



AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL AND SATIRICAL JOURNAL

SUBSCRIPTION TERMS.—Two dollars per annum, payable in advance. Six months, one dollar.

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

Cartoon Comments.

LEADING CARTOON.—The respective leaders of the Grit and Tory parties are at present engaged in calculating how many of the Provinces they will each capture at the coming general election. Sir John calculates that P. E. Island, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia will go into his game-bag without a doubt; as for Quebec, it is his beyond a peradventure; Ontario will be sure to go as it did on the last occasion; Manitoba will be an easy prey, and British Columbia, out of gratitude to the generous Tupper, will remain his truly. Mr. Blake's prognostications are equally clear and positive, to this effect, that British Columbia will fall before the Grit gun; Manitoba will scorn to be captured by John A., Ontario will reassert her old liberal inclinations; Quebec, liberated from priestly dictation, will go hand-in-hand with Ontario, while the Maritime Provinces, enlightened and inspired by the speeches of a certain great personage, will go solid for the present Opposition. The worthy sportsmen have fired a little prematurely; the game is yet beyond range and we will have to wait until the fall of 1883 before we know what the effects of the shots have been.

FIRST PAGE.—John Bull has finally come to the conclusion to put down the Irish insurrection with a firm hand. The issue of a proclamation declaring the Land League "criminal and illegal," and warning Her Majesty's subjects to govern themselves accordingly, seems to have paralyzed the arm of rebellion, at least for the moment. What will be the final issues of all this shindig is only known by Dr. Wild and those who either heard or read his sermon of last Sunday night.

SECOND PAGE.—Nothing in the political annals of Canada is more discreditably than the systematic manner in which certain Bleu charlatans, backed by a number of unworthy priests, have inoculated the simple-minded peasants of that province with the lie that the Pope's decree against "Liberalism" was intended to apply to the "Liberal" party in politics. This miserable falsehood has been a right bower in the hand of the Quebec Conservative party, and the fact that it has told so fatally against the Rouges is a striking proof of the pitiful ignorance of the general populace down there. The Pope himself has now come forward and with one imperial word he has destroyed this specious piece of clap-trap. He plainly declares that the Liberals against whom his decrees are directed are the persons so called in the religious world, and not the members of any political sect or party whatever.

"Men are but children of a larger growth!" True, O poet! Listen to this:—

Albert Edward:—
To the Very High and Eminent Sir Knight Colonel W. J. Bury McLeod Moore, Grand Cross of the Temple, Great Prior of the Dominion of Canada:

"Being well assured of the loyalty and true affection of the knights of the order towards us, and of their sincere resolve that in the Dominion of Canada the brotherly hand of union shall ever exist, all joined together under our grand mastership, and further desiring to show to you our continuing affection towards you, and to assure you that the prosperity of the order and that the union and brotherly love of the great officers and members of the same under her Majesty the Queen, our patron, are an object of our most constant care, we have therefore charged our trusty and well-loved Chancellor of the Great Priory of England, Alexander Staveley Hill, D. C. L., of her Majesty's counsel, and member of Parliament, to be the bearer to you of this our letter, and our said Chancellor hath it further in charge to express towards you, Very High and Eminent Great Prior, our royal favour and good will, and our affection towards the brethren, Sir Knights of the order, and to the Dominion of Canada.

"Given on board the Osborne.
"The 18th day of August, A. L. 5885, A. D. 1881, A. O. 763."

There! doesn't that remind you of the bombastic mock-heroic proclamations you used to nail up on the barn-door for the edification of your "right worthy subjects," the Robinson boys and the Johnston boys, when you were in pinafores and used to play "King of the Castle?" How the presumably sensible men who listened to this balderdash could help bursting into laughter we cannot understand.

It is to be presumed the big discussion evoked by the book seizure is ended, though it will be a pity if it passes away without effecting some practical result. The Collector of Customs is still in a haze as to his duties and prerogatives, and if some definite rule is not laid down for his guidance he may make a blunder whether he has done so in this case or not.

What shall that rule be? Both *Mail* and *Globe* agree—as everybody must—that indecent publications should be barred out. This is also plainly laid down in the law. The trouble is as to mixed publications. Paine's book confessedly comes under this latter head. The *Mail* says it ought to be excluded. Smollet's, Fielding's, Burns's, Shakespeare's and other writers' works are defaced by grossness, some of them as much so as Paine's, but the *Mail* says their works ought to be admitted. What is the Collector to do? We can see nothing for it but that he shall be required to read every book and paper that enters the Custom House. If he does this he will earn his salary, which is more than preceding collectors have done.

That the result of the discussion will be a demand for the nasty books is only too likely. Paine's work was an almost forgotten thing, and as for Voltaire's, here comes Dr. Gregg, a Professor of Apologetics, who declares he never heard of it before!

The present Government claims to be pre-eminently the people's friend, and that profession is being put to the test just now. The coal dealers offer to sell coal 50 cents per ton cheaper if the duty is removed. This ought to settle the question as to whether the consumer pays the piper, and the Government's response to the demand will tell whether the people's interests are paramount or not, better than any party organ editorial.

The *Globe* has sent a special commissioner to Ireland to report upon the state of that troubled bit of green. The gentleman selected for this mission is Mr. T. P. Thompson, better known as "Jimuel Briggs," whose able letters on the state of the Maine Liquor Law, written from the Anti-Prohibition standpoint, recently appeared in the *Globe*. The old journal is to be congratulated on its enterprise, and also on its choice of commissioner who will justify the expense involved if anybody could.



Speaking of journalistic enterprise reminds us that New York has another comic paper a la *Puck*. Since the failure of *Chic*, Keppler's journal has had things all its own way as of old, but now a new aspirant enters the field, in the "person" of "The Judge," whose phiz we copy as above. The title is a happy one, being "snappy," and characteristically American. Mr. J. A. Wales has left the *Puck* staff to wield his pencil on the new paper, and *Grip* wishes him every success.

Dr. Wild's simple specific for the cure of Ireland's woes is certainly worth a trial. It is just to cut the Island adrift from Italy. This ought to be easily done, and the Liberators of the Old Sod ought to do it just to see the effect before the "resources of civilization are exhausted."

Ald. Hallam deserves great credit for his efforts on behalf of the establishment of a Free Public Library in Toronto, and the scheme he has submitted is well worthy of discussion by our citizens. If we could only get a council that knew how to fix our streets for a reasonable sum of money, we could save enough in a year to endow a library, but we seem to be getting worse instead of better in street management.

To the Editor of *Grip*.

SIR,—In the powerful article in your last issue headed "The Permitted Crime," the judge, applied to by a young girl for justice against her seducer, after asking her whether she had any relatives, and being answered in the negative, is made to say:—

"Then justice you can't have. The law of Canada protects but those who have already natural protectors," &c.