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Associate Editor

J. W. BENGOUGH.  
PHILLIPS THOMPSON.

COMMENTS ON THE CARTOONS.



**A SUGGESTED JURY.**—As if to reduce the Premier's high-sounding phrases about "punishing the guilty, high or low," to the last degree of ridicule, the Cabinet left it to a committee, consisting of Messrs. Foster, Dewdney and Haggart, to report upon the evidence and determine who should be prosecuted! Sir John Thompson, as Minister of "Justice," was a party to this grim joke, and stands ready to proceed with all necessary severity against the poor little penny-ha'penny boodlers of the Departments, a few of whom will be the only persons indicted. In order that this new scene in the comic opera of "Trial by Jury" may be made complete, we recommend the Government to act on the sugges-

tion of our cartoon, and emp nel Langevin, Chapleau, Haggart, McGreevy, Murphy, Rykert and Connolly as a special jury to try the case. The only difficulty to be apprehended would be that the defendants' counsel might raise the technical objection that these gentlemen are more than the peers of the accused—at boodling.

**DISTRESS AND DISAPPOINTMENT!**—We are conscious that our effort to depict the anguish of the Government on hearing that the Washington conference must be postponed is inadequate. There are some emotions which it is almost impossible to express pictorially, and extreme grief is one of them. It is difficult to imagine, much less to depict, the overwhelming distress with which the Cabinet heard this news. Here were our statesmen eagerly and anxiously awaiting the arrival of October 12th, the auspicious day on which they were to have opened negotiations which they ardently hoped and believed would end in the securing of the great boon of Reciprocity—the thing which Sir John Macdonald tried in vain to bring

about with the N.P. They were counting the hours and minutes, and trembling with alternate hope and fear for the outcome of the Conference. Oh! how anxious they were to secure Reciprocity! Then, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, this cruel disappointment bursts upon them. Mr. Blaine is not very well, and nothing can be done for some weeks—perhaps months. The shock was terrible! The suddenness of it struck the Ministers with a species of hysterics. They laughed and capered about the Privy Council Chamber, looking like men who were beside themselves with delight, instead of crushed with sorrow. But of course we all know they were sorry—very, very sorry.



**T**HE *Globe* seems to favor the giving of the Island railway franchise to a private corporation. This may be taken as an example of *facilis decensus Averno*. Since we have renewed for thirty years the lease of the City lines, the cry must be "Everything goes!" Isn't it sufficiently plain to the *Globe* yet, that Toronto made a big blunder in this Keily-Everett business? It is a fact, whether the *Globe* sees it or not. The aldermen committed an "indiscretion" which we will have to get along with the best way we can for the next thirty years. Let us have some sense now, and if there is anything to be made out of the Island franchise, let the whole of it go into the public till.

**T**HERE is another "if" in this question—viz.—if the city has any control over the Island for railway purposes. The Island is considered for taxation purposes to be simply a part of the city, and if so, the privilege of building and operating a street railway line there already belongs to the Keily-Everett syndicate. These gentlemen will no doubt be wide enough awake to see that they get all that belongs to them. So perhaps after all we need not bother ourselves about the matter.

**W**HEN Mr. Erastus Wiman refers to Canada as his dear native land, some uncharitable people accuse him of hypocrisy, and point to the fact that he continues to reside and make money in Yankeedom. We are not of those who have any suspicion of the genuineness of 'Ras' Canadianism, but even his carping critics must admit that he may sincerely call this country his "dear native land," seeing that he comes over every year about this time, to slay venison in the forests of Muskoka. He is now here on that butcherly mission.

**M**R. CHAPLEAU says he has always been opposed on principle to the interference of the clergy in politics, and that when he was Premier of Quebec, he worked earnestly to keep the pulpit in its proper place. Our impression is that the priests of Quebec used to toy with politics by giving the faithful straight instructions how to vote, the interests of the Church, as a financial rather than as a moral institution, being invariably the paramount consideration. We can conceive that a statesman like Mr. Chapleau would be against this sort of thing, where the instructions from the altar happened to hit him or his party. It is not on record, so far as we know, that he ever protested vehemently against it when the other fellows were the victims.