

a provision of this sort. They could not avoid mistakes altogether, but they reduced the chances of mistakes to a minimum. Then if they agreed they had a provision by which the Council might correct such mistakes. It was plain from what had been said during the past few days that it is the intention and fixed plan of the management of the Opposition throughout the Province to endeavor to make political capital for themselves out of the religious sympathies of the Protestant population, and out of the religious antagonism they had aroused in some quarters between Roman Catholics and Protestants. He hoped they would fail in these unholy tactics. "For myself," said the Attorney-General in conclusion, "and for the Protestant members of the Government, I will say that we are attached to the Protestant Churches that we belong to with all our hearts, but we recognise it as our duty to be fair to the Roman Catholic minority according to our lights. We have examined this school question as Protestants, as we fully recognised it to be our duty to do, and we are satisfied in regard to all these bills, that they are not going to be of any service to the Province, that they are bad bills—(applause)—and as for myself I have no hesitation in asking the house not to accept them. As a Protestant myself of nearly 70 years' standing, I have no hesitation in advising the House to reject all these bills and pass that of the Minister of Education.

The Attorney-General resumed his seat amid the hearty applause of the House.

Mr. Whitney continued the debate and twitted Mr. Fraser with having been sarcastic at the expense of Orangemen without regard to the Orangemen who sat behind him and who voted for the Government through the country.

The remainder of the debate is held over.

#### NOTES.

Mr. Thomas Blezard, M.P.P., and Mr. J. R. Stratton, M.P.P., address the East Peterboro' Convention of Liberals at Norwood this afternoon. The nomination is tendered to Mr. Blezard, and if it is perfectly unanimous he probably accept.

## THE LIBERAL WHIP

### A Handsome Testimonial to Mr. Freeman, M. P. P.,

BY THE LIBERAL MEMBERS.

A Highly Complimentary Address  
Read Him.

EQUALLY COMPLIMENTARY SPEECHES.

Mr. Freeman's Remarks in Reply—A  
Few Words from the Attorney-  
General, the Conservative  
Whip and Other  
Friends of Mr.  
Freeman.

Yesterday afternoon at two o'clock, Mr. J. B. Freeman, M. P. P., Whip of the Liberal party of the Ontario Legislature, was taken by the arm by two or three of his more intimate friends among the members and rushed upstairs to room No. 16. What he may have suspected is neither here nor there. What he knew was absolutely nothing so far as the forthcoming occasion had been concerned. The secret had been well kept. On entering the room he found himself surrounded by a full Cabinet, and almost a full house—full, certainly, so far as the Liberal side was concerned, while there was a fair sprinkling of Conservatives on hand. Several ladies, too, were present, among them Mrs. Mowat, Mrs. Biggar, Mrs. Baxter, Mrs. Dack, Mrs. Pacaud, Mrs. G. B. Smith and Mrs. Thos. Murray.

Mr. Freeman was the hero of the hour, the occasion being, as will have been already gathered, that of a presentation to him on behalf of that side of the House for which he has so long, so successfully and so genially performed such valuable services in his capacity as Whip. The testimonial of their regard took the shape of a marvellously handsome epergne and an equally handsome silver tea service. An illuminated address had been prepared to accompany the gift, and this was read to Mr. Freeman and the gathering generally by Dr. Gilmour, the popular member for West York and one of the mainstays of West Toronto Junction. The address read as follows:—

To J. B. Freeman, Esq., M. P. P., Liberal Whip,  
Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

DEAR SIR,—In a few days the last session of the present Parliament will close, and your labors as Liberal Whip will temporarily cease. Before the Legislature re-assembles, a general election will have been held, and some now associated with you may not seek or desire reelection, and so retire into private life. Under these circumstances, the bond which has held yourself and fellow-members together during four years will have been broken for a time, and although it will almost certainly be re-united, it will exist to some extent at least between yourself and some who have not previously been associated with you.

At such a time, it seems but fitting that they who have cordially worked with you during the present and previous Parliament should take opportunity to unitedly recognise your valuable services in the common cause, and acknowledge their indebtedness to you as their party counsellor, guide and friend.

The position of Whip, which you have so long and ably filled, calls for the exercise of rare qualities, and such a combination of them as is seldom found. It demands a self-sacrifice to which few men are willing to submit, an unswerving loyalty to party, an ability to quickly and unfailingly anticipate the designs of opponents, an aptitude for business, the tact of a Premier, a clear comprehension of public questions, a genial disposition, a courteous manner, an unwavering patience, a warm heart and a level head.

