THE THIRD SORDHEAD.

GRIP'S CLAIM TO A PLACE AMID THE DISGRUNTLED GANG.

The Record of Canada's Only Illustrated—How the Conservative Members Were Taken in—The New Light Did Not Last Until Election Time—The Mess of Pottage.

A boy, an ordinary sort of a boy, went to school in Whitby, and subsequently obtained the position of "devil" in the weekly paper published in that town. At school he used to draw pictures on his slate, and when "devil," between intervals of working the roller on the old Washington press was in the habit of drawing caricatures of the people about the town on the wall with charcoal. He didn't intend them to be caricatures, but they were. One of these "pictures" is still in existence on the wall behind the press.

When the boy had learned to "stick" type he came to Toronto. His family had belonged to the old clear Grit followers of Geo. Brown, and he had been brought up in that faith. His letters of patronage and introduction got him a situation as reporter on The Globe, which he filled with indifferent success. However, attendance at the Police Court gave him practice in the art of drawing faces, and this brought out the idea of an illustrated journalistic production. Four men, there is no need of mentioning their names, went security for the first few numbers, and the paper duly appeared.

The boy was J. W. Bengough and the paper was Grip.

The History of Grip.

When Grip first appeared J. W. Bengough was the editor and proprietor and publisher, with the four gentlemen before referred to at his back, three of whom were Conservatives. The first paper was issued on May 24, 1873. The intention was to make it an independent paper, with Conservative leanings if any, and the first few issues bore out this order, but thereafter the political proclivities of the editor asserted themselves and Grip became a faithful transcript of The Globe, which, with an occasional interregnum, brought on by press of circumstances, it has ever since remained.

In speaking of J. W. Bengough as editor it must not be understood that he was a writer. Far from it. At the start, and all through its course to the present day, Grip's literary work has mostly been done by hired editors and occasional contributors. And done too at the lowest price that common decency could offer for such work. And much of the work has not been of the best either. Editors have been changed with refreshing frequency.

Things did not go very well and a scheme was formed to transfer the publication to a joint stock company. The principal factor in the new arrangement was S. J. Moore, who has never since relaxed his grip. Thereafter the paper was run on a Sunday school basis with a strong tinge of temperance-abolition-salvation business thrown in. Grip had long been a side-bound partisan in the Reform ticket along with its other fakes, but it didn't pay. So a new deal was projected.

M. P.'s Taken In.

This time everybody was to be taken in (a good many were) and the year was 1882, just prior to the general elections, which it was known were to be run on the National Policy. Here was a chance to rake in the party that believed in Canada and progress. Mr. Bengough went to Ottawa and asked the Conservative members of Parliament to join his stock company. They stipulated that he was to make his paper strictly neutral, and to this he readily agreed. His protestations of friendliness to the Conservative party found favor, and the members of that party quickly raised $7000 stock for his new company. Mr. Bengough protested that he "had been strongly prejudiced by his Grit surroundings," that he had found out his mistake, and would change his course in future, and this carried the day. In order to accommodate him the money subscribed was largely advanced at once. What was the result?

Within a month came some of the worst diatribes ever projected against the Conservative party. The Canadian Pacific Railway was hounded, the leaders of the party were denounced, while their opponents were exalted as the salt of the earth. Sir Charles Tupper was pictured as the high priest of corruption sacrificing at the altar of the Canadian Pacific Railway, the redistribution of constituencies was heralded in the blackest colors, and a number of other caricatures of a like kidney, while the National Policy steadily came in for its share. The incensed Conservative stockholders protested in vain, Grip went straight into the Blake camp, fought the campaign at the right hand of The Globe, and the "Conservative stockholders, giving up the case as hopeless, had simply to watch their good money go to strengthen the enemy.

Other Companies Formed.

