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## Comments on the Cartoons.



THE GOBLINS. — James Whitcombe Riley's little poem has been so frequently recited in public that most of our readers are probably familiar with its refrain—

"The goblins'll git you ef  
you  
don't  
watch  
out!"

It is calculated to fill the infantile heart with a wholesome dread, and we see no reason why its warning words should not be uttered for the admonition of that political innocent—Ontario's little

Oliver. Is he not surrounded on all sides by goblins? And wouldn't they give almost anything to "git" him? See that big, voracious-looking French goblin, who has grabbed hold of the schools at both ends of the Province and is squeezing all the English out of them. Pretty soon he will have half a dozen members to represent him in the Local House, and then what can Oliver do about it? And see that Ottawa goblin, who is so anxious to "scrunch" Oliver that to do it he would sacrifice his political reputation, if he only had one. Then there is the Opposition goblin, which keeps its glaring eyes on Oliver's record, and never misses an opportunity to weaken his hold on the country. But will these goblins really git Oliver at the next election? Probably they will "ef he don't

watch  
out."

THE PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAMME.—Having done his share in urging the Local Government to take action upon the question of the French schools of Ontario, Mr. GRIP feels it his duty, as a matter of fairness, to give prominence to the response of the Government, officially uttered by Hon. G. W. Ross, at the Liberal picnic on the 29th. A glance at our cartoon will acquaint the reader with the "programme" which it is the intention of the Minister to carry out "as deliberately, and yet as quickly, as the interests involved may justify." Whatever criticism may fairly be levelled at Mr. Ross' deliverances on other important questions, such as the School Law Amendments—and, we observe, he is being sharply taken to task by correspondents in the daily press—his proposed method of dealing with the French school difficulty seems to us satisfactory. We presume that if any other practicable steps can be suggested to hasten the work of transforming the schools complained of into English institutions, Mr. Ross will be ready to give them a place in his programme. As to the German schools, which the Minister "brackets" with the others as open to precisely the same objections, it would appear that they really have no existence, at least so says the *Mail's* correspondent, "Berlin." English is already the language of instruction in the German school sections, and what is equally important the Ontario system is loyally accepted and lived up to otherwise by our Teutonic citizens. If all this is true Mr. Ross' task is so much the easier. It is formidable enough in any case, and will require his utmost ability. We sincerely hope, for the country's sake, that it may in due time be successfully accomplished.

IF it wouldn't trouble our esteemed contemporary the *Globe* too much, would it kindly point out any passage or passages wherein the *Mail* has, during the Jesuit discussion, (1) spoken of its intention to smash Confederation; (2) attacked the religion of our Roman Catholic fellow citizens; (3) given countenance to the idea of taking away any just rights or liberties of French-Canadians. We note that this ill conduct of its neighbor is frequently rebuked by the *Globe*, and of course a truly good journal must have facts to go upon. Up to date, however, we have been quite unable to find anything in the *Mail* to justify the strictures. Perhaps our microscope is out of order. We await the information.



A FEW days ago a mad dog dashed down one of our residence streets, but, as it had upon its collar the license tag of the city authorities, of course it didn't bite any person. It may be incidentally mentioned that no person happened to be in the way. The animal was subsequently shot by its owner, who must be a Prohibitionist, as he evidently had no faith in the potency of the tag to protect the citizens. He was a

crank, of course; but the matter is a serious one, and we earnestly call the attention of the City Council to the fact that there are thousands of vagrant curs running round the city without tags on. What if one of these went mad? Something ought to be done to avert this danger without delay, and GRIP is of opinion that the right thing to do is to prohibit dogs being on the streets at all unless under the control of their owners, and to authorize the police to shoot all unaccompanied canines on sight.

GRIP is glad to see that the Police Commissioners have fittingly recognized the brave conduct of Constable Lilly, in connection with the arrest of a gang of desperate burglars on the night of the 23rd ult. The