

Conservative

Burnley Advertiser 7 Aug 1869

Conservative Demonstration and Presentation

'The Conservative Working Men of Burnley will present Lieutenant General The Hon J. Yorke Scarlett G.C.B with a Testimonial on Saturday August 15th 1869, on which occasion there will be held a Grand Demonstration in Bank Hall Meadow.'

Patrick is listed amongst the 'following distinguished Gentlemen' who 'have kindly promised to take part in the proceedings'.

Burnley Express 16 April 1881

Conservative Demonstration at Rawtenstall

A Conservative demonstration was held on Saturday at Rawtenstall, near Manchester, the occasion being the annual soiree in connection with the Rossendale Union of Working Men's Constitutional Associations. Tea was first served in St Mary's National Schoolroom, after which a public meeting was held in the Co-operative Hall, which was crowded. The chair was occupied by Mr R.H. Hardman, of Cliffe Tower, Rawtenstall, president of the union, and he was supported by Sir John Holker, Bart, M.P. Mr J.C. Lawrence, M.P. for South Lincolnshire, Mr W.F.Ecroyd, Colonel Starkie, Captain Hargreaves, Captain Schofield, Captain Patrick (Manchester), Mr S. Holker, and many other prominent conservatives of the district. Letters of apology for not being able to attend were read by the hon. secretary, Mr B.H. Cornish, from Earl Percy M.P. for North Northumberland, Mr T.W. Lloyd, of Cowesby Hall, Northallerton etc. (detailed description of speeches)s

Manchester Courier 4 June 1881

Conservative Meetings

The handsome new premises which have been, at a considerable cost, erected in Newchurch Road, Stacksteads, as the future habitation of the Stacksteads Conservative Association and which are hereafter to be known as the Beaconsfield Club, were opened on Saturday, with considerable ceremony, by Mr T.W.Lloyd, of Cowesby Hall, Northallerton, in the presence of a large gathering of local Conservatives and friends from a distance.

In the evening a well attended public meeting was held in the National School, Tunstead, under the presidency of Mr R.W. Munn. On the platform were also the Rev. J.G. Howarth, Mr J. Croston (Manchester), Mr T.W. Lloyd, Mr R.H. Hardman (chairman of the Rossendale Union of Conservative Associations), Mr T. Nash, Mr Lawrence Booth, Major Hardman, Captain Patrick, Mr W. Mitchell, Mr H.H. Bolton, Mr Crawshaw (secretary of the association) etc.

Mr Croston said: If they might judge by what took place at Preston the other day – (applause) – there were indications of a reaction which would spread from Lancashire to Cheshire and Yorkshire, and shortly show throughout the country a Conservative majority. He took it that the real issue in the great contest fought at Preston was, not whether a Liberal or a Conservative should be returned, though he was perfectly certain that Conservative principles were largely in the ascendant in Preston; when he looked at the magnificent majority, over 1,600, which returned Mr Ecroyd, he could not shut his eyes to the fact that the issue raised was something more than the ordinary lines of a political fight. Mr Croston proceeded to show the disastrous effect which was produced on our home trade by the free importation of foreign manufactures, and by statistics showed that the great stay of the Lancashire cotton trade was its exports to India, which amounted to 1,000,700,000 yards per annum, while the entire exports to nine European nations (including Russia) and the United States only amounted to 390,000,000 yards per annum, or less than the exports to Turkey and her dependency, Egypt, which amounted to 435,000,000 of yards. The cry of Mr Freeman and others of Mr Gladstone's supporters was "Perish India", and he (Mr Crostin) asked the operatives of Lancashire to remember that this would mean the closing of four out of five of the Lancashire cotton mills.

Mr Nash proposed the following resolution:- "That this meeting condemns the policy of the present Government as tending to degrade the national honour; its Irish policy as calculated to unsettle the foundations of private property; and its commercial policy as likely to increase the competition which English industrial products have to meet in the great markets of the world."

Mr Mitchell seconded the motion, which was passed.

Manchester Courier 2 April 1883

New Conservative Club in Rossendale

A new building intended for the use of the Lumb and Water Conservative Association was opened on Saturday at Lumb, near Bacup. The premises have been erected through the munificence of Mr Bownass, of Scout Bottom, and although not of a very pretentious character, are in every way suitable to the requirements of the club. The opening ceremony was performed by Captain Patrick, to whom Miss Bownass, on behalf of her father, who was unable to be present, handed the key of the building. An adjournment was made to the billiard room, where one or two addresses were given. Captain Patrick, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr Bownass, said he hoped the club would now have a large accession of members, and that it might be the means of winning over to Conservatism those who might be wavering in their political faith. (Hear hear) – Mr L. Mercer seconded the motion which was carried with great cordiality. Mr H.H. Bolton, junior, then proposed that the thanks of the company be given to Captain Patrick, and said the present was no time for inaction on the part of the Conservative party. The Radicals were perpetually in agitation, while the Conservatives had been content to remain quiet. This must not be, for though the activity of the Radicals they had got their party into power, with the result that

the country had been brought into bad repute all over the world (Hear hear). Major Mitchell seconded the proposition, which was approved, and the proceedings terminated.

