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## THE NOR-WESTER.

CALGARY, TUESDAY, JAN. 13, 1885.

### THE McLEOD MEETING.

The threatened "mass meeting" took place at McLeod according to announcement like a well conducted circus. The *Gazette* comes to hand with a four-column report of the meeting, which that journal describes as having been a large and enthusiastic gathering. That it was "large" must, we suppose, be taken as a numerical fact, and that it was enthusiastic may be accepted as an evidence of the ozone, which permeates the genial atmosphere of McLeod; and from the circumstance that the meeting was held in the Athletic Saloon we may from similar reasoning infer that it was strong even to strength, but the fact that the editor of the *Gazette* "took the chair," shows that it was a momentous occasion. As a matter of course, a non-political resolution was the first moved. This was moved by Mr. C. C. McCaul, a lawyer and the Secretary of the meeting, and it was as follows:—

"That, whereas there are certain matters of common interest to persons of all parties in the North-West Territory, which it is desirable should be discussed at this meeting, and that such action be taken thereon as may seem proper, be it therefore resolved, 'That this meeting shall not be deemed of political significance, or as expressing want of confidence in the present Government of Canada, but that any resolutions which may be passed, shall be deemed merely as suggestions to the Government, expressive of the wishes of the community, and entirely apart from party considerations.'"

That was very proper, because all agitation meetings have made it expressly their business to pass similar resolutions, and it was only natural that a meeting presided over by a chairman who has publicly declared that "a continual state of agitation in the North-West is necessary," that the preamble to the agitating business should begin with a most "eminent falsehood." The mover of the resolution, however, took great pains to give Sir John A. Macdonald plenty of "tuff," but he forgot to point out the why and the wherefore of the agitation, because Mr. McCaul, like other North-West lawyers we know of, has private ends of his own to serve. Of course, that motion was carried unanimously; it always is.

The second resolution was moved by Deputy Sheriff Campbell. We may remark in passing that deputy sheriffs in the North-West are great politicians and agitators. The one we have here was Secretary of the Agitation howl we had in Calgary, but why they should have any special grievance against the North-West Council is inexplicable to us. Perhaps, however, they are not aware which side contains the butter, but this is the resolution:—

Resolved—That the Dominion Government be respectfully requested to introduce at the next session of Parliament, such measures as may be necessary to provide for the proper representation of the several Provisional Districts of the North-West Territories in the Federal Parliament; or to obtain from the Imperial Parliament, during its present session such amendment (if any) to the British North America Act as may be necessary for this purpose.

Sir John you should instantly bring down the required legislation, because the deputy sheriff of McLeod has spoken, and that ought to settle it.

The third resolution is a sensible one and it is only just to say that the deputy sheriff also seconded it. The resolution reads:—

Moved by C. E. Denny, seconded by D. J. Campbell, that a Committee, consisting of the mover and seconder, and chairman, be appointed to enquire and state the boundaries of any particular 1,000 square miles in the Macleod District capable of being erected into an electoral division; and that they forward their report in writing, with a copy of this resolution to His Honor, the Lieutenant-Governor, with a respectful request that he will be pleased to take such action in the premises as may be recommended in their report.

But the deputy sheriff did not appear to know when he had done

a good resolution, for he again bobs up serenely as seconder to resolution number four, the Secretary being the mover:—

Resolved,—That the Dominion Government be respectfully requested to introduce such amendments to the North-West Council giving it fuller and larger legislative powers, similar to those enjoyed by the several provinces of the Dominion.

Some one must have given Mr. Campbell a hint that he had figured pretty well as a mover and seconder, as according to the report he does not bob up again until the last of the meeting when he appears as the mover of a resolution of thanks to the chairman with Capt. Stewart as seconder.

