

# CHARLTON WITH SIR CHARLES

## On Preferential Trade—Extract from His Address to the Electors of North Norfolk.

### Says the Laurier Government Should Have Made Greater Effort to Obtain Mutual Preferential Trade With Britain.

SIMCOE, Ont., Oct. 18.—The following are extracts from an address just issued by John Charlton, M. P., to the electors of North Norfolk:

"The present administration, which appeals to the people, has a record of something over four years to present. This record, in some respects, falls short of the expectations entertained by those who endorsed the principles enunciated by the platform of the liberal party convention, held in 1893. It is, of course, difficult to put into practice the ideals of opposition. Exceptional causes, such as the enlargement of the St. Lawrence canal, the opening up of the Yukon district, and the expenses of sending a contingent to South Africa, have unavoidably increased the expenditure, and while I do not say that satisfactory reasons cannot be added for the large increase of controllable and capitol expenditure, and the considerable increase of the public debt, I feel called upon to announce it as my firm conviction that our public improvements are now as far advanced as the necessities of the country in the future are likely to require, and that the time has arrived more fully to redeem the pledges of the liberal party, by practicing greater economy in public expenditure, and by reducing the public debt. The expenditure should not, in any case, in my opinion, exceed the amount of the revenue, and the public debt should be reduced each year to at least the extent of the sinking fund. CANADA SHOULD HAVE MADE GREATER EFFORT TO OBTAIN MUTUAL PREFERENTIAL TRADE WITH BRITAIN.

"While holding that Canada is not likely to be able to get preferential treatment for her food products in the British markets, owing to the relatively small amount of our trade with that country, as compared with her export and import trade with foreign nations, I am free to confess that I may be mistaken in this view. Canada now discriminates in favor of the British importer to the extent of 33-1/3 per cent, and this discrimination is purely gratuitous and sentimental, for Great Britain gives to Canada not the slightest tariff concession, that does not equally apply to all other nations. In addition to this discrimination, we have put forth great efforts, spent much money and sacrificed many valuable lives for the purpose of maintaining the cause of the empire in South Africa. All this has been done without a return, and has been done ungrudgingly, and perhaps there may be some force in the assertion that under the circumstances it would have been a great error if a greater effort had been made to obtain from Great Britain some trade concession in our favor, and it is not unreasonable to suppose that at least some slight advantage, such, perhaps, as the removal of the restriction upon the importation of our cattle, might have been obtained from the British government.

**WILL URGE THE OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE HOME GOVERNMENT TO OBTAIN TRADE CONCESSIONS FOR CANADA.**

"I shall, if again permitted to sit in the house of commons, urge the opening of negotiations with the home government, for the purpose of obtaining, if possible, trade concessions from that nation, which will put us in a more favorable position in the market than that enjoyed by the foreign states.

**LAURIER DID NOT DO IT!**

"The government was fortunate in assuming office just at the beginning of a period of prosperity, which not only applies to us but to all commercial nations, and which it is well to realize has been due to the blessings of Providence, and to causes beyond the control of the Canadian government. It is the duty of a government, under such circumstances, to follow the example of a wise ruler of old, and in years of plenty provide for meeting the exigencies of succeeding years of scarcity, the increased prosperity has caused a very large increase in the public revenue. Under the stimulus of overflowing coffers, a scale of expenditure has been set that will probably be found necessary to recede from, when a period of bad times comes, with its decreased receipts, and it is desirable that action in this direction should be taken at once.

**SIFTON BROKE THIS PLANK.**

"The liberal convention of 1893 declared in favor of selling the public lands to actual settlers only. The restriction of the convention bearing upon this question was as follows:—  
"That, in the opinion of the convention, the sale of public lands of the dominion should be to actual settlers only, and not to speculators, upon reasonable terms of settlement, and in such areas as can be reasonably occupied and cultivated by the settler."  
"I had the honor of first introducing this publicly by resolution in parliament in 1890. Since the liberal party came into power no legislation has been placed upon the statute book, to give effect to this salutary policy, the observance of which would have been the settlement of the Northwest, and protect the settler from the greed of the land speculator. I shall, if again

selected to represent you, press for legislation in the house.

