

# "SEETON'S LAST MANIFESTO."

## A FLAGRANT INSULT TO THE ELECTORS OF HALIFAX.

The following is from the "Presbyterian Witness" of Saturday, April 25th :—

**THE MAYORALTY.**—Last week we thought Mr. Mackintosh would be returned without opposition to reoccupy the chair which he filled with such credit to himself and advantage to the city during the past twelve months. It seems however that Mr. Joseph Seeton is now in the field, with the support of the Liquor Dealers Association, who are confident of their ability to return him by a large majority.

We do not indulge in threats, but we may be permitted to forecast the inevitable. If the influential and powerful body of men interested in the Liquor Trade spring upon the city and seize it, and place its Mayor and Corporation under the control of their Agent, they will bring on a conflict which can have but one issue. Never yet in the history of civilized communities has this sort of thing gone unchecked. In the long run (and the run will not be very long) the aggressors will be totally defeated.

ARE the citizens of Halifax willing to be under the control of the AGENT of a Liquor Dealing League? Is such a person to control the election of our Mayors and Aldermen? Are we to be under the rule of one special interest and that interest *not the most exalted?* In our opinion the reputation of Halifax is very deeply at stake.

It was supposed that we lived in a free country, and people could vote for whom they pleased, but it seems that the "Witness" insists that the Electors must swallow Mr. Mackintosh. What kind of a friend Mr. Mackintosh has been to the Liquor Dealers can be seen by a report of his remarks in the City Council, February 26, 1884, from a city paper, on a resolution for the City to issue licenses.

Ald. Mackintosh said the Mayor of St. John simply declined to act under some old law or another. But for all the good his action did he might as well have gone down to the end of the wharf and spit overboard. He did not think this resolution should pass. The law could not be disobeyed with impunity. It is bad enough as it is, but he did not think it was right to lead the liquor dealers on to do business when the Inspector can come in and close them up, and relying on our protection, they will be left in the lurch. He considered that the Act was PERFECTLY CONSTITUTIONAL.

Ald. McSweeney—Then you differ with the ablest lawyers in the country?

Ald. Mackintosh—No, I do not; if I thought I did, I would simply shut my mouth, (Voice, "couldn't do it.") It was easy to see that the Act would be enforced, and that by going contrary to it would simply be allowing those people to make a stand, and the Inspector would put the Act in force and close up their places of business.

Ald. McPherson—How will they put it in force?

Ald. Mackintosh—By the usual machinery.

Ald. McPherson—Not with our police.

Ald. Mackintosh—There is the machinery for enforcing it. All British law can be enforced, and it is the glory of the British Empire that its laws can be enforced. He quoted from the B. N. A. Act to show that the power was given them to grant licenses "for the raising of a revenue," not for the regulating of the business of liquor selling. He could not but protest against leading these people into the false position that the City Council can protect them.

Two months afterwards the Dominion Government passed an Amendment to the License Act, making licenses issued under Provincial laws valid till the constitutionality of the Dominion Act was determined. Yet Mayor Mackintosh, by illegal endorsements on City Licenses, and putting dates on them he had no business to, cost the liquor dealers thousands of dollars. (The Act has since been declared bad and will never be heard of again.) Mr. Mackintosh got all the liquor dealers to sign his requisition that he could, and then his organ turns round and says the business is "not the most exalted." The liquor dealers pay more into the Dominion and Provincial revenues than any other business, and consider their business legal, and ask no more favors than the law allows.

The foregoing was compiled and issued by Alderman McSweeney, who is running the opposition to Mayor Mackintosh, and who assumes to run the whole city.

By Mayor Mackintosh's action with regard to the endorsements on those City Liquor Licenses, which was done under the sanction of the Legal advisors of the City, tens of thousands of dollars in damages were saved to the tax payers of Halifax, as those who demanded and received City Licenses, when they could not get Dominion Licenses, wished to compel the City to defend them in the courts.

Mayor Mackintosh never interfered with the Liquor dealers, but only protected the City Treasury from a raid from certain interested parties. He only, as he was bound by his oath of office to do, enforced the laws of the Country which were good at the time

VOTE FOR MAYOR MACKINTOSH and not for McSweeney's nominee.