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LIBERAL LEADERS' TALK.

HON. WILFRED LAURIER AND SIR RICHARD AT OAKVILLE.

A Great Day of Politics in Halton—An Enthusiastic Reception of the Eminent Quebecker and His First Lieutenant—What They Had to Tell the Electors.

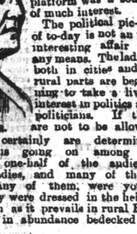
HERE WILL BE an election out in Halton a week from to-day, and it is no wonder that the people of that county, at the present writing, are pretty well worked up with excitement. Halton was one of the first electoral districts to adopt the Scott Act, which it six months ago repealed. Whiskey now flows as free as water all over the county; in fact it always did, only the back-door business has been done away with.

But although Halton has repealed the Scott Act, Prohibition is one of the liveliest issues of the present campaign. Both of the candidates have sat in the House of Commons, and both have been unseated. Mr. John Waldie, who is said to have a long purse and a red-hot ambition to get back into Parliament, floats the Liberal farmer, and Mr. David Henderson, who held the seat during last session but since displaced, nails his colors to the mast head of the Old Man. Mr. Henderson's majority over Mr. McLeod at the last election was 140. The coming contest will be a close one, and it is anyone's battle. Evidently it is a case of whiskey or no whiskey. Shall the people go dry or shall they permit the licensed vending of wet goods in their midst? If history does repeat itself, the inhabitants of Halton won't go dry: Scott Act or no Scott Act, Mr. Henderson has put himself on record as in favor of Prohibition, while Mr. Waldie won't declare himself.

The Great man Liberals to the Rescue.

It was no wonder, then, that under the circumstances the Young Liberals of Toronto should seize upon the opportunity of lending a helping hand to Mr. Waldie, even if it had to be done in a round about way. Yesterday was the civic holiday in both the Queen City and Oakville, and the occasion was seized upon to hold a demonstration and picnic at the latter place under the auspices of the Toronto Young Liberal Club, and Hon. Wilfrid Laurier, leader of the Reform party, and Sir Richard Cartwright, one of his right lieutenants, were announced as features of the day. And very acceptable features they proved to be to the 1200 people who gathered under the grateful shade of the trees in George's Grove yesterday afternoon and listened to the great orators who came to tackle the enemy, and the Old Man in particular.

It was the Young Liberal Club that brought Mr. Laurier to Toronto in December of 1886, whereon the 11th of that month he made his great speech in the Pavilion in defence of his action in connection with the Riel embroglio. Mr. Laurier, on that occasion, made a decidedly favorable impression on his great audience, and he was equally successful yesterday. But this time he was good enough to bring Mme. Laurier with him, and her presence on the platform was a source of much interest.



MME. LAURIER.

The political pic-nic of to-day is not an uninteresting affair by any means. The ladies, both in the cities and in rural parts are beginning to take a lively interest in politics and politicians. If they are not to be allowed to vote, they certainly are determined to hear what is going on among the politicians. Fully one-half of the audience yesterday was ladies, and many of them, a real good many of them, were young and pretty. They were dressed in the height of summer fashion as it prevails in rural Halton, and flowers in abundance bedecked the corsage.

Going to the Fete.

Probably about 600 or 700 people went out from Toronto to the picnic. Mr. Lyman Lee, president of the Young Liberal Club of Hamilton, headed a deputation from the Ambitious City. A special train left Union Station at 9.30 a.m. with the bulk of the Toronto visitors on board, and the 12.20 express carried many more. A goodly number of the Toronto visitors also went by the Chicora, preferring the cool breezes of the Lake to the pent-up and crowded trains. Mr. Laurier, Mrs. Laurier, Mr. J. D. Edgar and Mrs. Edgar reached the depot from Mr. Edgar's residence at 12.10. The ladies were shown to the parlor car, and Mr. Laurier spent a few minutes on the platform shaking hands and submitting to introductions. The leader looked remarkably well, the very picture of health. He was dressed in a black Prince Albert coat with satin facings and wore a pair of dark slate-colored pants with white stripes down them. A prettily draped white "christy" sat gracefully over the profuse dark locks, which are just beginning to be tinged with grey. Mrs. Laurier wore a closely-fitting straw-colored travelling suit and Mrs. Edgar wore a similar outfit, slate-hued. Sir Richard Cartwright, the most conspicuous part of whose wardrobe was a panama straw hat, was in the depot when Mr. Laurier arrived and their meeting was enthusiastic.

The train reached Oakville at 1.15. The Massey Band of Toronto and the Oakville Brass Band were attheir station, and they headed a procession which escorted the distinguished visitors to the Campbell House where they had lunch.

Waiting for the Orators.