In you, fortunately, we have met with one pre-eminently conspicuous in the possession of these requisite good qualities. From the beginning to the end of every session, your labors have, quietly yet unceasingly, been directed to the furtherance of the principles which we have been elected to promote. You have never abandoned your post, while you have been indefatigable in the discharge of a task not always agreeable. Your intercourse with our opponents has tended to minimise the effects of that friction which unavoidably exists between men of conflicting political views, and, as a result, the present Parliament has been distinguished from some of its predecessors by an absence of the bitterness and animosity which too often mark party warfare.

It has not been your ambition to sway the House with silver-tongued eloquence, to take a part more than ordinarily prominent in the introduction of new measures, or to crowd the "Notices of Motion" with a semi-weekly demand for returns, but you have, nevertheless, in your unostentatious fashion, left your indelible mark upon the whole course of our legislation, and exerted an influence which, if unseen by the public, is, nevertheless, deeply appreciated by all who have been acquainted with your Parliamentary career. And it would be doing you injustice did we not add that, while you have won the affection and respect of every fellow-member of your own political faith, you stand equally high in the estimation of those who, although in opposite ranks, have been imbued with your friendly spirit and won by your example, and thus taught to feel that when the armor of the oratorical combatant is thrown aside, the representatives of the people, whether Reformers or Conservatives, are alike Canadian, and can freely fraternise on common ground.

A simple assurance of the value which we place upon your devotion to the popular cause, would, we know, be accepted by you as ample recognition of your years of effort to advance the interests of true Liberalism, but we have thought it proper—in inadequate form, it may be—to seal our words with a more tangible exhibition of our warm regard for you, and to put in more permanent form than mere language can express the proof of our deep esteem.

We ask you to accept, for yourself and Mrs. Freeman, this testimonial of our gratitude, and trust that she will ever regard it as an evidence of the fact that you have, during your public life, won the fullest confidence and highest approbation of those with whom you have been associated, and find in it some slight consolation for the sacrifice which she has made in submitting patiently to your enforced absence, during many years, from hearth and home.

It remains now but to express the hope that in the election which will be held before the termination of the current year, and in many succeeding contests, "Glorious Old Norfolk" will remain true to her long record, and send back to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, again and again, the Freeman who has so faithfully and patriotically represented her since 1879. And for yourself, while we wish to you and yours every other blessing which life can give, let us desire that you may in the future, as now, be ever able to say:—

Friends I have made, whom envy must commend,

But not one foe whom I would wish a friend.

Legislative Assembly of Ontario, Toronto, 1890.

The reading of the address was concluded amid an outburst of enthusiastic applause from all the gathering, which made Mr. Freeman look happier even than the very complimentary—but not too complimentary—address itself had done.

Mr. Freeman made the following reply to the address:—

DR. GILMOUR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—It is fitting that you have placed me in the hands of a medical gentleman, for I need his services, as I have a severe attack of palpitation of the heart. Did I not see that I was surrounded by friends I might have said, with one of old, "that an enemy hath done this." But, sir, my friends have resorted to the tactics sometimes used by an enemy, that is, to lay in ambush and surprise their victim. If this was one object sought for, you have been successful, for the surprise is complete. The tone of your very kind address is far too generous. I wish that I possessed in a limited degree one tithe of the many good qualities you have seen fit, in your charitableness of heart, to endow me with. If I have been of any service to the Government or my fellow-members, that service has been loyally and faithfully given. I have only received kindness from my fellow-members, and that continually. I have formed friendships here that will endure as long as life endures, and when I leave public life and develop into the old man seated in the chimney-corner or basking in the sun, I will dream of the days that are past and spring up and fancy that I have heard the old watchword of "Call in the members." I am pleased to have my brother Whip, Mr. Monk, with me on this very pleasant occasion. Mr. Monk and myself exchange confidences, and we have it in our power at times to defeat both the Government and the Opposition. Our relations have been very pleasant, and I have formed for Mr. Monk as warm a friendship as for any member in the House. I wish I had received some intimation of what you had in store for me, so that I might have presented my sincere and heartfelt thanks in more fitting terms, but of one thing I reassure you, that the impulses of my heart could not be warmer. I again thank you for your kind words both to Mrs. Freeman and myself. We will ever treasure them. Let me say in conclusion that to each one of you may there come more sunshine than cloud in both political and private life.

Mr. Monk was then called up and he expressed his regard for his brother Whip and his satisfaction at the handsome manner in which he was now being treated.

Then the Premier came forward and, amid renewed applause, expressed his full and hearty