

NOMINATION PROCEEDINGS.

Interesting But Somewhat Turbulent Meeting at the Court House.

Rousing Speeches by Government Supporters - Weak and Puerile Opposition Statements - Drs. Stockton and Alward Handled Without Gloves by Messrs. McKeown and Robertson - Candidates Chosen in All the Counties.

There was a lively time on the benches at nomination Saturday in the city and county. The court house was the scene. Sheriff Sturdee opened his court at 10 o'clock. A few curious spectators only were present. The nominations were in early afternoon. Clarence H. Ferguson filed the papers of Messrs. R. Robertson, McKeown, Reynolds and Parry, the city government nominees, and R. C. John, Dunn, those of Hon. A. T. Dunn and John McLeod, the government county candidates. J. B. Baxter filed the papers of the opposition candidates in city and county. All the nominations were in when the time expired at 12 o'clock. The sheriff then announced that the court would be open until 2 o'clock to receive any objections.

- There was a large crowd after dinner. At a few minutes after 2 o'clock the court opened. The hour had expired and no objections were received. He asked if anyone demanded a poll for the county. The demand was made by A. W. MacRae and the sheriff adjourned the court to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22. This was requested for the city and county government was made to February 22 at noon. The sheriff asked that transfers be sent in not later than Wednesday noon. He announced that the room was now at the disposal of the candidates and asked that a chairman be chosen. Captain W. H. Bowman nominated John A. Chesley, who accepted. At 2:30 the speaking began and lasted till midnight. There were 10 speakers, the two opposition county men not being on hand. The crowd was divided, but at the earlier portion of a meeting there packing the house. A speaker was lucky if he got through his remarks and on several occasions the proceedings took on the liveliest character and there was considerable confusion—several talking embraced the opportunity to put in remarks. There were no speakers. The court room was crowded hurriedly after the speaking began, and until midnight the people stayed. The nomination was—

the end of the lease another party might come in and get the improvement. Under the long term lease it is difficult to protect the interest of the lessee, and further the lessee becomes the protector of the more than the lessor. It is a better plan for under the lease to let the lessee have the right to sell the land, and the lessee also a right to him to negotiate with the banks, though simply law of the New Brunswick lumbermen found any need of such.

Mr. J. Boyd McMann here asked the speaker who contended the speaker was it not Messrs. McKeown and Parry? He was not quite a lively scene ensued, several talking at once and the general hubbub of order and confusion. The speaker continued, he was not talking but a word could be heard. Finally order was restored and the speaker continued. He took up what Hon. Mr. Dunn said about the supply of goods to the city while he was an alderman. His answer to this was a history of his common council life and the requisition given him to run as a T. B. A. man. What his firm supplied was in straight selling and it was tendering which the rules forbade. One of the present aldermen here Mr. Lockhart also said his firm had lost Messrs. Dunn's pork trade. He urged that the government should be made large; 50 members were being hawking the office of collector general and the province in getting candidates. He elected and there is a change of government, he said he would stand for economy and good government and please the people for return of direct taxes, support to the system of tendering for bridge work. He denied the charge of making personal canvass.

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Dr. Stockton claimed that Mr. Robertson should take the people into confidence and tell the reasons Mr. Emerson Robertson to go on his ticket. He characterized Mr. Robertson as a government man. He claimed that in this county roads and bridges are growing worse from year to year. He commended the government for not taking sufficient interest in the local fisheries to appear before the privy council with their case. He stated on the fiscal policy that the province sold at a higher premium than those of New Brunswick. On the wheat policy he maintained that he was not opposed to the raising of the province where wheat could be produced more profitably than were portions of the province where wheat could be produced. He complained because the government was going to apply the system of farmers' licenses to the government of the province. He thought the government had done wrong in taking the license of salmon from St. John and pledged himself to remedy it if elected. He claimed support on grounds of reform.

Mr. E. A. McKeown. Mr. McKeown's hour to speak did not come until about 9 o'clock, by which time the court house had been literally packed by citizens released from their daily duties and provided with their evening meal. In this respect they were more favored than the candidates, the chairman or the reporters, who remained steadily at their respective posts from 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon until midnight. Mr. McKeown was well received, although some rabid followers of Foster expressed their displeasure at the appearance of the talented young champion of the government. His speech was effective. He had observed, he said, during the day that the audience of devoted followers, who were not only ready but eager to applaud on the slightest hint from the speaker, were persons so warmly that he would like to have himself to give them another chance to apply for an appointment to make which should be given careful attention for it was delicate and their leader. "I have," he said, "the pleasure to inform you, doctor, and your followers, that the government has today secured the election of six seats." There were shouts of "not so" and "where are they?" from the audience. "Where are they?" continued the speaker. "The three government members in Gloucester were elected by a showing of hands, and in Northumberland only Mr. Morrison was nominated on the opposition ticket. And I do not know but that I would have been justified in announcing the election of several government members, for where is Mr. Dean, Doctor, your county champion does not seem to be with you today. He is not like Mr. Carson, at home, who is in town for I have seen him today." Mr. McKeown then said that some of the preceding speakers had made statements which called for answers. He would endeavor and successfully he thought, to give them. He would first devote himself to Mr. Shaw. A great portion of Mr. Shaw's speech had been devoted to him (McKeown). This sounds bad, but Mr. Shaw had previously done. He would give a little in the political history which would, he hoped, place himself in a different position than he was at the present time, as some men were now harsh enough to call him a deserter. He had, he said, been a representative with Dr. Stockton in the provincial parliament. At this time the St. John representation consisted of three Liberal—Dr. Stockton, Dr. Alward and Messrs. Smith, Bourke and Shaw. This was continued until the dissolution of the legislature in 1892. He had been a representative of the city and was considered strong in the constituency. It should be given the right to contest a city nomination. No man had a stronger claim upon it. However, it was stated to him that Mr. William Shaw had grown tired of representing the county and desired to sit for the county. The result was that he was nominated for the city and he for the county, and defeated in the election of 1892 by the vote of the sheriff. He would not have been in the county had he been properly supported by his fellow citizens. The reason was not hard to find. He said, "the sheriff and Dr. Alward had gone over to the Conservatives but he (McKeown) had snatched for Dr. Collier in 1892, and for that reason I was abandoned by my friends. While these gentlemen charge me with deserting them, it is I who was slain in the house of my friends. I would not go with them into the Conservative camp."