W J. ROGERS, JACOB STREET BREWERY,

Wishes to inform his Customers and the Public generally that, owing to other Brewers using the designation of AK for their BITTER ALES, the various qualities of Beer now being sent out from the Jacob Street Brewery WILL BEAR A DISTINCTIVE LABEL, WITH THE TRADE MARK.

Without which none will be genuine, and any Copy of the Label or Trade Mark will be treated as an infringement of the Trade Mark Registration Act.

THE OCTOBER BREWINGS ARE NOW IN FINE CONDITION. JACOB STREET BREWERY, BRISTOL.

THE WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE ELECTION.

MR. B. ST. JOHN ACKERS AT WICKWAR.

Yesterday afternoon a meeting of the supporters of Mr. B. St. John Ackers, the Conservative candidate for West Gloucestershire, was held at the Townhall, Wickwar, under the presidency of Colonel Hale. Among those present were the Rev. R. P. Davies (Charfield), the Rev. R. J. Lyon (Wickwar), the Rev. A. Bond (Cheltenham), Messrs. J. F. Robinson, John Arnold, W. Minett, F. Minett, T. Minett, Chas. Minett, Joseph Symons, Jos. Rogers, J. Rogers, J. H. Hobbs, A. Isaac, W. Mayner, Marsden (Kingswood), W. Halsey, H. Wiles, and Curnock (Hillsley).

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the electors of the Western Division of Gloucestershire were now called upon to return a member to Parliament in the place of Colonel Kingscote, who had resigned the position as one of the representatives of the division. Colonel Kingscote, he knew, was extremely esteemed in the county (applause), and all must congratulate him upon having received as substantial a recognition for his services during the many years he had served the county. (applause). At the same time these present might also congratulate themselves that no formidable an opponent to the Conservative party in the division had been removed (hear, hear), and they should not be daunted in their efforts in order to save they had the opportunity, that the large and influential party of Conservatives in the Western Division of Gloucestershire should no longer be left unrepresented in the House of Commons (cheers). It was hardly conceivable, he thought, that any man could look around and be satisfied with things as they were at the present time. He was not. (hear, hear). The foreign policy of the Government was probably a matter which had attracted most attention, and he did not believe there was a man present who did not consider that the way in which the affairs of Egypt had been managed by the Government, but more especially those in connection with the Soudan expedition, redounded to the credit of Mr. Gladstone and his supporters (laughter); but the circumstances he thought they should use every endeavour to effect a change among those who had so wofully mismanaged the affairs of the nation for some time past (cheers). To achieve such result they would have to send men to Parliament who were not likely to be led away blindly to follow one man, however eminent he might be (hear, hear)—and who were prepared to honour such measures as might be considered for the benefit of all classes of the community, as well as being ready to uphold the dignity and integrity of the British Empire (loud cheers). They had every confidence, he believed, to achieve such a result in Mr. St. John Ackers (cheers). Many of them had had an opportunity of hearing Mr. Ackers' speeches, and those who had not had no doubt read reports of his speeches, and he was sure they would see that all Mr. Ackers had put forward was satisfactory to the Conservative party (hear, hear). He trusted that on the 10th of March they would, by their votes, put Mr. Ackers where he ought to be—at the head of the poll (loud cheers).

