

lar expression, "hadn't a leg to stand on." The speech of Mr. Meredith himself was delivered with considerable force, but seemed throughout to bear the stamp of the leader of "a lost cause," and of a man, moreover, prepared to sacrifice himself, even to the bitter end, on the altar of that cause. Mr. Meredith, it is being gradually recognised, has seen his best days, and has never known the sweets of victory even at that.

EVENING SESSION.

THE LICENSE DEBATE GOES ON AND THE OPPOSITION GOES DOWN.

Mr. H. E. Clarke was the first to continue the debate on the license resolution. He replied principally to the speech of the

Commissioner of Crown Lands, stating at first that even if Sir John Macdonald was the son of his Satanic Majesty, as the Reform party contended, there was no reason why the Government should control for their own interests the licensing of intoxicating liquors. He (Mr. Clarke) attended many meetings in the red parlor of the Queen's hotel when the condition of the country was discussed, but he never heard one single demand made by Sir John on the manufacturers for money to carry out the elections. He had listened, he said, with hair on end—The remainder of the sentence was lost amid the explosion of laughter that followed, Mr. Clarke himself taking part in it. The expression used would not generally arouse the risibility of a grave assembly, but the public have to be told that Mr. Clarke, by actual observation, has not a single hair on the top of his head to rise, even if a menagerie of snakes were in his immediate neighborhood.

Mr. Clarke, after the laughter had subsided, proceeded to say that the license commissioners were merely electioneering agents for the Government. Although a Temperance man all his life, he felt that tavernkeepers had a right to exercise their franchise as they felt inclined, and should not depend for their existence on the Government of the day. The Government were responsible for their officials, and it could not be.

Mr. Gibson (of Huron) declared that the speech of Mr. Clarke was composed of low insinuations, entirely without foundation, and he did not propose to allow them to go unchallenged. The first man that asked him for a commission on the License Board in his riding was a Conservative and he got the position. (Cheers.) Reformers had not to thank tavernkeepers in the County of Huron for any political support. There was only one Reformer in that county in the liquor traffic to six Conservatives. During the last election he was told that every hotelkeeper was against him, to which he replied that he did not expect anything else. Hon. gentlemen opposite should remember their record when the McCarthy license law was foisted on the country, the rule being that Reformers were placed at a disadvantage when the licenses were granted. It was not so in the administration of the Crooks Act, because politics never interfered with the decisions of license commissioners. Conservatives could not bring anything against the Government to show that all their actions in the appointment of commissioners would not bear the light of day. He had every respect for County Councils, but he felt that the administration of the licensing system was better in the hands of the Provincial Government than handed over to these bodies.

Dr. Willoughby continued the debate, and in half an hour speech claimed that in his riding (East Northumberland) the whole power of the liquor traffic had been turned against him at every election in recent years. He would rather have Mr. Mowat and all the honest members of the Government working against him than one license inspector. He drew a terrible picture of the state of affairs existing among his constituents.

Mr. G. B. Smith regretted the picture drawn of the people of East Northumberland by Dr. Willoughby. It was strange, however, that the member for East Northumberland when challenged was not able to give the name of a single violator of the law, and so far as he (the speaker) was concerned he would not believe that the charges made could be substantiated. Coming to the resolution moved by the leader of the Opposition, the member for East York argued that it was indefinite, and was not supported by any valid argument throughout the debate. There was nothing to show but that the Crooks Act was a good one, and that it was administered by the Government in the interests of Temperance. That at all events was the opinion of all the Temperance deputations that waited on the

Government.

Mr. Ostrom said it was of the utmost importance that this debate be well reported. He corroborated the remarks of Dr. Willoughby.

Mr. Waters opposed strongly the position taken by Mr. Meredith, and charged him with making an entirely non-committal motion. The terms of the resolution were very vague. If the member for London was ever to step across the floor of the House and take the place of the Attorney-General he would not be bound by it. Why did he not come boldly out and ask that the controlling power be returned to the County Councils? He wanted that in his speech, but not in his resolution. Mr. H. E. Clarke had said that the power possessed by the Government was used in every constituency for electioneering purposes. He did not believe this. He denied most emphatically that the license inspectors had ever used one atom of influence on his behalf. But if their power were used in some constituencies, if the charge made so freely were true, where would be the advantage by transferring it to County Councils? Could not a County Council appoint inspectors of the shade of politics favored by the majority of the Council? Certainly it could, and so the advantage of the change suggested by Mr. Meredith in speech, but not in his resolution, would amount to nothing at all. Personally he would like to see every liquor establishment closed altogether, but meantime he preferred the controlling power to remain where it was.

