

"During the last days of the campaign, three delegates of the Conservative Committee at Sherbrooke, two English-Canadians and one French-Canadian, came to urge me to fire the last shots on behalf of their candidates—'All pledged,' said they, 'to a referendum on the navy question, whatever party is in power.'

"I had to decline, having promised the very short time still left to the Conservative candidates of Nipissing and East Algoma."

COCHRANE AND BOURASSA.

Here is another interesting episode of the campaign. "On the occasion of that memorable meeting at St. Hyacinthe," on the 13th of August, continues Mr. Bourassa, "I had met a number of the most important Conservatives and Nationalists from Northern Ontario. They had come especially for the purpose of inviting me to deliver two or three speeches in their district. If I remember well, they had a letter from Mr. Cochrane, the present Minister of Railways and Canals. At any rate, the invitation was conveyed on his behalf.

"Soon after I received a renewed invitation, enclosing the following message:—

Chas. McCrea,
Sudbury, Ont.

Mattawa, Ont., Sept. 8, 1911.

I certainly am opposed to Reciprocity pact and will support request for repeal of Naval Policy, and a Referendum to the people, no matter who is Premier.

GEORGE GORDON.

Chas. McCrea,
Sudbury, Ont.

Providence Bay, Sept. 8th, 1911

I am opposed to Reciprocity pact. I am opposed to Naval Policy of Liberal government. I will support request for repeal of same, and Referendum to the people on Naval Question, no matter who is Premier.

W. R. SMYTH.

"Mr. Gordon was former Conservative member for Nipissing and Mr. Smyth, Conservative, for East Algoma. Both were in the field once more.

"On the strength of these explicit pledges I promised to support their candidatures with two speeches, one in French, the other in English. On the 18th of September I spoke at Sudbury.

"Mr. Cochrane, usually very shy of his compliments, has since done me the honor of telling me that my arguments had made a deep impression, deeper still among English-speaking than French-speaking people.

"Both Mr. Gordon and Mr. Smyth were returned. A few weeks later Mr. Gordon became a Senator, and Mr. Cochrane took his constituency, to become Minister of Railways and Canals in the Borden Government. I do not know that Mr. Cochrane accepted the legacy without its liabilities. He never repudiated the pledges entered into by Mr. Gordon with his (Mr. Cochrane's) knowledge and approval.