

agitation for annexation to the United States, we the members of the County Council, representing our loyal, free and enlightened constituents, desire to place on record our firm belief and conviction that no country possesses a better system of government or more admirable institutions than our beloved land; and that while desiring to live on terms of peace and friendliness with the great country lying to the south of us, we hereby repudiate all desire or intention of becoming identified with it, preferring to remain under the glorious flag beneath which our country has become great and progressive and to retain all our existing conditions, which have secured equality and justice to all creeds, nationalities and conditions of men."

WOODSTOCK MEETING.

The previous resolution in favor of political union encouraged the friends of annexation elsewhere, and a public meeting was called for Mr. White, to be held in my riding, North Oxford, in the loyal Town of Woodstock, the county town of the banner county of Canadian Liberalism; and we know from a letter read at the meeting, as well as from other circumstances, that Mr. White and those who got up the meeting, were confident of carrying a resolution in favor of annexation. On the other hand, there was a disposition amongst the opponents of annexation to treat the meeting with contempt and not to attend it. I saw that this course would not be wise, and at the last moment almost, our friends decided on attending. The result was, that the anti-annexationists at the meeting numbered twelve to one, and their position was expressed by the following resolution:—

"That the people of Oxford of all parties are deeply attached to their beloved Sovereign, the Queen of Great Britain; that they proudly recognize the whole British Empire as their country, and rejoice that Canada is part of that empire; that Canadians have the most friendly feelings towards the people of the United States, and desire the extension of their trade relations with them; that, while differing among ourselves as to the extent of the reciprocity to be desired or agreed to, we repudiate any suggestion that in order to accomplish this object Canadians should