

THE CIVIC CIRCUS.

GRIP'S EVENINGS AT THE CITY HALL.

No. II.



HE first thing that attracted the attention of MR. GRIP, as he leisurely sauntered into the Council Chamber on the evening of the 24th ult., was the beaming countenance of Ald. Earnest Albert Macdonald, flushed with his recent victory at the East York Convention, as he received the congratulations of his fellow

aldermen.

"Well, well," said Ald. Hallam. "It's the first time I knew you were a Tory."

"What d'ye mean?" replied the man from Chester, as he winked with his left eye. "Of course I'm a Tory, like my father before me. I'm the stiffest kind of a Protectionist, and I think I proved it pretty well too."

"How so?" enquired Ald. Dodds.

"Why, by my strenuous opposition to the introduction of Birmingham machinery."

And a deep and solemn hush fell over the assemblage, so intense that you could almost hear the growth of the interest on the city debt, which was only broken by the calling of the roll. Ald. E. A. hopes soon to appear in a new role. In the absence of Mayor Clarke, owing to sickness, the venerable Ald. Boustead occupied the chair.

"The first item on the programme," said His Worship *pro tem.*, "will be a song and dance by the talented lightning change artist, Ald. E. A. Macdonald."

Ald. Macdonald—

I rise here to-night
With especial delight,
As I think it my duty to mention,
That in spite of the tricks
Which prevail in politics
I have captured the East York Convention;
We routed them clean,
We've bust the machine.
With the old party heelers to back it;
Like the Emperor of Bra-zil,
They got the razzle-dazzle,
For the gang have all tumbled to the racket!

I mean to go to Ottawa,
No matter if there's hotter war
Than yet we have waged on these
minions,
I'll play out the game,
I think I've a claim
For my well-known Conservative
opinions. (Laughter)
Oh, yes! you can laugh!
I don't mind your chaff,
To retire I've no sort of intention;
Let those laugh who win,
I shall surely get in,
Since I have the support of the
Convention.

Council went into Committee of the Whole on the University Aid report. Much figurative language and con-

table difference of opinion as to whether it would cheaper to vote \$200,000 on condition of being relieved of the \$6,000 annual payment, of \$50,000 without conditions.



Ald. Graham proposed to submit the two schemes to popular vote.

ALD. MACDOUGALL—"We all hope, Mr. Chairman, to see the University rise from its ashes—"

ALD. LINDSAY—"I rise to a point of order."

THE CHAIRMAN—"State it."

ALD. LINDSAY—"Rise phoenix-like from its ashes" is the time-honored and classical expression. I'm surprised at Ald. Macdougall."

ALD. MACDOUGALL—"I accept the correction. Rise phoenix-like from its ashes, a thing of beauty and a joy forever." (Applause.)

ALD. HALLAM—"Redeemed, regenerated and enthralled."

ALD. SWAIT—"I have my doubts about the phoenix. The fees are too high. I would like to see the fee-nix."

CHAIRMAN—"Joke?"

ALD. SWAIT—"Well, yes."

ALD. FRANKLAND—"Now, here, let me settle this matter in accordance with my experience in the cattle business and common sense. If you submit both these schemes, between two stools you'll come to the ground with a dull sickening thud. I go for \$50,000."

But the Committee decided to ask the public for a vote of \$200,000.

Council in Committee on the Don Agreement between the C.P.R. and the city.



Ald. Macdonald—

This is a question I must speak upon;
My mansion overlooks the classic Don,
And in that sweetest of suburban spots
I own some very valuable lots,
And as the price is certain to advance
Investors now have got a splendid
chance;

When to my property I thus allude,
I have no motive but the public good,
As to this matter of the railroad track,
I move, sir, that we do refer it back. §

Ald. Dodds—

Why so? to please a Don Quixotic
crew
Of chronic kickers? No, let's rush her
through.

Ald. Shaw—

Of course! Why should we longer now delay?
The citizens? Why, what have they to say?
The man who would consult them is a fool—
It is the railroads, not the people, rule.

Ald. Vokes—

Yet fifty years does seem a term too long,
To let the railroads have it for a song.

Ald. Dodds—

A song? Ah, yes, now Brother Shaw advance,
And you and I will give a song and dance,
By way of clearing up the point before us
Now all you fellows come in on the chorus.

RAILROAD LEGISLATION.

Air—"We are the Brave Gensd'armes."

We're the railroad delegation,
And we rush their business through,
All the railroad legislation
We in railroad fashion do;
We care naught for indignation,
We defy the public scorn.

Oh we rush it through,
We rush it through,
We rush it through,
We rush it through,

We're servants of Van Horne!

CHORUS—Oh, we rush it through, etc.