

THE HURON SIGNAL

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GODERICH, ONTARIO.

And is despatched to all parts of the surrounding country by the earliest mails and trains. By general admission it has a larger circulation than any other newspaper in this part of the country. It is one of the oldest, newest and most reliable journals in Ontario, possessing, as it does, the fore-going essential and being in addition to the above, a first-class family and fire-side paper—it is therefore a most desirable advertising medium.

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FRIDAY, JAN. 12TH, 1883.

Is the wonderfully clever editor of the *Mail* were lashed to the helm of the Charybdis, and that noble vessel were faced for the mid-ocean under a full head of steam, to meet Prof. Wiggin's great storm in March next, the Conservative leaders would perhaps get rid of two very great party incumbences.

The South Huron Reform Convention to nominate a candidate to contest that riding at the coming local election, has been called to meet at Hensall on the 20th inst. It would be useless to speculate on the probable nominee at present, for there is no knowing where luck, a stray steer or a political convention will run to. One thing is certain, however, and that is that South Huron has a full share of good material for parliamentary members.

If by any possible happening Hon. Mr. Mowat and his colleagues were defeated at the next election, who on the Conservative side of the house would be able to take their places in the Cabinet? Beside Mr. Meredith, who is a second-rate man, and Mr. Morris, who is even weaker, the Conservative party in the Legislature have a man the mention of whose name in connection with a portfolio would not raise a smile. On the other hand, there are behind the treasury benches of the Legislature enough first-class Liberals to form a new government if the call were made to-morrow.

It was rumored in Toronto on the second day of the Reform Convention that Sir John Macdonald was in the city to see the material of which the gathering was composed. We do not know what ground there was for the rumor, but if the Chief Minister was there he must have been extremely sorry that his swash-buckler of the *Mail* so grossly and without provocation insulted the sturdy yeomen who largely composed the delegation. Sir John is too shrewd a politician to offend the farming community by criticizing their homespun garments, their frugality etc., and it would not surprise us to learn that the Blue-nose snob who cast snarl at the farmers through the columns of the *Mail* will shortly get his come. If the *Mail* is to become a respectable organ, "Griffin must go."

MR. MEREDITH, who essays to lead the Opposition in the Ontario Legislature, is continually getting his foot into it. On Monday he spoke in the House urging the raising of the dues on pine and other timber in the Parry Sound and Muskoka district, and accused the Government of trying to purchase the lumbermen by giving them cheap timber. Hon. Mr. Pardee showed conclusively that there had been strong reasons for reducing the dues in 1876, and told the House plainly that Mr. Meredith when in Muskoka had been in favor of cheap dues. Upon a denial from the leader of the Opposition, Mr. Bettles, just elected from Muskoka, rose and charged him with having been in favor of free pine for the settler when he spoke in Muskoka, and now he was asking for double dues. Mr. Meredith dropped the subject like a hot potato.

The conduct of the Opposition "leaders" at Toronto would be amusing if it were not contemptible. Mr. Meredith, of London, is trying to make capital out of the fact that the Government is going to spend a large sum of money in new parliament buildings. Mr. Morris and Mr. Bell, his (r)usty lieutenants, of Toronto, on the other hand, are assailing the Government for not going on with the work at any price. The Commissioner of Public Works on Monday showed that the matter was in an unsettled state, as the sum set apart for the purpose in the first place (\$500,000), was found to be too small, and the Government did not intend to push the work until it had again consulted the House on the matter of expenditure. Mr. Meredith tauntingly replied that the position of the Government was one of weakness. Upon being questioned by Mr. Pardee as to his own position on the matter, Mr. Meredith was as dumb as an oyster. He says he wants the question submitted to the people. He may rest assured that the people will not give up a just, economical and faithful administration for an impotent political faction, which is bound together by but a single tie—a longing for office.

UNDER the circumstances, the appointment of B. L. Doyle, Esq., as Junior Judge of the County of Huron, is satisfactory. Mr. Doyle has good legal abilities, and we wish him a long and prosperous career on the Bench.

