

The North Simcoe Nomination

MR. MCCARTHY WAS THE UNANIMOUS CHOICE.

A Large Attendance—Unbounded Enthusiasm—Mr. McCarthy's Course Fully Endorsed—His Election Sure.

The following is from the Toronto Mail:

STAYNER, Feb. 12.—The North Simcoe Liberal Conservative Association met here this afternoon in convention to nominate a candidate to represent North Simcoe in the House of Commons. It was the largest convention ever held in the riding, and the enthusiasm was intense. About one hundred of the stalwarts from Collingwood came down on the morning train. The delegates, numbering thirty, were on hand to poll their votes, and among them many of the most popular and influential men of the town. The Township of Nottawasaga was also fully represented, among the delegates being Mr. D. E. Buist, Arch. Brown, Robert Currie, Jos. Nickers, E. McDermaid, Gilbert Gemmell, Hugh McInnes, A. Leach.

The noon train from Barrie carried a large delegation from that town and the neighboring township.

At one o'clock Stewart's Hall, where the convention was held, was filled to the door.

When Mr. McCarthy entered the hall the throng burst into a prolonged cheer, led by Mr. W. R. O'Brien, of Collingwood.

After this the meeting settled down to business. The secretary of the association, Mr. F. E. P. Pepler, called for the names of the different subdivisions throughout the riding.

Mr. T. Long, president of the association, invited Mr. McCarthy, M.P., Dr. Wiley, M.P.P., Mr. Harvey and the chairmen of the different organizations to seats on the platform.

THE CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS.

Mr. Long referred to the large number of delegates present, and said it was the most enthusiastic which he had ever met. He then defined his own position. He said that he had been told that he was desirous of being the member for Simcoe. He never said so himself. He laboured under three disabilities to represent the riding. First, he did not have the ability; second, he had not the time; and thirdly, he had not the money. (Laughter.) So he was not on the slate. He then said "it behoved the convention to support a straight party candidate (an ominous silence followed), or at least one who will support the policy of our old chieftan Sir John." (Applause.) He added that Sir Richard Cartwright's policy led naturally to annexation. He believed that Canada was as prosperous a country as could be found on this side of the Atlantic. He expressed his admiration for Mr. McCarthy in private life, but added that the convention dealt with a public and not a private man. If Mr. McCarthy, however, would not support the Government on all questions, without reserving some questions to himself that might lead to the defeat or embarrassment of the Government, then it would be wise for the convention to decide whether another man should not represent the riding. Mr. McCarthy has, during two years, brought up questions that without doubt had embarrassed the Government. He did not wish him to be speaking from a religious standpoint, but from the position of a good Conservative.

A voice—Mr. McCarthy or nobody. (Cheers.)

Mr. Long then said, as many wanted to go home he would then close, and open the convention for nominations, A UNANIMOUS NOMINATION.

Dr. Kirkland, ex-reeve of Nottawasaga, then stood up and moved that D'Alton McCarthy be the nominee of the Conservative party.

Mr. George Stewart, of Dunedin, jumped up and seconded the motion, and a tremendous cheer followed.

Mr. Switzer, of Sunidale, stepped on the platform and said, if it were necessary he would add a third to the motion. The worthy chairman, he added, was such a Tory that he would not allow a man to have any conscience but Sir John. What Simcoe wanted, however, was a man with a conscience who would stick to his principles. Mr. Long had, on one occasion, seen fit to differ from the large majority of the party, and he was permitted to do so, and there was no reason why Mr. McCarthy should not be accorded the

same freedom. (Applause.) Mr. McCarthy was a man who represented the feeling of his constituents in the true sense of the term. He was a true patriot. He stood almost alone for three weeks against the French-Canadians in the House, and had shown that he was a man of principle ever since, in 1889, he rode with him (the speaker) on a bob-sleigh to political meetings in Sunidale. (Laughter and applause.)

The chairman then asked if there were any other nominations, and a tremendous "No, no!" went up from the assemblage.

Cries of "McCarthy," then followed, and Mr. McCarthy stepped to the front.

MR. MCCARTHY DEFINES HIS POSITION.

