

G R I P.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

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

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1874.

Grip's Essence of Parliament.

THURSDAY.

SCOTT (Peterboro') presented a petition praying that no Act may pass to authorize the Town Council to shut up and sell part of Murray Street. For the information of Peterboro' Councillors we will state that they can shut up without having their mouths closed by Act of Parliament. "'Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished."

A Bill, and a report of the Judges thereon, respecting some lands in Trenton, was committed. The Bill errs in denouncing them "certain" lands while there's still uncertainty about them.

Among the Bills introduced was one to amend the Act to incorporate the Trustees of the Toronto Burying Ground, who, it seems, don't relish the idea of being made a "body" in that particular way; and another by RYKERT, to incorporate the St. Catharines Street Railway Company, a species of legislation in which he has already made more than his "merk."

HARDY moved for a return of information concerning Voters' Lists, to ascertain how the law was working, and to secure greater efficiency. It has worked some of those appealed against pretty hard, when they were cross-examined before the Court by efficient counsel. The motion, which was carried, led to several suggestions as to improvements in the law, such as members are ever ready to make regarding any statute, one of which, when adopted, generally proves "a piece of new cloth on an old garment."

TOOLEY moved for a return of papers relative to the London Lunatic Asylum, particularly as to the stock and crops raised on the farm. He disclaimed any factious spirit, and doubtless truly, as "a fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind." He thought sufficient should be raised on the farm to supply food for the stock and vegetables for the institution. MCKELLAR was of opinion that they should have a man of more practical experience to direct the farming operations, like the manager of the Model Farm, under whose direction it has been so blooming as to diffuse fragrant odors throughout the Province.

CLARKE (Wellington) in moving for a return of marriage licenses issued and the names of the issuers, must not be understood as referring to "dead issues."

The Bill to amend the Ontario Drainage Act of 1873 was passed. It does not consider the act of the Government in draining the Treasury.

FRIDAY.

Leave was granted the RYKERT Investigation Committee to sit during the sitting of the House. Their absence from the Legislative Chamber will make no perceptible difference.

The Election Act Amendment Bill was read a second time. It provided for a scrutiny on both sides when an election is protested, and gives a chance to members to decline paying bills for money expended in electing them, by making them swear before the House, instead of at the accounts rendered them.

The Bill with respect to ditches and water-courses was referred to a committee, the members of which, however much they may have explored ditches, certainly never practised Hygiene so absolutely as to follow a water-course. Nor do we know of a Hydropath on the committee.

MONDAY.

Three committees reported. That on Standing Orders obeyed orders and let them stand; that on Private Bills said nothing of advancing Private Bills to a higher rank, though it should be done; that on Railways showed that it is not composed of navvies.

We have heard of "castles in the air;" but this day a Bill was introduced to vest a whole estate in the heir—of Robert Wilkes.

The Bill of the session was introduced, that for the redistribution of seats. We should like of all things to see a redistribution of the seats among another lot of men as members. That's an act for the consideration of the electors, and we sincerely hope they will carry it, by carrying the elections in the interest of competency and honesty. The Bill proposes a new member, for Muskoka and Parry Sound. The Opposition made no attempt to parry sound doctrine, and seemed willing to make a free grant of acquiescence. The proposed new county, Dufferin, is to have a member. Four other seats are to be manufactured by that celebrated maker, JERRY MANDER, Huron, Grey, Kent and Lambton to each get one. Bothwell is abandoned as dry territory, and Simcoe is given an additional member, and Mr. MANDER is to do some carving in order to Reform some of the seats in

Wellington, Cardwell, North Victoria, Peterboro', Brockville, South Leeds, Niagara and Welland. The material from Haliburton is to be used to veneer North Victoria's seat. Numbers of the Opposition could not see the advantage of the readjustment. Neither can we see any advantage—to them. The Bill was read a first time.

A division was had on the question of the powers of the Public Accounts Committee, the opposition to the course pursued being small, only 17 out of 56 members present.

The House in Committee went into the Central Prison. Pity it didn't stay there.

In Committee on the Election Bill the House adopted a number of clauses and reported.

