



Plate 4—Sir Donald Smith (later Lord Strathcona) driving the last spike, 1885, November 7, completing the C. P. Railway across Canada. The outstanding personality in the centre of the crowd is Sandford Fleming, the Chief Engineer, who constructed the Railway from Coast to Coast.—The late Sir William Van Horne is the stout man in the square bowler hat.

Next morning each took a copy of the draft to his lawyer, **both of whom repudiated** it as unacceptable. They wanted the case to be fought out to a finish, even if that required a month-long fight. Sandford Fleming in the interests of both advised both friends to take his draft settlement to the Court and ask the Judge to advise what should be done. The Judge cordially urged them to accept it and gave his approval. That dismayed the lawyers; but the two litigants joined hands while Sandford Fleming went to the station to travel home. While waiting for the train their messenger brought him an envelope containing a handsome cheque, with cordial thanks for the helpful service he had given them, without any desire for that reward.—If that spirit could permeate the actions of leading statesmen (many of whom live noble lives) when quarrels arise or rather before they become intense and lead to wars, what an incalculable loss of lives, devastating misery and destruction could be prevented and turned to help all humanity.

(2) Is typical of his ever extended patience and skill in dealing with the self-centred designs of governmental authorities in all Nations. This example resulted from his well-directed efforts to encourage the British, Canadian and

Australian governments to unite by partnership to provide and lay the Pacific Cable from Canada to Australia, as the second link in his embryo chain of the Empire's cables around the world.

**THE PACIFIC CABLE.** The great success of the first and second Atlantic Cables laid by British authorities to New York (in 1858 and 1867), enlisted the interest of Sandford Fleming. His extension of the telegraph from Halifax to Vancouver Island on the Pacific had spread daily news more than half way to Australia. He knew the practical advantages that would result from the use of his proposed Pacific Cable, and was surprised by finding his efforts were being thwarted by British government authorities; but he never resented such opposition. He went to England to ascertain its cause.

He located the self interest of the eastwards Cable companies who had great business in India and had profited by the increasing cabled news and business use of their extension to Australia. He traced their influence on the Colonial and Foreign Offices directing the British government's dealings with Australia, Canada and the United States. The following is a brief summary of Sandford Fleming's 23 years of continuous effort to bring the Pacific Cable into use.