WILFRID LAURIER

Tremendous Ovation to the Premier From the Electors of East and West Kent on Saturday.

AND 5,000 IN THE AUDIENCE

Full Text of Sir Wilfrid's Great Address on the Issues of the Campaign.

NOTABLE RESULTS OF THE PREFERENTIAL TARIFF

Raised Canada to the Dignity of Nationhood and Attracted the Attention of European Nations.

DOMINION IS A NEW STAR IN THE WESTERN SKY

Opposition Has Come Round to the Government's Point of View -First Opposed a Transcontinental Railway, But Now Accepts It-Sir John Macdonald, Sir Charles Tupper and Sir Mackenzie Bowell Quoted Against Mr. Borden's Present Policy.

Chatham, Oct. 15. - The most im- found it impossible to keep to the side pressive reception ever accorded a walks, and they took to the road. sula was today given Sir Wilfrid Laurier by the people of Chatham, and of both the Kents. In point of enthusiasm and numbers, the throng which greeted early morning until noon, the farmers of East and West Kent drove into town to welcome the Premier, while the people of Chatham were busy perfecting CANADA FIRST — ALWAYS CAN- J. Reycraft, Ridgetown; W. C. Sifton, her. He commenced one of the most arrangements for the fitting reception of Canada's greatest statesman. Every HURRAH FOR LAURIER AND STErailway train swelled the population of the Maple City, which was alive with expectant humanity, parading the gaily-decorated streets, and awaiting the arrival of the Liberal leader and At the Rink. his party. All Chatham appeared to The Premier was, of course, the chief R. L. Gosnell and G. Thomson, Blenbe for Laurier. In the rink, where the attraction, and the huge throng hung heim. big meeting was held, and which was upon his lips. His hale appearance tocrowded by an audience of between day greatly pleased his friends. His 4.000 and 5,000 persons, so keen was their the huge building, vigorous and strong. attention, and so anxious were they to The executive of the County Liberal catch every word, that the fall of a pin Association anticipated an audience would have been heard, except when that would fill the rink from end to

peding to get a glimpse of their distinguished guest. A squad of mounted men, all prominent citizens of Chatham, and of both Kents, and a large the way, many endeavoring to grasp the Premier's hand. After the reception committee had been presented, the Premier yielded to the importunities of his enthusiastic supporters, and appeared much touched by the fervor of his welcome. Sir Wilfrid and Lady GOOD OLD TILBURY FOR LAURIER Laurier then entered a carriage with Mr. George Stephens, ex-M.P., the Liberal candidate in West Kent, and ac- BLENHEIM, STILL TRUE, WARMLY companied by Mrs. Stephens, the party took their place in the procession. Hon. riage, and the procession began to move to the music of three bands.

never been equaled in Chatham, First came the Twenty-fourth Regiment Bugle Band, led by marshals on horseback. Next came the carriage, handsomely decorated with Union Jacks, conveying Sir Wilfrid and Lady Laur- On the Platform. ier and Mr. and Mrs. Stephens. Then came a dozen carriages with Hon. Mr. Paterson and prominent Liberals of Citizens' Band, rendering lively airs; hand, being rewarded with a sunny parliament; and Mr. R. F. Sutherland, smile. On King street the crowds who of Windsor, who is seeking re-election were following the Fremier's carriage in North Essex. Among others on the

In the procession and along the route of march, were many banners. Some of

LAURIER!

DOVER-HURRAH! POUR LAUR-IER-STEPHENS!-A BAS CALUMATEURS!

KENT SOLID FOR STEPHENS AND

CLEAN GOVERNMENT!

voice carried to the remotest corners of William Paterson, Minister of Customs, opened. The arrival of the procession the chairman of the meeting in the in this fair city. arrived in the city from Toronto. Up was marked by a tremendous crush. Opera House laid claim to distinction But gentlemen, I came here for an-Grand Trunk depot fully ten thousand Stone, opened the proceedings every "coined a phrase." If a man should be nor so much to endeavor to give you nor so much to endeavor to give you dreds were content to stand.

skating rink decorated in truly patripied by the chairman and several ber of banners. One of them stated that Raleigh township was for progress and prosperity. Others read:

AND AULD LANG SYNE!

GREETS SIR WILFRID!