Mr. F. W. Haultain, also a lawyer, moved the fifth resolution, seconded by Mr. C. E. Denny:—

Whereas, by the Act amending the N. W. T. Act, 1884, provision is made for an appeal from Justices of the Peace to the Stipendiary Magistrate, but such provision is in effect practically useless; and whereas the provisions of the N. W. T. Act, purporting to grant an appeal in certain cases from the decisions of Stipendiary Magistrates are inconvenient, inadequate and practically useless; and whereas, there is no provision made in the said Act for habeas corpus or certiorari. Be it therefore resolved, That the Dominion Government be respectfully requested to introduce at the next session of Parliament, such measures as may be necessary for the constitution, establishment and maintenance of a Superior Court of Law, in and for the said territories, with power to hear appeals in all civil cases involving a larger sum than \$200; and also in all indictable cases, from the decisions of the Stipendiary Magistrates; and also in all cases from the decisions of any Justice, or any two Justices of the Peace.

The *Gazette* reports Mr. Haultain as having said:—

"That, before moving the resolution, he must honestly state his position to the meeting. That he was not at all in sympathy with the meeting or its objects, or with the substance of the majority of the resolutions submitted to the meeting that evening. That in his opinion movements, by way of agitation and disturbance, were little calculated to gain the ends in view. That he felt bound, in accordance with a promise already made, to move the resolution just read, but wished it to be distinctly understood that he was entirely opposed to the position taken up by the meeting. That he considered it right to make these statements in order that his position, if somewhat anomalous, might at least be considered honest. He then went on to say that the necessity for a Court of Appeal, both in civil and criminal cases, had been long and strongly felt in the country. With reference to civil business he pointed out the advantages of having judgments of single Judges, and verdicts of juries submitted to the criticism of a Court of Appeal. With regard to the criminal law that the people of this country had been and were without the right of habeas corpus, which was always regarded as one of the most precious privileges of British citizenship. That no matter how unjustly or how illegally a man might be deprived of his liberty, there was no redress, no right of appeal. That such a state of affairs in a British possession was a most unprecedented and unjust, and that, while opposed to the manner of removing this anomaly, he could most heartily and thoroughly subscribe to the principle contained in the resolution.

The resolution is a commendable one, and if the necessary legislation be enacted it will, to say the least, be only an act of common justice.

The irrepressible Secretary appears as the mover of the sixth resolution. It reads:—

Whereas, in the opinion of this meeting it is highly dangerous to the liberty of the subject that those engaged in the detection and suppression of crime, should also possess judicial functions and act as jurors. Be it therefore resolved, That police officers should not be allowed to act as magistrates for the trial or preliminary examination of offenders, nor to exercise civil powers as such magistrates in well settled centres such as Calgary, Macleod, Medicine Hat, etc., but that resident civil magistrates should be appointed at such places.

Capt. Stewart, according to the report, opposed this motion. He is credited with having said he thought the motion ought not to have been brought forward; that a little law is a dangerous thing, and the police having had experience are better qualified than civil magistrates. He said no better magistrate could be found than Col. Macleod. What would be the result of these powers being taken away from the police between Calgary and the Selkirk? Any change would necessitate an entire review of the Act. He said that these agitations were not in the interest of the country, that they would only harass the Government. Nothing had been more hurtful than the Farmer's Union meetings of Manitoba. Look at Montana; we don't see them petitioning Congress; they have their own institutions, and legislate for themselves. What we want is legislation for ourselves.

(Cheers and laughter.) In Ontario, they build their own bridges; and carry on their own local undertakings, without appealing to the Dominion.

Capt. Stewart then proceeded to read a resolution, when Mr. McCaul said that he claimed the privilege of replying, as Capt. Stewart had made some very pointed remarks.

Capt. Stewart's gallant defence was, however voted down by a majority of 57 to 19, and presuming that this was the strength of the Athletic club it shows a total of eighty-six noses without including the chairman's, and the Americans present appear to have been set down upon by a Mr. Kanouse, if the following episode from the *Gazette*'s report can be depended upon:—

M. A. Kanouse asked that all present from the American side move back from front seats, as they had no right to vote at the meeting.

