

Peterborough would go back on a fellow farmer who was not only well qualified to represent their interest as far as he was concerned himself, but also because he was a supporter of a good Government, which no talent the Conservatives had in sight could improve upon. (Applause.) Mr. Whitney, the Leader of the Opposition, was a fairly good all-round man, as a man, and he could be a useful back-seat member, but he (Mr. Blezard) did not think he had the head to be a leader of a Government. At Havelock Mr. Whitney said he had a great policy for the country, but he was afraid to mention it for fear Mr. Ross or Mr. Stratton would steal it. That was not the right way. If Mr. Whitney had something locked up in his brain that would benefit the Province, he should let it be known, and not try to put his personal advantage or the advantage of his party before that of the Province. We hear a great deal of New Ontario, but we would not have had a New Ontario if it had not been for Sir Oliver Mowat, who saved it when the Conservatives were trying to rob the people of 100,000 square miles, which was and would continue relieving the people of a great deal of local taxation. We have had good Governments in the past, but never one so progressive as the one we have to-day. (Applause.)

HON. MR. STRATTON'S SPEECH.

Hon. Mr. Stratton, on rising to address the gathering, was received by a very hearty demonstration of applause. He said it must be very gratifying to Mr. Anderson and, incidentally, a tribute to the popularity of Mr. Blezard, to have such a large and enthusiastic audience present at the opening meeting of his campaign. The speaker had once before, six or seven years ago, spoken in

Westwood. It was at that time in a Dominion election contest, but the gathering to-night was very much larger, especially so for such extremely bad weather, and as many were from a distance, it showed that the Liberals of East Peterborough were in earnest in promoting Mr. Anderson's candidature. If the comparative handful at the meeting in 1896, was followed by a Liberal victory, this much larger gathering was a certain and gratifying augury of success in the case of Mr. Anderson, the candidate of the Liberal party. (Applause.) This augury of success was greatly strengthened by the presence of the ladies, whom the speaker was glad to see well represented there that night. No matter how few ladies were present, they were sure to be well represented, and this was doubly so when they were out in force. Whatever side the ladies took up was sure to win. Those who were married knew that was the case in domestic matters, and it was generally true in politics. That was the first opportunity he (Mr. Stratton) had had of addressing a public meeting in the East Riding since he became a member of the Ontario Government, and it was especially gratifying to him on the occasion of such a splendid beginning of a campaign, which he firmly believed would result in the triumphant return of the Government candidate and of the Government. (Applause.) For there was no doubt that East Peterborough would contribute to this success by the election of Mr. Anderson. He was much

Pleased With Mr. Anderson's Address.

Though he did not claim to be an orator, he showed that he could speak to the point, and, what was better, he was a man of action, a man of experience in municipal life, a man