At the nominations for Morris to winship on Jan. 1st, the hour set apart for nominating candidates for members of the Council was allowed to pass by without any nominations being made, and the result was that the old council was declared elected for the ensuing year by acclamation. It seems there were a number of aspirants, but each was anxious to see "the other fellow" nominated first. George Forsyth, the wily reeve, must chuckle when he thinks of the job so quietly "set up" on his would-be opponent.

When the Tories, quoting from the blackguardism of the *Mail*, endeavor to impeach the respectability of the composition of the great Liberal Convention, our friends can quietly refer them to the *Mail*, and ask them to inspect to the police court reports of that journal at the respective periods of the Tory and Reform conventions. In the first instance, although only about 2,000 delegates were present, a number of them faced the police magistrate the morning after this convention, charged with being drunk and disorderly; at the Reform convention held last week with fully four times the representation, the Toronto cells didn't have to shelter a solitary belated Liberal. "Facts are chieftains that winna ding."

MR. F. C. ROGERS, of Brussels, who has represented that village in the County Council during the past two years, was on New Year's day defeated for the Reevship by Mr. W. H. McCracken. Mr. Rogers, we understand, was led to believe he would be the next Warden of Huron were he elected Reeve of Brussels this year, and naturally felt taken aback by the defeat at the poll on election day. Last week he was in town to make arrangements for a recount, and had an order served upon Mr. McCracken to that effect. The matter came before his Honor Judge Toms, on Tuesday last, and on contention of Mr. Garrow, who appeared for the Reeve elect, the order for inspection was declared *ultra vires*. We might say, in connection with the above, that even if he had been elected, Mr. Rogers would have 47 men ahead of him for the Wardenship.

THE DESERTERS.

We Hold the Recrudescent Opposition to their Record.

Facts for Honest Electors that Cannot be Denied.

Up to the last meeting of the Dominion Parliament, when Sir John A. Macdonald, at the bidding of his Quebec supporters, refused to ratify the Boundary Award, the Conservatives in Ontario were just as strong for the interests of the Province in the matter of the award as were the Reformers. Only a few months previously, on the 3rd of March, 1881, the entire Local Legislature, with one dissentient voice, applauded the ground then (and now) taken by Mr. Mowat. The vote was the honest expression of the members, uninfluenced by instructions from Ottawa. From the high ground then taken the Conservatives of this province have receded. They have forsaken their province, but their record is there. They cannot deny it. They do not attempt to do so. This is what Mr. Meredith and his followers voted for in March, 1881—

"1. That this House deeply regrets that notwithstanding the unanimous award made on the 3rd of August, 1878, by the arbitrators appointed by the joint and concurrent action of the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario, to determine the northerly and westerly boundaries of this Province, no legislation has been submitted by the Government of Canada to the Dominion Parliament for the purpose of confirming that award, nor has the validity of the award yet been recognized by the Government of Canada.

"2. That the omission of the Government and Parliament of Canada to confirm the award is attended with great inconvenience, has the effect of retarding settlement and municipal organization, embarrasses the administration of the laws, and interferes with the preservation of the peace, the maintenance of order, and the establishment of good Government in the northerly and north-westerly parts of the Province of Ontario.

"3. That it is the duty of the Government of Ontario to assert and maintain the just claims and rights of the Province of Ontario as determined by the award of the arbitrators, and this House hereby resolves its determination to give its cordial support to the Government of Ontario in any steps it may be necessary to take to sustain the award, and to assert and maintain the just claims and rights of the Province as thereby declared and determined."

A Clean Record.

It is a strong point in favor of the Mowat Ministry that although it has been twelve years in office its opponents have no charges of corruption or improper exercise of power to present against it. Such an unimpeachable record shows that the confidence of the people has been well bestowed. —[Sarnia Observer.]

THE GRAND RALLY.

The Ontario Liberal Convention.

The Gathering of the "Clans"—"Diana ye Hear the Slogan?"—"1,000 Reform Delegates say, 'Mowat Must Not Go.'"

