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#### STEPHENS RALLY

Continued from page two.

vere so trivial that they could not b counted in the grand display.

Amongst foes as well as friends there was not one who did not feel more proud of Canada in 1904 than they did in 1901. Our ancestors had come from far away and had brought with them a love of the land of their birth Canada in the old days was dear to us, but love for our country increas-ed as Canada advanced.

ed as Canada advanced.

Eight years ago Canada was unknown in Great Britain. To-day that
name is a household word in every
part of the United Empire. The Coaservatives claimed that one cause was pervatives claimed that one cause was responsible for this. They gave the Liberals no credit. They said, "It is the work of Providence." Sir Wilfrid was ready to agree with them. Providence always worked through human agency and if Providence chose the Liberals instead of the Conservatives, as the agents, he didn't servatives, as the agents, he didn't see why the electors should interfere with the work of Providence. The first of the measures that lifted Can ada from a position of inferiority was the Preferential tariff given to

was the Preferential tariff given to the goods of Great Britain in 1897. The Hon. Geo. E. Foster, late min-ister of finance of the Conservative party, speaking of the preferential tariff in Toronto lately would not give the Liberals any credit for thinking it out. He said they stum-bled on it. The Conservatives had 18 years in office and had never made so hanny a stumble. The Liberals 18 years in office and had never made so happy a stumble. The Liberals had inaugurated the preferential tarifff because they thought it would improve the trade relations between England and Canada. Whether they had stumbled on it or invented it, in April, 1897, the Liberals faunched it as their policy and Canada had at once became famous. It brought above once become famous. It brought also national dignity and honor to Canada, Prior to that time the name of Canada had been anknown in Europe, Now it is known on the continent. Something soon occurred in reference to this policy. Old treaties were dis-covered with Germany in reference to the trade made in the old days and almost forgotten. The British Government were petitioned to do away with these treaties. They re-fused. In that same year Sir Wil-frid had been called to England. It frid had been called to England. It was the year of the Diamond Jubilee. When he landed in Liverpool, he put the question of doing away with these old treaties before the people of Great Britain. The question was taken up and discussed at public meetings and in the press, and two months arterwards the treaties were done away with. This created a sensation all over Europe. The small colony of Canada had forced Great Britain to take that course. In Europe there were thousands of men who had never heard of Canada.

Governments always have their dif-

Governments always have their difficulties. The Liberals had had theirs. They settled one troublesome question in question in 1896 and they have settled others that arose.

They had had trouble with Ger They had had trouble with Germany. When Great Britain negotiated a treaty with Germany, the latter country said that they would not give Canada the same preference that they did Great Britain. They insisted on imposing on Canada a discriminating tariff. The Liberals protested and negotiated and waited not be ed and negotiated and waited, not be cause they loved Germany, but be-cause they loved England more. For three years they negotiated with the German Government to have the discrimination reduced and, failing, Canada in 1903 imposed a duty Canada

He had heard Mr. Borden talking about scandals. Except one or two bad appointments that had been made. Sir Wilfrid saw nothing for which the Liberals could be blamed and they were too small to bother discussing. He had come, however, to discuss the

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ailway question and to take issue with everything told by Mr. Border Every inch of the road would be of the road would be on Canadian soil the road would be on Canadian soil and it was a commercial necessity. When the Liberals launched their railroad policy, Mr. Rorden first took the position that he would not have the railroad as proposed but that he would have a line from the Atlantic to the Pacific by purchasing part of the Canada Atlantic and assisting the Canada Northern to complete its road. This policy had never excited the enthusiasm of his followers and was This policy had never excited the enthusiasm of his followers and was abandoned. He next suggested that the Intercolonial be extended to Georgiau Bay. That lasted three months, He then proposed that the railroad be built from the Atlantic to the Pacific but that it should be owned and operated by the Gevernment. The Conservatives said that Liberals proposed to build the road for the Grand Trunk and supply 9-10 of the capital while the Grand Trunk Pacific supplied 1-10. The country furnished nearly all the G. T. P. got all the profits. This was not so. The terms of the contract were that the road should be divided into two sections. One section from

