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W. H. THURSTON,
Editor and Proprietor.

THE NOMINATION.

At 11 o'clock, sharp, on Thursday last, Sheriff Moore and George Inglis, County Court Clerk, mounted the platform in the Town Hall and announced that they were prepared to receive nominations for the local legislature. Mr. Thorp Wright thereupon came forward and nominated Dr. Hunt, of Thornbury, with Alex. McIntyre as seconder. Mr. M. Richardson nominated Major Rorke, of Clarksburg, with Mr. T. Kells as seconder of the nomination. The remainder of the hour passed in desultory conversation among the audience assembled. Then Mr. Inglis, after reading a list of the polling places declared the meeting to be in the hands of the electors. Mr. S. Damude was appointed chairman and an adjournment was made until 1 o'clock.

After reassembling and arranging a program Rev. Mr. McLaren stated that the Equal Rights program had been submitted to both candidates on May 12. Mr. Rorke signed and returned the platform immediately. On the 27th inst. (or Tuesday last, the second day before nomination) Dr. Hunt had also signed the platform. In a subsequent statement Mr. McLaren said that while neither Mr. Mowat or Mr. Meredith's promises were entirely satisfactory, still he was obliged to admit that Mr. Meredith's attitude came the nearest to being satisfactory.

M. Richardson, Esq., although Major Rorke's nominator, had not had sufficient intimation that he would be called upon to do duty in that respect, and was therefore not prepared to make a satisfactory speech. Mr. Richardson dealt mostly in generalities, and while his speech was a short one, it was still an eloquent speech and somewhat out of the ordinary line of political argument. He said the electors were called upon now to exercise a function which they should be proud of. Every person should take an interest in politics, and like Mark Twain, when he saw a man who professed to have no interest in the government of this country he imagined he saw a label sticking to his back which read: "To Let." Such a man was not a true patriot. He had known Major Rorke for many years and knew him to be a man who was not afraid to enunciate the principles which he entertained. With reference to questions of the day he defined the object of Equal Rights, saying that certain parties had been attempting to gain more than their rights, and that remedies should be applied. It should be our aim to unite the various races composing our population in building up one great homogenous nationality united and progressive, and when we see a people raising a nationality in our midst that was not homogenous they should be resisted with all our power. He did not blame Mr. Mowat for the existence of separate schools, as he found them here when he came into power, but he blamed him for the manner in which they were allowed to be conducted. Certain measures had been taken which were acceptable, but these were forced from the Government by the Opposition during last

session of parliament. The commission appointed to inquire into the condition of French schools was at the instance of the Opposition. Mr. Meredith's platform was the one which this country wanted.

Mr. Thorp Wright was the next speaker. He said there were two candidates before us, but it was not a question of candidates, it was a choice between the Government and the Opposition. He believed Mr. Mowat's record was clear, and he did not think Mr. Meredith's past record would warrant us in placing him in power. He referred to Mr. Mowat's triumphs in the boundary award, and other instances before the Privy Council, and charged Mr. Meredith with not upholding Mr. Mowat's hands in these contests. Mr. Meredith had said these lands were not worth fighting for when as a matter of fact there was involved in it \$136,000. He asked if this was not worth fighting for. Mr. Wright referred to the Dominion and Ontario methods of selling timber limits, instituting a comparison between them which he claimed was very favorable to Mr. Mowat. He gave a history of the Rykert Scandal, though what that had to do with the present contest was not made plain to his hearers. He then referred to an item which appeared in this paper referring to the Proton claim and gave the explanation which he had heard from Mr. Ross the other day. This claim he confounded with the land improvement fund, which is a different matter altogether, and one which interests every township in the riding, the payment of which Mr. Mowat is still awaiting from Mr. Mercier. It was absurd for the Reform party to be asked to do away with separate schools. Mr. Wright asserted that if it had not been for the Frenchman there would be no Dominion of Canada to-day. Still we were asked to prevent the use of the French language. These were no great questions and were of trivial importance. Referring to the Parliament buildings, he said if they did cost a large sum the poor man got this money. Any business man looking back over the years might see where he had made errors. Mr. Mowat's was an honest government, and we would never get a better.

