

Huron Signal.

GODERICH, MARCH 21, 1907.
OUR SOUTH HURON CANDIDATES.

Mr. Cameron and Mr. Gibson are now in the field as candidates for the Ontario and Assembly of Ontario, respectively, and the reformers of the Biding have reason to congratulate themselves upon having secured two of the strongest men that can be found in the province. Mr. Cameron is a man of great energy and undoubted ability, and when triumphed—as we feel assured—he will be, triumphantly, will do credit to his constituents in the important chamber for which he is a candidate. The fact that he is a lawyer does not at all injure his popularity, for we have assurance on all parts of the riding that he will receive an enthusiastic support. Let the friends of liberalism rally round him, and success is certain. Of Mr. Gibson, who is so well known, we need only say that his long experience of municipal life admirably qualifies him for the duties of a legislator, and when elected, he will prove to be "the right man in the right place." Hurra, then, for our candidates, and work, men, with it will!

MR. GODERICH DECEASED.
Mr. Somerville tells us that he does not intend to run for North Huron. Mr. S. would have made a capital representative had he been returned.

MR. WHITEHEAD ACCEPTS.
(By special telegraph to the Signal.)
Clinton, March 19th.
A deputation of influential gentlemen writing upon J. Whitehead, Esq., today, asking him to come out as a candidate for North Huron, and he has determined to do so. It is understood that Mr. Gibson will run for the Assembly, while Mr. Whitehead for the Commons. The Reform party is now ready for action.

MR. HOLMES' LETTER.
Mr. Holmes informs upon our readers an interestingly long letter in which he sets forth his public life for the past twenty-eight years, and proves that some of his acts were illegal and many of them extremely distasteful to a large number of those he represented. By his own showing one of the first acts he was engaged in entering the Councils Council was declared to be illegal, after which he took a leap over ten years. In his account of the construction of the railway debt we cannot see that he does more than show that he was wrong to connect a scheme for controlling the board of directors, after the money had been snatched up by outsiders. We think his position with regard to the Huron Grand scheme was even worse. He joined in with those who wished to secure the roads in such a way as to advance the interests of their own municipalities, who were to be the sufferers in consequence. The people of Goderich township, finding that they were to receive hardly a dollar out of the \$20,000 to be raised for the grand roads, while they were added with a debt of about \$2,000 a year, felt that he was not in that case a chip in portage—having done them a gross injustice—and they told him plainly enough that they would in future find some servant better to their taste. The verdict of Ashfield, Colborne, Goderich town and Wawanosh would have been the same. With regard to the Harbor of Refuge, we think he did little or nothing, except, as was broadly hinted at the time, he put in a good word for Iverhous, where, it was asserted, he held considerable property. Mr. Holmes did introduce several Bills in Parliament, some of which were not law, (two or three of them for the protection of wild geese?) while others were strangled by the Lords, or died of their own accord; but we remember that it was extremely difficult to get him to introduce the Bill for legalizing the detective Grand Road by Law. In fact, although of some importance, it was handed over to some one else to be attended to. We have not time to follow Mr. H. through his laudatory epistle, but our readers will agree with us that he has not got rid of the chip after all.

AN IDEAL CANDIDATE.
We are informed that Dr. Sloan of Blyth and his right hand supporter have even felt to write letters to the Clinton Express, denouncing the Signal in no measured terms, because it would not permit the advocacy of the claims of the Dr. to parliamentary honors, although he (the Dr.) had never been heard of elsewhere in connection with politics. Not having noticed the letters alluded to, we have glanced over the columns of our village contemporary, we cannot fully appreciate the denunciations of the pro and con, and we propose, but if they are entitled to be mentioned, we would like to see them in the form of an address, which we would be happy to publish at our regular rates, and as long as he likes; but if he thinks we are going to give up our columns for the gratuitous ventilation of the legislative abilities of all and sundry who wish to see their names in print, he was never mistaken in his life. Dr. Sloan ought to know that it is no part of our duty, as a liberal journalist, to advocate the cause of a man who may be an opponent, whether he takes side with the conservatives or endorses to slip in edgewise between both parties as a neutral. It had some odd body as a reform candidate, it would have been very different; but he did not do so, and we are satisfied that we were perfectly right in ignoring him.

THE DUTY OF REFORMERS.

