

Hobbs and Victory!

The Great Mass Meeting in the Grand Opera House Last Night.

Splendid Reception and Sensible Address of the Citizen Candidate.

Honest John Dryden and Hon. Geo. W. Ross, the Silver-Tongued Son of Middlesex, Also Heard From—Exposure of the Contentions of Messrs. Marter and Howland—The Mowat Government Will Hold the Fort for Another Four Years—Mr. Marter Hopelessly in the Minority—Mr. Hobbs on the Foolish Bachelor Cry—The Minister of Agriculture on the "Peanut" Politics of Mr. Marter—Hon. G. W. Ross Dissects the "Three Mr. Esserys" Amid Uproarious Laughter—Unbounded Enthusiasm of the Audience—Hundreds Turned Away.

Before 7 o'clock last night tides of humanity began to flow from all portions of the city toward the corner of King and Richmond streets.

At 7 o'clock the tide had flooded a portion of King street at the main entrance of the Grand Opera House.

At 7:15 the torrent grew so broad and deep that it threatened to sweep the doors away, and when these floodgates were removed it surged through the corridors, filling the great interior and overflowing into the aisles and open passages and back into the street again. Hundreds upon hundreds were turned away; even the ladies found no vacant flooring for their tiny feet. They lined up by the hundred along the passageways, in the boxes and around the platform; every nook and cranny was filled. Not even at the great meeting last June, when the veteran Premier was welcomed, was the crowd greater than last night. It was an earnest, bright, intelligent audience, also, and the good points which the speakers made were warmly cheered. Even the interruptions were good-natured, and altogether the meeting was the most enthusiastic that has been held in the city for many days.

The speeches were good. The orators held the audience spell-bound from the time the chairman set the ball rolling till the last sentence of the last speaker, Mr. T. H. Pardon, was uttered. The opponents of the citizen candidate have been saying he could not talk; but the address which Mr. Hobbs made last night shows that he can talk as well as the best of them, always excepting the professionals. But Mr. Hobbs talks to the point. He said more in five minutes last night than his opponent said in half an hour when he appeared in the same place last week. Mr. Hobbs, however, recognizes that time is money to all busy people, and he does not use a million words to say what a busy man can say by using a thousand words. That Mr. Hobbs is a universal favorite was demonstrated by the deafening cheers with which he was greeted.

The visiting statesmen had an ovation, and their addresses left an impression in marked contrast with the speeches made by Mr. Marter and Mr. Howland last week. They did not tire anyone, and kept the audience in the greatest good humor. The speech of Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture, was that of a practical farmer—a successful man, a hard worker, an able administrator. His arraignment of the "peanut politics," surplus contentions and prohibition hedging of Mr. Marter was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. The speech of the evening, in point of oratorical effect, was given by Hon. George W. Ross, Minister of Education, the honored son of Middlesex. It was strongly argumentative, good-natured, conclusive in its points.

The meeting afforded the strongest possible omen of success for the citizen candidate on Nov. 20.

ON THE PLATFORM.

Among those on the platform were the following:

