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EDITOR.

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GRIP'S SUMMER NUMBER.

THE Summer Number of GRIP will be published about July 12th, and will surpass any of its predecessors in literary and artistic merit as well as in typographical appearance. It will contain contributions by several distinguished artists and writers, and will be accompanied by a supplement plate representing a group of leading Conservatives of Canada. This plate alone is worth a dollar, being a splendid specimen of lithography. Our subscribers will receive the Summer Number as a matter of course; to non-subscribers the price will be (with plate) 25 cents. As the plate cannot be sent through post with the paper, subscribers desiring it will please remit 5 cents for postage, when it will be sent separately in a pasteboard tube.

Comments on the Cartoons.



THE POLICY DEFINED.—At last Mr. Blake has done the wise and prudent thing—he has taken GRIP's advice and proclaimed his policy in distinct and unmistakable language. In a speech at Owen Sound (which no Canadian can read without a thrill of pride that our country has produced an orator capable of making it), the Reform leader frankly stated the issues upon which he proposes to fight the next election, and the subjects which will claim the early attention of his Party should they be entrusted with power. The platform thus laid down is an ample one, and contains all the matters which are of immediate importance. It ought to command the support of a vast majority of the electorate, and it probably will, having the advantage of such an exponent. The speeches which Mr. Blake has been making of late—aside from their political importance—have been marked by characteristic sincerity and loftiness of tone, and in the matter of eloquence will compare favorably with those of England's Grand Old Man. Now that the issues have been defined, these splendid efforts are likely to be doubly effective. All that the Government can do to break their force is to raise a dust on side issues, and this they are already busily engaged at.

QUIN PRO QUO.—In an address at Laval University, Quebec, the other day, Hon. W. Chapleau is alleged to have said:

"He did not desire to make political capital at the present time and place, but he would repeat a fact which was no longer a secret to any one, and that was that it was through the instrumentality of the Federal and British Governments that

Canada now had a cardinal. The Home Government had informed the Vatican that such a promotion would be received with pleasure. 'Last October,' said Mr. Chapleau, 'several persons had asked me confidentially to interest myself in the nomination of a Canadian cardinal. I did not hesitate a moment. I spoke of the matter to Sir John Macdonald and asked him for his aid. He was then about starting for England, and after a long conference the Premier told me that Archbishop Taschereau's promotion was a happy thought—the nomination would honor the Canadians and would serve to increase their country's importance in the eyes of other nations. "You have," continued Sir John Macdonald, "a very eminent Pope in the person of the present Pontiff. Two great European Protestant nations owe him gratitude for having shielded the crowns of their sovereigns against Socialism and Nihilism in Germany and Fenianism in England. I will attend to this matter during my stay in London, and I will surely be successful." During the month of December I wrote to Sir John urging him to push the matter, and I had the pleasure of learning that the best will and most earnest co-operation had been promised to him by those whose aid we had sought.'"

When we read this barefaced bid for votes we had to turn up the paper to assure ourselves that it was not some fanciful production of the *Globe's* Ottawa correspondent. But no. It was the *Mail*, which thus furnishes one more proof that it is as much lost to decency as the minister who made this speech. We wonder what Cardinal Taschereau thinks of this insult to his face.

HIS LAWYER'S SOUND ADVICE.—Mr. Gladstone knows the value of simplicity and definiteness in a political campaign, and he is determined that in the present crisis the people shall understand that the issue is squarely between conciliation and coercion. The law of brute force having hitherto failed, Mr. Gladstone proposes to try the effect of a practical application of the Golden Rule to Ireland. The success of his opponents depends on the obscuring of this plain issue.

A REPLY EXPECTED.—His Grace the Archbishop having been respectfully called upon by one of his esteemed Protestant friends to state plainly whether he claims the right as a prelate of the "one true church" to interfere in the educational affairs of this Province, has vouchsafed a reply which leaves the puzzle greater than ever.

DEFENDER OF THE FAITH.—Now that the session of Parliament is over we are glad to observe that the Premier's practical Christianity is getting a little exercise. He officiated at the laying of a Methodist corner stone the other day, and, in his new character of *Fidei Defensor*, said:

"It was desirable that the Churches should be united to fight the torrent of infidelity and atheism which was flooding the world. (Applause.) There never was a time when there existed greater necessity for united action on the part of those who subscribed to the Apostle's creed. (Applause.)"

These sentiments are sound, and the united action in question ought to have the effect of driving a good many practical infidels and atheists out of the House at Ottawa.

A STINGER.

WE love the United States of America better than any foreign land, its people better than any foreign people, its laws, its institutions and its government better than the government, institutions and laws of any other country. In any controversy with any other government or people, we shall think our side right and theirs wrong. —*Argonaut*.

The United States of America, their people, laws, institutions and government, are greatly obliged to you for your preference, but this would be more gratifying if you had not confessed that your brain is in the service of your heart, your judgment the concubine of your feelings and your attitude with regard to any international dispute discoverable in the register of your birth. The favor of a man to whom the discreditable sentiment "Our country right or wrong" is not a sufficiently muddy pool for his intellectual wallowing—who aspires to the deeper degradation of possessing a mind capable of believing his country always right—the favor of such a man carries with it no presumption of merit in the country, person or thing favored. Is the power to discriminate between right and wrong, truth and error, justice and iniquity, so disagreeable to your taste or unprofitable in your business that you hold it subject to the orders of a cabinet minister or a Congressional majority? Patriotic contemporary, you have the honor to be a fool.—*San Francisco Wasp*.

Well stung, Mr. Wasp, we commend your pointed remarks to the fools of partyism in this country, who always vote straight but *argue not*.

A TOUCHING instance of complete submission to the all-prevailing fallacy that the average editor does not merit credence in what he says in a business puff, is furnished by the young man of a Brantford paper who, in the wind-up of an elaborate article on a bankrupt store, says:—"We bespeak for Mr. Robertson a visit to his store, and a perusal of his advertisement, which will be found on our last page."