

PUBLISHER'S NOTE.

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VOL. IV., No. 5.

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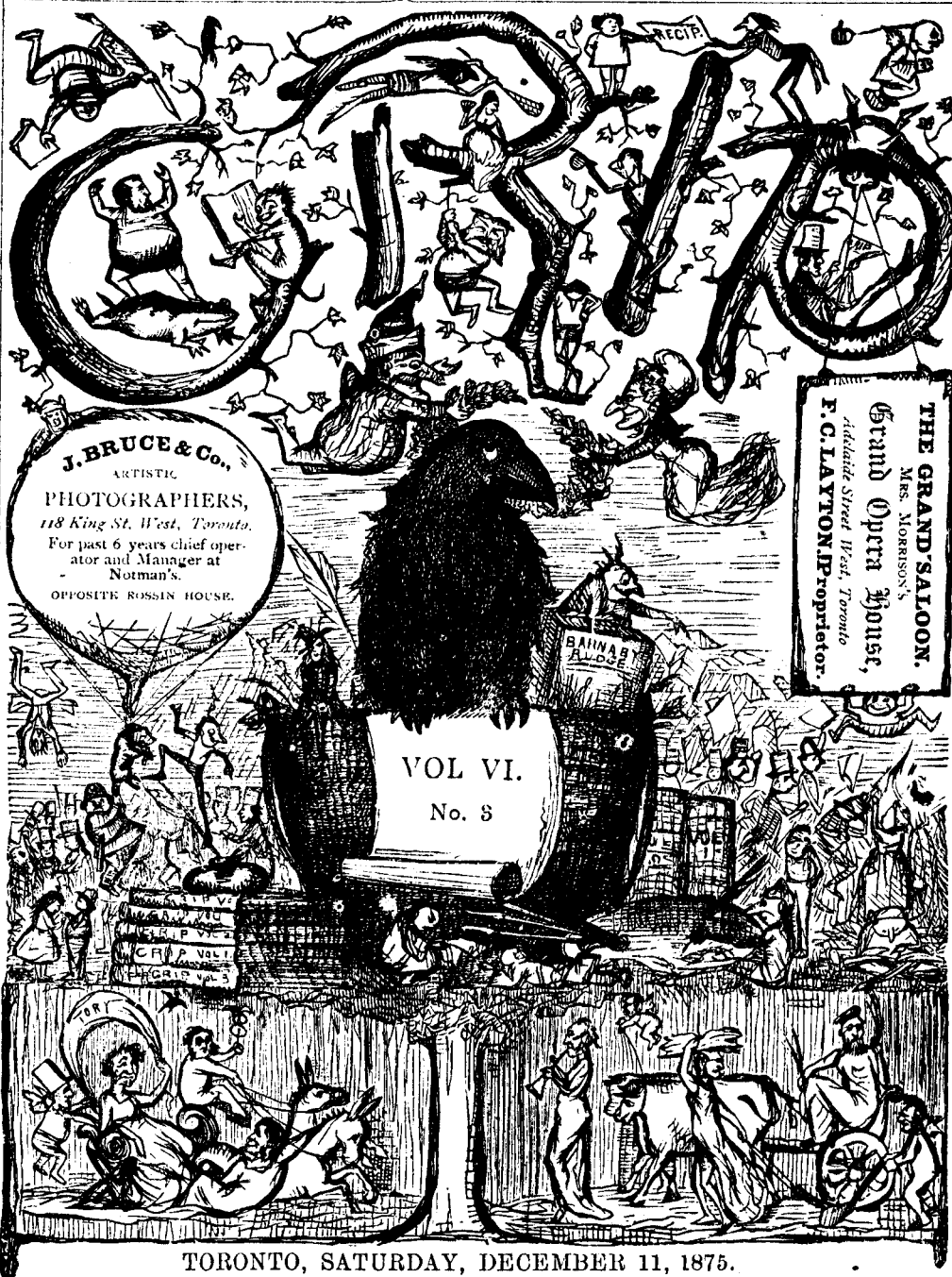
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EDITOR'S NOTE.

ORIGINAL contributions will always be welcome. All such intended for current No. should reach GRIP office not later than Wednesday. Articles and Literary correspondence must be addressed to the Editor, GRIP office, Toronto. Rejected manuscripts cannot be returned.

