

THE GRUMBLER.

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WHOLE NO. 80.

THE GRUMBLER.

"If there's a hole in a' your coats
I rede you tent it;
A child's amang you taking notes,
And, faith, he'll pent it."

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1859.

POLICEMAN'S MANUAL.

We see that the City Council have voted thanks to the Mayor for presenting the City with a Policeman's Manual, a small publication intended to guide the members of the force in the discharge of their duty. We take the liberty of making a few selections from it, the value of which will be apparent at first sight:—

No. 1. Every policeman shall wear a brick in his hat in order that he may be able to throw it at any prisoner who should, in a refractory moment, bolt from custody.

No. 2. Every policeman, when performing day duty, shall keep a vigilant eye upon all strolling infants and pauper children, and if any of them are seen to conduct themselves in a manner incompatible with etiquette, such offender shall be at once arrested, and charged with a breach of the peace.

No. 3. Policeman on night duty shall keep a wary eye on the houseless poor, and if any beggar, pauper or other inhuman being, be found secreted in doorways, sheltering themselves under archways; or curled up in any nook, corner, or shelter whatsoever, such offenders shall be at once driven away, with force if necessary. If such offenders show any disinclination to "move on," they shall be at once arrested and indicted for embezzlement.

No. 4. No night policeman need remain on duty after one o'clock, p. m.

No. 5. No policeman shall refuse to be treated even when on duty.

No. 6. When a disturbance takes place, and a dozen men, through mistake, or under the impression that he deserves it, shall fall upon one man and beat him, it is no part of a policeman's duty to set his own opinion up against that of the majority. Therefore he shall at once conclude that the majority are in the right, and the single person or persons shall be arrested and conveyed to gaol as peace-breakers. Humanity and policy dictates such a course.

No. 7. No policeman shall arrest a taller man than himself.

No. 8. If at a fair, or other public place of assemblage, policeman shall particularly look after that pest of society known as "small boys," and if any of them be seen presuming to amuse themselves amongst themselves, they should at once be kicked and punched into the black hole.

Motives of public convenience call for prompt action in this matter.

No. 9. If any "small boy" shall presume to mock any of Her Majesty's policemen in the discharge of his duty—such as calling him a "beak," a "horney," a "blue bottle," a "buzzard," or by putting his thumb to the point of his nose and twirling his fingers round, or in any other manner whatsoever bringing Her Majesty's policemen aforesaid into disrepute—such offenders shall be handcuffed, and subject to the severest indictment within the compass of a policeman's imagination.

No. 10. Every policeman shall say his prayers before attempting to discharge his daily duty. N. B.—Judging from the way in which the duties of the force have hitherto been discharged, this latter injunction has seldom, if ever, yet been broken.

TO OPERATICS.

As we desire to foster a taste for scientific music and to induce decent behaviour at the performance thereof, we give the following hints to those who purpose attending the performances of Mr. Cooper's English Opera Troupe.

1. Never fail to come in about ten minutes after the performance has commenced, and make your brogues sound well on the pit floor. By this means the delight of the audience is greatly increased, and Mr. Dowler's arias more highly appreciated.

2. If you take the front seat in the pit, take out an opera glass and peer into Miss Milner's countenance when she is singing her best solo, it does not look a bit snobbish, nor does it disconcert her in the least.

3. When not engaged with the opera-glass, be sure and have a copy of the libretto always before your eyes and translate the words of the Italian text to your nearest neighbour by way of showing how incorrectly they sing the words.

4. Be sure and laugh heartily at any slip the supernumeraries of the theatre may make; the chorus of the Opera company will be sure to bless you for it.

5. While the opera of "Simon the Cellarer" is being performed, be sure to oblige every body near you with a running commentary on the excellencies of Margery's character, and the unmitigated selfishness and intemperance of Simon's. A few apt observations on the beautiful counter tenor solos in this opera, would not be out of place.

6. Never fail to spend the time between acts in criticising the performances of the "staccato" passages, and find matter of complaint in the "tempo," in short, do everything that the musical critic of the *Leader* would do in like circumstances.

7. To conclude, endeavour as much as possible to render yourself an object of attention to the ladies in the boxes, an authority with those near you and an accomplished fool, as a general thing.

WALKING ON THE WATER.

On Tuesday last Professor Hikok (of course he must be a Professor) gave an exhibition of his *grat feat*, walking on the water. We were present and witnessed the Professor attach a large canoe to each foot and paddle himself along. It may be correct to call this method of aquatic propulsion "walking on the water," but we are of opinion that it might be more appropriately designated sailing. The appearance of the aquatic pedestrian as he sailed round Moodie's dilapidated wharf, astonishing the optics of a wonder-seeking crowd of natives, reminded us forcibly of the Pantheon picture of Neptune on the back of two porpoises in search of a marie inamorata. The awakening of classic memories of this nature prove that so far from being altogether useless, the invention of Mr. Hikok is highly beneficial as an aid to memory, one may therefore class it with that highly important and ever to be desired class of mental ravers commonly known as "eye openers." It is impossible to conceive the advantages youthful posterity will have over its progenitors in the ways and means of knowledge. The favored student of the twentieth century will never be harassed by unpleasant anticipations of plucking, a gentleman of a mile or two upon his water-shoes will bring fresh to his mind on the eve of examination, a precise recollection of his Horace Xenophon or Tacitus, and passing with honors will be the general rage.

Speaking of Professor Hikok's performance, we desire to caution the public from falling into an error, and confounding his invention with the *agua-pedo* of Captain Moodie, mentioned in our issue of last week. In the eloquent words of the Editor of the *Colonist*, the latter "stands alone." Tight ropes and balloons have had their day, and an obliging oblivion consents to swallow up their impracticabilities but the *agua-pedo* and its gallant inventor shall exist in spite of the rivalry of Hikok and his canoes. An exhibition will be given at an early day, and the superiority of the *agua-pedo* manifested. Some delay has been necessarily occasioned by the leakage of one of the legs of the apparatus, but the Captain is about having it caulked, and on Monday all will be ready, and the performance come off on the water on the east side of the island saloon. We predict great crowds.

Query by a Barber?

—Can a Highlander who wins a prize at pitching the bar, be said to succeed at the Bar?

[NOTE BY THE ED. GRUMBLER.—The above query is bar-bar-ous.]

God bless the Duke.

—Why is a true Highlander always a man of pluck?

Because he is easily brought up to the scratch.