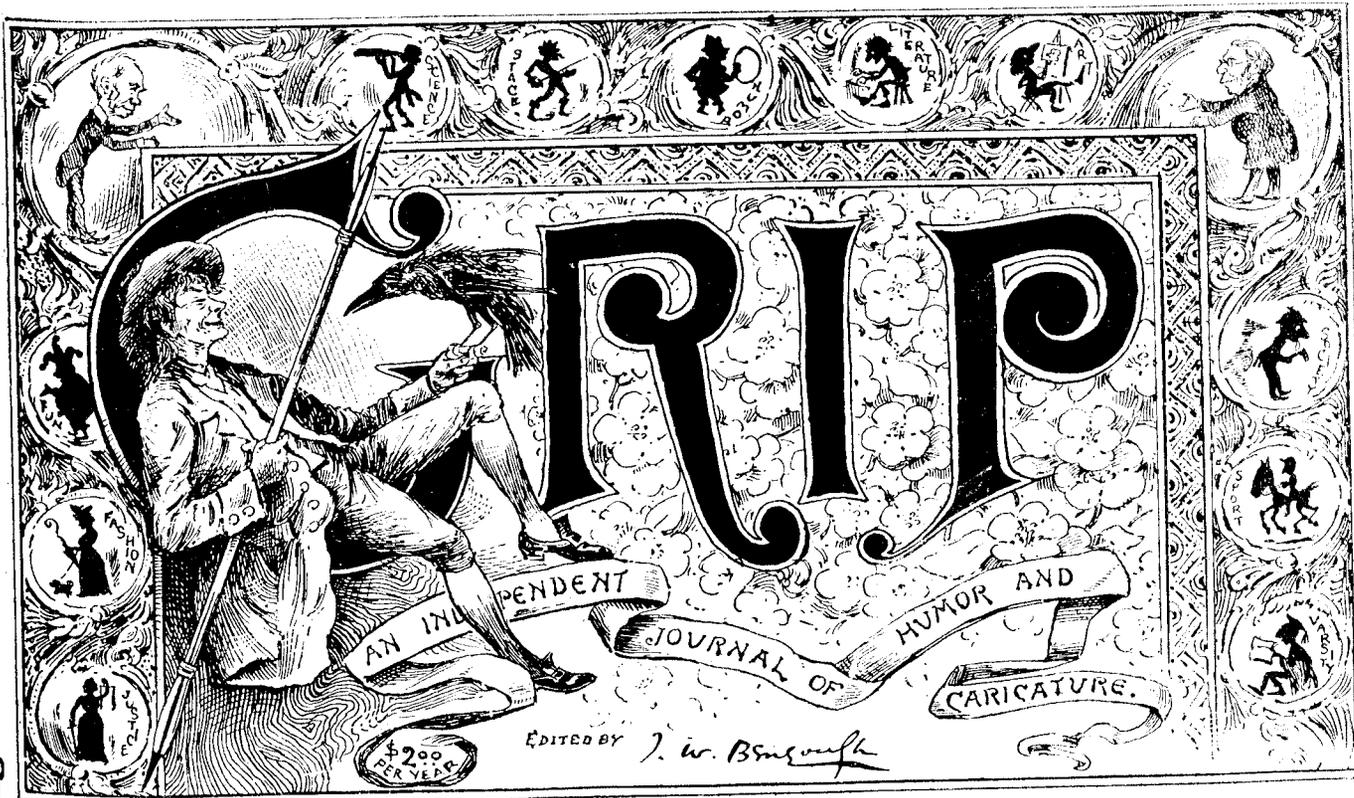


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VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 4.

TORONTO, JANUARY 23, 1892.

No. 971.

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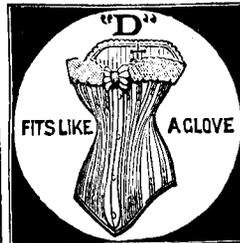
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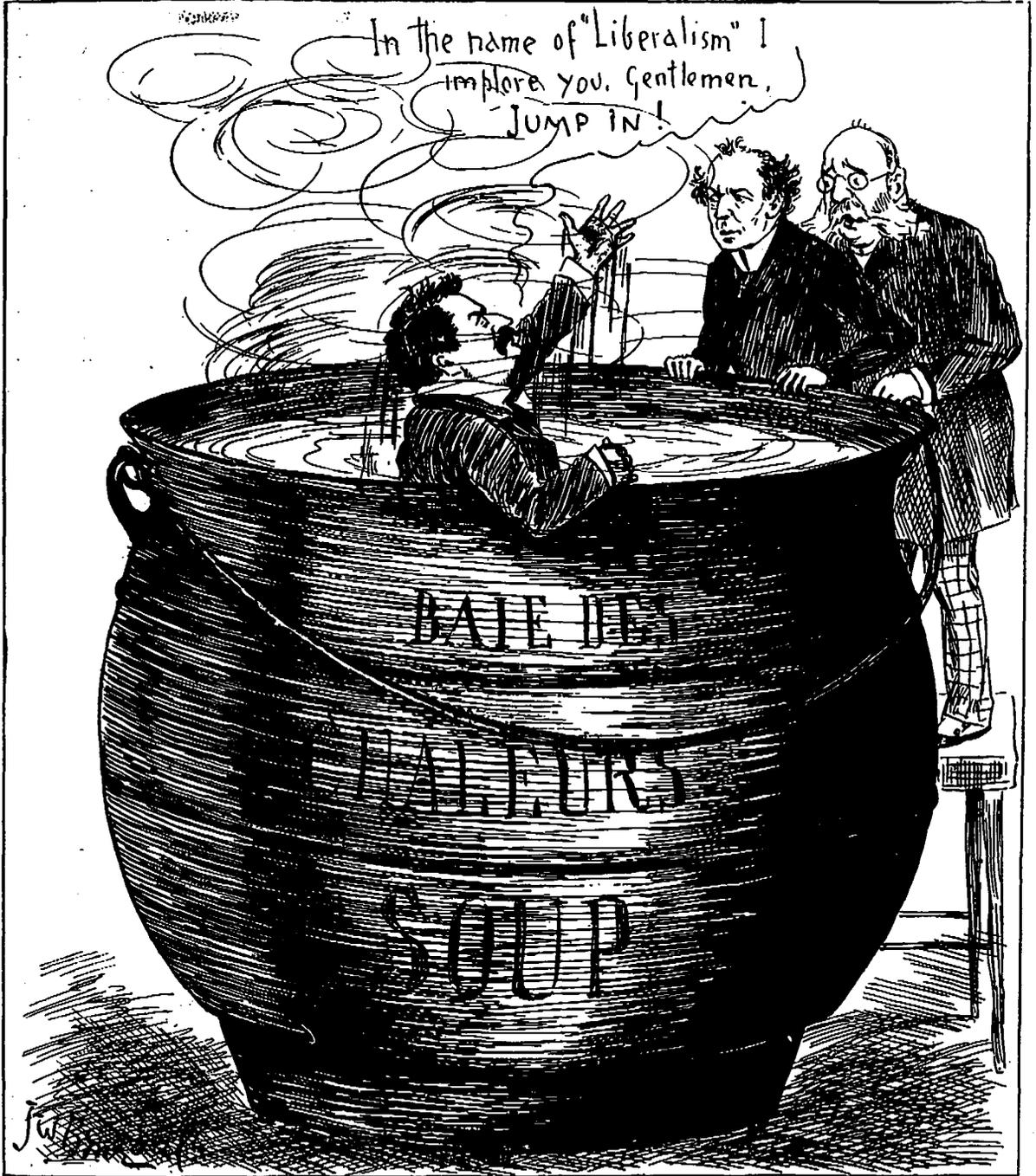
GRIP



