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TORONTO OFFICE, 22 Toronto St., R. C. HICKOK, Manager.

#### EDITOR'S NOTE.

RIGINAL contributions will al-ways 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 manu-scripts cannot be returned

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### GRIP.

EDITED BY MR. BABNABY RUDGE.

The grubest Benst is the Ass; the grubest Bird is the Gtal; The grubest Eish is the Gyster; the grubest Mun is the Gool.

TORONTO, SATURDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1877.

#### From our Box.

The friends of Mr. Alex. FITZGERALD will be pleased to hear that he met with a severe accident at Mrs. Morrison's Opera House on Monday evening, by falling through a trap door. They will be still further delighted to learn that on Thesalay and Wednesday evenings he met with the same mishap, and that he will be equally unfortunate for the rest of the week and at the Saturday matinee. He deserves it, for a more Darrily mean heavy viilian never interfered with the affairs of EARL WALCOT or any other English nobleman. This trap door the murderous FITZ, had arranged for the purpose of destroying the life of Mrs. WALCOT, who is a most estimable lady, and one of the very linest actresses Toronto has yet seen. Grip was terribly agitated as he sat in his box and saw the whole job put up on the unconscious lady, and it was with the most savage joy that he saw the wretched Fitzdarnly tumble through his own trap (on to the feather bed behind the scenes.) He deserved this fate, moreover, for having shot good old BEN ROGERS, and thus choked off the man who was making all the fan of the piece. No—not all the fun, for SEMBLAR was the author of a large amount of laughter with his fantastic monkey-shines and Fredvokesisms. There were many other delightful things in the play besides the collapse of Mr. FITZGERALD. There was the acting of Mr. WALCOT, which deserves hearty praise; and the gorgeous scenery; and the magnificence of QUEEN ELIZABETH SAFFORD's pageant—and her collar; and Her Majesty's brass band—the one you read about in Kenilworth, the Queen's Own band; then there were crowds of young ladies marching in endless variety—some square and some round and many pretty; and lastly there was any quantity of good new music. Everybody ought to go and see the splendid play of Amy Robsart.

#### The Contracting Man.

This grabber's the worst of the grabbers for tm, Who to rob our poor treasury think it no sin, Now listen a moment, if listen you can, While I tell you the dodge of the con-tracting man.

The con-tracting man he walks out in the street, With his hat all so new, and his coat all so neat. And his eyes all around him are carefully bent Looking out if more cash cannot somewhere be spent.

And proceeding along with air jaunty and free, He accosts certain aldermen, one, two, and three. And remarks, if they could such a job about bring, That perhaps they might find there was eash in the thing.

And it's odd that the job of which that day they spoke, Just as lightly as if the whole thing were a joke. Soon comes up in the Council; the vote shuffles past, And the con-tracting man gets the work at the last.

One don't know if the members go shares in the plan, And get bonuses each from the con-tracting man; But the voice of the people will not be forbid, From declaring it last summer seemed that they did.

Now, GRIP'S just got a small proposition to make, Just a trap in which some of these gentry he'd take, Let some citizens offer some hundreds to pay For conviction of those who make cash in this way.

A good solid reward paid for evidence such As exposure secures, sometimes will bring out much. It is needed, or something is needed that can Narrow somewhat the scope of the con-tracting man.

#### Startling but True.

WE have no Established Church in Canada, thank fortune; but we have something worse—an Established Newspaper. \$2000 worth of stock in the Mail came out of the public purse, via the Northern Railway. This is what troubles our venerable friend JAMES BEATY.