In the meantime the pionickers had gathered in the grove and anxiously awaited the arrival of the orators of the day. They got to the grove at 2.30, and at once took seats on the platform. So did Mrs. Laurier and Mrs. Edgar. When The World looked around there he saw quite an aggregation of Reform lights, in addition to Mr. Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright. Lets see: Wentworth sent down its old warhorse Joe Rymal, ex-M.P., Nick Awrey, M.P.P., and Thomas Bain, M.P. Mr. Rymal brought his sledge-hammer with him and he did good execution with it be-

HON. WILFRID LAURIER.

SIR RICHARD CARTWRIGHT.

fore the day was over. He looked hale and hearty and good for many a years to come, although he had a great wrestle for life several months ago. Mr. Awrey as usual had his whiskers parted in the middle, but they were so carefully combed and oiled that the wind, altho' it was a bit breezy did not blow through them. "Nick" and Ourselves were born in adjoining saw-mills, attended the same log school house and said our catechism in the same mud meeting-house, near the Corners. Out of consideration for these youthful endearments

"Nick" has promised to go into Cardwell and give the Butter-and-Egg candidate a lift, provided the party managers don't object. Mr. Bain kept among the crowd, but he is giving Mr. Waldie vigorous aid at his meetings.

From North Brant came Mr. James Somerville, M.P.; from North Oxford appeared Mr. "Jim" Sutherland, the happy-go-lucky member for that fruitful district. North Victoria sent its blonde member, Mr. John Augustus Barron, but Mr. Barron did not bring his spouse with him. Mr. Somerville got off one on Mr. Laurier during the afternoon. He told his leader this—that he should not feel lonesome, because there was at least one French Canadian in the audience. "Where is he?" eagerly asked Mr. Laurier. "Over there," said Jim, pointing to Mr. Richard Gwyler, the ebony-colored politician from Hamilton.

Hon. G. W. Ross was there, still suffering with rheumatism in the right hand, and afraid, therefore, to shake hands with a Scotchman. Mr. Ross did not make a speech and left the grove at 4 o'clock to keep an engagement in town.

Mr. James McMullen, M.P., came all the way from Wellington.

Organizer Preston, although not the biggest man on the platform, was one of the most important.

Mr. Joe Tait, who it is said never missed a Reform gathering that was ever held within 50 miles of Toronto for the past twenty years, was not missing. Mr. Tait will probably remember this visit to Oakville, for he had not been in town five minutes before a man borrowed two dollars from him.

Dr. J. H. Gilmour, M. P. P.

Others present were Rev. Father Hayden, who greeted Mme. Laurier in French when she stepped upon the platform, Wm. Sexton, ex-M. P. P., J. H. Preston, Bryan Lynch, J. B. Edwards, Geo. Ritchie, Robt. Gilray, Robert McLean, Wm. Neeland, Daniel Rose, of Toronto.

Then there were some gentlemen in the audience who seemed to take a deep interest in the proceedings.

Ex.-Ald. John Turner was one of them. So was Broker T. Lownsborough. John Mallon, the eminent St. Lawrence market-butcher, was all attention. Dan. A. Rose was away on the outskirts.

Citizen F. S. Spence flitted through the crowd, and when not shaking hands with prospective plumpers, Mr. Waldie frequently flitted with that gentleman and talked about Prohibition, but they could not come to any binding arrangement on that question.

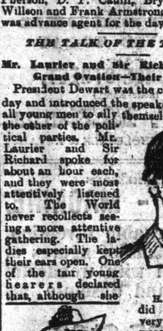
The Hamilton Young Men's Liberal Club was largely represented, about 150 of its members being present. The officers of the club are: President, Lyman Lee; Vice-Presidents, C. F. Washington and Dr. Fairchild; Secretary, Thos. Morris; Treasurer, G. E. Gould; Executive Committee—F. McBrayne, W. H. Clark, Calvin Davis and J. Gotenby.

The officers of the Toronto Young Men's Liberal Club are: President, H. H. Dewart; Vice-Presidents, R. Donald, jr., G. H. Smith and James Knowles, jr.; Corresponding Secretary, R. Patching; Recording Secretary, James H. Falconer; Executive Committee—A. M. Dymond, T. C. Robinette, R. U. McPherson, D. F. Cahill, Bryan Lynch, J. S. Willson and Frank Armstrong. Mr. Wilson was advance agent for the day.

THE TALK OF THE TALKERS.

Mr. Laurier and Sir Richard Receive a Grand Ovation—Their Speeches.

President Dewart was the chairman of the day and introduced the speakers. He advised all young men to ally themselves with one or the other of the political parties. Mr. Laurier and Sir Richard spoke for about an hour each, and they were most attentively listened to. The World never recollects seeing a more attentive gathering. The ladies especially kept their ears open. One of the tair young hearers declared that, although she did not understand very much what they were talking about, yet she enjoyed it more than anything in the shape of a lecture that she had ever attended.



H. H. DEWART.

Nearly all the maids and matrons present seemed to be very much taken up with Mr. Laurier's personal appearance, and many flattering remarks were passed about the gentleman from Quebec. But both while he was speaking and after the picnic was over,

ONE OF THE FAIR HEARERS.

there was not a word said about the political situation.