In the evening a well-attended public meeting was held in the parish church schoolroom. Mr H.H. Bolton, senior, presided; and there were present Mr J. Corston, Mr R. Assheton, Mr M.W. Mattinson, Mr W. Mitchell, Mr G.H. Hardman, Capt. Patrick, Major Mitchell, Mr H.H. Bolton junior, Mr R.W. Mann, Mr W. Hay, &c. The Chairman said he was glad to be able to congratulate them on the completion of the new rooms, and they were very much indebted to Mr Bownass for the handsome manner in which he had responded to their wishes. (Applause). During the time the club was being erected the number of members had somewhat fallen off, but he had no doubt that before very long they would have a much larger number than they ever had, and that among them there would be a sprinkling of disgusted Liberals (Hear hear). Mr J. Croston proposed:- "That this meeting desires to record its most earnest protest against the fatal policy adopted by the Government in Ireland and Egypt, its abhorrence of their abandonment of their native allies in Africa, its disapproval of their ruinous proposal with regard to the native magistracy in India, and its distrust of their foreign policy in general." (Applause) He said he rejoiced to see the establishment of such clubs as that, because they gave evidence of the awakening of public thought, and the fact that the industrial classes were awakening to the fact that they were deceived by the representations made to them three years ago. (Hear hear). Those associations were intended to be the centres from whence should emanate political thought and political knowledge, and to afford them the opportunity of informing themselves on those great questions on which the welfare, happiness, and prosperity of the country depended. (Applause). He wished that three years ago they had had more Conservative clubs, for had they endeavoured to disseminate Conservative principles amongst the masses of the people, he believed that Lancashire and other parts of the country would have given a very different response to the appeals of Mr Gladstone than they had on that occasion (Applause). He thought they would agree with the chairman that the country had cause to be dissatisfied with the weak policy the Government had attempted to carry out. He, however, blamed not so much the members of Her Majesty's Government as those who placed them in that position (Hear hear). They were not statesmen, they never were statesmen and they never would be statesmen to the end of time (Laughter and applause). The men who stood before them three years ago were simply deluding and deceiving the people (Hear hear). The members of the Government were very amiable and well-intentioned gentlemen, but they were altogether unfit to take charge of the destinies of this great nation. He believed they did the very best they could, and they could not expect them to do any more (Laughter). As members of a parish vestry or of a board of guardians, they would, he believed, acquit themselves creditably; but when they made them members of the Government, they placed them into positions they were totally unqualified to fill (Hear hear). The Government had no settled principle; and it was because they had lacked that firmness in principle, that their policy had been the most feeble, contradictory and incompetent that this country had seen within the last century (Applause). Mr Mattinson, who seconded the motion, said he could not help thinking that if

that club was worked in the future in the same spirit which had been displayed in its establishment, it would become a most important political power in the district (Hear hear). At the present time the political weight of Rossendale in the constituency of North East Lancashire was very considerable but when the proposed changes in the franchise were made its influence would be infinitely greater. They continually heard members of the Liberal party say they were the most earnest advocates of the extension of the franchise. That profession was put to a practical test the previous night in the House of Commons, when a resolution in favour of the extension of household suffrage to the counties was moved. There were 350 Liberal members in the House of Commons, and yet 40 could not be found in their places to support the resolution, and the House was in consequence counted out. He thought he might say that the attitude of the Conservative party towards the grave question of the representation of the people was a practical one. They did not believe that, having regard to the fact that at the present time political power was wielded by the people, that the question was urgent in the sense that it ought to take precedence of a number of the useful measures which the country desired should be carried into law with as little delay as possible, but when a just and practical measure for the extension of the franchise was brought before the House of Commons it would receive the dispassionate consideration and sympathy of the whole Conservative party (Hear hear). It was owing to that party that in 1832 the farmers of England and in 1867 the working classes who were inhabitants of boroughs, were enfranchised, and when practical measure was introduced they would find the Conservative party would have a considerable hand in extending the franchise to householders in counties and putting them on the same footing as those in the boroughs (Hear hear). When that day came the influence of Rossendale would be much greater, and he hoped the working classes of that district would then be found rallying round the flag of the Conservative party supporting constitutional principles and a national policy. (Applause). The resolution was adopted. On the motion of Mr R. Assheton, seconded by Mr W. Mitchell, a second resolution was passed congratulating the Conservatives of Lancashire on the completion of the new club premises, and thanking Mr Bownass for his generosity. Thanks were also accorded on the proposition of Captain Patrick, seconded by Mr Hardman, to the Rev Lockett, for the use of the room, and on the motion by Major Mitchell, seconded by Mr R.W. Mann, the ladies' services at the tea meeting were acknowledged. The proceedings were then brought to a close.

Manchester Courier 25 Feb 1884.

The Lancashire Union of Conservative Associations Meeting in Manchester

A special meeting of the members of the executive committee of these associations was held at the Mitre Hotel, Manchester, on Saturday. Mr F.S. Powell, the chairman of the union, presided, and there was a good attendance, amongst those present being....

