

ran for one of the new divisions, Mr. McCarthy contested what is now North Simcoe against a recent member of the Mowat Ministry, Mr. Charles Drury, who was then a local preacher, a good speaker and a successful farmer, defeating him by 250 majority. Again, in 1887, the Hon. T. W. Anglin was defeated by 323 majority, and, in the late general election, the old-time battle was renewed, and Mr. H. H. Cook was beaten, under exceptional conditions, by a majority of 296 votes.

Such is a brief summary of the electoral battles fought by the present exponent of "Equal Rights," and no matter what may be the politics or principles of the reader, he cannot but admire the tenacity of purpose, the energy of character and the determined confidence in future success which animated the early career of Mr. D'Alton McCarthy. No better proof can be afforded of the sterling qualities of any man than the fact that adversity and defeat only serve as an additional impetus to individual exertion and added incentive to a laudable ambition.

Crowned with success at the polls and possessed of an established reputation at the bar, Mr. McCarthy occupied a position, in 1876, which pointed to a great future. During the thirteen years following, he steadily advanced in the estimation of his party and in popular favour. Though not devoting all his time to politics, giving perhaps the greater portion of it to his profession, he yet succeeded in impressing his views upon the legislation of the period. In 1883, Mr. McCarthy introduced for the fourth time a bill to constitute a Court of Railway Commissioners for Canada and looking to more pronounced Government control over the railways. Though finally unsuccessful in committee, the measure created a warm discussion and considerable interest in the country, whilst several of its provisions were subsequently incorporated in a Government bill.

During the same session, the famous measure regulating the liquor traffic, which afterwards became known as the "McCarthy Act," after being previously foreshadowed in a speech from the Throne, was framed by Mr. McCarthy in accordance with the wishes of a Government committee, of which he was the practical though not nominal chairman. Much of its contents were based upon previous Australian legislation and afterwards incorporated in the Ontario measure known as the "Crook's Act." The proposals passed the Houses and became law, but created wide discussion and aroused warm opposition from the Ontario Government, which found its powers very much curtailed.