VOL XXXVIII.

TORONTO, JANUARY 16, 1892.

No. 4
Whole No. 971.



AN INVITATION TO POT LUCK.

[It is stated that Mr. Mercier is asking the leaders of the Reform Party to assist him actively in the Quebec campaign.]



TORONTO, SATURDAY, JAN. 23, 1892.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

HUMOR COMPETITION.

\$60 in Cash Prizes to be Given.

With a view to encouraging the humorous pens of the Dominion (and there are many of them as yet unknown to Fame), GRIP has decided to offer the following Prizes:

For the best short humorous article, a prize of \$30 cash will be given. For the next best, a prize of \$20 cash, and for the third in order of merit, a prize of \$10 cash.

The conditions of the competition are:

1st. No article to contain more than 750 or less than 300 words.
2nd. None but original articles will be entered in the competition. Articles may be in the form of prose or verse, stories, character sketches, satirical skits, or in any other literary form whatever.

3rd. Articles will be judged not so much for literary merit as for the merit of the humorous idea involved.

4th. All articles submitted to be marked "competition," and to be the property of the Grip Printing and Publishing Company.

5th. Mr. J. W. Bengough, Mr. Phillips Thompson and Mr. J. V. Wright will act as judges in the competition.

6th. It is not necessary for any competitor to subscribe for GRIP, nor to send money for any purpose whatever.

7th. The authors of all articles which are, on a preliminary examination, considered meritorious enough to be placed in competition, will receive a copy of GRIP gratis for four weeks from receipt of article.

8th. All articles to be sent in by March 1, 1892, when the competition will be closed.

9th. There is no limit to the number of articles that may be sent in by any competitor.

The result of the competition and the successful articles will be published in GRIP as soon afterwards as possible. The best of the non-successful ones will also appear.

COMMENTS ON THE CARTOONS.



LEFT.—After long and anxious consideration Premier Abbott has given the portfolio of Railways and Canals to Hon. John Haggart, and that of Public Works to Hon. Mr. Ouimet. This not only puts Mr. Haggart in charge of a great spending department, but elevates him to the leadership of the Ontario wing of the Conservative party. Just what special fitness he has for this preferment is a secret known only to Mr. Abbott. By the rank and

file of the party he is now and always has been regarded as politica small potatoes, possessed, however, in some mysterious way, of that potent thing, a "pull." As to Mr. Ouimet, he is a respectable gentleman who has up to date reclined in the seclusion of the third or fourth row of benches, and his ability or inability to cope with the duties now imposed upon him is something which the future must decide. The great thing about these appointments is, that they at all events settle the vexatious Chappleau question. That able but volatile and

dangerous person has been all along counting with certainty upon one of the portfolios in question. He claimed, indeed, that he had in his pocket the written promise of one of them. This was, no doubt, the case, but Mr. Abbott has over-ruled the document. Chappleau is left, and the great question of the day is now "What is he going to do about it?" He will have to be resigned, we rather guess.

AN INVITATION TO POT LUCK.—It is stated that Mr. Mercier is about to send emissaries to the Liberal leaders, to invite their assistance in the Provincial campaign now raging. We gather from Mr. Laurier's remarks at Kingston that the mission will not be a successful one so far as he is concerned. He was at pains to repudiate the statement of Mr. Tupper to the effect that he (Laurier) must share the sins of the Quebec leader. This practically means, we should suppose, that Mr. Laurier declines the invitation to step into the soup with the Count and his colleagues, for if the Liberal party went into the Quebec campaign to assist Mercier they would clearly take upon themselves full responsibility for the doings of that gentleman. The Reform party has a great talent for blundering, but it is to be hoped they have sense enough to avoid such a blunder as this would be. Instead of aiding the Mercier ministry, Mr. Laurier, on behalf of the party he leads, ought to openly sever all connection with it.



HERE are some members of the Grit party in Quebec who declare that they will support Mercier in the present election, not because they regard the record of his Government as commendable, but because they are quite sure De Boucherville and his allies would be no better. Likewise there are Conservatives all over the land who cling to the Abbott ministry, notwithstanding the scandal revelations, because they believe a new Government under Laurier

would be just as bad. This is no position for a decent citizen to take. "Turn the rascals out!" is good, sound doctrine, when the rascality has been proved. It is the one duty to be performed, and it must be done without regard to what may follow. If the new Government in either case proved corrupt, let the bouncing machine be put in operation again with all promptness; but don't let this deadly and corrupt spirit of *laissez faire* get hold of us, or we might as well give up Canada as a bad job.

