THE OXFORD PICNIC.

Grand Demonstrations in Honour of Sir John Macdonald at Woodstock and Ingersoll—10,000 People at the Gathering.

From Our Own Reporter.

INGERSOLL, Sept. 6.—To-day has been a red letter day in the history of Liberal-Conservatism in the County of Oxford, and it has been a day of unusual interest in the towns of Woodstock and Ingersoll. It has been looked forward to for weeks with anticipations of pleasure by all who have been desirous of hearing public affairs discussed in a fair and impartial manner by men capable of doing so; and that the opportunity afforded to-day by the presence of Sir John Macdonald, Hon. T. N. Gibbs, Hon. W. Macdonald, Hon. M. C. Cameron, and other prominent public men was not neglected, was evident from the enthusiastic manner in which these gentlemen were greeted on their arrival at Woodstock and the heartiness of the welcome they subsequently received at Beachville, and Ingersoll. The preparations for the reception at these places were very extensive, and the result while pleasing to those who were the guests of the day was none the less satisfactory to those who were the entertainers. Taken altogether the demonstration at Ingersoll, where the picnic was held, was probably the grandest with which the right hon. gentleman, in whose honour it was chiefly got up, has been met in his triumphal progress through so many of the counties of Ontario this summer.

The right hon. gentleman remained last night at the residence of Mr. T. G. Patterson, at Eastwood, and came, accompanied by Hon. W. Macdonald, Hon. C. W. Gibbs, Hon. M. C. Cameron, Mr. Boultbee, and Mr. Patteson, by the early morning train to Woodstock. He was met at the Woodstock station by the Woodstock Reception Committee, Senator Carroll, Hon. George Alexander, Mr. W. Grey, President of the Liberal-Conservative Association of Woodstock, Mr. T. D. Watson, Secretary of the Association, Mr. F. C. Watson, Corresponding Secretary, Dr. Swan, Messrs. J. H. Woods, J. A. Pepper, J. S. Brown, W. O'Neil, John Barwick, A. W. Francis, of the Woodstock *Times*, H. H. Beach, W. Cornish, M. Perry, J. E. Tisdale, H. Hill, and M. M. Nisbet. After loud demonstrations of welcome the procession was formed, headed by the Woodstock band, and the party was conducted to the Market Square. Along the route of the procession large numbers of persons assembled and welcomed the visitors most enthusiastically. At the square the party ascended the steps of the Town Hall, and Mr. W. Grey, President of the Liberal-Conservative Association of the North Riding of Oxford, presented Sir John Macdonald with the following address, which he read:—

To the Right Hon. Sir John Macdonald, K. C. B., M. P.

SIR,—The Conservative Association of the North Riding of Oxford gladly avail themselves of your visit here to offer you a hearty welcome, and to express, from a public point of view, the Liberal-Conservative party, but many also, we regret to say, of those who have generally differed from us, appreciation of your great services, and the unrivalled skill you have exhibited in guiding the affairs of our Dominion so successfully through the very trying Canadian monetary crisis, and in the administration of our country had not the unfortunate occurrence happened, and that mainly because your polity over-ruled your judgment, you would be now in your Parliamentary seat for this County. The recent attempts that have been made to portray the Canadian Pacific Railway Bill as the expression of our opinion that your action therein, which we consider, reflects no discredit on you or the party you represent, and stands in pleasing contrast to the unblushing corruption, shown by some of your parliamentary opponents, we cannot pass over in silence. We cannot forget that the success of your labours may spare you the toil of a long and arduous session, and that, in your absence, your affairs, and so be enabled to devote your time and energies to the consideration and development of our country, we cannot but feel, is a consideration of the highest importance.

W. M. GREY,
President North Riding Oxford Liberal-Conservative Association.

Woodstock, 8th September, 1876.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD, in a few well chosen remarks, expressed his sincere thanks for the address, and then delivered a speech during the course of the day.

