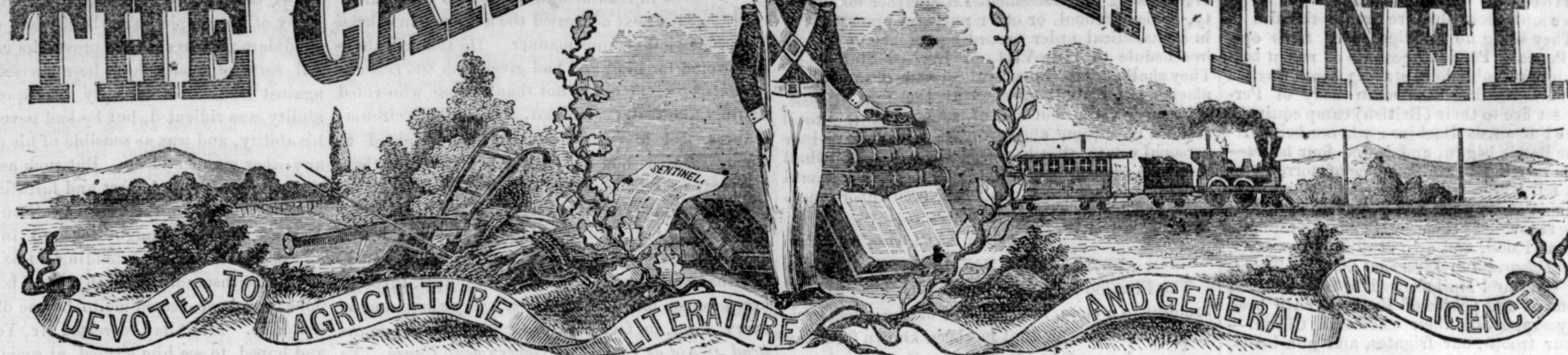


THE CARLETON SENTINEL.



SAMUEL WATTS, Editor.]

"Our Queen and Constitution."

[A. C. & J. A. McLAUCHLAN, PUBLISHERS.]

VOL. IX.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1857.

NO. 38.

NOMINATION DAY.

MR. FISHER'S SPEECH.

L. P. Fisher and Wm. Black took the stand together, there having been loud cries of "Fisher! Fisher!" and some for Black. Mr. Fisher, as soon as he found that Mr. Black had come forward to speak, stepped back, and said that of course, if Mr. Black wished to speak, he should give way. Mr. Black then fell back and said he, of course, did not wish to take precedence of Mr. Fisher. Mr. F. then proceeded, saying that he had a very high respect for Mr. Black. He was a very decent man; but had unfortunately got into bad company—the "Independents." Somebody in the crowd made some remarks, when Mr. Fisher said if he, the individual, had anything to say he had better come up on the platform and not stand blating down there. He was one of the "Independents," he (Mr. F.) knew by his voice; like the Irishman who knew his jackass by his voice, he knew the "Independents" by the noise they made.

He had been told that certain "Independents" at Woodstock had formed a compact to prevent him (Mr. F.) and others from speaking on the present occasion. They were going to rotten-egg them; this was just such measures as that party might be expected to use, and rotten eggs were not unlike the principles and conduct of the Independent party.

This, said Mr. Fisher, is no ordinary occasion; we are met here for the discussion of principles of vital importance, principles which affect not only yourselves but your posterity. Our liberty is involved, and what are houses and lands, mortgages and gold, compared to liberty. Liberty, as a celebrated Englishman has said, is the parent of commerce; the parent of wealth; the parent of knowledge; the parent of every virtue.

Liberty is truly not the gift of kings or princes, but from God and nature. He, Mr. F., had grown up imbued with Liberal principles; he remembered well when they first obtained a footing in this Province, and although quite young, the enthusiasm and pleasure he in common with others felt; he knew well the opposition which those principles had met at the hands of the Tories, the office-holders, the aristocracy of the land. He had been asked: What was aristocracy? he would give them a definition by a celebrated man. Aristocracy is the league and condition of those who consume without producing; live without working; know without learning; carry all the honours without deserving them; occupy all the offices without being able to fill them. And in this County, he (Mr. F.) would unite another feature which had been added by our Provincial aristocracy, viz.: to transmit those offices as a right of inheritance to their posterity.

