

PUBLISHER'S NOTE.

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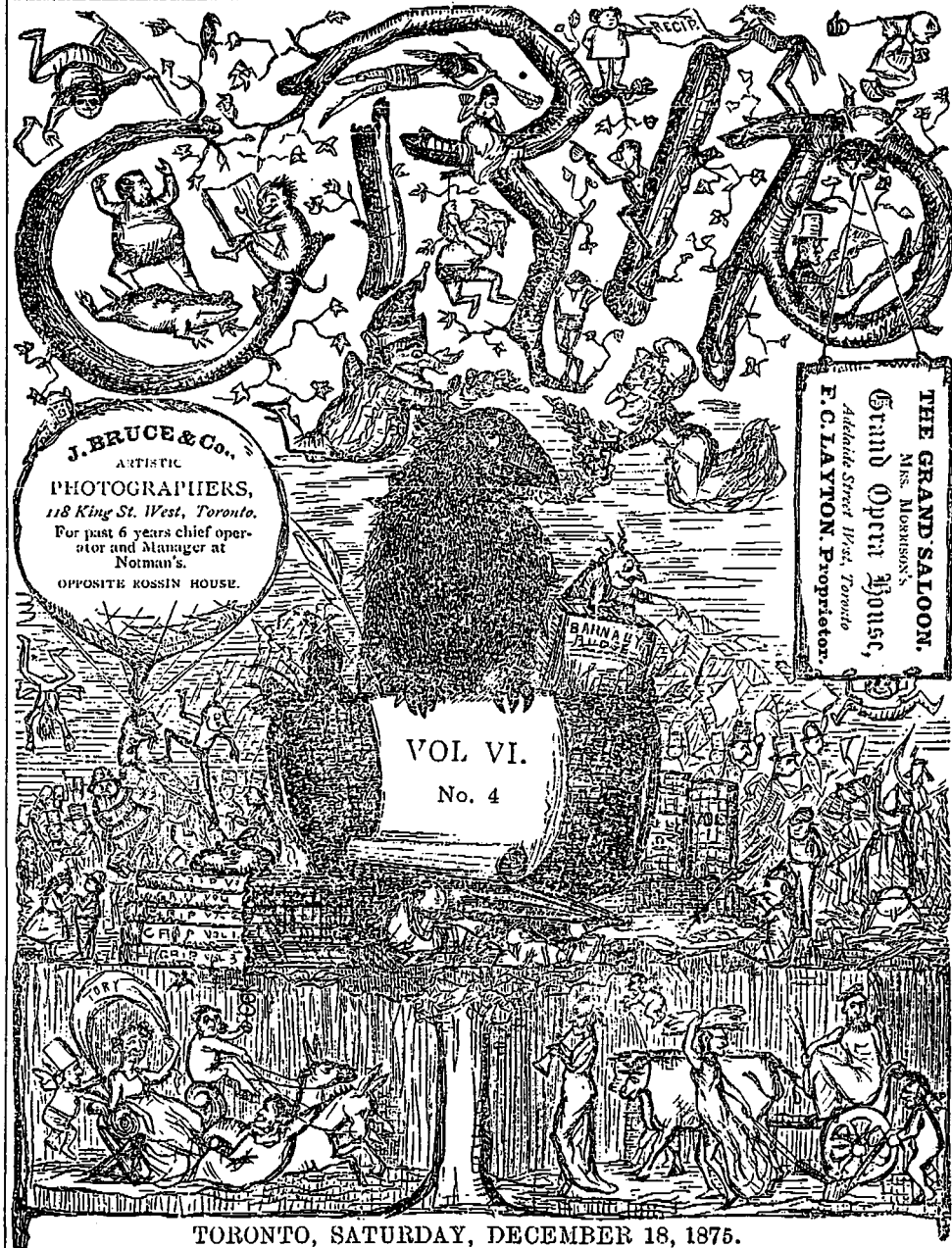
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TORONTO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1875.

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EDITOR'S NOTE.

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

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

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GRIP.