Hon. Geo. W. Ross,	Hon. John Dryden,	F. Holden,	Alex. McDonald,
Thos. S. Hobbs,	V. Cronyn,	Ald. Parnell,	D. McLeod,
R. Boston, M.P.,	John Campbell,	Arch. Black,	U. A. Buchner,
J. W. Little,	J. B. McKillop,	Donald Ross,	A. Shambles,
John Cameron,	Chas. E. Leonard,	W. T. Strong,	E. F. Robertson,
J. C. Trebilcock,	Frank Leonard,	James Perkins,	Fred Evans,
E. Beltz,	Ald. J. W. Jones,	T. Irving (Toronto),	J. Cassidy,
J. J. Spettigue,	Geo. Taylor,	R. J. Munro,	C. H. Fawcett,
F. Bayley,	G. W. Armstrong,	Thos. Phalen,	W. S. Niles,
A. Talbot,	Wm. Stevely,	D. T. Ware,	H. Perkins,
C. F. Colwell,	E. R. Cameron,	Wm. Moore,	E. W. Seachard,
Dr. McLellan,	John Fairgrieve,	Geo. Belton,	C. B. Niles,
G. A. McGillivray,	C. H. Ivey,	Thos. A. Browne,	O. Mooney,
Geo. M. Reid,	M. H. Rowland,	J. P. Thompson,	A. J. Jarvis,
R. A. Little,	Ald. Scurrow,	E. Wilkie,	Chas. Cater,
D. Kegan,	Ed. Blake,	D. Campbell,	J. Sullivan,
M. Anderson,	M. Masurel,	S. Yelland,	Thos. McCurdy,
A. O. Jeffrey,	Ald. W. Hesman,	H. Edmunds,	Wm. Giendinning,
Geo. Robinson,	James Cowan,	J. Holmes,	Jas. Kerrigan,
Robert Adams,	F. McNeil,	E. Fitzgerald,	Chas. Moorehouse,
Dr. Butler,	Thomas Coffey,	Arch. Sharp,	Henry Reason,
James Gillean,	John Marshall,	Jas. K. Milne,	F. McCarthy,
Ed. Saunders,	Henry Beaton,	W. Brophy,	G. Nichols,
Wm. Spencer,	G. Trebilcock,	G. Kelly,	Wm. McGirr,
Robt. Henderson,	Esquire Lookwood	John Smith,	P. Pocock,
George Laing,	(Delaware),	A. McVae,	B. Fanning,
Frank Sage,	W. T. Edge,	T. C. Thornhill,	J. Gillespie,
Dr. Belton,	A. Fleming,	John Herald,	D. Dewar,
Chas. Bayley,	John Dawson,	J. Peacock,	O. Sherlock,
Ex-Ald. Weir,	Dr. Cl. T. Campbell,	W. Kennedy,	J. Clark,
T. H. Pardon,	F. P. Betts,	John Isaacs,	J. W. McCallum,
Geo. C. Gibbons,	J. W. Richards,	C. Peacock,	J. Langley,
Ed. Struthers,	H. C. McBride,	Rev. Mr. Gordon,	Rev. Mr. Gordon,
Dr. Balfour,	S. Stevely,	J. Nelson,	J. A. Lout,
Thos. Gillean,	Dr. Arnott,	A. Ferguson,	W. Sharp,
H. W. Blinn,	J. H. Bowman,	W. Hyman,	Carl Wilern,
F. W. Daly,	T. Knowles,	James Sharp,	D. McGinnis,
F. W. Long,	James Polie,	R. A. Harding,	John Moore,
B. C. McCann,	J. J. Spettigue,	F. Saunders,	T. Brennan,
J. Bowman,	W. H. Allen,	G. Collins,	J. S. Reid,
D. Rutherford,	H. Francis,	F. Saunders,	J. W. McCallum,
Geo. Burns, sen.,	Dr. Geo. C. Davis,	R. K. Cavan,	W. J. Harvey,
J. Lewis,	John Stephenson,	Hewitt Fysh,	Robt. Tatham,
George Heron,	Talbot Macbeth,	Wm. Kennedy,	And many others.
George C. Cameron,	Chas. H. Tatlam,		
Philip Lewis,			

THE CHAIRMAN.

Mr. V. Cronyn, who was applauded on rising, in briefly introducing the speakers, said: "It is oftentimes said that there are too many lawyers in the House; that we want business men—business men of capacity. Gentlemen, I cannot say that I have always sympathized with that cry. I have thought that sometimes lawyers are apparently brought to the front, but it is because there are no available men who could give their time, and they have to be availed of. But when you find a business man of unusual character, a man who has made a business success, a man of whom the community is proud, who is helping to build the city up, by all means pitch upon such a man as that. (Applause.) We think that we have now in our candidate such a man. (Applause.) We are selecting a man whom we believe will give a reasonable and liberal support to the Government in power. (Applause.) We be-