* * *

WE enjoyed a little chat the other day with that fine representative citizen, John Charlton. The talk, of course, drifted to the trade question, and Mr. C. had occasion to use the phrase "direct taxation." He uttered it with the customary inflection of dread—as something that should only be mentioned with bated breath. We promptly called his attention to this, and asked him why the public should regard direct taxation with fear and trembling. "I'm sure I don't know," he replied, "it is certainly very silly, but it's the case." Like every thinking man, John Charlton, believes that direct taxation is the only fair and just system.



THE QUESTION OF THE HOUR.

CHOLLY—"I see those beastly cwinolines aw coming in again."
 STAMMERFORD—"Yaas, b-but how the d-d-deuce aw they going to g-get in, th-that's what I w-want to know, you know!"

AND that brings us to a very practical letter from Mr. E. C. Hill, of Kingston, on this point :

DEAR GRIP,—In your issue of last week you touch on "Direct Taxation," and give a very good reason why we should raise our revenue in this way. I have used a number of similar reasons for some time and have noticed at various times the same in your columns, with one exception, and as I take it to be most telling of any, I take the liberty of pointing it out.

We will presume that the average duty on imported goods is 35 per cent., and that (for the moment) all imported goods pass through two hands, the importing, or wholesale, and the retail, before reaching the consumer. We will now import \$100 worth of goods under the 35 per cent. duty, and \$100 worth under direct taxation, with free trade, and note the events.

To do this we will estimate the wholesaler's profit at 10 per cent. and the retailer's at 25 per cent.

	Tariff.	Free Trade and Direct Tax.
Imported goods.....	\$100 00.....	\$100 00.....
Duty, 35%.....	35 00.....	
Cost to importer....	\$135 00.....	\$100 00.....
Importer's profit 10%	13 50.....	10 00.....
Cost to retailer.	\$148 50.....	\$110 00.....
Retailers' profit 25%	37 12.....	27 50.....
	\$185 62	\$137 50
	137 50	
	\$48 12	

The consumer in reality pays a duty of 48.12 per cent., instead of the 35 per cent. as generally expected, and the extra 13 per cent. does not reach the Government for revenue purposes. Thus we are taxed for revenue and taxed for, or in paying the revenue; a great waste of money which would be entirely saved under direct taxation, in addition to the saving from reduction of Custom House employes. Then, again, I think a duty not only increases the cost of living, but is a heavy brake on the amount of business done. Under direct taxation the cost of goods being materially reduced to the consumer, extra consumption would at once occur.

WE hope those of our readers who share the superstitious dread of direct taxation will ponder this plain statement. A tariff is a nuisance, high or low, anyway you look at it. When Canada decides for direct taxation, GRIP will be able to instruct the Government just what to tax, and it won't be anything in the shape of labor, products such as houses, food, clothing or stocks-in-trade, either.

A PEERLESS BEAUTY.

DUDESON—"Aw—Miss Chesterton looks perfectly charming to-night. She is a peerless beauty; don't you think so?"

MRS. SLIMMERS—"Yes, poor thing, but it really isn't her fault, you know, nor her mother's either. They've been in London for the last two seasons trying to capture a peer, but without success."

THE DEATH OF PRINCE ALBERT VICTOR.

ENGLAND in tears, and all the world in gloom;
 Betrothal bliss to funeral weeping turned,
 And royal purple changed to black of doom—
 Our young Prince mourned!

The "old, old fashion, Death," that doth not change,
 And doth not know our niceties of caste,
 But to this stark estate, so ever strange,
 Brings all at last!

Tears for the Prince who, in his manhood's pride,
 Sinks from the clinging arms of plighted faith,
 Claimed by a ghostly and imperious Bride—
 Pale, envious Death.

Tears for the Prince, whose father-heart is torn,
 And for the Princess fair and sweet, his wife;
 Deep with our Queen and royal House we mourn
 This riven life.

Tears, tender tears, for stricken Princess May,
 Who, e'er the nuptial wine tastes widow's woe;
 The touch of nature makes us kin to-day—
 Tears world-wide flow.

Our common Race doth mark her grief apart,
 And its divine compassion would attest;
 'Twould fain enfold that sorrow-bursting heart
 On its great mother-breast.

J. W. B.



A FATAL OMISSION.

PODBURY—"Oh, by-the-bye, I suppose, of course, you were at the 'Literary Evening' at the Art Gallery. How did you like it?"

CULCHARD (one of our esteemed contributors, severely)—"No, I wasn't there. 'Literary Evening'—Representative Canadian Authors, 'rot and humbug! They didn't even ask Me to read any of my things!'"

THE STRANGE CASE OF PROF. HUGH CLID.

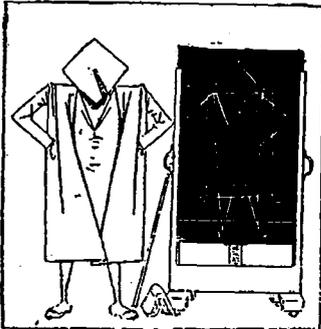
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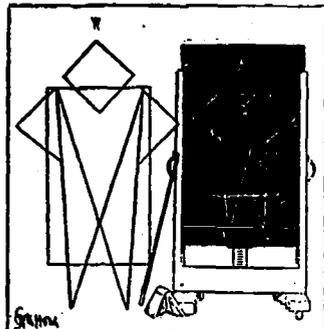
I.



II.



III.



IV.

THE FAKIR ON INTER-PLANETARY COMMUNICATION.

"I'VE been thinkin'" said the Fakir, pensively, as he toyed with an umbrella which a visitor had carelessly left beside the editor's desk with the manifest intention of appropriating it. "I've been thinkin' a lot lately about them 100,000 francs, which was left by an old dame in France, or somewheres, to anybody that could get into communication with the folks on the planet Mars. Of course it's all foolishness, you know. The thing can't be done—anybody with any sense might know that. But its an awful pity about all that money tied up so's nobody can get it—going to waste. Tell you these scientific fellows ain't half smart. I'll bet if I was one of them I'd have them 100,000 francs inside of a year or two."

"I thought you said the thing couldn't be done" said the Mule and Goat editor.