EDITED BY MR. BARNABY RUDGE.

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

TORONTO, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18TH, 1875.

From our Box.

THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—MR. EDWIN ADAMS takes his benefit to-night (Friday) in *Enoch Arden*. He is a good actor and this is his finest role. The Laureate has himself recognized the great merit of Mr. ADAM'S representation of the heroism immortalized in his beautiful poem.

On Monday amateurs of the Toronto Cricket Club will present "The Pride of the Market," with the assistance of Mrs. MORRISON and Miss MARY DAVENPORT. In the second innings a leg-hit-ittimate drama called "Bowl Him Out" will be played. Some capital hits, stump-speeches, and effective bye-play may be anticipated. Swiping however will not be countenanced. Lovers of point (or cover-point for that matter) in the cricket field, or behind the footlights should not fail to be present.

The Royal Opera House is again open with the 'Overland Route' as a trial piece. Mr. FYFFE as *Dexter* shows little dexterity for such a part. We commend to his attention a properly accentuated geography, that his mispronunciation of Indian names may no longer injure our ears. Likewise that *Sir Sydney Smith* was more famed for heroic deeds than witty sayings. Mr. DEGROAT would also do well to remember that aged British diplomatists do not affect the Dundreary goose step introduced by Mr. SOTHERN. Miss DOLLY BIDWELL, bids well to be a favorite if she would restrain her vivacity in the part of *Mrs. Sebright*. Mr. BELVILLE RYAN'S *Mr. Lovibond* was an excellent piece of comic acting. Miss VIOLET CAMPBELL has evident capacity, and performed the part of *Mrs. Lovibond* remarkably well. The piece was well put on, the scenic effects of the second act being particularly good. The orchestra rendered night hideous by their inharmonious strains.

Twin Pictures.

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

THE HON. J. B. LOVE EASE.

WHY this amiable and eminently unpractical gentleman should forsake his home comforts, his easily managed business, and his Sarنيا cronies, to encounter the hurly-burly of the Ontario Legislature, is one of those things that no fellow can tell. Why should he vex his soul with things he neither knows nor cares anything about? Would not the Government be able to worry out a precarious existence without his presence at the Council Board? And it is said that he would willingly forego the sweets of office, did not his colleagues fear that the starting of even so slight a rivet would loosen the bands that bind them to power. Perchance the dread of fleeing from ills they have to others that they know not of, may influence them in continuing their convulsive grasp upon the honorable and unwilling sharer of their councils. So he still slumbers nightly in his chair, or airs his genial humour in the lobbies. But because he is thus 'faincant' and indolent, it must not be supposed that he possesses no moral force or strength of character. On the contrary, were he allied to men of energy and will,—were he allowed the strength of his opinions,—had he not been subdued into a 'laissez faire' idleness by the wavering policy of the administration,—he possesses strength of convictions, and soundness of principle, that would have rendered him an able and patriotic minister. He has leanings towards nationalism which he dare not discover;—he abhors party in his inmost heart, and longs for the downfall of the Dictatorship;—his honesty revolts at the quibbles and petty dishonesties that the exigencies of the Government force him to countenance;—and from his inmost soul he hates the bother and complications that harass the holders of office. Personally he is genial, good-tempered and somnolent. The only draw-back to his complete social enjoyment, is the recollection that his worthy father was a teetotaler. He prefers a snug party with their knees under the Speaker's mahogany, to the clatter of contending politicians in the House. If a bill could be introduced to abolish meetings of Parliament he would be completely happy, and would do his half-hour-a-day office work, and feel that he was discharging the whole duty of man. He wears a hat brush under his chin, shows his teeth when he smiles, and has a penchant for his old clothes. It is a matter of surprise that he does not wear slippers and a dressing gown, and introduce a canoe couch damask into the Legislative Chambers for his greater convenience and comfort. He likes ease.