Here Mr. Fisher went into a learned, interesting, and comprehensive history of Responsible Government; the circumstances which immediately led to its introduction, its effects upon Canada, the illustrious statesman through whose instrumentality it was initiated, passing a high eulogium on Lord Durham's report, &c.

The Liberals had been charged with disloyalty, but it was not so—it was a libel upon their character. Than them there were no men more loyal to their constitution and their Queen whom God bless! and long may she live to reign over us! But to the Tories of right belonged the appellation—they had worthily earned it. In Canada, they it was who burned the Parliament buildings, who treated with disrespect and violence the representative of Her Majesty, the Governor General.

In this Province it was they who had struggled longest against the introduction of Responsible Government, that counterpart of England's glorious constitution—who had eternally fought against every Liberal measure, and showed their teeth whenever anything was said or done in favour of giving self-government to the people. Here it was the Tories with J. H. Gray at their head, who advocated annexation to the United States; who proposed to pull down that glorious standard of Old England under whose blood-red folds our fathers had lived and died, and elevate in its stead the stars and stripes of the neighbouring republic. Such the Tories, of such is the "Independent party," one of the branches of the foul Upas tree, beneath whose baneful influence political freshness had long been withered, and our Country's prosperity long been palsied.

Here Mr. F. referred to the election of '51 in St. John, when six gentlemen were returned for the County and City, to overthrow the then existing Government. Messrs. Wilnot and Gray were of

the number and remained in opposition during the first session; but during the recess turned round and joined the Government. Mr. Wilnot taking office. Upon this violation of principle, Messrs. Simonds, Ritchie, Tilley and Needham issued a manifesto declaring that if Wilnot was returned (he had to go back for re-election, having taken office) they would resign their seats. Wilnot was elected, and they, with the exception of Needham, resigned. Yet Mr. Simonds, then so liberal, and so warmly attached to Responsible Government, is now eulogised because he turned round, joined the Tories, and condemn those with whom he used to work.

The Street Government, forced by the pressure of public opinion, introduced a "Municipal Law," but it was so absurd and impracticable in its provisions that it did not receive much favour from any party; however, it was by the efforts of the Liberals amended so as to answer the purpose for which it was intended. Here he (Mr. F.) would state it to be his conviction that to the indomitable perseverance of their late representatives, RICHARD ENGLISH and H. H. BEARDSLEY, the country were largely indebted for Municipal Incorporations, and he (Mr. F.) regretted that Mr. E. was not there to-day, were he, he would be with us in this contest. And Mr. F. regretted very much that some of those nearly connected with Mr. E. seemed to have forgotten the precepts and principles which he had oftentimes impressed upon them in honest and manly language.

The Election Law had been very much abused; still, it contained that feature of which Mr. Tupper had said, "the glorious ballot." This gentleman had found fault with the machinery of the law, and had said it was as complicated as the machinery of the steamer Reindeer. He (Mr. F.) would remind him that the Reindeer was the handsomest and fastest boat on the river. For the Election Law and the Ballot the country was indebted to Charles Fisher, and to him and the other Liberals in the Assembly those who, under the law, now for the first time were allowed to vote, owed the privilege.

[Here Mr. F. spoke of the successful negotiation of Charles Fisher with Messrs. Barings, for the means necessary to the construction of the railways.] He had obtained the money on good terms, at a time when great stringency was felt in the money market,—when a great foreign war was being carried on,—and that, too, after the Liquor Law referred to by Mr. Tupper had passed, and had been seen by Messrs. Barings.

It had been said that the Opposition was factious, and consumed much time on the Want of Confidence motion; but he (Mr. F.) referred them to the time when the members of the present Government were in opposition,—and how much more factious their opposition was, and how much more time they wasted without the shadow of an excuse!

Mr. Tupper thinks the resignation of the late Government wrong; he thinks they should have dissolved the House, and held on to their offices and the £600 a year. This is the Independents' principle,—to hold on to office as long as possible, and never mind principle. He did not know who was general of the Independents; he did know who their Major was, and on Monday next would learn how many rank and file they had.