"Who's sayin' it can? What I say is that somebody might make 'em give up the stuff. Put up a job and make the people believe you'd heard from the planet Mars—simplest thing in the world. What's to hinder? People don't know anything about science—believe anything you'd tell 'em—if you give them enough talk. Look at this Keely motor. See how that caught on; wasn't anything in it at all, but plenty of these chumps give up their good money on it, let me tell you. It would be just the same with this Mars business; if some man with a little nerve that knew just enough about science to give them the right kind of a song and dance and not give the snap away, was to take hold of it."

"Well I don't see how you'd work it," said the municipal editor.

"Look here—nothin' easier. What's the scheme they was talking about tryin'? Magnetic currents wasn't it—

good 'nuff. Magnetic currents. Nobody don't know exactly what that means. That's all the better. Well now what's to hinder Edison or some of these electric sharps rigging up some kind of a machine—something like a phonograph for instance and saying he's got her a-workin' all right—gettin' messages from Mars all the time—so's anybody could hear 'em for themselves. Why it would draw like ten yoke of oxen. Get up an' give a scientific talk with all the jawbreakers he could lay his tongue, to explainin' how it was done, and then turn on the machine: 'Hello there, hello!' 'Hello yourself' 'Are you on the planet Mars?' 'That's where I am, you bet, you're on the Earth ain't you?' 'Cert. How's things up there anyway?' 'Oh, kind of slow. Times hard.' 'Anything new?' 'Oh nothing much since the elections.' 'Do you have elections there?' 'Why yes—what yer take us for?' Keep right on a-talking through the machine and have it answer back every time, all according to the principles of science. Now what's the matter with that I'd like to know? Wouldn't they have to give up them 100,000 francs. 'Course they would."

"I'm afraid your plan, ingenious as it seems, would hardly work, Fakir. To begin with it is extremely unlikely that the people of Mars, if there are any, speak English."

"Why shouldn't they? You can't prove that they don't. But if that's an objection what's the matter with makin' 'em talk French or Dutch? Oh, it would go right enough if they was smart enough to try it; you can always play the people

for suckers if you've got lots of gall, but these scientific ducks are a lot of duffers that can't see a chance when the money's right there waiting for some one to pick it up. Shouldn't wonder if Edison tumbles to it one of these days. He's about the only one that's got any snap."

Here the Fakir boldly put the coveted umbrella under his arm and marched out.

THE SEA-NYPH AND THE SAILOR.

HER skin was the color of red silk plush,
Her height was portentously tall,
Her hair a curling purple mass,
And she wore just—nothing at all.

His nose it was big and was set on one side,
His hair was remarkably black,
His teeth they were large, and his mouth it was wide,
And he once had been christened Jack.

And she said, "Will you come to my castle with me,
It is a delightful abode
Far under the waves in the depths of the sea,"
And he said, "If I do I'll be blowed."

But she laid her soft hand on the nape of his neck,
And they sunk in the ocean's main,
And vain were his struggles her course to check,
For they never were seen again.

And they live in a chateau delightfully deep,
Where the waves do confoundedly roar,
And the sea-serpant coils round the chimney, asleep,
And the waves play around the front door.

There she plays a piano of dead men's bones
In a parlor of ivory clear,
And poor Jack sits around on a porpoise and groans,
"Oh, there ain't any grog about here." R. W. P.



THE ORIGINAL "DEED"

THAT ENTITLED THE STRONG MAN TO THE LAND OF THE WEAK ONE.

It can never be pretended that the existing titles to such property (land) are legitimate. Should any one think so, let him look in the chronicles. Violence, fraud, the prerogative of force, the claims of superior cunning—these are the sources to which those titles may be traced. The original deeds were written with the sword rather than with the pen; not lawyers, but soldiers, were the conveyancers; blows were the current coin given in payment; and for seals, blood was used in preference to wax. Could valid claims be thus constituted? Hardly. And if not, what becomes of the pretensions of all subsequent holders of estates thus obtained? Does sale or bequest generate a right where it did not previously exist? Would the original claimants be non-suited at the bar of reason, because the thing stolen from them had changed hands? Certainly not. And if one act of transfer can give no title, can many? No. Though nothing be multiplied forever it will not produce one. Even the law recognizes this principle.—*Herbert Spencer, "Social Statics," Chap. IX.*

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

YOUNG LIBERAL.—"Why do they call the report of Parliamentary proceedings a Hansard?" Why, because all questions as to what a member said or did not say on any particular occasion are answered by referring to it.

X. Y. Z. wants to know what is good for baldness. Several things, for instance Indian scalping knives, irascible females, scalding water and front seats at the opera. They are all effectual promoters of that condition.

PETER SIMPLE.—No, we don't think that the lodge of Foresters which you joined under the impression that you would thereby secure instruction in the science of forestry is bound to return your fees.

ELIZA JANE.—The most reliable sign of an early spring, so far as we know, is when you see a hale and vigorous old man gliding down stairs about 1 a.m. in the direction of a dimly-lighted parlor with an ominous look on his features.

JAGGERS.—The impression that Mr. Thomas McGreevy has been secured as an editorial writer on the *Globe* is a

mistaken one. The *Globe's* "Uncle Thomas" is another kind of man.

POET.—Certainly there is a Canadian literature. Mr. G. Mercer Adam has distinctly stated so on several occasions, and he is an authority. Besides, what's the matter with GRIP?

NICHOLAS writes that his uncle has left his property to an orphan asylum, and wants to know if he can break the will. Certainly you can, Nicholas, provided you can get hold of it and find that it isn't written on parchment or sheet iron, or some tough substance of that sort. Open it out, get somebody to hold it firmly at each end, and then strike it a heavy blow in the centre with a crowbar or an axe. The lawyers will in that case inherit the property, but you will have the satisfaction of having beat the orphans out of it, anyway. "Tis orphan thus," as Samjones would remark.

A MEAN SUGGESTION.

ETHEL.—"Fanny Poppit is engaged!"
MAUD.—"What? Already, and January is not out yet."



UNAVOIDABLY DETAINED.