Mr. Waldie Gets in His Work.

While the assemblage awaited the arrival of Mr. Laurier and party, Mr. Waldie seized the opportunity to address the electors of the constituency. He received a warm welcome when he appeared on the platform, accompanied by Mr. Rymal.

He commenced by announcing to all whom it concerned the position in which he stood before the electors of Halton. He reminded his audience that he had already represented Halton for one session of Parliament, and they knew how he had spoken and voted while holding a seat in the House of Commons. To the principles he had enunciated then he would remain staunch, and the course he had then pursued he believed he would have the privilege of following during the next session. [Cheers.] He had not attended the demonstration for the purpose of speaking himself, but he came to hear gentlemen who had time and again made great sacrifices for principle and party. It was not his meeting but he took advantage of it to say a few words on his own behalf. He was deeply interested, as a manufacturer, in the policy of the Government of the country. He was interested in 300 looms that were now lying idle for want of greater room in which to dispose of their products.

He believed that unrestricted reciprocity with the country south of us was the policy best suited to the needs of the Canadian people. It was an error to build up manufactories at the expense of all other important interests. The agricultural community was not sufficiently considered. The Government was guilty of borrowing, in the Old Country, a large sum of money that was not wanted. Seven million dollars of this money was loaned in the United States at 1½ per cent., while Canada had to pay 3 per cent. for it. This was not a financial policy calculated to enrich a people. A more liberal exchange of products between the United States and Canada was highly desirable. Canadians could not do away with the geographical position of their country, and they had to choose between reciprocity and annexation.

Reformers did not want to give up their nationality. Confederation had not made the people less careful to guard provincial rights. He believed that reciprocity would make all better Canadians than ever before. [Cheers.]

The Old War Horse of Wentworth.

Mr. Rymal when he came forward, was well received. He stated his desire to say a few words on behalf of his friend, Mr. John Waldie. That gentleman had already served one session in Parliament, and his record was before the people. That record reflected credit on both Mr. Waldie and his constituents. He hoped the electors of Halton would, next week, return him to Parliament by a large majority. He knew they had a great many things to contend with, notably a whiskey of a very different kind to the frozen whiskey of Muskoka. They had also to contend with the mean tricks of the Tory party, for there was no meanness to which the Tory would not descend in order to gain a point. He remembered the time when it was a strange thing to see a Tory representing Halton. The Reformers in the county did not seem to stand together as they used to do. He counselled the electors to remember that whatever promises or pledges a Tory made with respect to prohibition he could swallow easily at the bidding of Sir John A. Macdonald. [Cheers.]

He had nothing to say against the Conservative candidate, who might be a very deserving gentleman, but he was connected with an anti-mile to which he (the speaker) had no undying animosity. He asked his hearers if they were as good men as their fathers were in 1836. If they were, he wished the Young Liberals Godspeed. The future of the country depended upon them. They should have what was right, peacably if they could, but they should have it anyway. When the 13 colonies revolted against Great Britain they abandoned the ballot box for the cartridge-box. Then they got not what they had asked for but what they were driven to secure. The same story could be told of Canada after 1836 and 1837. It was repeated in the Northwest, where the efficacy of the cartridge-box was again manifested.

Returning to the present time, Mr. Rymal expressed his belief that the interests of the country would be safer in the hands of the Liberal party than they ever could be in the hands of the Tories. The Government of the day should beware, for the soil of Canada was one in which annexation ideas would quickly take root. Sentiment was all very well, but the people would go wherever their interests were best served. It was nonsense to say that connection with England secured every possible blessing. Her treatment of Ireland, for instance, was not of a kind to secure the admiration of the civilized world. She would still be managing the affairs of Canada if the Canadian people had meekly submitted to her. [Cheers.]

Mr. Awrey addressed the meeting briefly, his speech being cut short by the music of the band announcing the approach of Mr. Laurier and other lights of the Reform party.

Mr. Laurier's Speech.

When Mr. Laurier came forward, on Chairman Stewart's introduction, he was loudly applauded. Then he said:

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I would vainly endeavor to find words adequate to convey to you the full measure of gratitude I feel I owe you for the kind reception which you have pleased to give me on this occasion. And I can assure you that my words are not mere empty words or a mere perfunctory expression of conventional formality. I deeply feel what I now say, and if I may be allowed without any impropriety to add one word more in reference to myself, I would say that nothing whatever in the course of my life has ever touched me more than the receptions given to me by my fellow-Liberals of the Province of Ontario in the position which the too partial regard of my friends have placed upon me. To you, Mr. Chairman, I am especially thankful for the kind words you have spoken of me. I am a French Canadian. I need not repeat that to you. You have heard it before. I tell you at once that my heart ever warms at the mention of the land of my ancestors, but my first allegiance is British. [Cheers.]