It had been urged that the Government had done nothing to condemn them for; he (Mr. F.) condemned them for doing nothing,—for not, in the ample time they had, preparing their measures and submitting them at the last Session. They had attempted to revive old laws,—could they not carry good as well as bad ones. If they had, as is claimed, a majority on the Want of Confidence motion, why did they not bring in measures and stand or fall by them. With a partisan Speaker, who took good care always to tie up one of the Opposition by placing him in the chair, they might have carried through their measures; but, in fact, they had none to submit.

The Opposition offered to discuss their School Bill, irrespective of party feeling; the Opposition proposed to go into supply, provided the Government would promise after the supplies were granted to dissolve. And here he would remind his hearers that, since the surrender of the Initiative of Money Grants to the Executive, it becomes their duty to propose the various supplies; and, not having done so, it proves all that is said against the Opposition on this ground without any reason or foundation.

Mr. Tupper had read from Mr. Simonds' speech in the House, but he did not read it all. That gentleman had not only condemned the Opposition, but equally the Government, and he had con-

demned the whole principle of Responsible Government. That gentleman proved himself remarkably factious; before dinner one day he went for the ryder to the Railway Bills, proposed by Mr. Smith—after dinner, as he found that it did not suit the Government, he opposed it. But why was Mr. Simonds quoted as authority to-day?—Why should he be heard? What has become of him? He is politically dead; the people, his constituents, have spoken, and consigned him to political forgetfulness. It has been said by the "Independents" that the elections in St. John would give tone to those which should follow in other parts of the Province. The elections have taken place there; and thank God for the tone the result has given. Freemen! tune your instruments to that tone. Let that tone be heard from the smaller Falls at St. John, to the Grand Falls. Keep that tone rolling, rolling, rolling, until it is caught up by every city, town, village and hamlet of the land. It is a glorious tone St. John has given us. "Independents," why don't you shout that tone? That tone has consigned the pattern Speaker of Mr. Tupper, to his doom. There he is—let him lie; but some others should take warning by his fate, and beware of the inconsistencies which crushed him. He (Mr. F.) would be sorry to give up the independent opinion of his manhood to the doctage of any man. Mr. Fisher proceeded to speak of the proceedings of the last day of the Assembly. Mr. Lawrence, the great teetotaler, having been set up to speak; and having only reached 2ndly in an hour; the Chaplain having been sent for an hour sooner than intended—in order, he supposed, to perform the funeral service; the hurried advent of the troops, &c., &c.

Mr. Smith, of Westmorland, had been called the *denouncer general*; the people of his County had expressed their opinion of him by giving him 2100 votes.

It was said, a few days ago, that he (Mr. F.) should not talk about *straw*, and that he had been appointed to office by his brother; this was not so. He had been appointed Judge of Surrogate by the Tories. The office was worth £10 per annum; and although he was not favourable to having judicial offices made elective, yet he would be quite willing to have his made subject to the approval of the people. He had not asked for the office, and if he had not deserved it would not have got it.

He was surprised and sorry that Mr. Tupper had not stated his views with reference to the present Government, or told them whether he was Liberal or Tory; and thought the people would not trust their interests in the hands of a person who dares not express his principles.

If the people liked Liberal principles, if they wished to support Responsible Government, they should send those men to the Legislature who were known to entertain views favourable to those principles. The mother should nurse her own child; the men who had fought long and ceaselessly for certain principles, were certainly the best adapted to work them out and preserve them in their purity. The incompetency and inconsistency, and want of union, evident among members of the Government, condemned them. They were not to be trusted.—The people would, as they were doing, turn them out, and send a House composed of Liberal men to further and protect Liberal interests.

MR. EDEGAN

Said he had not a glib tongue like Mr. Fisher; could not tell them any stories about jackasses; was a plain, blunt man, and could tell facts right along. He had been in the house during the Session; had observed closely, and believed himself capable of forming an unprejudiced opinion. He was there to defend the Government—against whom most slanderous stories had been told, and about whom certain people (we did not understand who) had outdone themselves in lying. He did not believe there had been any combination among the Independents to prevent the Liberals from speaking; but thought, from the way in which the latter had acted, the combination was among themselves.—Mr. Lindsay having attacked the Government, one of our party (Mr. Black) wished to speak, and there seemed to be a desire to prevent it. He did not agree with Major Tupper, that the Government, on the result of the want of confidence motion should have resigned. It did not follow, because the division was 21 to 20.