The greatest political convention—in point of numbers, in intelligence, and in respectability—ever seen in Canada, was held in Toronto last week, under the auspices of the Ontario Reform Association. Even the remotest corners of Ontario were well represented, while full delegations attended from more central points. The Conservative organ-organ-organ chief had sounded out the call to its followers that "Mowat must go," and the Liberals all along the line had accepted the challenge, and poured by thousands into Toronto to protest against the Kearneyite yell from the Tory machine. The bone and sinew, brawn and brain of the Province were well represented, and some idea of the interest taken in the welfare of the Mowat Administration may be had from the fact that of the 121,000 voting power of the Liberal party of Ontario fully 7,000 were present at the convention to represent their localities, and by voice and vote to state plainly that "Mowat must not go."

The convention was mainly drawn from the agricultural community—the men of stout hearts and brawny arms—and showed conclusively that the farmers of the country, the backbone of the Province, were proud to respond in overwhelming numbers to the call of the Provincial Premier, when they considered the interests of Ontario to be at stake. The "bummer" element was wanting, and the gambler, the blackleg, the pickpocket, the dogfighter and the cockfighter, who formed so noticeable an element at a late political convention at Toronto, were nowhere to be found. The delegates to the Reform convention were earnest men, down at the call of their Provincial leader, to give him hearty encouragement, and right nobly did they respond. Men from Halton and York stood side by side with delegates from Algoma and Muskoka, while representatives from Lanark, Renfrew, Prescott, Ottawa and Russell were shoulder to shoulder with those from Essex, Kent, Lambton, Huron and Bruce. All creeds, all complexions, all nationalities were represented, and a common bond—a broad-spirited Liberalism—made the members of the grand gathering brethren indeed.

The magnificent proportions of the convention were matter of surprise to all, and to none more than the people of Toronto. That a large number of Liberals would attend the meeting was a foregone conclusion, but that more than 2,000 would be in attendance had not been surmised even by "the most sanguine"; but when, anterior to the Wednesday evening meeting, 6,200 Liberals had presented their credentials to the secretary, and with the late trains yet coming in heavily laden with delegates, it was small wonder that enthusiastic congratulations passed from one to another, and that the hearts of the leaders felt glad, while the enthusiasm of the rank and file raised high.

At the hotels there was a heavy scramble. Preparations had been made for an influx of Liberal delegates, but not for an invasion. The consequence was that on Wednesday night many found anything but a comfortable bed, and some found no bed at all. But all felt satisfied to undergo privation, and pay for the privilege, rather than not take part in what would be known in the time to come as the great Liberal convention of 1883.

It had been arranged that the Wednesday afternoon meeting would be held in Shaftesbury Hall; but at 2 o'clock, when the hall was packed to the doors it was found that Queen street, almost from Young to Bay, was blocked with delegates, and a motion to adjourn to the Horticultural Pavilion was consequently made. At the pavilion, which is capable of accommodating over 5,000 persons, the crush was something terrible, and many were unable to secure satisfactory positions. Of the speaking at the afternoon meeting we will not attempt to give a *resumé*, owing to want of space at our disposal. Suffice it to say that Capt. McMaster, the chairman did his duty in the premises, and Messrs. Young, of Waterloo, Peter Ryan, Toronto's talented Irish orator, Doyle of Owen Sound, Hardy the Provincial Secretary (pet-named "Little Thunder"), Ross of Middlesex, well-known as a solid and convincing speaker, Colin Macdougall from Elgin, old Joe Rymal the ever-facile and forcible ex-representative of South Wentworth, and others of note, held platform on the occasion, and kept the great audience in place for three hours and a half. At the close of the afternoon meeting it was announced that, owing to the great numbers of delegates present it had been determined by the committee to hold in the evening dual meetings, the one in Shaftesbury Hall and the other in the Pavilion. Messrs. Mowat, Blake and Mackenzie to address both audiences during the evening.

THE PAVILION MEETING.