#### Grit Tyranny and Injustice.

GRIP is a bird of no special political party. Like SHAKESPEARE he is for mankind in general; and his wing is spread to shelter the objects is for mainting in general; and his wing is spread to shelter the objects of tyranny and injustice wherever they may be found. Just now he feels called upon to stretch that royal pinion over the Ottawa Correspondents of the Conservative papers of the Country, who are evidently suffering the most unwonted ill-treatment at the hands of Mackenzie or some other minion of the party in power. Probably a is the door-keeper of the Secret Service and Northern Railway Committee Room, because the particular act of Grit tyranny to which Grit refers is the exclusion of these Conservative newspaper representatives from the meetings of the committee just named. There can be no reasonable ground for this action on the part of the government. If the investigations going on are public, as they ought to be and professedly are, it is a piece of gross and criminal favouritism to let the Grit reporters in and shut the Tory ditto out. This is what MACKENZIE is doing, apparently. GRIP judges so from the fact that the correspondents of the Conservative papers do not send up anything at all about the Secret Service and Northern Railway business, whereas the Grit correspondents send whole columns. these reporters are all vigilent and industrious fellows, and to say that the Grit ones are able to find a great deal of deeply interesting matter to report that the Tory ones never hear of, is to make a comparison untrue as well as "odorous," Griv is certain it is not the fault of the reporters that the Conservative press is deprived of so much good reading matter. Then it must be MACKENZIE's fault; and the only conclusion we can come to is that, as already intimated, he is crushing the freedom of the press beneath his despotic heel, and keeping the Opposition reporters out of the committee meetings. Either that, or else the Opposition Editors think the reports of these investigations "unfit for publication," and keep them out of their papers themselves. It is between the Premier and the Editors. After all, very likely it is the Editors.

#### April the First.

It is high time that the license should be taken away from the first day of April. This thing of playing off cruel practical heaxes on unsuspecting people, under the protection of abarbarious midaeval Custom, should be stopped. It is evil in its tendency, and particularly demoralizing to the parties played upon whenever the trick succeeds. This year, All Fool's day fell on Sunday, but veneration for the Sabbath did not abate the universal nuisance of practical joking. Grate advocates the expunging of April First from the Christian Almanac, and to prove that this is a consummation devoutly to be wished, he submits to his readers a brief account of a few specimens of the foolishness indulged in last Sunday. The pepetrators of the following tricks intended "fun" they say, but the victims quite failed to discover anything of that sort about them:—

From Sarnia we learn that our esteemed friend McVICAR, editor of our esteemed contemporary the Canadian, was seen going to church with a buge bundle of Boiler-Tubing pinned to his coat-tail, and a large pasteboard tag fastened thereto, bearing the superscription "Rule Nisi Granted." This is commonly supposed to have been the work of the editor of the Observer, done at the instigation of Mr. Mackenzie or some other "Friend at Court."

From Whitby comes the intelligence that Mr. W. H. HIGGINS received per express, bearing the Toronto mark, a very choice keg of O'Keefe's Sparkling Ale, accompanied by a letter through the post saying that the present was sent in recognition of the manly stand taken by the chronicle against the Dunkin Act. The keg was tapped and a pitcher was held under the faucet for several hours—in vain. Something aled it. On removing the hoops and lifting off the head, it was found that the keg contained a bat with a brick in it, and an assortment of Dunkin editorials clipped from the Gizette. Mr. Ferguson, the license Inspector, is suspected of this.

From Ottawa we have word to the effect that a party of five, consisting of Sir John MacDonald, Dr. Tupper, Dalton McCarthy, Mackenzie Bowell, and Dr. Orton, all disguised as Farmers, waited on Mr. Cartwright, the Finance Minister, and pentioned him to put a protective duty on Indian corn. The gentlemen enacting the Farmers of course intended this merely as a joke, but to their dismay Cartwright promised he would. And now the question which agitates the Capital is whether he will have the hardihood to carry this threat out practically in his next tariff, and thus ruin the bonn fide farmers of the country. This sufficiently shows the wickedness of April Fooling.

One more case has come to light in Toronto. The victim was no less a personage than Georgee Brown. That gentleman was just finishing an article on the "Secret Service Corruption," when a messenger arrived with a package addressed in the handwriting of Mr. Dymond, apparently. The messenger said he had come straight from Ottawa, and that the package contained "the latest revelations." Mr. B. in his impetuous manner, pitched his all but finished article into the fire, and got clean paper to commence a more timely one. Then he opened the package, and found it to contain a long affidavit made by Tom White Jr., in the Case of the Huntington Copper-Mining Co. The messenger will probably recover.

GRIP demands that April fooling be forthwith prohibited.



#### News from Cockaigne.

LONDON, APRIL 1ST, 1877.-Hokey 'All is Hall O. K.

