

THE GRUMBLER.

NEW SERIES.]

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1862.

[VOL. I.—No. 2.

THE GRUMBLER.

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1862.

TIQUETTE OF THE SKATING RINK. FOR GENTLEMEN ONLY.

DRESS.—Gentlemen are not expected to appear in dress coats, nor in the less pretentious apparel suitable to a small tea-party, but there should be in the clothing something implying compliment and respect to the company, and be altogether devoid of suggestiveness as to the business or occupation of the wearer. The grocer must lay aside his apron, the draper, his scissors, and the lawyer his bag of briefs, as everything which tends to awaken an idea of shop is rigorously put down in first-class society.

Garments of loud and flashy appearance should not be worn, and the colours should be, if not new, at least of subdued tone.

Pantaloons of Magenta, or Saffrona vests would be in bad taste, whilst a Puce overcoat could be horrid.

We would recommend a suit of shepherd's plaid, the new pattern, large squares, as being warm and comfortable material, neutral colours, and minutely calculated to make an impression on the sensibilities of young ladies, as it gives one the air of an exile from the United States traveling incog.

Slauve may be worn in kid gloves and neckties. When fastened with a nice pin, scarfs have a good effect, but dog-heads of the size of life, balls, and two ounce nuggets of California gold are not proper pin ornaments. Black pins with sealing wax heads are altogether out of the question, they have been banished to second-rate circles of Poughattan Indians three years ago.

Dog skin gloves are not now tolerated. High-tops, lined Balmores, and Wellingtons must not be worn. High boots are the rage, knee boots passable, Knickerbockers not to be thought of as soldiers and volunteers have made them vulgar.

A white beaver hat being more stylish than any other capillary covering, should be generally worn—if adorned with a crape band, all the better.

CONDUCT.—On entering the rink, first make your obeisance to your lady acquaintances, asking if of them, in a facetious way, if their heels are red, and offer to strap them up. Before putting on your skates, borrow half a dozen gimblets, which you will return to the owners by throwing in across the ice; ten chances to one you will do nothing but slip; ten chances to one you will do nothing but slip; ten chances to one you will do nothing but slip.

Thereby afford much pleasure to the company, inducing general hilarity and merriment, giving small sticks, remnants of cigars, and shells will also be conducive of the same desirable effect, and bring you into general

favor, especially among the ladies. Always skate backwards, and quickly, as it strengthens the spine, and your frequent contact with other skaters leads to many introductions which may be of value in after-life.

Try and get in the way of little boys, occasionally pulling off their caps; if they are plucky and attempt retaliation, box their ears, and satisfy them of their inferiority to men. It is your duty at all times to teach children a lesson of humility.

Endeavor as much as possible, as circumstances suggest, to make yourself, after the above manner, as agreeable and pleasant as you can.

The Artful Dodger.

—Mr. W. H. Boulton must either think that the citizens of Toronto are great asses, or that he himself is a great genius. In either case we fancy he is much mistaken. Sudden outbursts of benevolence on the eve of an election are neither novel nor masterly strokes of policy on the part of a candidate. People are not disposed to estimate very highly a charity which discovers that the Protestant Orphan Asylum is in frightful need of a peck and a half of apples a month, before Mr. Boulton wants to be Mayor of the city. Men will somehow or other connect the two events together, and fancy that the orphans would still be without apples if Mr. Boulton were without ambition. Now comes a new-born zeal, to wit, to waion the Street Railway belongs, by a police court summons, merit any other praise than that it is an economical and utterly useless election dodge. As we do not imagine Mr. Boulton will insist on a Chancery suit, inasmuch as the election would be over before the bill could be answered, we earnestly advise him to turn his attention to the pig nuisance or any other congenial subject. By a pig crusade, Mr. Boulton may hood-wink some few denizens of Stanley Street, but after all he had better leave the thing alone. Benevolence which lasts only for a month, and public zeal which expires at the close of the poll, are not worth much, and they can scarcely deceive even when employed by such a pitiful schemer as W. H. Boulton.