When the hour of meeting arrived both halls were packed, and many could not find entrance. In the pavilion fully 5,000 appeared in the audience. The meeting opened with the presentation of a complimentary address to Mr. Mowat, endorsing his past action as Premier of Ontario, and pledging him the hearty and undivided support of the Reformers of Ontario in the fight for Provincial Rights. Mr. Mowat, on coming forward to respond, was received with a perfect ovation, and cheer upon cheer rang forth from the large audience. When the applause had died away the Premier replied, thanking those present for the kind address they had been pleased to present him with. He then entered into a full exposition of the work done by the Government of Ontario, the contents of the Government on the question of Provincial autonomy, and the policy of the Local Administration in the time come on the Boundary Award and the Streams Bill. Much of the matter given was not new to many of those present, but the sincere utterance on the part of the speaker and the earnest advocacy of Provincial rights by the Premier did much to stir up the hearts of the audience, and to make them determined more than ever before that "Mowat must not go."

When Hon. Edward Blake was called upon to address the gathering, cheer after cheer was given, and as the tall figure of the leader of Her Majesty's loyal Opposition at Ottawa strode forward to the centre of the platform, the great assemblage with one accord rose to its feet and "three times three" were given. It has been said that Reformers can not be made enthusiastic, but those who were present at the pavilion, Toronto, on Wednesday evening, January 3rd, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-three will never forget the enthusiasm evoked when Blake came on the platform. For an hour and three-quarters the great Liberal orator held the audience by the spell of his utterance. There was no clap-trap given and no appeal to passion made. But there was a comprehensive and logical discourse upon the subjects that most affected the Province of Ontario at the present time. When he said the great Liberal heart of Ontario beat warmly for Mowat, and that when the day of trial came the electors would turn out and testify that they had no sympathy with the cry, "Mowat must go," loud applause was his portion; and when he repeated the refrain of the Cornish men when Trelawny was adjudged to die.

"And must Trelawny die?
And must Trelawny die?
Then 30,000 Cornish men
Shall know the reason why!"

And stated that the fidelity to Mowat on the part of the patriotic sons of Ontario would, it possible, exceed that of the Cornish men to Trelawny, the spontaneous outburst of deep feeling from the audience showed that he had touched a kindred chord in the heart of every elector within sound of his voice. Mr. Blake completed his magnificent oration by appealing to all present to remain true to the interests of Ontario, to endeavor by voice and vote to maintain her rights, and to use their best influence to return supporters who would strengthen the hands of Mr. Mowat and his ministers in their patriotic fight for Ontario's cause.

And now the chairman announces that Hon. Alexander Mackenzie will next address the gathering, and as the crowd of prominent men on the platform separate to form a lane for the ex-Premier of Canada to come before the audience, a great cry goes up from the gathered thousands. Calmly the grand old Liberal acknowledges the joyful salutations, and essays to thank them from a full heart for their kind welcome, but his voice is drowned by the loud huzzas that tell of the deep affection and reverence which the men from the back townships, as well as the city-bred Liberals, have for the veteran lieutenant of the late George Brown. Some minutes elapse before Mr. Mackenzie can proceed, and then he addresses the great gathering in his old-time, solid, sensible fashion. Old-time, did we say? Well, yes—old-time in the common-sense views which he enunciated, but we regret to state that owing to the severe illness from which he has recovered so recently, his voice is still weak and his frame emaciated. But the fire of yore is ever and anon visible in his utterance, and though his voice has not full strength, yet when he charges Sir John Macdonald and his colleagues from Ontario with being recreant to the interests of their native Province, and when he raises his tone to denounce the incapacity and inability of Meredith, Morris & Co., and the treachery to Ontario evinced by the "miserable rump of an Opposition" in the Local House, the audience duly appreciate the fact that, despite his weakness of voice, there is "life" in the old man yet.

