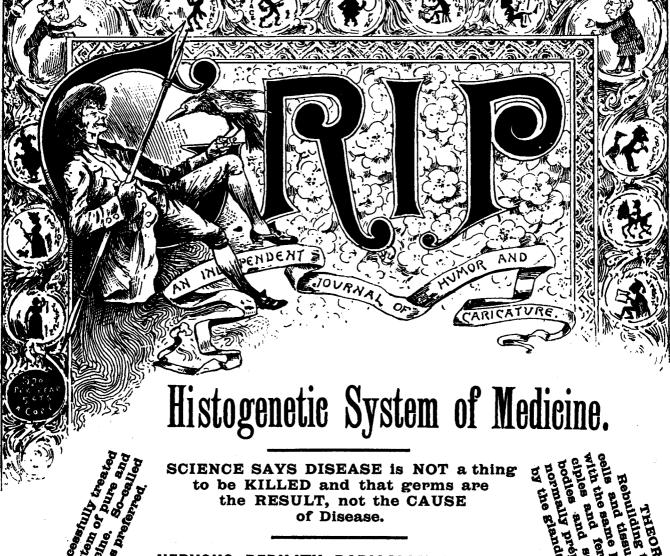
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VOL. XXXVII.—No. 23.

Grip's Almanac for '92 is Out.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 5, 1891.

No. 964.



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VOL. XXXVII.

TORONTO, DECEMBER 6, 1891.

No. 23. Whole No. 964.



#### STRANGERS!

Count Mercier—"Pardon, Monsieur, I Do Not Know You At All. You Have The Advantage of Me."

M. Pacaud—"What! Have You so Soon Forgotten Pacaud? But, Yes, I Have Slightly Taken Advantage of You; That is True!"



PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

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1. Any person who regularly removes from the Post Office a periodical publication addressed to him, by so doing makes himself in law a subscriber to the paper, and is responsible to the publisher for its price until such time as all

a. Refusing to take the paper from the Post Office, or requesting the Post-master to return it, or notifying the publishers to discontinue sending it, does not stop the liability of the person who has been regularly receiving it, but this liability continues until all arrears are paid.

Artist and Editor Associate Editor

J. W. BENGOUGH. PHILLIPS THOMPSON.

#### COMMENTS ON THE CARTOONS.



THE GROVELMENT AT PERTH. - What ever may have been the popular opinion of the Hon. John Haggart at the close of the late session, after his name had been bandied about pretty freely in connection with a departmental scandal and the Tay Canal job, and after the ministerial majority had voted down Lister's motion for a committee to enquire into his dealing with Section B., everybody knows now just what to think of the Postmaster-General. When eight of his colleagues in the Government, including the respected Sir John Thompson and the irreproachable George E. Foster and Mackenzie Bowell, goupon the public platform at Perthand take part in an ovation to the Hon. John, there is only one thing to be said, viz.,

that the allegations made against him must be a tissue of vindictive lies. Would these gentlemen tolerate as a colleague a man who was not perfectly straight and square, much less go out of their way to bow down before him? Certainly not. Then let the hasty judgment of the country be forthwith reversed, and let us all acclaim Mr. Haggart a statesman whom Canada delights to honor.

STRANGERS. -A similar error seems to have been made by public opinion in the matter of the relationship existing between Count Mercier and Mr. Pacaud. The idea has been wide spread that these gentlemen were political cronies, or that the latter was a sort of extra-official valet to the former. We now learn from the Count himself that this is all a mistake; that he does not know Mr. Pacaud at all in his official capacity. People can't be too careful these days about coming to rash conclusions.



TO HE party led by Mr. Sol. White appears to be going right on with its propaganda. Well, this is a free country, and these gentlemen have a right to convince us, if they can, that Political Union with the States would be a good thing for Canada. We see nothing as yet in their arguments, but perhaps they haven't got thoroughly warmed up to the

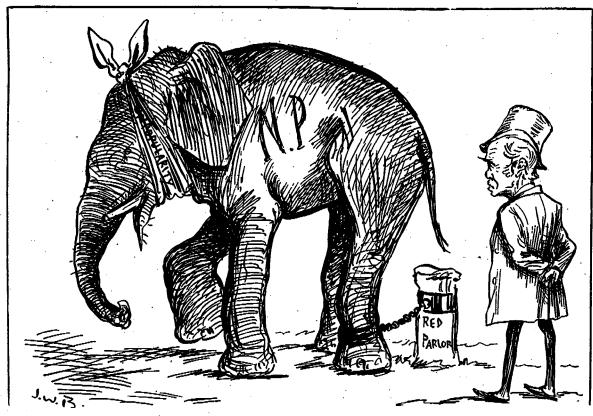
The subtle change in the name they give subject. themselves is worth nothing. They are no longer Annexa-The difference, we are tionists but Political Unionists. told, is important. It is somewhat degrading to be annexed to a greater country, but if you are merely united thereto the degradation is absent. In either case, however, you give up your independent autonomy, and that after all is the main point. It will take some fine flights of oratory to reconcile many Canadians to that.

R. MOWAT, for one, will have none of it, and he is right in supposing that he speaks for the vast mass of both Liberals and Conservatives in his vigorous letter to Mr. McKay, of Woodstock. Mr. White's meeting at that place was a large and orderly gathering, and the vote taken at its close was against the new doctrine, though not overwhelmingly so.

HILE the prospects of "political union" are of the slimmest, the sentiment in favor of free trade with the States is steadily growing, and the efforts of certain hypocritical soreheads to confuse these two distinct things and to cry down the latter in the name of "loyalty" are foredoomed to failure. It may do such people good to read the following sentences from the last number of the Westminster Review, one of the leading organs of British opinion, in an article dealing with the career of the late Premier:

T may be observed that though loyalty to British interests has been one of his trump cards in playing his political game, it was he who originated the idea of a Canadian 'national policy' as distinct from a British one, and who did not scruple, in carrying it out, to levy duties on British as well as on American manufactures. Conservative party, led by Sir John, has based its most violent opposition to the unrestricted reciprocity which both Canada and the United States require for their full and natural development on the score of protection against British goods, which that party itself initiated, and has never proposed to abandon!"

REV. DR. McGLYNN is entitled to a place among the heroes who have honored the present generation. As everybody knows, this pious and devoted priest was some time ago excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church, ostensibly because he took an active part in teaching the doctrines of political economy which are identified with the name of Henry Ceorge—albeit these doctrines have never been formally placed under the ban by the Church. He has just been offered reinstatement, on condition that he recant. But he can't recant, and he says so promptly and firmly. Much as he would prize the ordinances of the Church, and the high office of the priesthood, he is not prepared to pay such a price as to declare that to be false which he knows to be true. Dr.



A PRETTY SICK ELEPHANT.

McGlynn may be rejected by Rome, but he is recognized now as something grander than the priest of St. Stephen's: he is a Bishop of poor humanity, and the world is his parish.

SIR EDWIN ARNOLD'S show was a very enjoyable affair on account of its literary value. The poems were good enough to evercome the defective elocution of the poet. In the hands of a man who could really read or recite they would have been magnificent, but nature rarely endows a mortal with the twin gifts of poesy and oratory.

#### NO PLEASING HIM ANYWAY.

HERE is what Lord Salisbury said in his recent great speech at Birmingham, on the Irish question:—

Turning to Ireland, Lord Salisbury said that in that country two great influences were prominent—blackthorns and priests. (Laughter). Nothing in modern history equalled the influence of Archbishop Croke and Archbishop Walsh in the recent history of Ireland. They had turned the whole of the vast organization which sought to embarrass and baffle the English Government clear away from the man whose hand had swayed it with the ease with which a man could turn a boat by handling the rudder. Now ecclesiastical domination in secular affairs is not peculiar to any religious belief. It is a parasite which eats the vitality of all.

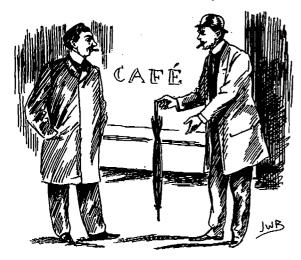
And this is about what he would have said had the Cork election been carried by the Parnellites:—

"Nothing in modern history equals the spectacle now presented to us by the people of Ireland who, animated by agrarian sentiments and antagonism to English rule, seem to have broken away completely from those salutary religious restraints which have hitherto held in check the worst ebullitions of popular passion. They have treated with undisguised contempt the counsels of their religious teachers, and set all the traditions of their faith at defiance. The English people must view with alarm the spread of the spirit of continental atheism and antagonism to all religious as well as secular authority, which evidently pervades the masses of the Irish electors. It would be obviously most unsafe to entrust with power over the institutions of the country a people who, at the bidding of agitators and demagogues, have abandoned the religion of their forefathers and trampled upon the principles of morality which form the only basis of national security."

