

## G R I P.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

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

TORONTO, SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1874.

## OUR BIG RAILWAY.

Our correspondent at the Yellowhead Pass, who went out there two years ago, has telegraphed the following, which will be of first importance to the Government, and GRIP assures them they are heartily welcome to it.

YELLOWHEAD, May 14.

DEAR GRIP.—The surveying party has just reached here. The reports of this being a difficult road to build across the Rocky Mountains and the cascades is an infamous historical and geographical item. We have hit upon a route that will inevitably be adopted. The first trifling obstacle we met was an ascent of 500 feet of perpendicular rock, but we easily surmounted that in about three weeks by means of ropes and balloon ascensions. The cañons (I see you had a canon in Toronto, lately), got a trifle worse; we lost three men by falling out of the balloon while going up the face of Broken-Nose Bluff, a slight elevation of rock about 3000 feet high. The bodies went into a ravine apparently about 15,000 feet deep, and we left them there. We have been across the Cascade range on the coast and found the descent could be made with great rapidity, the grade being two miles to the yard. This we considered eminently satisfactory, but did not try it. There is no doubt in our minds that, as your enthusiastic contemporary the *Globe* says, a route "will be found, free from any very appalling obstacles." We propose to dam the water in one valley, bring it up to the level of the mountain tops on each side, and run the cars across on a raft. At another point where damming don't pay we will have the cars taken up the precipice 1700 feet, by means of a hoist, the passengers remaining perfectly safe inside unless the hoisting machinery gives way. The cost of this road has been ridiculously under-estimated. The cascades for about 15 miles will not cost more than about—for hoisting and damming—\$120,000,000; to cross the Rocky Mountains, say \$175,000,000; a short railway running north to bring down fuel from the shores of Lake Athabasca, say \$200,000,000; and so the road can be built from the Pacific to Fort Edmonton for the minimum of \$495,000,000 or, say \$500,000,000. (Don't believe a word of it.—GRIP.) A few of the Manitoba Mounted Police came into our camp yesterday, and reported that some Yankee contraband had opened a grocery at Damn Gulch, and was selling flour and pemican cheap. They said he wasn't there now. It was our stock he was selling.

D. Y. O.

P. S.—Have just heard that Toronto has given a bonus to T. G. & B. R. of \$100,000. Noble Toronto; they will no doubt take four or five millions in the Crooked Creek Railway, and help railways generally. Taxes aint now so heavy as they might be by a little effort. Toronto debentures sell well out here.

D. Y. O.

## Grip's Sense of the Session.

Monday, May 4.—Business in the Senate especially funny; first, Mr. SPEAKER laid on the table; then Mr. SCOTT did the same (returns simply).

Discussed the Libel Law, and Hon. Mr. HOWLAN didn't think the Canadian press sufficiently "high-toned." Hon. Mr. HOLDEN was of opinion there were exceptions (GRIP, for instance), but they finally decided not to hang editors for their correspondents' opinions.

Whereat your Commissioner rejoiceth. In the Commons, Mr. CATCORN thought that, as Committees were so much in vogue, he would take a little one, and moved, therefore, for the establishment of a "Joint Committee for the Despatch of Business"; but, it being dinner time, the House resolved itself into a "Business Committee for the Despatch of Joinks," and adjourned accordingly.

Afterwards, in Supply, Maritime members thought it unfair that all the money should go to Manitoba, and wanted a little slice for themselves. Mr. JONES put it at \$7,000,000 for the present. GRIP wishes they may get it.

May 5.—The Libel Bill troubled the placid waters of the Senate, but at 4.50 the pool was still.

And in the Commons the Speaker was ten minutes late (GRIP moves that it be deducted from his pay), whereupon the thousand and one committees reported.

On the Immigration vote the great Canadian JENKINS was pretty thoroughly discussed, and Mr. HOLTON wanted to know if he had really been appointed Ambassador Extraordinary to Great Britain. Mr. MACKENZIE explained that his duties were not ambassadorial, but that he would be a sort of "Tourists' Companion," would introduce travelling Canucks to the "upper ten," would supervise contracts, would be, in fact, a Canadian maid-of-all-work.