lieve that we in Ontario have one of the best Governments that ever blessed any country on the globe, and we desire to see it supported. (Applause.) The country was waiting lately to hear the policy propounded by the leader of the Opposition, the successor of Mr. Meredith. You heard him here last week from this platform. His harangue was a miserable caricature about petty details. There was no state-of-the-art policy propounded by him. What did we hear about the great fight that comes up from time to time on Provincial rights which have been fought out by Sir Oliver Mowat? (Applause.) Not a word. In fact he went trifling among soiled linen, raspberry jam and all that sort of thing. It was utterly contemptible and beneath the dignity of a statesman. Why didn't he call on some corporal of his brigade to deal with that sort of thing, and not go into it himself. Sir Oliver Mowat is a man of a different stamp. (Applause.) Mr. Cronyn went on to speak in a eulogistic strain of Mr. Ross and Mr.

Dryden, and then introduced the candidate of the Liberal party, Mr. Thomas S. Hobbs.

THE NEXT MEMBER.

Mr. Hobbs could not speak for some minutes, so loud and long was the applause. It was a veritable ovation.

"What's the matter with Tom Hobbs?" asked a voter just as the tumult subsided. "He's all right!" came in a ringing chorus, and there was another volley of cheers.

Mr. Hobbs thanked the great audience for its kind reception. "Since last I had the pleasure of addressing you," he said, "I have had an election. Mr. Meredith carried the city by a small majority. Since then he has been elevated to the bench, and I am sure the appointment has met with the approval of Liberals and Conservatives alike. Sir Oliver Mowat has been again sustained. Mr. Meredith, the leader of the Opposition, has resigned, and you know the Conservative party, in Mr. Meredith, has lost its head."

Mr. Marter, the new leader, appeared here the other night, and I am sure you will all agree that he has not the ability to fill Mr. Meredith's position. (Cheers.) You all know that Mr. Mowat has given us a clean government; that he has given us a democratic government—not the government of a demagogue, but that of a safe administrator. The other Provinces of Canada point to the Government of this fair Province as a model one. (Cheers.) You have here tonight, as Mr. Cronyn says, a son of Middlesex. He has made our system of education superior to that of any other country. (Cheers.) There has been a man in the country, excepting perhaps the late Dr. Ryerson, who has done so much to build up our grand educational system. (Cheers.) Again we have Mr. Dryden, who is a successful farmer and knows his department from beginning to end. (Cheers.) I appeal to Conservatives here whether it would be wise to take from the hands of Sir Oliver Mowat and his colleagues the reins of government and place them in the hands of the men who appeared here the other night—Messrs. Marter and Howland. (Cries of "No!") Much has been said about my opponent being a poor man. At present it looks to me as if they were trying to appeal to the passions of the people rather than their common sense. (Hear, hear.)

If it is a crime to be successful in business I want some man to hold up his hand and say so. If we have been moderately successful in business the people of London have reaped the advantage. (Cheers.)

Voice—Why don't Essery pay the Forsters their debt? (Roars of laughter.)

Mr. Hobbs—Mr. Essery says he is not a money grubber. I ask you whether myself or my brother have ever been money-grubbers? (Cheers.) I claim it is a false position to say that a man must be a failure to be successful, according to Mr. Essery's idea. (Laughter and cheers.) Again, one of the great crimes I have committed is that I am not a married man. (Laughter and cheers.) Ladies, am I too old to be married? (Loud laughter.) Is there anyone here who will take a crusty old bachelor?

(Renewed laughter.)

"This afternoon I had handed to me a document by two prominent citizens asking me to state my position in regard to temperance. The document was as follows:—"

"'LONDON, Nov. 12, 1894.

"'T. S. Hobbs, Esq., London, Ont.:

"'Dear Sir,—Will you please yourself in writing, and, if possible, on the public platform, that if elected to the Local Legislature, you will do all in your power, irrespective of party affiliations, to procure the restriction and prohibition by law of the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage to the extent of the powers vested in the Legislature? An immediate reply is requested for publication.