They didn't move. C. E. Denny said, as a question of non-voters had been brought forward, he would suggest that, whether Canadians or Americans, all had interests here. Many Americans live here, and have money invested, and they are interested in seeing the country well and properly governed.

Capt. Stewart said, Mr. Kanouse had qualified his statements by saying that, while they had not a vote in the country, they should be careful.

C. E. Denny. All here to-night are men of education and brains. (Hear, hear.) No power was brought to bear to force people to come to the meeting.

C. C. McCaul would be sorry if the Americans should withdraw. If Americans have not a vote in the country, they can only express their views at a mass meeting. Deplored that the feeling should have been brought up.

The resolution regarding Dominion representation was then put to the meeting, and carried by a vote of 37 to 7.

The sixth resolution is of a local significance and is commendable enough. It is as follows:—

Whereas, in the opinion of this meeting, it is advisable and in the interest of justice and equity, that sittings of the District Court should be held at definite and fixed periods (so far as possible) at the more important centres, such as McLeod and Calgary. Be it therefore resolved, That the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council be respectfully requested to cause such amendment to the introduction to the civil ordinance, as will provide for a regular quarterly sittings of the District Court at these points for the trial and determination of any pending actions; and also for a regular monthly sittings of the said Court, for the hearing of motions, settling of issues between parties to actions, and other interlocutory applications, and also for the trial and determination of such cases, as may be ready for trial, in which a jury shall not have been applied for or ordered.

The last resolution was as follows:—

Whereas, by the provisions of the North-West Territories Act, relating to the prohibition of intoxicating liquor, there is great temptation to unscrupulous persons to commit perjury, and much injustice has been committed. Be it therefore resolved, That in such cases the informer should not be entitled to any share in any pecuniary penalty inflicted; and that no conviction should be made upon the evidence only of such informer; but that in all cases, the evidence of an informer should require to be corroborated by that of at least one other credible witness.

This report says was carried unanimously.

An extra motion, the report says, was put by Mr. Denny, to the effect that the Government consider the several resolutions as the opinion of the people of this district, and that such action be taken thereon as may seem advisable. The report goes on:—

An amendment to this motion was moved by D. W. Davis, seconded by Capt. Stewart, to the effect that resolutions proposed are political and arbitrary in character, that the meeting does not desire to express want of confidence in the Government; that we are not suffering from grievous wrong; that agitatory meetings will not tend to the advancement of the country; that its utter want of sympathy with this organization, and to express its entire confidence in the present Government, acting fully in sympathy with the people of this Territory, and ready, willing and able, at the proper time, to confer upon us all the privileges which are required, or our necessities may indicate.

This resolution was signed by D. W. Davis, Capt. Stewart, mover and seconder; J. R. Craig, W. Black, F. W. Haultain, D. MacEachran, W. Cochrane, Lord Boyle, E. Miller.

C. C. McCaul objected that it was out of order, not being an amendment to the motion. That properly a motion should first be put to reconsider the first motion regarding the political aspect of the meeting.

Capt. Stewart asked Mr. Haultain for his opinion, which was the same as Mr. McCaul's.

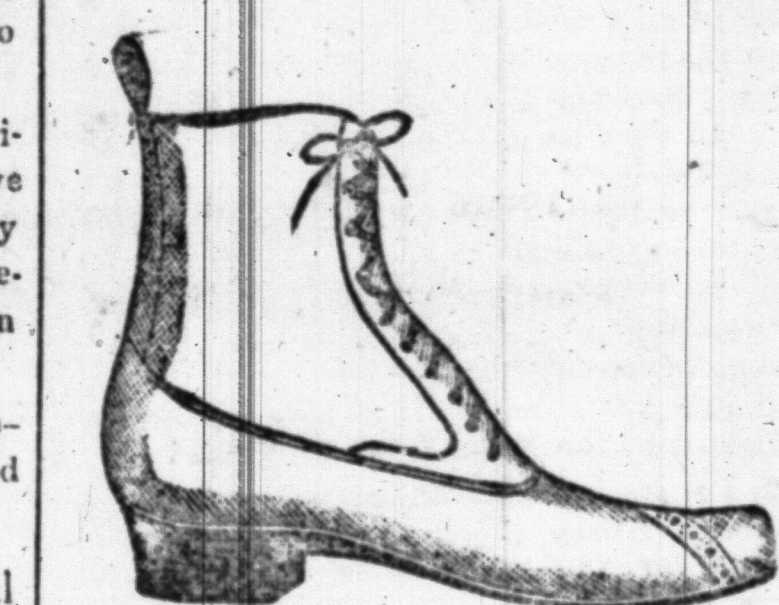
The chairman ruled that it could not be brought forward as an amendment, as it in