W. R. MERITT, M.P.P.

It is only a question of time as to the prefix of "Honourable" to the name of this gentleman as a title—not as an indication of character. Possessing advanced ideas, and a fair power of giving them expression, he is Conservative only by birth and prejudice, Liberal in all else. His dislike to appear conspicuous, and anxiety to avoid disagreeableness, check him in many differences of opinion with his narrow-minded leader; and he allows himself to be misconstrued rather than appear quarrelsome or factious. With these idiosyncracies, his parliamentary career is characterized with more of the 'laissez faire' than is consistent with his true character. Were he to exert his strength, and test his standing in the House, he would be surprised to find that he ranks second to none in his reputation for sound sense and ability, and would be more popular as a leader than his present chief or his Lieutenant. Certain it is, that he ranks third upon the opposition benches, and possesses that great merit for a leader—a clear record. Of prepossessing personal appearance, and showing indisputable marks of education and refinement, he is a great favourite with the Ladies Gallery, and frequently relieved the tedium of a wearisome debate by his pranks with the late member for Frontenac's spectacles. His appearance is gentlemanly, and his clothes are made for him. Without affecting the dandyism of the member for South Brant, he is sufficiently particular to show that he is a man of society and *savoir faire*. For the rest, his history is still to come; and with the position he has achieved at his age, it should be that of a man of mark.

Nonsense Verse.

There was a young man of Port Hope,
Who with a sweet girl did clope,
But his father was wroth,
And kerwolloped that broth
Of a boy, with the end of a rope.

The Traveller in New Brunswick.

DEAR GRIP,

In compliance with your commands, and with an eye to future remittances, I proceed to tell you all about St. John.

MR. MACKENZIE was here lately and told the inhabitants all about everything else, and it is but fair to tell all about them in return.

There are several different ways of getting here, partly depending on where you come from. You can come by sea or by land, and you might come in a balloon, but this is an uncertain class of conveyance, and you had better not. The approach by sea is on the main, rocky. It is also exceedingly rocky on the Maine.

The early history of St. John goes back to remote antiquity. It's dark ages were enlightened at times by the burning of the entire settlement. This occurred so frequently that the insurance offices grew suspicious, and it was discovered to be the result of a put up job between the Mic Mac Indians and the local architects. Thus is the simple savage perverted by the duplicity of civilization. You will not find this account in the ordinary histories. I had it from the agent of an American insurance company.

