

GRIP.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

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

TORONTO, SATURDAY, 21ST DECEMBER, 1878.

TO NEWSDEALERS.—The Toronto News Co. are our wholesale agents; any orders from the trade sent direct to them will receive prompt attention.

To Correspondents.

J. M. S., Montreal.—Cannot at present lay our hand on the MS.

The Ballad of Ta Phairson.

TA PHAISSON is a chieftain bold and fearfully contentious,
Wi' pamphlets on finance affairs—but far frae conscientious;
He oft himsel' has mixed in jobs o' questionable nature,
An' seems to doot there's ony good in ony ither creature.

He says he fights on neither side, but only for the nation,
An' always strives to tell the truth in every calculation,
But when the field o' battle's clear o' smoke an' a' its glories
Somehow TA PHAISSON'S always found amongst the chiefest Tories.

'Twas in the sacred cause o' Truth he fought against MACKENZIE,
An' scattered pamphlets through the land an' lectured in a frenzy;
An' cooked the public figures up to suit his party purpose,
To show that MAC. had run in debt while JOHN A. had a surplus.

'Twas in the sacred cause o' Truth that on the next occasion
He changed his mode o' reckoning for purpose o' evasion,
An' wi' a show o' bein' fair an' canny an' explicit,
He cooked up MOWAT'S surplus an' made it a deficit.

When measured wi' a tailor's tape around this sauncy person,
There's few in a' the kintra side so great as is TA PHAISSON;
But if ye measure *manhood* by fairness, truth, an' candour,
Ye'll scarce find ony *smaller* man however far ye wander.

Prophetical Calendar for 1879.

JANUARY.—WENNOR issues a notification that the winter will be severe beyond all previous experience.

FEBRUARY.—Thermometer 12° in shade. Farmers busy ploughing and sowing. WENNOR in second edition of "Peoples Weather Chart" says he foresaw the intense heat when he was a baby, but had somehow forgotten the fact till now. Ontario House on account of trying temperature, postpones Session till 1880. Nobody misses it.

MARCH.—Hon. GEO. BROWN opens ice-cream kitchen for baked-out deserving-poor, in basement chamber of *Globe* office. Heat wondrous. Harvest commenced.

APRIL.—Editors of *Globe* and *Mail* issue joint card addressed "to the unregenerate public," certifying that having become unexpectedly converted by preaching of Mr. RINE, their respective journals will henceforth be run on strictly gospel and inner inwardness principles, and amalgamated under the title of "*The Daily and Weekly Consolidated Christian*," the only religious Toronto newspaper.

MAY.—WENNOR swaggers about in a white calico suit, and says he did it all, and can do it again whenever he likes. He guarantees that the great heat will last till Xmas. Mr. PATRICK BOYLE "swaps" with Archbishop LYNCH and becomes Archbishop of Toronto. Mr. LYNCH at request of the Pope taking the proprietorship and editorship of *Irish Canadian*.

JUNE.—Thermometer drops to 84° below zero. An ox roasted whole on Toronto Bay. WENNOR announces that 2nd edition of *Peoples Weather Chart* will appear immediately.

JULY.—Volume 5 of *Census Papers*—"in the printers' hands" eighteen months ago—makes its appearance. Lake Ontario frozen solid to the bottom. WENNOR in 3rd. edition says, "I told you so"—and certifies that he is the only original O.K. weather man. He wants a public subscription for a new hairy prophetical mantle, and note book, his present one being nearly worn out. He foresees a remarkable absence of storms for the rest of the year.

AUGUST.—Terrific hurricane from Gulf to Pacific. WENNOR telegraphs from British Columbia to Archbishop BOYLE that by a base hound printer's error: remarkable absence of storms" was substituted for "prevalence of hurricanes." He desires that the printers and publishers be forthwith excommunicated. He has, he says, more weather wis-

dom in his little finger than there are herrings in the ocean. The Exemption Abolition Bill having passed, the Council spend \$100,000 in a grand public display of fireworks, and resolve "That the following pressing items of outlay imperatively requisite, render it impracticable and inexpedient to reduce present low rate of 26 mills in the dollar:—Mace, gold chain and robes for Mayor; Indemnity on Parliamentary basis for Councillors; "Something" for various "Boys;" New City Hall, with tower 380 feet high; Ten new Fire Halls; Silver Cradle for future Mayoresses, who may want it; \$500,000 bonus for new railway; Winter garden and rink; Filling up the gap with dressed Ohio stones; Main off-take sewer; Dry dock; Wet dock; Swimming baths for the million; Three additional reservoirs; Permanent pavements in 120 streets; Reclamation of the Marsh; Reclamation of the Island; Something more for some more Boys.

