

GRIP.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

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

TORONTO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 1876.

Answers to Correspondents.

ANXIOUS ENQUIRER.—We don't know whether those witty small pieces in the *National* are written by Mr. SMALLPIECE or not. We'll ask him and write to you.

A Lease of Mistaken Identity

WRITTEN FOR GRIP.

Joy filled the house, the happy father smiled,
The pale-faced mother clasped her new born child,
Doctor and nurse expectant fees in mind
Declare "a finer child one could not find."
His ears still ringing with his infant's cries,
Off to the *Globe* the exultant father flies,
He writes an "ad." that friends may wish him joy,
And that the world may know he has a boy.
But either habit had so dulled his mind,
Or months of fear had left their mark behind,
He writes, and though he swears he drank but water,
He writes, and publishes, it was a daughter.

At the Speaker's Elbow.

Tuesday, Feb 1st.

BULLING THE LEGISLATURE.

A DEPUTATION representing the bucolic interest waited upon the assembled Wisdom of the Province with a petition praying for the enforcement of the law respecting cruelty to animals. The deputation was headed by a Mr. BULL, whose appearance at the bar of the House created quite a sensation. He "pitched into" various of the members, a thing against all precedent, and, on Mr. SPEAKER being appealed to, that gentleman timidly declared that he felt himself on the horns of a dilemma. It was finally decided that, on the principle of haphazard, the bull should "toss up" Mr. DAWSON, but, on the member for Algoma turning tail, there was nothing for it but to checkmate the bull with bull-ets. When all danger was over, the member for "glorious old Norfolk" made a bull of his own by saying that he was ashamed of hon. gentlemen allowing themselves to be cowed by a bull-calf.

Globules.

See *Weekly Globe*, January 28, page 12, column 3.

"Mr. WILLS was then put up to move the adjournment of the debate till Monday and Mr. BRODER with mock solemnity seconded the motion."

Strange that this motion didn't pass, for where there's a Will(s) there's a way, and this way was Broder than usual.

"Mr. ROSE-VEAR and Dr. BARR then tried a little low comedy by way of diversion."

This was certainly a very Barr-barous proceeding, but the Rose-vearing the effect a heavy speech would have at that late hour, so he a-comedyed himself to the condition of his hearer.

"Mr. CAMERON having provided himself with an old file of the *Globe* read therefrom for nearly an hour."

This was "the most unkindest cut of all." What a rasping effect an "old file" of the *Globe* must have had on the members. No wonder as the summary adds "all the opposition members except Mr. CAMERON left the House." In the "winter of their discontent" they chose this summary method of escape. Even the Government members couldn't stand it, for the report continues:—

"Mr. HODGINS deprecated the continuance of proceedings so derogatory to the character and dignity of the House."

Certainly; just our sentiments exactly; what could have a more damaging effect on "character and dignity than the reading of the *Globe*."

MR. CROOKS introduced a Bill relating to the liquor traffic. Wouldn't this be a Crook'ed whiskey transaction?

Lines from the Fly-Leaf of a Hymn Book in Church.

Many a time I am jolly tight,
Often salubrious and gay,
Rolling home in the middle of night,
Perhaps in the broad light of day.
Had I you dear to teach me the right
You would never catch me in that way.

Curlers' Song of 1876.

Oh! Canada, adopted mither!
You've kept us in a dreary swither,
Have ye forgot us a'thegither?
Ye're sair to blame,
For sendin' such soft southern weather,
For curlers' game.

December came and ga'ed awa'
And scarcely brought a frost ava,
January's been one continued thaw
Just much the same,
Contrary quite to Nature's law
With scarce a game.

I've tried at cards my heart to cheer
I've tried my bat and pads to wear,
I've jumped into my boat to steer,
No comfort came,
My curling stanes are useless gear,
There's ne'er a game.

All winter lang I've sat and sabbit
And o'er again my "Stanes" I've rabbitt,
My handles too are rubbed to babbitt,
Nae plates to blame,
My temper's sullen, sour, and crabbit,
Without a game.

I'm like a colt with shortened tether,
My wife is crazy with my bother
I've killed my cat for spaeing weather
Sae soft and tame,
I'd sell my shirt and shoon thegither
For ane guid game!

Come February fair! come snell and fast
Ye norland winds with sky o'ercast
And Boreas bauld blaw on your blast,
Keen frost proclaim,
Our Bonspeil we maun hae at last.
Guid roaring game!

Oh! cheerful frost we welcome thee,
Each curlers voice shouts loud with glee
We'd gladly gather round the tee
And ne'er gang hame.
We'd play as lang as we could see
Grand roaring game!

What Indeed?

GRIP.—what does WILLIAM the WANDERER mean by his faddle anent our Local Legislature not being a "Parliament?" B. W. says we are only a municipal council, and make ourselves ridiculous with our Mace, Speaker in robes, Sergeant at arms, Treasury Bench, and "Loyal Opposition." Why, sir, we take legislative cognisance of all matters pertaining to the province, to an extent unknown in the effete Legislatures of Europe. Let any one run his eye, at the end of a session, over only the *Private Bills* which have come before us and he will form some idea of the amount and character of the important business we daily transact, and of which the public get but a meagre notion from the bald reports in the papers. I enclose you a list of 1784 important Private Acts passed this session, for which I hope you can find space. Add to these the Public Bills, political business and debates, and the committee work, and then admire the assurance of BILLY WANDERER who says we are only like those Mayors; Aldermen, and Councillors! Yours indignantly.

SMITH SMITH, M. P. P.

We don't know anything about WILLIAM WANDERER'S assurance but Mr. SMITH SMITH exhibits an unconscionable amount of that article when he requests us to insert a list of Private Bills nearly 2,000 in number, nearly all of which are in the style of those we have selected below.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE, 1875-6.

Act to empower JOHN CLARK, of the Village of Oshawa, to widen