

THE GRUMBLER.

NEW SERIES.]

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1862.

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THE GRUMBLER

Is published every SATURDAY MORNING, in time for the early TRAINS. Copies may be had at all the News Dealers. Subscription, \$1; Single copies, 3 cents. Persons enclosing their cards and \$1 will be favored with a special notice.

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THE GRUMBLER.

"If there's a hole in a' your coats,
I rede you tent it;
A chief's amang you taking notes,
And, faith, he'll pent it.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1862.

"HERE WE ARE AGAIN."

A stern conviction of duty constrains the GRUMBLER to dip his oar again into the troubled sea of human affairs. When we last laid down the censor's pen, after scolding, quizzing and lashing the follies and errors of the time, we thought, in our simplicity, that we had brought society up to a decent sense of propriety. Everything seemed to be going on swimmingly, and we rested from our labours, as he rests who has vanquished an enemy or brought an argosy safely into port. Everything was put to rights except representation by population, which we were compelled to discharge from our infirmary as hopelessly incurable. But alas! no sooner was the lash removed, than public affairs relapsed into their pristine disorder, as if the GRUMBLER had never flourished it over the backs of the delinquents. And what a precious mess you have let matters get into, respected public, since we last confabulated together.

The model Republic has come to grief, and where we left peace and plenty we returned with the fetter and the sword. We are now in a generalship, democracy without freedom, and without value, emancipation without justice, and telegrams without truth. In our own Province we have beheld the anomaly of a Grit Cabinet without George Brown, and a *dicta*, utterly oblivious of Rep. by Pop. The great Achilles of the Reform party wanders far from his native land; the war rages here unequally in his absence, whilst he, if report speaks correctly, is seeking elsewhere, that solace which he requires, now that his political goddess (the Premiership) has been wrested from his hands.

Cartier's vision of "Vinsor" and royalty has faded, Smith has retired from the republic of letters, John A. has gone into voluntary exile, while Foley fattens on the Post Office, McGee turns courtier, and McDougall quietly browses in the public pasture. In short everything, at home and abroad, civil and military, political and social, is in such a mess that we scarcely know where to begin. We are purposely merciful this week; for in good sooth, we scarcely can realize the herculean task before us; but next week and ever after we shall be as inexorably severe as Rhadamanthus himself. Within the limits of our little sheet, knavery and folly need expect no quarter.

If we appear to flourish the rod indiscriminately at first, the sufferers must remember that it has lain in pickle for an extraordinary period, and that our arms are spoiling from inaction. We shall endeavour to render the GRUMBLER as acceptable as our humble abilities and public favour will allow. The addition of 500 to our circulation would sharpen our wit and enliven our fancy immeasurably. Yield us a generous measure of your support, dear public, and you shall have no reason to complain of our efforts. To our brethren of the Press, we think we are entitled to look for more than an ordinary share of indulgence and attention, and we doubt not we shall receive it. We have but one desire, to present a paper which shall be satirical without rudeness, political without partiality, and humorous without the least taint of coarseness or vulgarity. Shall we succeed?

THE PORCINE WAR.

The ensuing Municipal Elections are likely to be characterised by new party unions, and new party cries. Tory, Grit, Radical, and Corruptionist will dwindle into the shadowiest of memories, when are unfurled the banners of the Pig-party and the Anti-pig party.

The Pig-party has, to a man, pledged itself to uphold the whole hog for the candidate who will promote and uphold swinish rights and liberties. On the other hand, the Anti-pig party are equally determined that, as Ham was driven out, so shall they drive out pork, and that not a surviving shall have a chance of saving his bacon. It would be a difficult task to determine which party is likely to be successful, for although the Anti-pig party shews unity and determination, yet the sword itself is not mightier than the pen, as the olfactories of many a pig enemy can testify. We have intelligence from a reliable source, that the Anti-pig party intend giving no quarter, so there will be no more wallowing in the municipal mire.

To every porker there shall be but one alternative—root, hog, or die. The distinguishing shibboleth of the Anti-pigs will be "Pure air and no piggeries." The Pigs will, of course, adopt the battle cry of the tribe; for who ever expected anything from a pig, but a grunt?

SPECIAL TELEGRAPHS FROM QUEBEC.

A commission, consisting of Ogle R. Gowan, Tom Ferguson and Tom Daly (the government, you know, do not recognise party in its distribution of the fat things), is to be immediately appointed to enquire into the moral condition of the Indians of the Manitoulin Islands, and the possibility of converting the red men into good and zealous members of the fraternity of Orangemen. Mr. Gowan is to be appointed to the Grand Mastership, with a salary of \$300.00 a year, should the commission be able to make a favorable report.

"Brook's Bush" has been made a new military district. The Brigade-Majorship of this district has been offered to Dr. Connor, he having given up all hopes of elevation to the Bench.

Two enterprising citizens have just announced a new enterprise, which is to come into operation during the next Session of Parliament. It has particular reference to the moral elevation of the sitting members. It is understood that the scheme has the sanction of a good many members of both Houses. Sidney Smith is to be Chairman of the Board of Examiners.

An enquiry is to be at once set on foot by the government as to the working of the "refreshment apartment" of the Legislative Chambers. It is understood that in future no member is to be allowed to take more than a dozen drinks in one day. This allowance is understood to have been fixed by Mr. McGee, who, since his accession to the ranks of the government, is decidedly of opinion that moderation in all things is necessary, in order to avoid functional derangements. The opinion of the Hon. Malcolm Cameron, now in British Columbia, is to be taken on this point.

There is no truth whatever in the rumor that Mr. George Sheppard is to be taken into the Cabinet, *vice* Macdougall. Both gentlemen are understood to give trouble enough in their present positions.

Dr. Ryerson is to be requested to retire, with a view, it is said, that your old friend Joe Gould—the learned and the erudite Joe—should take his place. I do not state this on the authority of a Cabinet Minister, but Joe is understood to be looking after the office, and such an old and respected member of the party cannot be allowed to go unrewarded.