Mr. Whitney argued to show that the license boards were partisan in their character, and would be so even if a Conservative Government were in power. That was the reason why he particularly endorsed Mr. Meredith's resolution.

MR. ROSS' BOMB.

THE TREASURER TEARS AWAY THE LAST SHRED OF MR. MEREDITH'S CONTENTIONS.

Hon. A. M. Ross said the whole agitation against the license commissioners in Toronto arose from a personal squabble between the brewers as to who should get the largest trade in beer. The Government were always anxious that the license law should be administered impartially, and when charges were made against the license commissioners of Toronto they instituted an inquiry, the result being that they became convinced that there was not a shadow of evidence to prove any of the allegations of favoritism made against the commissioners. There was no public investigation because no man of responsibility came forward to demand that such would take place. He was quite satisfied that no more unfounded charges were ever brought against a body of men than that against the license commissioners of Toronto during the year 1888. These men exercised the authority given them in a conscientious manner, and withal in the interests of Temperance. Amidst the cheers of the House he read the following statement signed by no fewer than 143 out of the 150 saloonkeepers of the city. The seven not signing are the proprietors of the Queen's, Rossin, Walker, Bodega, Palmer and Richardson house hotels and S. Campbell, and the hon. Treasurer said he thought in regard to the large hotels named hon. members opposite would hardly claim that they alone were controlled in the manner contended.

Following is the statement and list of signatures:—

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

Statements having been published by The World newspaper that contributions have been sought from or obtained from the hotelkeepers of Toronto for political and other purposes, under threat of loss or promise of political or other influence in obtaining our licenses, we give the above statement our emphatic denial, and further declare that we have never known of the existence of a so-called or alleged "License Guarantee Fund," or any fund of like character.

And we also declare that in no instance has the Board of License Commissioners, or any member of the Board at any time or in any manner, directly or indirectly, requested or advised us where to buy our trade supplies.

And that in no manner have we been influenced or interfered with by any member of the Board in matters of trade relations between brewers, liquor dealers, distillers, cigar manufacturers or dealers, and ourselves.

But that on the other hand we are perfect-

ly as free to purchase our trade merchandise as other mercantile men, and that we declare the charges preferred by The World newspaper to be false and without foundation:—

