

A REBELLION REMINISCENCE.

HOW WM. LYON MACKENZIE ESCAPED.



THE name of Nelson Gorham, of Newmarket," said the Secretary, Mr. Alex. Hamilton, when he was applying a list of names, elected at the meeting of the York Pioneers held recently in Toronto "reminds me of the account which the late Wm. Lyon Mackenzie gave me of his escape from the Queen's dominion during the rebellion of 1837. When Mr. Mackenzie fled from Montgomery's tavern after a slight engagement at Gallow Hill, he rode north on Yonge street until he reached Newmarket. At Mr. Gorham's house he found shelter. During the night the ladies of Mr. Gorham's household made the distinguished rebel a suit of home-spun clothes, and when the morning came Mr. Gorham gave him the best horse in the stable and sent him on his way thoroughly disguised. He made a detour and struck into the lake shore road considerably west of Toronto. When passing through the highland near the head of the lake, he was accosted one morning by an Irishman whom he met in the road, who accused him of having stolen the horse he was riding. Mr. Mackenzie denied the accusation, saying that he was traveling for pleasure. But the style of his attire excited the suspicion of the wayfarer and he refused to let the fugitive go. At last the latter said: "I am William Lyon Mackenzie, the leader of the rebellion, and am trying to escape." "I don't believe a word of it," said the man. "How am I to know that what you say is true?" Then the promoter of the lost cause exposed a certain part of his under garments, upon which his name had been inscribed in indelible ink. "There is a large reward offered for my head," said he. "Do you wish to profit by it?" "Do you think," said his captor, "that I would have it said of me that I profited by any man's blood. The only thing that troubles me is that I don't know