The Reform party of Canada has during the past accomplished much good by its stern opposition to everything in the shape of misgovernment, and to reformers—let him strong force of the old school master as they will—the Province over most of these untrammeled institutions under which it has prospered and grown to its present proud position. Indeed, so well did their opponents know they were at last compelled to borrow a plank from the Reform platform, and re-baptize themselves Liberal Conservatives. The involved anomaly was nothing so long as a few voters could be gulled by such borrowed plumage; but in reality the principles of the party were over the same. Genuine Toryism is supported by its adherents, in some vague way, the right hand pillar of the British Constitution, and all who choose to differ from them are denounced as rebels and dangerous characters. While the feeling of bigotry obtains with those who have little or any credit for displaying just as much zeal for the maintenance and moral welfare of the country as their detractors. When the Treat affair stirred the blood of the country, did Reformers hang back? When a Fenian invasion took place last year did Reformers act rally as quickly, and march to the front as bravely, as those who would monopolize the whole loyal feeling of the country? And yet we are foolish enough to insinuate that our party is not trust-worthy in this respect, when they know better!

We had hoped that the old spirit of political animosity was buried when the present Coalition Government was formed, and until we should have, under Confederation, some clear defined line of demarcation. For a time, indeed, it did seem that such was the case, but as soon as it became apparent that a general election was likely to take place within a few weeks or months, the tocsin of war was sounded from the opposite camp, and Reformers came to see that they must fight it out or lose ground. True, the Leader, which, we presume, is still considered the conservative organ, sings a sordid lullaby, the refrain of which is "no party," and yet we see that the party, all over the country, is working with the old tocsin as earnestly as though Reform and Tory were to be the parties fighting for place and honor for all time to come.

REFORMERS OF HURON, you have an obvious duty to perform! You are called upon once more to buckle on your armor, and fight in the good cause with your old energy and determination to win. You have been grossly betrayed by one in whom you trusted but too implicitly, but this should, instead of discouraging you, prompt a desire to show to the country that you have men amongst you who are not to be bought, and who have the ability to advance your interests, while they are patriotic enough to serve the country at large. Already your opponents boast that you are too much dispirited to take the field as of yore, and, in fact, the only hope they have of success lies in the supposition they look for in you. Shall this boast be proven to be well founded? No! We have too much faith in you to suppose for one moment that the ancient fire has been extinguished, and we feel satisfied that when the political contest commences in good earnest you will be found ready to bear the banner of Reform in triumph!

NORTH BRUCE.—The Open Sound Advertiser says that a Reform meeting was held at Lyn Elgin recently, at which steps were taken to procure the calling of a convention to nominate candidates to represent the Biding in the Federal and Local Parliaments. The Reformers of North Bruce scouted the no-party cry, and appointed committees to make arrangements for the organization of the Reform party and for the election of delegates.

POLITICAL.
At a meeting of Conservatives held in Mr. Leffroy's office here, on Wednesday evening last, Mr. Ritchie, of Stanley, was named as a candidate for the Commons, at the ensuing election, under Confederation, and Mr. Carling, of Exeter, for the House of Assembly. Parties were running about briskly next week, and a request was made to Mr. Ritchie, who had already consented to stand his chance.

THE BILL FOR CONFEDERATING THE BRITISH N. A. PROVINCES has been read a third time in the House of Lords after a slight opposition. It will, we presume, be pushed rapidly through the Commons.

CLASSICAL.—A local toy sheet, in giving currency to a rumor that Mr. W. T. Cox will be a candidate for the Commons for North Huron, calls the Signal the Deceiver. We take it that the association of ideas had something to do with his hitting upon such a polite term. Feeling himself to be little better than a fool for the ill-fated bill, it is some consolation to his mind. As for the "useful local institution" (Good Templars) alluded to, that is a delicate subject for the decision of that august institution to brook.

MILITARY.—The St. Catharines Constabulary has rumored that one or two companies of Royal Canadian Rifles will pass through there shortly, so that they may be sent to the frontier. No doubt the government has reason to apprehend an other Fenian attack, and are acting on the principle that "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure."

THE REFORM CONVENTION AT CLINTON.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES.
Our duties as Secretary at the Convention on the 15th, having precluded the possibility of taking notes, we take the liberty of using the Globe report.

A large and influential convention of delegates from the various municipalities of the County of Huron was held in Cory's Hall, Clinton on Friday afternoon. Four delegates from each municipality in the two ridings were in attendance, and very great unanimity characterized the proceedings.

THE DELEGATES WERE:
NORTH RIDING.
ASHFIELD.—W. Malloch, Robt. Clendinning, Jas. Murdoch, Thos. Anderson.

WAWANOSH, EAST.—John McCullum, Thos. Short, W. Birch, G. Mackay.

WAWANOSH, WEST.—Charles Girven, John Sneyd, J. Taylor, Robt. Wilson.

TURNBERRY.—John Gemmill, L. J. Bruce, W. Douglas, S. Black.

HULLY.—John Nelms, Thos. Moore, J. Campbell, Thos. G. Grant.

MORRIS.—Donald Scott, Peter Thompson, Wm. Armstrong, J. Whitehead.