STALWART EDWARD'S RETIREMENT.

He alluded to Mr. Blake's retirement and the loss the party had sustained by it, but advanced the hope that Mr. Blake's example as a politician and statesman would largely take the place of his personality.

Mr. Laurier then discussed the chief plank in the Liberal party's platform. His friend Sir Richard Cartwright had framed a policy at the last session of Parliament, which, though it might be assailed by passionate prejudice and party greed and selfishness, was bound to win, and he hoped they would win on that policy in the County of Halton not later than next week. [Cheers] They were all aware that there was an issue before them. The world could not remain stationary, neither could political conditions. New measures were required to meet the changing conditions. This was political progression—this the principle which actuated them.

REFORMERS OF THE PAST.

He called to mind the fact that other Reform leaders had spent their labors in introducing measures to benefit the country. Robert Baldwin had no labored and representation by population followed. The good of the country was promoted, notwithstanding the prophecies that Canada would suffer by the innovation. George Brown had so labored, and his labors were crowned with success. Confederation already is the parent of Confederation. And now at this time, in the year 1888, they had a task to perform, a duty to achieve, and an evil to grapple with, and which if not grappled with, must bring down upon them the condemnation of posterity. [Applause.] He asked them to look at the situation. It was twenty-one years since Confederation was established. The people of the United Provinces started out with the fond hope of building up a nation. He asked everyone in this audience, regardless of their political proclivities, to review the past twenty years and ask themselves how much advance had been made towards the goal they started out to attain. "The painful answer must be this," said the hon. gentleman, "that we have not advanced one inch—one single jot."

OUR LACK OF PROSPERITY.

Canadians had not gained that degree of prosperity which they had a right to expect. It was true that the Ministerial press would not admit that; but he did not expect any admissions from the Ministerial press. The Ministerial press would say the country was overflowing with prosperity. They were like Sir John Falstaff when taken to task by the Prince. "You owe me a thousand pounds." "A thousand pounds! I owe you a million pounds. I owe you everything you see is worth a million pounds." And so with the Ministerial press. They took sentiment for fact. When taken to task about the country they tell us that we belong to the greatest empire of the world. [Applause and laughter.] "And so we do," remarked the speaker [cheers]. It was reiterated by the Conservative press that the country was prosperous. Well, there was a criterion to resort to in order to ascertain the comparative prosperity of the country.

REAL ESTATE TELLS A STORY.

Real estate values was a fair criterion. If real estate is going up in value it is an evidence of prosperity; if it was going down, something was wrong somewhere. He ventured to assert without fear of successful contradiction, that apart from the great railway centres real estate was not advancing in value. Speaking for his own Province he could tell them that not a farm could be sold at the same price as it could be sold at 8 years ago. He invited their reflection upon this. What made real estate valuable? Population. It was population, and outside of the railway centres Canada was not holding her own people. Hundreds and thousands of their fellow countrymen were deserting the country. [Hear, hear.]

NO CHANGE FOR AN ARGUMENT.

The Ministerial press would deny this, but they might as well deny that water runs down hill or that two and two made four. Their intelligence told them that it was a fact. There was not a man of 40 or 45 years of age in the Province of Quebec who had not a relative living in the United States. And the same might be said, perhaps, of every man in this audience. He could understand emigration from ill-governed Ireland; from England and Scotland, where there was a constant struggle for food; from Germany, crushed under the heel of military despotism, but emigration from Canada to the United States he could not understand. Could it be that Canadian institutions were not equal to the American institutions? Every Canadian would say that our institutions were more elastic and more conducive to freedom than those of the United States. Nor was Canada inferior in climate or country to the United States. The United States might have a great variety of climate, but in everything that went to make a great race—a noble and manly race—Canada was the richer. If the evil was not to be found in the soil or climate, where could the evil be? It must be somewhere. It was in the economical policy of government. [Cheers and applause.]

A voice: "That's the root of the evil."

IT WAS INDEED.

Mr. Laurier: "That is the root of the evil indeed." [Laughter.] He had made it a rule to speak honestly to his fellow countrymen, whether the truth be told was palatable to his partisans or not. And he would say that he did not lay the whole blame on the Government's National Policy. But he arraigned them before the electors of this county for their non-fulfilment of promises made ten years ago. They promised ten years ago to remove the evil that existed at present. And now they not only did not remove it but they, by their policy, intensified the evil. Ten years ago was the closing of the Mackenzie administration. Every stump in Ontario that could hold two feet was occupied by a Conservative orator, preaching that if Mackenzie only had a little of the brains of his opponents, he would devise means for removing the existing depression. Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Cartwright said that the country could not be made rich by Act of Parliament, and it over two men were vindicated, it was Mr. Mackenzie and Sir Richard Cartwright. But Sir John Macdonald and his friends promised that this land would be covered with manufactories.

WHAT THE OLD MAN SAID AT PARKDALE.

