



EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

The greatest Beast is the Ass; the greatest Bird is the Owl;  
The greatest Fish is the Oyster; the greatest Man is the Fool.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"DOUBLE-EDGE," Point Fortune.—Your favour accepted, and terms complied with. Don't forget us in future.

"C. S." Ottawa.—Too late, unfortunately. Let us hear from you again.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH, 1873.

GEORGE WHITMAN McMULLEN.

The *Montreal Witness* recently published a portrait of Mr. Geo. W. McMULLEN, accompanied by a sketch of his life and character, obtained from "an authentic source." Of course this came to the hands of *Grip*, and it was by him submitted to a dear friend whose active sympathy with the late Dominion Cabinet invests everything pertaining to Mr. McMULLEN with much interest. The perusal of the sketch, and the contemplation of its subject's manly features in the woodcut were attended with all the delight which *Grip* anticipated, and the benignant gentleman now returns them with his thanks, and a few annotations, which he says he has taken the liberty to make upon some of the paragraphs. Having looked them over, *Grip* is satisfied they are in no way libellous or ill-natured, and has the greatest pleasure in printing them for the public. Here they are:

"G. W. McMULLEN from early boyhood developed extraordinary powers of mental calculation, often being an annoyance to his teacher by replying to questions in mental arithmetic before his teacher could make the calculation himself.

(NOTE.—This precocious talent was developed to such an extent in after life that its possessor sometimes made a practical reply to mental and moral questions before *he himself* could make the calculation (of the cost.) Through this singular but unfortunate gift, he ultimately made shipwreck of his reputation by giving a too prompt answer in the affirmative to the question "Will it pay to be a party to the corrupt purchase of a public contract from a Canadian Prime Minister?")

"The step with him from childhood to manhood was so quick that the sports usual to a boy's life were entirely overlooked."

(NOTE.—It must not be concluded, however, that G. W. had no heart for fun. The sports incident to a boy's life were entirely overlooked, only in his abnormal haste to participate in the more business-like, but not less demoralizing sports of manhood—notably "Bull and Bear," "Grab," "Passy wants a corner," etc., in which he soon acquired the reputation of an expert.

"He once applied for a position in the Legislative Assembly, but signally failed, much to his chagrin then, and delight since."

(NOTE.—The present writer has been unable to investigate the circumstance fully, but it is not improbable that the position referred to was that of a Page in the House, on which supposition G. W.'s subsequent delight will be quite intelligible.)

"He is 5 ft. 3½ in. high, and usually weighs about 150 lbs."

(NOTE.—We take this figurative extract just as it comes in the biography under notice, and take occasion at the same time to point out the wretched taste of the writer in inserting it just where he did. It may be well to explain that the measurement above includes the brain of Mr. McMULLEN; omitting the space so occupied, 5 feet is precisely his height. The considerable weight of the subject is noted by the biographer with much sagacity, as it cannot fail to be useful in rebuking those who made *light* of the evidence G. W. submitted in the matter of the Pacific Enquiry.)

"He learned the alphabet in one evening's lesson, and never forgot it."

(NOTE.—So, panegyrically, closes this sketch of a great man, and the sentence, which like a few other sentences known to English literature, contains a whole volume of biography, might hereafter be fittingly made his epitaph. But would it be more sublime than that other line which, with equal truth we hope, might be written over his head—"He learned the tenth commandment in one evening's lesson, and never forgot it.")

ANOTHER SPUR.

It is not vanity in *Grip* to transfer to his columns this week another distinguished compliment paid himself; rather, considering the source and occasion of it, it would be ungrateful and impolite in him to fail to do so. It occurred in the course of a lecture on an admirable man—Tom Hood—by an admirable lecturer, Rev. Wm. STEPHENSON, at John street church, Hamilton, one evening last week, and we have it as reported in the *New Dominion*, a modest and well-conducted weekly paper of that city:

"The lecturer then showed the power that Hood and others of like type have had in correcting and forming public morals. HOGARTH had wielded a power never delegated to a WILSON or a REYNOLDS, and *Punch* often had exerted a greater influence than the great *Thunderer*; and even our own little *Grip* than all its contemporaries."

We proudly inhale that paragraph upon our fyle beside those other "Compliments from High Latitudes;" and it will be a spur to keep us alive to the importance of our mission. It will be *Grip's* ambition to order his course in such a way that he may always deserve the respect of all his country's good and gifted men.

YE "GLOBE" JOKETH!

The name of the at present famous member for Middlesex appeared in *The Globe* the other day as "DANIEL" Glass instead of "DAVID." Can it be possible that this was intentional? Was the Editor facetious, and did he wish to suggest a moral similarity between his new-made hero and another DANIEL who for a length of time sublimely occupied a position in a den tenanted by creatures as hungry for his blood as the Tories are just now (politically, of course), for Mr. G's? The parallel is obvious—only in this modern case "DANIEL" is himself the lion!

ABSURD.

To suppose that when a group of divinity students are seated in the immediate rear of ladies at a tea meeting, waiting for the opening exercises of the evening, they desire to have their conversation on geometrical deductions, Hebrew, metaphysics and kindred topics, overheard,

To suppose that the "approach" of Alderman HANER, of Ottawa, as narrated in the House by Mr. CUNNINGHAM, M.P., was in reality the baseless fabric of a dream induced by any state of mind whatever.

To talk about giving Mr. Alderman TURNER a prominent position in the new Gas Company which is to be formed, and for which the Council have applied for a charter.

To quote from the *Leader* at a political meeting, and expect anybody to know whence your quotation is taken.

To predict that the Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, Prime Minister, will within a year, make a corrupt sale and barter of the Pacific Railway Charter to Sir HUGH ALLAN.

To fancy yourself "up to the times" and habitually go home of a Saturday without a copy of *Grip*.

To make this contribution any longer.

APPROPRIATE.

The grand project of an International Bridge across the Niagara River at Buffalo has been realized, and the work is a monument of architectural and mechanical genius. With that fine sense of the *fitness* of things which is expected in bridge-builders above all others, the Company under whose directions the structure was erected have chosen as their President the popular Managing Director of the Grand Trunk Railway, "calculating"—as their sagacious American colleagues would say—that whatever that gentleman's remissness in his present position may be, even *The Globe* would be ready to vouch for his competency and devotion in looking after the interests of Bridges!

A HAPPY EVENT.

The following announcement was duly made through *The Globe* a few days ago:

"On the 3rd November, the wife of Mr. — of a fine young son, at — street."

*Grip* offers his kindly congratulations in the premises, and has no doubt the fine boy's nurse will appreciate the advantages of his having been born young. It is perhaps less remarkable, but always quite as fortunate, as being "born with a silver spoon, &c."

THE COMING MAN.—The Speakership of the Local House is vacant, and *Grip* understands that the prominent applicants are the Shadow of South Bruce, and that modest, reticent young man of the Chancery Brigade. If the former is elected the sapient bird says "all's Well that ends Well." If Tommy the Talkative is selected for the silent position of Speakership, it is a clear case of *lucua a non lucendo*.