CONTRIBUTIONS, when accepted, will for the present, be paid for at the rate of Two Dollars per column. All articles for which payment is expected must be accompanied by the name and address of the author.

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GRIP.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDOR.

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, DECEMBER 11TH, 1875.

Answers to Correspondents.

TEETOTALLER.—Of course Dr. CLARKE, the Temperance Crusader, is a member of the Short Horn Association.

A. D. C. IN WAITING.—The question of precedence is one the mysteries of which we do not pretend to understand. Write to the English Lord Chamberlain, or the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, or the editor of *Judy*.

From Our Box.

Miss COOMBS is nearly as handsome as Mrs. ROUSBY and a better actress. Her *Lady Teazle* on Monday night was admirable. She was equally effective in passages requiring stateliness, playfulness, indignation, or petulance. When she suddenly appears from behind the screen, she comes like a sunbeam. When she denounces the wicked *Joseph Surface* and sweeps from the room, she moves like a storm. Her chief defect is a slight want of sweetness and flexibility in her voice. Mr. SPACKMAN was not a good *Sir Peter*. Moreover whatever credit he may be entitled to he must divide with the prompter. Mr. SAMBROOK misconceives the character of *Sir Oliver*. Though that gentleman is of an amiable and cheerful disposition, he probably was not intended to indulge in such paroxysms of laughter as to suggest softening of the brain. Mr. GRISMER should have been content with *Charles Surface's* part as written by SHERIDAN. It is not easy to improve upon it. It is a good thing to reproduce these old fashioned dramas. They bring out interesting facts of history. A young lady assured us that BEN JONSON wrote the last act of the "School for Scandal" while the third act was in progress on the stage. How quickly actors must have learnt their parts in BEN's time. *E ben trovato &c.*

Nonsense Verses.

There came once a party to Coboconk,
Who said nothing else but "Oh, no go donk!"
What the fool meant to say
Is not known to this day
By the oldest resider in Coboconk.

A desperate fellow of Coboconk
Declared that by George he would rob a bank:
But when he looked round
There was none to be found
In the flourishing village of Coboconk.

At the Speaker's Elbow.

THE BUDGET SPEECH.

Friday, Dec. 3rd.

Mr. CROOKS has the reputation of being no mean scholar. I am glad of that, for he is certainly below the mean as a Parliamentary orator. When he was delivering his budget speech, he forcibly reminded me of DEMOSTHENES, I mean of course DEMOSTHENES when he had the pebbles in his mouth. There is one respect, however, in which he excels even Dr. CLARKE (of Norfolk) and that is in figures of speech. His budget speech was replete with figures. He struck his balances in a particularly striking manner. As thus, for instance:—

Ontario's Assets.....	\$7,790,578
Ontario's Liabilities.....	\$2,694,202
Ontario's Surplus.....	\$5,096,376

He has a curious way of making up his surplus. Amongst the assets which stand between the people of Ontario and direct taxation are a hundred thousand dollars worth of books lying at Ottawa! Perhaps he thinks these will be available in paying off book debts. There is, nevertheless, a satisfactory surplus of four millions in hard cash, or what is the same thing, in Dominion securities.

Some of the Municipalities that merely had their indebtedness removed by the last redistribution of the Surplus will probably be agitating for a

further redistribution. GRIP's advice is, leave the Surplus in the Treasury against a rainy day. In fact, I already perceive an ominous cloud on the horizon. The expenditure for 1874 has exceeded the receipts of that year by

\$425,144.

—the first time since Confederation that the balance has been on the wrong side.

I would give Mr. CROOKS and his successors similar advice to that which WILKINS MICAWBER gave to DAVID COPPERFIELD. Normal income of the Province, two, five, and five oughts (\$2,500,000) expenditure, two-four-nine-nine-nine-nine-ninety cents, (\$2,499,999.90) result, peace and prosperity. Normal income, two, five and five oughts; expenditure, two, five, five oughts, and ten cents; result, direct taxation and ruin.