#### Bill of Fare for Shoemakers.

SOUP. Ox tail: from the last "Hide." FISH.
"Kip" pered Salmon. "Sole." ENTREES.
Eggs of new "findings." " Tongues." ROAST.

Veal, from a "French Call." MEAT. Broken "Scraps" of and kinds. VEGETABLES. Waxed endives, "Splits" peas. PASTRY.

Anything with an "Upper" crust. PESSERT.
"Russetts," "Prunello Pears." DRINKS (no heel taps). Roman Punch, Sherry Cobbler. Such a meal will be apt to elevate one a peg or two.

#### Schwacklehammer Emulates Robinson.

Mein Leiben Freint Grib :

I sawn fon der fast veek Grep dot. Mr. Terrney haf dook ub der kvill pen vonce more again, und wroten some ledder, und id shthrikes me do done myzaulf der same dings likewise alzo. I oxpose id has been to you oxtonishment vere I haf been so soon all der vite, don'd id? Vaul, of you blease, I vill make myzaulf a liddle oxblane. I vos fon der cidy oud now several veeks or more dravling. I choin somedime mit der Commerchal Draylers Oxsociation und go on der Roat mit a gouple of drunks und samples. I don'd make some more sausage efer agam; I shook dot peesiness, altogedda. Dot's blayed ond. Ve don'd got some Brodections fon der governmend, und der goundry vos going mit der cats. Dot's vere I myzaulf also vend, und dot's how · I give up der peesiness. I dolt you how dot happens. You are doudless avore, how der raw materials got pretty high up in brices, on account dot ve don't got Brotection to home saussage making. Vaul, how vos der how dere raw materials got pretty high up in brices, or account dot ve don't got Brotection to home saussage making. Vaul, how vos der reason aboud dot? I oxblanation: Don'd you understood, ve oxport dot bork vot ve use fon der Unided Scholades across, und id got ladely more dear like id used to been aboud double. Vaul, I begin to feel shaky like der doose, und don'd can schleep mit der oxcitemend of der money market. I don'd know vot to done aboud id, so I schpoke mit mein freint Howland, und he advises me dot I shall write to Cartwittgitt. Dot's vot I done. I wroten him und make der subject b ain, that if he don'd write make mone, I wroten him und make der subject b ain, that if he don'd write make mone along out der him vot comes in fon der WRIGHT. Dot's vot I done. I wroten him und make der subject b am, dot if he don'd make more taxes on der bork vot comes in fon der Schdades, I vill ruin sure. Dot lanatix of a man CARTWRIGHT, he wroten me back, und says if he makes more dariff on dot bork, I vill haf to pay more as I am now paying. Dot's all der fatissaction dis feller gries me. I vote no more der Grit dicket, by gracious, you bet! Vot is der kvencionnee? I can't afford it dot I make saussage mit bork who is the restrictione? The around that I hades satisfage into both any more, und how I am do till der order oud mit der Unided Umpire Glub Dinners, I like to know? Vaul, dere vos, aboud dot dime, a big blow-oud more as usual by der Glub Haus, because Herr. Daltos McCarthy vos come in town. Doctor Tupper comes by my shop; and makes me der order dot I shall been on bandt mit twenty-life yards of der best brand of saussage dot I can make. He says his freint MCCARTHY is der Prains of der Obbosition, und eads nodding but fish and saussage. Vaul, vot am I going to done aboud id? I must make der order oud, und I couldn't aiford id to buy der Yankee bork. Vaul, I rack my prain mit dot conundrum und valk arount der house and make I rack my prain mit dot conundrum und valk arount der house and make my hands under my coat-tait und lookin pale, dot my frau says I am gone fon my mindt oud alreaty. A couple of days I am like dot. I am battle mit dempdations, dot's vot's der matter. Vaul, to make a short story long, I give myzauif avay; I tumble down; der Dempter makes me a defeat; dot is to say.—I got dot raw materials fon cats meat, and fill der order of der Gub. Fon dot moments I am ruin. Der peebles at der dinner found oud der schvindle. Mr. McCarrity has too many of Obosition Prains to been dook in m t der chenanigan like dot. He is more schmart like a steel mouse-frap. I dolt you; un I be is vell acquaintance mit der subject of raw materials und manufactions. I dou't myzaulf gone to dot Dinner. I tink it better dot I dou'd go dot time. But I am dolt dot ven he has eat not more as tweive or elofen of time. but I am dolt dot ven he has eat not more as twelve or closen of dem saussage he discovers dot cheet right away, and drops his schpoon and kniie, and yamps up on der dabie and yells: "Cats-meat by chiming gracious!" Dere vos now of course oxcitement, more or less, in der gompany, and I am dolt Mein Herr Patteson, von der Mail, motions a move dot a Committee is appoint to investigation der peesiness. Sir JOHN took jecobiions to dot, und says dot he don'd like Committees of Investigate. He broposes dot I am not a youtleman, und shall been deprive of der patronage von der Glub Haus efer und efer.