Mr S.C. Nicholson read the sub-committee's minutes, and also letters of apology for non-attendance from Mr J. Brooks, Mr. W.H. Houldsworth, M.P., Captain Mitchell, Mr H.H. Wainwright (Blackpool), Mr J. Croston and Mr Charles Patrick. The latter in his letter said: "I wish we had a few men down here who would speak with the same force as Lord Randolph Churchill. The old breed of the British bulldog is getting very scarce". (Laughter and Applause) (detailed description of proceedings).

Manchester Courier 16 Nov 1885

North-East Lancashire, Rossendale Division

Mr.W.F. Ecroyd's Candidature

A crowded meeting of electors in support of Mr W.F. Ecroyd, V.P., the Conservative candidate for the Rossendale Division of North-east Lancashire, was held on Saturday evening in the Baltic Mill, Waterfoot. Mr W. Buckley presided, and he was supported by Captain Patrick, Mr W. Mitchell, Mr E Hoyle, Mr R.H. Hardman, Mr H. Hardman, Mr J.S. Sutcliffe, Mr E. Lord, and others. (details of speeches)

Manchester Courier 12 Jan 1892

The Rossendale Election

(Description of various public meetings, on attempts to mobilise or limit the Irish vote, and the presence or otherwise of a division in the Unionist opinion)
...The deliberations of the Conservative leaders, representing all parts of the division, and including many of the most influential men in the Rossendale Valley, were made known yesterday to the electors in a specially prepared handbill, the contents of which are worth reproducing:-

To the Conservative Electors of the Rossendale Division>

Gentlemen – It has come to our knowledge that Mr Maden's supporters are attempting to divide the ranks of the Unionist party by circulating false statements to the effect that Sir Thomas Brooks has been selected by the Liberal Unionists alone, and thrust without consultation upon the Conservative party. This is absolutely untrue. The proposal that Sir Thomas Brooks should contest this seat was spontaneously made at a full meeting of the Joint Unionist Council by a Conservative leader, and enthusiastically approved; the formal selection was afterwards made by a sub-committee of three Conservative and two Liberal unionists, and at a subsequent council meeting, when every part of the division was fully represented, he was unanimously adopted on the motion of the Conservative leaders.

We wish most earnestly to point out to you that this election is being fought on the Irish question alone and that all other questions are of minor importance at the present moment; and we call upon you, as Conservative Unionists, to show the same spirit of patriotism in voting for a Liberal Unionist as Liberal Unionists

show in more numerous instances by supporting Conservatives such as Mr A.J. Balfour in Manchester and Lord Cranborne (Lord Salisbury's son) in Darwen. Do not let the common enemy succeed in sowing dissention in our ranks. Already they are boasting that they have fooled the Conservatives by these baseless rumours. We appeal to you, Conservatives, to undeceive them by loyally maintaining the national compact that a Liberal Unionist vacancy shall be contested by a Liberal Unionist, and a Conservative vacancy by a Conservative. The Gladstonians are becoming conscious that Brooks is winning fast, hence their malicious statements.

Gentlemen, we believe that the honour of our party and our country are safe in your hands, and that you will support both by voting for Brooks. We remain, yours faithfully,

R.H. Hardman, president, Rossendale Conservative Union, Edward Hoyle, vice-president, Rossendale Conservative Union, H.H. Bolton, John Duckworth, Henry Greenwood, Joshua Hoyle, Moorlands; William Mitchell, R.J.C. Mitchell, Charles Patrick, J.R. Ramsbottom, W.E. Suctcliffe, Benjamin Thompson, Richard Townsend, J.C. Witham.

The gentlemen whose names appear above are the accepted leaders of the party in Rossendale. They represent every Conservative Association from Haslingden to Bacup and their declaration cannot fail to carry great weight among the Conservatives of the division...

(further discussion of various meetings)

Manchester Courier 20 Jan 1892

The Rossendale Election

The Nominations

Patrick is listed amongst those assenting to the candidature of Sir Thomas Brooks, Liberal Unionist.

(Brooks lost by over 1000 votes.)

Blackburn Standard 11 March 1893

Church Defence Meeting at Cloughfold.

On Wednesday Mr W. Touchstone, of Manchester, delivered an interesting lecture on the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church, in St John's Schoolroom, Cloughfold. Captain Patrick presided, and there was a large attendance. The following resolution was unanimously passed:- "We, the members of the Cloughfold Branch of the Rossendale Constitutional Association, hereby declare our conviction that the Suspensory Bill, to disestablish and disendow that portion of the Church of England situate in Wales is a gross violation and confiscation of its rights, and injurious to its interests, and a death blow to the religion of the realm, and we earnestly hope that the House of Commons will reject this bill."

Blackburn Standard 29 April 1893

Conservative Bazaar at Waterfoot

A conservative bazaar was opened on Thursday at Waterfoot by Captain Patrick, in connection with the Newchurch District Working Men's Constitutional Association, the object being to extinguish a debt of £1000 existing on the club premises. There was a large assembly of ladies and gentlemen at the opening and the first day's proceedings realised over £500.