Of course this piece of black treachery—and it was as dirty a piece of business as a good Sunday School paper could well devise—must have its reward. Again a new company was formed and new blood came in. The principle members in the new concern were J. L. Morrison, president, J. W. Bengough, Thos. Bengough and S. J. Moore, general manager. Everybody remembers the famous deal by which The Globe job office was handed over to Grip and the scramble for the Ontario printing contract. Grip paid Frank Wilson a round sum for the contract, moved The Globe job stock into its own quarters and away things went right merrily. There was considerable scandal at the time about it, but that made no difference. However there was no luck about the house. The big concern did not work well. Mr. Hough of The Cobourg World was raked into the company and put at the head of the publishing department. The big unwieldy concern, The Grip Printing and Publishing Company it was grandiloquently called, went to pieces. The printing contract was sold to Warwick & Son, along with sufficient type and presses to execute the work, the job department to the firm of J. S. Murray & Co., and Grip is largely back into the old hands. J. S. Murray was the foreman of the job printing department prior to the break-up. The company is understood to consist of Murray aforesaid, J. C. Morrison, S. J. Moore and J. V. Wright. The Grip Publishing Co. issue Grip, The Educational Weekly, retain the engraving department and Murray does their printing and press work. Moore and Morrison belong to both companies, with the Bengoughs in the latter. Some new blood was infused into the book publishing department this spring, but it is a small arrangement. Grip is now banging away as a Sunday School, temperance reform, commercial union organ. It has been on both sides of each of the above questions.

Grip's Political Record.

Grip's political record has been as devious as its business career. In its salutatory it promised that "Grip will be entirely independent and impartial always on all subjects." How it has kept that promise the public know.

At first it was opposed to the temperance idea. "We are a moderate drinker generally speaking," it said on Sept. 6, 1873, and followed up this line for the balance of that year. But early in 1874 the bird experienced a change of heart, and on Feb. 28 declared that drink was the curse of Canada, hoisted the Prohibition flag and commenced war on the liquor interest. A change so sudden, so totally unexpected, was rather an astonisher, but people got used to that kind of thing before long.

In 1875 (July 24) Grip began to attack The Globe, and followed this course for some time. In 1876 (July 15) it fell out with Hon. George Brown, said that he was a mud-slinger that dealt only in personal abuse and insult, and had trampled all respect under foot. About this time it also declared that Blake was the slave of The Globe and Mackenzie, and intimated that the two latter were unworthy of public confidence. But Blake went off to England and Grip called him a runaway. The elections of 1878 came on and Grip classed Brown as a saint, The Globe as the great political light of the day, Mackenzie as a heaven-born political leader, and predicted that the Conservatives would be routed from one end of the country to the other, which in its opinion they deserved to be.

A Corkscrew Record on Protection.

But at this time Grip's crowning record was on the subject of protection. Who reading it of late years would imagine that at one time Grip was one of the most rabid protectionists in the land. Well, so it was, though it is true its principles never got as far as the ballot box. On Feb. 26, 1876, Grip came squarely out in favor of the N.P. That issue contains a cartoon showing the United States, represented by Uncle Sam, killing Canadian industry, represented by a workingman, with the club of a protective tariff. Canada was represented as a ruined workshop bearing the legend "Cannot give employment while the present nonprotective tariff curses the country." Mackenzie was represented as a Government policeman, standing by saying, "Why do I hesitate?" All through the year 1877 the N.P. battle was waged in a similar fashion while Sir John was given all possible support, and until the middle of the year 1878, when a couple of months before the election Grip wheeled to the right about, denounced Sir John in unmeasured terms, and became as rabid a free trader as The Globe itself. Then it kicked itself when the election was lost. In 1882 it went in for modified protection on the lines laid down in Blake's address to the electors of West Durham, but now it is again a free trader pure and simple.

Some Odd Eccentricities.

Even in its Sunday School business Grip has not been able to keep consistent or, to say the least, orthodox. One of its vagaries was an earnest support of Rev. J. D. Macdonnell in his famous controversy with the church fathers on the question of "Eternal Punishment." It followed Rev. Dr. Wild faithfully through the vagaries that characterized the first years of his Toronto pastorate, went in for applause in church, the Lost Tribes and the Stone Age, cultivated the spirit of prophecy, and in various other ways set orthodoxy at defiance.

When Lord Dufferin came here Grip poked fun at that eminent diplomat, told him he knew too much and was too small for the place, etc. When Lord Lorne succeeded Grip held him to copy Lord Dufferin as a "fine constitutional model."