The procession was then re-formed, and a start was made for Ingersoll. The road along Dundas street and took the road to Beachville. The good roads for which Oxford is proverbial, of course, lined on each side by farms in excellent order and in a good state of cultivation. The residences along the line of route thronged out in considerable force in their buggies and buggy-ladies, and, although the population of Woodstock was fully half a mile long, it evidled to about double the number by the time it reached Beachville. At that place two arches of evergreens bore testimony to the feelings of the people with regard to the demonstration. The people also assembled on the principal street, and cordially responded their well-come in a hearty manner. Passing on rapidly the party soon arrived at Centreville, a village about three miles from Ingersoll. It was there most by a large deputation from Ingersoll under the auspices of the Liberal Reception Committee, and a procession of about two miles in length accompanied the party from that place to Ingersoll. The people from Tillsonburg, Dereham, East and West Zorra, etc., in carriages in which Sir John Macdonald and his friends were, were placed at the head of the procession, and the remainder of the carriages from Woodstock took up a position in the centre of the procession, which by that time consisted of four bands of music and a line of buggies, carriages, and waggons for about three miles in length. Ingersoll was reached shortly after eleven o'clock. The townsfolk generally turned out to meet the procession and to witness the arrival of the distinguished guests. The result was that the streets were crowded to an extent which has seldom been seen before in the town, and even the housetops were occupied. The majority of the houses and places of business were gaily decorated with evergreens and mottoes, indicating the feelings with which the populace of the town, and of the County, Flags were to be seen in all directions, and streamers of various colors extended across the street from house to house, and presented a very pretty appearance. The procession, which was led by the band of the 7th Battalion, London, played through the streets, and then came to a halt for nearly an hour one of gaiety. Sir John Macdonald was enthusiastically cheered by political friends and political opponents, and could not resist the temptation to raise their voices in honour of Canada's greatest statesman.

The place selected as the picnic ground was a grove belonging to Mr. W. T. Crisp, of the fair grounds. The grove was most conveniently situated to the railway station and to the town. It was a very pleasant spot for a picnic party, and was well fitted for the purpose for which it was used to-day. The Ingersoll Committee have been untiring in their efforts to make the arrangements as complete as possible, and as there was not a flaw in the programme their efforts have been singularly successful. Nothing was left out, and the result was that everything contributed for the speakers and for the listeners, which could be done. Seats were provided for four or five thousand people, and a platform, which did credit to its architect, was erected for the speakers. Refreshment and drinking booths were stationed at various points, and flags and mottoes of all kinds were displayed in profusion. The first part of the procession arrived on the ground just before twelve o'clock, and in a very few minutes after the last carriage in the last part of the procession had passed under the handsome arch at the entrance of the grove, which bore the significant inscription—"Welcome to the Father of our Dominion." The guests, on arriving at the grounds, were conducted to the platform, where Mr. Joseph Gibson, on behalf of the President of the Liberal-Conservative Association of the South Riding of Oxford, presented Sir Charles Tupper with an address. The address, which was handsomely illuminated by J. G. Orme, of Toronto, and frame, was as follows:—

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While Canadian politics have been of late years, Dominion was divided into a few small Dominions numerous as the provinces, to the outside world, much in ignorance of each other's aspirations and wants, and of many minor tariffs, religious dissents, and other conflicting interests. To-day it extends from the Atlantic to the Pacific, united in everything that makes a nation great and free, and possessing in the love of country and unswerving allegiance to our beloved Queen. To you, Sir, as the great patriotic statesman who stood by you in the ship of state when some leaders of a political storm, and sometimes almost swamped by the temperamental billows of a fickle people, the country owes an everlasting debt of gratitude.

Having constituted a Dominion, and consolidated our country, and by cementing together so many distinct Provinces, we plainly see that it is the day not far distant when look forward to the day when our Dominion will be one of our Dominions, you will add to the obligations of your Province now by "this Province separate, the only link now wanting to complete national unity."

When, by a combination of circumstances, the present Government was called into power, it was thought by its friends that a reign of purity had been inaugurated, and commercial interests of the country would be wonderfully advanced. The disappointed feeling that took place afterwards tended to dissipate the fallacious hope that political purity had been advanced by the change, and the steady retreat of the Government to accept a national protective tariff, which has added much to our financial and commercial depression, and which they are unwilling to legislate for the benefit of the country.

It is with pleasure then that we daily witness the evidences of a reaction which is a guarantee that for one party, at least, we have rulers, those who have made our country great, with you, sir, at their head.

JOSEPH L. GIBSON,
President Liberal-Conservative Association South Riding County of Oxford.