no way referred to the motion. That it would be simpler to allow Mr. Denny's motion to go before the meeting, and then bring the other in as another motion.

A motion was then put to reconsider the first resolution, and was lost.

Mr. Denny's motion was then put and carried.

One fact suggests itself to the careful observer, and it is this that the great stock interests of the McLeod district were not fully represented at the meeting. True, Capt. Stewart, Lord Boyle and one or two other representative men were there, but it will be seen from the report that they were rather opposed to the meeting, deeming it an agitation meeting which it really was, because it appears to have originated with the McLeod *Gazette*, Mr. Denny, and Mr. McCaul, just as the agitation meeting here originated with the Calgary *Herald*, H. Bleeker, Fitzgerald Cochrane and Mr. McVitty. The meeting does not appear to have endorsed the Calgary meeting, or taken any notice of it, nor does it appear to have appointed any of its darlings delegates. That is too bad. They should have adhered to the regulation idea of passing around the hat. It has been passing around here for some time, and it is still going around, but the "sinews" are not forthcoming.



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**W. D. SCOTT,** at Calgary.

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THE

### Canada North-West Land Co.

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Providing the parties who purchases will erect buildings to the value of at least \$50 within 6 months after purchase.

**TERMS—ONE-HALF CASH; BALANCE IN ONE YEAR.**

These prices subject to change at pleasure of the Co. For further particulars apply to

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CALGARY TOWN  
Mayor  
George M. Council  
Simon J. Hogg, Jos.  
Neville J. Lindsay,  
Clert  
Thomas

### OUR TOWN

The regular meeting took place on Wednesday town hall.

Present—The Mayor, Clarke and Millward.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Councillor Clarke said amendment he moved wing-house keepers was minutes.

The Mayor stated that fered to had been made therefore it was not necessary.

The Clerk said that been made with Messrs. secure a Seal.

COMMUNICATED  
The following were read—

One from G. B. Elliott Alberta Historical and asking for the use of the evenings.

One from J. Z. Campbell appointed Assessor.

One from John Patterson same.

One from T. S. Burns, the intention of the Council any of the offices he wished to be considered as such.

One from Calvin P. Moore appointed Collector.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE  
Moved by Councillor Hogg, Councillor Millward, that the Historical Society be given a room in the town hall.

Moved by Councillor Hogg, Councillor Hogg, that the new received. Carried.

REPORTS  
The Finance Committee had examined the vouchers with furnishing the bill as to be correct. The report

Councillor Hogg said in previous notification he was of the by-law committee a due certain by-laws for the certain municipal offices.

Moved by Councillor Hogg, Councillor Clarke, that the

Councillor Hogg then following by-laws.

No. 8, for the appointment of a salaried clerk, salary not to exceed \$1500.

No. 9, for the appointment of a salaried clerk, salary \$4,000; remuneration \$10,000; remuneration \$10,000; remuneration \$10,000.

No. 11, for the appointment of a salaried clerk, salary \$4,000; remuneration \$10,000; remuneration \$10,000.

The by-laws were read and adopted.

On motion of Councillor Hogg, Councillor Clarke, the second time and the committee of the whole to

The committee reported certain amendments.

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