

GRIP.

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EDITOR.

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Comments on the Cartoons.



A NEW IDEA.—Sir Hector Langevin, as leader of the Government *pro tem.*, has distinctly refused to bring down any more papers pertaining to the North-West Rebellion, and in this course he has been sustained by a majority of forty-nine. The plea is "the public interests"—as before. This is done at great self-sacrifice on the part of the Government, as, according to Hon. Thos. White, the papers in question if laid upon the table would fully vindicate the ministry against the suspicions now generally entertained. It's a great pity Sir Hector didn't suggest the appointment of a select confidential committee to examine the papers in question and testify to their "dangerous" character, because, as he may not be aware, the excuse is looked upon as exceedingly gauzy. Moreover, it is a bad example to set to the minor public servants of the country. Next thing we know, our postmasters will be claiming the right to use their judgment as to what mail-matter they will deliver to us when we call of a morning. The "papers" in the post offices are just as much the property of the postmasters as are those documents at Ottawa the property of Cabinet Ministers. The party at Mr. Speaker's right hand should not forget that as yet they only own the timber limit and coal mine portion of the country; the rest of it still nominally belongs to Us.

THE IRISH STEW.—Thursday, April 8th, will be a memorable day in the political history of England, as the climax day in the career of the greatest Statesman of this century. Amid surroundings quite unique, with not only a crowded house and an eager nation, but it might almost be said, an excited world hanging upon his utterances, Mr. Gladstone stood up to develop his plan for the settlement of the Irish difficulty. Ireland, hungry and expectant, has been for a long time awaiting the arrival of the dish ordered—Home Rule. On Thursday the dutiful William made the first step toward the fulfilment of the order, but whether he will ever deposit the Irish Stew on Paddy's table, or be tripped up by Chamberlain before he gets there, the world awaits anxiously to see.

MIKADO CHARLTON.—Mr. Charlton has a sublime object before him in the bill he has so persistently introduced, and there is every prospect of his perseverance bringing ultimate success. The arguments with which the worthy member has been met in his contention that seduction should be made a criminal offence and punished accordingly, have always been of a flimsy character. These, however, have now been fully met by amendments in the bill, and if the measure does not now gain the consent of the House people will be

justified in drawing conclusions not very flattering to Mr. Charlton's opponents. The chief opposition has hitherto come from the Senate—a chamber made up, with a few honorable exceptions—of hoary-headed noodles whose ideas of morality are not such as we would like to have disseminated amongst the youth of Canada.

GOOD-BYE, SWEETHEART.—Hon. Peter Mitchell has at last torn himself away from the embrace of the Government. The action of the majority in sustaining Sir Hector Langevin in his refusal to bring down the North-West papers, did the business. Henceforth the Hon. Peter will refuse even the moderate measure of support he has hitherto accorded to the Cabinet; but it does not follow that he will join the Opposition. We hope he will not. The country needs a few sturdy members, independent in fact as well as in name.



MR. GEORGE BELFORD, an English elocutionist, who has been making a short tour of Canada, appeared before a select audience at the Normal School Theatre, on Friday evening of last week, and presented a varied programme with marked ability. The audience was most enthusiastic throughout, and warmly supported the vote of thanks tendered at the close of the entertainment. Mr. Belford is strongest in the department of heroic declamation, but his comic efforts were also above the average, though his selections in the latter line—notably the "Annual Dinner of the Society for the Distribution of Blankets and Top Boots amongst the natives of the Cannibal Islands," and "My First and Last Appearance on Any Stage," had the disadvantage of being too London-y for popular use in this country. Mr. Belford is to appear again shortly, and we heartily recommend our readers to go and hear him.

THE "MIKADO" is with us once again with his accompaniments of pretty little maids, comical ditties, gorgeous scenery, splendid dresses and catching music. Standing room only, of course, unless you are wise enough to get your seat well in advance. Nobody really takes in the fun of this clever piece on a first hearing, and if you go twice you can hardly stay away at all thereafter.

MR. SNEELBAKER, a gentleman of high reputation, has taken the management of the Yonge Street Opera House, and has already succeeded in making it a pleasant and popular family resort, where performances of merit are given every afternoon and evening.

A LIE has no legs, although it can fly beautifully around the whole neighborhood, and pay every one of the gossips a friendly visit.

WHEN a woman will she will, depend on it. And yet she must verify your promise to post that letter by going through your pockets when you come home again.

GOOD for the Government! They don't propose to let the American senate steal our fish as that august body proposed, but have taken active measures to defend our waters. Perhaps the loss of a few piratical fishing-smacks will bring the Government across the way to the conclusion that it even pays better to act decently.