

G R I P.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

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

TORONTO, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1874.

NOTES ON THE CREATION.

I went to hear the *Creation* and witness the last achievement of the Philharmonic Society. It was a splendid demonstration of native worth, beauty and modesty.

The house was full and so was the audience—full of enthusiasm. They evidently appreciated one of the noblest works of human inspiration ever given in Toronto. It has been said by a high Authority that a prophet is not without honour, save in his own country; but setting aside the prophetic aspect of the case, the Society, I have no doubt, will be fully sensible of both honour and profit, as it has the right to be.

Yet I cannot recall the musical triumph of the week without a pang of keen regret, as the case in point so fully illustrates how very human it is to err. A young member of the chorus who affects the *mode* as well as an extensive knowledge of music, instead of looking at the Conductor had the bad taste to beat time with his foot, a No. 10 article of great beauty and broadness of view. Unfortunately, the platform was so narrow that a No. 8 alongside, had no show at all. Through an inadvertence his friend's No. 8 came down upon the toe of his No. 10. "Hang it," he yelled, in the middle of the chorus, mistaking the original cause of his anguish, he being so pre-occupied with his music, "I'll never wear a No. 7 boot again if I know it." His unearthly tone of acute pain reached the ears of the *Globe* reporter, who said next day that the horn player was too sharp. That reporter has a weakness for horns. He can estimate the capacity of a horn to a shade.

I confess I am crushed. Overwhelmed with amazement at the magnificent performance of that fraction of the American Republic known as the Beethoven Quintette Club, I retire within myself awed and subdued. But I thank my stars that *EGAN* was not destined me for a soloist. To have my young life blasted by the know-nothingness of that *Globe* reporter is an affliction I do not deserve. I bear him no ill will, but as a friend I would counsel him to provide himself with an extra life policy if he has any regard for his family. He might be called away suddenly. He may affect airs, but his judgment of melody is sadly warped.

In future I shall go in for Protection—tooth and nail. If our American cousins (I might have said cousins German) are to be permitted to visit this Dominion and take away the *prestige* of our native talent, without paying a high duty, say twenty five per cent. per head, it would serve them right if we sent our orchestra to Boston and over shadow them with the magnificence of Canadian merit. Of Mrs. OSGOOD I am willing to testify my humble appreciation by transposing the two first letters of her name so as to read *SOGOOD*!

It is strange what people will do under the influence of excitement. Mr. TANDY, of Kingston, must have either fancied he was GABRIEL or that GABRIEL had a tenor voice, as he did not discover his error until he had sang four or five full measures of a movement, when he executed another movement and sat down. My impression of GABRIEL is that he was a musician and performed upon a wind instrument. Mr. TANDY, however may be pardoned for the freedom he used in departing from the text of his music in Toronto, because there isn't much freedom for departure in Kingston. Mr. EGAN's vocal powers occasioned a supposition among some of the audience that he was the original Leviathan of the piece. If not he may fairly be considered the elephant, and the way he came down on that "sinuous worm" was not to be despised. That worm had a pretty rough time of it. Mr. EGAN like the city from whence he comes is ambitious, but I hope next time he will vanquish a more worthy foe.

It seems to my unexperienced mind that in order to become an accomplished critic it is always necessary to find fault with somebody. Viewing the subject from this light my literary friends had better operate upon Mr. HANSFORD's "Account of the Creation" and see what he says about it.

The *Globe* man reports some of the chorus sang too loud and forced themselves upon the attention of the audience. That man must have a fine ear for the discernment of tone. But he is a sound man there no doubt—nearly all sound, probably. The *Mail* critic condemned a part of the Chorus for not opening their mouths. Discretion is always the better part of valour and that portion of the Society wisely observed it. I hope they will send in their resignations. The majority of the Chorus were unanimous that they sang well, and so they did. The orchestra is also entitled to a full measure of praise. When they get fairly started on a string they are great shakes. The soloists must

not forget that they are not professionals. The idea, common to us all, of supposing ourselves to be better than we are, is a pleasant deception. Mrs. CUTBERT and Miss SCOTT have the satisfaction of knowing that they read their respective parts with credit to themselves and the Society to which they belong. Mr. WARRINGTON's unaffected manner was as agreeable to see as his conscientious interpretation of his part was pleasant to hear—notwithstanding the *Globe* man's assertions to the contrary, whose knowledge of Haydn extends no further than that he knows there is a street of that name somewhere in Yorkville. With Mr. TORRINGTON every one is of course satisfied. May his shadow never grow less, or his *baton* cease to flourish with that grace he knows so well how to use.

