

Rev. D. C. Hossack on Whitney Rule

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Premier Has Been False to Those Who Aided Him

LIBERALS HELPED IN 1905

Gerrymandered and Hived in 1908

Premier Whitney has Disappointed Those who Believed in Him—Is He Anything Else but a Tricky Politician?—The Gift of \$130,000—The Guarantee to Mackenzie—A Strong Protest.

(To the Editor of The Globe.)

Rather more than three years ago, when the last Provincial campaign was in progress, I addressed through the press some remarks to the independent electors. It is gratifying to think that in the interval the number of independents has increased. The tide is running that way. It means better days to come. We are now in the midst of another campaign, and it may be well to inquire, after reviewing recent events, what is the duty of independent electors at the present time? I have received inquiries from some Liberals who were not in accord with my opinions in 1905 as to my present views, and it has been suggested by some of them, and also by others who agreed with me on that occasion, that the present juncture was of such importance that if I had well-defined views upon public affairs I should not hide them. Under these circumstances, and as public discussion safeguards civil liberty and makes for good government, I offer no apology for reviewing recent events. My humble opinions, if not accepted, may incite a further consideration and so lead to a wise conclusion.

A Call to the Independent.

On November 14, 1904, Mr. Whitney called a conference to be held in Toronto on November 24th. The invitation was general. He said: "In addition, I invite representative men in each constituency, no matter what their party affiliations may be, and who sympathize with our

objects, to attend and help us by their advice and encouragement. In the presence of great public peril, party designations and differences are of secondary importance." Mr. Whitney publicly sought Liberal assistance. It was his privilege to do so. No one complained. But it is not forgotten that he did it.

During the campaign Mr. Whitney strenuously urged Liberals to support him. Independence of thought and action he urged at every meeting. At Brampton, Ottawa, Barrie, Ingersoll and many other places he denounced party prejudice. He spoke of the splendid record of the Liberal party in securing responsible government, of the glorious days of Baldwin and Lafontaine, and urged Liberals to rise superior to party prejudice. The Mail and Empire in its account of the Ottawa meeting reports a portion of Mr. Whitney's speech as follows:—"In England this was the way of politics, and by reason of the large number of public men who were ready to sacrifice party to purify the government of England was pure and strong. The result was that Governments were quickly and frequently overthrown, and a perennial cleaning occurred. In Ontario the opposite was the case, and the system worked itself out in direct opposition to the spirit of the English system."

After the election Mr. Whitney admitted his debt to the Liberals. In a message to the Mail and Empire of January 26, 1905, he said: "All must acknowledge