#### THE ANSWERS.

- " S life worth living?" once I asked a child,
  Who, chasing butterflies, about me dashed,
  With eyes so wonder-wide it looked at me,
  I drooped my head and turned away abashed.
- "Is life worth living?" once I asked a mother, She answered not, but called a prattling child, And from its forehead parted back the tresses, Then kissed its cheek and looked at me and smiled.
- "Is life worth living?" once I asked a maid;
  With drooping eyes thus coyly answered she—
  "Devote your life to me and you will find
  Of what great worth true love can make it be."
- "Is life worth living?" once I asked a man,
  Whose form was bowed and worn by warring years;
  He shuddered, pointed to a grave, then turned
  And looked about him with regretful tears.

P. McArthur.



#### ABSENT-MINDED.

JINKS-" Well, I swan! I am the most absent-minded cuss alive!"

BINKS -" What's wrong now?"

JINKS—"When I went into that restaurant, I put this umbrella in the corner with a lot of others, and I'm hanged if I haven't come away without taking a better one by mistake."

#### HOW THE STORY GREW.

"I SAY, Brown," said Boffinger as he stopped to chat with his neighbor a minute on the way to the street cars, "I bought one of those rustic chairs this morning. Paid only 75 cents for it—no sale for them this season, you know. It's worth three or four dollars at least, and it will be handy for the verandah."

"Yes," Brown said, carelessly, "things of all sorts can be had for a song these hard times. Who's your man for mayor? Macdougall, eh? Good man. Good morn-

ing."

"Well, Brown, how goes it?" said Snooks an hour or

so afterwards. "Anything new?"

"Oh, not much, 'cepting hard times—and that's nothing new. Mighty little business doing. Was talking to Boffinger this morning—he seems to have money to spend."

"Lucky fellow," said Snooks. "What has he been

buying now?"

"Oh, nothing much. Said he'd just picked up a rural chair at a bargain. Wanted it for his verandah or something. Always flinging away money is Boffinger. So long, old man."

Then in the evening Snooks meets Peagrove over a friendly beer.

"Well, times are dull, Peagrove. Haven't seen a ten dollar bill so long I begin to forget what it looks like."

"Things are kind of slack, Snooks. Have another.

Seen anything of Boffinger lately?"

"No, I haven't; but I hear that he's spending money pretty extensively. Brown was telling me that he'd purchased a rural seat lately."

"You don't say."

" Fact-for a verandah."

"Yes, I suppose it would have a verandah. But what does he want with a rural seat?"

"Don't know. Thanks—don't mind if I do. As I was saying, I don't think that Osler, etc., etc."

Next day Peagrove runs across Beeswax.

Hello, Colonel! Haven't seen you in a dog's age. What's the news?

"Oh, I'dno. Beaty going in by a good majority, I

guess. Boffinger's working for him."
"Is, eh? Talking about Boffinger, I suppose you heard of his investment?"

"No, I didn't."

"Snooks was telling me that he'd bought a country seat with a verandah all round it and a cupola on top-regular swell place."

"Country seat—why how can he afford a country seat? He's got nothing but his salary of \$1,200 a year.

and I know he lives up to every cent of that."

"He must steal from his employers. Couldn't do it any other way."

"Dear me," said Deacon Pettigrew to his wife, "this is a terrible thing about Boffinger, isn't it?"

"What?" asked the good lady.

"Haven't you heard? Col. Peagrove was telling us about it at the lodge last night. It seems he's been systematically robbing his employers of thousands of dollars and invested it in real estate in the country, houses and lots and I don't know what. It's been going on for years and nobody ever suspected it. Everybody thought he was such an exemplary man, too. It's very shocking."

#### A LAST RESOURCE.

QUFFER-"Well, Guffer, how's things?"

Guffer—"Bad, old man. Never was so hard up in my life. Lost every cent and hardly know where my next meal's to come from. Don't know what I should have done if I hadn't been able to write a few articles for the World and Empire last week."

BUFFER—"Yes, and what did you write about?" GUFFER—"Oh on the prosperity of the country."



