



AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL AND SATIRICAL JOURNAL

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Editor.

The gravest Beast 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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### VOLUME XXII.

To-day, as the world enters upon a new year, GRIP begins a new volume.

The Constant Reader who, like a wise man, binds his numbers conscientiously, will observe that Vol. XXI has been continued beyond the customary 26 issues in order to effect this more convenient arrangement; but he is not likely to grumble at getting more for his money than was promised.

GRIP begins to feel proudly venerable as he gazes at the Roman numerals. His years have far outnumbered those of any similar publication ever started in Canada, and everything indicates that he is only as yet in his early youth. Whence this vitality? Is GRIP too presumptuous in attributing it chiefly to the fact that he is an honest, well-meaning Bird, in whom the good people of Canada have confidence? That he is a tolerably funny Bird, and that his fun is good-natured, cleanly, and in good taste? This is his own theory, at any rate, and a very comfortable and encouraging theory it is. It increases his self-respect, and self-respect is perhaps the very highest gift the journalist can have. There can be no doubt, also, that GRIP's past success is due largely to his Cartoons. Now these works he does not himself regard with much satisfaction, judged from an artistic standpoint. The line of beauty, the middle-distance, the vanishing point, and the laws of perspective are often, doubtless, set at naught, and this recklessness

has caused our scholarly friends of the Canadian Academy many a pang, but it should be borne in mind that they are not put forward as specimens of Art. They are intended simply as pletorial editorials, and as such GRIP is prepared to stand by them. They are honest, fearless, truthful, and hit the nail on the head nine times out of ten. The people of Canada, Grit and Tory, share this opinion, or they would not in increasing numbers add their names to our subscription list as they are doing. Notwithstanding the "Exigencies of Party" Canadians love their country and they know right well that Canada has no truer friend in the ranks of the press than GRIP.

But enough of moralizing.

We had intended only to say that during the year now so auspiciously opened GRIP's course will be guided by the well understood principles which have hitherto made him a power in the land. His platform may be crystallized into three short propositions, viz:

Politics without Partizanship; Truth without Temper, and Fun without Vulgarity.

At an early day the Publishers hope to effect such improvements in the mechanical make-up and appearance of the journal as will render it still more worthy of the warm support it has enjoyed for the past ten years.

### Cartoon Comments.

LEADING CARTOON.—The representatives of the Denominational Colleges of the Province continue their agitation for state funds, but the case against them grows stronger as the discussion proceeds. Principal Caven, himself the head of a Denominational College, argues with irresistible force against the claim put forward by his brethren, and it is safe to say that public opinion, as voiced in the other letters to the daily papers, is overwhelmingly against them also. Mr. Mowat will no doubt take this into his consideration, and in due time make it known officially that this Province does not mean to support Church schools, —in any shape or form whatever—out of the public Treasury.

FIRST PAGE.—Hon. Mr. Ross has signalized his entry into office by giving notice that the whole question of School Readers is to be reconsidered. If it is possible, without doing injustice to Messrs. Gage and Campbell, whose books have been authorized and are now being adopted here and there over the Province, the whole board is to be swept clean and a new arrangement made, whereby one good series of Readers, and one only, will be given to our schools. Mr. Ross has proved himself a wide-awake, sagacious, and altogether respectable man, for he has herein adopted GRIP's idea expressed many weeks ago. Some fair and honorable method of obviating any financial loss on the part of Messrs. Gage and Campbell, who have been working in good faith under the sanction of the Government's former policy, will no doubt be found. The people of this

Province would probably approve of any reasonable scheme to this end, as it would be economy in the end even if it cost a lot of money. What the Province demands is one good series of Readers—better than either of those now on the market—controlled by the Government in such a way as to insure stability and excellence at reasonable cost. Stability especially is demanded by the heads of families who are sick and tired of buying new books with every change of the Educational wind.

EIGHTH PAGE.—We hope this little design will enable the reader to grasp the political situation in Quebec, for there are few subjects less understood at any given moment throughout the other Provinces of the Dominion. You observe Mousseau hanging like grim death to a shaky stool. That stool is a beautiful symbol of the Provincial premiership. The reason he remains upon it is not only that he clutches it with puffy hands, but also because two contending factions are pulling him in opposite directions. Each wants him to vacate, but the effect of their contention is that he remains. Langevin and Chapleau, you must understand, are fighting for the French leadership at Ottawa, and each is determined to put his own puppet in Mousseau's place at Quebec. Now that you comprehend the position of affairs, all you have to do is to watch the special despatches from the seat of war and keep yourself posted.



"THE STERNER SEX."

—Glasgow Chief.

"Let no man enter into business while he is ignorant of the manner of regulating books. Never let him imagine that any degree of natural ability will supply the deficiency or preserve multiplicity of affairs from inextricable confusion." Day's Business College, 96 King St. W., Toronto.