

LOCAL LIBERALS GIVE APPROVAL.

Meeting Last Night Ratifies City and County Ticket—Strong Resolutions Passed—Candidates Chosen Elsewhere.

At a largely attended meeting, of Liberal electors of St. John city and county, held in Berryman's hall, last night, the nomination of Richard O'Brien, and Hon. H. A. McKeown, as the Liberal candidates for this constituency, was enthusiastically ratified.

Thomas McAvity presided, and Hon. Dr. Pugsley occupied a seat on the platform, with the candidates. A number of resolutions were passed including endorsement of Hon. Mr. Emerson as minister of railways, pledging the candidates to advocacy of nationalization of the ports of Montreal, Quebec, St. John and Halifax, and endorsing the Laurier administration, the trade and transportation policy, extension of the I. C. R. to St. Stephen and calling for a direct line from St. John to the main line of the G. T. Pacific.

John Keeffe moved, seconded by E. Lantalum, as follows: Resolved, that the Liberals of this constituency place upon record their cordial approval of the Laurier administration during its entire tenure of office.

That the principles of Liberalism applied to the government of Canada since 1896, and since continued, have resulted in a largely extended trade, an increased immigration, marked development in manufacturing industries, and general prosperity throughout the land, unrivaled in the preceding history of the Dominion.

That the preference to British goods, as well as to products of the West Indies coming direct to Canadian ports, and the denunciation of the Belgian and German treaties, have greatly increased the imperial trade and promoted and cemented the growing tie of imperial unity.

That the prompt action of the government in providing for a transcontinental railway to the northward of the C. P. R. across the entire continent, has been in harmony with the progressive and conservative general policy of the government, and will lead to a most rapid development of the great Northwest, the opening of vast fertile areas in the interior of Canada, and New Brunswick and to the development of great ocean terminals on the shores of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans within Canadian territory.

In moving his resolution, Mr. Keeffe said that the large audience showed the spirit of liberalism was not dead. He believed that by united effort the constituency could be redeemed.

George Robertson, M. P., moved the following, which was carried: That the convention expresses its confidence in the Honorable Henry R. Emmerson, minister of railways and canals, and in the Hon. H. A. McKeown, minister of the interior, and in the Hon. W. J. Mahoney, minister of the navy.

That his long and successful administrative career invites confidence, that his course in the federal arena will reflect credit upon the party and will be of lasting benefit to the Dominion at large.

Mr. Robertson enquired Hon. H. R. Emmerson, and said he was well fitted to administer the railway department, one of the most important of the administration.

In conclusion, he urged that the liberals bury local differences and unite for victory. He was confident that the Laurier administration would be sustained.

Hon. Wm. Pugsley was given an ovation, when he arose to speak. He announced that he would heartily support the local candidates, both as private citizens, and as an official of the provincial government. A supreme issue confronted the whole country and he urged the electorate to remember this fact. He referred to Mr. Geo. E. Foster's candidature in Toronto, and then moved the following resolution:

This meeting of the Liberal party of the constituencies of the city and county of St. John, while leaving to the private citizen, the record of the Liberal government and the development and prosperity of the country under its administration, and in the great future with reference to matters of great importance to these constituencies, as well as to the whole Dominion, as follows: First: We recognize that the new national transcontinental railway will be the means of bringing to Canadian ports in winter and summer, the most ever increasing traffic.

THE ARMIES IN CONTACT.

The Russians Advance to Battle Singing.

Japanese Outposts Driven in and Fierce Conflict Ensued—A Terrific Artillery Fire—The Officers of the Baltic Fleet—Li Hung Chang's Foresight.

At the Russian front, Monday, Oct. 10.—By messenger to Mukden, Oct. 11.—(Delayed in transmission). The artillery duel is progressing on the Russian left, twenty miles southeast of Mukden, while the fighting at Yentai rages with terrible bitterness. The Japanese are essaying a counter attack. The result is in the balance. Russian reinforcements are coming up rapidly.