For years Grip attacked the Roman Catholic Church, its beliefs, methods and priesthood. These attacks have not been repeated since Grip got a printing contract. And how it bewailed the introduction of creed matters into politics last fall.

On Commercial Union.

As Hon. Edward Blake would say, here is a sequence of events.

On Dec. 13, 1874, Grip endorsed the Canada First party and hurrahed for Canadian nationality.

All through 1876, 1877 and the early part of 1878—when it somersaulted on the N.P.—Grip denounced the idea of allowing the Americans to keep their hold on Canada.

Goldwin Smith said in the early part of 1877 that "annexation is Canada's evident destiny." On April 21 of that year Grip attacked him fiercely, comparing his doctrine to that of the three tailors of Tooley-street.

On May 10, 1879, Grip pictured Goldwin Smith as a big snake writhing on the ground, labeled him "the annexation basalisk" and called him eccentric, erratic and volatile.

Throughout the succeeding years Grip has occasionally advocated Canadian independence, occasionally free trade, occasionally semi-protection, occasionally revenue tariff, but always denounced annexation or anything that would lead to it.

Driven from post to pillar and from pillar to post, unable to please himself or anybody else, looked upon with suspicion or disdain politically and unsuccessful in business, J. W. Bengough carried his sore head to New York. Then Erastus Wiman met him and the Propaganda gathered him in. The cartoonist was shown around Staten Island, was put up at the Canadian Club, was presented at the Press Club, was feted and dined, and all under the fostering wing of the paternal Wiman. J. W. put in a splendid week and Wiman looked after him like a father.

The next week Grip came out in favor of commercial union.

It swallowed annexation along with the other pottage.

All in the Same Boat.

The antis, the annexationists are all alike. This is the third of their organs The World has written the biography of. The Mail, the product to its present owners of a shoddy business transaction, swelled with its own importance until it bursted all bounds, added black treachery to its business record, tried to wreck the party which had built it up, and spurned by everybody wishes now to efface nationality its utmost effort has not succeeded in destroying.

The News, created by the whim of a man with more money than he knew what to do with, was run as a journalistic freak for many years, and then fell into the hands of a man already largely Americanized, who, defeated in a wild project of political advancement, turns naturally to his foster country by union with which he hopes to pick up the broken ends of the strings of his ambition.

And finally Grip—as pictured above—a long record of inconsistencies, disregarded promises, broken pledges, betrayed trusts, chimerical delusions, rant and bigotry; the despised enemy of one political party, the uncertain suspected adherent of another, wild alike in theological beliefs, business enterprises and editorial conclusions, everything by turns but nothing long enough at a time to be ever successful, a bad reputation the almost sole result of thirteen years' work; Grip, touched in its weakest point by the good dinners of a Wall-street monopoly monger, casts in his lot with the enemies of that nationality it has so often extolled, and swallows without a murmur the unveiled treason so boldly preached at Detroit and Buffalo.

The folly and the blindness of it on the part of Grip. The sheet would not exist three months if the scheme it advocates were adopted and it were brought into direct competition with such papers as Puck and The Judge. Does Grip expect to live always on the crumbs that drop from the rich man's table?

Its a case of sorehead with the whole three! There will be differences of opinion as to which is the worst of the trio?

The World's New Office is now at 12 Melinda-street.

AMUSEMENTS THIS WEEK.

"We, Us & Co." and Robert Mantell at the Grand—Tragedy at the Toronto.

To-night Meystayer's Company open a short season at the Grand Opera House in the farcical comedy entitled "We, Us & Co." It is said to contain more fun to the square inch than any thing on the stage. The company has been selected with the greatest care, every one being an artist in the character assigned. There will be the usual Wednesday matinee.