**GRANTS TO RAILWAY CORPORATIONS.**

"This policy of making grants of public lands to railway corporations has been carried beyond prudent limits in the past, and I think the time has arrived when the making of grants of this character should either be entirely or be made to a very limited extent, and with careful regard to the public interest.

**MR. CHARLTON BACKS THE EMPIRE.**

"Canada has recently passed through an experience having a most important bearing upon the development of the national sentiment and the direction of national aspirations. I refer to our co-operation with the motherland in maintaining the cause and the prestige of the empire in South Africa. This action has brought sorrow to many families, but as a national experience it is invaluable. Our brave sons have discharged their duty upon the battlefield with valor and efficiency. The world recognizes their gallantry with unstinted praise. They have received the thanks of the commanders-in-chief of the British army, and the scene of conflict. We have realized in this incident the importance of the maintenance of the British empire. We have given evidence that we are prepared to make sacrifices in behalf of that principle. We have received recognition from the nations of the world as a most important component part of the empire and as a great nation in embryo. I have looked upon the manifestation of Canada's loyalty, and the putting forth of Canadian effort in this direction, from the outset, with the utmost sympathy and approval. I believe that our interests are bound up with the great empire to which we belong, and that a death struggle for its preservation would be preferable to calmly looking upon its dismemberment.

"I have thus briefly set forth my views upon some of the important questions of the day, and I invoke for them your considerate and favorable judgment. I have to express my deep gratification for the unstinted and generous degree of confidence which has been shown by the electors of this grand old riding during the last 28 years. I have sought to represent not the interests of one party but of all the electors of my riding, and have been heretofore, as I shall be hereafter if elected, prepared to act as the representative of any elector who requires my services as his representative. I beg most respectfully to solicit the suffrages of men of all parties in this riding, and to pledge myself, if honored with your confidence by again being elected as your representative, to stand firmly by what I believe to be the true interests of Canada." (Signed).

**J. CHARLTON.**

**FOR "AULD LANG SYNE"**

GRAND NARROWS, C. B. Oct. 21.—D. A. McCaskill, the liberal conservative candidate for Victoria county, arrived in Cape Breton on Saturday from Montreal. He was surprised at New Glasgow by a delegation from the Liberal Conservative Association of Victoria. When the party arrived at the strait of Canso he was again surprised by a crowd of students from the school who collected all the way from Little Narrows to welcome him to his native county. The meeting was such as to give the boys among the sons of friend Donald. Further on another crowd was in waiting and it was soon apparent that Mr. McCaskill was one of the boys. He stands to win easily.

**ANOTHER TEXAS STORM.**

ATLANTA, Tex., Oct. 21.—A tornado struck about half a mile west of Lodi and 25 miles west of here today. The path of the tornado was 200 yards wide, and the wind swept everything before it. One house in the center of its path, occupied by negroes, was destroyed, and several were killed. Three others are missing and are supposed to be dead. The cyclone traveled from the southwest to the northeast, crossing the Texas and Pacific railroad at Campbellville Spur, a lumber loading station two miles north of Lodi. The lumber was carried away in all directions. It is feared further loss of life has resulted in the country.

**FISHING SLOOP MISSING.**

PORTLAND, Me., Oct. 21.—A fishing sloop with three men on board left Orr's Island last Tuesday morning on a trip after mackerel, and since that time nothing has been seen of the sloop, or of tidings of the men have been received. The sloop was owned and commanded by Frederick Fidd, and the crew consisted of Elijah Doughty and Samuel Greene. It is feared that the three men were out in the terrible gale of last Tuesday night, and as nothing has since been heard of them, grave fears are entertained for their safety.