#### CELTIC LOGIC.

MRS. BLANK-"Mercy, Bridget! What are you pounding tha bone for?"

NEW RECRUIT—"Sure, ma'am, isn't that the toughest part of the steak?"

#### **PROGNOSTICATIONS**



NOTHER year will shortly dawn upon us, according to the prediction of the accomplished prophet specially retained in connection with GRIP'S COMIC ALMANAC.\* That learned individual, in the course of an interview the other day, expressed the conviction that the year 1892 will be a most remarkable and memorable one

The Abbott Government secures a treaty of Unrestricted Reciprocity

with the United States through the good offices of Mr. Erastus Wiman.

Col. G. T. Denison doesn't make any gory speeches against the Yankees, and doesn't miss a day in his attendance upon his Police Court duties.

The Reform Party gets into office by coming out squarely for straight out Free Trade and a tariff for revenue only with incidental Protection to Home Industries.

Mr. Dalton McCarthy takes Holy Orders and becomes a leading member of the Jesuit Society, and Sir John Thompson goes on circuit as a local preacher for the Methodists.

The new mayor of Toronto reaches the end of his term without being roundly denounced as a bungler and blockhead or worse, and the Council escapes being classed as the very worst we have ever had.

Toronto theatre managers make no engagements with horse-play companies, producing "farce comedies," which are an abashment to people who possess even a rudimentary sense of humor.

"Fair-Play Radical," does not from time to time write letters to the *Mail* of his usual anything-but-fair-play Tory style.

Baron Macdonald, of Bellamy, retires with an ample

\* It may be incidentally noted that the number of this famous publication for 1892 is just out. Price 10 cents. The finest ever published.



SYMPATHY.

2 a.m.

OLD PARTY—(hic)—"Some poor fellersh on road to deschruction—been an' left hish hat and stick theresh—(hic)—would like to see him sosh could warn him—(hic).



GOING OFF LIKE HOT CAKES!

ortune made out of the *Factor*, and makes his finally final appearance in the law courts.

Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter do not follow one another in the order here indicated, and bring with them the same old jokes that we have read since writing for the comic papers first became a legitimate industry.

Goldwin Smith does not address the Young Liberals or somebody else on questions more or less connected with the Manifest Destiny of Canada.

The *Empire* publishes an article admitting that it may be possible that there exists somewhere a tolerably honest Grit; and the *Globe* comes out frankly with the statement that it regards Premier Abbott as a most upright and capable statesman.

Mr. W. A. Douglas does not, in the course of conversation, make some casual reference to the Single Tax before the year is out.

And finally it will be a very queer year indeed if GRIP fails to make at least fifty-two weekly hits during its progress.

THE first line in Cowper's verses on Alexander Selkirk is somewhat obscure. How can you be monarch of all you serve, eh?



#### SHE HAD BEEN TO COLLEGE.

HE-" I love you.

SHE-"How do you know?"

HE-"I feel it in my heart!"

SHE-"But you told me a minute ago that you had lost your heart!

HE-" I-I-I-"

SHE—"Don't try to excuse yourself. You have clearly shown yourself a liar, and with a liar I'll have nothing to do. Good night."

#### MR. McCOY ON CURRENT EVENTS.

IT may not be generally known that Mr. John McCoy, of St. John's Ward, and lately of Donegal, Ireland, addressed the young Conservative Club by special invitation the other evening on "Topics of the Time." Griphas been favored with a verbatim report of the distinguished orator's remarks, which were as follows:—

"Gintlemen:

"Et us wuth pleasure that I come befoor yez thes night till spake a short time on the Evints av the Dey, an' first an' foremost allow me till remark that Professor Golwin Smeth has retired, so he has, from public life, an' sez he'll spake no more till the young Luberals. It's well for him! Ef he hadn't done it I wud wipe the flure wid him in me present spache, but I niver strike a man that is down, so I don't. I'm towld the Professor has retoired till the Grange, an ut's the best place for him. I hope he'll get along well wid the Grangers, but I can tell yez they're a purty hard crowd till do business with. Sure, they want things below cost, so they do, and no middle men whatever. I'm surprised till see Mester Smeth goin' intil the Grange; I didn't know he was a farmer whatever, but no matter, it's better nor being an Annexationist, so it is. An that brings me till Mester Sol. White, wid his blatherskitin' nonsensicalities. Sure he's been turned out av our Party, so I can hit him as hard as I plaze, an' ef any man in this meetin' hisses, putt him out! Sol. White was wance a good man, whin he was a Conservatif, but he stopped radin' the *Empoire*, an' down he wint. In the words of the poet,

"Down wint McGinty till the bottom of the sea."