SHE—"It's that odious Mr. Boffinger, I promised to go with him to the matinee sometime, and he says he's got tickets for this afternoon. How unfortunate!"

HE—"Confound Boffinger! Tell him you can't go!"

SHE—"Oh, but George! what excuse can I make?"

HE (*suiting the action to the word*)—"Say you have an engagement—a very pressing engagement."

HOW TO VIEW PICTURES.

"HOW to View Pictures" was the subject of an address by Mr. J. W. L. Forster before the Ontario Society of Artists last week. Not having been there, GRIP cannot say how he dealt with this apparently simple topic, the selection of which shows his appreciation of the fact that there are quite a lot of people in this world who have to be told how to do everything, and if it wasn't so what would become of editors, public speakers and other moulders of public opinion? But the subject might very well have been treated somewhat as follows:

If the pictures are on public exhibition, always go to the private view, because firstly, it doesn't cost anything, secondly, you can see a lot of people in their good clothes as well as the pictures, and thirdly, it is more fashionable than to pay money and go in along with the no-account people that can't get free invitations.

Always view a picture in the light. It is a great mistake to try and look at a picture in the dark, because you lose all the fine *chiaroscuro* effects. You must have a light of some sort to enable you to appreciate the *technique* which might otherwise escape your notice.

Pictures should always be viewed from the front. The back view of a picture is usually disappointing and apt to present a monotonous sameness of aspect which repels all but the most enthusiastic *connoisseurs*. The effect is not much improved by turning the picture edge-wise towards the spectator.

The effect which a painting produces on the mind of the genuine art-lover is greatly enhanced by its being viewed right side up. If the position be carelessly reverse, many of the more delicate touches will be lost, and so impress the beholder with a sense of incongruity and want of harmony. It must be understood, however, that these observations do not apply to paintings of the impressionist school, which may frequently be hung upside down without in any respect impairing their fidelity to nature.

In order to get a satisfactory view of a picture it is best to go sufficiently near to find out what it is intended to represent. Pictures seen at a distance of half a mile, or even a hundred yards or so, seldom convey to the spectator that subtle suggestiveness and fine idealization of the commonplace, with which the true artist seeks to endow his creations. To realize the full significance of a work of art it should be approached so as to bring it within the range of vision. It is needless to remark, however, that there are some pictures, such as those of * ——— and ———, to which distance, in the words of the poet, would lend enchantment to the view, with but slight hopes of its ever being returned. They would be seen to the best advantage about a thousand miles off.

WHEN THE HOUSE MEETS.

THE Local House will open soon
With all its pomp and pride,
And Glackmeyer will bear the mace
In manner dignified.

The Gov. will don his gorgeous garb,
Cocked hat and gold-laced coat,
And read in formal monotone
The speech he never wrote.

And Mowat round the House will beam
With bland maternal smile,
As Fraser's lofty strident tones
Are heard for half a mile.

And Meredith will head forlorn,
The Opposition rows
Whose members wonder what on earth
They're sent there to oppose.

Meanwhile the man from Wayback sits
And drafts with care and tact
"A bill to amend the Act to amend
The amended Municipal Act."

A NICE DISTINCTION.

MR. AWSE (*who has returned home with a new riddle*)—"Mary, can you tell me the difference between me and an old donkey?"

MRS. AWSE (*after thinking a minute*)—"No dear, I can't! But (*apologetically*)—that doesn't say but what there may be some, you know; I am not a good guesser!"

* Names omitted for fear of libel suits.—ED. GRIP.



LEFT!!

MR. ABBOTT (*obliging shopman*)—"Er—um—Great Spending Department, sir? Sorry to say, I'm just out of 'em, sir! Last one I had in stock gone just before you came in, sir!"

THE CUSTOMER—"!?!? * * !!????!!!" (*Expurgated translation from the French*).



BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE.

MR. OXTEAM (at city restaurant, to waiter, who has offered him the bill-of-fare)—“No, mister, I don't want to read nothin' till after I've had sump'in to eat.”

JOHN ANDERSON UP TO DATE.

AT Cleveland John Anderson languishes in jail because eleven separate and forlorn women claim the right to call him husband simultaneously. The statutes are utterly unable to provide an adequate penalty for such an offender. Why not turn the prisoner over to the entire eleven?—*Chicago Mail.*

JOHN ANDERSON my Jo, John,
When we were newly wed,
You vowed you'd live for me alone—
I trusted what you said.
But very soon I found, John,
I had but little show,
With ten more wives to call you theirs,
John Anderson my Jo.

John Anderson, my Jo, John,
If I may call you such,
Eleven simultaneous wives
Methinks is rather much.
No wonder you got short of cash
And couldn't make things go,
With eleven women on your hands,
John Anderson my Jo.

John Anderson my Jo, John,
You offered me your heart,
I find you only gave to me
Just one-eleventh part.
'Twas not a fair exchange, John,
I'll not be cheated so,
With any fraction of a man,
John Anderson my Jo.

John Anderson my Jo, John,
Your system will not work,
You better go to Utah, John,
Or else become a Turk.
'Tis well that you're in jail, John,
As very soon you'd know,
If we had but half a chance at you,
John Anderson my Jo!

MISS OLDUN MAKES A FEW REMARKS.