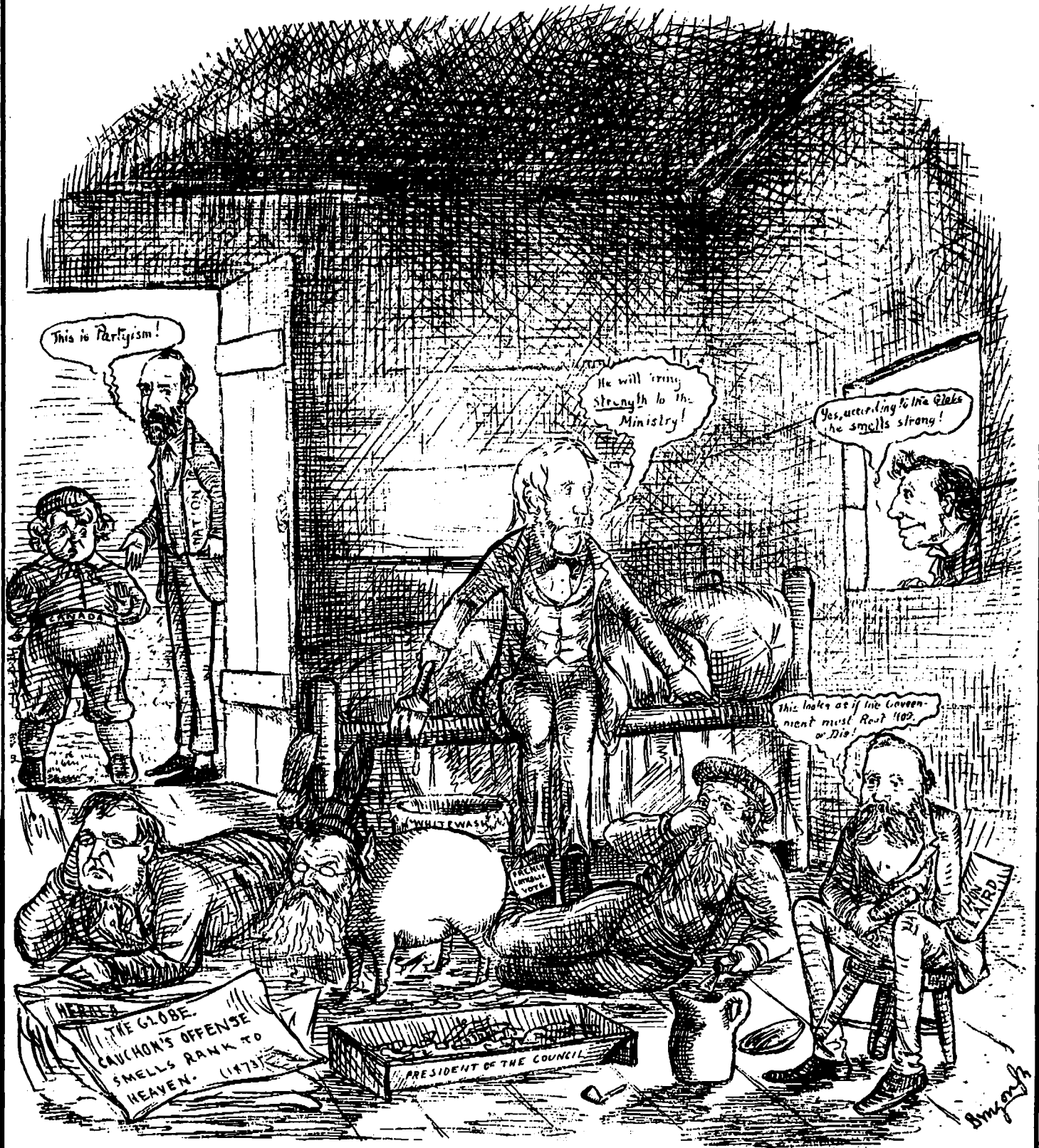
This is an excellent place of residence for people who don't want to be bothered with visitors. The names of the streets are generally carefully concealed, and the same variances also appears in the majority of the houses not being numbered. This is said to be a relic of the old days when the Indians made frequent incursions. It gave you a chance of escaping the vengeance of an offended chief, who might mistake the house and scalp your neighbour.

The scenery of the harbour is very interesting. With a few trifling alterations it would pass for the Bay of Naples. But the Torontonian visitor will revert with pride to thoughts of his much loved marsh and the newly-planted trees on the Island. St. John has nothing to compare with these. The rocky gorge known as the Falls through which the river St. John enters the harbour cannot compare in placid beauty, and certainly not in richness of odor, with the well built piers which conduct the pellucid Don into Toronto's delightful Bay.

The inhabitants of St. John are singularly undemonstrative. I understand that the present Mayor enjoys great popularity, but I cannot learn that such endearing epithets as "Old Square Toes" and others, which Toronto's impulsive sons have bestowed on their chief magistrate are ever applied to him. Do not think I am telling a traveller's tale when I say that these people seem to have some ideas of respect for his office. They have, I fear, but a small sense of humour and don't get the aim they ought to out of their civic dignitaries.

There is a *Globe* here, but no GEORGE BROWN to run it. Fancy two *Globes* in one Dominion—you can hardly do that—but at once recognize the wisdom which prevented the co-existence of two BROWNS. Yet in Halifax there was lately another GEORGE BROWN, now no more. I have not heard of his making any big push, but at a big pull he was said to be unequalled.