"'Signed on behalf of the London and Western Ontario Prohibition Union.

"'F. W. DALY, Secretary."

"I may say that at the last election Mr. Daly sent me a document asking my opinion on this question, and that opinion I will now read to you as given then, and it has not changed since:

"'LONDON, Ont., June 15, 1894.

"'F. W. Daly, Esq., 535, Dufferin avenue, City:

"'Dear Sir,—I have your communication, in which, as secretary of the London and Western Ontario Prohibition Union, you ask my attitude respecting prohibition and the license question.

"'In reply I may say: First, in general terms, that, as you are aware, the Premier of the Province has promised, if the courts decide that he has the jurisdiction in the matter, to bring in such prohibitory legislation as will comply with the voice of the people as embodied in the plebiscite vote of last January. I should certainly feel it my duty to heartily support the honorable the Premier in carrying out to the full every pledge he has given, and I need scarcely add that my principles would not change if there should be a change of Government.

"'As to the proposal to go back to some form of municipal control of licenses I consider it a very important question and, if elected to the Ontario Legislature, I will do all I can to prevent the transference of the control of the liquor traffic, and the responsibility for the enforcement of laws relating to it, from the Provincial Government to any local body. To do so would be to demoralize every municipal council in Ontario. It would not be fair either to license-holders or to temperance people.

"'I am of opinion that as a license law the Crooks Act is the best that has yet been devised. Respectfully yours,

"'THOMAS S. HOBBS."

"That was my reply to the temperance people of that date, and it is my reply to-day. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I may say in conclusion that I have not sought political honors. I have been chosen to contest London, and I will do all I can to win it fairly, and if I do win I will endeavor to serve you faithfully. (Loud cheers.)

HON. JOHN DRYDEN.

The clever Minister of Agriculture was received warmly and made a brilliant speech. He said it was the first time he had addressed a London audience, and he was perfectly delighted with it. He disclaimed being much of a party man in the sense it was sometimes used. "I have done what according to my judgment was in the interests of the country. (Cheers.) But I find the new leader of the Opposition takes somewhat different grounds. He announced to you the other night that he would do all he could as leader to further the interests of the party to which he belonged. (Laughter and cheers.) It is the sense of the people of this country that those who occupy such positions as he does should place his country first of all. But Mr. Marter doesn't seem to be inspired by any such motives as these. (Cheers.) We must have peace, and I have no objections to Mr. Marter allying himself to any

particular party which he chooses; but I do object when in his long speech there is not one word declaring what his policy is for the improvement and upbuilding of the country. The only thing he has to say is: 'Whatever I can do for my party I am ready to do willingly, cheerfully and honestly.' (Cheers.) Some people declare that there is no difference between parties. I repudiate this doctrine, and no man who studies the history of this country can come to such a conclusion. You have in the first place Mr. Mowat. His record is written plainly in the statute book. There has been no subject too difficult for him to deal with." Mr. Dryden then alluded to Sir Oliver's masterly management of the municipal loan fund, the public works, culminating in the magnificent parliament buildings.

Of course we looked for something great when Mr. Marter came here the other night to propound his policy. New income, sweep clean, the ladies say, and we expected a clean sweep. What did we find? Mr. Marter's speech was fully six years old. (Laughter.) For six long years I have heard the same tale. There is not a new thing in it from beginning to end. (Cheers.) Why? Because he found the position of the Government impregnable. So he told the old, old story, and asked that Mr. Mowat be put out. There were only two reasons for this in Mr. Marter's speech: First, the Government was not economical; second, it was untruthful and dishonest. The speaker had always been an economist. This was a great need of it in Dominion politics. (Cheers.) Just teach him to be consistent now, and let him declare that he will put anybody else out who is not economical.