“THIS leap-year nonsense in all the papers is enough to make anyone sick!” exclaimed Miss Oldun, in a disgusted tone, after perusing various “funny columns.” “You'd think every woman was just dying to catch a husband. It's perfectly ridiculous! Of course, it makes no difference to me what people say—everyone knows I might have been married three times over—and perhaps it amuses some of the idiots who seem to think that we are all longing to throw ourselves into the arms of the first man who looks in our direction, and that, because a girl doesn't happen to marry it's because she never had the chance. Indeed, if I hadn't been so hard to suit, I needn't have been here yet—and a good deal worse off I might have been for that matter! And the chits of girls that seem to marry now-a-days! As soon as they are out of the nursery, you may say. And forward! Why, it makes my very blood run cold to see the pert consequence of them, with their bangs and curls and powder! How any sensible man can be taken in by such a piece of affectation and make up, as the girl of the present day, I can't conceive. But men are all like that! They talk of modesty, goodness, housewifely attainments and good temper, and they go and marry some pretty little fool who has no more idea of keeping house than she has of controlling her temper, and as forward and bold as she is vain and extravagant. And serve them right, I say! For that matter, the ugliest girl that's made is good enough for any man living! To be made a slave of and nothing better than a household drudge, while he goes off to the club, forsooth, and leaves her, poor woman, at home to mind the baby. Dear me! Any woman is just as well off, and a great deal better, if she only knew it, without a husband. I'm sure I wouldn't marry the best man on earth! I'm not so anxious to get a handle to my name as some folk. It's positively disgusting to see the way some of them run after the men! Well, no one can ever accuse *me* of that. When I think of the offers I've refused! I wonder if any woman really would have the nerve to propose to a man?” (*Pauses thoughtfully.*) “Some men *do* need a certain amount of encouragement, after all. Oh, well! Any way 'there's a good fish in the sea as ever came out of it,' and one never can tell what may happen before the year's out.” And Miss Oldun sighed softly, while such a thoughtful expression settled upon her face that one might almost have imagined one saw the light of a great purpose kindling in her pensive eye. *

OWING TO THE MOON BEING FULL.

(A WINTER IDYL).

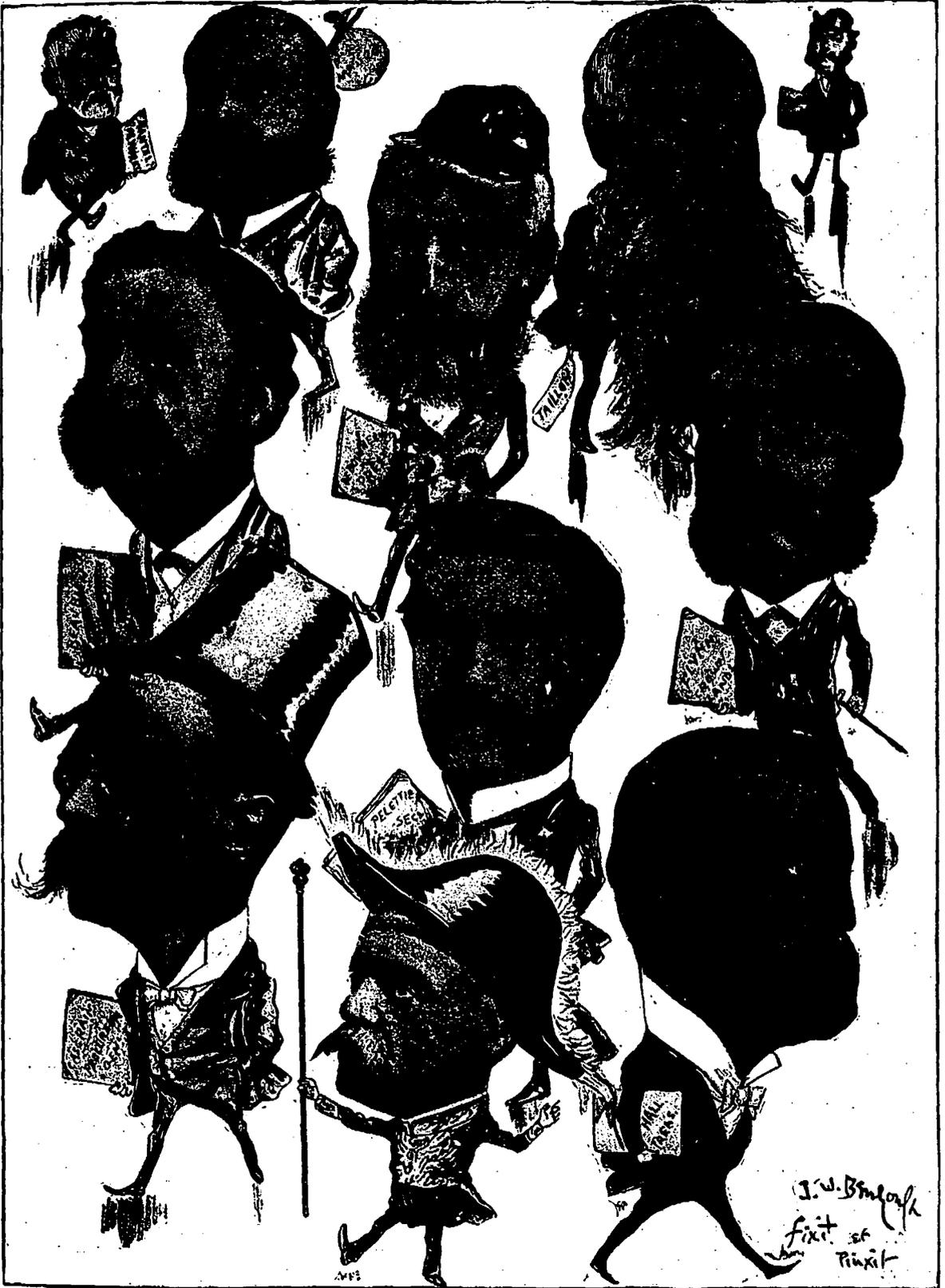
“D'O'ST see, my own, fair Luna's dancing beams,
As elfin Frost-sprites tripping o'er the snow?
E'en thus my heart, all day and in my dreams,
Ticks its sweet plaint, I love, I love thee so!”

Her fair head now upon that throbbing breast
Amid the fur that wraps it, soft and thick,
She gently drops, as seeks the bird its nest,
Cooing, “Dear heart, I hear the *Luna-tick!*”

BASIL SYM.

A NOVEL IDEA.

THE promised reconstruction of the Dominion cabinet has begun, Hon. J. A. Ouimet having been assigned in virtue of his French origin and following, to the great spending department of Public Works, while Haggart assumes the post of Minister of Railways. Hereafter the latter will popularly be known as Rider Haggart.



THE COMING CONSERVATIVE CABINET OF QUEBEC.



EXPLICIT—VERY.

LITTLE JOHNNIE—"Please, daddy, give us some of the stuff?"

HIS FATHER—"What stuff?"

JOHNNIE—"Some of that there stuff."

