

THE DAILY HERALD

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W. K. C. PARLEE, L. C. MACNUTT,
Manager. Editor

DAILY HERALD.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1903.

A FICKLE CONSTITUENCY.

Mr. Whitney, leader of the Conservative opposition in the Ontario legislature, and his friends are certainly justified in exulting over the result of the local bye election in North Renfrew. The contest took place Saturday and the Conservative candidate Mr. Dunlop was elected by a majority of six hundred.

The constituency was vacated by the death of Mr. Munro, soon after the general election in 1902. Mr. Munro was an exceptionally strong man, and his majority was 459, so that Saturday's great turnover once more demonstrates the fickleness of the North Renfrew electors.

Because the constituency went Liberal in the last local and federal elections, it has been represented that North Renfrew was a pretty safe Liberal seat, but its history does not bear out that assertion. It has been Liberal and Conservative by turns, changing from one political side to the other with the regularity of clock work. Since Confederation up to Saturday there had been fourteen elections for the local legislature in the county, the Conservatives winning eight of that number and the Liberals six. Four of these were bye-elections and on every occasion the constituency changed its allegiance. In federal as well as local politics North Renfrew has proved its fickleness. Since 1867 there have been nine Dominion contests, the Conservatives winning six and the Liberals three. These elections in detail were as follows:

Provincial elections:
1867—Supple (Con.) beat McAdam (Lib.) 487 maj.
1869 (bye election)—Murray (Lib.) beat Deacon (Con.) 66 maj.
1871—Deacon (Con.) beat Murray (Lib.) 152 maj.
1875—Deacon (Con.) beat Moffat (Lib.) 115 maj.
1879—Murray (Lib.) beat Deacon (Con.) 104 maj.
1882 (bye election)—McAllister, (Con.) acclamation.
1883—Murray (Lib.) beat Deacon (Con.) 168 maj.
1886—Murray (Lib.) beat Dunlop (Con.) 86 maj.
1889—Dunlop (Con.) beat Murray (Lib.) 88 maj.
1892 (bye election)—Barr (Lib.) beat Finlay (Con.) 418 maj.
1894—Barr (Lib.) beat Shaw (Con.) 320 maj.
1898—White (Con.) beat Barr (Lib.) 158 maj.
1900 (bye election)—Munro (Lib.) acclamation.
1902—Munro (Lib.) beat White, jr., (Con.) 459 maj.

Dominion elections:
1867—Fankin, Con., 86.
1872—Findlay, Lib., 162.
1874—White, Con., 102.
1878—White, Con., 353.
1882—White, Con., 143.
1887—White, Con., 248.
1891—White, Con., 79.
1896—Mackie, Lib., 63.
1900—Mackie, Lib., 132.

It will be seen from the above record that in a total of twenty-three local and federal elections, the Conservatives won fourteen and the Liberals only nine, so that if anything North Renfrew may be claimed as a Conservative constituency.

In view therefore of the frequent changes in the county, and the greater frequency of Conservative than Liberal victories, it is rather absurd to claim the result of Saturday's contest as a fair indication of the general political feeling in Ontario or in Canada. Mr. Dunlop, Conservative, elect is said to enjoy a very large degree of personal popularity and

this alone may have turned the scale in his favor, although no doubt the tale that Gamey told was swallowed by the electors, and the vicious politics which he represents may be said to have been endorsed by the electorate.

The Ross government no doubt received a serious blow by the loss of the seat, and will meet the legislature with a majority of only three, rather too narrow a margin for comfort and effective administration, but they are to blame for leaving the constituency vacant for nearly two years. There is no valid excuse for practically disfranchising a constituency for that length of time, and the result should be a warning to governments not to trifle with the constitutional privileges of the people.

The Tory press are already demanding the resignation of the government, but it is not likely any such thing will happen just yet. There may be a dissolution of the legislature and a general election if Mr. Ross finds himself too much hampered to carry on the business of the country, but there would be no sense in the government resigning, so long as Mr. Whitney, the opposition leader, does not command a majority of the legislature.

The probabilities are that the government will continue in office, meeting the legislature and continuing to govern the province so long as its followers outnumber the opposition in the House, and where party lines are so sharply drawn as they are in Ontario a government majority of three may prove adequate.

The Tory shout that the result in North Renfrew shows that the country is against Laurier, is just one of those little Tory ebullitions quite natural under the circumstances, but utterly devoid of reason. Our Tory friends have had such a few triumphs in recent years that they seize upon the most trivial incidents if favorable to their cause, and exalt them into events of enormous political importance. North Renfrew, even if Saturday's election had any direct relation to federal politics, is only one of over two hundred constituencies in Canada, its fickleness in political matters is demonstrated by the record we have quoted, and in the federal contest the Tories will have to meet a strong and popular government with a record of clean progressive administration, and not a ministry which for years has held office by a very narrow majority.

A NEW SHERIFF.

It is understood that Mr. John O'Brien, ex-M. P. of Nelson, has been appointed Sheriff of Northumberland to succeed the late Robert R. Call, whose sudden death occurred last week.