SIR JOHN didn't like the appointment; thought he was too "rude of speech"; in fact, like the Canadian press, was not "high-toned" enough.

Dr. BROUSE came out strong in arithmetic, and entered into an abstruse rule-of-three sum with great effect.

After tea, members poked fun at one another anent the location of a Military College.

Major WALKER suggested London!

Mr. KIRKPATRICK—Kingston!!

Mr. MCGREGOR—Amherstville!!!

Mr. SMITH—Winnipeg!!!!

Mr. GILMORE—Charlotte County!!!!

GRIP—35 King Street West!!!!

The only suggestion adopted, however, was one to adjourn at 11.30.

May 6.—Prohibitory petitions poured in on the Senate, but pigeon-holes are mighty, and must prevail.

Senators were very evenly divided on the question of stringing up editors; 25 to 25; but the Speaker has GRIP's sincerest thanks for giving his casting vote with the nays (*Never say die!*), and he therefore has no hard feeling at their adjourning at 5.20.

In the Commons the Speaker took the chair at three, and was immediately confronted by the hydra-headed Committee.

Major WALKER wanted to know why the Governor General's Foot Guards were placed on a different footing from any other Guards, and moved that, in the interests of public morality, they be no longer allowed to appear in public in their bear-skins, of which GRIP approves, and thinks there is already too much TOMORROWISM in Ottawa.

May 7.—Will Mr. BORSFORD kindly "rise to explain" his little joke respecting the Company for the Conversion of the Mohawks; it seems, GRIP quotes, "that 500 (Indians) still remain who worship the Great Spirit uninfluenced by the bad example around them." Missionaries, to the front!

The Commons read the Election Bill the second time, and "Trust him not, he is fooling thee," was prettily rendered by Mr. INVINA in respect of SIR JOHN'S advice to the Government.

Vote by ballot on and after January, 1875.

May 8.—More committees, and the Commons discussing the Tariff. Mr. DOMVILLE stated that he earned his living adorningly, and that the duty on scrap iron was an outrage, an outrage on DOMVILLE, Sir! who imports scrap iron, and against which he must protest; and if Government didn't immediately imprison those members who were interrupting his eloquence with desk-lid solos, let Government trouble!

Mr. D. did one thing at any rate which is worthy of note; *he made the Premier laugh* (it may only have been "accidental") and GRIP promises him the first vacancy on his witty staff.

Virtue is its own reward, DOMVILLE!

## Grip in Council.

Present, GRIP, in the chair; BARNABY RUDGE, PATRICK SMALLWIT, Q. C., MACGREGOR SLOWCUM, WILLIAM SPAKEQUEER, and TIMOTHY TONGUEGRASS.

GRIP—Well, well, well! Where have you all been this age?

TONGUEGRASS.—Like DIOGENES, in quest of an honest man have I been.

SPAKEQUEER.—Found you him?

TONGUEGRASS.—Time must be left to answer that question. He says he's nothing if not honest, but as you would be likely to word it, he doth too much protest.

RUDGE.—You do not vouchsafe us much enlightenment, and are over-cautious in naming no names.

SLOWCUM.—Any sensible man would know who it is TIMOTHY refers to.

SPAKEQUEER.—Verily, not he of Kingston, whose proudest boast is—These hands are clean!

TONGUEGRASS.—Ho! Time has already solved the question with regard to him. 'Tis the other Mac. The gentleman who does not owe quite everything to tailors, and who, as a Master of Department, could not have filled the place of the inimitable TUNVEYDOR.

RUDGE.—Methinks he's pretty sound on the railway question.

SMALLWIT.—If the sleepers of that railway are only half as sound they will stand a good deal of railing. Do you think there are likely to be any ties in the House on the Bill?

TONGUEGRASS.—Come, come, PATRICK, be a little careful. Tell this worshipful company how and where *you* have employed your fine but wasted powers.