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Distinguished everywhere for its Quality and highly Nutritive Properties. Special Preparation and composed of the most nutritious and hygienic. Sold only in 1-4 lb tins, 1-lb 1-oz JAMES EPPS & CO. Ltd., Homeopathic Chemists, London, Eng.  
**BRK'FAST SUPPER**  
**EPPS'S COCOA**

## MUST NOT BE CONDONED.

It may be said that this can only be accomplished at the expense of a return to power of our political opponents; a party opposed to the political principles in which we believe. I do not dispute this, nor do I shrink from this alternative. Neither do I believe that any true man or any man who has an abiding faith in the truth of liberal principles or in the ultimate triumph of truth will shrink from it. We are bound to assume that the conservative party is permeated and guided by a genuine belief in the truth of its political ideals and in the correctness of its principles. At the same time we cannot truthfully charge that party's leaders with having betrayed or abandoned its principles to get or retain office. This much we must say in fairness, even if we cannot see eye to eye with them.

At the most the defeat of the present government would only mean loss of office to men whose holding of it is a disgrace and a scandal; it would involve no defeat of the principles of liberalism; no rejection of those principles by the men whose votes were being sought in the government's overthrow. On the other hand, for us to overlook and condone the treachery and desertion of principle of which our leaders have been guilty would not only be a deliberate decision on our part to make ourselves and our party partakers of their crimes against political decency, but it would mean putting a premium upon falsehood, promise-breaking, and treachery to principle, and a recognition of these as legitimate weapons of political warfare; a prospect which would ever decency-loving Canadian must recoil with horror.

## REORGANIZATION BETTER THAN INFAMY.

If the liberal party be what we have believed it to be, a great force for political good in this dominion; if its principles be founded, as we have believed, upon ethical and economic truth, we need not fear that it will be permanently weakened by rescuing it from the leadership of men who have been false to all their professions, recreant to all their pledges, and who recognized in our party nothing more than a means to their own ends in office. The overthrow and punishment of the leaders who have betrayed and disgraced us is the important present duty to which we must put our hands and do with all our might. I do not mean to say that we have vindicated in the face, for we shall have vindicated our party and proved our right to claim for ourselves the highest earthly title—honest men. We will then be able once more to advocate those political ideals in which we have believed, and to ask the public to believe us when we promise to stand by those ideals. This will involve a reorganization of the party, it may be objected. Doubtless, but if we must choose between reorganization and the infamy of the degradation of being justly regarded as a party of place-holders who have proven recreant to every principle they ever professed, I do not think honest men will hesitate long before making their decision.

## A TIME FOR PLAIN SPEECH.

As I have already said, I am not addressing myself to any within the liberal ranks, who regard the getting and holding of power and office as the end of all political effort. I am trying to speak only to those who are and have been liberals because of their sincere belief in the principles of liberalism. I have made no statement which is not fully warranted by the facts. If I have spoken strongly, it is because this is a time for plain speaking and for strong speaking, and my only regret is that I am not able to command the language needed to fittingly characterize the conduct of men who betrayed a great party and a great cause for the sake of a few dollars. The great body of honest liberals—a large majority of our party as I believe—I would say, do not hesitate to do what is plainly your duty. It is not the part of true men to falter and hesitate for fear of consequences; their part is to do the right, never doubting that the consequences of right action must be good. Do not fear for liberal principles, nor doubt that in good time the party organization and the party leaders will come to carry forward these principles and to lift the banner of liberalism from the mists in which faithless and treacherous leaders have trampled it. No great and just cause was ever finally lost because leaders proved false, and if we of the rank and file only prove true and refuse to wink at or condone the treachery of our leaders, we need have no fear and no doubt of an ultimate triumph of liberalism in Canada.

## SCHOONER FOUNDERED.

KINGSTON, Ont., Oct. 21.—The sch. Pabola, coal laden, from Charlotte for Kingston, foundered near the False Ducks this morning. Crew rescued.

