



The gravest beast is the Ass; the gravest bird is the Owl;
The gravest fish is the Oyster; the gravest man is the Fool.

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Terms of Subscription.

Per annum in advance.....\$2.00
Single copies..... .05

ADVERTISING TERMS ON APPLICATION.

PUBLISHED EVERY WEEK

BY THE

Grip Printing & Publishing Co.

T. G. WILSON, Manager.

Offices:—201 and 203 Yonge Street.

All Business Communications should be addressed to the Manager.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1892.

GRIP'S EPIGRAM COMPETITION.

Prizes will be given for the best original epigrams defining the difference between the Grit and Tory parties regarded from an independent point of view, as follows:

1st prize	\$10 00
2nd "	5 00
3rd "	One year's subscription to GRIP.

CONDITIONS.

No epigram to exceed twenty-five words in length. Brevity will be considered a merit. All contributions to be signed with the name and address of the author for publication in case a prize is awarded. All contributions to become the property of the paper. The contest closes on the 1st of September, and no contributions received after that day will be included. The prizes to be announced in GRIP as soon as possible after the close of the competition, which is open to all, whether subscribers or not.

HOME Rule is just as good for Manitoba as it is for Ireland.



ND now it is said that Dalton MacCarthy has been invited to enter English political life as a Unionist to represent the views of the Ulster faction. There is no denying that Mr. MacCarthy is an able man, but if he does not show more backbone in forwarding Orange interests in the face of a hostile majority than he did during last session of the Dominion Parliament, he will bring little strength to the cause of his friends. Canada can very well afford to lose Dalton MacCarthy, and in fact might well view with equanimity the departure of the whole outfit of lawyer-politicians of which he is a conspicuous type. These fellows, or their heelers and newspaper henchmen, are always prating of the "sacrifices" they are making by going into politics instead of devoting themselves to their profession,

whereas the fact is that it is principally their political influence which makes their services of value to the railway and other corporations which pay them such big retaining fees, that they are enabled to look with contempt on the salary of a Judge or a Cabinet Minister. Whether they call themselves Liberal or Conservative, they are always the defenders of class interests and arrayed on the side of the money power as against popular rights.

JUST now the press are saying complimentary things about Lord Aberdeen, who is to succeed Lord Stanley as Governor-General. This is not so severe a strain as usual on such remnants of conscience as a journalist may by courtesy be supposed to possess, because Aberdeen is really a worthy and accomplished gentleman. It is not necessary to say anything about his ability or statesmanship, because a Governor-General as such has no chance to exercise such qualities. There is one point that the daily press dwell on, however, which seems to call for some criticism. They approve the appointment because Lord Aberdeen has made investments in Canada, especially in the North-West. Now, aside from the personal aspect of the question, this is not a cause for congratulation. It is quite conceivable that a Governor-General with large investments might abuse his position by procuring legislation favorable to his personal interests, after the fashion of Lieut.-Gov. Dewdney in the North-West.

THE switchmen's strike at Buffalo, followed by the calling out of the State militia, emphasizes the necessity for an entire change in the system of the management of railways. It is absurd to treat the quarrel between the switchmen and their employers, by which the traffic of a whole State has been disorganized, as a matter of private concern, affecting only the parties to the fight. The public have superior rights and ought not to submit to the loss by inconvenience caused by these perpetually recurring struggles. There is only one effectual remedy—Government ownership of railroads—and such conflicts as the Buffalo strike may be ultimately beneficial, if they force the people as a matter of self-protection to insist upon the Government taking and keeping possession of the railroads. If the workingmen were wise instead of wasting their strength in futile strikes, they would overwhelm capitalism with their votes.



IN the study of the social problem, a point that must forcibly strike the observer, is that in this case, as well as in the Homestead struggle, labor proved more than a match for its adversary, until the forces of the State were thrown into the scale on the side of capitalism. The spectacle of the militia being called out to change the defeat of an arrogant corporation into a victory, ought to teach the working classes the folly of supporting the military system.

PRACTICALLY on this western continent there is only one use for soldiers, and that is to defend the