Something New Under the Sun.

—It is the popular opinion that office-seekers have always some selfish object in view. A candidate for parliamentary or municipal honors seldom gets credit for a title of the patriotic disinterestedness of which he boasts. The public cannot help fancying that some job is to be perpetrated or some private interest or ambition to be served by the would-be representative. But in all the election addresses we ever saw, we never found a candidate boldly proclaiming that he intends to serve and benefit himself if elected till to-day. Mr. W. M. Gorrie in an address to the electors of St. Lawrence Ward, says—"I have an interest in the Ward which no other as yet named, could so well represent. I offer myself as Aldermen," &c. Good for Gorrie. There is nothing like telling the truth plainly and if you go into the Council to promote this interest, no one can say that you have deceived your constituents, for you only profess to serve yourself. This bluntness, however, may not be so acceptable to the electors as you fancy. It is just possible that they may prefer some one who will serve them, and they may echo the words of Macbeth, "Shake not thy Gorrie locks at me."

WASHINGTON COURT CIRCULAR.

His Excellency Abe Lincoln rose this morning at 9.30 a.m., and took breakfast. The bill of fare included slap-jacks, molasses, corn-starch, cold water, and all the delicacies of the season. A Cabinet Council was held at ten, at which the members engaged in the healthy recreation of whittling for half an hour preparatory to the business of the meeting. Mr. G. F. Train then represented the grievances of Ireland in a speech of three hours length. At the conclusion, it was unanimously resolved that the entire world, the Northern States excepted, is in a terrible mess, and must be attended to forthwith. Mr. Seward and Mr. Welles (the old woman in charge of the navy) are appointed a Committee of Universal Rectification, to set everything to rights by extending the blessings of American civilization throughout the world. They intend commencing with Great Britain early next week. Abe then took a walk down town, indulging in two horse-cakes, half a pint of pea-nuts and a glass of pop, at a fruit stall on 722nd street, and was closeted with his toothpick for half an hour thereafter.

Mr. Seward was engaged all the afternoon in writing a despatch to the English government, urging the propriety of suppressing the *Times*, *Punch*, and all the anti-war papers of London. It filled 150 pages of foolscap.

Mr. Stanton held a highly important conference with his barber, who confidentially intimated to him that a credible and well-informed contraband had overheard a Secessionist boasting that Jeff. Davis had repeatedly said, that General Lee would within three weeks put Gen. Burnside's "nose out of joint," if no unforeseen contingency happened. A Cabinet Council is called for tomorrow to consider this astounding development.

Gen. Halleck is slightly indisposed. He put his feet in hot water last night, took half a box of Ayer's Pills, and read a column and a half of the *N. Y. Herald*, as prescribed by his family physician. Gen. Wool looks sheepish.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDER.

HEAD QUARTERS, 5th Dec., 1862.

SEVENTHARY FORCE.

MILITARY DISTRICT No. 06, UPPER CANADA.—Brown, Jones and Robinson (of the respective ages of 10, 11 and 12), to be Ensigns. Ensigns Snooks and Stiggins, of the York Slashers, to be Captains, vice two able-bodied men, retired. Captains Imbecille and Adipose to be placed on the staff. Major Toper will take command of the battalion, vice Lieutenant Stupor, indisposed. Major Thorpid to be Colonel, vice Sly, left the limits—to avoid creditors. Hon. Colonel Owen Mutch to have command of the 91st Regiment, under the provisions of the Division Court Act. Brigadier-Generals Barnacle and Fawner to retire, retaining rank and pay.

By command of the Adjutant General,
WALKER POWELL,
Ex-Brevet Ensign Norfolk Fusiliers,
and ex-General Grucor.

A SOFT SEAT FOR PRINCE ALFRED.—The throne of Greece. Let us hope that it will not prove as slippery to him as it did to the Bavarian.