**W.A.C. SODA WATER**  
TRADE MARK  
DR. SALERATUS IS THE BEST  
E.W. GILLET, TORONTO, ONT.

## PROPOSITION WOULD BE TO BE GUILTY OF ALL MOST INCONCEIVABLE TREASON TO THOSE WHO TRUSTED THEM.

It is almost impossible for public opinion to be fairly recorded, that such a condition would "take an unfair advantage of public opinion and render it almost impossible for public opinion to be fairly recorded." Why, at the general election Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself polled 470 votes less than a majority of the electorate in his constituency, and the nine members of the present ministry who were elected in 1896 fell short of an actual majority of the electorate in their ridings by 4,170. Yet Sir Wilfrid and his colleagues had no hesitancy or prickings of conscience about accepting their minority of the votes as an ample vindication of the will of the electorate. But if we assume that Sir Wilfrid was candid and truthful when he told of that "implied" agreement, assuming that the liberal temperance men in the convention did—as he in effect charges them to do—nothing more than to say to humbug the temperance people, does this make the position of our leaders any better, or does it lessen in any degree our duty to stamp with our disapproval men who put forward as an excuse for being false to their public pledges, a prospect which would ever decency-loving Canadian must recoil with horror.

## A GLEAMING LIST.

It would be utterly wearisome to review in detail all the ugly record of promises made and broken by the present government. I can only glance at some of those not already noted. We declared that the number of paid ministers in the cabinet was too great, that the salaries of the members of the same number still, and their aggregate salaries are \$4,000 per year greater, one-half this sum going into the pocket of the minister who recently declared that every pledge has been kept. We denounced the expenditure of the department of justice, and pledged ourselves to wipe it out; it was greater by \$1,431 in 1899 than it was in 1896. We denounced as useless the creation of the department of trade and commerce. The "useless" department has been continued. We promised to abolish the senate or radically change its constitution by affording that body an opportunity to save the country from the consequences of extravagant and corrupt deals, the government has enabled the senate to demonstrate its usefulness, almost its indispensability. We announced that the duties on imported trusts and combines as a consequence of the policy of our opponents; not a single one of those which were in existence in 1896 has been destroyed or put out of business, while others have been created and given a foothold in the country through the disloyalty of the government.

## THE PLEDGEBREAKER.

There could hardly be a more flagrant case of deliberate deception than the action of our present leaders upon the prohibition plebiscite. At the convention of 1893 a resolution in favor of a prohibitory liquor law was offered by Mr. F. S. Spence. Speaking upon this question, and upon the attitude of the liberal party toward it, Sir Wilfrid Laurier took the ground that no definite pledge could well or properly be declared until the Royal Commission, then investigating the subject, had completed its work. He made it his business to do so, however, took the view that the wish of the people should be ascertained by means of a plebiscite, and the following resolution was passed:

"Whereas public attention is at present much directed to a consideration of the advisability of the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquors, it is desirable that the mind of the people should be clearly ascertained on the question of prohibition, by means of a dominion plebiscite."

I do not think there is a single intelligent man who will think, or an honest man who will say, that the plain meaning of this resolution, the meaning that it was intended and expected that the electorate would attach to it, was neither more nor less than this: That if the plebiscite should show a clear majority of the votes polled in favor of prohibition, the government should introduce and carry a prohibitory liquor law. As the report of the convention shows, this was the meaning attached to it by Hon. T. W. Anglin, who, himself opposed to prohibition, argued against the adoption of the resolution, because, as he contended, if there should be a majority for prohibition when the vote was taken, "the friends of prohibition will be in a position to call upon the liberal party to follow up this resolution logically by assisting in the passage and enforcement of a prohibitory liquor law." As the Globe's report shows, "the resolution was put and carried, with a mighty shout of 'aye' against a few feeble 'noes.'" During the campaign which preceded the last general election our leaders appealed for, and, as a matter of fact, received a large measure of temperance support on the ground that the liberal party were taking "a practical step, the first serious step that is to be taken if prohibition is to become law," to use the words of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. The vote was taken at a great direct expense to the country and perhaps at a much greater expense to those who supported and opposed what both sides were led to believe, and assuredly did believe, to be the initial step towards the enactment of a prohibitory law. The majority throughout the dominion was over twelve thousand; yet instead of carrying out their promise, the ministry took refuge behind the plea that it was necessary that there should be a majority, not of the votes polled, but of the whole electorate. Worse still, the government has gone so far as to admit that there had been a secret (he calls it an "implied") agreement among the opponents and supporters of prohibition in the convention to this effect: This agreement can only be believed by those who are prepared to think that the temperance leaders within the party, including the present minister of agriculture and the premier of Ontario, were consenting parties to one of the most displeasing pieces of trickery that ever disgraced politics.