It was now 11 p.m., but the gathering had not been surfeited yet with the good things of Liberalism which had been placed before them by the three able speakers who had spoken. The delegates were there to hear the "big guns," and one orator was present whose voice had not been heard, and whose utterance was wanted. "Patterson! Patterson! Patterson of Brant!" rang out from every section of the vast assemblage, and as the dark-visaged, compactly-built, broad-chested Boner-gas from Brantford stepped forward, the generous reception accorded him by the audience must have been gratifying indeed to the "stumper" *par excellence* of the Reform party. He began quietly, and explained why they were gathered together, but as he touched upon the injustice which Sir John had attempted to foist upon Ontario, his tones grew in volume until they penetrated every nook and cranny of the immense pavilion. There was no exclamation of "Louder, please," when Patterson held the platform, but the delighted audience divided the time between listening eagerly to his vigorous utterances, and applauding the points which he made against the Ontario Opposition and the Dominion Government. His concluding words were: "Men of Ontario, to your beds, for the night is fast spent; to your work to-morrow morning at the convention; hence home and to work again in the interests of Reform; and let it be known in the vigor with which you do that work that you have been at the great Liberal convention of 1883."

Cheers were given for the Queen Hon. Messrs. Mowat, Blake, Mackenzie, Fraser, Sir Richard Cartwright, and the chairman, vice-chairman and secretary, and the greatest political convention ever held in the Dominion of Canada was brought to a successful and harmonious close.

Wm. Taylor, George McKibbin, Ed. O'Connor, J. Stevenson, Jos. Griffin, H. J. Strong, Thos. Brown, H. Morris, T. J. Gibbons, Wm. Downs, Wm. Mallough, H. Watson, A. Milloy, A. Fraser, Robt. Currie, John Anderson, T. Anker, J. McLean, Dr. Young, R. B. Coates, Henry Horton, G. H. Parsons, J. Scobie, M. Grane Cameron, D. McIllicuddy, W. J. McCutcheon, E. Holmes, J. Young, M. C. Cameron, M. P., J. H. Marquis, J. Duncan, J. Munro, Alex. Young, R. B. Scott, Peter McCann, C. L. Cresswell, G. McKibbin, Joseph Williams, James Symington, F. Anderson, R. Macquie, W. J. Hayden, D. McInnes, J. Mahaffy, J. B. Durst, Thos. Gledhill, D. A. Forrester, Wm. Young, R. McGowan, J. L. Courtice, J. Scott.

Huron East.—John Alexander, Alex. L. Gibson, J. Fortney, J. Peckie, J. Fraser, W. McCricker, J. G. Smith, F. S. Scott, J. Moffatt, W. Sanderson, Dr. Brown, T. B. Sanders, A. J. Snyder, G. Nicholson, T. Gilmour, D. Moffatt, R. Gibson, C. Fortune, Jas. Hudson, J. R. Williams, Geo. Murdie, Angus McLeod, John Robertson, Richard Robinson, James Price, James Hamilton, Geo. McMillan, John Wanless, Robert Miller, Peter Thomson, Alexander Stewart, W. Milne, Alex. Kerr, John Petrie, John Walker, Wm. George, Joseph Smith, Hiram White, David McGregor, Arthur Woodman, Peter McDonald, Anthony Raymann, J. McGee, J. McEwen, John McMillan, M. P., Thos. McFadden, Robert Young, Thos. Moon, Jas. Edgar, Geo. Dorrance, James McLaughlin, W. W. Gordon, Geo. Armstrong, Dr. McDonald, James Elliott, George Thompson, W. B. Elliott, Wm. Robinson, Wm. L. Lyon, John Anderson, Thos. Wilson, J. A. Morton, Jas. Scott, Thos. Govenlock, Thos. Strachan, Wm. Bishop, Stephen Brown, Sam. McGeorge, Dan Robertson.

