

# THE TWO CANDIDATES

## Leonard vs. Becher.

Independent and Intelligent Electors of the Malahide Division:— You are called upon to record your votes for one of two candidates now seeking your suffrages. The successful one will be the steward of your dearest rights and highest political privileges for eight years. In that time he will have numberless opportunities of promoting the best interests of the country; or, on the other hand, of marring your institutions and preventing the growth and development of this magnificent Province. Consider well before you record your votes who are the Candidates?

### WHO IS BECHER?

*Ans.*—A London Lawyer, who, like many of his class, has made a fortune out of the misfortunes of others. Foolish neighbors quarrelled, and then referred the settlement of their disputes to the law courts; and in this way Becher made his fees, and his fees made his wealth. He has always been identified with the High Church Tory Party, and is himself a very good type of the ancient fossilism of that political school who hold that the people are made for the convenience of their governors and should aspire to nothing higher than to be hewers of wood and drawers of water, and at political elections should do the bidding of the Upper TENDON to which he thinks he himself belongs.

### Who is Leonard?

*Ans.*—He is a man that settled in this Province when thirteen years of age. He commenced business at St. Thomas thirty years ago, as a manufacturer of plough points; and by industry, perseverance, and close attention to his business, and the exercise of prudence, good judgment, and unquestioned integrity in his dealings with his fellow men, has extended his business, until at present, he is one of the largest manufacturers in the Province. He has been, since his boyhood, identified with the liberal and progressive party, and has invariably opposed jobbery and corruption in the administration of public affairs.—He has always enjoyed the confidence of his fellow citizens, and been repeatedly the recipient of their highest favors—having been for years a Councillor, an Alderman or Mayor of the City of London, in which he resides. In this respect, he is quite different from his opponent, Mr. Becher, who could never receive such a position from those who best know him. He has tried to enter the same City Council in which Mr. Leonard was a favorite, and the electors invariably spurned him from the Polls, and sent him to the retirement of his law office.

### How did Becher become a Candidate?

*Ans.*—By virtue of a "Bargain and Sale" made by and between himself and one Portman, the son of an English Lord, who sought to represent East Middlesex in Parliament. These two, in secret conclave, agreed that the one should be Member for East Middlesex, and the other Member for the Malahide Division, just as if the people, the intelligent electors had no voice or say in the matter, and were of no more account in this arrangement than a flock of sheep. This infamous "Bargain and Sale" they published to the world through the columns of the *Free Press*, and so the people became aware of it, and became enraged at the audacious impudence of the two men who had thus attempted to barter a large Constituency of Independent Yeomen, without even consulting them.

### How did Leonard become a Candidate?

*Ans.*—A Preliminary Meeting of intelligent and most respectable citizens from all parts of the Division, was held at St. Thomas, at which it was agreed that the Reform Electors of each Rural Ward in the several Municipalities should meet in public meeting, and appoint a delegate to a Convention, whose duty it would be to consider duty, and to nominate in Convention a fit and proper person to represent so important, populous and intelligent a Constituency as the Malahide Division, in the Legislative Council of the Province. This Convention, composed of forty-eight gentlemen of high social position and influence in the constituency, met at St. Thomas, on the 15th of November last, and after considering the claims of all parties, came unanimously to the conclusion: that LEONARD was of all others best entitled to the honor, and most worthy of being the Standard bearer of the Reform Party throughout the contest. He had been very successful in the management of his own business, and they took it that he would be equally successful in the management of the public business. His course of life hitherto had been marked with integrity and wisdom, and this, the Convention thought was the best guarantee they could have for his future good conduct, as a wise and faithful Legislative Councillor. He had been for a lifetime thoroughly consistent with the principles of the great Reform Party; and this they took to be the best pledge for his fidelity to his principles in future. They thought that as

he prospered in business in his adopted country, that he was bound to sacrifice some of his ease and comfort in endeavoring to develop her resources and to promote her prosperity as a representative of the people, among whom he had been for forty years a settler. LEONARD was thus nominated by a Convention of the people, and brought out by the people, and is thus in contrast with Mr. Becher, who thrust himself upon the people, just as if they were obliged to take him because he said so, and chose to take the position of candidate without consulting their wishes in the matter.

### Who Support Becher?

*Ans.*—All who supported the late corrupt Coalition Government that squandered the public resources and added to the public debt forty millions of dollars in seven short years, and that increased the annual expenditure from year to year, until at last, it exceeded the income of the Province by at least five millions of dollars. These and all who look for office and emolument under a corrupt government, support BECHER.

### Who Support Leonard?

*Ans.*—The United Reform Party, and all who approve the Departmental Reform, and the system of retrenchment and economy inaugurated by the present Ministry, support LEONARD.

### What would Becher do if Elected?

*Ans.*—He would reinstate the Cartier-McDonald Government, or another like it, and displace the present Ministry, who have commenced to discharge useless clerks and officers from the Governmental Departments, and in this way have already saved thousands upon thousands of dollars of the people's money. He has always supported the old corrupt Coalition in all their corruptions, voted for Carling, McBeth, Portman, and all their other tools, as he had opportunity, and it is but reasonable to suppose that he should do so again. One of the old exclusive Church and State Party, he would support it, or the one most like it in the House.

### What Would Leonard do if Elected?

*Ans.*—He would do as he has always done. He would maintain the rights of Upper Canada, would vote for Representation based upon Population, support the present Ministry in all their efforts to redress the grievances of the people, to give despatch and efficiency to the public service, and to reduce the public expenditure to the lowest possible figure compatible with the true interests of the country.

### What is the political feeling in Malahide?

*Ans.*—Perfect unity among the Reformers and supporters of Mr. Leonard and the Ministry. Much division among the Tories, because BECHER has thrust himself upon them without fair consultation, and has an amount of assurance, arrogance and conceit, quite distasteful to the Conservatives.

### What is the result of the bad feeling among the Tories?

*Ans.*—It has made Becher desperate, so much so, that he acted the complete rowdy on the hustings on the day of Nomination, and came near precipitating a riot on the multitude present. He insultingly thrust LEONARD out of his place, and dared the Returning officer to give a decision against him when he saw that the greater number of the true-hearted and honest yeomen came out in support of the People's Candidate—Mr. Leonard. Driven by desperation by the certainty of Mr. Leonard's return, the Tories circulate the most abominable falsehoods against Mr. Leonard: such as that he has "pledged himself to the Roman Catholics to go all lengths for separate schools;" that "he is disloyal;" that he "was guilty of jobbery and corruption in the matter of the Port Stanley Railway;" that "he does not attend a Christian place of worship."

### Are all these charges really untrue?

*Ans.*—Untrue, every one of them. Mr. Leonard has been in this country since his boyhood, has all his property here, his family and friends here, and has therefore every motive to be true and loyal to the institutions of the country and the rule of our Gracious Queen.—The people know this, and will return him by a large majority over Becher.

**GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.**