

MR. FRANK BARNARD

- AND -

SIR CHARLES HIBBERT TUPPER

Before an Enthusiastic Mass Meeting at
the Victoria Theatre.

COLONEL PRIOR ANSWERS MR. RILEY.

A thoroughly representative audience filled the Victoria theatre last night, brought together to listen to addresses by Mr. Frank S. Barnard, Conservative candidate in the Dominion by-election, Lt.-Col. Prior, ex-M. P., Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, K. C. M. G., and other leading Conservatives. Many ladies were present, occupying the boxes and front rows in the parterre. The proscenium and boxes were tastefully decorated with flags and bunting, the work of Prof. Foster. The audience listened to the speakers with marked attention and the applause was frequent and hearty. Mr. Barnard evidently made a most favorable impression, as his remarks were received with approval throughout his speech, which occupied over an hour. Col. Prior's arraignment of his traducers was most effective, and was brought to a dramatic climax when he challenged Mr. Riley to prove his charges or send a suit for criminal libel. Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper's speech was a masterly effort in which he scored the Liberal party on their fiscal and general policy to the great delight of all present.

Mr. H. Dallas Helmcken, M. P. P., K. C., occupied the chair, and among those on the stage were noticed: C. H. Tupper, K. C. M. G., K. C., Hon.

E. G. Prior, C. E. Pooley, M. P. P., K. C., Hon. E. Dewdney, Robt. Cassidy, K. C., G. H. Barnard, J. Allen, Geo. Jay, H. Allen, Hon. W. J. Macdonald (Sen. or), A. E. McPhillips, M. P. P., K. C., J. A. Mara, Mr. Lawrence, John Leay, Mr. Haskett, C. A. Holland, D. W. Higgins, C. B. Redfern, D. B. Bogle, Thos. McEwan, H. Is. Robertson, H. M. Grahame, Martha Griffin, F. G. Vernon, T. S. Fitcher, D. M. Rogers, R. Seabrook, J. P. Burgess, J. Muirhead, P. H. Key, J. Griffiths, Mr. Curlew, R. W. Roper, Geo. Tite, sr., D. H. Macdowall, H. H. Macdonald, A. P. Luxton, C. A. Bury, J. Scarlett, P. Gooch, A. Vogel and Capt. Mitchell.

The chairman, who was received with hearty applause, said that a week ago it was decided by the Liberal-Conservative association that Mr. Frank Barnard should be its candidate for the forthcoming by-election. It was, he said, a most promising omen that so many ladies should be present at the first big event in connection with the election. Mr. Barnard had lived in Victoria nearly all his life, his career was well known, and there was no doubt that the electors would feel the same confidence in candidate that the association felt. He was sure that on election day Mr. Barnard would receive the support of the people of the Capital. He had pleasure in call-

ing upon Mr. Barnard to address the meeting.

MR. BARNARD.

Mr. Barnard was greeted with prolonged applause. After thanking the meeting for their friendly reception and Mr. Helmcken for his complimentary references, Mr. Barnard said it was unnecessary to enter into details of the unsentimental of Col. Prior which were pretty well understood, but he felt constrained to take exception to certain allegations made by the Victoria Times which had given a garbled report of his speech at Esquimalt. What he did say was that there was no written agreement between Col. Prior and the Liberals that he would not again be a candidate, and that in that particular the Colonel was perfectly free to run again, but that having pledged his word not to be a candidate he had kept his pledge. He repudiated the report that he had made personal charges against Mr. Riley, which the Times in the face of the facts had attributed to him. This he took to be a sign of weakness on the part of his opponents, for they had adopted a policy of personal abuse which he had carefully avoided. (Applause.)

He defied the Times to prove its insinuations, but if it and its friends wished to enter upon a campaign of per-