The Bill respecting the boundary between Ontario and Quebec, and that to provide for the ballot at municipal elections were read a second time.

TUESDAY.

The House in Committee amended the Bill to provide for organizing courts in unorganized districts.

The Central Prison Bill, not any BILL imprisoned therein, was passed.

Further amendments to the Election Bill was concurred in. It is becoming something like a piece of patch-work.

The Estimates were brought down and referred to Committee of Supply, which will supply the red tape still required.

While the House was in Committee on the Bill to provide the Ballot at Municipal Elections, Mowat stated that the Government, with great reluctance, were compelled to come to the conclusion that it would be impracticable that the Act should come into force at the next election. We notice that it seems hard for the Government to come to any conclusion on any question.

A number of Private Bills were read a first time, members of a certain committee meanwhile studying the law and the profits.

WEDNESDAY.

Among the Bills introduced was an Act respecting municipal institutions. This Act may respect them; but sensible people can't. Would it not be better to pass an Act whereby municipal institutions might be so worked as to command respect, embodying a strong clause with reference also to the Provincial Legislation, which nobody ever thinks of respecting.

Bills relating to Presbyterian union, to Methodist union, and to Queen's College were referred to the Committee on Private Bills. The church bills are called "Charity Bills" in the House, probably because members haven't the check to take money from a church for their influence, as they do in other cases, and consider they give their votes as charity. Such charity covers a multitude of sinners.

The Premier's answer to a question shows that the proposed Normal Schools remain in their normal condition.

WARRENWORTH moved for a return of information about drainage contracts. What is water worth without drainage?

GIBSON made a motion and a speech, but at the request of the Premier stopped his noise. It has been remarked that GIBSON is generally noisy in the House at nights, and a reason is sought. The curious have only to consider that he is a GIBSON, *i.e.*, son of a gib. We commend this idea to the attention of Darwin's followers.

The Fire Insurance Bill was passed. It has been disposed of more quickly and easily than most insurance bills, as many a burnt-out policyholder can testify. In this instance, however, the companies did not pay their money on a "risk." They canvassed to insure votes; their policy included cash premiums to members; their plans were prepared by drafts favorable to committee-men; and the well-worked oracle did not disappoint them.

O'DONOGHUE'S Bill to amend the Act to establish liens in favor of mechanics was read a second time and referred to a Select Committee. We know of many mechanics who have established a lean on buildings about this city; and if they are forced to keep that kind of thing up for a little while longer it will establish the lean on them and their families. Such a lean is by no means in their favor.

