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- President J. V. WRIGHT.
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- Artist and Editor I. W. BENGOUGH.
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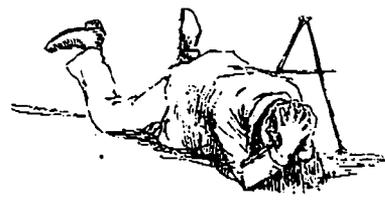
"JACK-THE-RIPPER!"—Just as was anticipated, the Governor-General told the Equal Rights deputation that he could only act upon the advice of his responsible ministers, and that those potent gentlemen had no intention of disallowing the Jesuit Estates Act—nor of referring it to any court whatever for an opinion of its constitutionality. The terms in which this answer was conveyed bordered on the brusque, and read exceedingly like a revised version of Sir John

Thompson's speech. There can be no further doubt that the Government have determined to sink or swim with the French vote. Their refusal to refer the Bill to a legal tribunal indicates no desire to bring about a reconciliation of the contending parties. Sir John Macdonald, with a frenzy analogous to that of the London madman, "rips" the petitions to ribbons, and flatters himself that he has finished the Equal Rights agitation. In this, however, he will find himself most grievously mistaken.

THE WORKINGMAN'S POSITION.—While we would be sorry to suppose that the efforts of the *World* and its sympathizers to secure Sunday street cars for Toronto are not dictated by a profoundly pious desire to enable the poor workingman to go to church on wheels, as his rich neighbor does, we feel bound on behalf of this same workingman to inform these over-zealous

friends of his that he is not so anxious to go to church as to be willing to give up the good thing he now possesses in a day of rest. This will, no doubt sound very hardened and even diabolical to the awfully religious *World*, but our client, the workingman, does not mean that he has any want of respect for religion, but only that he is quite content to walk to church or to stay away altogether rather than have Sunday cars established for his benefit. And the way he reasons is this: Human nature in Toronto is the same as human nature in Chicago, and, under similar conditions, will work out similar results. In the latter city, by gradual stages, Sunday has been abolished as a day of rest, and now thousands of men are glad to work seven days in the week for wages they would otherwise get for six. What guarantee is there that, if once the start is made by even so trivial a thing as Sunday street cars, Toronto will not ultimately end with Sunday papers, Sunday saloons, Sunday business and labor of all kinds? Are we so much wiser and better than our brethren of Chicago that we can safely venture on so perilous a path? The Church is a grand institution, no doubt, and its ministrations received in the quiet of a workless Sunday are unquestionably calculated to benefit both the heart and mind of the workingman. But better go without church services than go to them in street cars which open the way to the destruction of the day itself. "The Sabbath was made for man"—and the workmen of Toronto are determined to keep it sacred from labor as one of the few things that grasping monopolists have still left them.

A BREAK IN THE BAND.—The *Mail* feels disposed to "let up" on the discussion of Commercial Union or Unrestricted Reciprocity or Continental Free Trade for the present, because there is reason to believe that the present occupants of the White House, at Washington, do not entertain the notion favorably. The *Globe*, of course, put a sinister construction on this weakening of its contemporary, insinuating its belief that the *Mail* is preparing for a flop back into the Government fold. While we do not share this suspicion, we do agree with the *Globe* when it points out the absurdity of giving up the discussion for the reason alleged. It can do no harm to keep at it, at least until we have some plain intimation from Washington that the present Government there is opposed to it. Even this need not deter us from the subject, as it is among the moral certainties that the Republicans will be turned out at the next election to be succeeded by men who are not so absolutely in the hands of the monopolists.



ACCORDING to the returns just published there was an increase of \$50,258.14 in the collections at the Toronto Custom House for July

over the corresponding month last year. The total amount collected was \$404,891.35. The muddle-headed Protectionist will, no doubt, chuckle over this, and "point with pride" to the glorious N.P. as the cause of such a splendid showing. But what does it mean when looked at with the calm eyes of common sense? It means, to the consumer hereabouts, that a portion of the good things he wanted and therefore imported, amounting in value to nearly half a million of dollars, was taken from him. It means that the Dominion Government took from him in one month the whole proceeds of two hundred and two thousand four hundred and forty-five days' labor at \$2 per day, in the form of indirect taxes. This would be tough enough if it were a dire necessity, but it isn't. By a single direct tax upon ground rent, which does not represent labor at all, but is a natural growth inseparable from population, the public till could be amply supplied, and every man might be left to enjoy the full fruits of his individual efforts. Indirect taxation means robbery every time, but, alas! the consumer loves to be humbugged.

THE *Mail's* "Births, Marriages and Deaths" competition is closed, and the competing designs have