A TERRIFIC BATTLE. Mukden, Oct. 11.—8 a. m.—(Delayed). The battle commenced this morning along the line of the railway with a terrific artillery fire on both sides. The railway line almost to Yentai is in possession of the Russians. The station itself has been damaged nearly beyond recognition. The weather is beautiful and the sound of cannonading is audible a distance of forty miles. It is impossible to tell how the day's fighting will develop. The fighting on Monday commenced early in the morning. A fire of four hours' duration forced back the Japanese along almost the entire front and opened the way for an infantry attack. About noon the Japanese began to retire. Their flanks and centre were stubbornly defended and the battle increased in intensity, concentrating about the Yentai coal mines, where firing continued until darkness fell.

As a net result of the days events the Russian drove in the Japanese left, while the right clung to its position but maintained itself only with difficulty.

Mukden, Oct. 11.—(Delayed). The aggressive movement of Gen. Kuro-patkin's army is causing the Japanese column on the northeast to withdraw, concentrating at the Yentai coal mines. Russian scouting parties were in contact with the Japanese Monday evening, and captured 100 head of cattle. The retirement of the Japanese was so hurried that they abandoned their field telegraph and telephone lines. The Russian soldiers are in the best of spirits and advance to battle singing.

SILENT BUT BUSY. Tokio, Oct. 12.—11 a. m.—Silence has been preserved at headquarters concerning the events around Liao Yang and Mukden. It is popularly reported that the Russian advance and attack is welcome news. Heretofore the Japanese have been compelled to take the aggressive and openly assault the strongest works. The people believe now that the conditions are reversed, the troops will speedily check the Russians, instancing Lieut. General Count Keller's unlucky venture at Motien Pass.

Field Headquarters of the Second Japanese Army, Oct. 12.—9 p. m. via Fusan, Korea, Oct. 12.—The advance on Mukden began this morning. Field Marshal Oyama, learning that the Russians were strengthening and reinforcing five miles north of Yentai, ordered the advance. The entire line

began the march, the infantry advancing two or three miles, the artillery following. The Russians observing this movement, opened an artillery duel which continued all day. There was no decisive forward movement of the infantry tonight.

JAPANESE RETIRED. Shanpintaidze (a mile south of Bentisaputze) Monday, Oct. 10.—(with the Russian left flanking column believed to be Gen. Mischechenko) by way of Mukden, Oct. 12.—The Russians have been advancing in force for several days. Upon reaching Taidiamowza, a mile south of Kaoutou Pass on the Fushan Ben-zhu road, they began heaving sporadic artillery fire on the right, where the Russian advance was in contact with the Japanese. The movement of the main column was immediately accelerated. The Russians were then two days march from Shanpintaidze, but refrained from discussing the progress of the advance. The Japanese steadily retired.

The fighting ahead became heavier yesterday and wounded men from the scouting detachments began to pass through the Russian lines. The Russians pressed forward with increased speed. The infantry advanced at the double. The spirits of the men were high, due to the fact that they were actually assuming the aggressive. They arrived at the village of Shanpintaidze at 5 o'clock this afternoon. The Japanese had hurriedly abandoned the place at night, paying the Chinese big wages to carry away their stores amounting to 4,000 bags of rice and barley.

There were two divisions of Japanese in front of the Russians. The general commanding this (Russian) column, upon reaching Shanpintaidze, deployed a cordon of his forces, with a battery of artillery, sent out left flank supports and went personally to his right flank, where his skirmishers had already engaged the Japanese. An artillery duel then opened on the left with the Japanese mountain guns brought up from Chowsan Pass, which were shelling the Russian scouting detachments. The Japanese projectiles fell everywhere, and the Russian guns came up at a gallop, unlimbered and opened fire on the Japanese artillery. This duel was continued until dark. The Russian fire was accurate and eventually silenced the Japanese battery.