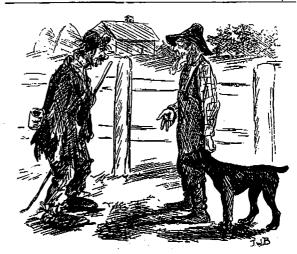
An' there yez'll foind him now, wid his han's full av weeds an' his oyes blinded with the parlifigrations and persficuriousness av sophistical argumentation, whoile he troys till sing "Yankee Doodle" wid his mouth full av mud!

An' that brings me till the subject av Home Rule, an' I'm agin' it. Home Rule! Sure, we'll not have it! Mark you that, now! Et wud mane ruin, and devastation, an' destruction to the Bretish Empoire, an' the slaughteration av the loin an' the unicorn, an' the knockin' over av the Crown, an' gintlemen, be the Hony soit qui mal y pince, we won't have ut, so we won't! Gladstone! Pah! Sure it gives me a cramp in the stomick an' a bad taste in me mouth till mintion his name. An' they're makin' a porthrait av the gran' ould gran'mother, an they spake av Mester Laurier goin' over till presint it! Et shud be painted wid feathers on a groun' work av tar, so it should, for the ould blatherskite. But av coorse Laurier 'll go. I wuddn't put it past him. Didn't he go till Boston an' ate his supper wid a lot av Yankees—aitin' fish, an' soup, an' inthrays, an' roast mate, an' baked banes, an' windin' up wid poy? He did, an' I can prove it! Who's that enterruptin' me in the back av the hall? It's some Grit traitor, I'll be bound. Put him out! What's that? Ye'll put me out? I dar yez to thry it! Come outside an' put me out! Ha! ye simmer down wid yer thraison an rebellion! But it's thrue, mein you that! An' didn't Laurier make a spache till the Yankees tellin' thim they wor welcome till come over here an' help themselves till Col. Denison or any av our other institutions they moight take a fancy to? Sure, yez can't deny it, for I seen it en the *Empoire!* An', en conclusion, I say stan' be the oul flag, an' the oul' policy, an' Canada for the Canadians, a readjustment but no increase av the tariff, Imperial federation an' free trade wid England, an unresthricted offer av resthricted Reciprocity, a tariff for revenue only, an' a Choinese wall against the world at large! That's our platform, so et es, and forninst that platform waves the oul' red parlor—I mane the oul red banner of Britain-an' ivery fold av it says:

Britons niver, niver, niver shall be slaves. Mein yez that now!!"

#### HE CERTAINLY WAS.

N the platform the doctor appeared,
The heelers and ringsters to beard:
"How have taxes increased,"
He cried—"We are fleeced."
Said Samjones—"You're certainly Sheard."



#### CANINE TASTE.

TRAMF—"4 W-will your dog b-bite, Mister?"

FARMER—" No; don't be scared. He bit a feller like you once, an' it made him so sick, I guess he won't try it agin!"





#### PROFESSIONAL AMENITIES.

VON SMASHKEYS—"I come next on the programme. What should I play?"

POUNDEROWSKI (glancing through the curtain)—"Guess you'd better play a march. The people are all going out!"

#### YE LAY OF HONORE.

(NOT BY MACAULAY).

H ONORE'S brow was sad,
And his speech was weak and low,
And dark he scanned the gauntlet,
Cast at him by the foe.
"Sacre! they'll be upon us,
Before we build the bridge!
I'd pawn my honors—but they'd say
It was rank sacrilege!"

Then out spake sleek Ernestus,
Who never missed a chance:
(Sure every man upon this earth
For fame and lucre pants).
"Sire, we can do no better
Than face these fearful odds,
Methinks a Government letter
Would tempt the banking gods!"

"Wise art thou," quoth Honore;
"Discount a future day,
I, with two more to aid me,
Will make contractors pay;
In yonder banks the thousands
May well be got by three;
Now, who will stand at my right hand
And discount bills with me?"

