

BLAIR IN QUEENS.

He Talks Lightly of His Youthful Indiscretion in 1878.

Eulogises the Members of the Government and Their Mighty Deeds.

The Wicked Tories Denounced—Flowery Eloquence by Budding Grit Statesmen from St. John.

The Liberal meeting in Cody's hall, parish of Johnston, Queens county, Thursday night, was largely attended.

In addition to the people living at Cody's station, there were electors present from Chipman and other places. The St. John contingent who went up with the ministers of railways and canals helped to swell the crowd.

The St. John gentlemen in attendance included: Thos. McAvity, G. W. Merritt, J. H. Doody, C. J. Milligan, W. H. Trueman, E. H. McAlpine, H. N. G. Scovil, John Ring, J. A. Bowes, W. A. G. Blair, jr., J. B. McLean, Ad. D. J. Purdy, P. S. McNutt and G. W. Fairweather.

It was 8 o'clock when Thos. Hetherington, ex-M. P. P., called the gathering to order. He expressed great pleasure at seeing such a good turnout of the people.

W. H. Trueman, the first speaker, said an election seemed to be near at hand. The liberal party should, therefore, lay down their platform both in local and Dominion politics. The liberals had demonstrated their ability to administer the affairs of the country.

C. J. Milligan spoke in the defence of the government with reference to the charges made against them by the opposition. He claimed that they had kept their promise to reduce the tariff, stating that the same had been cut from 23-1/3 to 18 per cent. Then the specific duty charges had been done away with. The government recognized that they could not conscientiously sweep away the protective tariff altogether.

Hon. A. G. Blair spoke for upwards of two hours. He began by referring to the obligations of a representative to his constituents. The reason he did not spend more time among them was that his time was fully occupied by the work of the responsible department of which he was the head.

The Yukon railway matter was next discussed. Mr. Blair stating that subsequent events had proved that the government were justified in doing as they did. Sir Chas. Tupper at first approved of the government's proposition, but was afterwards prevailed upon by his party to oppose it.

The Drummond railway question was then taken up. He and Mr. Tarte were at first charged with the grossest misconduct with having corruptly acquired the road. The minister said he asked for an investigation, which was granted. In committee the charges were withdrawn, and the conservatives admitted that there was no justification for their impugning the characters of Mr. Tarte and himself.

followers while in opposition for a long term of years. The speaker didn't mean to speak in laudatory terms of himself, but he declared that Sir Wilfrid Laurier had gathered together a strong body of men, good business men, men who did not depend upon a party for a living but who had made success of their business and stood high in the country.

Mr. Blair then took up the Crow's Nest Pass railway matter. The building of the railway was admitted by both parties to be desirable. The conservative party agreed to give a subsidy of \$5,000 a mile for the 330 miles of railway, also to loan on mortgage the C. P. R. the builders of the road, \$30,000 a mile.

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clear now that the richness of the Yukon country was largely imaginary. The Drummond railway question was then taken up. He and Mr. Tarte were at first charged with the grossest misconduct with having corruptly acquired the road.

was a fair one. It was impossible to get into Montreal for less money. The whole province was concerned with what affected the city of St. John. If the government by the improvement of transportation facilities, made it possible for all the products to be shipped by Canadian ports the year round, surely they would be acting in the best interests of the country.

The Brownies Shoot the Net.

The droning beetle's dismal hum Gave warning that the night had come. When out from nook and secret bowers Came Brownies, watchful of the hour. Those who could boast a second sight Might have beheld the Brownies bright Proceeding o'er the grassy lea. The shortest way to reach the sea. When Brownies run there is a year Across the ground, one can't compare To anything that moves without The aid of wings, the world about. The goblin element sublime Is well-defined at such a time.



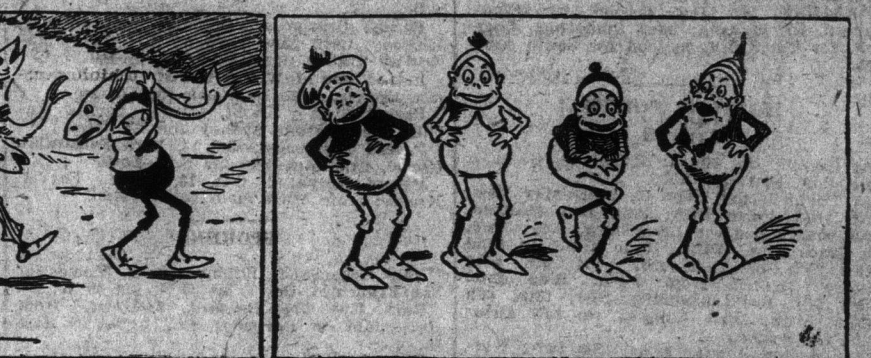
And more that in the breakers fed, Said one, "If we had skill to draw The secret from each rascal's jaw. If they could wag their tongues as well As they can wag their tails, they'd tell. Us many things about the deep Would shame imaginations' sweep; They'd tell of ships that lie below As when they founded years ago, The masts still pointing to the light From which they plunged that awful night. When from the ocean to the sky

Went up the last despairing cry. There hermit crabs are thronged in state Where sat the captain and the mate. The scuppin, shrimp and meamer fry. In lower holds and locker lie; While slimy things leave seaweed screens To breed in pots and soup tureens. Another said, "The sea, my friend, Will keep the secret to the end. So pull away and let us land. The heavy catch we have in hand." But there was trouble brewing hot



The Brownies are not those that yield Their rights to everything afield. So one may well believe the strain Went on some minute void of gain

On either side, till yielding strands Returned once more to Brownies' hands. The major part, when all was done, The lively Brownies were not slack



And waist-deep in the water wrought Till safe on shore the prize was brought. They did, Sir Chas. was growing red, The Brownies from the village fed. But hardly was the treasure beached

And people hastened to the spot, To pick them freely from the ground. While still alive and flopping round. Then meat was stricken from the card, And fish heads grinned in every yard.

And travellers through those parts declare The scent of fish was in the air. For fish was roasted, boiled and fried. At morning, noon and eventide.

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