

know what was the true expression of the popular will in some of the Dominion Elections prior to 1896, under the management of the Conservative Party. One's faith in the genuineness of Mr. Whitney's moral indignation is not strengthened very much by the blind apathy and indifference he has always displayed with reference to the iniquitous record of his own party. Some might accuse him of hypocrisy. I prefer to consider the course he has adopted the matured result of his notions of the best way of achieving a little party capital or advantage. (Applause.)

TIME FOR A CHANGE.

After all, Mr. Whitney and his party rely for success on the empty cry that it is time for a change. They hope that in some way or other the people will be influenced by the vague consideration that the Liberal Party having been in power a long time the Conservative Party should have an innings. It is true we said with reference to the late Dominion Conservative Government that it was time for a change. But there were broad differences of policy between the two parties and charges of rank maladministration and fraud had been brought home to the Conservatives. Prominent men in the Party had been sent to prison and a very prominent Minister of the Crown had been banished from political life. Moreover the Conservative leaders were at sixes and sevens and quarrelling among themselves. In short, all conditions pointed to the absolute necessity for a change, and the people insisted on, and made the change.

CONDITIONS ARE THE REVERSE.

But the very reverse is the case with the Ross Government. It will be the present Premier's first appeal to the people. They not only have confidence in him and approve of his policy but they admire the man. His programme of onward progress is what the people want and they are not going to cut short his brilliant career as Premier. No man in Ontario to-day stands near him in qualification and fitness for the high position he fills. His integrity, his earnestness, his courage, ability and unrivalled eloquence are a combination of qualities which no other man in the Province possesses. His reputation and fame are much wider than Ontario. Few names are better known in Canada and few, very few Canadians stand higher or more prominently, from even an Imperial point of view, than George W. Ross. The people want him to continue Premier of Ontario and do not think it is time for a change. (Loud and continued applause.)