Mr. Robert Mantell opens at the Grand Opera House on Thursday evening next for a three nights engagement in his new play "Monbars" of which The Cincinnati Enquirer of last Wednesday says: Another well filled house at the Grand last night. The strength and beauty of Mr. Mantell's new play grows on one with a second visit, and new points of interest crop out in every scene. Every detail is the result of minute and careful study; every action has a motive, and each episode is a natural sequence of the preceding one; in short, the play is the work of a master hand and carries the audience along with it from the rise till the fall of the curtain. The last two acts are the most powerful, and the applause, which was well sustained throughout, increased to a perfect furore when "Monbars," sick and weak from illness rises from his bed to fight and conquer the villain who has tried to rob him of his happiness and even his life. Quite an ovation followed the drop of the curtain, Mr. Mantell being again and again recalled until the audience had exhausted themselves. The other members of the company rendered good support.

Sheridan Knowles' great tragedy "Virginius" will be produced at the Toronto Opera House to-night with Edmund Collier in the title role. Mr. Collier is one of the brightest and youngest tragedians now before the public. He was for years John McCullough's leading support. On Wednesday, matinee and evening, he will produce "Damon and Pythias," and Thursday evening "Metamora," Conrad's historic tragedy "Jack Cade" for the balance of the week.

The great automatic wonder will be exhibited for a short time only at Shaftesbury Hall, commencing Tuesday Oct. 11. This structure combines mechanism, science and art, and is truly wonderful. Its subject, "The Life of Christ," is enacted by 350 electrical moving figures. On exhibition daily from 10 to 12 a.m., 2 to 5, 7 to 10 p.m. Admission 10c.

On Saturday evening 1135 people took advantage of "People's Night" and crowded the Cyclorama to its utmost capacity.

What am I to Do?

The symptoms of biliousness are unhappily but too well known. They differ in different individuals to some extent. A bilious man is seldom a breakfast eater. Too frequently, alas, he has an excellent appetite for liquids but none for solids of a morning. His tongue will hardly bear inspection at any time; if it is not white and furred it is rough, at all events.

The digestive system is wholly out of order, and diarrhœa or constipation may be a symptom or the raw may alternate. There are often hemorrhoids or even loss of blood. There may be giddiness and often headache and acidity or flatulence and tenderness in the pit of the stomach. To correct all this, if not of a chronic character, Green's August Flower, it costs but a trifle and thousands attest its efficacy. 246

WHAT THE GRAND JURY SAID.

Their Presentment to Mr. Justice Galt in the Assize Court.

Saturday the Grand Jury made its presentment to His Lordship Justice Galt in the Assize Court. When the document had been read His Lordship remarked that he concurred in every clause of it. He made other complimentary allusions to its contents. The presentment is:

The jurors have to congratulate Your Lordship upon the companative lightness of the docket, and venture to hope that this indicates a healthier moral state throughout the community. It has come under our observation that in cases of offence against the person a fine has been inflicted (sometimes small), instead of imprisonment, while in cases of larceny heavy sentences have been given for trivial offences, whereas the jurors would suggest that the former class of crimes should be more frequently punished by imprisonment, without the option of a fine, as many persons would rather pay a fine than lose the opportunity of revenge.

The Grand Jury, with deep regret, are compelled to call Your Lordship's attention to the light punishment generally inflicted on persons found guilty of attempting to rescue prisoners, and of assaulting the police in the discharge of their duty. Five dollars and costs or thirty days in jail is the usual punishment. As a rule the $5 and costs are promptly paid. The police being the guardians of life and property, should have the fullest support and protection the law affords, and your jury are of opinion that imprisonment without the option of a fine should be the punishment in such cases, and which would doubtless have a deterrent effect.

The number of cases of indecent assault upon girls of tender years appears to be on the increase, through which in several instances serious injury has been inflicted on the children, and the jurors would strongly recommend that, in addition to imprisonment the application of the lash should in all cases be inflicted, in hopes that the law may become a terror to such evil-doers.

The jurors would also suggest that a more thorough system of inspection of houses of assignation and other low resorts should be immediately enforced with a view to their suppression, as they are largely productive of crime.

The experience of the summer season just closed shows the necessity for rigidly enforcing the law regulating the number of passengers to be carried on ferry boats, in view of the rapidly developing passenger traffic to places of pleasure resort adjacent to the city. In the late accident on the bay, caused by the collision of two steamboats, although your Grand Jury could not attribute any culpable negligence to the accused captain, yet they consider that there is need for more caution in allowing sufficient time between the trips and less hurrying, especially during the Exhibition season.