Then loudly spake Ernestus,
Of Pacaud blood was he,
"Lo! I will stand at thy right hand
And guard the toll for thee!"
And out spake big Langelier,
Of ancient stock came he,
"I will abide on thy left side,
And levy swag for thee!"

"Ernestus, pure and simple!
Thou'rt wise—collect each fee;"
So straight against the treasury,
Forth marched the dauntless three!

For boodlers, in such crises, Spared not the people's gold; Nor man, nor child, while still their game Knocked each contractor cold!

Then none was for the Province,
Then each was on the make;
Then the great man robbed the poor—
While a cent was left to take.
Then homes were crushed by taxes,
The Crown's best gifts were sold,
Then statesmen were like pirates,
And boodling tricks were bold!

But what were left of nobles,
Felt heart-strings shrink to see
The scores of empty pockets,
Made by the reckless three!
And from the Inquisition chair
Where bristled scalping knife—
Men shrank like boys, who, well aware
Of fees to pay when entering there,
Find banks and treasury stripped bare,
Find posted o'er the bandit lair—
"YOUR MONEY OR YOUR LIFE!"

Was none who would be foremost,
Except to grasp the bag,
While those behind cried "office,"
And those in front cried "swag."
From bank to bank they labored.
Forces in deep array;
With heart intent to grab and steal,
In throes of gambling daze they reel,
Hark! the victorious boodler's peal,
Dies fitfully away!

Alone stood proud Ernestus,
Amid the tottering wreck;
Five hundred thousand francs to meet,
For trifles in Quebec!
"Down with him," cried pale envy,
With grim and savage mien;
"Now bounce him," cried the weak-kneed—
"Honore's go-between!"

Round turned he, never deigning
The bitter draught to sip;
But thought he of the proverb
That cups will sometimes slip!
For he saw upon the terrace,
The porch of his new home,
And gazed on the noble river,
Beneath its flashing dome!

"St. Laurent! wierd St. Laurent,
For whom all Frenchmen pray;
A Frenchman's woes, a Frenchman's luck
Thou witnesseth this day."
Thus speaking—grasped a letter—
"I'll catch fortune on her flank"—
And with mystic speed, levanting,
Plunged headlong—into a bank!

When native weeds are fragrant,
And pea-soup gorge is o'er;
When children who brought acres,
Are piled upon the floor;
When young and old in circle,
Bewail each deadly tax;
When all bend double, daily,
With burthens on their backs;
When the good man pays big interest,
And dreams of joys gone by;
And wonders if the day will come
For rest—before he die;
With weeping and with wailing,
The story will be told,
How Honore duped the people
In the dark days of old!

JINKS—"The Pharisees used to pray in public places in olden times."

JENKS—"They do so now only we spell it 'prey."



THE TRUSTEES IN A TIGHT PLACE.

"The female teachers of the Public schools are pressing the Board of Trustees for increased salaries."—Toronto Correspondent of Montreal Witness.

#### THE DISGRUNTLED PROPERTY OWNER.

1887.—Ah, Toronto is going ahead at a great rate. Best prospects of any city on the continent. All we want is a little more municipal enterprise—make things boom. We need more parks, more fine public buildings, better drainage, museums, picture galleries, libraries, and that sort of thing. Cost money? Well, of course, but what matter so long as our real estate keeps on increasing in value. Let the future take care of the debt—they'll get the benefit of the improvements. Let's elect Clarke mayor. He's a live man. Hurrah for Clarke!

1888.—Didn't I tell you? Things are moving in great shape. Good man, Clarke—great head. Real estate going up, up, up, till you don't know where it'll stop. Why should it stop? Great scheme these local improvements. Plenty of room in suburbs for more streets all nicely block-paved, drained and supplied with water. Put 'em through regardless. See how fast city's growing. Faster she grows the more we make. Taxes are a little higher this year, but who cares? Nobody feels it, because we're all making lots of money. Whoop la! Give Clarke a second term, of course. He's doing bravely.

1889.—Oh this is splendid! Always had faith in Toronto. Going to be second Chicago, sure. Only we'll have to show lots of enterprise and keep spending money. It all comes back and more, too Must keep on laying out more streets. It don't really cost anything, because the people who buy the lots get the benefit of the improvements. Taxes are quite a pull, though, but we mustn't complain—can't have a boom without 'em. Clarke for third term? Oh, certainly, why not? But—ahem—perhaps if he could manage to lower the taxes a little next year, or at least not to increase them. Anything in reason, but then you can have too much of a good thing, you know.