The old election law had expired, the new one was inoperative—therefore the Government proposed to renew the old law for a time, not forever.—Mr. Johnson moved an amendment, which was lost. There was a serious objection to that amend-

ment; it proposed to place the whole returning power in the hands of the Sheriff and Clerk of the Peace. In one County (Kent) the Sheriff was at that very time canvassing the County for the House.

It had been said the opposition was not factious, but had they (the audience) seen as had he (Mr. E.) their conduct with reference to a motion to exclude Commissioners from the House and other matters, such an assertion would not have much weight.

He referred to the bringing in of the estimates by Mr. Wilnot, and the date fixed on which they were to be taken up; to the statement made by Mr. Johnson about staying there till June; expressing very decidedly the opinion that Mr. Johnson was endeavouring to assume the leadership of the Liberals.

Mr. Wm. Black followed Mr. Edgar in his customary humorous style on behalf of Mr. Tupper; and after him came Mr. Venus—the principal part of whose declamation was that the country was tending to rebellion, bloodshed, &c., and that unless Mr. Tupper was elected, a recurrence of the events of '47 was inevitable. We confess we cannot understand the force of either assertion.

BY TELEGRAPH.

[Reported for the Sentinel.]

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.

New York, May 1st.

Africa, which sailed from Liverpool on the 18th, has arrived. Political news unimportant.

QUEEN VICTORIA HAS BEEN DELIVERED OF A DAUGHTER.

It has been resolved to double the capital of the Bank of France.

Breadstuffs generally steady at a slight advance on previous week.

ARRIVAL OF THE EUROPA.

HALIFAX, May 5th.

Europa arrived at Halifax on Tuesday.

Lord Elgin has left for Paris on way to China.

Numerous meeting of Mechanics and Manufacturers was held in Manchester for purpose of forming an association for the promotion of the growth of cotton all over the world. At special meeting of European and North American Steamship Company, Report stated total cost of the eight steamships recently purchased, was £40,000.

Fire at Liverpool destroyed 2,500 bales cotton.

Letter from J. Ball, under Secretary for Colonies, informs geographical society that British Government had agreed to propose to Parliament a vote for the Northwest American Exploring Expedition.

FRANCE.—Grand Duke Constantine had great reception at Toulon. Review of 50,000 troops will be given at Paris about May 6th, in his honor.

SPAIN.—Another interview has taken place between Marshall Serrano, Spanish Ambassador at Paris, and Senor Lafragua, Mexican Plenipotentiary, and as its result Marshall Serrano will leave for Madrid to pave the way for Senor Lafragua's reception at Spanish Court. The treaty settling the frontier between France and Spain is to be laid before the Cortes at their next meeting.

NEUCHÂTEL.—The Prussian and Swiss Plenipotentiaries have accepted the propositions of the mediating powers, to be referred for approval of their respective Governments.

TURKEY.—Commission for regulation of Russo-Turkish frontier in Asia, as instituted by Article of Treaty of Paris, and which is to consist of two Turks, two Russians, one Englishman, and one Frenchman, will assemble at Kars on May 30th.

Despatch from Paris announces that differences between Austria and Montenegro appear in a fair way of settlement.

CHINA.—A telegraph from Trieste brings dates from Hong Kong to the 15th March, and Calcutta to the 21st.

The Europeans on board the British steamer Queen under the Portuguese flag, had been murdered by the Chinese passengers and crew, and the steamer, with a valuable cargo, carried off.

The government contractors' stores at Hong Kong had been burned down by incendiaries and 700 barrels of flour destroyed.

The Chinese in Sarawak, Borneo, had risen on the 17th of February and massacred several Europeans. Sir James Brooke saved his life by swimming across a creek. One of the Borneo Company's steamers subsequently arrived at Sarawak, and with the aid of Sir James, at the head of a body