H. F.—"What there stuff?"

JOHNNIE (*triumphantly*)—"Some of that there stuff what don't make meat no good when there ain't none on it."

(Johnnie alluded to the salt).—*Sydney Bulletin*.

"UNE MAUVAISE QUART D'HEURE."

DO you happen to know Mr. School Trustee Hambly? If so, you enjoy the acquaintance of a highly respectable, decorous and well-regulated member of society, on whom nobody but an irrepressible mischief would ever think of playing a hoax. It will grieve you to know that a very cruel hoax *was* played upon this inoffensive gentleman the other day, and that by a member of the so-called gentler sex. This heartless creature (whose name we suppress out of respect for the Methodist denomination), rang the worthy trustee up by telephone, and in an artfully assumed voice (her ordinary voice being well known to her unsuspecting victim), she impersonated one of the newly-elected woman Trustees, and the conversation proceeded in about this way:

.... "Is that you, Mr. Hambly?"

"Er—I wanted to ask a great favor of you."

.... (A slight tremor, indicative of apprehension, in his voice).

"Er—yes. It will really be a great kindness on your part."

(The trembling of the 'phone in his hand is plainly discernable).

"It is this. We female members of the Board feel a little timid about going to the meeting for the first time, and—"

.... (Distressed breathing on H's part, and the thumping of his heart quite audible).

"Yes—er—and we thought it would be nice if you would meet us at the corner of the Avenue and escort us to the meeting-place. Will you, like a good, kind man?"

.... Violent trembling heard, nervous clearing of the throat, several attempts to articulate, many hems, haws and other signs of distress, then—"Er—Yes, ma'am. I'll be—er—pleased to—that is—at what time will I meet you?"

"Oh, say about half-past seven. Thank you very much. Ta, ta. You're a dear man, that's what you are. Good-bye."

Probable complete collapse of Hambly, who wonders how he can ever get through the ordeal before him. A bad quarter of an hour. Pulse gradually rising, and symptoms of prostration beginning to set in.

Then another telephone call.

"Is that Mr. Hambly?"

(This in the well known tones of his friend, Mrs.—)

"Yes."

"Oh, say—er—you needn't mind meeting those ladies, you know."

.... "Wh—what ladies? What do you know about—"

"Oh, you sly thing! I know *all* about them." (*assuming the fraudulent voice again*) "Never mind meeting us to take us to the Board meeting."

.... "How—wh—where the dickens did *you*—oh, pshaw! I see through it now. It was all a put-up job of your own!"

"You've hit it precisely. Quite a success as a joke, wasn't it? I hope *you* enjoyed it, but I don't believe you did, very much. Good-bye!"

AN OPEN LETTER.

TO MR. ROBERT J. FLEMING, MAYOR OF TORONTO.

DEAR SIR,—GRIP heartily joins in the congratulations extended to you on your elevation to the mayoralty, recognizing your fitness for the duties and responsibilities of the position and your worthiness of the high honor conferred upon you. You have always been proud to be known as a man of the people, and a Liberal in the true sense of a much-abused word, and GRIP would therefore suggest that you inaugurate your term by a reform which must certainly commend itself to your democratic instincts, viz: the discontinuance of the meaningless, antiquated and absurd title of "Your Worship" as applied to the incumbent of the civic chair. As you must be aware it is not in harmony with the spirit of this age or of this continent. Why not drop this mediæval formula and publicly announce that, during your term of office, you choose to be addressed in your official capacity as "Mr. Mayor," and by so doing gain the approval of GRIP and all intelligent progressive people? GRIP.

WHY HE LEAVES THE CABINET.

BEESWAX—"I see that Chapleau is shortly to leave the Cabinet."

BULSTRODE—"Yes—I wonder why?"

BEESWAX—"The only reason I can imagine is because he can't take it with him."

A HOPEFUL SIGN.

HOW is it that nobody has yet referred to the late Khedive of Egypt as Toothache Pasha.—*Hamilton Herald*.

And yet there are some chronic pessimists who say that the world is growing no better.

FROM CHURCH STREET TO PARADISE.

MRS. WESTEND'S particular friend, who lives out of the city, received the following letter from her last week, after a long silence :

DEAR MARY,—“I promised to write to you as soon as we got settled in our new home, to tell you how we liked it, and ‘all about everything.’ We have been here nearly two months, but I have had no servant, and have been so busy that you must forgive me for not writing sooner.

“You know it's a great change from living on Church street. I was just crazy to move in this direction, so many nice people are building in the north-west part of the city. Henry said it was too far away, but I'm not going to give in even yet—if I could only get a girl to stay with me. It will be lovely in summer. Perhaps it is just a little on the bleak side just now—vacant lots all around. But then there is no danger of the people next door pounding on a cracked piano all day like they did in Church street, and I'm really thankful to get away from the Brown's dog. You remember that awful animal! Henry used to call it the ‘Banshee’ because it howled so dismally under our windows in the dead hours of the night, a sort of forlorn shriek was what it treated us to, instead of the ordinary bark attached to a dog. The nearest thing we have to supply its place in this house is the hot water tap. I never experienced anything like it before! Henry says he thinks it's possessed of a devil—isn't he dreadful? But truly, if you could hear the lamentable noises—now sinking to a quivering groan, now rising to an inarticulate wail of agony—that issue from that pipe when we turn on the hot water, you could easily imagine that the imprisoned spirit was, as Henry says, ‘objecting to having his tail twisted.’ The plumber says it's vibration, or air in the pipe, or something.

“It's so quiet and nice up here without the street cars. Henry says it takes him nearly an hour to get down to his office, and he hates the walk to Bloor street to catch a car. I think it's real mean of him to make such a fuss—it's barely half a mile, and will be a lovely walk in summer. You know our property is going to increase so much in value in the next year or two that it's worth putting up with a few inconveniences for the present. I did hear Mr. Brown talking to Henry something about it being people like us coming to live here that will make the vacant lots more valuable, and it wasn't right for people to hold them. He said some Henry George had been talking about it—I don't know what his other name is; he's some friend of Mr. Brown's, I think, and has something to do with the taxes. I wish some one would reduce ours, they are dreadfully high on account of improvements, or something.

