

### A Word to a Critic.

The Editor of the Stratford Herald, a Conservative, (when last heard from), says that GRIP leans strongly to Criticism. GRIP leans strongly to what he considers right and honorable, and castigates all who do wrong, whether Grit or Tory. He challenges this critic to point out a single misdeed of the Grit party that he has ever failed to denounce both with pen and pencil since he began his course, and if the other side have suffered oftener it is simply because they have walked more crookedly.

### Our Girls.

Who all dress so becomingly,  
(When fashion dictates so to do)  
But, on the whole so cosily,  
So prettily, if *glossily*,  
So anything but prosily?  
Where will you find such glorious eyes,  
So bright and winsome, blithe and free,  
That dart their rays so cheerily,  
And twinkle so right merrily,  
And glance out so audaciously,  
So kindly, and so graciously,  
At impudence so glowingly,  
Aut ab! can "cut" so spicily,  
And look straight on so icily,  
So stouilly, so *Sphinxically*,  
Sometimes so almost *lynxily*?  
Who trip so daintily along,  
So satisfied and self-possessed,  
So pleased with things in general,  
Themselves and all terrestrial  
Affairs, as eke celestial?

Our girls!

### The Hon. Members.

Extract from Notes of our own Private Secretary, taken at alphabetical interview of M.P.'s to obtain correct knowledge of requirements of different constituencies of Dominion, etc.

#### FROM F TO I.

MR. FRESHER, M.P., S. Cowford.—Is a "Canady boy;" brought up on a farm. Knows all about the wants of this country; above all things the agricultural interests should be attended to. Quotes former prices of oats, barley, wheat, corn and all farm products, and draws contrasts between the prices now and those of former years. Does not think that home manufactures will benefit the country to any extent. Shows cause why things from the States or England, should be let into the country free, if producer can get them cheaper than elsewhere. Is down on the N. P. and JOHN A. Thinks both are frauds of the most pronounced type. Used to vote for Rep. by Pop., and still is under the impression that "Upper Canada" is ruled by the French. Would desire that the Militia Department be disbanded altogether, and that Deputy Adjutant Generals, Brigade-Majors and all Staff people go to chopping wood for a living. Is very energetic in language—and of sepulchral appearance. *Mem.*—Under ordinary circumstances would take Hon. member for returned Foreign Missionary.

MR. GOOSEGREASE, M.P., *Justsogo*.—Bran new and independent member from infantine constituency. Talks of fertile valleys, and splendid high grazing lands of his county. All it wants is "opening up." There is any quantity of the best timber, and if the necessary railways were built, the country at large would be benefitted, and his own constituency be one of the most populous in Ontario. In order to consummate this desirable end, the Government should grant a bonus of one million dollars. Is a director of each of the projected railways, and knows

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"GRIP" Now in its sixth year and Twelfth Volume, and more popular and influential than ever before.

Our confidence that the Canadian Public would extend a hearty support to a humorous journal conducted upon principles of honesty and decency has been amply justified in the established success of *Grip*, which, during the six years of its existence, has enjoyed the patronage and respect of a large constituency of our best people. In dealing with the public men and affairs of the country it has been the aim of the controllers of *Grip* to avoid the coarseness and unfairness which too often characterize satirical publications. The political Cartoons, although sometimes severe, have never been unjust and never vindictive. The attitude of *absolute independence*, which the paper has maintained from the first is attested by the appreciative notices which the Cartoons constantly receive in the press of both Parties.

### Press Notices of Recent Numbers.

*Grip* has been enlarged to eight pages, and has now several minor cartoons besides the usual full page one. Bengough is always good, but the last number excels all his previous efforts.—*National*.

"*Grip*" is evidently prospering. It comes to us this week enlarged to eight pages. In addition to its usual cartoon, it contains several other sketches, besides being chock full of original wit and fun. It also still maintains the independent position on which it started, and when occasion offers gives both public parties a home thrust. The price is the same, \$2 a year.—*Port Hope Guide*.

ENLARGED.—Our favourite comic paper, *Grip* has been enlarged and considerably improved. It takes an eight page shape and contains an excellent variety of humorous reading. The cartoons and laughable sketches which it regularly furnishes are not confined to any political party. Its "drives" are independent in character and all pungent and bright. We hope the change will add to the popularity of the paper and the proprietors, Bengough Brothers.—*Kingston Whig*.