into two sections. One section from Winnipeg to the east should be built by the government and be leased by the Grand Trunk Pacific and the rent the Grand Trunk Pacific and the rent should be enough to give, three per cent. on the cost of the road. The government expected to borrow the money at three per cent. and the part of the road would cost seventy millions. Thus the rental would pay for the cost of the road and the cost to the county wouldn't be one cent. to the county wouldn't be one cent.
That was the eastern section. In regard to the other section from Winni-That was the eastern section. In regard to the other section from Winnipeg to the coast, the Grand Trunk Pacific was to build the road and the Government was to give a guarantee for 3-4 of the cost of construction, Across the prairies in some places the cost would not be more than \$13,000 a mile. Of course, there was always a chance that the man who endorsed would have to pay but the Government never expected to pay. Throughout the west, settlers were flocking in and as the country grew, the road would pay. The Liberals didn't expect that the road would pay for the first year or so. It would take some years before it would pay interest on the capital. The seven years' interest would be about 13 1-2 millions, which sum was less than the surplus last year. Mr. Borden became economical since the purse was no longer in their hands. Mr. Borden's plan was to build the road at an estimated cost of one hundred millions and let the country pay for it. Therefore Canada would have to borrow one hundred millions. The country now has to pay the interest on the Intercolonial. It has never borrow one hundred millions. The country now has to pay the interest on the Intercolonial. It has never paid a cent of interest on the capital invested. It has never paid running expenses. The Intercolonial has been operated for twenty-five years at a cost of two hundred and ninety-two millions and only eighty-four millions have been received in revenue. In the face of this exampple of government operation, they had a man ask-

ment operation, they had a man asking to construct a larger road.

The intercolonial had been man-The intercolonial had been managed by the best men the country had produced. Alexander McKenzie managed it for three years, Sir Chas. Tupper, Sir John A. Macdonald, John Haggart and Mr. Blair all tried their hand but without success. Whether it was managed by Grits or Tories the result was always the same, always a deficit. Mr. Borden said that he was going to change all this and make the Intercolonial pay, but

where could he find men superior to Alexander McKenzie, Sir Chas. Tup-per, Sir John A. or the others. It wasn't the men who were deficient was not the men who were deticient but the system was wrong. A rail-way managed by a Government couldn't be operated as successfully as one owned by a company. The Conservatives were very proud of their party. When Mr. Borden undertakes to say that he would have a railroad managed by the Govern-ment, he goes back on the policy of their party. The Liberals never offered any opposition to Sir John A. Macdonald when in 1881 he gave his reasons why the Government should not own the C. P. R.

Sir Wilfrid in conclusion said that

he hoped to live long enough to see the road in full blast and operation and carrying the products of Canada all over the world.

When Sir Wilfrid had concluded the

Rev. Constable Brown, of Blenheim, who occuped a seat on the plat-form, rose and asked Sr Wilfrid the same question he had asked Mr. Borden, i. e., what the prohibitionists might expect of him and his party if returned to power. Sir Wilfrid said that when the Liberal convention met in Ottawa in 1893 the question of prohibition was considered. Many were in favor of prohibition Many were not. He himself was a temperance man but not a pro-hibitionist and in the ranks of the Liberal party there were both. Therefore it was decided that a plebiscite would be taken and if a sufficient majority justified it, the country should be given prohibition. The plebiscite had been taken and there plebiscite had been taken and there was a small majority of 10,000 in favor of prohibition, but the vote was very small. Sir Wilfrid said that although Quebee had voted very strongly against the plebiscite still there could be found parish after parish where there was prohibition. After the result of the plebiscite was made known, then the matter was made known, then the matter was meferred to the provinces for themselves to settle. So long as public opinion remained as it was Sir Wilfrid didn't think that any further frid didn't think that any furthe legislation should be enacted.

The Hon. Mr. Patterson spoke at some length. He said that the Liberals had broken all pledges but had carried out the promises they had made, as nearly as they could. The Liberals hadn't reduced the national debt, but they hadn't increased it, although they had spent more than the Conservatives. Although the national debt hadn't been reduced in total still it was smaller per head of population than in 1896. The duty too had been reduced. In 1896 there was an average duty paid of \$18.20 on every \$100 worth of goods brought into Canada. Now the average is \$16. Mr. Patterson repeated the figures in reference to trade that George in reference to trade that George Stephens had already given. He also repeated what Sir Wilfrid Laurier had said in regard to the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Fred Stone, at the conclusion of Fred Stone, at the conclusion of Mr. Patterson's speech, said that during the past few days a charge had been made against the Liberal candidate, Mr. Stephens. According to Mr. Stone it was not a political charge but a "mean personal charge." Mr. Stephens gave it the denial it deserved. Mr. Stephens had according to Mr. Stephens had a Stephens gave it the denial it deserved. Mr. Stephens had promised refutation of the charge and he would give it at a meeting to beheld at Pain Court. Monday night, and the man who made the charge had been invited to be present. Tuesday it was expected that the evidences furnished would be published in the press and circulated all over the country. Mr. Stephens had trusted his reputation Stephens had trusted his reputation in the hands of his constituents for

a week with perfect confidence.
R. H. Sutherland, of Windsor, spoke in eulogy of Mr. Stephens. He said four years ago he hadn't known Mr. Stephens but he knew him now. This seemed to be a certificate that Mr. Stephens was now very well known indeed. Afterwards Sir Wilfrid spoke words in French to his compatriots and the meeting closed with the usual cheers.

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