



AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL AND SATIRICAL JOURNAL

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The gravest beast is the Ass; the gravest bird is the Owl;
The gravest fish is the Oyster; the gravest Man is the Fool.

To Correspondents.

W. A. M. The speech will appear (with necessary amendments) next week.

Cartoon Comments.

LEADING CARTOON.—The horn is sounded from the hill and the loyal Conservatives are summoned to a party feast. The Chieftain is to be banquetted in this city at an early date, and receive the meed of praise justly his due for creating millions of tall chimneys with his magic wand. But in connection with the banquet there is to be a convention—a much more significant thing. The Grit papers take it to signify that Sir John intends to dissolve Parliament and go to the country before his term has expired, and in that event they express themselves exceedingly ready to meet him. Meantime the query of the Cartoon might well be put by the witty Premier. Beyond a negative programme of denunciation against certain acts of alleged corruption on the part of Ministers; of reiterated condemnation of the Syndicate bargain, and repeated declarations against the N. P., the Reform party have no Policy that we know of. No doubt they would investigate the charges of corruption, but would they rescind the Bargain, or overthrow the Tariff? It is doubtful if they could constitutionally do the former, and as to the latter, Mr. Blake's utterances on the subject of the Tariff are somewhat vague and non-committal. But the Hon. Edward thought he had a Policy about him, somewhere!

FIRST PAGE.—We advisedly picture the Province of Manitoba as the Dominion Starveling. The actual and discreditable fact is that the Dominion authorities are fattening upon property which by every rule of justice belongs to the Prairie Province. A fuller statement of the circumstances is given elsewhere in this issue. As intimated, this cartoon is but the first of a series to be published with a view of arousing public attention to the anomaly and having it remedied if possible before serious trouble arises.

"Wonders sure will never cease!" as the old song says. Here we find the *Globe's* correspondent writing indignantly from Kingston that John A. has failed to fulfil certain promises made to one Mr. S. T. Drennan, who has a claim for damage against the Government.

Sir John promised that when he got into office he would "do justice to the claim," but (we actually quote these words from the *Globe*), "after he became Premier he was not so anxious to do his friend a favour." Can this be the same John A. as we have been reading about so long in the big Grit organ? Surely not. That John A. was never known to forget his political cronies!

The appearance in this city of Signor Rossi in three of Shakespeare's greatest characters is a favour for which we are indebted to the enterprise and tact of Manager Sheppard, and that gentleman deserves not only the thanks of the citizens but a good practical recognition in the shape of a heavy cash box, which we have no doubt he will receive. The prices are moderate considering the great distinction of the star and the unusual excellence of the supporting company.



The Governor-General has gone home to receive the congratulations of his Royal mammal-in-law and the nobility and gentry on his late phenomenal journey across the continent. He leaves our shores attended by the best wishes of the Canadian people, who expect to have the pleasure of welcoming him back early in January. Lord Lorne will now be able to put in a good word for our maligned and misunderstood Dominion, and that he will do so heartily on every suitable occasion we may rest assured.

The cartoon dealing with the Manitoba question is the first of a series which will appear in these pages, in accordance with our promise of last week to assist those who are fighting for justice to that Province. We join heartily in this fray because we are convinced that the present position of the Prairie Province is fraught with grave danger not only to the people who live within its limits, but to the whole Dominion. But aside from this, the present attitude of the Dominion authorities is mean, tyrannical and unjust—so much so that no free journal can stand by complacently and endure it.

For the benefit of those who have not ex-

amined the matter, let us briefly summarize the facts of the case. Manitoba—unlike any of the other provinces—is prohibited from controlling any of the lands, minerals or other sources of revenue within her borders. Her local governmental institutions must be supported entirely by the interest on the amount placed to her credit on entering Confederation—which was some \$500,000. This interest is 5 per cent., but circumstances have obliged the Province to use up about \$300,000 of the principal, and the annual expenditure at present is not less than \$180,000. In addition to the interest on the subsidy the only other revenue at the command of the Province is the annual receipt from the Dominion of 80 cts. per head on the population—which is limited to a population of 400,000. If John A. is sincere in predicting a population of "millions" in the Northwest within a few years, he ought to be able to grasp the gravity of the problem here presented for his consideration.

The "Dominion Churchman" on Collector Patton.

DEAR MR. GRIP,—I observe, with regret, that you have been laughing very cruelly at the failure of our poor dear collector to put a stop to that dreadful thing called Free Opinion. But to show you how entirely you are in the wrong, Mr. GRIP, I enclose a copy of my favourite journal, the sweet and unctuous *Dominion Churchman*, whose high and holy mission it is to restore, in spots as it were, the good old times when dissenters were fined, and dissenting ministers turned out to starve in the ditches. You will see a letter in the *Dominion Churchman's* best style (which is much better than yours, Mr. GRIP!) calling on Collector Patton to put out of Synod a person who is its seems editor of an impious publication, called the *Canadian Monthly Review*. Now, Sir, it has come to my knowledge that this magazine has for the last several years contained articles by the *Principals of two Dissenting Colleges*, one in Kingston and the other in Cobourg! Both of these *Nonconformists* possess (we can guess who gives it to them!) a dangerous depth of thought, and an *apparent* candour, and those "graces of style" which are so apt to enslave the young and unsuspecting. And yet the editor of this fearful publication is allowed to be a lay delegate for a leading parish in Toronto. Why he will entice the other lay delegates to be on more than speaking terms with Methodists!!! Honour and Anathema! I call on Collector Patton to ask in trumpet tones what is the restor of that Toronto parish about! Why did he allow such a man to be elected lay delegate?

And in that *Canadian Monthly Review*, Sir, there are articles by Sir Francis Hincks, a person of lax views on Church matters; and more by Mr. Goldwin Smith, a writer whose opinions are such that I never pass the Grange without groaning! Even that Presbyterian newspaper, the *Globe*, has often said where he is going to, and put it as strong, Sir, as St. Athanasius himself.

And, Sir, that lay delegate, *Monthly Review*, is full of idle stories, all about love-making, and such. It has poems by avowed Nonconformist writers. I am told that one of the cleverest of them is an avowed dissenter from Kingston. The minx, I should like to have her thumb-screwed till she could write no more poetry, to turn foolish hearts, about President Garfield, a deceased Nonconformist.

And yet, Sir, this lay delegate has, I am credibly informed, attended every meeting of the late Synod, and with serpent-like guile, has