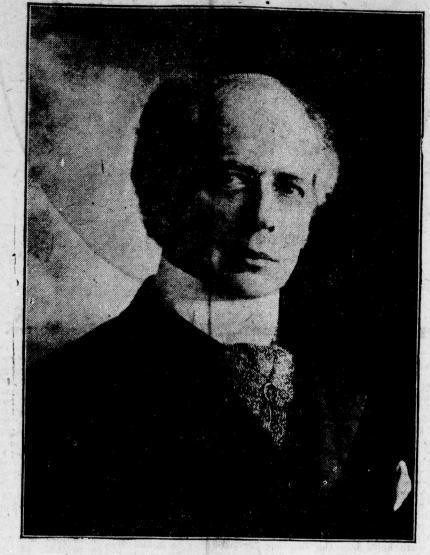
Mr. Paterson followed in another car- HARWICH FOR HONEST AND EF-FICIENT GOVERNMENT!

The reception and procession have ROMNEY FOR LAURIER AND VIC-TORY!

WALLACEBURG IS SOLID FOR

LAURIER!

The platform was filled from end to end with prominent Liberals, not only Chatham and the Kents, in the lead. from the ridings of Kent, but also from These were followed by the Chatham neighboring ridings, principally North and South Essex, all eager to hear the after this about fifty carriages and the leader of whom every Liberal from end Twenty-fourth Regiment Band. The and whose eight years as Premier have procession followed the route along Queen street by King to William, to the big new skating rink, where the rally was held. All along the line the streets were dense with people, and erson; Mr. D. A. Gordon, of Wallacecheer after cheer greeted the Premier. burg, Liberal candidate in East Kent; Every now and then an unusually fer- Mr. George Stephens, of Chatham, Libvent elector would rush to the side of eral candidate in West Kent, who so the carriage, and grasp the Premier's well served his constituents in the last



SIR WILFRID LAURIER, Premier of Canada.

There is nothing so sweet or so true to the heart of man as is his native country. Even the old

men amongst us who have come from the other side of the ocean, and have brought with them from

far away an undying love for the land of their ancestors and the land of their birth, find that Can-

ada becomes dearer to them as Canada advances and as the name of Canada spreads, and at the

present time it is true to say that the name of Canada is spread all over the world. (Applause.)

Eight years ago the name of Canada was unknown; eight years ago the name of Canada was not

known in Europe, and scarcely anybody in England or in Great Britain knew anything of Canada.

Canada is prosperous, there is one cause for it. They will not give us any tribute. They say it is

the work of Providence. Gentlemen, I am ready to agree with our opponents upon this, that if Canada

has been prosperous, and it has been, Providence is the cause of it. Providence is the cause of all

the good we have in this world, and if it is true that it is the work of Providence, after all, that is not a reason why the people should be against us. Providence works by human agency, and if Providence

chose the Grits and not the Tories to be the instruments of Canadian prosperity - (tremendous ap-

plause)-is that any reason, I want to know, why the Tories should vote against it? It seems to

me that after all, without being taxed with false modesty and false pride, I can claim that Provi-

dence has done something for our regime, and if Providence has done something for our regime, I do not see that the electors of Kent should interfere with the works of Providence and put the administration in the hands of the Tories, for whom Providence never did anything whatever. (Laugh-

ter and applause.) But, sirs, it may be true that Providence has been kind to us, and I thank Provi-

dence on both my knees every day of my life; but there is, as you remember, an old saying which goes

to say that Providence helps those who help themselves. Providence does not help laggards. Provi-

dence will not smile upon the laggard, but will smile upon the industrious, and we have tried to do

something for Canada, We have tried to make Canada profit by the blessings that Providence has

showered upon it, and we have in this way done many things that I claim has brought Canada to

its present prosperous condition.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Chatham.

Now, gentlemen, what is the cause of this? There must be some reason for it. Our friends, the Conservatives do not give us any credit; they claim there is only one cause of all this. They say if

But today the name of Canada is a household word in every part of the United Empire.

