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President JAMES L. MORRISON.
General Manager J. V. WRIGHT.
Artist and Editor J. W. BENGOUOH.
Manager Publishing Dept. R. T. LANCEFIELD.

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Comments on the Cartoons.



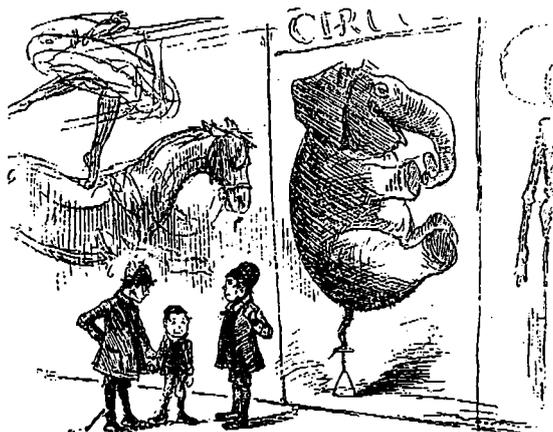
A LOGICAL DEDUCTION—The proposition that all the members of the human family are equally entitled to the benefits of the land of this earth as clearly as to those of the air, water, or other natural elements, is self-evident. Nothing in the way of reason can be adduced in support of the opposite contention—that those benefits were intended to be the absolute possession of a limited number of the earth's inhabitants. If all the human race with the exception of one single individual were admitted to their full rights in this respect, that one individual would have a grievance no more valid than that which the vast majority of mankind now have. That land is as essential as air to human sustenance, proves that it was intended for all, and it is easily capable of demonstration that the poverty and suffering which keeps pace with the advance of civilization, is the outcome of this unnatural condition of things under which the majority are excluded from participation in the bounties of nature. The wrong would be righted if those who possess the land were obliged—as they ought to be—to yield a fair share of its benefits to their fellow mortals through the medium of taxation. In other words, all taxes should be levied on land values, instead of being divided as at present and levied chiefly on improvements. The injustice and absurdity of the doctrine of private ownership of land, has been well illustrated by Spencer, Mill, and other great thinkers. Our cartoon is one of Spencer's ideas put in pictorial shape. *Ownership* carries with it the power of prohibiting trespass, and if the whole earth belongs to a few millions of landlords, each one of those landlords has the right to prohibit trespass if he sees fit. It follows then that if the landlords acted in unison they could, under existing laws, evict the majority of the human race into the sea (which, for a wonder, nobody claims to own), or, what would amount to the same thing, off this

planet altogether. Now, it is clear that there is something wrong about a basis of society from which this result could be logically deduced.

AJAX MCGLYNN.—The case of Rev. Dr. McGlynn, of New York, has attracted so much attention in Canada, that GRIP needs to make no apology for giving it prominence in a cartoon. In this matter Dr. McGlynn represents an important principle. He has been excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church, not because he has violated any of his vows as a priest, or transgressed in any way against the laws of the Church—but because he has refused to “condemn in writing” a certain doctrine of political economy which he believes to be the truth, and a truth, moreover, which is perfectly consistent with Christianity as taught in the Roman Catholic communion. In withstanding the fiat of Rome, Dr. McGlynn denies the right of the Pope to the political allegiance of Roman Catholics. He is willing to submit to the sovereign pontiff in all spiritual things, but, as an American citizen, and in matters pertaining altogether to politics, he repudiates all interference of Pope, bishop, or propaganda. This is sound doctrine, and it is hard to see why Protestant, and even Agnostic papers should (as most of those in New York do) condemn its representative. Gladstone, and other eminent writers have declared that, in view of the Pope's pretensions to political as well as spiritual allegiance, it was impossible for Roman Catholics to be loyal to non-Catholic governments. Dr. McGlynn, and the thousands of ardent Catholics who are supporting him, are giving the world a practical demonstration of the fact that Rome's political pretensions are not recognized.

SALISBURY'S MACHINE.—The noble marquis has at last completed his machine for securing the smooth government of Ireland. It is called the Coercion Bill, and appears to be based on the principles of the iron lawn-roller. A certain degree of smoothness does usually result from the use of a lawn-roller, but the effect is not always admirable, viewed from the standpoint of the grasshoppers and other occupants of the lawn that have had to submit to the smoothing process. In like manner a majority of the Irish people may deprecate the Marquis' method of smoothing the affairs of the Emerald Isle.

A GREAT STATESMAN'S FEARS DISPELLED.—Hon. Mackenzie Bowell recently expressed himself strongly against commercial union, chiefly on the ground that Canada's revenue would be fatally reduced by the proposed arrangement. It appears, upon a little investigation of the question, that Canada's revenue would be materially increased, and we must presume therefore that the distinguished statesman's fears will be allayed when he examines our cartoon. Under commercial union the customs and revenue receipts of both Canada and the United States would be pooled, and a division made on the basis of population. By deducting the revenue now collected as between the two countries, which would then be wiped out, the approximate figures can be seen, and they demonstrate that Canada's income would be greater than it is at present.



FAITH.

Jimmy McGinnis (referring to circus poster)—Do you believe dat, Mikey?
Mikey Malone—'Course I do. I don't b'lieve there's nothin' wot a el'fant can't do. —N. Y. Life.

WHAT is slang? The carnival of language