Sir John at Parkdale, a few years ago, said: "There we are not only suffering in every trade and industry, but our people are leaving the country to seek employment in the mills and manufactories of the United States. We is not a crying shame that though this country had a fertile soil, a healthy climate, a strong and well educated people, and good laws, 500,000 of our own people should have crossed the border in these years and taken up their abode in the United States, because they could not find employment here for their skill and energy and enterprise in consequence of the false policy of our rulers.

Well he would ask if it was not a crying shame that not 500,000 of our people should be forced to seek employment in the United States but a round million. [Cheers and applause.] He did not want to be hard upon Sir John Macdonald and his friends. It was better to be generous when one was at your mercy. Liberals had the advantage in Sir John Macdonald's own words. Some people, they knew, were known to have repeated a lie till they believed it was true. George IV. was fond of donning military clothes but he never smelled powder. He began to say that he was present at the battle of Waterloo and by degrees told of the heroic part he played in the great encounter. One day he placed the Duke of Wellington in an awkward fix. The king was telling his Waterloo exploits to a courtier who was indisposed to believe what His Majesty said. "Then" said the king "ask the duke there, was I not at the battle of Waterloo, Arthur." The great duke was once more equal to the occasion. He did not affirm or deny. He said, "I have heard your majesty say so before." [Laughter.] It was just possible that Sir John had allowed himself to be deluded into the belief that he really had caused emigration by the National Policy. He may have actually humbugged himself into the belief. [Loud laughter and applause.]

UNCLE RUFUS ROASTED.

And now what had been the result of this policy of contraction after 10 years of experience? We had an example a few years afterwards in Rufus Stephenson, then member for Kent, but now he knew not what. [Laughter.] He understood that Rufus, at five thousand a year, was inspecting colonization companies in the Northwest that did not exist. [Loud laughter and cheers.] Rufus said to himself, "I am going to vote for the party who raised the price of wheat from 79 cents a bushel to $1.40." Why did not the party exert the same power now. The proposition was a *reductio ad absurdum*.

There must be a new departure in Canadian political affairs. They must change the policy of restriction into one of expansion. Ten years they had tried restriction and had found it wanting. The farmers were promised a local market for their produce and they had not got it. Ten years ago we had two cities of over 100,000 inhabitants and to-day we had no more. The United States was the real market for farmers to look to. A promise was made that such was not the case—that the Americans were competitors, not buyers. He would quote an authority in support of what he said, and that authority was the great apostle himself, Sir John Macdonald.

MORE OF THE OLD MAN'S TALK.

Sir John said at Hamilton, in 1860: "One great cause of the poverty of the farmer in Upper Canada is the reciprocity treaty and the consequent interchange of agricultural commodities and raw materials. He has found a market where there was none at all before for him.

At Caledonia the same year he said:

"If there is one measure of late date which benefits the country more than another, it is the reciprocity treaty negotiated, I believe, by the Hincks Government but perfected under Sir Allan. You know that whereas wheat used to pay 20 cents a bushel to enter the frontiers of the United States, it now goes in free and every farmer here is so much a bushel richer for that measure.

Mr. Laurier: Who was that? None other than Sir John himself.

"Instead of being kept out of the United States and being obliged to go to Montreal and sell his produce he has now the choice of two markets. He has two strings to his bow—no collectors of Customs and no between him and the New England manufacturer, or between him and the British consumer."

This was the policy they were advancing—the policy that would give the farmer 20 cents a bushel more for his wheat. There was an index to show how trade flourished under the old reciprocity treaty. In the first year it amounted to $21,000,000. In 1866, the last year, it amounted to $84,000,000. The treaty came to an abrupt end, not because it was not advantageous to both countries, but for political reasons. The ruling Tories both in England and Canada were against the Northern States in their struggle and when that struggle was over the victorious North chose no longer to trade with Canada. Happily now these old sores were healed and there was a desire on the part of leading men in the United States to renew our trade relations. When asked why these freer trade relations should not be established the Conservative leaders said that a condition of things such as that would injure the manufacturer. That was the reason given. Well, if that was the case he would stand with the more numerous class, the farmers, who would be benefited by Unrestricted Reciprocity. [Cheers.] They were 70 per cent of the population. But he did not admit that it would injure the manufacturer. A market would be opened for the manufacturer as well as the farmer.

THEY LACKED FIXEDOPINIONS.

The Government of the day had no fixed opinion as to the issue now under discussion. A clause of the Statute Book stated that when the American Government chose to to admit certain natural products, free of duty, into the United States, the Canadian Government would reciprocate by permitting the same articles to enter Canada, duty free. Specified fruits and seeds were placed on the American free list and when the attention of Government was called Sir John stated that the rights of Canadian fruit-men and seedsmen had to be considered and protected. Hon. Mr. Thompson declared that it would be nothing short of treason to allow these goods to come into Canada, and yet ten days afterward they were placed on the free list. If they could not get Unrestricted Reciprocity en bloc they could hope to get it piece meal.

