

GRIP.

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The gravest Boast is the Ass; the gravest Bird is the Owl;
The gravest Fish is the Oyster; the gravest Man is the Fool.

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Cartoon Comments.

LEADING CARTOON.—Sir John has been obliged to call in the Doctor to save his Cabinet from dying of general debility. Sir Charles Tupper has a record just a trifle worse than that of any other member of the Government, but he is head and shoulders over all Sir John's present colleagues in mental force, and that, in the opinion of the Premier, is what is mainly required to keep the party in office. The calm assumption that moral character counts for nothing in Canadian politics is very characteristic of Sir John, and although somewhat exasperating to citizens who still retain some old-fashioned ideas of right and wrong, it is not an insult which in the present condition of public opinion anybody will take the trouble to resent. A country that stood quietly by and saw the reinstatement in office of the men who had committed a great public crime, for which they had never expressed any contrition, is not likely to express disapproval of anything that may be done at Ottawa. And surely if Sir Charles is a fit and proper person to hob-nob with Piccadilly swells as our representative (as the country quite agrees) he is good enough for a place in the Ministry. The laughable incident in connection with the High Commissioner's return is the "official" statement of the *Mail* that Sir Charles is simply coming over for needed "rest." Well, it is a little fatiguing to "assist" at dinners and garden-parties half a dozen days per week, but no society man is ever so done up by those onerous duties as to absolutely need an ocean-trip.

FIRST PAGE.—It has been pretty hot for Mr. Blake lately, but the experience will, no doubt, be good for his political health. Whatever may have been the pressure brought to bear upon him, he committed a grave blunder

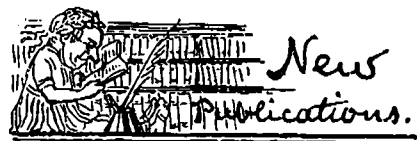
in consenting to the "salary grab." We are now informed that, from the first, Mr. Blake was personally opposed to this transaction. Nobody who knows him at all will doubt this, but that does not mitigate the extent of the blunder he made as leader in giving way. By firmly standing against those of his followers who were in favor of the grab he would no doubt have risked a revolt on their part, but that would have been a less calamity than a general revolt of public opinion. It was a question of judgment, and Mr. Blake showed, as we think, very little political sagacity. The strictures passed by the press, and particularly by GRIP, have, as we learn, painfully affected Mr. Blake. He has felt it his duty, so far as we are concerned, to "stop his paper." We further learn that he regards our strictures as personal to himself. This does less than justice to Mr. Blake's intelligence. He must know perfectly well that, as the official head of a party, he stands, for caricature purposes, as that party—and is criticised in his representative capacity alone. He has simply no right to take refuge in his private character while leading his army in the political arena.

EIGHTH PAGE.—A correspondent of the *Globe* writing from Qu'Appelle exposes the most scandalous corruption perpetrated by the persons intrusted by the Government with the work of purchasing and transporting supplies in connection with the rebellion. The statements are most circumstantial, and come from a source friendly to the Government. The Bell Farm people, known to be special pets of the Ottawa magnates, are amongst the principal offenders, and it is well known that the far-famed Lieut.-Gov. Dewdney has a finger in the Bell Farm pie. A thorough investigation of the charges is demanded, and the exemplary punishment of the officials who may be found guilty of the wholesale robbery should follow as a matter of course.

HOW THEY SQUIRM!

It is a source of satisfaction to GRIP to know that the thick-skinned beings, to whose backs he has sometimes to apply the lash, are not insensible to their punishment. The *Mail* winces under the cartoon we devoted to the Dominion printing jobbery, and, after a few weeks of solemn reflection, it attempts to break the effect of our blow by endeavoring to make out that GRIP's relations to the Ontario Government printing are of the same character as those existing between the Dominion Government and the journals named in the public accounts as enjoying illicit printing orders. Everybody (including the *Mail*) knows that the position of the GRIP Printing Company is, on the contrary, precisely the same as that of Messrs. Maclean, Roger & Co., the Ottawa contractors, and just the opposite of the jobbers it would fain defend. Every atom of printing done by the GRIP Co. for the Ontario Government is paid for upon the basis of the tender, regularly sent in and awarded, according to law, to the lowest

tenderer. In the case of the *Mail's* virtuous clients, the charges were in every case exorbitant, but even if they had not been so, the work was illegal, belonging rightfully to the regular contractors. Marvellous and incredible as it will no doubt appear to the *Mail* management, we have only further to say that GRIP is conducted by its editor without reference to its printing department.



NEW PUBLICATIONS.

"Stirring Incidents in the Life of a British Soldier." By Thomas Faughnan. Such is the title of a 536-page volume which we have perused with much pleasure, and have no hesitation in recommending to the public. The book abounds in amusing incidents and laughable anecdotes. The author is an Irishman whose effusion of native wit and humor lends a charm to every page. His account of travel in foreign countries, especially through the historic land of Egypt, with its hoary ruins of palaces, mosques and temples, is both amusing and instructive. But the battle scenes of the Crimea, where he fought like a Trojan, and which he so graphically delineates, form the chief theme of the narrative and are of thrilling interest. There are many other commendatory features in the work that we have not space to notice. The present edition is enlarged to nearly twice the size of the first.

DECIDED AT LAST.

A decision has at last been reached in regard to which is the cheapest place in the city to buy harness at. The name of the firm is the Canadian Harness Co., 104 Front Street, opp. Hay Market. You can buy a set of harness \$15 cheaper off them than any other firm in the city. They have the advantage over small dealers as they manufacture in large quantities; 200 sets to choose from, all hand-stitched.

A GOOD CHANCE.

Mr. Mathison, the energetic superintendent of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, writes us as follows:—

DEAR SIR.—There are many deaf and dumb children whose parents are not aware of the liberal provision made by the Province for such afflicted ones. Every deaf and dumb child in Ontario, of suitable age and capacity, may have instruction and training in intellectual culture and in some useful occupation, by attending the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, at Belleville. There were 240 pupils in attendance last session, but as a number completed their education and left in June, there will be room for all for whom admission is desired when the institution re-opens in September. Would you kindly mention the foregoing in your paper; it might, perhaps, meet the eye of some parent who has a deaf and dumb child and would like to send it to school.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND'S PEREMPTORY ORDER TO THE LAND GRABBING RANCHMEN.—*Hinc illu lacrymae*—Hence these steers!—*Chicago Inter Ocean*.