M. Robinson, W. H. Stevens, A. Jahnke, M. Robinson, W. H. Stevens, A. Jahnke, R. J. Gardiner, R. Smith, A. B. Mc-echoed and re-echoed with Liberal ap-Coig, J. W. Aitken, J. M. McCoig, Dr. plause. BLENHEIM AND HARWICH FOR Fleming, J. Kelly; R. Young, Harwich; Ovation to Premier Laurier. J. G. Kerr, John Piggott, G. Smith, J. McQueen, R. L. Brockin, Dr. Charteris, Speak, the ovation was resumed, the ley, M. P. Sheldon and J. E. Thomas, again and again. Little May Stone A. Samson, Blenheim; T. B. Dundas, took them from the pretty little girl in Wallaceburg; P. Crawford, Dover; L. that graceful manner that becomes Palmyra; John Lee, M. P. P., Highgate: brilliant speeches he has delivered dur-Rev. G. B. Brown, Blenheim; S. Som- ing his Ontario tour, as follows: ers, Wallaceburg; Charles Agar, Darrell; Peter Haggart and J. Ferguson, here to your city and to this beautiful Blenheim; E. Charron, Big Point; Jas. district has fallen under such happy Ross, Tilbury; B. Gillespie and Dr. auspices. The sun shines and the sky Wiley, Dresden; Myles McCarron, Wal-laceburg: Dr Bell and C P Oliver laceburg; Dr. Bell and C. P. Oliver, on every visit I have made to your city,

SIR WILFRID LAURIER.

Stephens and Mr. Gordon, Sir Wilfrid seat was taken, and in the aisles and recognized as a great man because he my views upon a question which agi- 1896. (Great applause.) on the ends and sides of the rink hun- had coined a sentence, how much tates the public mind at this present Proud of Canada. greater is a man who coins entire moment, but I want to put to you one The Liberal Association had the speeches which, because of their fair- you, and I want to put to you one question only, I want to the heart of man as is his native

platform were Messrs. K. Campbell, with the feeling tribute of the chair- elected, and sent to the House of Com-John Smith, R. Riddell, A. McDougall, man, aroused the large crowd to a mons. (Applause.) frenzy of enthusiasm, and it rose as No Cause to Repent.

I ask you if you have any cause to repent? I do not think that there is Canadian today who can find fault with the present Government. I do not On Sir Wilfrid Laurier rising to claim that we have been infallible. the Premier was unique in the political LAURIER AND LARGER CANADA! F. Babcock, Thomas Sylvain, Dr. T. K. speak, the ovation was resumed, the do not claim that we never made tremendous sea of humanity that was mistakes. I do not claim that we never do not claim that we have never made Holmes, John Northwood, W. A. Had-packed into the great rink cheering err. We may err in some things-in lev. M. P. Shelden and J. E. Thomas, again and again. Little May Stone things purely departmental. We might of Chatham; M. Campbell, Ridgetown; presented the Premier with a beautiful err occasionally, but I have no hestita-bouquet of Meteor roses. Sir Wilfrid tion in saying that if you compare our tion in saying that if you compare our record with the record of those who are at present our traducers, who are making charges against us, it is just like the weight of a feather against a mountain. Gentlemen, after all, what are the Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlereproaches made against us? They are

very light, not serious, and even trivial. It is not by the small pecayune things that a government is to be judged, but by the result of its policy. were serious scandals which could be brought against the Government, then I would be here to meet them; but I Merlin; H. J. McDougall, Wallaceburg; the elements have been kind to me, as am happy to say that during the time they are today. Upon every occasion that we have been in office, after havthe sun shone and the sky smiled. I ing our offenses probed in a remember that eight years ago when searching manner, nothing has been I came here during the election of 1896, brought out against the Government. during the month of June, the weather Nothing can be brought against it that was so perfect that we were able to would cause the Laurier Government Brilliant Address Made by Canada's hold the meeting in the open air in or any member of the Laurier Governthe evening. Therefore, I say it is a ment to blush. I know, and I am free double pleasure that I have the op- to admit, that some things have been portunity of meeting you again on such done that, if I had known myself at a beautiful day. I do not know but the time, might not have happened, enthusiasm broke forth in thundering end. To insure a seat, possibly two thousand persons, including many thousand persons, including many thousand persons, including many the first persons and Mr. Gordon, Sir Wilfrid residence among you, were it not that they do not amount to anything my duties compel me to reside in Ot- in the grand display of what we have It was shortly after 1 o'clock when ladies, found their way to the rink who paid a glowing tribute to the Canadian Premier. When the Conservative been so beautiful when I have been in must be told, and I think I am fairly who paid a glowing tribute to the Can- tawa, because the weather has always to offer you. Because after all the truth Sir Wilfrid and Lady Laurier and Hon.