IT MEANS ANNEXATION TO THEM.

One good result of their agitation was already apparent. The National Policy men were becoming very, very loyal. (Laughter.) He never considered it very, very loyal to shut the British manufacturer out of our market. But the National Policy men were now very sensitive. Any attempt to enlarge our market suggested to them Annexation. Their efforts to get an enlarged market by the opening of the American avenues had started a counter movement—reciprocity with Great Britain. If that was practicable he was in favor of it. If it was practicable to have free trade between all the English speaking people of the world he was in favor of it. The Anglo-Saxons were the great commercial people of the world. They had appropriated the North American continent; they peopled Australia; they had South Africa and were rapidly peopling eastern and central Africa; they had the islands of the sea. The time might come when these peoples might seek common free trade. If such a time did come while he lived he would hold up both hands for it. But now they were discussing a practical issue—free trade between the people of North America. [Cheers.]

THE PEOPLE CAN BE TRUSTED.

Opponents of Unrestricted Reciprocity objected to it on the ground that it would promote Annexation. He asked them to have some faith in human nature; to have some faith in the instincts of the human heart; to trust the people. He did not believe that annexation would come from it. On the contrary, it would produce content and result in loyalty. It was prophesied that other changes they had made heretofore would put an end to their political existence; and yet good had come from these changes. Annexation agitations were carried on before the advent of the first reciprocity scheme but when reciprocity came these agitations were scattered as clouds before the sunlight. [Applause.] He anticipated no evil from it, but good. Sir Richard had proposed his Unrestricted Reciprocity motion in the House last session with the expectation of defeat. He would renew it next session and next and next and even the next, but in the meantime there would be a struggle. They were prepared for that struggle. In that struggle Unrestricted Reciprocity was to be the chief plank. All other issues must take a back seat. This was to be their battle cry, and in their battle they expected to win not only Halton but Ontario and the whole country and that victory would be with the Liberal party.

Sir Richard's Remarks.

Sir Richard, who was received with cheers, made a very effective speech. He made a happy reference to the wisdom of the Liberals in selecting Mr. Laurier as leader, on whose shoulders the mantle of Mr. Edward Blake had so worthily fallen. Then Sir Richard proceeded to animadvert on events which occurred in the last session of the Dominion Parliament. It was a somewhat notable session. In some respects it formed a new departure in Canadian politics, one which was likely to have an effect on the fate of this country for many years to come. The Liberals sought to lay broad and wide the foundations of a platform on which all Canadians could stand, which would tend to material no less than moral advantage. The Conservatives were occupied in throwing somersaults, in giving by their acts the lie to their previous professions. The British are a precedent-loving people, and the Conservative Government last session gave the country precedents of how it was safe for a public official to commit a felony with impunity. If now pronunciation was gained in the Civil Service, how revolted provinces should be dealt with. [Laughter and applause.]

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS IN MANITOBA.

On each of these Conservative precedents Sir Richard sarcastically commented, especially the Government's treatment of the people of Manitoba, whom it sought to restrain from the exercise of their constitutional rights in railroad construction. When the Reform party urged that the question be allowed of the exercise of veto should be put a stop to, the Conservatives unanimously refused to listen. But within a few months the same Government under menace of revolt introduced and passed a Bill legalizing that which they had previously declared illegal. In addition to this they had added to the burdens of the people by compensation to the C. P. R.

This, Sir Richard maintained, was a deplorable state of affairs. He congratulated the 100,000 Canadians in Manitoba on their victory. When a parliament persisted in oppression, it was the duty of the oppressed to oppose those who would trample their rights with impunity. [Applause.] One of the reasons for such a state of things was that they had in power a corrupt Conservative majority, men who were in Parliament not to give effect to the legitimate wishes of the people, but to benefit themselves individually. He doubted if there was a parallel to this corruption in any legislature, or that such could be found except in the assembly presided over one years ago by W. M. Tweed of New York. "Further," said Sir Richard, "I believe a considerable number of the people like to have it so." There are many corrupt constituencies and one or two corrupt provinces. This was largely due to the gross abuse of the federal system of government. A stop should be put to the buying up of individual members, constituencies and whole provinces. [Applause.]

A PANACEA FOR THE PAIN.

To remedy this new safe-guards must be introduced, and the confederation scheme must be revised. Steps must be taken to secure that the will of the people shall be more respected than it now is, and that the public trust vested in the people shall be administered for federal purposes and none other. It was a serious state of things—a corrupt government, a corrupt parliamentary majority, the country burdened with debt and taxation, and the whole land being a country whose resources and advantages no man could exaggerate. Canada was being left behind by other countries which did not possess more fertile soil, natural advantages, or better laws. He did not believe in crying, "Peace, peace," when there was no peace. He did not believe in saying that Canada's progress was an example for the nations when he knew it had not been what it should have been.