Monday, Dec. 6.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

To-day, the following lists of members were reported as composing the various Standing Committees:—

Ecclesiastical Bills.—BISHOP, MONK, DRACON, the two CLARKES, a SEXTON and a BELL.

Natural Products.—HAY, COLE, WOOD.

Trades Unions.—BAKER, MILLER, FLESHER.

Protection of Game.—HUNTER, to whom was added a LYON and a BARR.

Consolidation of Statutes.—CODE, WILLS.

Irishmen's Grievances.—O'DONOGHUE and O'SULLIVAN.

The Committee appointed to enquire into and report upon the use of the Scotch bag-pipe was made up of the following representatives in the House of the clans:—

BALLANTYNE, CAMERON, CHISHOLM, FRASER, GRAHAM, GEANT, MCDUGALL, MCGOWAN, MCLEOD, ROSS and SINCLAIR.

Two Pictures.

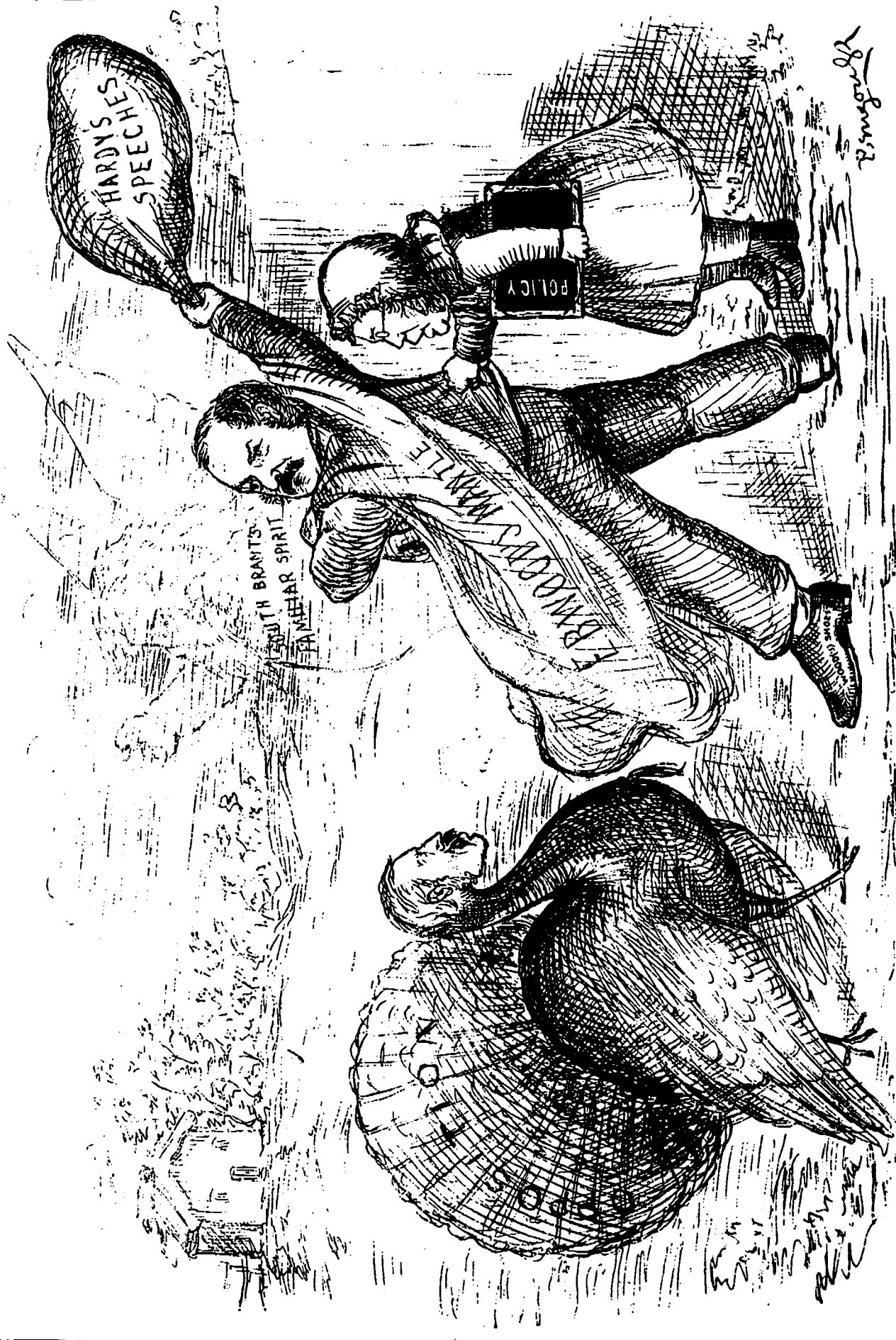
Drawn with a raven's quill by our special artist.