SIR JOHN MACDONALD briefly acknowledged the compliment, after which the party adjourned to dinner. An excellent repast was served up, and, after the long and spirit-encouraging journey of the morning, there was no wonder that the dinner was not neglected. After dinner the platform was again taken. By that time there were on the grounds a throng of people variously estimated at from two to twelve thousand. The seats were all occupied, and round them a thick phalanx of persons anxious to catch a glimpse of the distinguished guests, and hear the speeches of the day. Among those present on the platform and seated in the benches were members of the Local Executive Committee, as follows:—Lieut.-Col. W. G. Washburn, Dr. Swan, Messrs. Thomas Wilks (Chairman), Joseph Gibson and James McCaughey, Ingersoll; Dr. E. Cook, Dr. A. J. Wilson, Messrs. J. Pepper, Dangey, J. E. Bullock, E. O'Neill, H. S. Lewis, Norwich; Captain Chambers and Mr. J. G. Pettit, East Oxford; Messrs. R. Hopkins, R. Adamson, Dereham; Messrs. Jacob Cheese, Lake Lodge, and J. Fletcher, West Oxford; Dr. Sinclair and Mr. E. D. Tilson, Tillsonburg; Captain Henderson, Rev. George Kennedy, and Mr. Jonathan Jarvis, North Oxford. There were also present Sir John Macdonald, Hon. T. N. Gibbs, Hon. M. C. Cameron, Hon. W. Macdonald, Hon. John Carling, Mr. Boultbee, Mr. Patteson, Mr. M. Cameron, ex-M.P.P., Mr. S. McCaul, M.P.P., Mr. Fraser, M. C. Lambton, Mr. Meredith, M.P.P., Mr. McMillan, M.P.P., Mr. Patullo, Secretary of the Reform Association of Canada, (who occupied a prominent place on the platform throughout the proceedings!); Messrs. W. Donald, President of the East Zorra Association; Jas. Flanks, Secretary of the East Zorra Association; Messrs. J. Bland and Whittaker, Woodstock; Messrs. J. Lindsay, D. Kennedy, W. Sadward, J. Coldridge, R. Thompson, E. H. Young, Chas. Craig, S. Doty, Joseph Caldwell, Jas. Chambers, Jas. Richards, C. S. Hooper, F. S. Carroll, F. Dobbs, Dr. Walker, E. Malcolm, Chas. Clark, R. McDonald, Rowland Tiers; Jas. Hope, C. H. Ferguson, C. F. Smith, Rev. Mr. Young, J. Holcroft, H. Cerdly, M. R. Tregg, R. A. Woodcock, Ingersoll; W. S. Low, M. S. Smith, J. Thompson, J. Scott, Jas. Mc-Donald, Jas. Mitchell, Jas. Tisdonbury, W. McLeod, W. Long, A. McCormick, Ald. Wilson, Ald. Johnson, Blackburn, Ingersoll *Press*, London, Mr. J. Gibson, President of the South Oxford Association, occupied the chair.

The audience was called to order about half-past one o'clock, and the usual selections of music were played by the bands.

The CHAIRMAN, before introducing the speakers, alluded to the magnificent and grand display which had been made and the splendid reception which had been accorded the visitors. He assured the hearers that in order to get the picnic up the committee had had in the language of a celebrated man, to make a "big push," and in order to produce the effect they had had to "come down handsome." He was happy to see that of the Mackenzie Government, which he felt were numbered, he stated that although the Government had allowed the standard to be snatched from their trembling grasp it would be caught up again by the united powers of the people of the Dominion and be borne to a certain and not distant victory. He called on Hon. W. Macdougall to follow him.