"There was a similar cry a number of years ago, but it was not 'economy'—then it was 'prosperity.' They asked the farmer if he did not want to get higher prices for his produce, and asked the workman if he did not want higher wages. 'Yes,' they all answered, 'Then,' they were told, 'the only way to get it is to turn out Alexander Mackenzie and put in the other fellows.' And the people said: 'Yes, we will,' and they did, and have been burdened with this prosperity ever since. You will get just as much economy by turning out Sir Oliver Mowat and putting in Mr. Marter as you get prosperity by turning out Mr. Mackenzie. Talking about economy Mr. Marter does not say that we have put up too many places, that the public buildings have cost too much. He does not say that works all over the country have cost too much, but he did say there are certain officers in some public institutions who have been consuming too many eggs. And, by the way, I want to tell any of Mr. Marter's friends who are here that he must not say that again. That is going to offend the Patrons in the House. They want to increase the consumption of eggs. (Laughter and applause.) The Government officers are also charged with eating some kind of sauce costing a cent and a half too much a bottle, and somebody has dirtied too many handkerchiefs. He confessed that these were small things, but he need not have said so—everybody knew that. (Applause.)

I have heard on the other side of 'peanut politics,' but I didn't think it would strike this country so soon. When Mr. Marter appeared in this section I expected to hear the tread of heavy artillery and the rumble of great cannon. And what did we hear? Why, the noise of porguns instead. (Applause.)

Mr. Dryden then dealt in a masterful manner with the finances of the Province. If they had saved as much money as Mr. Marter wanted them to they would now have about twenty-two old million dollars lying idle. The Opposition would then have a stronger case than they have now, and would have asked the people to turn out the Government because it did not know enough to invest the capital of the Province.

"I don't deny," said Mr. Dryden, "that we have increased the expenditure. It has been largely made up of three things: We have increased our expenditure in regard to hospitals, asylums and so forth some \$700,000 since the time of John Sanfield MacDonald; we have increased the expenditure in connection with education some three hundred odd thousand dollars, and we have increased the expenditure in agriculture during the last four or five years considerably. What I want to know is whether we have been right in doing this? Mr. Marter says we do not tell the truth, and deceive the people. I want to deny it. I won't say that Mr. Marter is a liar, because that would be unparliamentary. (Laughter.) But I will say that if Mr. Marter speaks truth I am a liar. (More laughter.) He says we have not got a surplus. I say we have. He says the facts are not as stated by us. I say the facts are exactly as they are stated by us. (Applause.) He says if there is any surplus he will ask Mr. Essery to resign and my friend Mr. Hobbs will be elected by acclamation. I am going to demand that that be carried out." (Cheers.)

Producing the Provincial Treasurer's report, Mr. Dryden went on to show that there was a surplus of over \$6,000,000. It consisted of debentures, moneys held by the Dominion Government, upon which interest is annually paid to the Province, and bank balances held in the banks at the time the treasurer makes up his report. Mr. Dryden ridiculed Mr. Marter's method of arguing that a government was bankrupt because it had not enough cash on hand to meet liabilities falling due 25 or 30 years hence. By the same reason he would prove every man a bankrupt. Mr. Marter forgot that, like a business concern, the Government depended on moneys accruing from year to year to meet liabilities falling due, and if the expenditures of years to come was to be considered, the income of those years should be taken into account.

"We not only have a cash surplus," said Mr. Dryden, "but we have a cash surplus in reality more than Sanfield MacDonald had before he left office." (Cheers.)

"With regard to prohibition, Mr. Marter first says to the licensed victuallers: 'I am the man who placed your licenses in jeopardy. I am the man who brought this about. I sowed the seed which is now bearing forth fruit. I was the man who introduced a bill in the House, which didn't pass, but it has forced the question on us, and you find you are in your present predicament. Therefore, I don't think I can get any votes from you.' Then he says to the prohibitionists: 'I want you to sup-

(Continued on Page 3.)

Special Winter Sale.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday we will hold a special chrysanthemum exhibition and sale. We will have some grand blooms and something new each day. A special reduction will be made on all cut flowers and plants, and we respectfully ask the public to look at us during the next three days. GREENWAY FLORIST, 225 Dundas street. Tel. 724.



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