"*Grip*" is progressing. The publishers, Bengough Brothers, surprised their subscribers this week by sending out the publication double its former size, without any addition in the price. It contains several amusing small cartoons in addition to the principal full-page one and an increased amount of reading matter. *Grip* announces itself quite independent as it hits politicians on both sides. We were afraid for a time that it had gone over body and bones to the Grits, as during and since the general election its cartoons have been chiefly against the Party now in power. To be successful as a comic paper it must not be one-sided, and consequently if *Grip* desires Conservative support it must not be so partial as it has been for some months past. It shows signs of a change, however. Presuming that it will fulfil its promises to be independent, and Grit and Tory alike will receive attention at the clever cartoonist's hands, we cheerfully recommend it as worthy of support.—*Kingston Daily News*.

"*Grip*."—Our facetious provincial contemporary "has" broken out in a fresh place, "to use a well worn axiom, in other words, has drawn up the curtain to place before its audience an enlarged platform behind the footlights. It is now issued in eight pages and the cartoon of the present week appears to us to be etched with possibly a little more care than heretofore. Some of the woodcuts are remarkably well executed and the general tone of the paper throughout in its letter press and etchings is all that can be desired.

It may be as well to inform our readers that the "Toronto" *Punch* is not increased in price with the enlargement of the paper, therefore, up to the present moment, the "N. P." has not in any way affected our humorous contemporary, so far as placing it out of the reach of its ordinary patrons. And it cannot be disputed that the purchaser of *Grip* has really a good five cents' worth for his very little coin.—*Hamilton Times*.

that everything is "on the square." Is very voluble and bland in manner. *Mem.*—Fear that honourable gentleman is not entirely disinterested as to railway matters. See a prospective billionaire in him.

MR. HARDCIDER, M.P., *Stillington*.—Old representative. Comes down to Session as matter of course. Don't take part in debates. Leaves that to the "old heads," and young aspiring members. Always votes on his side of the House. Is a Conservative, always has been, and always will be: so was his father. Does not particularly interest himself about political questions, anyway. Knows Sir JOHN is right, and votes with him. Is well off. Has plenty of money. Is satisfied with everything, and is of opinion that everybody ought to be. Looks upon the Session rather in the light of a joke. Recounted some funny stories of parliamentary experience. Has plenty of friends among the Grits. Has friends everywhere. Shakes hands before exit. *Mem.*—This is an exceedingly pleasant gentleman. Imagine he takes his "coffee" regularly. Would like to be a nephew of his, or son-in-law, if possible.

MR. IMBERSON, M.P., *Gambleton*.—Sporting member this; wants repeal of Pool Bill. Has small opinion of E. BLAKE; wonders at BLAKE, he being of sporting Irish stock. Has gloomy anticipations of decadence of horse-racing. What's the use of having races, if you can't sell pools? Says that pools sold since Act passed, on all important events. HANLAN and ROSS, new Bishop, and other interesting matches. Queen's Plate run for here same as in England. Argues no pool, no plate. Will advise colleagues to take a long pool, a strong pool and a pool altogether, and get Act amended. *Mem.*—Hon. gentleman very enthusiastic, though not very "bossy" in appearance. Fancy his constituents must be: wouldn't like to take big chances on his amendment.

### That Horrid N.P.

"Now sit down a moment and briefly explain. Why of TILLEY's new Tariff you loudly complain: Did you not last September cast your vote for Sir JOHN? And halloo like wild when you found you had won?"  
"Very true, we all did it, but then, don't you see. He promised to tax everything but me. If he'd add ten per cent. on the goods that I make, And let the rest be, why that's a fair shake,—My eyes! how I swore, when I first heard the news. That he'd doubled the tax on the raw stuff I use; I ought not to swear, I belong to the church. But a fellow gets riled when he's left in the lurch."  
"My friend," said I, calmly, "don't dishevel your hair, Subside for a moment: come take a cigar!"  
"Well, I'll take a cigar, but I wish I could light Both JOHN A. and old TILLEY, I'd smoke 'em up quite: An' my laboring men, oh! didn't they tuck it. Heaven help the poor souls who buy coal by the bucket!"  
Said I, "Do you know, that for once in his life. Sir JOHN has kept faith in his promises rife: Protection you wanted; he protects one and all. That is, all the great, though he leaves out the small; And to show he's consistent, and sound as a bell. He claps a high tax on what he loves well, Defies the L. V.'s, and regardless of risk, he Raises the price of his favorite whiskey."

### Our Friends.

GRIP has to thank his contemporaries of all political parties, for the kindly mention they have been making of his enlargement. A few of these courteous paragraphs are inserted in the adjoining column, and others will be printed next week.

What a queer idea of logic Mr. JOE RYMAL must have! He made an allegation against Mr. RYKERT, which CHARLES indignantly denied. "Then," said the logical JOE, "you may not be guilty, but you were once charged with treachery, and that's just as bad!"