Hon. W. MACDOUGALL was very warmly received. He referred in complimentary terms to the efforts which had been put forth in order to do honour to Canada's most a stature. He felt, from what he had seen of the hospitality, the demonstration on his way from Woodstock to Ingersoll, that there was a feeling in the country very strongly of gratitude to the present nursing father of the Mackenzie Government—(Hear, hear) and in favour of the display he was gentleman was the guest of the day. (Cheers.) That gentleman he referred to as a self-denying, self-sacrificing and devoted servant of his people, who had given his talents and his time in the interests of the public. Liberal-Conservative thought he (Mr. Macdougall) was, he claimed that Sir John Macdonald was one as was the author of the British constitution of the country than he thought himself to be. He (Mr. Macdougall) had been asked sometimes the pure, the honest, the incorruptible Reformers of the country, he asked what had reformed and what measures of importance they had introduced. He challenged Reformers to point to any measure which could be placed side by side with the great measures of reform passed by the late Government, that they had introduced, and laws, such as the Controverted Election law; but when they were looked into, it was found that they were but patchwork, with a few small alterations, but been previously proposed by the late Government, and was on the platform with him. He was unable to point to any Acts of importance of which they could claim to have been the originator, and there were only two stands in power which they had originated with Mr. Brown, Mr. Mackenzie's governor. One was the Act to incorporate the Grand Orange Lodge, a most important enactment to which, to the office that he held, he was bound to take exception for any damage it might do to the character of private individuals. The clause was, however, inserted. There was one more Act which Mr. Brown introduced. The subject was very much discussed in those days, and Mr. Brown had introduced a bill, the "Rouge Bills," and submitted it to the House, and having a majority at his back, it was passed. Very soon after he was surprised to find that Mr. Brown introduced, and, of course, he had a right to do so, a bill to abolish the Rouge Bills. Some of the newspapers had stated that he (Mr. Macdougall) had attacked Mr. Mackenzie. He was a man had tended sheep. He (Mr. Macdougall) had done nothing of the kind. He was not a man's birth or his money that elevated him; the only thing that elevated a man was his talents. He was of his opinion, required to have some special training, and had spent years in study, and he could not get this experience and knowledge by intuition. Mr. Mackenzie, it was stated, had to be taken from the plough to the Government of the country, and it was said that he was a failure. Mr. Mackenzie had one of his colleagues, Mr. Blake, over to England, and had given him a commission to represent the Dominion, and he had not informed his own newspapers as to what had occasioned his visit. He was not known as to what the result of the mission across the Atlantic was, except that he had written a letter to the *Globe*. The *Herald*, that Mr. Blake had accomplished a great thing—several great things by that mission, and that no more great mission had been sent across the Atlantic, and that none had been more successful. He (Mr. Macdougall) was anxious to know what was the result of that mission as far as announced? He had succeeded in securing the continental to which the Government was as far as Canada was concerned, and we would have the privilege of trading with our own criminals, and of sending our officers over to the States to bring back our own fugitives of the law. Was that little mission? He honoured Mr. Blake as an able man, as a gentleman and as a Christian, but he was not yet had the opportunity of seeing that he was an able statesman. He then referred to the Pacific Railway Resolutions, which he advocated the reconstruction of the Empire, British India Indeed, thought the Government was not capable of driving the 630 gentlemen who composed the House of Commons. He (Mr. Macdougall) showed that by Mr. Blake's scheme for the federation of the Empire, Canada would be as one man to Ontario, if was not prepared, as a Canadian, to give up the right of the Government of this country to men in England, and he was, therefore, not ready to go with Mr. Blake in his scheme. He was for a federation, unless matters were arranged on a more equitable basis than that proposed by Mr. Blake had secured grand reform. The system of representation was fundamentally wrong. The Mackenzie Government had not had the system, and he said he could elaborate a better one for us. But he did not elaborate it, but he thought he could, as Lord Dufferin had in an old book written by Hare who had worked out a very fine system for making representation to the country, by giving those belonging to it a voice, even if their votes did not be four or five thousand people, and a platform, which did credit to its architect, was erected for the speakers. Refreshment and drinking booths were stationed at various points, and flags and mottoes of all kinds were displayed in profusion. 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ONTARIO RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

Second Day, Aug. 30th.

Only two matches were completed, that of the Affiliated Association which was commenced on Tuesday, and the Ontario match. The match for the President's prize was well advanced, but when the gun was fired at half-past five o'clock it was still unfinished.

The following are the scores of the matches completed:

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS MATCH—Open to all members of Affiliated Associations, which also members of the Ontario Rifle Association. Five prizes to be competed for by aggregate scores made by any 7 R.P. and Snider Rifles, at 200 and 400 yards, Association. Snider—Sighted rifles; 200 and 400 yards range; five rounds at each range; any position; any sight. Prizes, $15, $10, $5, $3, $2.

