



THE CHARGE OF THE RATHER LIGHT BRIGADE, IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

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The Charge.

I

Four o'clock, four o'clock
The tower clock thundered,
Into the division list
Rushed the half hundred—
N. P.'s to right of them—
N. P.'s to left of them—
N. P.'s in front of them—
Threefold outnumbered.

II

Take the vote, JOHN A. said—
Was there a Grit dismayed?
Not though MACKENZIE knew
The country had blundered.
Stormed at with N. P. yells,
Boldly they rose and well,
Boldly their vote to tell,
Noble half hundred.

III

Rose all at once in air—
Rose with their scalplocks bare,
Voting the tariff down,
While the world wondered;
Each hero unappalled
Stood till his name was called—
Then they sat down again,
Just half a hundred.

IV.

Then, when the vote was o'er,
Came a derisive roar,
Vollying and thundering
From N. P.'s to right of them—
N. P.'s to left of them—
N. P.'s behind them—
Threefold outnumbering.

V.

No'er shall the glory fade
Of the wild vote they made,
'Gainst the N. P. arrayed—
Not to be plundered!
Honor the charge they made,
Honor the light brigade,
(Rather too light we'er 'fraid
E'en to bring back Free Trade),
Noble half hundred!

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