Anson Raymond, 315 Wilton avenue.
John McGann, 10 Esplanade street.
A. J. Tymon, 1 Church street.
P. McGreevy, 12 Market street.
Wm. Paterson, 1 George street.
Alfred Oxford, Black horse hotel.
R. Vernon, Royal hotel.
John H. Avis, 20 West Market street.
John Kemp, 36 West Market street.
W. McCutcheon, 80 Colborne street.
W. Clow, Turtle Hall, 60 Colborne street.
Joseph Taylor, 31 Colborne street.
J. Vogan, 122 Adelaide street east.
W. Lush, 66 Jarvis street.
Emaney & Mallett, 172 King east.
James Nealon, 197 and 199 King street east.
E. A. Jones, 1,227 Queen east.
Charles Ayre, Morse street and Eastern avenue.
Mrs. Elizabeth J. Booth, 771 Queen street east.
Robert Melbourne, 644 Queen street east.
Joseph Laycock, 460 King street east.
John Simpson, 472 Queen street east.
James Stinson, 321 Parliament street.
Robert J. Fielden, 383 Parliament street.
Albert Verrall, 201 Gerrard street east.
James Tidy, 164 Wilton avenue.
John O'Neill, 68 Oak street.
Thos. M. Lee, 421 Gerrard street.
John J. Burns, 332 King east.
John Evans, 284 King street.
Francis McGarry, 200 Front east.
W. J. O'Connor, 252 King street east.
Patrick O'Connor, 241 King street east.
John Beer, 523 King street west.
George Clarke, 390 King street west.
H. B. Clarke, cor. King and Tecumseth.
John J. Doyle, 609 King street west.
M. D. White, 682 King street west.
John Stormont, 60 Strachan avenue.
Mrs. N. Robinson, 1068 Queen street west.
Geo. A. Rosbach, 547 Dundas street.
Mrs. E. Burke, 146 Niagara street.
George Beauchamp, 32 Niagara street.
P. Keith, 106 Sherbourne street.
W. R. Bingham, The Hub.
H. E. Hughes, The Criterion.
Matt Evans, 37 Jarvis street.
James Frawley, 21 Jarvis street.
R. H. Reid, 94 Front street east.
John Holderness, Albion hotel.
Leslie & Charlton, St. James' hotel.
Frank Wismer, Crosby Hall hotel.
C. G. Harris, International hotel.
Joseph O'Hara, Continental hotel.
Albert Heck, 56 York street.
James McGinn, 102 Bay street.
H. Morgan, No. 10 Jordan.
H. M. Pierce, St. Charles', Yonge street.
Hislop & Pierce.
John F. Scholes, Athletic Restaurant, 185 Yonge.
Dan A. Smith, 300 Queen street east.
V. T. Bero, 866 Queen street west.
Geo. Arno, 741 Yonge street.
J. B. Cook, 215 Yonge street.
W. Greenians, 175 Teraulay street.
Chas. Brown, Arcade.
Henry W. Power, 521 Queen street west.
John A. Devaney, Bloor and Bathurst streets.
E. Williams, 32 Bathurst street.
T. Kennedy, 571 King street.
Matthew Ronan, 1008 Queen street west.
Thos. O'Neill, corner Bloor and Dufferin streets.
Wm. E. Allen, Queen and Bellwoods streets.
G. Wilkson, 153 Yonge street.
Fred. T. Mullan, Wellington hotel.
O'Donohoe & Doherty, Club Chambers, York street.
John Cuthbert.
R. Dissette, Empress Hotel.
George Davis, 391 Bloor street.
John Shannessy, 258 Yonge street.
Chas. Walker, 81 Bay street.
Theo Braun, 99 King street west (late Staneland's).
Alex. Wood, 152 King street west.
Ellen Fitzgerald, corner York and Adelaide streets.
Susan Quinn, 92 King street west.
M. Keachie, 30 King street west.
John O'Connor, 123 Simcoe street.
J. Maloney, 52 Jarvis street.
John Wilson, 111 York street.
S. Dandy, 14 Frances street.
John O'Connor, 113 George street.
Fred. Wright, 118 Queen street west.
John O'Leary, 104 Queen street east.
Samuel O'Halloran, 99 Jarvis street.
Malcolm Macfarlane, 77-9 Jarvis street.
Harry Keeble, 56 Jarvis street.
Henry Lemon, 158 King street east.
John McCaffery, 187 King street east.
A. M. Orpin, 48 Church street.
E. J. Reilly, The Senate, 76 Church street.
J. J. Shipman, 56 Adelaide street east.
M. Ochrader, 54 Adelaide street east.
Margaret McCarron, 17 Queen street.
John Elliott, Elliott House.
Wm. Hopkins, 372 Church street.
Thos. O'Connell, 44 Adelaide street, east.
William A. McKay, 144 Davenport Road.
Richard Lennox, 803 Yonge street.
John Cook, 789 Yonge street.
Thomas Landon, 666 Yonge street.
Henry Warren, 493 Yonge street.
H. A. Layton, Car Howell.
Francesco Gliconna, 136 Chestnut street.
Woistan E. Riley, 11 Car Howell street.
James Chabulum, 134 and 136 Sherbourne street.
W. Armstrong, 180 and 182 King street, west.
Douglas & Chambers, 85 Yonge street.
Filcher & Bond, 88 Yonge street.
D. Small, Grand Opera.
Jethro Worden, Grand Opera House.
George Proctor, the Bay Tree Hotel.
G. H. Briggs, Briggs' House, Toronto.
James Lennox, the Library.
Mrs. B. Hayes, 138 and 140 Bathurst street.
Mrs. H. Collins, 440 and 442 Queen street west.
L. J. Hewitt, 321 Queen street west.
Alliss & Curtis, 298 Queen street west.
John McGee, 240 Queen west.
Sarah A. Crawford, 316 and 318 Front street west.