THE HON. MR. SNOOKS.

The Hon. Mr. SNOOKS is another example of how far an estimable man may be ruined by contact with politicians. Until he entered the sphere of politics, friend and enemy alike conceded his integrity and honour. None dared to suppose that he would betray public or private interests in order to advance his personal ends. Clients came to him for his integrity, more than for his brilliancy or legal lore. Such is the reputation he has bartered for the bubble of politics. In political life he is the creature of circumstances. Borne into power on the shoulders of party, he has not yet realized that the party, not he, was honored by his elevation. He has therefore succumbed to its authority. Bribery as a direct action he would scorn, not only for its consequences, but for its moral guilt, yet he will bribe indirectly in the interests of party. Intimidation he would hold to be indefensible in principle, and cowardly in practice; yet he consents to holding men in moral duress by undue influences. Cant and claptrap are nauseating to his analytical mind, yet he endures both in the interests of party. He came into power (like the *Mail* prospectus) as an exponent of honest and earnest political feeling, but he has crumbled away, under the demoralizing influences of party control, until few could recognize the man who once prided himself on his national spirit, and freedom from political sectarianism. Fewer still can recognize in the man who painfully sought three constituencies in order to retain the seat that his previous defection from well understood principles had imperilled, the man whose personal pride and self respect rendered him sensitive to a breath upon his reputation, or a touch upon his honor. Practical and shrewd, yet narrow minded and bigoted, sensitive to attack by enemies, yet careless of the reproach of friends, possessed of sound and cautious judgment, yet deficient in common tact, he is at once possessed of the qualities that make a good minister and a bad one. As a speaker he is a terror to the Reporters' gallery. Polite and polished in his manners, he yet estimates his *sangre azul* too highly, and is apt to treat those whom he considers his inferiors, with that condescension which is little above an insult. Personally he is gentlemanly in appearance, and wears well fitting clothes.

THE HON. WILLIAM MACSELF, C. B.

The varied career of this honorable gentleman proves how little talent can make up for a lack of principle, or intellect repair the lack of political honesty. A logical mind, a clear perception, a flow of language indicating thought and resource, a wealth of opportunity, and a sequence of circumstance, have yet left him in the vigour of his ripe intellect, playing second fiddle in the dwindled opposition of a second-rate debating society, called by courtesy a Legislature. There, in mental faculties and trained intellectual powers, he is as a giant among pigmies; yet like GULLIVER, he must bear his captivity till he repairs his fortunes, and builds him a boat in which he can escape from his captors. Meanwhile he will bring in the fleets of their enemies, and will crush their leaders at will in the hollow of his palm, and like GULLIVER, he is a source of ter-



THE LOCAL GOBBLER MEETS HIS MATCH.

(SUGGESTED BY A POPULAR CHROMO.)

ror to his Lilliputian friends, lest by accident he should crush some score of them in his stride, or destroy their card castles with a puff of his breath, and willingly would he do so, if in so doing he could advance his foot one rung on that political ladder he has hitherto climbed so easily, and slipped down again with so great a facility. Trained in the school of adversity, he has learned how little to depend upon political friendships, how hollow is the mask of party principle. Yet like the reckless navigator, he still seeks the stormy sea of politics, trusting to his own seamanship to guide him to the desired haven. But his compass is self interest, his sails are puffed out by personal ambition, and his rudder is unprincipled egotism. Had he gained friends in his prosperity, would he now stand alone? would not the burning wrongs heaped upon him by both parties have made the very stones cry out, had he achieved victories of the heart instead of the head. With the cruel creed of *vae victis* he followed up his conquests, sparing none whose downfall would contribute to his elevation, friend or foe alike, he trampled upon with ruthless vindictiveness, that they might contribute to his foothold, or strengthen his position. What wonder then, that so dangerous a colleague should be viewed alike with suspicion and distrust by both parties? What wonder that they should anticipate that he may again change sides, and land where he now lances, that he should use the knowledge of his position to betray the interests of his present associates. He has had power, place, and honor in his grasp. Had he had principle, patriotism, or honesty he would have retained them. His high talents may obtain him a position, but he will never attain to confidence or trust. In speech he is vigorous, logical and generally correct. In manners he is the reflex of his life. In person he is powerful and ungainly. His clothes hang on him like a peg.

