

## PARTY BEFORE PROHIBITION

This Was the Essence of the Charge Against Hon. G. W. Ross.

THEY LET THEIR ANGRY PASSIONS RISE.

Mr. Ross With Fire and Sarcasm Defends His Action in the Late Contests.

Messrs. Buchanan and Watkins Demand That the Minister's Name be Erased From the Officers' List. And If They Had Not Brought Hundreds of Witnesses to the Convention, the Undesired Spectacle Lasts for Two Hours—Defensive Detail of the Hamilton Delegates and Their Abettors, Whereupon Four Foreign-License Reform and Local Option Discussed.

A large number of the delegates who attended the Convention yesterday morning were expecting a full display of the Mayor's promise, that there would be something "spicy and entertaining." They were not disappointed, for the question of Hon. G. W. Ross' fitness to occupy a seat in the Executive Committee of the Alliance was very fully discussed, and was decided in the affirmative.

This is the amendment to the nomination of officers which caused such very warm speeches on both sides. That, while the recognition of the Hon. G. W. Ross as a prominent temperance man who has done splendid service for the reform, the request that his name be brought forward for an office in this Alliance was not well known to the delegates, and the line of political action adopted by this body. Therefore, resolved, that his name be omitted from the list of vice-presidents.

The main cause of objection to Mr. Ross as an officer of the Alliance was that he did not support Messrs. Buchanan and Watkins, prohibition candidates in Hamilton at the recent Dominion election, but, on the contrary, supported their opponents.

Mr. Ross invited discussion. It was hoped and intended that there should be no discussion, but Mr. Ross himself came forward and asked permission to speak. He hoped that none would attempt to close off discussion on his account. He said that about him except what he saw in the papers, and he would now like to hear the criticisms of his conduct from the delegates themselves.

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