Mr. T. Kells then took the floor and in a short, vigorous speech made several good points. He was not present to "reel off a little yarn," but to hear the candidates. He said we had enough doctors and lawyers in the legislature without sending Dr. Hunt. The money was not properly appropriated. He referred to the large deputation of agriculturists who waited upon the Government last session to request a grant to the riding societies now that the Provincial show was done away with. The Government's reply was that the Agricultural and Arts Association wanted \$600, the Short Horn Breeders wanted some more, "and so you can go home, gentlemen." This, too, when the Government claimed to have \$6,000,000 in the treasury! He then referred scathingly to the leniency which Mr. Mowat showed towards Mr. Mercier in the matter of his Land Improvement indebtedness, and said the first thing we knew this debt would be outlawed and we would never get a cent. An interruption here referring to the Dominion Government was replied to by Mr. Kells remarking that "if Sir John went to the devil it was no reason why Mowat should go." Mr. Kells quoted figures giving the amounts owing to this riding from the Quebec Government, and explained how the indebtedness came about. He endorsed every plank in Mr. Meredith's platform.

Mr. Arch. McIntyre made a short speech. He had "nothing against Mr. Rorke only that he was a Tory."

Dr. Christoe said that he had been taken at a disadvantage in being called upon, as he had not expected it until an hour before the nomination was held. He had not seen Dr. Hunt before to-day. Both candidates claimed the same platform, but he noticed that the Globe and other reform papers claimed Dr. Hunt as a supporter of Mr. Mowat. This placed Dr. Hunt at a disadvantage in this contest. This was the point. Dr. Hunt claimed Mr. Meredith's platform, but if so he could not be a supporter of Mr. Mowat. Major Rorke had been working

for these reforms for the past four years. It was true that separate schools could only be abolished by the same power that brought them into existence, but he thought that power should be invoked. Preceding speakers had not spoken the whole truth, as they did not refer to granting the ballot to separate schools. Another that had not been mentioned was Mr. Meredith's intention to do away with all exemptions of church property. He then referred to timber limits, and said that in portions of Ontario the selling of timber off these lands had left them without sufficient timber to build the settlers' barns. He was very much amused at Mr. Wright bringing in Dominion matters into the discussion and his reference to the Rykert Matter. No one had been harder on Mr. Rykert than Sir John Thompson, the Minister of Justice. Dr. Christoe then referred to the assertion that Mr. Meredith had not been in sympathy with Mr. Mowat. He showed that he had been in the McCarthy Bill and other instances. He did not believe, however, that constitutional questions should be brought in to do duty at local elections. Referring to separate schools, he said no church should step over our rights in taking care of our schools. It was time this thing was put a stop to. He referred to the parliament building job, and closed by remarking that if the electors wished to be free men they would vote for Major Rorke on the fifth of June.

Dr. Hunt, on coming forward, said it afforded him much pleasure to meet so many of the electors. He detailed the difficulty he had had in resisting the importunities of the Reform party to become their standard bearer, and how he had finally been obliged to succumb. He had done so on condition that they would allow him to choose his own program. He was independent and he was sincere. It would have been to his best interests to turn over and be a Conservative some years ago, but he had always been true to the reform principles. He proposed to carry out what he promised. Dr. Hunt said it was not necessary to represent farmers by farmers; doctors were always present when farmers came into the world, and also when they went out of it. Of course he would not go so far as to say they assisted their passage out. He regretted the accident which had befallen Major Rorke. He said that Dr. Christoe gained his knowledge by reading the Empire alone, and therefore was not able to do himself justice. Mr. Meredith did not promise to abolish separate schools only to legislate towards that end. He did not think Mr. Meredith was worthy the confidence of the people. Dr. Christoe claimed that Mr. Rorke had been working for the abolishment of separate schools. Well, he had never yet heard of Major Rorke making any amendments in the Legislature, and had never seen a speech of his reported. Dr. Christoe had said Mr. Meredith never opposed the boundary business. If he had supported Mr. Mowat the chances were it would never have gone to the Privy Council. In reference to the Land Improvement Fund it was a difficult matter to explain, but he might say that if elected he would do all in his power to get a settlement. He said it was obligatory on the Government to legislate with reference to improvement of separate schools, and explained that such legislation would be taken from our hands if we refused to act. Dr. Hunt then read portions of the Separate School Act, analyzing it from stem to stern, and explained wherein he agreed and where he disagreed with it. He then read a letter from Principal Caven which has been doing heroic duty during this campaign. Dr. Hunt was in favor of abolishing separate schools and granting the ballot. With regard to the intimation that he would sacrifice his opinions to the requisites of party he thought he had sufficient backbone to resist that. Did he prove recreant he would feel himself obliged to leave the country. With regard to the French school question, it would require time to do away with them, but he did not hesitate to assert that in 25 years there would not be a French school in the Province. He would leave himself in the hands of the electors.

