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BLAIN

AS MAYOR FOR THE YEAR 1887.

ELECTION TAKES PLACE ON
MONDAY, JAN. 3rd, 1887.

TO THE ELECTORS

OF THE

CITY OF TORONTO.

I have accepted the nomination as candidate to contest the election for the Mayoralty. If elected I will give the citizens my best services uprightly, and, as far as I can, manage in a business way the important affairs that come under the attention of the Mayor. In speaking at Mr. Howland's nomination a year ago I pointed out that he entertained wholly erroneous views of the duties appertaining to the office he sought to fill, that the Mayor had to depend on his Council and ought to ratify its honest, deliberate actions. I then ventured to predict that he would not be able to carry into effect his proposed reforms, many of which, to speak charitably of them, were very questionable. The year of his mayoralty has expired, and although he and his friends have many apologies to make, these facts are well-known to all who take an intelligent interest in civic affairs. He has not attended to his duties on the committees where the real business of the city is done, and having quarrelled with his Council he has brought the affairs of the city to a practical standstill. They are in confusion and stagnation, the civic business cannot progress, and the deserving labourers are unemployed. All, no doubt, with good intentions, but by misdirected zeal. In brief, the Mayor's own action has rendered him powerless for good while filling the civic chair. If his contention be right, the whole municipal law must be changed, as it never contemplated such a condition of things as exists to-day in this city.

The limited time at my disposal prevents me from addressing you at any great length. I may, however, say that it is well known to the citizens that I am identified with many of the most important interests in Toronto and have a deep stake in its progress. It will therefore be my interest, as I would feel it to be my duty, to push forward all necessary and useful reforms.

If elected I will endeavour to direct the attention of the Council to practical measures of improvement rather than to experiments of doubtful utility, however well intended; to avoid extremes in the Civic Government, and restore harmony between the Council and its Executive Head.

In conclusion I have to express my deep regret at the intemperate and offensive language used by the Mayor in closing his speech at the nomination, and on behalf of the many honourable citizens who are supporting me I repudiate his language in the most pointed manner.

Yours faithfully,

D. BLAIN.

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