Mr. McCarthy began calmly and deliberately—Gentlemen, before you vote on this motion I want once more to point out to you my position, so that there will be no uncertainty in your mind as to the manner in which you vote. I have already defined my position, but it is as well that I should do so again. I trust I am as good a Conservative. If I have swerved from the true principles of Liberal Conservatism I have done so unknowingly, but upon certain questions which I have made my own I differ from the party leaders. I reciprocate the feelings of personal friendship expressed by your worthy chairman, and I am sorry that I have to quarrel with him on a certain inference made in his speech. He inferred that at some time I made an attack upon the Church of which he is a member. I have this to say. I have never made an attack upon any Church. I have never attacked any man's religion. I have never uttered a disrespectful word against any man's faith. I respect every man's religious opinions, and I would be false to the principles of religious toleration instilled into my youthful mind if I did so. No, thank God, in this country every religion is free. (Applause.) All religions are free and equal before the law, and if I have assumed the position I have, it is because I considered that an attempt was being made by one religion to secure unfair and unjust privileges were not accorded to other denominations. (Applause.) Mr. Long has told you you are here party men to select a party candidate, as standard-bearer for the party in the common fight. If you want a straight party man I cannot be your candidate. I will support Sir John in his general policy. I would rather cut off my right hand than support any party seeking to annex this country to the United States. But if the other matters upon which I have differed from my chief come up, and no doubt they will, I shall take the same position as I have already taken, it matters not to me what Government is in power or what Government is destroyed. If you accept me as your standard-bearer you do so on my terms. (Applause.) I have fought for the party in '89, '72 and '78. I have supported Mr. Long. If you want a party man select some other, but if you take me you will take me with my conscience and with my principles. You will have to take me as I am. (Tremendous applause.)

The chairman then asked for further nominations, and was greeted with cheers of "No, motion." No further nominations being offered he put the motion, which was carried unanimously by a standing vote. The cheering and applause was something deafening.

Mr. Long, chairman, then tendered the nomination to Mr. McCarthy, who was deeply moved by the sympathetic outburst of feeling displayed by the meeting. Mr. Long added that he felt constrained as a party man to give expression to his feelings at an early part of the proceedings, but he would bow to the wishes of the convention.

MR. MCCARTHY'S SPEECH.

Mr. McCarthy then came forward and thanked the convention for the nomination which he said, he deemed as good as a certificate from the returning officer. (Cries of "It is!") He said that he deemed it an honour to represent Simcoe. (Cheers.) Other constituents had been offered him, but he refused, as he desired to represent North Simcoe as long as the party and the voters had confidence in him. They would have to present a solid front to their opponents. He would speak upon one of the political questions that had been selected by the great parties as a battle ground, and give his views. Until within two years he had been in the confidence of his Chieftain. He had always kept close watch on public affairs, and he believes that never since the Elgin reciprocity treaty had been abrogated had the Conservative party lost an opportunity to renew this treaty. Better trade relations would be beneficial to both

countries, but it was absurd to say that only one party could secure such relations. The Americans always boasted that they generally got the better of a deal or treaty. The reason why they cancelled the Elgin reciprocity treaty was because they thought the Canadians had got the better of them. If a fair treaty could be secured, a treaty giving justice to both Canada and the United States, he would not oppose such a measure, but if it were a measure which he considered gave an unjust advantage to Americans he would fight it to the end. (Applause.) Mr. Blaine had expressed a desire to treat on these questions, and the Government of the day intended sending commissioners to treat on the subject in March. Mr. Blaine had changed his opinions, as a short time ago he had refused to treat with Canada at all. He then read from Mr. Blaine's speech to show that he was opposed to granting Canada special trading privileges. He believed that this change of opinion was owing to the adverse vote at the late elections when the Republicans were defeated. Mr. Blaine would without a doubt, make a treaty with Canada to use as political capital in the next presidential campaign. Mr. Blaine would doubtless prefer treating with Sir Richard Cartwright. The Reform party's programme came nearest to annexation, which the American papers with singular unanimity pointed out that unrestricted reciprocity meant. He did not wish to call men that agitated a measure traitors. They might be conscientious in their opinions, even if they believed in annexation, but he hoped that among his followers there were no traitors. (Cheers and cries of "No.") Now, if unrestricted reciprocity meant free trade all round, there were men who had made a study of political economy who would agree with it. But it was not. It would be building a tariff-wall with the McKinley bill around Canada against the world. There was no doubt about this, as Sir Richard Cartwright had said so, and he was the exponent of the movement.

EFFECT OF UNRESTRICTED RECIPROCITY.