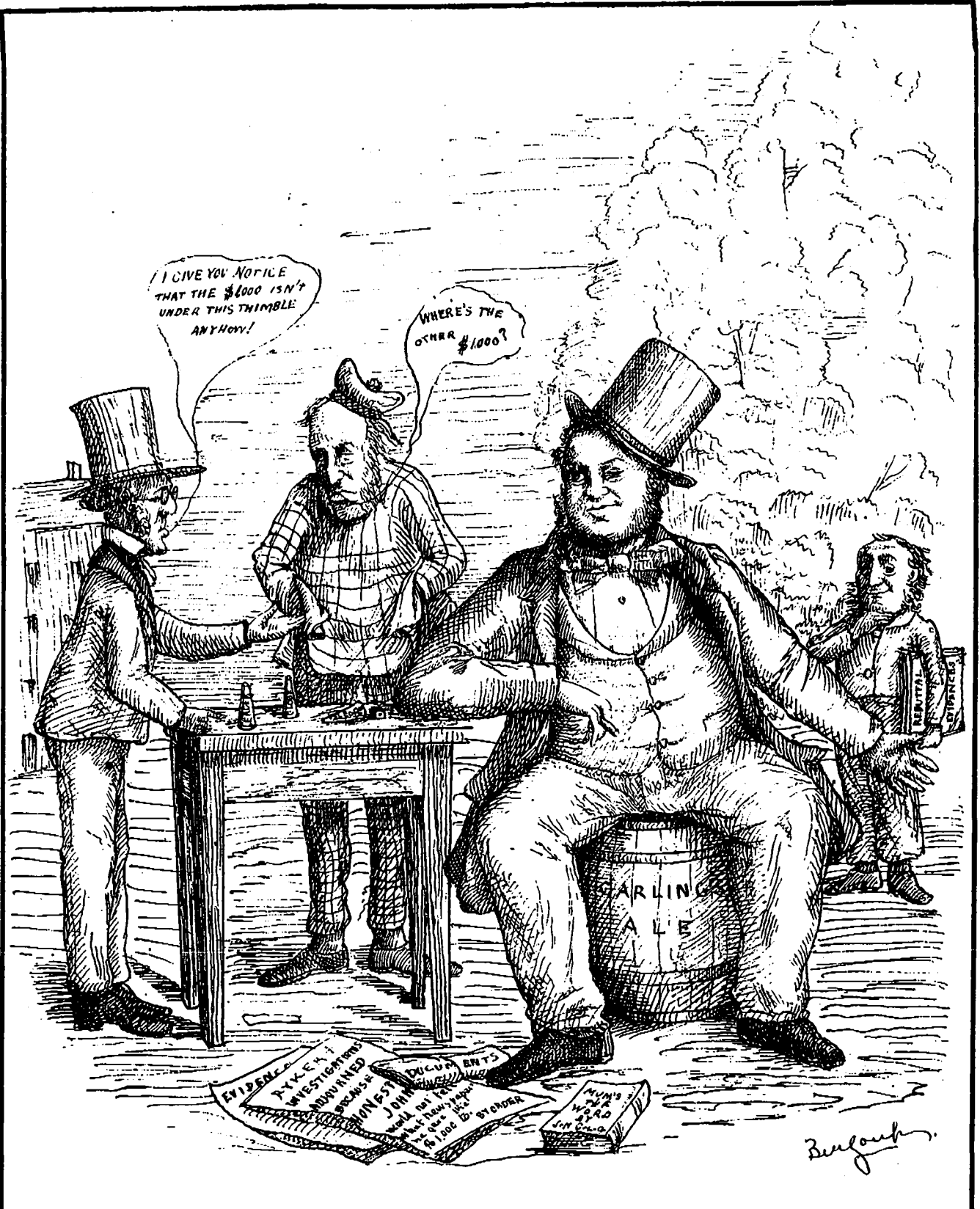
A Bill to amend the Registration of Titles Act was read a second time and referred to a committee, who affect a registration of titles thus:—"Esq., M. P. P."

The Lieut.-Governor sent another \$1,000, omitted in transmitting the estimates. It is a wager of a thousand to one in favor of HILL remaining Police Magistrate of Clifton.

Six Private Bills passed through committee. We'd like to know "how much?" and get a return of the bills that stuck in the pockets of the committee.

CLARKE (Wellington), in moving the second reading of the Bill to erect the new County, Dufferin, alluded to the convenience of making Orangeville a county town. Some of the conveniences he did not mention—those it will provide for a few hungry office-seekers.

LAUDER spoke against time, a foolish contest on the part of any person, for the old man with the scythe always wins, and will surely silence the speaker some day. "The father of the faithful" accused the Government of breaking their pledge, and declared the intention to be the destruction of Opposition prospects in three Ridings. A Government pledge is a very brittle article, and surely ABRAHAM don't expect the Ministry to assist Opposition prospects further than they have done in retaining MCKELLAR. It is not the Government that has



HONEST JOHN, THE THIMBLE-RIGGER.

HONEST J.—“Where’s the other thousand, Sonnie?” A.—“That’s for me to know and you to find out, you see!”

destroyed the prospects of the Opposition, and that LAUDER will find by impartial self-examination.

After recess ABRAHAM declared that the people should be consulted. They will be, all too soon for many in the present House—in January.

A question of veracity arose between MCKELLAR and LAUDER. We should think that neither of them has ever been "at the bottom of a well."