The Russians lost ten men wounded and had one man killed. This morning the batteries reopened fire at ten o'clock, the Japanese replying. To the right the fighting was proceeding simultaneously, apparently in favor of the Russians. The latter was using about ten miles of telegraph and telephone lines abandoned by the Japanese. It is rumored here that the Russians have occupied Yentai.

HOLDING SEIZED SHIPS. Tacoma, Wash., Oct. 11.—Grave international complications are likely to arise over the seizure by the Russian authorities of the steamship Calchas of the Blue Funnel Line, owned by Alfred Holt & Co., of Liverpool. There was in the ship's cargo nothing that could be declared contraband, but the Russians still hold the vessel because in the United States mail on board her were found letters containing information alleged to be of importance to the Japanese officials.

The Calchas was seized by the Vladivostok fleet off the Japanese coast about July 26. The Russians refused to release the ship.

THE BALTIC FLEET. St. Petersburg, Oct. 12.—The official Messenger has announced the appointment of Vice Admiral Bezobrazoff, commander of the first squadron of the Pacific fleet, to be senior admiral of the Baltic fleet, and Rear admiral Haupt, naval commander at the port of Vladivostok, to be junior admiral of the Baltic fleet. Rear Admiral Greve will succeed Rear Admiral Haup, as commander at the port of Vladivostok. Admiral Jessen will assume command of the first Pacific squadron.

Tokio, Oct. 12.—10 a. m.—A corrected list of the lives lost in the sinking of the Japanese gunboat Hei Yen off Pigeon Bay Sept. 18, places the total number at one hundred and ninety-seven.

A BLOODY BATTLE. Mukden, Oct. 11.—11 p. m.—A bloody battle is now raging about six miles north of Yentai railway station. The Japanese on Sunday fell back along the whole front, and the Russian advance guards crossed the Schili river (about half way between Mukden and Liao Yang), and came within three miles of Yentai; but yesterday the Japanese received strong reinforcements of infantry and artillery, and not only held their positions, but even assumed the offensive. The fighting lasted the entire day and night. The Japanese directed their artillery fire with great skill, and searched the Russian positions so fiercely that the Russians fell back north of the Schili river, which crosses the railroad seven miles from Yentai.

The Russians this morning resumed their advance, once more crossing the Schili river and engaging the Japanese two miles south of it. A terrific artillery engagement is proceeding along the entire front. The result of the battle is still undecided.

FOXY OLD LI. London, Oct. 12.—The Times today publishes the summary of a letter alleged to have been written by Li Hung Chang shortly before his death, predicting that little harm would come from allowing the Russians to hold Manchuria, because it would lead to war between Russia and Japan, and then China, by espousing the winning side, would be able to recover Manchuria.

HE LOVED HIS NURSE. Pretty Romance, Begun on Sick Bed—Ended in Wedding.

Toronto, Oct. 12.—(Special)—Arthur Allan, son of the late Hon. G. W. Allan has arrived in the city with his bride, Miss Mary Cecilia O'Driscoll, daughter of Captain O'Driscoll, of Cork, while in England, some time ago, Mr. Allan was taken ill and the services of a trained nurse was secured, Miss O'Driscoll was the nurse and the patient fell in love with her. He proposed, and was accepted, and subsequently was received into the Roman Catholic church, by the Jesuit fathers.

THE ST. LAURENCE ABANDONED. Quebec, Oct. 12.—(Special)—Steamer St. Lawrence, which went aground at English Point, on the North Shore of the Gulf on Saturday night has been abandoned. The passengers are being brought up to Quebec, by the government steamer Aberdeen.

Harwood—"Matches, they say, are made in heaven?" Grimes—"Yes, but is tobacco made there? That's the question."

COMING TO THIS CITY. Transcontinental Railway Commissioners Will Spend Sunday in St. John.