Mr. ST. JOHN ACKERS, who was enthusiastically received, thanked the gallant chairman for the eulogistic terms in which he had referred to him and his candidature; but he wished that Colonel Hale had given the meeting his views upon the bungling policy of the Government in the Soudan (hear, hear). Ackers was not a politician, and sometimes three, meetings a day in various parts of the division, and he could not pretend to say something new in each place. He felt, however, that if they desired it was that he should point out his mind freely and fairly with regard to the present condition of things—the condition of the country when the Government went into office as contrasted with the condition of the present time, after five years rule by Mr. Gladstone and his party; and further, that he should tell them what were his views, and what line he would take if elected as their representative in Parliament (cheers). Before he proceeded to do so he should explain, seemed to take exception to his address because it was not headed in the usual way, "Gentlemen," concluding with "your obedient servant." But he (Mr. Ackers) had been informed in connection with the Liberals knew three days before the Conservatives of the division that Colonel Kingscote was about to resign, and while Sir William Marling had plenty of time to prepare his address, Mr. Ackers had not; but hurriedly as his address was got out, it appeared the same time as his opponent's, and side by side in an evening paper (hear, hear). The Conservatives of this division, there could be no doubt whatever, felt that a little roughness about his address; but still he thought it was better to have had it as it was than that it should have appeared later than his opponent's appeared. He could assure them that it was not from any discourtesy that the address did not appear with the usual formal beginning and ending, but simply due to the hurry in which it was prepared. He did not think it necessary to dwell upon the address his opponent recently gave at Berkeley—an address which seemed to give widespread dissatisfaction; for if reported accurately, it was, he thought, the most inopportune speech he had ever had read for many years (hear, hear). It had caused great dissatisfaction, and he believed it would do the Conservatives a great amount of good (cheers). He instanced that all questions that seem to agitate Berkeley district were coming over to their side, not by ones or twos, but by tens and twenties (renewed cheers). The Conservatives, however, must not be over confident although the prospect looked so promising for them. At the last election they were much too sure, and they knew the result. On the previous evening he addressed a large meeting at Frampton, and chiefly had those there he then spoke to were electors. Frampton, as they knew, was in the neighbourhood of Bristol, and vast numbers of dwellings were gradually springing up in the vicinity, the people coming from Bristol into the country to live. Hundreds of persons were coming into that district to live, which was a part of the division, but of whose political opinions they had no conception. He was sorry to say that there was no country district throughout the length and breadth of the division which was Radical. He believed the majority of the districts were strongly Conservative, and that many who were at present in favour of severing or inclined to be Liberal were now distinctly in their favour (cheers). They must endeavour to neutralise the population he had alluded to, and when it became a settled population—and it would be, he felt, to be Conservative (hear, hear). So long, then, as they had those large forces to meet in the Bristol district, he entreated them to work as earnestly as they did, if victory was to be obtained (hear, hear). He had been in many parts of the division during the present campaign, and had been told that the Conservatives were 1,000 in arrears in one place, however, he thought they were too sanguine, but at the same time he felt that it was foolish to be too confident. Several M.P.'s had addressed meetings in the House of Commons on Tuesday evening by Mr. Goschen, pointing out that the Conservatives had been all against the honest English men, to lay down straightforward lines of foreign policy (hear, hear). They could not, however, lay down a policy except of waiting for events to turn up (cheers). It was not wise to meddle with the affairs of other nations, or to be meddled with by the multitudes of its mistakes. What was that England could be governed by a Minister who did not know their own minds? (hear, hear). What could they expect from the Government, when they considered how it was constituted—that it was composed of men who did not hold the same views? There could be no two men more opposite than Lord Hartington and Mr. Chamberlain. And this was the Government which he thought was one of the most dangerous combinations of modern politics in the country. Which, of the last year or two they had come out a new and most fatal doctrine. It was that any individual member of the Cabinet might not only hold directly different opinion to his colleagues, but that he had a perfect right to go into the country and state those views just as if he was a member of the Opposition. It had been the rule of Messrs. Chamberlain and Dilke to bring forward views which, he believed, were not only not held by any other member of the Government, but which would be repudiated by many of them as they would be by Conservatives (hear, hear). They were called upon to follow a Government, which had no backbone in it, and which was ever shifting, to continue to rule the destinies of the country? (hear, hear). What had they wanted in the country? was a return to the lines of the good old English policy (cheers). Did they think for a moment, if the English Government had known their own mind, that Germany would have dared to take over a portion of South-West Africa as she had on the borders of Afghanistan? Would it remain for the borders of Afghanistan? Would it remain for the Russians then, had the Conservatives been in office at the time of the Crimean war, there as war would have been? That was at all events; and that was another cry by what the Emperor of Russia said, recently, that if he had known the English mind as he found it would never have given them the chance. He (Mr. Ackers) agreed that if this country pursued a line of policy it should in foreign policy, they would command the respect in every quarter. Coming from the question of foreign policy to home affairs, the question arose that he said in his address he doubted whether agriculturists would get any relief from the present Government, and he thought they would agree with him (hear, hear). Sir William Marling, however, thought that the nation ought to be most indebted to the Liberal Government for the line they had taken in the matter of local rates (laughter). He (Mr. Ackers) felt that they had better go back to the Conservative days, who helped local rates by grants from the Treasury, and who had wrenched from this Government £250,000 towards the helping of such rates. He argued that the Liberals had not lightened the burdens of local taxation by one farthing. Adverting to the Irish question, the speaker maintained that there had not been the slightest necessity for the great expense to which the nation had been put. If General Gordon and Sir Gerald Graham's advice had been taken, they could, at a very trifling expense—certainly not more than £100,000—have done all, and he believed more than, we should succeed now with the 15,000 troops who were going to be sent there. Speaking of General Gordon and the neglect of the Government towards that gallant soldier, Mr. Ackers asserted that the Government might have saved one of England's best men if they had acted upon the early advice they received from him. He next spoke of the conduct of the Government in the Soudan, and of the Suakim disgrace, and said that their recent action—in regard to the landing of disgraced troops at Dartford—seemed to be trifling with the food supplies of the country. Mr. Ackers concluded by detailing many of the measures he would give his special attention to if elected as their representative, and which have been given in previous speeches.