1890.—What, taxes still increasing? Oh, this is really too bad. I'm afraid there must be extravagance and mis-

management somewhere at the City Hall. I'm rather disappointed in Clarke. Not the man we thought he was. Wouldn't so much mind it, only things are terribly dull. Doesn't seem to be any demand for real estate to speak of. It's just as valuable as ever it was, of course—no drop in prices, but people are not buying. I wonder why? Must be on account of municipal extravagance. Down with Clarke and let us inaugurate an era of strict economy and reform.

1891.—Mercy on us! Taxes this year are fairly ruinous. Why, they're higher than rents in some cases. Oh, it's outrageous! The city is bankrupt. It's all on account of that infamous local improvement system and the rash, reckless profligacy of the municipal administration. What idiots—to go on laying out streets through all the farms for miles around, that won't be needed for residence purposes for fifty years to come, and loading us unfortunate property owners with debt. Everybody could have foretold years ago that a crash must come. It's all on account of the shameful corruption and scandalous extravagance of Clarke and his supporters. Turn them out!

#### HIS TAKING WAYS.

WINNIPEG, Nov. 24th.—Regarding the Nelson case, at a meeting of the Baptist Association in Toronto, it is said that Nelson received no certificate of character from any person in this city. On the contrary, his conduct was such that he had been regarded with suspicion during his residence in Winnipeg. He went around attired in clerical garments, wore long hair, and on first acquaintance was quite taking —Empire despatch.

THE correspondent needn't have telegraphed all the way from Winnipeg to tell us that. Taking? We should say so. He took in his parishioners, he took off Miss Teetzel, and finally took a tumble to himself. He's the most taking man we have heard of in a long time.



SOMETHING IN A NAME AFTER ALL.

MR. PAYNE (who is a wearisome bore)—"Aw! How would you define the word 'pleasure,' Miss Sharpe?"

MISS SHARPE—"The absence of P-a-y-n-e."

#### SOCIETY IN STUMPVILLE.

AM a man of refinement, at present domiciled in a typical Canadian country hotel. It is my habit to frequent the sitting room, which adjoins the bar, for the furtherance of my general culture. In the centre of this apartment stands a capacious box stove surrounded by benches and chairs, and although the seating accommodation is ample "standing room only" is the order every The season for out-of-door loafing being past, Stumpville society makes this room its meeting place, and the landlord indicates his appreciation of the honor (and incidentally the profit) by dealing generously in the feeding of the aforementioned stove with a good quality of hard wood. The temperature is kept at an average of, I suppose, 160 Fahr. and when this somewhat sultry atmosphere is laden with the fumes of good, bad and indifferent tobacco, subtly commingled with an occasional odor of steaming overcoat or singed dog, it is highly interesting. I may even confess it is occasionally unpleasant to my senses, which are, as I have hinted, delicate. Yet it is worth the discomfort. It is a most valuable school of culture. Here night by night I learn more about horses than I ever supposed could be known. I just sit and listen to-the talk, and it is, as a general thing, about horses. Pleasant variety is given to the discourse by the ebullitions of the village harness-maker, who is on one of his periodical tears, and sits quite near the stove in a doubled up and blissfully muddled condition, giving out occasional vague intimations that he is prepared to lick any man in the company who wishes to be accommodated in that way. Our company is not without wit, either. The blacksmith's helper now and then gets off something that calls forth a general roar, and stirs up the befuddled harness-maker to more emphatic expressions of valor. Nor must I omit mention of the ornamentalities of these foregatherings—I mean the cuss words which permeate the grimy atmosphere in all directions. It is very improving in every way, and I feel that I am getting more out of it than I would be likely to get in a post-graduate course at Berlin or Rome. And if I, a man of refinement, find it so beneficial, what must it be to the farmer lads who are here every evening, and one of whom has just invited the spreeing harness-maker and half a dozen others to come and take something with him!