TEAM PRIZES—First prize, $60; second prize, $40; third prize, $30; fourth prize, $20; fifth prize, $15. Total, $165. The winning Association to have possession of the Challenge Cup (presented by the Council) and to be returned for further competition purposes to the next annual Association match.

INDIVIDUAL PRIZES—First prize, $25; second prize, $20; third prize, $15; five prizes of $10; ten prizes of $5; ten prizes of $3; ten prizes of $2. Total, $225.

WINNING TEAM.

1st prize, Guards.
2nd prize, Queen's Own Rifles.
3rd prize, Kingston.
4th prize, Brockville Rifle Club.
5th prize, Ottawa Rifle Club.

INDIVIDUAL PRIZE WINNERS.

1. Sergt. S. Bradley, Clifton R. A.	24	24	48
2. Pte. Clarke, 13th Batt.	23	24	47
3. Capt. Dunsford, Guards	23	23	46
4. Sergt. Major Young, W. F. B.	23	23	46
5. Pte. Atkinson, Queen's O. R.	23	23	46
6. Surgeon McDonald, W. F. B.	23	23	46
7. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
8. Major Macpherson, Guards	23	23	46
9. Lieut. Colonel Gunther, 10th R.	23	23	46
10. Lieut. F. Chenie, Ingersoll R. A.	23	23	46
11. Capt. Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
12. Capt. J. Bailey, 13th Batt.	23	23	46
13. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
14. Lieut. Colonel Gunther, 10th R.	23	23	46
15. Pte. Cowan, Albert R.	23	23	46
16. J. Schofield, Guelph R. A.	23	23	46
17. Sergt. Flynn, 10th Royals	23	23	46
18. Pte. Ross, Queen's O. R.	23	23	46
19. Pte. H. Gray, Ottawa R. C.	23	23	46
20. Pte. J. Mitchell, 13th Batt.	23	23	46
21. Pte. J. Mitchell, Victoria R. C.	23	23	46
22. Sergt. D. Mitchell, Port Dover	23	23	46
23. Pte. Cotton, Ottawa R. C.	23	23	46
24. Sergt. J. Ogg, W. F. B.	23	23	46
25. Sergt. J. Pearce, G. G. B.	23	23	46
26. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
27. Quartr. Sergt. Kingston R. A.	23	23	46
28. Pte. Ross, Queen's O. R.	23	23	46
29. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
30. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46

OTTAWA MATCH.

Open to all members of the Ontario Rifle Association, whether by direct contribution or through a Field Battalion Association. Snider rifle; 200 yards range; seven rounds; any position; any sight. Prizes, $10, $8, $6, $5, $3, $2, $1. Total, $35.

1. Sergt. J. Mitchell, 13th Batt.	24	24	48
2. Pte. Dinnage, G.O.R.	23	23	46
3. Pte. J. Hunter, 13th Batt.	23	23	46
4. Pte. J. Hunter, 13th Batt.	23	23	46
5. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
6. Corpl. Reaume, Guards	23	23	46
7. Lieut. Cantlie, 10th Royals	23	23	46
8. Lieut. Cantlie, 10th Royals	23	23	46
9. Pte. Ross, Queen's O. R.	23	23	46
10. Cavalry Sergeant Harris, Guards	23	23	46
11. Pte. J. Ferguson, 13th Batt.	23	23	46
12. Pte. J. Flynn, 48th Batt.	23	23	46
13. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
14. Sergt. J. Bell, 10th Royals	23	23	46
15. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
16. Pte. Morrison, 48th Batt.	23	23	46
17. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
18. Pte. Burgess, Harris, C. F. B.	23	23	46
19. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
20. Sergt. Pain, 13th Batt.	23	23	46
21. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
22. Sergt. Cunningham, 48th Batt.	23	23	46
23. Sergt. Dunkerley, G. G. F. G.	23	23	46
24. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
25. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
26. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
27. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
28. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
29. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46
30. Sergt. Major Ross, 10th Batt.	23	23	46

THE SIR PETER TAFF CUP, presented by Sir Peter Taff, D. D., to the Militia of the Dominion of Canada, to commemorate an Annual Rifle Match between the Ontario team to Wimbledon, 1871, to be competed for by teams of 10 men, the number of