BOULTON drew a bolt on the Ministry and shot it with unerring precision. The object certainly is a political one; but its time for the people of Ontario to consider the conundrum, "what are politics." They cannot find an answer in the Legislature. He declared his intention of opposing the Bill with all his might at every stage. His mite will not be worth a farthing.

McMANUS, thought the arrangement the best that could have been made; and so it seems, looking through Mowat's spectacles.

Criswell and Mowat thought the Tories should be satisfied with the creation of a constituency which they are sure to carry. But the Tories in getting one lose five, and they would rather reverse the proportion.

The member for Peel provoked a peal of laughter by acknowledging a Tory paradise. Where do good Grits go?

The Bill was read second time.

A number of second readings of Private Bills closed the business and the Speaker closed the sitting.

Flirting Considered.

The flirt, male and female, is a plentiful animal. It is a compound of vanity, mischief and heartlessness. Some imagine that a narrow mind is an essential qualification. This is only partially true; for the flirt must of necessity be blessed with a fair share of mental power, observation and tact. The game of flirtation is really a contest of minds, in which the stronger throws a sort of mesmeric influence over the weaker. The mind of the flirt, therefore is not to be despised; and were the faculties wasted in gratifying a vain love of admiration devoted to something higher and nobler, much good might be accomplished. Indeed, we have no doubt that there have been cases of benefits arising and whole-some, though severe, lessons taught from the gallant game, when carried on with such a purpose in view by one of the players. It is a species of gambling in which the loser is the gainer, in the same manner that the victim of the three-card monte trick is the better for his loss; for though he may feel it deeply for the time, he will soon get over his grief and anger, and ultimately come to the only sensible conclusion, that he was fortunate in getting off so cheaply as he did, with a well-taught lesson to consult the dictates of common-sense in all future transactions. The fool has been made wiser, and that is a point gained, not only to himself, but to the world. But there is an axiom in political economy, that wherever there is a gain there must be a consequent loss. Hence of the victim to the gainer, we expect a loss to some one else. The other player loses,—loses not only the admiration, respect and good-will of the victim, which are always something; but also a certain amount of self-respect, which is much more. Let us to our consideration: The stronger mind can have no difficulty in winning the admiration of the weaker. It is done for mere amusement, and the admirer is considered weak, and laughed at as a simpleton for bestowing the homage sought. The easier the conquest the greater the fool, of course; but the conquest once effected the same end is reached, and the conqueror has only left the assurance that he, or she, has been amused, pleased and gratified by a fool's folly. Instead of honor it is dishonor: instead of an ascent it is a descent. Considered as the offspring of malice, (which it seldom is,) flirtation partakes of the fendish; considered in the light of a pleasure, it shows us two fools, and it is difficult to determine which is the greater, though we know which is the more excusable. In any event the game is degrading, and destruction of that healthy self-respect which makes the true man or woman.

Flirt if you will, wickedly or wantonly; but remember you therefore become either fiend or fool.

A Magnanimous Offer.

We give the following advertisement, taken from the *Globe* of last Tuesday, under the head of "Situations Vacant," a free insertion:

CLERK, who can loan his employer \$300 on security. Wages \$10 per week. Box —, *Globe* Office.

In the interest of the advertiser we suppress the number of that box. The applicant who has the good fortune to be able to lend his employer three hundred dollars, and does so, may fairly be considered in the light of a silent partner. The business, whatever it may be, is evidently based on co-operative principles. And only think of the salary! Ten dollars per week! Security for the salary is not mentioned. That, however, is merely a secondary consideration; but judging from the general character of the advertisement, it would not

be a matter of much surprise to us if the successful candidate finds he has got into the wrong box.

Next week we may expect to read something of this kind:—

A N EMPLOYER doing a large business, but with limited capital, would be happy to receive a Clerk in his office and initiate him into Counting-house duties free of charge, in exchange for board in a Christian family. References required. Address

A Pattern Paragraph.