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 12.—(Special)—The transcontinental railway commissioners are leaving here tomorrow morning for the maritime provinces. They are going to Riviere du Loup, and will be at Edmundston Friday morning. From there they go to Connors, and back to Edmundston, and to Grand Falls, reaching Woodstock Friday afternoon. On Friday night the commissioners will go to Fredericton, and will remain there until Saturday night for St. John, where they will stay until Monday forenoon. On Monday afternoon they go to Chipman and Moncton, and stay in Moncton until Tuesday. Tuesday night they will leave for Halifax, and remain there until Wednesday afternoon when they return to Ottawa. It is their intention to go to Winnipeg after coming back here.

LORD MINTO, A GUEST. Toronto, Oct. 12.—(Special) Some members of the Toronto club have invited Lord Minto to the Gardwell dinner, on November 10, and he has accepted the invitation.

ANARCHY IN MOROCCO. London, Oct. 13.—The Times' Tangle correspondent describes the growth of anarchy throughout Morocco. The tribes, the correspondent says, refrain from open rebellion only because there is nobody against whom to rebel, as the sultan's authority is non-existent except inside the towns. All attempts to collect tribal levies and to secure recruits have failed. The sultan remains at Fez, with only a few hundred ill-paid lawless soldiers. Moorish officials everywhere, the despatch adds, are taking advantage of the situation to amass money while the sun shines, and the governor of Tangier is already seriously compromised in affairs with several of the legations.

EQUITY COURT. The case of the J. B. Snowball Co., against Capt. Giovanni Vidossich, of the iron bark, Bechdelde, which is in the equity court, this morning, Capt. Giovanni whose ship was under charter to the Snowball Company refused to sign clear bills of lading, claiming that as he was delayed six days he was entitled to demurrage at the rate of \$6 per day for the time he was detained over and above the time called for by his charter. The Snowballs made a successful application to Judge Barker for an injunction, to restrain the defendant from proceeding on his voyage until such time as he signed satisfactory bills of lading. The case now stands until tomorrow.

Fuddy—"What did you say to that man who was taking a straw vote?" Duddy—"Told him to go to grass."

A GREAT FIRE IN WINNIPEG.

The Loss Amounted to Nearly a Million Dollars—Two of the Most Important Business Blocks Gone—The Losses.

Winnipeg, Oct. 11.—(Special)—Winnipeg had the most disastrous fire in her history last night, when the Bullman block, J. H. Ashdown's extensive retail hardware stores and several other buildings were burned to ashes.

The flames broke out in the second story of the block, and within ten minutes had rushed from the second story to the sixth. In half an hour the entire block, one of the finest in the city, was down.

The flames crossed Bannatyne street, which is a narrow thoroughfare, and gutted the Ashdown retail stores, corner of Main and Bannatyne. The inflammable paints and oils together with small arms, and ammunition, caused numerous explosions and spread the fire. The strong wind blowing rendered the work of the firemen almost useless.

Winnipeg, Oct. 12.—(Special)—The estimates of damage by last night's fire made today place the loss at nearly a million. Two of the most important business blocks in the city were destroyed.

The losses may be summarized as follows: New Bullman block, with stock, valued at \$200,000, totally destroyed. J. H. Ashdown's block, valued at \$500,000 totally destroyed. Davis block, partially damaged. Rialto block, badly damaged by water, smoke and heat.

The establishments burned out are Bullman Bros., engravers and fine art printers; the J. H. Ashdown Hardware Co.; L. Meikle and Co.; Bryce and Co.; J. and T. Cloghnan, manufacturers' agents; Steel and Co., photographers; Higston Smith Arms Co.

The Woodbine Hotel; Union Bank and Leland Hotel, were attacked but saved. One comforting feature of the catastrophe is that no lives were lost.

BLAIR WOULD SUBSTITUTE ELECTRICITY FOR STEAM. Suggests Electric Motors for Haulage of Trains Through St. Clair Tunnel—To Further Safeguard Railway Travel.

