

THE MEETING LAST NIGHT.

Mismanagement of the Peters Government Clearly Exposed.

Rousing Speeches by Messrs. Blake and Paton, Senator Ferguson and Others.

Mayor Dawson presided at the Liberal-Conservative rally meeting in Market Hall last evening, and there was a large attendance of electors notwithstanding the very warm weather. The greatest enthusiasm was manifested, and the remarks of the candidates and other speakers were listened to with the closest attention and warmly applauded.

The chairman explained that the object of the meeting was called to recall the nominations made at the convention recently held in the Lyceum. He then referred to the present deplorable financial condition of the province and condemned the misbusinesslike management of the Peters administration. There was a debt of about \$500,000 hanging over the Province at the present time, notwithstanding the fact that large sums of money had been wrung from the people in the shape of taxes, some \$4,000 of which was taken from the citizens of Charlottetown as income tax. The city members did not seem to have any opinion of their own, and apparently left everything to their leader. They gave the City Council no assistance when they sought \$1000 for the park roadway nor when they wished to tax houses and one or two other things in order to add to the revenue of the city and thus lessen the burdens of citizens. They could give the delegations from the council no answer till they saw Mr. Peters. He felt sure that Messrs. Blake and Paton were elected they would see that Charlottetown got justice. He was glad to be able to state that both these gentlemen were coming with a splendid measure of success in their canvass, and that the prospects for their election were excellent.

Before resuming his seat Mayor Dawson explained that the government candidates, Messrs. Rogers and Prowse, had been invited to address the electors at this meeting and asked if they were present. They were not in attendance.

Mr. J. T. Jenkins then came forward and nominated Patrick Blake, Esq., as a fit and proper candidate for the suffrage of the people. Mr. Blake had represented the people in the Legislature before and gave the fullest satisfaction. He felt sure that, with his increased experience he would now be a better representative than before.

In the present contest, Mr. Jenkins pointed out was not one between the Liberal-Conservative and Liberals, but one between the people who had property to lose and those who seemed anxious to squander it. If the people wish to keep clear of financial ruin they must bring about a change of government. The large sum of \$138,000 had been taken from the people in taxes. Notwithstanding this fact there was a deficit each year and the deficit of 1893, the election year, was much larger than that of any other year. This unscrupulous government evidently used the people's money to promote their election. The people should elect an honest government in order to remedy this deplorable state of affairs, and he believed that if every one put his shoulder to the wheel there would be little doubt as to the overthrow of the Peters administration.

Mr. J. T. Mellish had much pleasure in regarding Mr. Blake's nomination. Mr. Blake had been their representative before and had rendered good service to the city. He thought it would be quite safe to trust him again, and he was sure the people generally felt that way too.

Mr. Blake's nomination was then put to the meeting and unanimously carried amid applause.

Mr. Thomas Handrahan proposed James Paton, Esq., as a suitable candidate for the property-holders' vote. Mr. Paton was well known and would make an excellent representative. He felt sure the people would give him their support.

Mr. Fredk. Perkins seconded Mr. Paton's nomination, which, upon being put to the meeting was carried unanimously amid applause.

As soon as the cheers which greeted him had subsided, Mr. Paton thanked the electors for the splendid nomination tendered him and expressed his determination to put up a good fight in the effort to win. He said there was a great turn in the political tide and many hitherto strong Liberals were now opposed to the Peters administration. He was a Grit once him self, but left that party when he found they were not doing what he thought was right. If elected he would do all in his power to promote the best interests of the city and the province at large. He was sorry the government candidates were not here to speak for themselves, as he did not wish to say anything behind their backs that he would not say before their faces. However it was their own fault that they were not present as they had been invited to attend and address the meeting. The Peters administration was a most extravagant one, and under them a debt of about \$500,000 had

been rolled up. Many contracts had been given by Mr. Peters without consulting any one. He seemed to be the whole government. Our representatives did not stand up for our rights. There was a shortage of about \$14,000 each year on our ferries, and there were many other matters that required looking after. Extras for the Hillsborough, for instance, amounted to \$4000, and now the Southport was doing nothing. The present was certainly a critical period in the history of the province. Some years ago the city began to fall behind financially, and deficits were the order of the day. The people became aroused to a sense of their duty and sent Mr. Blake and some other gentlemen to the Council Board to effect an improvement. This they did, and thanks to their efforts a better state of affairs now exists. Let the people assert themselves again. Let them place principle above party and do all in their power to free the province from the Peters incubus.

