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J. W. BENGOUGH

EDITOR.

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Comments on the Cartoons.



THE MASTER "TURNER."—In a speech at a public banquet in London, Eng., a few days ago, Sir John Macdonald uttered some very kind words on behalf of the French-Canadians. He insisted warmly on the loyalty of that section of our population, and vigorously repelled the charges made to the contrary. Taken in connection with recent utterances of the *Mail*—which is well known to be Sir John's mouthpiece—this is a veritable hand-spring from *caustic* to *taffy*, and fitly signalizes Sir John's election as a member of the Turners' Company. The motive of the honeyed words at this particular juncture is apparent, as they are manifestly dragged into the speech "neck-and-crop." Who has been saying anything about the French being disloyal excepting the *Mail*? The further fact that the mollifying expressions were immediately repeated in the Government organs at Montreal is also somewhat significant.

MR. M. C. CAMERON ON THE STUMP.—Mr. Cameron's late speech at Brucefield ought to make lively reading for the Tory papers, as it consisted wholly of the relation of Government scandals packed into short paragraphs—and it was a long speech, too. Do we understand the *Mail* to plead guilty to this terrible indictment on behalf of its clients? As yet the Government organ has only replied on one point—the Timber Limits outrage; but on that point it rather *has* Mr. Cameron, as it quotes official documents to prove that some of the alleged outrages were committed, not by the present Government, but by that of the exemplary Mackenzie.

THE MAYORALTY RACE LOST AND WON.—Mr. Howland's magnificent majority would no doubt have been smaller if his opponent had not gone into the field frightfully handicapped. On his shoulders, Mayor Manning carried the weight of the despised liquor traffic—both licensed and unlicensed—around his neck hung the burden of the Ward-healers, whose very names were sufficient to scare decent men into voting for Howland, however much they might have admired Manning. Then his past record of do-nothingism clogged his feet, and his anti-unionism and political partisanship still further retarded his running. Besides, in the words of the *Mail*, "the people of Toronto are determined to pay more attention to moral reforms than they have hitherto done."

AN INVITATION TO THE GRAND OLD MAN.—An invitation has been extended to Mr. Gladstone to visit America, and there is some slight hope that he may be induced to do so after the session of Parliament. Canada joins Uncle Sam in pressing this invitation,

and assures the Premier of Christendom that if he does come across he will meet a more enthusiastic reception than any mortal short of Queen Victoria could evoke from this continent. Come over, William, it will do you a world of good!

As We Pass By.

THE editor of the Halifax *Herald* sends us a copy of his paper with an article marked at the four corners. The marks are to intimate that said article is a reply to our comments on a recent display of stupidity in the *Herald*. If he hadn't marked it we would never have known that it *was* a reply.

* * *

A SHORT time ago the *Herald* undertook to explain the points of some of our cartoons—ignoring our own accompanying note. The result was that it utterly mistook the meaning of the pictures. We called this stupidity, and its author a numskull. To this the *Herald* now rejoins to the effect that GRIP is a supporter of the Local Government. The connection of the two subjects is not very obvious.

* * *

SO far as the Local Government is concerned GRIP deals with it as the facts warrant—just as he does with the Ottawa Government. Mr. Mowat and his colleagues have sometimes deserved praise and they have received it; wherein they deserve blame, GRIP accords it with just as hearty good will.

* * *

AND this reminds us that one of the points upon which the Mowat Government prides itself—and receives praise from the Grit press—is, in our opinion, one of its worst faults. We allude to its so-called "economy"—which would be more properly termed its small-souled niggardliness. The miserable meanness of the methods in vogue are simply a disgrace to the Province of Ontario. This may sound queer in a paper which (*vide* the Tory printing-scandal press) "fattens on the Local Treasury; draws \$35,000 of public money per year," etc. It is nevertheless an accurate description of the way in which this precious Cabinet conducts the business of the richest Province of Confederation.

* * *

WE hope most sincerely that some judge with a human heart in his breast will be on the bench when the brutal wretch, Crow, and his depraved paramour come up for trial for causing the death of their infant. We want them to get the extreme penalty of the law, and we only wish it were something akin to the tortures which they inflicted on the poor little creature. The grand jury will, we trust, indict the fiends for murder, instead of manslaughter, for a more deliberate act of murder—aside from its revolting method—never disgraced this country.

* * *

IT may not be generally known that the Six Nations Indians, residing near Brantford, have long been pleading with the Dominion Government for the redress of many serious grievances. Portions of their reserve (which they hold under a deed from George III.) have been granted to whites without their consent; many acres of their land have been submerged by the completion of the Welland Canal works; and large amounts of money belonging to the Indians have been parted with by the Government to the Grand River Navigation Co., which