HURON.—Richard Young, William McKillop, John Rogers, Thos. Gibson.

CLINTON.—Thos. G. Grant, Wm. Arch. McDonald, Thos. Strachan.

McKILLOP.—Thos. G. Grant, Thos. McDonald, W. N. Watson, James Prinsep.

ALBION.—James Symington, William Green, John Glen, Peter Robertson.

CLINTON VILLOE.—J. Whitehead, E. Holmes, C. A. Hart, Thos. Jackson.

SOUTH RIDING.
GODERICH.—Thos. M. C. Cameron, R. Gibson, C. Crab, L. C. Moore.

GODERICH TOWNSHIP.—W. Hall, James Wilkinson, James Torrance, William McKillop.

STANLEY.—James Anderson, James Anders, Josiah Seord, Joshua Callaway.

HAY.—David Wankes, Isaac Biss, R. Brown, H. Love.

STANLEY.—John Parsons, James Matheson, Charles Brown, Stephen Hogarth.

UBORNE.—A. B. Hoop, Charles Monteith, A. D. Freeman, R. Manning.

STANLEY.—John Parsons, James Matheson, Charles Brown, Stephen Hogarth.

WALKER.—James Broadfoot, Thos. Johnston.

MR. L. C. MOORE, of Goderich, occupied the chair, with Mr. W. T. Cox, of the Huron Grand, acting as Secretary.

The Chairman opened the proceedings by explaining that the convention had been held to elect candidates for the County, for the Local and Federal Legislatures.

Some discussion ensued at the outset as to the manner in which the delegates should vote. Some member advocated voting by resolution—the majority were in favor of voting by ballot, and the latter course was ultimately resolved on. For convenience of consultation the delegates from each riding sat separately in the hall.

It was also resolved that three representatives be appointed from the North Riding and three from the South Riding—those from the former to be scrutineers for the balloting of the latter, and vice versa.

The scrutineers appointed for the North Riding were—Mr. H. Hoop, Mr. Brown and Mr. Freeman. For the South Riding—Mr. R. Clendinning, Mr. Girven and Mr. Prinsep.

Ballot then proceeded, with the following result, which was announced by the Chairman:

South Riding (Member for Federal Parliament).—Mr. M. C. Cameron, Goderich, 19—being a majority of 13 over Mr. W. T. Cox, of the Huron Grand, Thos. Gibson, and Mr. Isaac Carling.

Mr. M. C. Cameron rose and returned secure thanks, but reiterated his statement that he could not do so, in justice to himself and family, except by resignation.

LETTER FROM MR. HOLMES.

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While discussing on my article or discussing a Candidate for Parliamentary honors, in your last Signal, amongst other things you were pleased to say—

"Mr. Holmes is by no means a bad sort of man in private life; his character is considered irreproachable, and we are not prepared to say that any of the charges of public conduct, great or small, or of any worthy motive. So far, so good, and yet the most serious charge that is made against him is that he is a man of no more use in Parliament than a horse's head in a stable."

The Bill for the Local Legislature, North Riding, was Mr. J. Whitehead a majority of 19 over all the rest. There were Mr. James Somerville, Mr. C. Whitehead, Mr. J. Sneyd, Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. J. Gemmill, Mr. Sneyd, Mr. T. G. Grant, and Mr. H. Horton. Mr. Whitehead said that he could not do so, in justice to himself and family, except by resignation.

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Clinton, March 14th, 1907.
Dear Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst., in relation to the proposed Bill for legalizing the Grand Road by Law, and in reply to inform you that the Bill has been introduced in the House of Commons, and is now being read a second time.

While discussing on my article or discussing a Candidate for Parliamentary honors, in your last Signal, amongst other things you were pleased to say—

"Mr. Holmes is by no means a bad sort of man in private life; his character is considered irreproachable, and we are not prepared to say that any of the charges of public conduct, great or small, or of any worthy motive. So far, so good, and yet the most serious charge that is made against him is that he is a man of no more use in Parliament than a horse's head in a stable."

The Bill for the Local Legislature, North Riding, was Mr. J. Whitehead a majority of 19 over all the rest. There were Mr. James Somerville, Mr. C. Whitehead, Mr. J. Sneyd, Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. J. Gemmill, Mr. Sneyd, Mr. T. G. Grant, and Mr. H. Horton.

The Bill for the Local Legislature, South Riding, was Mr. M. C. Cameron a majority of 13 over all the rest. There were Mr. W. T. Cox, Mr. Thos. Gibson, Mr. Isaac Carling, Mr. J. Sneyd, Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. J. Gemmill, Mr. Sneyd, Mr. T. G. Grant, and Mr. H. Horton.

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