

DAILY HERALD.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1901.

[AN IMPORTANT ISSUE.]

Amid all the declamation, misrepresentation and narrow prejudiced views with which Mr. McLeod may seek to cloud the true issues of this election, the electors must not lose sight of the fact that the campaign is instituted under entirely different circumstances from the general election of a year ago.

In the autumn of 1900, the two great political parties of Canada were drawn up against each other in battle array, each striving to secure from the electorate a mandate to govern the country for another five years. On that occasion Mr McLeod was the candidate of the Conservative party in York, and had he succeeded and his party won, he might have had some influence at Ottawa. The Conservative party had a fighting chance in that election: they had the opportunity of again securing the reins of government but there is no such possibility now. The Liberals are firmly seated in power for four years more, with a substantial majority at their back; the issues of the election of 1900 were settled on the 7th of November in that year, the people declaring that Liberal rule must prevail. No verdict which the county of York can render in the present campaign can disturb the Liberals in the possession of office, so that the inducement that Mr McLeod was able to hold out last year, that the Conservatives were about to return to power, has no status now. If Mr. McLeod should secure the seat it would be to sit at Ottawa in opposition for the next four years. This constituency declared last year that it desired the Liberals to continue in the administration of the affairs of the country, and nothing has since arisen that should lead it to reverse that decision. The affairs of Canada under a Liberal government have prospered beyond anything ever before known in the history of the country; there has been clean, honest, progressive, administration, lofty, patriotic service from the government, and the electors of York have an opportunity now of testifying their appreciation of the wisdom and success of the government policy and its manner of administration.

Mr. McLeod wants this constituency to send him to Ottawa—for what purpose? To protest against the Government's course; to condemn the ministers for ruling wisely and well; to oppose anything and everything that does not emanate from Conservative sources; to declare to all Canada and the world that York county is tired of Liberal rule; to place this county in the cold shades of opposition for four years. Does Mr. McLeod think the electors of York are so blind to their own interests as to assume such an attitude towards a government that is admitted by even its honorable opponents to be working out the destinies of the country with an eye single to its good. What has Mr. McLeod to offer should this county elect him to parliament? What can he achieve for the constituency in opposition? Has he a better chance of securing material advantages for York than Mr. Gibson, who has the confidence and support of the government, who has already proved that he is constant and successful in representing the wants and desires of the electors at Ottawa?

Somebody will tell you that Mr. McLeod is a great talker, that his voice will be heard in Parliament, while Mr. Gibson makes no pretensions to public speaking. Well, we had a great talker representing us at Ottawa from 1896 to 1900, and what did he accomplish for us. Mr. Pickard and Mr. Temple were not great talkers, but they were useful representatives in Parliament.

Mr. Gibson is a man of practical experience, he knows the needs of the constituency better than Mr. McLeod, he is a supporter of the party in power, of the government that has made a most enviable record in the administration of the affairs of the country, he has the ear of the ministers, and is in a position to secure for the county, a measure of fair play and justice.

The electors should have no difficulty in choosing between Mr Gibson, a practical man of affairs, a supporter of the government, and Mr McLeod whose profession has not brought him into close touch with the people, and who is a bitter opponent, and unreasonable assailant of the administration.

Electors of York, mark your ballots on Dec. 23, for Mr. Gibson and the party of progress and prosperity.

TOMORROW NIGHT'S MEETING.

Citizens of Fredericton and vicinity, will have an opportunity tomorrow evening of hearing two of the leading public men of Nova Scotia discuss the issues of the political campaign at the Opera house, and we have no doubt there will be a crowded house.

Hon. D. C. Fraser, who has had a long experience as a public man, who has sat in the Nova Scotia legislature and government, and who for a number of years has represented Guysboro in parliament, is easily the leading stump speaker in Canada. Mr. Fraser, besides possessing an imposing presence, and fluent speech, is thoroughly posted in the public affairs of Canada, and his address tomorrow evening is looked forward to with intense interest.

Mr. E. M. Macdonald, the eloquent young M. P. P., for Picton, while tender in years, is quite an experienced public man. He has been a member of the local legislature for some years, and has run two Dominion elections, nearly defeating Sir Hibbert Tupper in the strong Conservative county of Picton. Mr. Macdonald spoke here in Mr. Gibson's interest during the last election and created a most favorable impression, and he and Mr. Fraser make a strong team.

Give the distinguished visitors a bumper house, and an enthusiastic reception.