Huron South.—Henry Passmore, D. McGill, P. McFayish, Wm. Buchanan, Alex. McLaren, Alex. McLaren, A. Elcott, Geo. Walker, Wm. McMillan, Geo. Somerville, J. W. Browning, Scrimus Hegneth, John Matheson, Samuel Brockenshire, Wm. Lewis, Daniel French, John Eason, John Morgan, John Hanah, John Beattie, Samuel Rennie, John Parsons, Luther Hooper, David Marmo, James Hackney, John Macdonald, Charles Perkins, Geo. Johnston, Robt. Kidd, Thos. Allen.

A BRUTAL INSULT.

Resented by the Toronto News-papers.

The "Mail" without a Defender—Recent Conservatives Ashamed of It.

The Toronto *Mail* is an independent paper, with a strong feeling in favor of the commercial policy of the Dominion Government. The Toronto *Telegram* is also independent, and has no party record. The Canadian is the daily edition of Mr. Boyle's *Irish Canadian*, and is opposed to the Ontario Government at present. The opinions of these papers regarding the vulgar abuse of the Reform delegates by the Toronto *Mail*, give some indication of how the uncalled for insults of that sheet is looked upon in Toronto:

INDIGNANT JOURNALISM.
We must protest, in the interests of all parties, against the style and tone of the articles in which the *Mail* and its evening reprint have referred to the subject. The delegates were not a few idle hays who came to Toronto to look for old clothes and cold victuals. They were good samples of the average Canadian citizen, and worthy of any country. This is not a land of aristocrats, and we hope it never will be, if the *Mail* gentry are samples of what aristocrats ought to be.—[Toronto Canadian.]

A WANTON ATTACK.
There is no excuse for the sneers at the delegates to the Liberal Convention indulged in by the Conservative press. The delegates may fairly claim to be representative men in their own localities, chosen for the purpose of representing their fellow-Liberals. Nothing is to be gained, even from a party point of view, by ridiculing them, while it is very inhospitable in a Toronto paper, no matter what its politics may be, to make underbred attacks upon respectable people who come to the city for a day or two.—[Toronto Telegram.]

A CULTURED ORGASM.
There was a time when the *Mail* professed to be a gentleman's paper, "written by gentlemen for gentlemen," but all pretence to decency has apparently been abandoned, as an extract or two from an editorial in yesterday's issue respecting the Liberal convention will show. It says the delegates have been tempted to Toronto by "cheap railway fares, board at half price, whisky and cigars at the expense of the combined license commissioners," and "such a combination of free lecture and free lunch" as "never yet tempted the imagination of a somewhat dull-witted mob of semi-civilized partisans." It is further of opinion that "all that was needed was a promise to throw in some old clothes and a few spelling-books, a ration of cut plug, the promise of an illustrated paper, and the rush would have been tremendous." It suggests also that the delegates should have labels attached to them, so that they may be known when frequenting "cheap restaurants and free lunch bars." And this we are to suppose, coming as it does from a journal that not long ago professed to be "sensitive" about its "style," is a specimen of refined wit and humor. People who are not so highly cultured as the editor of the *Mail*, who do not find it necessary to show the extent of their reading by making three consecutive literary allusions in one breath, and in a corner loofer might well be ashamed, but the audacity of the *Mail* exceeds in this instance even its insolence. After insulting in the most wholesale style a body of gentlemen of whose personal character it cannot possibly know anything, after representing them as fitter for a cell in a police station than for a place amongst respectable persons, it calmly invites them to come and inspect its "style" and see its "presses" in operation.—[Toronto World.]

HURON'S DELEGATION.
The following gentlemen represented Huron at the convention. There may have been others who did not register: HURON WEST.—Wm. Coats, jr., Wm. Robertson, J. Wilson, D. McKinnon, D. Stewart, J. Row, W. F. Brackenshield.

COM

We do not have opinions of this kind to pull To the Editor

A correspondent ever the cogly in Port Albert that our you'd be at vian districts in Now, cannot men in Port the young u able haule years ago came to our evidently to lers modern him a well v ed before Mr. Editor, west have v Port Albert his map it u fane atlas e Port Albert used viler t old man wit make matte ously present held an offic acquainted tars, I do n true. Now enough shor home to lea men reform an example, city for pr benedicting

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