THOUGH the author of the following model notice assures us that it is "perfectly original," we have an idea that we have seen it somewhere before, though we cannot tell exactly where. We have secured it at enormous expense, and produce it as a specimen of the style for 1875, for the benefit of newspaper reporters throughout the Dominion. We expect that our enterprise will be amply rewarded, and that newspapers generally will use it either as a whole or in part, once or often during the coming year. Thus we hope to earn the gratitude and good-will of the fourth estate, and trust to receive from all some practical recognition of the service we thus render them. GRIP having produced a notice for the benefit of all, the very least they can do is to each reciprocate by producing a notice for GRIP's benefit. We will be abundantly remunerated if GRIP is merely mentioned whenever a newspaper uses any of the words or copies the style of this specimen brick:—

TEA-MEETING IN SOCIALVILLE.—According to previous announcement a Tea Meeting was held on Thursday evening last at this place, in the large and commodious Temperance Hall, kindly lent for the occasion. The weather was all that could be desired, and by the time the hour arrived for opening the meeting the spacious building was filled to its utmost capacity. A large quantity of provisions provided by the ladies was then served in good style, and partaken of with much apparent relish. After ample justice had been done to the good things (for which the ladies of this place are justly celebrated) the edibles were cleared away, and J. Jones, Esq., was unanimously elected to fill the chair, which he did in a very able manner. The chairman made a brief but very appropriate speech in which he stated the object of the meeting, and then called on the deservedly popular choir for some music. The Rev. Mr. Smith, resident pastor, was then called upon to address the meeting, which he did in his usual happy style. As several of the gentlemen expected did not put in an appearance, Messrs. Brown, Black, and White were respectively called to the platform, all of whom gave short, humorous, and interesting speeches. The choir, under the able leadership of Prof. Grey, rendered some very choice selections of music. The speeches throughout were of the right kind and were well received. Miss Primrose presided at the organ with her usual ability. A vote of thanks was then tendered the chairman for his efficient services, to the choir for the sweet music discoursed, and to the ladies who had provided such an excellent tea. The National Anthem was then sung, and this interesting meeting was closed by Rev. Mr. Smith pronouncing the benediction.

Croaks and Pecks.

The Superintendent of the Grand Trunk Railway has issued an order to the effect that employees must use passengers' baggage as if it were their own. Isn't this giving them rather too much liberty in the use of other people's property? And will not baggagemen argue that they have a right to do what they like with their own, and continue to do as they please with baggage, thus treating it as if literally their own?

The *London Free Press* tells of a hen which "in July last was as black as a coal, and very recently has donned (?) a plumage as white as snow," and then asks, "Will the eggs also change color?" They certainly will, if the owner keeps them long enough.

The *Chatham Planet* with reference to the RKFERT scandal says, "the evidence when all gathered, will be brought before the House, and then probably the whole matter will drop," then closes with the puffy remark, "out brief candle!" Now, it's too wicked to be brief; and even "Blowhard" RUFUS, can't put it out so readily as he no doubt wishes. We fancy we see a "death's mask" in the midst of the flame. As the "candle" sadly needs trimming we expect the *Planet's* next announcement will be that "CHARLEY is up to snuff."

THE WHOLE ESSENCE OF PARLIAMENT.—Municipal Evaporation.

THE WASHERWOMANS' LAMENT.—Why was the water turned off on Monday?—GRIP's answer—On Tuesday you ought to know, my dear, that the Water Works' fellows had a small triumph.

THE HOUSEKEEPER'S LAMENT.—Why was the water turned off on Monday?—GRIP's answer—(dictated from the City Council and from thence down to the Legislative Assembly and from thence to—) Go and ask!!!

MRS. MORRISON'S
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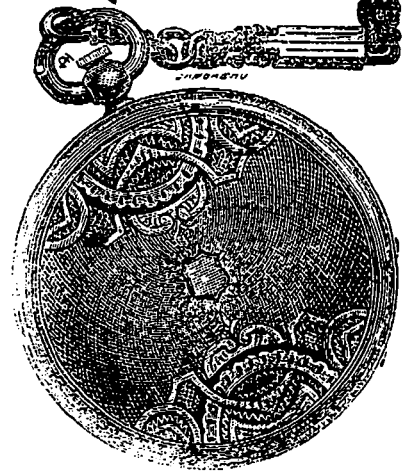


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