Mr. Blake and Tennyson.

Mr. BLAKE reads Tennyson, as his Aurora speech made manifest. We commend to his serious consideration that poem of the Laureate's where the following stanza is found.

But pamper not a hasty time,
Nor feed with crude imaginings
The herd, wild hearts and feeble wings,
Which any sophister can lime.

The Prize Poem.

We beg to state that our prize for the best verse on Coboconk has been awarded. The author, with the modesty of true genius, entreats us to disclose neither his name nor his poem. He has also relieved us from a difficulty by declining, in advance, the \$50. He says the poet must not bind his soul with letters of gold. The sentiment commends itself to our views. We like to meet with poets of this stamp.

We have been much gratified with one result of our offer of prizes. We have received several original compositions from poets of good standing, many of which are certainly worthy of a prize, but the authors seem to have been under a misconception as to the character of the subject, as well as the nature of the verses required. For instance in the lines we print below the poet evidently imagines Coboconk to be the name of an Arthurian Knight, and he quietly overlooks the difficulty of finding a rhyme for this word. Now this we feel sure is the fault of those Atlantic telegraph people. We cannot get our things telegraphed across the ocean with any sort of accuracy. It has become so annoying to us that we have made up our minds to patronize the Direct Cable Company entirely. We think our readers will thank us however for publishing this poem. We may say that it is eminently characteristic of the sweet singer who sent it in. As it did not take a prize however, from motives of delicacy we withhold the author's name.

Coboconk.

AN IDYLIC FRAGMENT. BY A-FR-D T-NY-N.

The blameless king had gone; departed too
The elder men: but still the younger knights
Clashed cup, smashed glass, and told the racy tale.
And there, apart, the gray Sir Coboconk,
Gray as the badger, with an eye as dim,
Sat lingering, as sometimes in a cleft
Between the rocks we see the winter stay
While laughs the spring around: whom all at once
They eyeing, there arose a sudden cry,
"A song, a song! Sir Coboconk, a song!"
Whereat the ancient man faltered, and red
As the red East that speaks a rainy day,
"Song me no songs," he said, "I do not sing,"
But they by firmness made more firm, still urged,
With mimic threat, and tongues to flattery tuned.
Whereby at last the other overcome,
Beguiled, and with the troublous pitiful look
That the sheep, straying from the parent fold
Casts on the dog that slopes athwart the way,
"Myself once made," he said "a small sweet song,
And sweetly sang in days that are no more."

With that, while all the striplings gulped a laugh,
And winked behind the hollow of a hand,
He, in a voice that crackled like the thorns
To which the good wife sets the hissing match.
Till the flame leaps and licks the smoky pot,
And all the housewife stirs within her breast,
And her heart laughs, she shrilling "Lo it boils!"—
He in a voice that, singing, cracked, sang.

It chanced the song of Coboconk was of
One Thompkins and his wheel, and thus he sang:

"Turn, Thompkins, turn thy wheel, nor vainly turn:
Turn thy wild wheel and several pennies earn:
Thy wheel is all thou hast, for wheel or woe.

Turn, Thompkins, turn thy wheel, thy only care
With thy round wheel to make thy fortunes square:
Round is thy wheel, although thy means are strait.

Turn, Thompkins, turn thy wheel, nor weep to find
That life is nothing but an endless grind.
Though slow thy life, thy wheel is far from slow.

Keen is the cutting edge of sore distress:
Turn, turn thy wheel: thy knives are scarcely less.
Sharpen thy knives and dull the edge of Fate.

The President's Message.

