

Reform constituencies in the province to address themselves earnestly to the important duty of fixing upon the candidates. In doing so, they should remember that there were two points always to be considered, two objects always to be obtained—the first was to carry the constituency with the principle by insuring the success of the candidate of the party, who over that candidate may be—and the second, the sending, if possible, a man who can be thoroughly relied on as a staunch supporter of our principles. [Loud cheers.] The former it is in the power of every constituency in which the reformers have the majority to accomplish, if they will be but united—As to the latter, no man can dive into another's breast and be so sure of what lies there, as to be certain that he may not be deceived in him. It may be, therefore, that in some cases the gentleman who may be the Reform candidate, may not in the estimation of all our friends be the fittest man, either as respects talents, tried principles, or firmness of purpose. Nevertheless, it is equally the duty of all friends to the cause, to sustain him to the utmost of their ability, and with all their influence. [Loud cheering.] If by their coldness in acting, the opposite candidate succeeded, they must remember that they are as much responsible to the great body of the party, and have practically done as much injury to the cause, as if they had actually voted for the other side.—[Cheers.] If the candidate of the party be returned, the constituency can at all events and under all circumstances be claimed as going for the principle, even though it should prove that they had been mistaken in their man, and that he turn traitor to the cause. But if by lukewarmness, or division, the election is lost, the parliamentary vote is lost equally as in the former case; and the other party have the right to claim for all practical purposes, the constituency itself as going with them in principle in any general estimation as to the sentiments of the country at large. He would repeat therefore, that it was a duty which every man owed to the principles which he professed, to the great body of his political friends throughout the province who were engaged in the same struggle, and to that country whose best interests he believed would be promoted by the triumph of those principles, to sacrifice every private and personal consideration on the altar of the public good, and to unite heart and hand in support of the candidate of the party. [Cheers.] And

he would say further—for it was not a time nor an occasion to deal otherwise than with the most perfect candour—that those who were backward in recognizing and acting upon this necessary principle were not entitled to be considered true friends to the cause of which they were desirous of being considered supporters. [Cheers.] He had said that this was not a time for trifling. Their friends of Lower Canada, who had stood so nobly by them in the hour of their political adversity, expected, and had a right to expect, that at least they should exhibit unanimity amongst themselves; and he would assure them that if the next elections were lost through want of union, the consequences would be both humiliating and disastrous. They all remembered the boast of what had been called the old Compact Party, that they alone were capable of conducting the government of the country. They, the Reformers, had fought the good fight of the constitution, and had the proud boast of having established their great principle so far, that even their opponents in power have to profess to conduct the government in accordance with it, and to admit that it can now be conducted on no other. [Cheers.] Think, then, what would be the shame which would mantle every face, if, after having achieved this great victory, they, the Reformers of Canada, should, by their internal dissensions, prove themselves incapable of giving effect to their own principles, by taking upon them the administration of the government, if circumstances should arise under which they should be called to do so. And yet every man who withholds any part of his energies in the coming contest, however specious the pretence under which he may shelter, or however skilful the fallacy by which he may deceive himself, will, by so doing, be aiding in this work of self-degradation—be maintaining his opponents in power and place, and verifying their proud boast, that they, and none but they, are capable of administering the government of his country. He put it to them, then, as a body—to each of them individually—to every man in the country to whom the great principles which they were met that night to sustain were dear—whether they would lend themselves to the verification of this proud boast of their opponents? [Cries of No! No!! No!!!] Then let them remember that there was but one way of avoiding it, and that was by sacrificing every other consideration to the one great principle that “UNION IS STRENGTH.”