The McKinley bill was then dealt with, and he pointed out that in failing in a measure of reciprocity similar to that in the Elgin treaty, the best thing to do would be to cultivate trade with Great Britain, where a constant and good market could always be found for Canadian produce. The farmers might, perhaps justly, think that the tariff was high enough as it is, and they were paying dearly for the N. P., but as the duties at present were about 30 per cent., if we had assimilation of duties with the United States, or as it was called unrestricted reciprocity, the duties would have to be raised to 60 per cent., which the farmers would not stand. Then the duties collected would not be sufficient to pay the Government expenditure, and then there would be no recourse but direct taxation. It was all right, however for Sir Richard Cartwright to lead the Reformers in Ontario, but Mr. Laurier would shape the policy of the Government should Sir John be defeated. What would that mean? Simply that the demand of Mr. Mercier for better terms would be granted. Mr. Pepler had made a calculation on the basis of Reform promises to Mr. Mercier, and the money granted to Quebec would equal \$35 per head for every voter. Even in the palmy days of H. H. Cook in this riding, votes never brought such fancy prices. (Laughter.) Now, as far as he was concerned, it mattered not to him what Government was in power. He was opposed to better terms to Quebec, and would fight tooth and nail against such proposals or measure. It was an outrage that this Province of Ontario, the finest and fairest piece of land on the continent of America, the most fruitful as statistics showed, should be burdened with the extravagant expenditures of the other Provincial Governments. (Applause.) The people of Ontario would stand a great deal, but the limit of endurance was not far off. Mr. Mercier in Quebec was going off on a tour to borrow ten millions to pay the floating debt but he returned to help Mr. Laurier because he thought he could get it out of the other provinces easier. His policy was closer trade relations with the United States on a fair and equitable basis, but no measure that would tend to destroy the bond with the Motherland. To have unrestricted reciprocity would mean that the United States fix the duties. It was a principle with Anglo-Saxons, "No representation, no taxation." The Congress and Senate of the United States would then fix Canada's taxes, while Canada, if unrestricted reciprocity were adopted, would not have a voice in the United States Sen-

ate. In conclusion, he thanked the convention for their confidence, and said he hoped to merit not only the confidence and support of every Conservative, but also of all true Reformers.

Mr. McCarthy took his seat amid deafening cheers.

Mr. M. N. Stephens, of Glen Cairn, then spoke, and said that it was an honor to be represented by men like Mr. McCarthy. Every true patriot would cherish and honor him as a man who in the face of party and a whole Parliament stood out alone, single-handed for justice and the right. (Applause.) This was the true Anglo-Saxon spirit that brought free institutions. If men were to be slaves to party and not suffered to be independent, then government would be nothing but an autocracy, which all Anglo-Saxons abhorred.

The meeting closed with cheers for the Queen, the chair, and D'Alton McCarthy.

The Old Red Cross.

We want no flag but the old Red Cross, the flag that our fathers bore,
On many a well-fought field of fame, in the glorious days of yore—
The flag, which floated o'er the brave, the valiant and the true,
In honor's van, on ocean's crest, the Red, the White and the Blue!

We want no flag but the Old Red Cross—the symbol of the free—
The blazoned Island banner—the type of Liberty!
That flag which spreads its gorgeous folds in the rays of the rising sun:
And greets the parting orb of light in the west, when the day is done.

The flag, the flag of the grand old land, whose navy sweeps the seas—
"The flag that's braved a thousand years, the battle and the breeze!"
Mid conflict's clang and cannons' roar, o'er mountain, plain and flood;
Around the globe, from shore to shore, baptized in British blood!

We envy not the crimson bars that wave across the line;
We bid God speed to the Stripes and Stars for the sake of Auld Lang Syne,
We love to hear the plaudits of our mighty cousins,
In the strident, smiting accents of the Anglo-Saxon tongue!

Yet, yet we prize with a deeper love—a love that will last till death,
The flag that will gladden our fading sights as we draw our latest breath;
And as we pass the boundary line on the outer verge of time,
We'll pray, God bless the Union Jack! your father's flag and mine.

WILLIAM PITTMAN LETT.

Ottawa, February 20th, 1891.

LORD SALISBURY AT CAMBRIDGE

Rome Rule!