THE FREEMAN'S ATTITUDE.

Several Roman Catholic gentlemen have complained to the Herald of the course which the St. John Freeman is pursuing with respect to the York election.

The members of that communion in this constituency are quite as capable as the men who control and edit the Freeman, to form an intelligent judgment on the issues of the campaign, and naturally they resent the interference and advice of that newspaper which is found in the ranks of Mr. McLeod that its proprietors, who are Conservatives, may have a slap at the Liberal government.

It is a great pity that a newspaper which is professedly a religious publication, should prostitute its columns by admitting thereto the most unfair and untruthful canvasses against the government. The Roman Catholic people have no quarrel with Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues, but the Conservative Roman Catholics, who inspire and control The Freeman, are working tooth and nail to discredit the administration.

That is why the Freeman is supporting Mr. McLeod, whose newspaper every week teems with paragraphs reflecting on the Roman Catholic church.

HOW ARE THEY ON PROHIBITION.

Mr. McLeod has induced Mr. Borden of Halifax and Mr. Hazen, M.P.P., to address a meeting here in his interest, and the invasion of the constituency by these gentlemen will be warmly resented by the leading Conservatives of York. Mr. Gibson's friends do not fear the effect of Mr. Borden or Mr. Hazen's oratory, but they are amused that the gentlemen from abroad should stultify themselves by taking a hand for Mr. McLeod, who only a few months ago, declared that he was independent of the Conservative leaders; he said that they could go their way and he would go his. Mr. McLeod's chief plank is prohibition and the electors should insist on a declaration from Messrs Borden and Hazen in the matter. Mr. Borden is the Conservative leader in parliament. What does he think of Mr. McLeod's platform, Mr. Hazen is the local Conservative leader. Will he declare himself a prohibitionist, and if he does, will he please inform his audience when he became converted.

My Lungs

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HE LACKS INFORMATION.

Mr. Ossie Crockett told the electors of Harvey, that Mr Tarte had the Quebec census returns padded so that his province would secure a larger representation in parliament. Mr Crockett is a University graduate and a lawyer, but his education seems to need a little touching up. If Mr. Crockett would study the constitution of Canada, he would discover that the British North America act fixes for all time the representation of Quebec in the House of Commons at 65, while the representation of the other provinces are to bear the same relation to their population as 65 does to the population of Quebec. The Victoria. B. C., Colonist, Conservative, has declared that there is no man outside of the lunatic asylum who believes that Mr Tarte caused the Quebec census returns to be padded, but the Colonist has evidently not heard of Mr Crockett.

The St. John Globe accomplished a feat unprecedented in New Brunswick journalism Saturday, when it issued a souvenir number of 42 pages, dealing with the past forty years' history of all the important interests of the city, besides many matters of a general character. The issue was in commemoration of the Globe's fortieth anniversary and Senator Ellis' four decades as editor and chief proprietor, and was very creditable in conception and execution. The Herald joins in the general congratulations to the Globe and its veteran editor on the strength and vigor which they exhibit advancing age.

Mr. McLeod and Mr. Sproule are declaring that Sir Wilfrid Laurier opposed the sending of Canadian soldiers to South Africa, and the Sun frantically makes the same absurd and untrue allegation. The Victoria Colonist, which is as good a Conservative as any of them says "that there is not a man in the Dominion who believes what the St. John Sun said last week, namely, that Sir Wilfrid Laurier is opposed to sending a contingent to South Africa."

The Sun declares that the slander that Mr McLeod is not supported by the leading Conservatives of York is pretty well exploded, and that the members of that party are rallying to Mr McLeod's support. The Sun is displaying amazing ignorance of the situation in this constituency. It cannot name a dozen leading Conservatives in York who are supporting Mr McLeod. The Sun is making a laughing stock of itself among the Conservatives here, and some of its friends should press this fact on the Sun Editor's attention.

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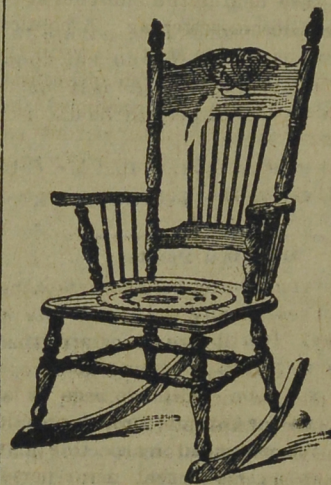
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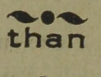
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