

Some Practical Farmers.

His hon. friend from Dufferin had asserted that the farm was conducted on too expensive a basis for practical purposes. At this institution is taught all the principles that are to be profitably applied to the various branches of farming in Ontario. His hon. friend had also asserted that the graduates of the college are not setting the example they should to the farmers in the districts in which they are living, and that the course at the college rather tended to make them less qualified to make an honest living in agricultural pursuits. He challenged the hon. gentleman to cite a single man who has been at the college who is less fitted for agricultural pursuits because he attended that college. On the other hand, he was prepared for the information of hon. gentlemen opposite to mention a number of successful farmers in the County of Peterboro' who are to-day taking the lead in agriculture on account of the teaching they received at that institution. Mr. Birdsall of Aspidall is an excellent farmer, and a Conservative at that, and who always speaks well of the Agricultural College. His hon. friend knew another gentleman whose name he would mention, Mr. Davidson of the Township of Smith, than whom there is no better farmer in the township, until he recently removed to the Northwest, and who had done much to stimulate the farmers and educate them to the advantages offered by the college. Mr. Payne of Dummer was also a well-known farmer and a practical dairyman himself, having done much to advance the dairying interest in Dummer since attending the dairying course in the college. His hon. friend opposite from West Victoria (Mr. S. J. Fox) also took a course there, and he is one of the most successful farmers, and if a Conservative is to represent the constituency of West Victoria he did not know of any hon. gentleman whom he would like to see in the House more than his hon. friend (Mr. Fox), who is carrying on a successful agricultural industry in that riding, and he did not think the hon. gentleman would say that the course which he took there unfitted him to achieve success in life. (Cheers.) His hon. friend had said that under proper management the college would be of great advantage. He presumed that in the mind of his hon. friend proper management meant Conservative management, on the same principle that if the constable vote had been given to the Conservatives it would have been all right. No influence had contributed so much to place Ontario in the front rank as an agricultural Province as that exercised by the teachings of the Ontario Agricultural College and the many kindred institutions which circle around and are connected with it. The appointment of a good roads commissioner was strongly defended by Mr. Stratton, and in reply to the challenge of hon. gentlemen opposite that not a half mile of road had been made that would not have been made had the commissioner never been appointed, said he presumed that the hon. gentlemen had found the stumps and stones so plentiful in their way to the treasury benches that they

could hardly see the good roads that now exist throughout the Province. He was not making private information public when he stated that the commissioner, who was the right man in the right place, had been offered another position at a larger salary elsewhere. As a striking illustration of the beneficial work done by that official he mentioned the Township of North Monaghan, where they now have steam rollers, crushers and other machinery for the proper construction of roads, and where the statute labor had been commuted, and in Otonabee and Aspidall great advance had been made in the work of building good roads as a result of the work of this department.

The Popular Vote.

Dr. Barr had said that if Mr. Hardy had had the conscience of Sir Oliver Mowat the Attorney-General would have resigned. He could tell his hon. friend that if he would take the statistics he would find that not only had the Government a clear majority in the House, but they had a clear majority of the popular vote, and that they had a clear majority without the constable vote. Mr. Stratton read the following figures in support of his contention:

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| Liberal | 215,644 |
| Conservative | 208,436 |
| Independent | 9,955 |

The reading of the figures and the division of the vote led to some cross-firing between the parties.

"What do you call Haycock?" asked Dr. Barr.

"Grit!" replied Mr. Whitney, in a much disgusted tone.

"If, as suggested, my hon. friend says Mr. Haycock is Liberal," said Mr. Stratton a moment later—

"I did not say that," interrupted Mr. Whitney.

"What?" asked Mr. Stratton in surprise.

"I said he was a Grit," replied Mr. Whitney, emphasizing the word "Grit," while his supporters applauded.

Mr. Stratton said the Conservatives were particularly fortunate in their having the number of supporters that they had on their side of the House. If they would take the proportionate vote that they polled they would find they had more members sitting on the opposite side of the House for the votes polled than the Liberals had on their side of the House for the votes polled.

"Where do you put Beatty?" asked Dr. Barr.

"On the side of the Liberal votes polled," replied Mr. Stratton.

"He did not run as a Liberal," said Mr. Whitney.

"He did not run as a Conservative," replied Mr. Stratton. "However, he is present to speak for himself."

The Opposition said the Province was opposed to the present Administration and that the time for a change had come. Yet the Liberals had on their side of the House 51 members in support of the Government, while hon. gentlemen opposite had 43, a clear majority of eight, or seven after electing the Speaker, and yet they expected the