

GRIP.

EDITED BY MR. BARNADY RUDGE.

The grabest Beast is the Ass : the grabest Bird is the Owl ;
The grabest Fish is the Oyster : the grabest Man is the Fool.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, 16TH MARCH, 1878.

Our Ain Countree.

In the speech on the death, much lamented, of late,
Of good Alderman DENISON, CLOSE chose to state,
That among other virtues his character in
He'd the type of a true English gentleman been.

But our HALLAM and BOSWELL got up to declare
Such a piece of description extremely unfair,
For Canadian native was DENISON true
Though he had it appeared been a gentleman too.

And the Council declared the amendment correct,
And the adjective "English" did straightway reject,
And the name of "Canadian" placed in its stead,
As they should when describing the gentleman dead.

GRIP don't give to these Councils—not often—much praise
But he pats this one now on the head, and he says
That's the way to explain it—too long we have heard
Any name that turns up to "Canadian" preferred.

Let their natives the names of far countries hold dear,
GRIP would like to point out we're Canadians here,
And we don't recognize as superior to be
Any class that comes to us from over the sea.

The Local Session has got through,
What did the Local Session do?
The Local Session drew its pay.
The Local Session went away.

Dialogue Aldermanic.

1ST ALDERMAN.—How are we getting along this year?

2ND ALDERMAN.—Oh, very well.

1ST A.—But the city won't stand it.

2ND A.—Won't they? They've stood more this winter than any winter for years.

1ST A.—Well, what is to be done? If there's no expenditure we make nothing. And the debt is so heavy there is very little to spend.

2ND A.—Why, the old plan. Not any retrenching—that would never pay. We shall just spend what there is, making it profitable, of course. Then, we shall say to the citizens, "Now, it's all gone; there's next to nothing done; will you go without necessary improvements or will you borrow \$200,000? They'll borrow it."

1ST A.—But, good gracious, where is it to end? People can hardly pay their taxes.

2ND A.—What's that to us? Make hay while we can get 'em to borrow. No matter if they can pay their taxes; so long as they let us borrow we're safe to be able to pay ours.

SCHOOL TRUSTEE (joining in).—That's so. We're doing it. Keep it up.

1ST A.—But see what they've come to in the States. Property's worth nothing. Some places you can't give it away because of the heap of tax debt due on it.

2ND A.—What they've come to? Wish we'd come to it. Why, their aldermen and officials make millions—positively millions.

S. T.—"Never neglect excellent opportunities." We put it on school copies. Wrong to do so.

1ST A.—Well, I'd like to have a million. After all, if I don't grab, somebody will.

2ND A.—Of course. As long as the classes without property have the most votes, so long Councils will have *carte blanche* to spend the cash of the property holders.

S. T.—I'd like a million.

2ND A.—Great fool if you wouldn't.

1ST A.—Let us each make one before the old thing busts up.

ALL.—Hooray. (Exit.)

This conversation was reported to GRIP. The place was not mentioned. He can't believe it was in Toronto. But he has doubts. He has grave doubts. He has solemn doubts.

The Pleasures of Congenial Minds.

"It is beyond human comprehension," said Mr. JONES, looking straight into vacancy in a very determined manner. "that any reasonable and honourable person can say one word in defence of the outrageous manner in which Russia has used Turkey."

"I have always called it disgraceful; and it's astonishing some people say they can't see it," said Mrs. JONES, cutting off a strip of muslin with most decided clips of the scissors.

"See it? They are idiots!" said Mr. JONES striking his hands together energetically.

"Perfectly so," said Mrs. JONES, laying down the smoothing iron with a solidity evidently implying that the proposition was firm as the eternal rocks.

"Though after all," remarked Mr. JONES, laying his right hand forefinger argumentatively against his brow, "I believe they are well aware of the facts, and that their sympathy with Russia is mere pretence founded on contemptible partyism."

Mrs. JONES threaded her needle deliberately. "They know very well what they are about," she remarked.

"At all events," said Mr. JONES, "the glorious qualities developed by the Turks in the terrible contest for life, liberty, and all the gallant heart holds dear, must"—Mr. JONES raised his hands in indignant appeal to Heaven—"elevate them greatly in the opinion of every honest man, and enlist the full belief of Christendom in the justice of their cause."

"They are splendid fellows!" cried Mrs. JONES, enthusiastically waving the strip of muslin.

"But I must go to town," said Mr. JONES.

"And I wish you would buy me a new cloth jacket; they have beauties for \$30.00, and this is all frayed," said Mrs. JONES.

"I shall not have the money to spend this winter," replied Mr. J., getting up.

"The Turks are beasts, and any one but a numbskull would know it," said Mrs. JONES, leaving the apartment.

The Change.

The Czar of the Russians was awfully proud,
And a very proud man was he,
And his soldiers had gone in a terrible crowd,
And had walloped the little Tur-key.

Now pay forty millions the Emperor cried,
Now pay forty millions, says he,
Or straight into your Constantinople I'll ride,
And I'll grab any cash that I see.

There are tributes from Egypt, and money elsewhere,
That are due to the English, says he,
And you'll kindly fork over all that to my share,
BULL be blowed—and his suprenacy.

And I want lots of ports on your oceans beside,
And your fleet I require, says he,
And your big territory in Asia so wide,
It's the straight road to Injee for me.

But they woke up JOHN BULL, and he made a great roar,
And he borrowed six millions, did he,
And he said, That old Russia's gone far enough now,
And he sent out his fleets to the sea.

And he said to the Czar, Just you stay where you are,
If in Constantinople appears
Your flag, I've some sailors who're not very far,
Who will rattle the town round your ears.

Then the terrible Czar changed his terrible tone,
I have been quite mistaken, says he,
And my plenipotentiaries, to me unknown,
Quite extortionate wanted to be.

So we'll take just a fourth, if you please, of the things
Which at first we demanded, says he,
For, I see by the news that the telegraph brings,
'Tis sufficient of indemnity.

THE great trouble in the States is the resumption of the currency, and it is a remarkable instance of sympathy that GRIP of late finds more difficulty in resuming his, when it once gets away, than in anything else.

THE *Telegram* explains that great complaints are made against the "efficiency" of the Division Courts. No doubt, by those they bring to book. But can it be their "want of efficiency" the paper meant? Then why don't it say what it means, or send round a translator into English with each paper?