“I am sure you will like the house, it has every modern improvement. To be sure, the passages are a little narrow, and the dining room is so small Henry says you couldn't ‘swing a cat’ in it—but, as I tell him, who wants to swing a cat? I'm sure I don't! and if there's any cat around he's much more likely to want to swing a boot-jack!

“The plaster has cracked a little, and the woodwork shrunk a good deal since we lit the furnace. It always does in a new house, they tell me—it looked so lovely and close when we bought the house, too—but we can have double windows next year, and as we have carpets there is no danger of the baby falling into the cellar through the cracks in the floor. Our over-mantels are just lovely and so are the stained glass windows, and the tiles round the grates are just sweet.



BEREAVED.

MR. FITZDOOD—“Good gracious, De Hass, what's the mattaw? You look as though you had lost youah deawest fwierend.”

DE HASS—“So I have deah boy, I've left my cane someweah, and I can't think wheah!”

“If I can only get a girl to stay, I am sure we will be very comfortable. It's a little far to have things sent home, but you know ‘there's always something,’ and it will be lovely by-and-by. Do come soon and pay me a nice long visit; I'm just longing to see you.

“Your most loving friend,
“ANNIE WESTEND.”

EQUAL TO THE EMERGENCY.

MOTHER (from inner room)—“Is that you home from sohool, Bobby? I want to send you on a message!”

BOBBY (making his sneak)—“No, ma, it's not me—and if you want butter for tea you'd better send Jack, for Bobby's away down street playin'.”

FIRE INSURANCE.

A WEALTHY insurance company in Berlin now advertises to insure clerks good situations, with a regular weekly allowance when not employed.—*Halifax Critic.*

Well, there is nothing particularly new in this idea. It is merely a new form of fire insurance, but a rather risky one, seeing that clerks are fired so much more frequently than buildings.

DR. HARVEY'S SOUTHERN RED PINE for coughs and colds is the most reliable and perfect cough medicine in the market. For sale everywhere.

THE stomach performs important functions and should not be allowed to become foul or clogged. B.B.B. aids digestion and cleanses the foul stomach.

CAPTAIN SHARPER—"Yes, I always live in flats."

SARCASTIC FRIEND—"Do you? I thought you lived on 'flats!'"

THE DOCTORS EXTEND THEIR TIME.

FIRST three months free of charge. On account of the large number of invalids who have been unable, owing to the rush, to consult the staff of eminent physicians and surgeons, now permanently located at No. 272 Jarvis Street (near Gerrard), before January 1st, these eminent doctors have kindly extended the time for giving their services free to March 1st, therefore all invalids who call upon them before March 1st will receive services for the first three months free of charge. The only favor desired is a recommendation from those whom they cure. The object in pursuing this course is to become rapidly and personally acquainted with the sick and afflicted.

The doctors treat every variety of disease and deformity, and will perform all surgical operations free this month, viz.: The removal of cancers, tumors, cataract, polypi, etc. All diseases of the eye, ear, throat, lungs, heart, stomach, liver, kidneys, bladder, and all female difficulties arising from whatever cause; nervous prostration, failing vitality and all diseases originating from impure blood are treated with the greatest success.

Catarrh in all its various forms cured by their new method, which consists in breaking up the cold-catching tendency, to which every person suffering from catarrh is susceptible.

Invalids will please not take offence if they are rejected as incurable. The physicians will examine you thoroughly free of charge, and if incurable they will positively tell you so. Also caution you against spending more money for useless medicine.

Remember the date, and go early, as their offices are crowded daily. Hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and from 7 to 8 p.m. Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m.

MR. J. E. HUMPHREY, 46 Bond Street, Toronto, says Burdock Blood Bitters wrought a complete cure of Dyspepsia in his case after all else had failed.

LIVE men wanted on salary who won't lose their heads while making big money. For full particulars address Brown Brothers Company, Toronto.

CONSUMPTION CURED.

AN old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands, by an East India missionary, the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 320 Powers' Block, Rochester, N.Y.

To tolerate Dyspepsia opens the way for numerous other troubles. Nothing excels Burdock Blood Bitters as a cure for Dyspepsia.

ANYONE furnishing their homes and requiring anything in the way of gas or electric fixtures and globes should call on R. H. Lear & Co., 19 and 21 Richmond Street West. This firm is headquarters for goods in these lines. We would advise you to go direct to them and get their quotations.

FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for Diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT HAT?

It is one of Grothe & Co.'s Plug Hat Cigars. Cannot be beat. Try one. L. O. GROTHE & Co., Montreal.

WHAT IS SAID IN FAVOR OF DYER'S IMPROVED FOOD FOR INFANTS.

THAT it is prepared from pure pearl barley, easily digested, highly nutritious, and sold everywhere at 25 cents per package. W. A. Dyer & Co., Montreal.

AN old smoker declares that he has been using "Myrtle Navy" tobacco ever since the second year of its manufacture, and that during that time he has never suffered from a blistered tongue or parched tonsils or any other of the unpleasant effect which most tobaccos will leave behind them. His experience, he says, is that no other tobacco which he has ever tried is quite its equal, and that in value for the money "no other comes anywhere near it."

"LIFE seemed a burden, the simplest food disagreed with me, and I was in misery from Dyspepsia, but two bottles of B.B.B. entirely freed me from it," says Miss L. A. Kuhn, Hamilton, Ont.

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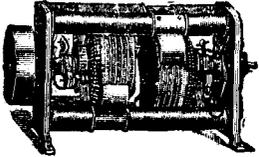
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Have the honor to announce that they have engaged for one appearance in Toronto on **Friday evening, Feb. 12th**, the great pianist and composer.

PADEREWSKI.

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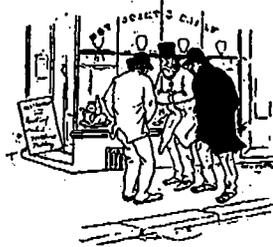
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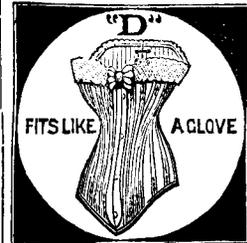
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