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J. W. BENGOUGH . . . . . EDITOR.

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### Comments on the Cartoons.



**NOLENS VOLENS.**—The assertion that Mr. Blake has by word or act sought to “construct a political platform out of the Regina scaffold” is utterly unfounded. And yet certain Reform journals have rejoiced him for doing so, thus furnishing the *Mail* an opportunity to quote in support of its false contention. GRIP does not always approve of the Reform leader’s actions, but it likes to see common justice meted out to every public man, and certainly in this case the facts are too plain to be overcome by anything short of sheer mendacity. Mr. Blake declared at the London banquet that the execution of Riel, as a mere incident of the rebellion, could not, and so far as he was concerned, would not be made a party question. Nor would it be made the basis of any alliance with the disaffected Bleus. We do not know of anything that Mr. Blake has either said or done since the

banquet to modify this deliverance. That he is now forced to declare his personal opinion on the execution at the compulsion of the Ministry is certainly not his fault. Landry’s motion fastened him to the “Regina platform,” and Langevin’s application of the “previous question” rule made escape impossible. The supposition that the people of Canada are too stupid to understand these simple facts, is not very flattering, Mr. *Mail*.

**ARRESTED FOR MAINTAINING A NUISANCE.**—In accordance with the action taken by the County Council, the City of Toronto is to be prosecuted at law for keeping a stench-house under the name of a Police Court. Her Majesty the Queen City does not pretend to deny that the Police Court is a nuisance, but her lawyer is doing his best to show that the Statute against nuisance does not apply to those sustained by municipal corporations. The plea is almost as disgraceful as the nuisance, and we hope it will be thrown out. Let her acknowledge the notorious fact, and clean up the offending premises.

**CART BEFORE HORSE.**—Mr. Blake very justly said that in forcing the issue on the hanging of Riel instead of allowing a discussion upon the incidents which led up to that event, the Government were putting the cart before the horse. The vote on Landry’s motion being taken, it is now the old hoss’ turn to be dealt with.

**THE CIVIC STRINGS.**—Mr. Howland is going ahead grandly. He is doing just what it was anticipated a thoroughly honest and earnest mayor would do—and the city is beginning to appreciate the advantage of having a man of that description at the head of affairs. His recent formal notice to contractors that their work must be done in strict accordance with the terms of their bargain affords us the opportunity for these remarks, though it is but a specimen of the live manner in which our William guards the city’s interests in all directions.

### CANADIANS IN COLORADO.

A SOCIETY under the title of the Canadian Association of Colorado has been formed in Denver, as a means of bringing into friendly intercourse the many Canadians living in the West, and of assisting worthy countrymen who may need a helping hand. The Association has rooms at 294 15th street, Denver, where Canadian visitors will at all times be welcome. Mr. M. P. Cochran, late of Montreal, is the President, and the other offices are filled by other influential gentlemen. This admirable organization deserves and will no doubt receive hearty support. Those having friends in Colorado should notify them of the formation of the Association, and thus endeavor to strengthen it.



What do you believe to be the best way of securing Temperance—License or Prohibition?

THIS conundrum is propounded to us in a printed circular from the Provincial W.C.T.U. We answer it by asking another: What do you believe to be the best way of regulating a mad dog—tying a tin kettle to its tail, or shooting it?

\* \* \*

HON. OLIVER MOWAT’S already over-laden brow has received one more wreath of laurel. “Pat Proden” has dedicated his latest pamphlet—“Vol. 7, whole No. 11,000”—to the unoffending Attorney General!

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MR. JOHN A. WILKINSON has been describing himself to a San Francisco newspaper as a “defeated politician.” His reference was no doubt to the late bribery business. We hope the patriotic gentleman took the opportunity of correcting the American misapprehension of the Canadian climate by telling his interviewer that he left this country because it was too hot for him.

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THE learned pastor of the Bloor Street Methodist Church, and his scholarly brother of the Carlton Street ditto, are said to be greatly interested over the following fragment lately exhumed at Athens: “Paul the Apostle will preach at Mars Hill to-morrow at 7 p.m.\* Subject: The Great Unknown. The Macedonian Quartette will sing. Star Soloist. Full chorus. Organ and cornet accompaniment.” Both learned gentlemen dispute the authenticity of this interesting relic.

### FROM THE ATLANTIC.

\* \* PLEASE allow me to congratulate GRIP on his growth in size and improved appearance.

E. L. P.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 30.