

other purposes than the expectation of his being elected. As to the Reform candidate, Mr. Charles MacKenzie, having been successful, it is now said that "there was nothing surprising about this. Even with two candidates in the field, it (the success of the New Party candidate) would have been a difficult task, while with three it was impossible." But the facts as to their expectation of success, and as to the expected effect of there being three candidates, were far otherwise—if the public assurance of the New Party organ during the contest were conceived in truth and righteousness. When their candidate was nominated the public were told that "the enthusiasm of the Convention was unbounded"; that "it will be a stiff, uphill fight, but with thorough organization and earnest efforts a splendid victory may be gained." A meeting held the following evening was declared to have "overflowed with enthusiasm." In subsequent numbers their candidate's prospects were announced to be so bright as to have excited "the thorough alarm of the Liberal leaders," and even their "positive consternation." It was declared that "staunch Liberals all over the riding refuse to support the Liberal nominee, and are voluntarily offering to support Mr. McRae"; and that "the New Party is growing rapidly every day in West Lambton, and the conviction grows that it is going to win." In the August number of *The Bulletin* it was announced in large type:—"Lambton bids good-bye to the old parties; a battle to be fought; and we are going to win." A letter was copied from another journal affirming that "the prospects are that West Lambton will on the day of election roll up a majority for Mr. McRae." The editors themselves asserted that "the electors of West Lambton will vindicate the cause of right and truth, and do honour to themselves by returning Mr. McRae at the head of the poll." With respect to the effect of there being

THREE CANDIDATES,

the organ announced to the public when the third, the Conservative, Mr. Fleck, was nominated, that his nomination would "not change the situation so far as the New Party is concerned, but it clears the atmosphere of misapprehensions. . . . Lambton is to have a three-cornered contest, which is all the better for the New Party." The organ directors never changed their minds as to this. In October the public were told that "prospects in West Lambton are decidedly good. Meetings have been held all over the Riding, and new adhesions to the party are of frequent occurrence." In an editorial there was the following statement: