

# SIR CHARLES IN HALIFAX.

A Splendid Popular  
Ovation.

ELOQUENT SPEECH BY THE  
CONSERVATIVE LEADER.

In Halifax, on Thursday, a popular ovation was tendered Sir Charles Tupper. There was an excursion in the harbor followed by an address to the veteran leader, and a speech in reply. In the course of his speech Sir Charles said—we quote the Halifax Herald's report:

"I dare say you know that when Sir Wilfrid Laurier returned from England on the occasion of the great jubilee, where he properly received such marks of high consideration from Her Majesty the Queen and from the government of Great Britain, as well as from the people of that great city of London,—I dare say you know that on his return he made some very interesting speeches. At that time, when my right honorable friend made his visit to England, Canada had attained rather a high position. It had accomplished the great confederation which had united these scattered provinces from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast under one government. It had removed those antagonistic tariffs that separated all these various provinces from each other. It had accomplished one of the most gigantic works that five millions of people ever accomplished on the face of the globe—the construction of the great inter-oceanic railway which, from where the waters of the Atlantic touch the lovely country of Cape Breton, traverses in British territory throughout until it reaches the shores of the Pacific. (Applause.) And when we had incurred all the liabilities that such gigantic works involved, even then the credit of Canada stood at the highest point it had ever attained, so that Canada could enter the money markets of the world and borrow all the money she required on better terms than

ANY OTHER COUNTRY ON THE

FACE OF THE GLOBE,

England alone excepted. That was the position of things then. And not only that, but every person knew that before Sir Wilfrid Laurier visited England, Canada had attained not only the entire control and management of her own affairs, but she attained such a status as a nation as a country that not only were no treaties entered into by the British government touching the interests of Canada, without Canada being a consenting party, but the privilege and right had been accorded to Canada of having her sons nominated as plenipotentiaries by Her Majesty the Queen to negotiate treaties concerning matters in which the interests of Canada were especially at stake. (Applause.) I say, therefore, we have reached a position of which any country in the world, in my judgement, might be proud. Well, you can imagine my amusement and astonishment, when I read a speech made by Sir Wilfrid to the people of the province of Quebec on his return from England, declaring that until he had accomplished the gigantic work of getting the treaties between Great Britain and Belgium and Germany denounced, Canada was a mere blotch upon the map. (Laughter.) This country that we knew was attracting the admiration of the civilized world, this country which had accomplished such wonderful progress during the thirty years of its federation, we found out was only a blotch upon the map until Sir Wilfrid Laurier went to London. (Laughter.) Well, if that is not a very tall adjective, I do not know what one is, and I think you will agree with me that it is as remarkable as any your humble servant has ever used in the course of his public life. Therefore I must say that my distinguished friend paid me too high a compliment when he stated I could not set or adjacatives than anyone else he knew. (Laughter.) But, sir, he was good enough not to claim all the credit for himself. He said that that

GREAT WORK WHICH HAD MADE CANADA A NATION

was accomplished not by himself, it was brought about by Mr. Fielding. Fielding's preferential tariff had done it! I will prove to you in a couple of minutes there was no foundation whatever for this statement. The work of securing the denunciation of the German and Belgium treaties was a work that had occupied the attention of all the colonies for a great many years; it was a work that the statesmen of all the self-governing colonies of the Empire were dealing with, and when I make the statement that the denunciation of these treaties was effected as a result of the efforts of all these statesmen I have the highest authority that can be produced,—the Right Honorable Joseph Chamberlain, who stated on the floor of the House of Commons how the denunciation of these treaties was brought about, and we have the wises' possible contradiction of

WHAT SIR WILFRED LAURIER SAID.

Mr. Chamberlain stated: "I called all the premiers of the colonies,—of Australasia, Australia, South Africa, Canada, and of Newfoundland, together, and I said to them, 'I want to know whether after an examination of this question in all its bearings you are unanimous in favor of the German and Belgium treaties being

denounced.' These gentlemen held a meeting and they passed a resolution requesting the Colonial Secretary to take steps to have the denunciation of the treaties effected; and they put on record a declaration that if the treaties were denounced, they would submit to their respective parliaments the propriety of giving the Mother Country

PREFERENTIAL TARIFF—

MEET IN THEIR TARIFFS

over other countries; and in response to that, Mr. Chamberlain said, Her Majesty's government had decided to denounce the treaties. And now what next do we find? We find Mr. Fielding, after having been paid this unjust and unworthy compliment by the premier, standing in the presence of public men of England at a banquet at Sheffield, and declaring that the denunciation of the German treaties was brought about by the united action of all the premiers and of the representatives of these colonies in England, in which Canada has joined. So I could say, as a suggestion to my right honorable friend, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, that when he again addressed an intelligent body of citizens in the city of Halifax he should have better grounds for his assertions than he had on that occasion. But what more did he say? He said all these things had been brought about by the.

PREFERENTIAL TARIFF MR.

FIELDING HAD BROUGHT DOWN.

He did not know, I suppose he thought it was a preferential tariff. But we discussed the matter in parliament and we showed him that a great many other countries would participate in the tariff duty. We were told we were altogether mistaken, but when they came to have the question tried out by the law officers of the crown they found we were right and Mr. Fielding and his preferential tariff was all wrong and that no tariff could give the preference to England which was constructed on such lines. Mr. Fielding, himself, stated on the floor of the House of Commons that there was no preference; so that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was altogether wrong in the first place in saying Mr. Fielding was entitled to the credit of securing the denunciation of the treaties, and in the second place

THERE WAS NO PREFERENCE AT ALL

as he innocently supposed there was. Now I was pleased to see Sir Wilfrid visiting this city, because I think it did him some good. I am sure the opportunity was not lost by the intelligent people of Halifax of hearing him, but they found he had made a very great mistake on a very important occasion. He told you—and I am confining myself entirely to his speech on an occasion when he said he should not touch on any questions of a political character, and therefore I am keeping quite within the mark—he told you he observed that the elevator which Tupper had constructed was burnt, and he said "I am informed it has not been mised." Well now it is very fortunate he made that statement because his friends have taken the best means in their power

TO CONVINCING HIM HE MADE

A GREAT MISTAKE, and we now find that upon that which he endeavored to throw cold water he now is spending money again. I trust you will have a finer elevator than ever before, and that you will see most valuable use put to it. This is an encouraging incident as it shows that these gentlemen are capable of improving, and that in this case such has been the fact. Well next we find him speaking upon the policy of 1879,—I need not say that was the National Policy, and he endeavored to show that that policy had utterly failed. Why, gentlemen, who does not know that if ever a policy in the history of any country in the world justified itself and vindicated its framers and showed its unqualified value to every section of the country, it is the policy of 1879. (Applause.) What was the population of Canada in 1879? The protection that Canada enjoyed for the first five years of our national existence, arising from the destruction of the industries of the United States of America caused by the deplorable

INTERNECINE WAR RAGING IN THAT COUNTRY has passed away. Under that protection we were able not only to supply our own needs, but we found a large market in the United States as well. The close of the war brought that to an end. A high protective tariff was brought in by the government of the United States, and under it gigantic industries grew up and soon they were not only able to manufacture everything their own people required, but to make a slaughter market of Canada for

their surplus products. What was the result? Canadian hands had no opportunity of doing the work that Canadians required on Canadian soil, and a period of the greatest depression existed. But the people of Canada placed the Conservatives in power. We came in with the colors of protection nailed to the mast, and we founded the policy of 1879, and with what result?

I will give you a

LITTLE ILLUSTRATION

that comes home to us here in Nova Scotia. In taking up that valued paper, the Morning Chronicle, I find it draws my attention to the failure of my prophecy in reference to the national policy. I may say to you that the first campaign speech in the election of 1878 was made in sign of the international pier at Sydney Harbour by your humble servant, and on that occasion, looking down before me on the town where the people had no work to do and where the harbor was destitute of shipping, I ventured to say that I believed the policy we propounded would so expand the industries of the country that there would be a forest of masts to be seen at no distant day in the harbour of Sydney. Well, the Chronicle made itself very merry over this simile of the forest of masts. It is true they are not there, but why? It could not see in 1878 that in the year 1898 masts would have disappeared from shipping. (Laughter.)

BUT THE SHIPS ARE THERE ALL RIGHT.

Go to the international pier to day and you will find not only that pier with its two gigantic engines costing over \$20,000 each, for the purpose of loading coal more rapidly, placed on that pier, which in 1878 was idle, and you will also find another pier which the Dominion Coal Co., were compelled to build, and with those two combined they are now shipping 20,000 tons of coal and all the consolation the poor Chronicle gets is that masts have gone out of use. That is an illustration of what is taking place all over Canada. Under the impetus of that national policy we were not only able to propound and carry out a scheme for the deepening of our canals to a depth of fourteen feet and to spend millions of money in so doing, but we were also able to carry on that other great work, the construction of the great inter-oceanic railway, upon which you can enter the cars at Sydney, and without once leaving British territory travel across the continent to the Pacific. Yet it appears that the policy of 1879 is to be made the subject—as it is purely a non party question—(laughter)—of my being held up to ridicule. Now you will suppose I have exhausted

the non-political subjects Sir Wilfrid Laurier managed to crowd into this memorable speech. But there was another still. He ventured to talk to the citizens of Halifax about the mode in which confederation had been carried in this province. I say that Sir Wilfrid should be the last man living to talk about confederation. When he was in the city of London he said that Canada occupied a position of which he was proud. What gave her that position? Was it not

THE CONFEDERATION OF THESE PROVINCES

that had hitherto been antagonistic to each other—towards the accomplishment of which both parties in Nova Scotia and Canada had spent fifty years in striving for? I say that that policy was one of which everyone who heard him was proud of. But he referred to the Hon. Joseph Howe, and he said that Joe Howe was not against confederation, but against the mode in which Nova Scotia has been dragged into confederation. Let me say this to the citizens of Halifax: You all know that how was the great political giant of the other side, and you know we had many fierce struggles in the legislature but you know that when the time came, when the interest of Canada required it, both of us united heart and soul in doing the best we could for our common country. But now, Sir, the premier is compelled to lead confederation to the death, and there would be no confederation in Canada and no great railway and none of the great things which Sir Wilfrid Laurier is able to boast today if the party of which he is the leader could have had their way. Yet still he takes time at an agricultural exhibition to denounce me and to appear concerned about the manner in which confederation had been carried: When, however, this question was brought up in the House of Commons I settled it forever, and no one has ventured to raise the question again. At the Quebec Conference at which George Brown, William McDougall and Oliver Mowat were present it was decided and with their approval, that the confederation should be

CARRIED BY THE

EXISTING LEGISLATURES

and without its being first admitted to the people. That was the decision arrived at. Therefore my honorable friend could not bring any charge home to me that could not be brought home against the leaders of the Liberal party. But what more? His party, the Rouge party of Quebec—he was in pinafores himself then—offered a resolution that confederation should not be carried without being refer-

(Continued on page 5.)

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