Ottawa, Oct. 12.—(Special)—At a meeting of the railway commissioners, today, Mr. Blair said that the board was giving its attention to the necessity of adopting certain means to prevent railway accidents, and had conferred with the railway authorities, on the subject, but so far, no authorized announcement was made. He would not say how far the statement which appeared in the press was correct. He had no doubt the railway companies would be disposed to accept any reasonable and practical suggestions, the commission had to offer. Mr. Blair then proceeded to refer to the recent terrible disaster in the Grand Trunk tunnel at St. Clair. He suggested that the substitution of the use of electric motors for the haulage of trains through this tunnel would prevent such accidents. The railway concerned would no doubt be impressed with the necessity of using electricity instead of steam.

GOVERNMENT EXPLORERS ARE NOW IN HALIFAX. The Neptune Arrives there from Hudson Bay—Commander Lowe Brings News of the Disabled Steamer Arctic.

Halifax, N. S., Oct. 12.—(Special)—Steamer Neptune, Capt. Bartlett, arrived today from Hudson Bay, with the Canadian government exploring party on board, in charge of Mr. Lowe. The party were all well and nothing exceptional occurred on the expedition. Regarding the work of the expedition the report, Mr. Lowe says, will be made to the department at Ottawa.

He said that the supposition that the disabled steamer sighted off Davis Inlet last week was the Arctic, was incorrect, as his party had sighted the Arctic three days earlier, further north than where the disabled steamer was reported. The Arctic is probably now in her winter quarters. The Neptune left here Aug. 22nd, 1903.

HORRIBLE RESULT OF SUPERSTITION. Child Murdered That Its Heart and Hands Might be Used by a Sorcerer. Kingston, St. Vincent, Oct. 12.—Barbarous superstition, which prevails among a certain class of the population of the West Indies, is the basis of a ghastly and extraordinary crime that has come to light in the Island of St. Lucia. The finding of the heart and hands of a white child in the possession of an obman (a negro sorcerer) led to the discovery that the child had been murdered and the body mutilated in order that the superstitious natives might, through possession of portions of the body, be able to work spells.

A SENSATION IN MONTREAL. Young Girl Found on Lonely Road in a Serious Condition. Montreal, Oct. 12.—(Special)—Constable Baker found Bessie Ellis lying on the side of Church Avenue, in Verdun, a suburb of this city, this morning. Her clothes were soaking wet and her head and body a mass of bruises. She was taken to the hospital where she now lies in a serious condition. When she recovered sufficiently to speak, she said she had accompanied two young men on a drive and when in a lonely spot, they beat her and kicked her and then threw her into the river.

ACCIDENTALLY KILLED. Sherbrook, Oct. 12.—(Special)—Richard Doyche, of Waterville, was killed accidentally yesterday. He was knocking down apples with a shot gun which went off, the charge entering his body and killing him.

THE WEATHER. Forecasts—North-easterly winds, fair and cool today and Thursday. Synopsis—The weather is fair and quite warm in Manitoba and the Territories and rather cool from the Great Lakes to the Maritime Provinces. Winds are strong northeasterly along the New England coast. To Banks moderate northerly winds. To American ports, strong northeasterly winds. Local Weather Report at Noon, Oct. 12th. Highest temperature during past 24 hours ..... 56. Lowest temperature during past 24 hours ..... 29. Temperature at noon ..... 33. Humidity at noon ..... 63. Barometer readings at noon sea level and 33 deg fah 30.49 ins. Wind at noon, N. E. Velocity 12 miles per hour, Fair. D. L. HUTCHINSON, Director.

TIMBER BERTHS SOLD. Fredericton, Oct. 12.—(Special)—A two mile timber berth at the head of Canaan River, was purchased at public auction, at the crown land office this morning, by George McSweeney of Moncton, for \$51 per acre.