The selection of Mr. O'Brien for the responsible and dignified position will meet with general approval in Northumberland, and his numerous friends throughout the province will unite with the Herald in heartily congratulating him on his preferment.

Mr. O'Brien sat for Northumberland in the Legislature for thirteen years, from 1890 to 1903, and proved himself an active, intelligent and useful representa-

tive, looking sharply after his county's interests and taking part in the general legislation of the country. Among his fellow members Mr. O'Brien was very popular, and his defeat in the last election was generally regretted.

The new sheriff was born at Nelson in 1850, has always resided there, and for a number of years has conducted a general trading and lumbering business in which he was very successful. He served as councillor and warden of Northumberland before entering the legislature, and his experience in the municipal council well fitted him for the larger legislative duties of the Assembly.

Mr. O'Brien married Miss McPeake, eldest daughter of the late Postmaster McPeake of Fredericton, a lady much esteemed and one admirably suited for the discharge of the social duties connected with her husband's new position.

Mr. Tarte has been offered the Conservative nomination in Berthier, but asks time to consider. Mr. Tarte, like Mr. Foster, is looking for a safe seat, and he is not sure that Berthier fills the bill.

Lever's Y-Z (Wise Head) Disinfectant Soap Powder is better than other soap powders. It is also acts as a disinfectant.

Peoples Bank of New Brunswick

A dividend of 4 per cent. on the Capital Stock of this Bank, for the half year ending 31st inst., will be payable to the stockholders on or after Friday the 15th January, 1904.

J. W. SPURDEN,
Manager.

Fredericton, Dec. 15th, 1903

LOST.

A Scotch Collie Dog about six months old strayed from home of undersigned on Tuesday last. Answers to name "Collie." Finder will be rewarded on returning to
WALTER DUNPHY,
Douglas.

Dec. 24—dlwll

Red Heifer Found.

Found in woods at Kingsclear, one red Heifer two years old. Owner can have same by describing property and paying expenses. If not claimed before January 15th will be sold. Address
JAMES MILLS,
Central Kingsclear.

Dec. 24—dlwsl

WANTED.

A bright girl of about sixteen years, with fair education, to learn the printing business. Apply at the
HERALD OFFICE.

Dec. 23—dlf

W. H. IRVINE, M.D.,

Physician and Surgeon.

155 KING STREET
(Adjacent Methodist Parsonage).

Telephone 350

DR. F. W. BARBOUR,

SURGEON DENTIST,

President and Prizeman Boston Dental College Class 1891. Registered by Mass. State Board of Legislation. Facilities and experience in all branches of Dentistry. Special attention given to saving aching or abscessed teeth.

Young lady in attendance.

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Barrister, Notary, etc.

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A Merry Christmas

... AND ...

A Happy New Year

TO ALL.

Jas. D. Fowler,

The Optician and Jeweler,

Opposite Post Office, - - - Fredericton, N. B.

DECEMBER 21st, 1903

USEFUL
CHRISTMAS
PRESENTS.

Women's White Aprons,
Fancy Lawn Handkerchiefs,
Fancy Silk Handkerchiefs,
A nice Umbrella, an Eiderdown Quilt,
A Ready-to-wear Skirt, a Boston Shopping Bag,
A pair of good Blankets, a Silk Blouse.

JOHN J. WEDDALL & SON

Agent for Standard Patterns.

CHRISTMAS FURS

Now is the time to purchase Furs.

Ladies' Black Astrakhan Jackets
from \$25.00 to \$45.00

Fur Lined Capes from \$15.00
to \$48.00

Ladies' and Children's Storm Collars, Muffs, Caps and
Mitts in all qualities of Fur.

DEVER BROS.

Dr. Bark's Toilet
- Ammonia -

Perfumed with Violet, for the Bath. 25
cents pint bottle. Dr. Bark's Violet Witch
Hazel, an elegant toilet requisite. 25 cents
a bottle.

Druggist, opp
City Hall.
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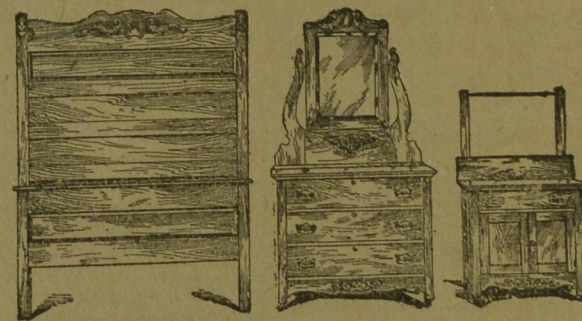
Geo. Y. Dibblee

Portrait Frames

We have just received a choice line of medium grade 16 in. by 20 in. Portrait Frames. These Frames will be sold much cheaper than they can be bought from travelling salesmen.

JOHN G. ADAMS,

Down Town Next above Queen Hotel. 'Phone 26



Christmas is over but New Years is yet to come. If you have neglected to buy your Christmas presents you will have a splendid chance to select New Years gifts. We are showing a splendid line of

- Bedroom Furniture -

Furniture, Bedroom Sets, Dressing Tables, Chiffoniers, Springs and Mattresses, Iron Beds.

LEMONT & SONS.