Mr. Blake was the next speaker, and was received with cheers. He thanked the electors for the hearty nomination tendered him, and said he would do his best to win. He thought he had retired from political life, but his friends induced him to change his mind and he was once more a candidate for their suffrage. It was time for the best men of both parties to band together and lift the province out of its present deplorable financial condition. There is a debt of half a million dollars hanging over the province now, and if the same method of government is continued where will we be four years hence? The policy of drift should be stopped. Reference had been made to the time in the history of the city when its financial affairs were in a bad way and the people of both sides of politics combined and effected an improvement. This is what seems to be necessary now. Country should be placed above party, and if he were elected he would only support such legislation as was in the best interests of the people. He was sorry Messrs. Prowse and Rogers were not present. They had been invited through the press and privately by the secretary of the Liberal-Conservative Association, but had failed to respond and defend their conduct in the Legislature. These gentlemen had proved untrue to the trust reposed in them by the citizens. When Hon. Mr. Peters, despite his pre-election representations to the electors, decided to tax the people, Messrs. Rogers and Prowse, so far as he knew did not raise their voice against the tax imposed upon our citizens. It was their duty to oppose such taxation unless an equivalent were given in the shape of a grant for the maintenance of the streets of the city. When he (Mr. Blake) contested the Fort Augustus district with Mr. Peters he told the people taxes were necessary. But Mr. Peters laughed this statement to scorn, and said such was not the case. Mr. Peters was elected, and after calling a meeting at Mount Stewart, proceeded to impose taxes. This was the way Mr. Peters kept faith with the people. Mr. Peters is the whole Government, went on Mr. Blake. There might as well be only one man as thirty. Never before has Charlottetown been unrepresented in the executive. This is an insult to both the representatives of the city and the people who elected them. If the people endorse the conduct of Rogers and Prowse he thought they were easily satisfied. His colleague and himself had been around a good deal, and were well pleased with the reception they got. He never received so many kindnesses from his Liberal friends. He did not meet anyone who could endorse the conduct of their late representatives. Men should be sent to the Legislature who would run the affairs of the province on business principles. He (Mr. Blake) was opposed to the policy of debt no matter by what government it was pursued. The present government when in opposition strongly denounced deficits, but when they obtained power they did not effect a change. The government has borrowed from the banks and from business men, and the interest is now almost three times as large as it was under the preceding administration. They took \$138,000 in taxes from the people, and each year there was a deficit. The average deficit of the Peters government was \$65,000 whilst that of the Sullivan government was only \$37,000. And the Sullivan government did not impose taxes during the last nine years they were in power. The present government took the right to vote at provincial elections from the civil service officers and other employees of the federal government and now they restore this right when their friends are in power and they hope to be able to use the votes to further their own ends. A mean and dishonest canvass of the railway men is being made. Railway employees and their

outside friends are told that if they vote for the Government candidates their position will be secure, whilst those outside who are clamoring for places are told that after the election all these men will be dismissed. Either the employees or those desiring work are being deceived. He (Mr. Blake) wanted no man to vote for him who would lose his bread and butter by so doing. A victory won at such a price would be one which he did not desire. The Government never contributed a cent to the jubilee celebration, nor to the park roadway. This was neither fair nor right. If he were elected he would never do anything that would bring discredit upon Charlottetown, and he would support no party that would not do it justice. The people had a splendid opportunity of ousting the Peters administration, and he felt sure they would take advantage of it.

Senator Ferguson was the next speaker and was warmly received. He ridiculed the claim of the present Government that their predecessors did as they had done, and imposed taxes after they had promised not to do. When the Sullivan government went to the country he did not promise to repeal the Assessment Act. They continued the Assessment Act for three years, but they did not do so in violation of any promise made to the people. This act was repealed in 1881. In 1880-81 they had surpluses of \$12,000 and \$14,000. Subsequent events proved that it was a mistake to repeal the act. They had several deficits during the remainder of their term. Had they imposed Peters taxation they would have realized \$400,000. Then they would have left about \$100,000 in the treasury and a capital would have been unimpaired. He (Mr. Ferguson) always told the electors he would hold himself free in matters of taxation. Mr. Peters told the electors he was not going to impose taxes without coming back to the people for their authority to put them on. Three years later, when Mr. Peters knew the deficit would be \$12,000, he again appealed to the people and told them the day of taxation was far off, and that the Quebec resolutions increasing the Provincial subsidies would be carried out when the Grits obtained power at Ottawa. Some time afterwards Mr. Peters called a meeting at Mount Stewart and informed those who were present that he had decided to tax the people. This he has done. His land tax system is base and iniquitous, as under it people are allowed to undervalue their lands. Mr. Peters told the people improvements were not to be taxed. But he deceived the people in this matter also, for last year the law was amended to admit of this. Mr. Peters claims, went on Senator Ferguson, that as a result of some question asked by me in the Senate a large sum has been lost to the province. Now the question which he (Senator Ferguson) asked was a very simple one. He simply asked Sir Oliver Mowat if it was the intention of the Government to carry out the provisions of the resolutions regarding provincial subsidies passed at the Quebec conference. Sir Oliver's reply was that these resolutions were very good at the time they were passed but they were not so good now, and the government was not prepared to carry them out. That settled the subsidy matter, so there is nothing to expect from that source. Mr. Peters had asked for arbitration regarding our railway claims, non-fulfillment of the terms of union and other matters. He (Senator Ferguson) consulted with the Liberal-Conservative members from this province on the subject and they decided that it would be madness to accept arbitration in the matter of public works claiming that in this particular Prince Edward Island should be treated the same as the other provinces. There need be no arbitration on these matters. If Sir Louis Davies has not influence enough with the Government of which he is a member to get justice for this province he should not be there. What is the use of supporting a government if these matters are to be submitted to arbitration. Independence is very valuable. Neither Premier Sullivan or any man in his administration accepted favours from the late Government. They were perfectly independent and fought our claims as strongly as the Dominion Government were our opponents. He asked the electors to elect Blake and Paton, as they were men of experience and business ability and in every way worthy of the confidence of the people.