IT MUST COME SPEEDILY.

There was great need for a remedy and that speedily, unless they wished to see things grow worse. They were confronted with the fact that Canada had almost boundless lands untenanted, capable, as Sir Charles Tupper told an English audience, of maintaining forty millions of people in comfort, and yet out of a population of four millions one million had found a home over the line. How was it that after an enormous expenditure on emigration during the last 25 years we had only been able to retain 250,000?

Fifteen years ago our total trade amounted to $217,000,000. In 1887, with 800,000 or 900,000 added to our population the total volume of our trade had sunk to something like $200,000,000. And during the time we had been free from war and the convulsions which had taxed the resources of other nations. In 24 years Canada has trebled her debt and trebled her taxation. How was that? Since 1878 the total of the rural population of Ontario has remained nearly stationary, scarcely 5000 more than ten years ago. Again, many millions had been expended on public works, and yet we could not lay his finger on one single public work owned by the people of Canada that so much as pays working expenses and interest, not to speak of the vast sums of capital expended.

"The people of Canada," urged the speaker, "during these twenty years appear to have been infatuated and to have neglected all those precautions which a wise people should have taken."

HOW THE TAXES TALK.

"I am aware," continued Sir Richard "that many of those persons who do not wish you to deal with the enormous increase of your debt and your taxation say that it is practically a matter of no importance. But is it so?" In answering this question the speaker gave detailed particulars of the amount taken from the people by taxation in the past ten years, the amount proposed to be taken in the ensuing ten years, and showed how the drain on our material resources had been appropriated not for the benefit of the people but for the purpose of keeping a corrupt Government in power. $250,000,000 had been extracted from the people for federal purposes in the last ten years. Then there was another $100,000,000 which was devoted to the purposes of the National Policy. This made $350,000,000, not to speak of the large addition to the national debt, on which the people had to pay interest. If this goes on in the next ten years they would have to pay $380,000,000 in taxes, and $120,000,000 more for the tax-gatherers. [Laughter.]

This was most imprudent taxation and Sir Richard told how he, in conjunction with his friend, Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, opposed in the House additions to the burdens of the people. He then gave official statistics of the taxation of the Province of Ontario, contending that no people could prosper as they ought to prosper under such a crushing system of taxation. Comparing Canadian with United States records of taxation in the latter's early days he showed that the latter was utterly insignificant when compared with that of this country.

A LESSON OF FACTS.

From these facts Sir Richard deduced the lesson that unless Canadians could introduce a system which would leave the local legislatures free to attend to their own affairs and put an end to the system of raids on the federal government, they could not work the government of the country successfully. The people are far less able now to bear the burden of taxation than they were ten years ago. "It is," said he, "the desire of the Reform party to put a stop to the system of corruption, but above all to obtain for the people of Canada the opportunity to make the best of the great country they possess. [Applause.] I believe the best way to attain both these desirable ends is by the policy called Unrestricted Reciprocity." [Renewed applause.]

That policy properly carried out will not merely enrich the people of Canada, but will go a very great way to stop the plundering to which you are indebted for the great increase of debt and taxation. I desire to see Free Trade all over this country. [Applause.] I desire no barrier between ourselves and our kinsmen on the other side of the line. I believe that nothing will tend to enrich the people more than Unrestricted Reciprocity, but I desire more to see a purer government and a stop put to the corruption which disgraces it in high places. [Applause.]

PUT FRUGALITY ON THE BILL OF FARE.

One result of Unrestricted Reciprocity will be that in their own despite the Government at Ottawa will be compelled to be frugal and economical and to properly administer the federal policy. Unrestricted Reciprocity will not make you one penny the poorer but enrich you enormously. Another result will be that there will be an immediate diminution of the amount taken out of your pockets. It would be difficult to replace this without direct taxation, which would necessitate an economy by the Government which has been foreign to their habits for many years past. [Applause.]

Let Sir John Macdonald adopt this policy of Unrestricted Reciprocity. Not only have we no objection, but we will help him to do it—[laughter and applause]—for we know that the day Unrestricted Reciprocity is adopted it will sign and seal the death-warrant of the power of corruption by which alone he has maintained his power. I do not know whether Sir John intends to adopt it or not, but when he was out of power he was willing enough to raise the cry of Reciprocity with the United States.

The speaker proceeded to show the great advantage limited Reciprocity with the United States had been to Canada, which Sir John had himself acknowledged. Reference was made to the Reciprocity debates of last session when the Reform leaders tried to "draw" Sir John, but not one word would he say in opposition to the propositions he (Sir Richard) had laid down. [Laughter and applause.]

A POLICY OF PATIENCE.

A great fiscal change like Unrestricted Reciprocity, which would affect every farmer, artizan, lumberman, mechanic, was not to be made in a summer afternoon. Patience would have to be exercised ere this was reached. He admitted there were very great obstacles to be surmounted; but they were infinitely less than those which would have to be faced if they persevered in their present course.