On the motion of Mr. J. F. ROBINSON, seconded by Mr. JOHN ARNOLD, the meeting unanimously agreed to :—"That this meeting approves of the candidature of Mr. St. John Ackers, and pledges itself to fight every proper person to represent the Western Division of Gloucestershire, and pledges itself to use every endeavour to secure his election." (Applause).

Three cheers were then given for Mr. Ackers, who, in returning thanks, said, if he (Mr. Ackers) felt in the matters ever consider the opinions of those best qualified to judge, and he should be delighted to do so if he believed he was right (cheers).

The Rev. R. P. DAVIES (Charfield), in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, said that some people thought that a clergyman was out of his place in taking part in a political meeting. He (the speaker) could give some subjects in which a clergyman might better stand aside; but he felt he should be wanting in his duty if he did not support the Conservative or National party at the present crisis. It was part of their duty to foster patriotism (applause), and patriotism would now be to altogether forgotten by the other side (applause), and therefore they must join the banner and support in which England was held five or six years ago. Speaking of Sir William Marling's address to the electors, he criticised, Mr. Davies said Sir William congratulated them upon the present price of cattle (laughter); but he (the speaker) thought a slaughter of cattle was a singularly peculiar opinion of the intelligence of the working men if he thought they would follow that (laughter and applause).

The Rev. R. J. LYON seconded the vote of thanks to the chairman, which was carried.

Colonel HALE having replied, the meeting, which was throughout of a very enthusiastic character, terminated.

In the evening Mr. Ackers addressed a meeting of his supporters at Winterbourne, dwelling at length on the general policy of the Government and also on agricultural topics, his remarks being similar to those previously reported. He promised, if returned to Parliament, to uphold religious education in the country schools, and also a scientific and practical training for rural life—a policy which they should not only know, but which would command the support as well (hear, hear). He also felt it his best to get all classes of property to contribute their fair share towards the burdens of the State, and he should, as a member, endeavour to inquire into the present condition of trade and agriculture (cheers). In national matters he should vote as he believed in his conscience to be right, and in matters local he should consider the opinion of those best qualified to judge (applause). A resolution was adopted approving of the candidature of Mr. Ackers, and the meeting pledged itself to use every effort to secure his return.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BRISTOL TIMES AND MIRROR.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Several letters are unavoidably held over.

LORD FITZHARDINGE AND THE WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE ELECTION.

SIR,—The "Old Whig" from Thornbury tells us that "Fears are forbidden to interfere in election proceedings." Certainly, for Fitzhardinge and Co. there is no penalty for doing so may not be great, for the day following Sir W. Marling's Radical speech at Berkeley the Liberals were in possession of the Conservative seat for the first time since 1832. Elton Clifford (the son of the earth they had established at the Townhall, from which Sir Michael Hicks-Beach addressed his constituents) and Sir Richard Webster.

The "Old Whig" is mistaken about Mr. J. H. Cooke's conduct. Mr. Cooke, as a Liberal, has a perfect right to express his opinion to the view of his principal," and it is well known by the Berkeley tenantry that Mr. Cooke, Chance's meeting at Berkeley, and that he is talking to Conservatives when he says he is not likely that Mr. Ackers' committee, which consists of such names as the Chairman, Colonel Hale, Elton Clifford (the son of the earth), Hon. Edgar Gifford, Mr. G. B. Jenkinson, Mr. H. O. L. Baker, Mr. Gilbert Wright, Mr. Wilson, Mr. T. Bailey, Mr. Curnock, and Mr. Croome (all either relations or intimate friends of Lord Fitzhardinge) would be composed of the voters up to the county hall of the Castle, if they had not his lordship's tacit approval of all they say and do.

B.

February 26th, 1885.

WEST GLOUCESTERSHIRE ELECTION.

SIR,—The addresses of the candidates for the Western Division lie before me—the one bold, manly, straightforward, and intelligible; the other just of an opposite character, prating about "Democracy, not democratic," "Democracy, not democratic" with the Liberal party, "Democracy, not democratic" with the Liberal party, "Democracy, not democratic" with the Liberal party,