Mr. McCourt, the candidate for the Fort Augustus District in opposition to Mr. J. H. Cumminskey, followed, exposing the mismanagement of the Peters administration and expressing the hope that the people would rise in their might and relieve the province from the misrule of the Peters administration. His remarks were received with applause.

Mr. J. P. Tanton was the last speaker and in a ringing speech he arraigned the Peters administration with special reference to the manner in which Charlottetown had been treated. His eloquent remarks drew forth applause.

Cheers for Messrs. Blake and Paton and Mayor Dawson closed the meeting.

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BORN
At Tryon on the 8th inst., to Mr and Mrs. Henry Smith, a son.

MARRIED.
At the residence of the bride's parents, Savage Harbor, July 7th, by Rev. A. raise, Nathan David Douglas to Sarah Oattie, daughter of Fred W. Coffin.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM SMITH.

A Lamentable Accident Deprives Charlottetown of an Aged and Highly Respected Citizen.

Many residents of this city will deeply regret to learn that Mr. William Smith, of Hillsborough Square, lost his life on Wednesday night as the result of a lamentable accident. In September last, nearly a year ago, Mr. Smith had a stroke of paralysis, from which he recovered, after a long illness. The effect of the stroke upon his brain was, however, noticeable in the fact that he has since imagined himself young and strong and able to take care of himself, as in former years. On this account he several times placed himself in positions of danger, and his relatives were under the necessity of keeping him under surveillance. On Wednesday last, accompanied by his wife and sister-in-law, he went to Rocky Point on a little picnic excursion. During the course of the afternoon, while sitting on the shore, he expressed a desire to go and see the Indian encampment in the immediate neighborhood, and left his companions for that purpose. As he did not soon return they set out to meet him. But he was not to be found. One of the Indians had seen him passing by, but he could not be seen or heard. The Indians kindly joined in the search and the local city was scoured until dark, in vain. On the following morning the search was renewed and carried on throughout yesterday. Someone had seen him following a path through Mr. Newson's fields towards the road leading from Rocky Point to the South shore. Late in the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Smith followed that road to the shore, and, proceeding around the shore, discovered the body of their father among the rocks at the foot of the high bank in the vicinity of the summer residence of Mr. Justice Fitzgerald. When he reached the road, Mr. Smith, whether mistakenly or intentionally, turned to the left instead of to the right, and having reached the shore, probably in the gloom of the evening, fell over the bank. There was a deep gash in his temple and it is not probable that he suffered after his fall.

Mr. Smith was in his eightieth year and was one of our oldest residents. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. Isaac Smith and was born in Charlottetown in December of the year 1817. He was twice married, and he leaves a widow and six children, including Mrs. James Beales and Miss Smith, Messrs. Henry, Arthur and Fred Smith, of this city, and Mr. Alfred Smith of Colorado. The bereaved family have THE EXAMINER'S sincere sympathy.

SHIP NEWS.

Port of Charlottetown.

ENTERED.

July 8—Phoebe and Emma, Peters, Sydney; ss Electra, McLaren, Montague; Leonore, Jimmo, Pictou; Fred M Batt, Snow, St. Peters; Faany, Doiron, New London.

CLEARED.

July 8—SS Electra, McLaren, Montague; Leonore, Jimmo, Campbellton, N B; Morning Star, Arsenau, Pictou; Laura C, Vanamber, Northport; M and E Jackson, Bennett, Richibucto; ss Poline, Lachance, St. John's, Nfld.



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