States and Canada.

One year, \$2.00; six months \$1.00.

To Great Britain and Ireland.

One year \$2.50.

Remittances on account of subscriptions are acknowledged by change in the date of the printed address-label.

In remitting stamps, please send one-cent stamps only.

Comments on the Customs.



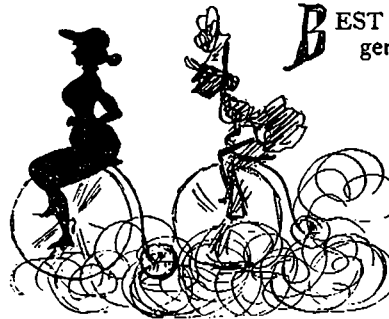
CLEVELAND DISCOVERING THE ST. CLAIR FLATS CANAL.—President Cleveland had a notion of shutting the St. Clair Flats Canal against Canadian vessels, by way of retaliation for our Government's discrimination in favor of the St. Lawrence Canal route, and he asked Congress for power to enable him to do so. He is still awaiting the action of the Senate upon his application. In the meantime the fact has been discovered—or rather rediscovered—that a good portion of the St. Clair Flats Canal is upon Canadian territory. This is, to say the least, very embarrassing for Grover, as his proposed retaliation scheme would not work smoothly under such circumstances. As a set-off, it is now alleged that a portion of the St. Lawrence Canal is in American territory. Providence seems to have put a veto in advance upon an unneighborly policy between Canada and the United States, for which both countries may be thankful. The actual

application of Retaliation was from the first deemed improbable; it now looks as though it were impossible, and the fuss will in all likelihood result in a permanent arrangement for trade mutually profitable to both parties.

THE DOG IN THE MANGER.—The Quebec Government has a strong case against the Federal authorities in the matter of the disallowance of the District Magistrates' Act. Aside from Mr. Mercier's strong argument that the measure is *not* unconstitutional, and that similar Acts passed by previous Governments in Quebec have

been allowed to stand without question, the Local Government was compelled to take the action it did. The legal machinery in the Province, and especially at Montreal, had been for a long time notoriously inadequate to the discharge of the business committed to it. The dockets were constantly glutted, and it was found impossible for the judges to overtake the work. Under these circumstances, the Ottawa Government was appealed to repeatedly by bench, bar and legislature, but without avail. Sir John is acting the part of the dog in the manger; having persistently refused to grant the relief himself, he now refuses to allow the Provincial authorities to do so. It is easy to understand why he should wish to thwart Mercier, but why he should have deliberately ignored a crying evil for so long, when a scratch of his pen would have ended it, is "one of those things no fellow can find out."

TORONTO has had quite a shaking up with the drums of the Salvation Army during the past week. It is worth noticing that the red-shirted lads and blue-skirted lasses are winning their way to the popular heart by their honesty and sincerity. The department which has stood the scrutiny of the critical Hindoos, and won them in thousands from idolatry, will in due time conquer the prejudices of our own "Christian" community, where such may still exist. It is only in Montreal and a few other benighted districts, however, that there still exist chiefs of police who publicly express the wish that the Salvationists were at the bottom of the sea.



BEST of 'em all, is the general verdict upon the Exhibition just closed. The clerk of the weather acted as though he had an interest in the receipts, sending only one showery day, and on that occasion restraining the dampness until some

fifty thousand people had passed through the gates. Everything passed off pleasantly. The police managed their business so deftly that none of the "crooks" had a chance to transact business, and the whiskey sellers were kept down so well that drunkenness was all but unknown throughout the fortnight. The big show improves every year. May it never go down, Hill.

NEWFOUNDLAND isn't going to join us after all, so she isn't. All right, dear. Go right along, hoeing your own row. We only wanted to "round off Confederation," you know. It was a purely ornamental idea, but if you are not going in for ornaments this season, there is no harm done. But you are losing the great advantage of having us cut off your trade with the wicked world with our great N.P., let us tell you! If you won't come in we will have to leave you to the sad fate of being inundated with cheap foreign goods!

SENATOR JOHN SHERMAN has decided that, after all, it will be best to annex Canada to the United States. We will let him know what we think of this little proposition in due time, but meanwhile has John given due consideration to the fact that the addition of 5,000,000 Canadians, chiefly Democrats, will be bad for that political garment, the "bloody shirt"?