Dot is garried anonimously, und so I can say now in der langvitches of der poet :

"Dot feller's occupation's gone."

Dot is how I am now not any more in der saussage peesiness. make dis oxplanations, in der same manner like mein freint BEVERLY ROBINSON makes his oxblain in der Northern Railway droubles—so dot I may vindocation my goot name, und I remain as efer your freint, midout a stain on his dishonesty,

YAUCUP SCHWAKLEHAMMER.

#### The Cocked-Hat Tragedy.

(A SCENE AT OTTAWA.)

The war-clad Minister sat on his seat,-Where Parliamentary Chieftains greet, His fugleman dress'd hard by,--Commission, graced with the Bluenose Seal, When he left the Halifax lot to the Deil, Bore he of the eagle eye! While 'mid officials he fain would rule In private he taught a drill-shed school-

Twas cleaner than keeping store— So drill'd he the Awkward Squad each night By the goose-step, made the left foot right,
Tho' his drill was counted a bore!

He strove to muster a war-force cheap, And not too dearly his glory reap, Sublime was his pride in that; But more in the tile that adorned his head,

Bedeck'd in feathers and gold and red, His joy was a felt cocked-hat!

This hat was a stunner, his pride and boast, it's lappets reached to each distant coast, As if to salute the sea; It spanp'd the Continent-mile on mile,

Till West, it touched at Vancouver's Isle, And East at Baddeck C. B. And East at Baddeck C. B.
The head, triangular, fitted the cap,
Each one for t'other filled every gap,
Itis cup of pleasure ran o'er!
Till quandam friends seem'd fallen from grace,
E'en Weymouth he deemed a 'gone up' place
That he ne'er might visit more.
For change he at hearth to letters turned

For change, he at length to letters turned, A Ross-shire friend to embrace he burned, In Elections skill'd of yore-

One Gaelic letter-such awfu' spellin' Came back like the deeds of CAUCHON smellin' The House of Parliament o'er!

The missive designing purpose right, When read by the glare of the chamber-light With a blaze spread far around, A-down the Halls drove a wind of chaff, And floor'd the Boor, with a cruel laugh, Who fit-fully went to ground!

To flames went notes for a speech prolific, Nor waited the War-chief's spell pacific, As down on his stool he sat; Till CAUCHON, the odorous minister bright, Dropped in like a Pasha or Kannuck Knight, And squatted, alas! on the hat! Next Coffin came, to be in at the death,

Then CAMPBELL, whose shot had a garlicky breath,
Of the hubbub soon all had heard—
Ev'n SITTING BULL hied him over the plains,
With CRAZY HORSE of the blue-glass veins,
And the Boss of the Indians—LAIRD! peer'd they at the letter that proved "a sell,"

When ridicule cover'd the strife to spell-And CAUCHON had crushed the hat!
So the lighting chief could no comfort take,
"Ho! COFFIN, my pall? draw my will, O, BLAKE!
How can I live after that?"

Henceforth let the cowards go crouch in fear Who thus brought a thirsty Knight to his bier, Athirst for the love of peli! Phrenology proves, a triangular head Should dispense with a hat of such wonderful spread As to cover ambition itself! While a moan, like a Parliamentary wail Sweeps o'er the great land-let us drop a VAIL! And look for a moral here: No! morals are not a political boast-Place, patronage, plunder, so rule the roast,.... Let the tale make the moral clear!

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W. F. WHITCHER Commissioner of Fisheries. PETROLEUM

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