The great industrial changes all over the world were next commented on. The Old World markets which formerly Canada and the United States had almost the exclusive possession of are no longer at their disposal. There are new competitors in the English markets, and countries are doing a large English trade; and if the people of Canada looked for any improvement they must find their future market on the American continent. [Applause.]

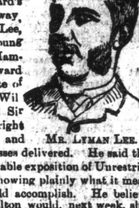
Then Sir Richard waxed eloquent as to the value of the United States as Canada's great market for her produce. In Unrestricted Reciprocity they would find realized all the promises of the advocates of the National Policy. It would place money in your pocket; it would enrich our American neighbor is even now and propriesies still greater things if this great commercial panacea were adopted. He made the most of the migration of Canadians to the United States, which he put at 600,000 of population compared with Canada's 5,000,000, and urged that to bring about the great results he had depicted the electors must support the advocates of Unrestricted Reciprocity.

THE MARCH OF ENLIGHTENMENT.

"I believe," said he, "the day is not far distant when a more enlightened spirit will prevail both in the States and Canada. Each has a great deal to gain." Then he declaimed on the Canadian loyalty whilst claiming the right to make our own commercial treaties, maintained that the interests of Canada and the British Empire are identical. As to Imperial Federation so far as Canada is concerned she never could to her own profit enter into any such scheme except on one condition that we be firm and fast friends with the great kindred nation that stretches along our border for three thousand miles.

Sir Richard Cartwright resumed his seat amid loud cheering, having spoken for an hour.

A Vote of Thanks.



MR. LYMAN LEE.

When the applause which followed the close of Sir Richard's speech had died away, Mr. Lyman Lee, President of Young Liberal Club, of Hamilton, came forward and moved a vote of thanks to Hon. Wilfred Laurier and Sir Richard Cartwright for the eloquent and instructive addresses delivered. He said they had each given an able exposition of Unrestricted Reciprocity, showing plainly what it meant and what it would accomplish. He believed the people of Halton would, next week, show how clearly they understood the question by voting for Mr. Waldie.

Mr. James Knowles, jr., of Toronto, seconded the motion. Upon a show of hands being called for it was declared carried, amidst much cheering.

Hon. Mr. Laurier briefly returned thanks. Three hearty cheers were given for the Queen, three for Hon. Mr. Laurier, three for Sir Richard Cartwright, and three more for Mr. Waldie. Somebody called for three cheers for Sir John Macdonald, and the response to this showed that Conservatism was but thinly represented at the gathering.

Then the crowd began to disperse, and as the hour appointed for the return to Toronto was close at hand most of the people took the road to the railway station. The majority of the Hamiltonians present had made the journey to Oakville by boat, and consequently strolled away in the direction of the wharf.

The Torontonians reached home at 8 o'clock.

A Family Celebration.

The Connors family, residing on Brown's-lane, celebrated the civic holiday by indulging in a fight among themselves. The result of the fracas was the arrest of Mary Connors, the wife, and her son John, and the conveyance to the Hospital of Timothy Connors, the head of the household. Timothy's condition is such as to preclude the possibility of his attendance at court to-day, his body being one mass of bruises caused by his wife and son's affectionate attention. The police are looking for Michael, a second son of the injured man, who is credited with being as active in the assaults as his brother John.

Failure of a Halifax Firm.

HALIFAX, August 13.—Eaton & Co., one of the best known and oldest wholesale grocery firms in Halifax, have suspended payment. The cause of the suspension is said to be the refusal of the Halifax Banking Company to grant further advances. The firm's liabilities are reported to be be between $125,000 and $150,000.

Supposed to Have Jumped Overboard.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—On Thursday, August 9, about 3.30 p. m., Mr. G. W. Carpenter, a saloon passenger on the steamer Arizona, was found to be missing. He is supposed to have jumped overboard.

Uncle Sam After Cuba.

MADRID, Aug. 13.—The Cuban Government reports that an agitation is being carried on in Cuba with the assistance of influential American politicians in favor of the annexation of Cuba to the United States. The Cuban situation is becoming extremely difficult owing to the financial troubles and the increase of agitation in favor of home rule.

The Judge Fell Asleep

And the long civil suit went on, at last all agreed that the Bench should be shaken into wakefulness. The Judge started up and boxed: Prisoner at the bar, your sentence is that you be taken from hence to the county jail and there be hanged by the neck until——. "If you please" interrupted the attorney "this is a civil suit and has nothing to do with hanging whatever, except hanging fire." "So it is" said the judge, "had I kept my eyes open I wouldn't have made such a mistake." Had he kept his eyes open he might have seen the perfect fit in a suit the lawyer had on which A. White charged him only $11.50 for half a dozen.

The Yellow Fever Epidemic.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Aug. 12.—There were three new cases and one death from yellow fever here yesterday. It is reported that