## A CONSPIRACY TO HUMBURG.

If any such agreement was made, it involved this: that the temperance people were to do what had never been done by a political party; a thing practically impossible, poll a majority of the whole electorate. For the temperance leaders to agree to such a

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## NOT WILLING TO BELIEVE THAT HE HAS BEEN REPORTED WITH ABSOLUTE ACCURACY.

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## A CONTEMPTIBLE POSITION.

No statements could be plainer; no promises more explicit than our prediction ones on this question. Yet with shame and humiliation we must confess that they have been thrown to the winds. When the new finance minister made his first budget speech, and brought down his first proposals for tariff changes, there did seem to be something like evidence of an honest intention to carry out the promises so solemnly made; but that basis was withdrawn and another substituted, in which there was not the faintest evidence of any intention or desire to depart from the protective principle which had been the avowed central idea of the tariffs of successive conservative ministers of finance. So far was the new tariff from being an attempt to "put away from the soil of Canada the last vestige of protection," as Sir Wilfrid Laurier had so loudly promised to do, so far was it from being an effort to "relieve the people of protection," that Hon. Mr. Tarte felt himself justified in assuring the protected manufacturers that, "while the present government has found itself obliged to make many changes for the sake of a removal of anomalies, and for other reasons, it will remain sufficiently high to afford ample protection to Canadian industries." Did any conservative minister ever offer or promise more since Sir John Macdonald, in 1861, first announced his policy of "ample protection" to Canadian industries? Mr. Tarte went on: "I say that the grand principle of the tariff as it exists today will remain unchanged. We shall make slight alterations as it may seem to us that they are needed, but the tariff as a whole will stay as it is at present." I am not quarrelling with Mr. Tarte or blaming him. Not being a liberal, he was not bound by our promises and pledges. He had no part in making them and his repudiation of free trade and declaration of adherence to the principle of "ample protection" to neither treachery nor dishonor on his part. But we who made the promises and pledges have to deal with the fact that Mr. Tarte's statements have never been repudiated nor disavowed by his ministerial colleagues, the leaders of our party, and the government and the liberal party have thus become responsible for them. Hon. Mr. Sifton, too, has spoken for his colleagues and the party on this subject. Here are his words: "The tariff is a question that is settled, and is now a dead issue because the liberals have succeeded in solving this great question, and the tariff is one which our opponents, if they get a chance, would not change very much." What a humiliating, what a contemptible position are we thus placed in by our leaders. If we demand of the liberals that free trade we break the promises which Messrs. Tarte and Sifton have been permitted, perhaps commissioned, to make; if we do not we will be recreant to all the past professions and pledges of our party.

## EVIDENCE OF TREACHERY.

I know that attempts have been made to make it appear that the tariff has been amended in the direction of free trade, and our minister, Hon. William Paterson, has even had the boldness to claim that all our pledges have been fulfilled to the letter; a statement more indicative of courage than honesty. Unfortunately for this contention, the trade and navigation returns, which are authoritative, contradict it flatly. These returns show that the percentage of duties collected upon goods entered for home consumption is only 1.58 per cent, lower than it was when the late government was in power, and if a proper allowance were made for American corn, which appears in the returns as imported free of duty, the percentage of duties collected upon goods entered for home consumption is only 1.58 per cent, lower than it was when the late government was in power, and if a proper allowance were made for American corn, which appears in the returns as imported free of duty, the percentage of duties collected upon goods entered for home consumption is only 1.58 per cent, lower than it was when the late government was in power, and if a proper allowance were made for American corn, which appears in the returns as imported free of duty, the percentage of duties collected upon goods entered for home consumption is only 1.58 per cent, lower than it was when the late government was in power, and if a proper allowance 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