Chatham a few days ago

Chatham, that I would not want anything better than to spend all my life

Admit, whether you be Conservative or
Liberal, a fee or a friend, you have Liberal, a foe or a friend, you have to admit, after eight years of office, town the streets were crowded. At the When at last the chairman, Mr. Fred Grand Trunk depot fully ten thousand Stone, opened the proceedings every "coined a phrase" If a man should be

number of carriages, were in waiting when the train pulled in. The Premier and Lady Laurier at once left the car and Lady Laurier at once left the terests of the people of Canada; a man see in your faces any signs of repent- for the land of their ancestors and the who coins policies which cement to- ance. Perhaps if I see some faces that land of their birth, find that Canada speakers were hung two large British peoples of Canada; a man who coins they must come from the East Riding vances and as the present time it is a policy which binds together with a closer tie this greatest of all British Gordon, did not succeed in being electcolonies to the mother land? And while ed four years ago, but where this time is spread all over the world. (Apconsidering how great such a man is, the circumstances are better and he plause.) Hight years ago the name of remember that this man is Sir Wilfrid will be elected. Now, the County of Canada was unknown; eight years ago Laurier, the first of all Colonial Pre- Kent is within its natural boundaries, the name of Canada was not known in miers by common consent, and com- and within its natural boundaries all Europe, and scarcely anybody in Engsigns indicate that two supporters, land or in Great Britain knew anything The name of the Premier, together two Liberals, two Reformers, will be of Canada, But today the name of Can-

A Railway, Every Inch of It on Canadian Soil, Is a Political and Commercial Necessity.

MR. BORDEN'S SHIFTING RAILWAY POLICIES DESCRIBED

The Conservative Party a Party of the Past, Living Only on Its Traditions.

ROUSING SPEECH BY HON. WILLIAM PATERSON

Reduction of the Rate of Taxation Under the Liberal Fiscal Policy.

MESSRS. STEPHENS, GORDON AND SUTHERLAND SPEAK

The Candidates for West and East Kent-Sir Wilfrid Laurier Interrogated on Prohibition-The Greatest Political Demonstration Known in the Western Peninsula - Sir Wilfrid Speaks Briefly in French for the Benefit of French-Canadian Hearers.

should vote against it? It seems to me in the shape of treaties with Belgium

that after all, without being taxed and Germany. with false modesty and false pride, I Difficulties Encountered. can claim that Providence has done something for our regime, and if Provday of my life; but there is as you Belgium. help laggards. Providence will not the first time this appeal had

The British Preference.

all of these measures, and I say it question fairly to the British ity in which it was in 1896 and brought it to the present position, the first of Treaties Removed. hree days ago in the city of Toronto, and in speaking of the preference. lations with Great Britain. We all our difficulty. thought we would buy more from them The treaties which had been negoand they would buy more from us, and the results have been equal to our anticipations, and whether we stumupon the eastern wind. The Preference Abroad.

ada is a household word in every part | and treated with indifference, became of the United Empire.

Now, gentlemen, what is the cause of this? There must be some reason for it. Our friends the Conservatives do ed before, and from that moment the not give us any credit; they claim name of Canada became a household there is only one cause of all this. word. Therefore, I say that in doing They say if Canada is prosperous, this we have done something for the there is one cause for it. They will not people of Canada, and it is not only give us any tribute. They say it is the that we have brought great prosperity work of Providence. Gentlemen, I am to them by that policy, but we have ready to agree with our opponents up- brought to the heart that sense of on this, that if Canada has been pros- national dignity which is more valuperous, and it has been, Providence is able and more to be preferred than the cause of it. Providence is the prosperity itself. Up to that time the cause of all the good we have in this name of Canada had been scarcely world, and if it is true that it is the known in Great Britain. It had not work of Providence, after all that is been known at all on the continent of not a reason why the people should be Europe, and not known in France or against us. Providence works by hu- in Germany, but that very year someman agency, and if Providence chose thing occurred which made the name the Grits and not the Tories to be the of Canada known to all these countries instruments of Canadian prosperity— and made it famous. When we had im-(tremendous applause)—is that any posed our policy there were some obreason, I want to know, why the Tories stacles to it and these obstacles were