#### A TAKE DOWN.

WHAT'S the matter ! men and women rushing to and fro,
Eyes upstaring, wildly glaring, piercing sounds of woe,
"Get us ropes ! Oh get us ladders—get a big baloon,
Call a meeting—shoot a rocket—oh do something soon,"
All are crowding by the spire of the new built church,
Where a tackle falling left a couple in the lurch,
He a knowing youth of twenty, she just twenty-two,
They had gone up in bucket, just to get a view,
When the block and tackle falling left them high and dry,
With the citv stretched beneath them and above the sky,
Life behind them, death before them, what a fearful fate,
Night is coming and the morning may be far-too late,
He already loses reason, gazing on the town,
Climbing out with frantic gesture, "how shall I get down."
Then the maiden looks up coyly as she answers back,
"Why in thunder don't you get it off your mustache, Jack?"
GRATIANO.

#### QUEEN OF TRUMPS.

MRS. EASTWOOD of Winchester St., recently put to flight three rascals who were trying to steal a lawn mower, by assailing them vigorously with the first weapon which came to hand, which happened to be a poker. The lady deserves credit for her courage; she has shown herself an expert at the game of poker. She held a full hand, which beats three of a kind.

#### REMARKS THAT ORIGINATED IN EDEN.

"HAVE nothing to wear."
"What an early fall we are having."
"Do not judge a man by his clothes."



HOW OUR LEGISLATOR TRAVELS.

#### AN EDUCATIONAL HINT.

HE Educational Journal in a recent issue has an article on "How to Vary Seat Work," in reference o diversifying the studies of the primary classes. It is noticeable for its omission of one of the favorite and time-honored methods of varying seat work, the mention of which will excite pleasing memories of childhood's happy days in the minds of many who were once boys and girls themselves. The process which is so simple that a child can easily master it, especially if the teacher is inclined to be cross is as follows: Take an ordinary pin, bend it at right angles in two places so that the point will project upwards. In the absence of the teacher or when his attention is engaged at the other end of the room, seize the opportunity and the pin, and place it—the pin, not the opportunity—upon the teacher's seat, assume an intensly studious demeanor and await further develop-The remarks and ejaculations which the teacher will make on resuming his seat for a brief period will introduce a pleasing element of variety into the ordinary seat work, and be calculated to profoundly impress the youthful mind.

In the case of shy and backward pupils who might be unable to overcome a feeling of nervousness in contemplating such familiarity with their elders, their ingenious study in seat work might be pursued on the seats of their fellow-pupils. It is the recollection of merry little incidents such as these which lend such a charm to the thought of childhood's vanished past.

#### TOO MUCH SO.

CONDUCTOR—"Why did the company fire Johnson, the signal man at the Junction? I thought he was unflagging in his attention to his duties."

ENGINEER—"Yes, that was just the trouble. He was too blamed unflagging sometimes.

#### AN ADVANTAGE CERTAINLY.

HIGGLEY—" Great snap, having stoves in the street cars.

PIGGLEY—"Snap nothin'. They ain't lighted."
HIGGLEY—"That's just it. A fellow can sit on them—and doesn't have to offer his seat to a lady."



MELON-CHOLY AIR.

"Tis the last rows of summer."



#### MATERNAL DUTIES.

ETHEL.-" Ma, I want some water to christen my doll."

ETHEL'S MA—" No, dear; it is wrong, you know, to make sport of holy things:"

ETHEL—"Well, then, I want some wax to waxinate her. She's old enough now to have something done to her!"

#### CHATTER.

Sanso-" Holding an umbrella is an art."

RODD—"Yes, they are mighty hard to hold onto when the weather is wet."

HE-"Culture has to be inherited. It cannot be acquired."

SHE-" How sad for you."

BINNICK—"This book of mine will furnish food for thought to the people."

CYNIC—"Wouldn't it be better to give them something that would furnish them with an appetite for thought."

MRS. SANSO (in the theatre)—" Dear me. I believe I smell burning feathers."

Sanso-"You probably do. The man behind you is swearing at your hat?"

BLAR—" Those decorations are plaster imitations of marble, are they not?"

ARTUM—"No. They are composition imitations of plaster."

MRS. CAUSTIQUE—" How's your husband?"

MRS. FROSTIQUE—"Well and happy."

MRS. CAUSTIQUE—"Dear me! When did he die?"

Ambitious Youth—"What is the secret of your success?"

MILLIONAIRE—" Work."

Ambirious Yourn—"Of course; but what I want to know is how you manage to work 'em."

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"What one is that?"
"The Emperor."—New York Sun.

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