Economy is an admirable thing—especially in public affairs. Perhaps



THE MINISTERIAL SHANTY;

OR, THE CAUCHON AT HOME.

the most remarkable instance of it I have met with yet was on board the steamboat which brought me to these shores. The sea was extremely calm and two seedy looking individuals were discoursing on deck. One remarked on the calmness of the weather adding "I wish it had been rough, I'd have been sick and it wouldn't have cost me anything for grub." "That's just it with me," said his companion. Which proves that it is an ill wind which blows nobody good, even in case of a storm at sea.

What is the fashionable crime in Toronto now? I suppose violent assaults are getting out of date. Here I believe forgery to be the chief amusement of aristocratic circles. I tried my best imitation of your autograph to-day at several bankers, but they declined to negotiate it at any price. They are ignorant people. Some of them don't know who McKELLAR was and never heard of the Quartette.

At the Speaker's Elbow.

Friday, Dec. 10.

THE Select Committee appointed to revise the Rules and Regulations of the House presented their report, the principal changes suggested being as follows:—

I.—REGULATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE HOUSE.

In order that the speaker may preserve due Order and Decorum and have his head sufficiently well-balanced to be able at any moment to decide questions of Order, he shall wear pumps and part his hair in the centre. In the event of a Speaker having a bald head, he need not comply with the latter portion of this regulation, unless five members of the House insist upon it.

Not less than five members of the House must "see strangers present" before the Speaker is permitted to be conscious of the fact. Should the Speaker happen to be a bachelor, he may betray a consciousness of pretty girls in the gallery, even although five members have not called his attention to the fact.

When a debate is protracted to the "wee sma' hours," the Sergeant-at-arms shall keep his eye upon the Reporters' Gallery, and when he finds it getting empty he shall signal the fact to the Attorney-General, who shall thereupon move the adjournment.

II.—RULES OF DEBATE.

Any member having anything to say upon the subject before the House is at liberty to say it. Any member having nothing to say is requested to be as brief as possible. Any member having something to say upon every subject but the one before the House shall be requested to speak to the motion.

The member for East Grey shall not introduce the Proton Outrage. Any allusion to "little Mrs. ——" shall be held to be unparliamentary.

III.—CONDUCT OF MEMBERS.

Every member is bound to attend the House. Loafing in the smoking room counts as attendance. Members wearing rowdy hats are at liberty to pull them down over their eyes *a la* BLAKE, Hon. Mr. FRASER and Mr. MEREDITH not having a monopoly of the fashion.

IV.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

An important part of the Business of the House is, to put in the full thirty days so as to secure the largest possible sessional allowance.

Monday, Dec. 13.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

DR. CLARKE (Norfolk).—An Act to abolish whiskey, and to convert Whiskey-mills into Drug Stores.

Hon. Mr. FRASER.—An Act to provide for JERRY M-RR-K and other proteges of the Catholic League.

Mr. LAUDER.—An Act respecting the building of fences around Public Buildings.

Mr. HODGINS.—An Act to make it compulsory upon every Reform candidate for the Legislature to be provided with a license, and appointing Hon. GEORGE BROWN to be the sole issuer of such licenses.

Tuesday, Dec. 14.

SUPPLY.

On the item of \$56,696 being voted for "Hospitals and Charities," some objections were made to Roman Catholic institutions receiving more aid than Protestant ones. On this point Mr. SINCLAIR made some sensible remarks. He said that so long as the government bestowed grants upon denominational institutions, so long would the government be accused of making an unfair distribution. He would have the Executive reconsider the matter, and only support unsectarian charities. GRIP thinks so too. If denominations get the credit of supporting charities, let them supply the wherewithal.

MAMMOTH PETITIONS.

The ladies of Ontario have been inundating the House with temperance

petitions. The total length of those presented to-day was between four and five hundred feet. If the Bill based on these petitions be at all proportionate in length, it will be "carried" with extreme difficulty.

The Lion and the Lawyer.

A FABLE.

It chanced that an attorney, reflecting on his misdeeds in an unfrequented place, was so overcome with the weariness of the task that he fell into a deep slumber.

Suddenly starting therefrom he was annoyed to find himself in the presence of a majestic Lion, who had been playfully rubbing his paw to and fro over the sleeper's bald head.