There are some interesting facts mentioned in the Presidential Message. We learn that Chili has made reparation in the case of the whale ship *Good Return*, seized without sufficient cause upwards of forty years ago. We may hope that with this example before them, the United States may see their way to doing something in the matter of our Fenian Claims some two or three hundred years hence. It is gratifying to find that a Reciprocity Treaty with the king of the Hawaiian Islands has been concluded. We don't see a word however about the great Self Constituted, the Highly Magnificent and Utterly Ineffective Plenipotentiary of Canada.

Croaks and Pecks.

THERE is something to be said in favour of the Dominion government. They have lately taken *caution* into their counsels.

MRS. MARROWFAT congratulates Mr. WELLS on being anonymously erected Speaker. She says judging by the name, WELLS, he should be a very fluid one.

A HOPEFUL member of the U. E. Club wouldn't go to the theatre to hear the "School for Scandal." He says it's all rot to keep on harping on that Pacific business.

THE question now is which is the nicer person, the red or white man? A brave called OLDIRONTEAKETTLE writes to the *Mail* alleging that the pale faces are not all that they are cracked up to be.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.—We see by the *Globe* that the Servian Skuptschina has commenced operations. We are glad of this. We want to see China scooped, and a Servian may as well try his hand at it as any other man.

ACCORDING to a city journal there was a musical row the other night after a concert. The conductor went up to A in *alt*, and the party rowed went down to B flat. *Irritable genus!* A policeman's baton should have been called into requisition.

THERE appears to be a famine in Central Africa. King MESA of Uganda is quite frantic in his appeal for more Missionaries. He feels bad. In his own language, "Me M-te sa." And does the sable monarch really hope to take in the Missionaries? Oh, U-ganda!

"JUST LIKE ROGER!"—*Apropos* of the recent order from the P. O. Department to examine, and if need be, detain the correspondence of the Civil Service at Ottawa, MUGGINS of the Vegetation Bureau, says that he wonders not, for ever since Postmaster General HOWINGTON'S association with McMULLEN and NORRIS, he has had a constant *penchant* for examining other people's letters!

COMFORT FOR THE EX-PROFESSOR.—Certain Young Irishmen of this city have become impressed with the evils of party-politics. They have met and held high conference on the question whether the abolition of partyism would be beneficial to society. They are compelled to come to the conclusion that it would not—the history of their own green Isle doubtless forcing them to this decision. The antagonists of party politics may take comfort from the fact that any persons, even young Irishmen, have thought it worth while seriously to consider the question at all.

THE MAYORALTY!

YOUR VOTE AND INFLUENCE

At the coming Election, are kindly Requested for

ANGUS MORRISON.

The Election takes place on Monday, 3rd January, 1876.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

TO THE ELECTORS

OF THE

WARD OF SAINT GEORGE,

GENTLEMEN:

Having been requested to offer myself for election as one of your representatives in the City Council, I place my services at your disposal. Should you elect me to the honourable position of an Alderman, I will serve the city to the best of my ability, watching closely over the expenditure to see if some better system cannot be devised than that which fritters away your money in patches of improvement spread over the several wards, instead of husbanding your resources to make permanent improvements where these are called for most. While cheerfully responding to your call, I must ask to be relieved from the necessity of making a personal canvass of the electors. As I have no object of my own to serve in going into the Council, I must leave it to you to say by your votes whether my services are desirable or otherwise. In either case I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. E. CLARKE.

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Skating—family season ticket.....	5 00
do Gentleman's do.....	3 00
do Lady's do.....	2 00
do Child's (under 12 years) do.....	1 00

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HAND-IN-HAND

MUTUAL

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**Financial Statement for the Year
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REVENUE.

Cash Premiums and Interest \$25,486 13

DISBURSEMENTS.

Claims under Policies paid..... \$8,348 95

Claim Appropriation for Losses resisted

and waiting proof..... 750 00

Agents' Commission, Salaries, Direc-

tors' Fees, Office Rent, &c..... 6,192 73

Scrap Appropriation to Policy-holders

of 1874, on deposit in Royal Gana-

dian Bank, being forty per cent..... 10,194 45

W. H. HOWLAND, President. \$25,486 13

HUGH SCOTT, Manager & Sec'y.

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