Major Rorke, who was unexpectedly present, received an ovation upon coming forward. He craved the indulgence of his hearers, as he was not in a condition owing to late illness to make a vigorous speech. He had been a resident of this riding for forty-two years and had always taken a prominent part in politics. This time he had been deprived of the privilege by a serious accident. It the first

(Continued on last page.)

BOOTS & SHOES

FOR THE

SPRING TRADE.

As everybody will be getting a pair of new boots or shoes or ought to be getting a pair, now that the fine weather will be here soon, to meet increased trade I have bought very largely in this line of goods, some of the choicest and best that can be had, also cheaper ones. In fine goods the stock I am now offering is not excelled in this part of the country. I also have a very large assortment of heavier lines. Not much use quoting prices, although I have men's plough boots for \$1.00, also ladies' Balmoral for \$1.00 and very good value for the money. I don't want to make you believe they are worth five dollars but they are very good value indeed, for \$1.00 I have very much better lines and better value at from \$2.00, \$3.00 and \$4.00 that will give good satisfaction. These are bought from some of the best manufacturers in Ontario, and are equal to anything showing in this line and quite new.

IN GENTS' WEAR

I have a very stylish lot of Buff, Calf, Dongola and Kid, Balmoral and Gaters, also strong lace boots.

IN LADIES' WEAR

I have a choice lot, new styles, in Prunela, Dongola, Kid, Polish Calf, Buff, in Balmoral and button, also heavier lines.

IN CHILDREN'S WEAR

I have a very large assortment, all sizes.

GENTS' & LADIES'

Slippers—a large lot in plain and foxed carpet, tweed and rep., also fine leather.

TRUNKS FOR SALE.

Custom Work and Repairing Promptly Done.

WM. CLAYTON,

Grand

SPRING OPENING

R. TRIMBLE

Has pleasure in announcing to the ladies of Flesherton and vicinity the usual spring opening of our Dress Goods and Print department. The latest effects in Cashmere's, Combination and Invisible stripes. Lustres, etc. Prints in all the new colors and patterns.

MILLINERY.

The Millinery department is complete in Hats, Bonnets, Feathers, Flowers, Ribbons, Etc., in all the newest styles and at low figures.

WANTED.

Every man who values a dollar or needs clothes to see the wonderful price attractions at the Leading Clothing Store. There is no argument required to sell these goods. The quality, styles and price does the work.

HATS & CAPS.

Large stock in all leading shapes and styles, and prices lower than ever.

BOOTS & SHOES.

Men's, Boys', Youths', Ladies' and Children's in endless variety and at prices that defy competition.

SEEDS! SEEDS! SEEDS!

Red Clover, Lucerne Clover, Mammoth and Alsike, also Timothy, all first class seeds and at bottom prices.

GROCERIES & PROVISIONS.

Our Grocery Department is complete, consisting of long clear Bocon, Rolled and Standard Oatmeal, Corn Meal, Cracked Wheat, Etc., Etc.

Valuable Silver Presents to be given away. CALL AND SEE THEM.

R. TRIMBLE.