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J. W. RENGOUGH EDITOR.

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Remittances on account of subscriptions are acknowledged by change in the date on the printed address-label—in the issue next after our receipt of the money. The date always indicates the time up to which the subscription is paid. We cannot undertake to send receipts aside from this.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

OUR friends are reminded that the magnificent lithographed plate, "Prominent Conservatives," issued as a supplement to Midsummer GRIP, will be sent to every subscriber applying for same and enclosing five cents for postage.

Comments on the Cartoons.



THE REFORM GOOSE ON TRIAL.—The all but unanimous report of the Committee on Political Action at the Prohibition Convention on Wednesday was for the formation of a Third Party in case the Reform party does not make a specific declaration in favor of prohibition within a few months. The Tory party appeared to be out of consideration altogether, although several of the delegates are at present connected with that organization. After a long and heated discussion the report was laid aside, and it was decided to continue for the present on the non-partizan plan of the Electoral Union, established a year ago. The most notable speech during the debate was that of Hon. S. H. Blake, who pleaded strongly for an extension of grace to the Reform party, which had in the past done its duty, and would, he believed not prove recreant in the future. "Let Prohibitionists,"

said he in effect, "put the Reform party in office, and then demand such legislation as they need and they will get it. If it is refused, then it will be time enough to quit that party, and I will be one of the first to leave." Mr. F. S. Spence demanded that the Reform party should state its intentions officially; Mr Blake was prepared to trust it on the question without any specific promise, on account of its past good temperance character. In short it appeared to be a modification of the old fable of the goose that laid the golden eggs. Mr. Spence wanted to use his knife to see if there was a prohibition egg in the bird; Mr. Blake felt sure there was, and advised the kind of food that would be most likely to bring it forth in due time. The Convention settled at least one thing—that the Prohibitionists of this country are in dead earnest, and will stand no nonsense from the political leaders hereafter.

THE DELINQUENT OFFICIALS.—In many counties and cities where the Scott Act is nominally in force, the officials of the Ontario Government notoriously evade their duties. Their remissness has been brought to the attention of the Government, and the Provincial Secretary has sent out special circulars informing these delinquents that they *must* enforce the law. These documents have been carefully read and placed in the waste-paper basket by those whom they chiefly concerned. At least there has been no improvement in the

delinquents. The Secretary issued a new circular last week, in which he went so far as to tell these gentry that they had been appointed for the express purpose of enforcing these laws, and that the Government expects them to do so. Whereupon, we opine, they rang their chestnut bells, and winked. Officers of this sort can't be made efficient by circular. What they need is kicking out.

DON'T KNOW THE FELLOW.—Sir John seized the opportunity at London (just after he had received his GRIP with the "Discordant Organs" cartoon, it will be observed) to declare that the *Mail* is not an organ of the Government at all, but a strictly independent newspaper like all the other journals that support the Government. To prove this, he proceeded to say that he had no sympathy with the *Mail's* agitation against the privileges of the Catholic Church in Quebec. If Sir John thinks that the *Mail's* course is doing him harm in the French Province, all he has to do is to tell Mr. Bunting to "let up." The *Mail* is not so very independent that it would dream of refusing to do anything Sir John told it, and nobody knows this better than the Premier.

LITERARY COMPETITION NO. I.

THIS competition as per advertisement in the *Globe* closed on Sept. 15. The best rhyming reply sent in is that of Rev. Chas. Duff, 23 Lansdowne Avenue, Parkdale, who will be credited accordingly with one year's subscription to GRIP.

COMPETITION NO. II.

Subject—*Sir John A. Macdonald.*

THE sender of the best description in verse of Sir John's political character and career, will be credited with two years' subscription to GRIP. Must be not less than eight lines. Competition open to Nov. 15. Each competitor to send \$2.00, which, in every case, will secure GRIP for one year. Address all contributions to the Editor.

MORE laughter, more sunshine is what we need to make us enjoy life. A purer Christianity will spring from a smiling people than any that flourished in the puritanical days of long ago, and a better feeling towards our neighbors will exist if we look at the bright side of life. Moral: subscribe for GRIP.



BEAR'S MEAT.

Assistant (to Chief of Survey).—"WE JUST DROPPED ON A BEAR HERE A FEW MOMENTS AGO."

Chief (startled).—"GREAT HEAVENS! YOU DON'T SAY SO! I'M SURE IF I'D BEEN THERE I SHOULD HAVE FAINTED."

Assistant.—"YOU'RE JUST THE MAN WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE. BEARS NEVER TOUCH DEAD MEAT."