"Hope I see you well," said the King of Beasts, with that genial affability which is so charming in great people.

"Perfectly," said the Lawyer, thinking that if he had seen him less perfectly, he would have been equally pleased.

"A representative of the law, I presume?" said the Lion inquiringly.

"Yes," said the Lawyer, forgetting in his confusion that no man is compelled to criminate himself.

"My own name is Equity," said the noble beast carelessly, "I occasionally rattle up the dry bones of the law."

The man of law felt his own bones rattle at the terrible suggestion. He muttered something in which the words "to be hence dismissed with costs," and "the plaintiff will ever pray" were alone audible.

"Don't talk about 'forever praying,'" said the Lion with a frown, "it isn't polite."

"Equity does not favour sleepers," continued the Lion, drily, after an awkward pause.

"That is true," replied the Lawyer, who had by this time recovered his self-possession, "but there is another maxim which you will of course respect. Equity imputes an intention to fulfil an obligation. You will excuse me therefore if I hasten to keep a most important appointment."

And he started to go.

"All right," said the Lion, smiling, having now quite regained his good temper. "There is another maxim I am bound by. Equity follows the Law."

And he followed him.

"You will find," suggested the Lawyer hastily, "that all that sort of thing is altered by Mr. MOWAT'S Act."

"Hang Mr. MOWAT'S Act," replied the monarch of the forest, justly indignant at such petty quibbling, "In future the rule will read thus: Equity swallows the Law."

He then swallowed the Attorney with many expressions of satisfaction.

MORAL,

This fable forcibly illustrates the probable result of the confusion of Law and Equity.

Croaks and Pecks.

GOING THE WHOLE HOG.—Taking a 'Co chon' into the Dominion Cabinet.

HAVING A BULLY TIME.—Senators BROWN and CHRISTIE at the Short Horn Convention.

QUESTION FOR DIPLOMATS.—When Britain bought the Suez Canal, did she buy the Egyptian *cauaille*?

A XMAS DINNER FOR EUROPEAN GOURMETS.—Turkey and Subline Port(e). The gobbler will be gobbled.

CAVE!!—The Right Hon. Mr. CAVE goes to Egypt to investigate into the Egyptian Loan. The name is significant.

QUERY FOR THE DRY GOODS.—Is the latest importation of "BOSS TWEED" a prison-spun "yarn," or is it merely "all stuff."

SOLVING THE WATER-WORKS DIFFICULTY.—Make AID. BAXTER a Commissioner and let him sit on the pipe—that would keep it down.

PUTTING ON THE BRAKES.—Fearing he should not be able to ride through the next Session of the Dominion Legislature, Mr. MACKENZIE has put a Coach-on to run the Council through as many Acts of Parliament as possible. As the road is down hill the Premier probably thought a drag would be useful. He may find he has purchased a pig in a poke, dear at any price.

GRAIN REGULATIONS.—It is evident that W. H. H-W-L-D has been in New York. The associated press despatch of the 14th states that "No 1 Canada (evidently meaning "Canada First") shall be plump, sound, and well cleaned. No 2 Canada (evidently Grits and Tories) shall be known as "stained," instead of "slightly stained." Have the New Yorkers only just heard of "Big push" and "Pacific Scandal."

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GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

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OF THE

WARD OF SAINT GEORGE,

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Your obedient servant,

H. E. CLARKE.

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HAND-IN-HAND

MUTUAL

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Cash Premiums and Interest \$25,486 13

DISBURSEMENTS.

Claims under Policies paid \$8,348 95
 Claim Appropriation for Losses resisted and waiting proof..... 750 00
 Agents' Commission, Salaries, Directors Fees, Office Rent, &c..... 6,199 73
 Scrip Appropriation to Policy-holders of 1874, on deposit in Royal Canadian Bank, being forty per cent..... 10,194 45
 W. H. HOWLAND, President. \$25,486 13

HUGH SCOTT, Manager & Sec'y.

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