



PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

BY THE

*Grip Printing and Publishing Co.*

26 and 28 Front Street West, Toronto, Ont.

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General Manager . . . . . J. V. WRIGHT.  
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To United States and Canada.

One year, \$2.00; six months . . . . . \$1.00.

To Great Britain and Ireland.

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Remittances on account of subscriptions are acknowledged by change in the date of the printed address-label.

In remitting stamps, please send one-cent stamps only.

#### Comments on the Castings.



THE FAREWELL APPEARANCE.—Sir Chas. Tupper has formally laid upon the table of the House the terms of the agreement made between the Government and the C.P.R. Co., by which the latter relinquish their monopoly in the North-West. This is understood to be positively the last appearance of the Syndicate before Parliament as a party to a readjustment of terms. Past experience with the great organization, however, makes the leaders of the Opposition pardonably skeptical upon this point. They have appeared so often (like Patti, Barnum and some other notabilities) after saying "farewell," that the "positively last performance" announcement has become what is vulgarly called a chestnut. Nevertheless, we may indulge the

hope that the finality is final this time.

KICKED OUT.—It is clear that the people are satisfied that the Scott Act, in its present condition and under existing auspices, is a mockery of Prohibition. It will not be surprising if the repeal is carried in all the remaining counties where a vote is to be taken. An unworkable law, put into pretended operation by a Government having not the slightest sympathy with radical temperance reform, is something well calculated to disgust decent people. The overwhelming vote of a fortnight ago does not mean a reaction in favor of liquor, and the dealers make a mistake if they so interpret it. It is simply a rebuke—too indirect to be of much value, however—to the Dominion Government, which has deliberately refused to amend the Act so as to make it workable, but on the other hand has both openly and covertly done whatever it could to make it a failure. There is joy in the Cabinet over the repeal, no doubt about that.

WE find that a recent paragraph in this column—in which we reproved Senator Alexander for using words calculated to do injustice to the mayor of Toronto—has given rise to some misunderstanding. While in this case we thought the criticism called for, it is only right to say that, taken altogether, we regard the Senator from Woodstock as one of the ablest and most independent and patriotic men in the Chamber. The people of Canada will yet acknowledge his long and disinterested services.

MR. H. H. COOK has been confirmed in his seat by the Court. Having regard unto the comparatively slight construction of the seats in the House, and the avoirdupois of this hon. member, would it not be well now for the authorities to confirm the seat under Mr. Cook?



HE real "Society" of New York embraces just four hundred persons, according to Mr. Ward McAllister, who appears to be an accepted authority on the subject. New York can't be such a very big place after all. There are more than four hundred names of representatives of Toronto society in our two local fashionable journals in any issue you may pick up. But, perhaps we run more to "real society" on this side of the line.

WE hasten to congratulate Archbishop Lynch on the result of the separate school trustee election. A crushing blow was dealt to the terrible heresy of the ballot. The voter will not have the chance to destroy the Christian religion by going into a dark corner and making his criss-cross with a lead pencil, instead of telling the returning-officer the name of the candidate he votes for. And now the learned Archbishop should bend his energies to have the pestilent ballot-system driven out of the College of Cardinals, so that the Pope may hereafter be elected by open vote.

THE Fire and Gas Committee of this city propose to give "medals and other marks of honor" to firemen who display special bravery. This is a right move. One medal in any single instance, however, would be enough. Thereafter the "other marks of honor" should be resorted to, and these, we imagine, could not take a more suitable or acceptable shape than pretty purses—with something in 'em.

OUR esteemed contemporary, the London *Free Press*, heads its joke-column, "On the Bias." This is a dangerous line to have lying around on the imposing stone. What if some "intelligent compositor" with an eye to the fitness of things, should some day inadvertently place that heading over the editorials?