But there is another phenomenon which seems to be more formidable still. We have always said that one of the great dangers of our brethren in the North of Ireland was that they would be subject to priestly rule. In using that word I am anxious to explain myself. I am not touching any dogmatic or theological question. I am anxious to avoid any word of the slightest disrespect to those with whom I theologically differ. But priestly rule is not a monopoly of any religious communion. It is a degeneracy into which all religious organizations are apt to fall if precautions are not taken. You will find priestly rule not only in the Roman Church, but you will find it in those communities that are most distinctly separated from Rome. Nay, in the Mahomedan communion itself, which admits the existence of no priest, you will find priestly rule established by the influence of the ordinary teachers of religion. Priestly rule is the vice of religious organization. It is that worst corruption which, we are told by the proverb, belongs to all the best influences. It is an attempt to use the influences gained by teachers of religion, by virtue of their high mission, in the furtherance of secular ends. (Cheers.) When the teachers of religion, basing themselves upon the influences which they have acquired by the holy truths of which they are the appointed expounders, when they try to use that for secular, earthly, personal ends, they then corrupt that which is beset by the worst degeneracy. They bend down the things of heaven to those of earth, and in denouncing them we are not denouncing any religion or form of religion; we are denouncing that disease which is menacing and fatal to all religions alike. (Cheers.) Now, just look at what happened in Ireland. The heads of the Roman Catholic Church, for their own reasons,

deserting their high functions, leaving aside altogether the supernatural doctrine with which they were charged, resolved that it was their interest that Home Rule should be obtained, and, therefore, that Mr. Gladstone should be gratified in the matter of Mr. Parnell's ostracism; and when they had resolved upon that point—they took a fortnight to resolve it, they looked round very carefully upon all the interests that might be affected—having resolved it, they apply the whole force of their matchless organization to carry it into effect. (Hear, hear.) But did you watch what the result of that was, what tremendous odds there were against which they had to struggle, and how up to this time at least they have succeeded? They were fighting against the man who up to that time had commanded the Nationalist forces in Ireland as a despot—himself the man who had made the whole movement of Home Rule, himself the man who disposed of the whole American sympathies which have been so powerful in this question. They were fighting against him, and yet, almost at a moment's notice, they were able to bring nearly the whole of their clerical organization to bear, and in the only battle which was fought, to sweep him from the field. I am not saying I have the slightest sympathy with either side. I can see abundant grounds for distrusting both. But what I do ask you is to contemplate the tremendous power of the organization which for a moment was revealed to view. That is the organization which, if you grant Home Rule, will govern Ireland in future. (Cheers.) That is the organization beneath whose ruthless heel you are about to place the Protestants of the North of Ireland ("Hear, hear," and a voice, "Never") who have suffered through many a long generation of history from this antagonism, and who look upon it as the most forcible fact that can await them, that their future political, social, material welfare shall be at the bidding of the organized priesthood of Ireland. It is a revelation which we must not neglect. It has been a puzzle to us why Irish Society was so dislocated; why it did not move in an ordinary way; why men of education seem to have so little opinion of those whose had influence; and we now know the reason. We know now that the more powerful organization, which has in every age set every other at defiance, was in the field before us, and that it had sapped every social tie and set at naught every traditional affection. (Hear, hear.) We shall be mad indeed if we do not take warning from these disclosures in the tempest that passed over Ireland in the autumn. (The disguise has been for the moment blown aside, and you see that the antagonist with which you have to contend is the sinister domination of Archbishop Croke and Archbishop Walsh. (Cheers.) To me, at least, it is a matter of rejoicing that this disclosure has happened. I feel now that our brethren in the north of Ireland will have no doubt as to what awaits them if Home Rule should be carried out. I feel that now they will struggle to the utmost limits of man's power to prevent this detestable arrangement from being consummated (cheers), and I have this conviction, that if Ulster is true to herself Home Rule will never be given to Ireland. (Loud cheers.)

THE FARRER CONSPIRACY.

Comments of the English and Canadian Press.

THE PLOT GENERALLY CONDEMNED.

Mr. Farrer's defence is as curious as it is lame. It is well that the Canadian electors should know that some members of the Opposition are labouring for Canada's absorption by America.—*London Standard*.

In the reign of Victoria the proper description of such conduct as that of Edward Farrer may be doubtful, but in the reign of Elizabeth, Sir John Macdonald's description would have been held to be accurate, and appropriate penalties would not have been wanting.—*Times*.

Nobody denies the right of Canadians to advocate Annexation, but this policy must emanate from themselves and not be forced upon them by intrigues with a foreign power. Edward Farrer appears to be obliged to admit the truth of Sir John Macdonald's terrible exposure of his opponent's tactics. The nervous efforts of the Opposition leaders to retrace their steps and repudiate their intrigues are, however, remarkable testimony as to how conscious they are of the manliness and independence of the electors.—*London Post*.