

## Mr. Foy's Speech at Charleston

**Mr. Foy, who was enthusiastically received, said:—**

Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen—Before proceeding to discuss the political subjects which engage our attention to-day, perhaps it would not be out of place if I were to make an allusion to a subject that is filling the public mind throughout the world. At this very hour in Canton, Ohio, the mortal remains of the late President McKinley are being entombed. The Governor-General of this Dominion has proclaimed to-day a day of mourning, and I am sure that we can confidently say that Canada joins and shares in the grief and in the mourning that enshrouds our sister nation of the United States. Canada also sends forth its sympathy to our American cousins in this their day of woe, and joins with them in condemnation and in expressing our abhorrence of the terrible crime that removed from them their Chief Magistrate.

I have great pleasure, in coming here to-day to attend a meeting that is intended to further the interests of Mr. Charters as a candidate for the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. You have heard Mr. Charters to-day. You have no doubt heard him on other occasions, and he has promised to meet you frequently during the campaign that is now near at hand. I am sure that you will find in him, when you elect him, a representative worthy of this great historic County of Peel. His speech shows the kind and quality of man he is; he has shown that he is a man of thought, that he gives reasons for his opinions. He has asked his opponent Mr. Smith to meet him here to-day, and he regrets that his opponent did not accept the invitation. We all regret it. In discussing the public questions from our side we wish to discuss them fairly and intelligently. We wish that both sides should be heard. We wish our opponents to hear what we say, because we do not want to say anything behind their back that we are not willing to say to their face; and on the other hand in meeting the party that has been in power so long, we want them to come on the platform before us, and give their reasons why they should be continued in power. (Applause.) If we hear these reasons we are prepared and willing and anxious to meet them, and we undertake to thoroughly and fully refute anything that they dare set forth before you as reasons why the present Government should receive a continued support from the people of this province. Mr. Smith is not here to-day, and I regret it, because I would like to hear what reasons a candidate for the Ross Party can give to the people of the County of Peel, why this county should send a representative who will endorse the Ross Government.

### A MECHANICAL MAJORITY.

Now, as has been mentioned by Mr. Charters, Mr. Smith in the House does not stand up and represent you. He makes no motions, he gives no addresses, he gives no reasons for his votes, but he simply stands up and votes at the beck and call of the Ministers of the Crown. (Hear, hear.) He gives no reasons for his action; he does not assert any cause or reason for his vote, but he gets up mechanically and joins the mechanical majority that has been supporting for so long the present Government. Mr. Ross in one of his speeches in the Legislature asserted that we could not down him in that House as long