PAUL FORD.

Grip's Essence of Parliament.

WEDNESDAY.

FOUR presentations were made. This is an everyday occurrence. They are only petitions. One was a prayer for DUFFERIN—to erect a new county of that name. We guess it's to be a "put up" job.

BOULTER is a good name in connection with Division Courts. He did right in introducing a Bill to amend the Act respecting these courts; for anything that can go so far as respecting them certainly needs reconstruction. The Bill stood a first reading; but we are sorry we can't give credit to the person who deciphered it.

CLARKE, of Wellington,—not the County Clerk—got a first reading for his Bill for taking votes at municipal elections by ballot. Candidates have no hesitation in taking all the votes they can get.

A message was read from His Honor, thanking the House for passing the address. He's not the first man who thanked his partner for passing the trump. He said he was well, assured they would give *fool* consideration to the subjects that would come before them. He must have been thinking of the House as a dissecting room during "the slaughter of the innocents."

The Farmers' GRANGE propounded a verdant conundrum. Mr. MOWAT assured him it was under the consideration of the Government. That consideration must be bigger than an ordinary table, they put so many things under it.

McGOWAN began harrowing on the Model Farm in hopes of unearthing something, and LAUDER lauded him for his attempt. ABRAHAM evidently has something in his bosom. Mr. FRASER in brief phrase demonstrated the work premature, and the motion was allowed to stand. This is a paradox. Standing motion if it means anything must signify latent power.

MOWAT's motion that Government business take precedence was objected to by LAUDER and MEREDITH, who rather like private bills legislation, for reasons best known to themselves and GRIP.

The committee of last session to revise the rules and regulations of the House was re-appointed. There is one HARDY fellow on it.

The Bill for limiting actions in real estate was read a second time. It should please GOLDWIN SMITH, as it tends to facilitate the procuring of titles.

CROOKS and McMANUS gave the measure an unmeasured support. BOULTER declared that he had not seen any great hardship arise from the present law, probably because he knows so little of the law. He's a seductive cuss, though that assertion we will not make loud.

Others who spoke, generally approved of the Bill, excepting GRANGE, who sentimentally objected to anything which gave one man the right which appertained to another. He didn't think of that when he accepted the nomination to Parliament. SEXTON would "gather them in," and even bury claims for dower in short order. DEACON, as became his name, was careful in his utterances.

MOWAT before the House adjourned pointed out an error in division, probably with a view to securing correct Scrap-Book arithmetic.

THURSDAY.

Mr. SINCLAIR instituted a search for the money sunk in Government drains.

A select committee was re-appointed—those Wells' (swells,) assistants in the care of the Library. They are so careful that they don't use it much.

Mr. CROOKS presented his financial statement. It is not a statement under oath. We would mildly suggest that the second letter be dropped from the Treasurer's name when used in this connection.

During the delivery of the Budget Speech LAUDER and FRASER became interrogation points, and at the close the latter calculated his way, to show that direct taxation was imminent, and so it was, for FRASER taxed him directly with trying to make, if not to believe a lie. LAUDER confessed his difficulty to get at the surplus, and made some reference to "ordinary receipts," not thinking for a moment that the phrase exactly expressed his own ideas.

PARDEE rose, and like a pard, he sprang upon the opposition objections and proceeded to rend them.

BOULTER attempted to get up a bet on the correctness of the figures, but no gentleman would take him up.

M. C. CAMERON argued that it was not appropriate for Reformers to exceed the appropriations.