SEPTEMBER.—WENNOR in 4th edition, suggests public statue to himself, as only infallible weather guide and philosopher for the nation. His note-book indicates, as before, continuance of present low temperature. Court presentation female attire at Rideau Hall ordered to be severely on fig-leaf fashion, Anno Mundi 1. No medical certificates entertained to the contrary.

OCTOBER.—Repetition of excessive heat. Not a sea-serpent seen in any ocean or newspaper. WENNOR, in a "stop-press" to his *Weather Guide*, says that "the old man is right again," and that nothing in the weather prediction is genuine without the signature of the aforesaid L.W.

NOVEMBER.—Proprietors of *Consolidated Christian* intimate that as the April arrangement has not proved a paying affair, they feel constrained unwillingly to renounce Christianity, and that the "Only Religious" has been resolved into its former dual carnal elements, with all the name implies. ~~W~~ Great disgust of *Telegram*, which having stuck to heathen principles was doing a tremendous business.

DECEMBER.—In a moment of temporary sanity all the Provincial Legislatures, Councils, Lieut. Governors, and Executives vote themselves out of existence. A Federal Cabinet and Parliament at Ottawa and the respective County Councils transact respectively all the national and local business amid general public rejoicing. ~~W~~ Everybody wonders why the thing was not thought of before. L.W. directs the public to look out for *Weather Almanac* for 1880—A "sure thing."

My Dear Mr. GWIP:

OTTAWA, DEC. 16, 1878.

Pawdon the liberty I take in addressing you without a personal introduction, but weally you are positively the only one in the Provincial Journal line—beg pawdon again for the twade-like expression—who seems to have a pwopah idea of the coevet relations based upon the social scale you know, existing between us—when I say *us* of cawth I mean the Mowhaw Countywy and yourselves the—aw—the Canadians. A military man myself—though on leave at pwesent, I of cawth take moaw interest in matters connected with the army, than those in welation to meah civilians. Now, my deah GWIP—pawdon again the familiawity—what weally is youah opinion as wegawds the new corps heah wearing the uniform of the gawds? I am not pwejudiced, you know; the mens' physique is vevy good and cweditable for colonial twoops; but is it not wather awfully jolly widiculous for them to assume owah uniforms? I weally don't like it. I am witing home by next steamah, and would like your opinion on this and kindred mattaws at once.

I am, Sir, yours and the country's servant,

CARNABY JENKS,

Lieut. 2 Troop Squadron, H. M. 14th Regt.
Sky Blue Guards.

Mr. GRIP presents his compliments to Sir CARNABY JENKS, and begs to say that he is quite in accord with that gallant officer on the subject of colonial military uniform. He is of opinion that the Ottawa guards ought to be clad in such a way as to clearly distinguish them from similar regiments on service at Coldstream, Grenadier, and other places. To this end the men ought to be prohibited from wearing eye-glasses, except when on duty. The uniform should be immediately changed. Let the Canadian troops be clad in a fashion becoming the country. Then helmets, pelisses, tunics, sabertaches, and haversacs should be trimmed with muskrat fur, which would not only be typical, but also useful, as the sentinel could then distinguish the relief from the enemy by his olfactory nerves and might be permitted an occasional nap while on guard. This would also serve to keep the regiment in good odour. Mr. GRIP is further of opinion that our Ottawa guards ought to be furnished with other weapons besides the short and comparatively harmless canes which they at present carry. Although with these ornaments alone our gallant defenders have made many brilliant conquests on Sparks street, they might be found scarcely adequate in a bloody engagement with Gen. BEN BUTLER'S Soft-Money Dragoons, who threaten to invade our Dominion. GRIP will be most happy to furnish Sir CARNABY with a letter of introduction to the Minister of Militia (who knows nearly as much about military affairs as GRIP does), and who will no doubt be happy to have a friendly chat with our gallant correspondent provided our gallant correspondent will order in the champagne.