

selves together for the purpose of bringing about those great results. If they were to be successful they required, not only hopeful hearts, not only good principles, not only fealty to their principles, and a determination to do their duty, but also to form an organisation to bring to bear the strongest power they could upon the convictions of those whom they addressed, and in every way to enable the principles they professed to exercise their proper influence. They required to rally themselves round their principles, so as to make success secure in the future. Especially was this needed in this Province, for they had had good reason to say that it was not the garden of liberal ideas; they need not attack men whom they esteemed, but who did not subscribe to the same doctrines that they proposed, but knowing as they did the difficulties they had to encounter, they required not only earnestness and faith in the future, but the agency of an organisation such as that they were assembled to promote. In this Province they had seen some reaction of public opinion, and in Ontario they had seen also a bouversement of opinion; they had seen that reaction in the other provinces; and it was only in this great Province of Quebec that the Government was so strong, and, therefore, it behooved them to exert every effort to promote their principles. (Applause.)

Hon. Mr. THISAUDEAU read the following resolutions for the organization of the party management for the ensuing year, which, on being put to the meeting, were unanimously adopted:—

"That the direction of the Reform Association of the District of Montreal be entrusted to a Committee of Management composed of persons chosen at the yearly meeting called by the President and officers, Liberal Senators, Legislators, Councillors, Deputies and the Presidents of the Reform Clubs of this District.

"That this Committee of Management choose from among its members an Executive Committee composed of as many as it may deem fit, and from among whom to name its officers.

MR. BLAKE AS LEADER.

Mr. DUHAMEL, Q.C., moved, and Mr. McSHANE, M.P.P., seconded the following resolution:

"That this Association is glad to welcome as its Leader of the Liberal Party the Hon. Edward Blake, whose talents and integrity give reason to hope for the ultimate triumph of the national cause."

The resolution was carried with loud cheering, which was redoubled when Mr.

Blake rose to return his thanks for the honour done him.

Hon. EDWARD BLAKE said that it was with no ordinary feelings of gratitude with which he received the expressions of good-will, warmth and sympathy which had been conveyed to him in the resolution recognizing him as leader of the Liberal party. He would endeavour to come as near as possible to the flattering picture they had drawn of him. He would attempt to deserve what had been said of him. He had been very glad to learn what the character of the meeting was. It was necessary to organize the Liberal party. It should be understood that the Liberal party was not a sectional but a national party (loud and prolonged applause), but still they might, quite consistently with that character on an occasion of this kind, deal with those questions of local interest which affected the adherence of the local party, rather than the Liberal party as a whole. It was their pride and glory that their course had always been dictated by principles of right and wrong. They had not yet had an opportunity of learning what was the precise form of the resolutions with regard to the organization of the party, but to the general spirit and tone of them he gave his hearty assent and concurrence. The duty of the Liberal party was to secure for all full freedom and liberty; they regarded those as their sacred rights; they took that as their platform, insisting each for himself, and insisting equally for others, on the securing of their rights; on the principle of fair play from man to man. It had long been the boast of the Liberal party that it insisted in securing liberty of opinion, liberty of the person, and liberty of property. That it insisted on respecting to the utmost, difference of creed and in not making distinctions of nationality. While each might boast of his hereditary nationality they all felt as he felt, and he believed the Liberal Party felt that they were to-day constrained by a more living link which tied them together, as citizens of our land, as Canadians. Those of his audience who spoke the French language generally spoke of themselves as "*Canadien*," but he must be permitted to say that he could not allow them to monopolize the title and make it exclusively their own; they had conferred it upon all: "*Moi aussi, messieurs, je suis Canadien*," said the speaker, amid a roar of laughter and applause long continued. They would all be brother Canadians from this time forward. They should feel the stronger tie between the living than between the living and the dead, working together as one people for the accomplishment of one