The Grand Jury venture to express the hope that although the boundaries of the City of Toronto have lately been extended this will not lead to any increase in the present number of liquor licenses. They are glad to see that steps have been taken to provide for the growing city and county a more efficient, convenient and commodious Court House, but at the same time they deeply regret the apparent delay in the progress of the work, the present Court House being entirely inadequate to the wants of the community and endangering, moreover, the health of those who are compelled to frequent it.

Nothing is more gratifying to your Jurors than to witness that steps are being taken to provide a suitable and commodious Drill Shed and Armory for our brave volunteers, who merit all encouragement that the citizens and Government can give. They approve of the site selected, as it is central and will be convenient for the large majority of the men, and they express a hope that the work will be speedily prosecuted.

The Jail has been visited by us and found in a clean and orderly condition, but the accommodation for male prisoners is totally inadequate. There are 120 male prisoners (fourteen of whom are lunatics) and only ninety-two cells. The hospital accommodation is connection with the Jail is also quite insufficient, owing to which several sick persons are kept in cells. The jurors report that generally speaking the Jail is too small for the demands upon it, and that an enlargement and remodelling of the building are absolutely necessary for the proper classification of prisoners, and for keeping the lunatics separate from criminals, so long as the Government impose the care of these unfortunate beings upon the municipalities.

They also visited the Central Prison and have pleasure in stating that they found it in an admirable condition, well ventilated and remarkably clean. The Warden, Mr. Massey, conducted the Jury through the building and took special care to explain the various details in the management of the institution. At present there are 315 prisoners. A night school is conducted two evenings in the week, with good results, and the prisoners are taught to read and write. The warden reports that this school is not held four evenings a week instead of two, and that the attendance upon it is not made compulsory.

They also visited the Andrew Mercer Reformatory and the jurors cannot speak too highly of the management of this institution. They were courteously conducted through the buildings by Mrs. O'Reilly, the superintendent, and Dr. J. D. King, and all desired information was cheerfully furnished. The term for which females are sent to the Reformatory is frequently only for three to six months. The jurors are of the opinion that this is too short a period in which to effect a reform, likely to be permanent, and does not give the officers of the institution a fair opportunity to accomplish the moral change so much desired.

Your jurors beg further to report that the Industrial Refuge (which might also be called a school where children receive a good plain education) is a most important adjunct of this institution, and is producing the best results upon girls under 14 years of age, who are kept at all times totally separate from the prisoners. They are taught habits of domestic industry, such as cooking, washing, sewing, etc., etc., and are fitted to earn their livelihood in the virtuous walks of life.

Following the suggestions of Your Lordship, the jurors inspected the Lunatic Asylum in small numbers, and were conducted through the male department by the eminently experienced and practical superintendent, Dr. Clark, and through the female department by his able and talented assistant, Dr. Buchan. The only suggestion the Grand Jury have to make in reference to this well managed institution, everything, generally speaking, being so perfect, is that they consider it high time that the Government took steps to enlarge the present, or erect a new building, so as to terminate the overcrowding. The present building is designed to accommodate 560 patients, whereas there are now 703 within it, and not only so, but there are 14 lunatics in the County Jail (already referred to) who cannot be admitted into the asylum for want of room. It is gratifying to be able to report that the great value of such an institution to the community is evinced by the fact, given by the Superintendent, that 48 per cent. of the patients recover. Dr. Clark is of opinion that the cottage system of asylums is the best, and that "a village of cottages will be the mode of asylum accommodation of the future."

In conclusion the jurors wish to thank Your Lordship for the advice so graciously tendered to them in your address, which has been of great service in dealing with the cases coming before them.

All of which are respectfully submitted.

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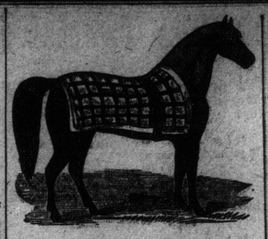

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