Yes, there was a difficulty, and a idence has done something for our difficulty was in the shape of ancient regime, I do not see that the electors treaties, the remnant of what I will of Kent should interfere with the works call the barbarian ages of the colonial of Providence and put the administra- system, treaties which made it imtion in the hands of the Tories, for possible to give the preference to whom Providence never did anything Britain unless at the same time we whatever. (Laughter and applause.) gave a preference to Germany and Bel-But, sirs, it may be true that Provi- gium. Well, we wanted to give a predence has been kind to us, and I thank ference to Britain, but we did not want Providence on both my knees every to give a preference to Germany and What was to be done? We remember an old saying which goes to appealed to the British people, we say that Providence helps those who appealed to the British Government to themselves. Providence does not denounce those treaties. This was not smile upon the laggard, but will smile made; it had been made before by the upon the industrious, and we have Government which had preceded us, it tried to do something for Canada. We had been made before by the Canadian tried to make Canada profit by Parliament, but those prayers had not the blessings that Providence has been heeded. However, we undertook showered upon it, and we have in this the task and proceeded to appeal to way done many things that I claim the British Government and the Brithas brought Canada to its present ish people. Remember, it was the year of the Diamond Jubilee of her majesty It fell to my lot as the head of the Canadian Government to What is first of all these measures be sent to England, there to represent that have been enacted successfully by the Canadian Government and the Canness and beauty of thought, are destined to live forever in the memories of all good Canadians? How much greater is a man who coins policies of the memory and the position of the position in greater is a man who coins policies. Scarcely had I landed in who have come from the other side of the ocean, and have brought with the Government of today, that has adian people at the restricties of the Government of today, that has adian people at the restricties of the Government of today, that has adian people at the restricties of the which it was in 1896, to the position in Great Britain when I made a speech.

The control of thought are the country and the country and the country and the position in Great Britain when I made a speech. It state the policies and I say it question, and have brought with a like these measures and I say it question for the position in greater is a man who coins policies. openly, without fear of contradiction, I told them that we had a preference the first of these measures that has which we intended to give them. I statbrought Canada, which has elevated ed the obstacles, and I asked them to Canada, from the position of inferior- help us to have those treaties removed.

these measures has been the British I did it in these words: "Either preference, the preference which we England must advance or Canada must 1897. (Applause.) Mr. Foster, the late recede." These words were quoted the critic of the Conservative party, whom following day in all the press of Great perhaps you have not seen here, but Britain. They were repeated day after you have heard of him, spoke two or day and week after week, and the consequence was that some two months which we have given to Great Britain, afterwards the treaties, the obnoxious he said that we didn't invent that treaties, were denounced by the British policy. He will not even give us credit Government. (Applause.) Sir, if there for that. He said we stumbled against had been, as I told you a moment ago, the policy. Well that is our usual luck. a sensation when we launched our pre-(Applause.) We stumbled against the ference, there was another sensation licy. They never stumbled against a this time not in Great Britain, but all during their eighteen years of over the continent of Europe. office. They never made such a happy was a sensation in France, in Italy, in stumble. (Applause.) They never had Belgium, in Germany, all over the conany such lucky thing as that, but the any such lucky thing as that, but the very first year we were in office we stumbled against that happy idea of giving a preference to goods of the mother country. We did it, first of all, because it was the mother country, and we did it because by doing so we and we would improve our trade in Europe especially. But that when the property we would improve our trade. thought we would improve our trade in Europe especially. But that was not

bled upon it or not or whether we in- negotiations with Germany to renew vented it or not is not a matter open the treaty. The treaty was renewed, to discussion. It is too small a thing but at the same time the obnoxious to discuss, but I say this to you, my clause was removed. But Germany fellow countrymen, that whether we would not give the favors to Canada stumbled upon it or whether we invented it, that on a certain night in the Britain, and as to that we had no month of April, 1897, we launched our cause of complaint. If Germany would policy of preference to Great Britain do us no favor we had no fault to find, But not only would Germany not give us the same privilege she gave to Great Britain, but Germany did more. It was carried across the ocean to the shores of Great Britain and was given the greatest publicity in that country, that the goods of Great Britain would be admitted at every custom house of Canada at a preferential rate. Then on that occasion, Canada which up to that time had been ignored Germany undertook to discriminate against us by a hostile tariff. We made the British Government to intercede in our favor. We represented that if we had acted as we had acted it was not through any hostility to Germany, not because we did not love the peo-