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Comments

ON THE

Cartoons.

"DAR'S A COON 'ROUND."—The great outbursts of applause which greeted every sentence Father Huntington uttered against tariff restrictions in his address on Tuesday evening, indicated the state of public opinion upon the question which

at present is expected to form the issue of the next Dominion election. The audience was eminently representative of the masses, as it contained members of all parties and creeds. So great was the applause at one point that the speaker was obliged to pause for a couple of minutes. In resuming he said, "I am surprised at this manifestation. I was informed that I need expect no expression of the sort in Toronto. But it is clear to me that this is just the premonitory sign of an uprising in Canada such as that which on the fourth of November overwhelmed and swept away the party of restriction and corruption in the United States." Such symptoms are not likely to escape the notice of the shrewd Sir John, and signs are not wanting that he and his colleagues are making notes of them. It will surprise nobody who knows the Premier well if, before the date of the general election is announced, he declares for Reciprocity as the surest method of dishing the Grits. At present he is loafing around the Liberal Hen-coop, where roosts the solitary pullet, in a manner which is, to say the least, highly suspicious in such a political Darkey.

THE SCHOOLMASTER SCHOOLMASTERED.—Principal Grant, of Queen's College, has at last brought forth the demolition of Henry George and "Progress and Poverty," for which an anxious world

has been looking for a long time. It came in the form of a lecture delivered at Trinity College in this city last Saturday week. If the full report in the *Empire* does not do the eminent Principal gross injustice at every point, the lecture was one which will only furnish food for mirth both to Single Taxers and those who, while unable to accept the Georgian doctrine, have an intelligent comprehension of its meaning. Principal Grant, notwithstanding his erudition, cannot be numbered amongst the latter. It would require more space than we can possibly spare to even mention the absurd errors into which he fell in his effort to combat the eternal truth that God made the earth as the common heritage of man, and not as a speculative commodity for the benefit of a limited number. At the close of the "criticism," the Provost of the College moved a vote of thanks, which was seconded by that brilliant orator, Prof. Clark. This was all right, because it is the customary thing, and besides, it is quite possible that these learned gentlemen do not know any more about the subject than the lecturer himself; but, if exact justice were meted out, Principal Grant would receive, not a vote of thanks, but the reward which in every well-regulated school falls to the lot of the boy who comes up to recite a lesson without first having taken the trouble to learn it. Our cartoon suggests how this deserved censure could be most appropriately bestowed.



FOR Her Majesty's service,

Sir John Thompson has

authorized the purchase of a photographic apparatus for the Department of Justice. This is an instrument by which

the impression on the eyes of murdered persons may be reproduced, to be used as evidence against the criminals. It works on the same principle as the perpetual motion machine and the Keeley motor. You can learn all about it by consulting any good authority on Exploded Theories and Obsolete Notions. With all his other accomplishments Sir John appears to be a joker, or else somebody has been guying him.

THE Montreal *Witness* suggests very reasonably that at the forthcoming Reform Convention an effort should be made to define the meaning of "Unrestricted Reciprocity." At present it is certainly hazy. If it means, as most people suppose, absolute free trade between Canada and the United States, how is it proposed to head off the gentle transatlantic smuggler? What about equalizing the tariffs against the world at large? How is this to be done? Let there be no adjournment even for lunch or drinks before these questions are definitely and clearly answered.

WE have a suggestion of our own for the consideration of the Convention. When the party platform has been constructed and all the planks nailed down, let the document be published broadcast and kept standing in every Grit paper. At present nobody can find out by consulting the average organ what the creed of the party is, hence the persistence of the painful jibe that the Grits have no policy. The Tories ought to do the same, if they believe in anything beyond the Red Parlor, which is doubtful.

A DESPATCH from Rome informs us that at the next consistory, which will be held in February, the Pope will issue a dogma declaring America to be a Catholic country. Whether His Holiness will tolerate any other than Catholic worship on this continent after the promulgation of this important *ipse dixit* remains to be seen.