



Markdale Standard.

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MARKDALE, MAR. 3, 1887.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

-J. J. C. Abbott was elected on Tuesday as Mayor of Montreal by 1,700 majority.

-The war cloud in the east is decidedly darker. An outbreak may be looked for at an early date.

-The Kingston re-count has increased Sir John's majority to 17.

-D. F. Jones, Esq., of Gananoque, ex-M. P. for Souths Leeds, died last Sunday.

The Ontario Legislature met on Tuesday for the despatch of business.

How Editors view it.

We give below the views as expressed by leading papers on both sides as well as independent so that our readers may have a little of the cream pro and con re the late election.

Parties being so closely balanced, it appears altogether probable that the new parliament will in any event be a short-living one. Out of the elements returned it will hardly be possible either to secure a satisfactory working majority for the present Ministry, or for any other government that may succeed them.

If the Grits had gone to the country with a well defined policy they would in all likelihood have carried everything before them. But the party's hesitancy and non committalism, and the lack of clearly drawn issues between the old parties, have given the Ministry, for the time at least, the victory.

The returns give assurance that the conflict in Canada will soon terminate successfully, though it appears possible that the restoration of power to men freely chosen by an unbrided electorate may not occur till the task of holding the present winners together has passed to a man even worse than Sir John Macdonald.

With the prospects of Sir Charles Tupper's accession to the Premiership at an early day it is quite within probability that the country will be delivered from corruptionist rule long before the expiry of the term of the new Parliament. We say to the Liberals of Canada that there is little reason to be cast down when we consider how much better is the position of the party than in the last Parliament, and how much improved its power to work for the public good.

Surveying the whole field, it is tolerably safe to conclude that another general election is not far off. Sir John, whose resources are great, may remain in power for a session, perhaps for two; but it would be impossible for any politician to carry on the affairs of Canada for a full Parliamentary term with so small and so heterogeneous a majority as he has at his command.

It may be unpalatable to Reformers but we must remind them of a fact that is becoming plainer daily, namely, that the Conservative party is steadily trying to improve itself, that Sir John Macdonald has been making his record cleaner and more respectable as he grows older, and that there is an honest effort to get better men into the ranks of the party and to drop the hoodle and rowdy elements.

Can we say the same of the Liberal party? Mr. Blake, is personally, above the breath of suspicion. But the policy of his party has been unpatriotic in the extreme. They have sought power at the expense of breaking up confederation and bidding for the support of all the elements of disaffection. And look

at his organ, the Globe. It has of late been the most mendacious political newspaper ever seen in Canadian politics. It is nothing but a party hack in hands of the party machinists. It hasn't one spark of independence or political manliness. And men respect manliness even in politicians and newspaper organs. The Reform party must get a policy and it must get rid of the barnacles. More-over it must inaugurate a patriotic policy and become itself a patriotic opposition. A disloyal opposition is a curse to the country. Reformers must show faith in the country and not seek party advantages by employing dishonorable and disloyal methods.

Let us have a patriotic opposition to watch the party in power. They need watching. But let it be done decently.

The Montreal Witness (Ind. Liberal). There can be no doubt that the National Policy saved the Government from the wrath of the people, who were really roused against corruption, but who had not got to the point of condemning it and of trusting in industry instead of in privilege for the bread and butter. Thousands and thousands of voters yesterday cast their ballots in favor of what they know to be a corrupt and extravagant Government for the simple reason that they considered that their own or their relatives' living or prosperity depended upon the maintenance of a Government which was willing to tax other people for their benefit. The large funds subscribed by the manufacturers no doubt had a great influence upon the result in many close contests. The final returns when received from the North-West and British Columbia will probably bring the Governments majorities up to 40.

The Montreal Star (Ind. Conservative). The Conservative party may be both encouraged and warned by the election campaign which closed yesterday. Its members can now see that the Government which unwaveringly and unflinchingly pursues a course which is believed to be for the public good is sure to get a firm hold of the country. The people believe in principle and they admire and place faith in the men who courageously and consistently stand by what they regard as right. But the Conservatives may also learn that the advantages which a government and a party gain by successfully carrying out a good policy may be lost if they weakly permit a few trading politicians to use their public position for their own private gain, and if they wink at a transaction on the part of public servants which honest men cannot justify.

The un-justifiable conduct of individual members of Parliament and others gave rise to the cry of "hoodle" which has done the Conservative party so much harm throughout the country, and which made the fight just ended a hard one to win. The Conservative party had to bear the weight of the hoodlers' sins, and were it not supported by the Government's railway policy, and particularly by its trade policy, it must have sunk under the burden. Mr. Blake's equivocal position on the trade question, together with the negative nature of his policy generally, was, in our opinion, the cause of his defeat.

An Independent View. The Montreal Star (Independent), Feb. 24. There is some difficulty in classifying the members returned for Quebec. They are divided into straight Liberals, straight Conservatives and Nationalists. These last again are divided into Liberal Nationalists and Conservative-Nationalists. The party papers in making out their lists, naturally divide that uncertain element in the way that best suits their own purposes, but as neither party can depend upon their support with certainty, we think it best to set it all down as Independent. According to that classification Quebec has returned

Table with columns for Liberal, Conservatives, Independents, and various regions (North Grey, South Grey) listing candidates and their respective counts.

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BIRTHS. FAWCETT.—In Flesherton on Sunday, Feb. 20th 1887, the wife of Mr. A. B. Fawcett, Editor and Proprietor of the ADVANCE, of a daughter.

DEATHS. WHITBY.—In Artemesia, on the twenty-eighth February, Richard Henry Whitby, aged 31 years.

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