THE VICTURIA WEEKLY TIMES. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1894.

People of Victoria Show Themselves Ready to Adopt This as Their Political Watchword.

A Splendid Gathering Greets the Liberal Leader---All British Suits the Masses.

The largest crowd that ever gathered policy of the party. The Liberals, a at a political meeting in British Cotum- short time ago held a conference at Ot- of the whole Dominion, a leader you bia packed the great market hall last tawa, which was attended by men from , can be proud of. one who will never the treasury of Canada to build a lightnight to hear the eloquent Wilfrid Lau- every part of the Dominion, and a policy was formulated that was in the best rier and his colleagues define their platinterests of the whole Dominion and form and explain their principles. And each province singly. That policy had besides being the largest it was the most been presented to the people and he was enthusiastic political gathering ever held glad to say that it differed materially here. The distinguished visitors were from the policy they had followed since on their first appearance greeted with 1878. The Conservative policy meant round after round of applause, and the contraction of trade while the the trade. during all the speeches the auditors were (Applause.) Their policy was in the inworked up to the highest pitch of en- terests of the few-some of the manufacthusiasm. At 7:15 o'clock, when the turers. The Liberal policy is in the ingates were opened, there were several terest of the vast majority of the people. hundred people waiting to get in and In the United States the tariff is in the interest of 4.3-4 per cent. of the people. from that time on until there were no The same would apply here as applied seats left and every bit of standing room there and therefore the present tariff this city and the province. Inasmuch as yours is the first visit paid to British Coltaken, the people came in a steady ple of Canada. It was generally understream. Men, and women too, stood for stood that the protection tariff- was nearly three hours. It was a surprise turers, but that was not entirely so as to everybody the way the ladies turned many of the manufacturers of the out to the meeting. Originally several older provinces were in favor of freer hundred seats were reserved for them in trade. Give them their raw material the front part of the hall, near the plat- without any duty and freer trade for their products and they could hold their form, but half an hour after the doors own with the world. (Applause.) That opened everyone of these seats was Liberals, in discussing the financial poltaken. More chairs were brought down icy of the government, point to the fact and then the ladies and their escorts that Hon. Alex. Mackenzie during his were sent to the gallery and to the gen- four years in office was enabled to conduct the affairs of the Dominion -on eral seats. There were fully 4000 peotwenty-four milion dollars, while the ple in the audience. The work of the Conservatives had to raise from thirtydecorating committee, the members of six to thirty-nine millions annually. The which succeeded in making the place ex- Liberals took issue with the government tremely attractive, was a surprise to all. for the enormous increase in the debt. flags, among which the Union Jack pre-dominated, while along the front of it He explained here it. were several huge vases of flowers. Back | sex from which he came was divided so of the platform hung flags and stream- that a Liberal majority could not elect ers and across the railing of the gallery their candidates. The Liberals also took exception to the franchise act. He hung a streamer inscribed, "Our Future would ask anyone who had come from Premier." Then around the sides of that glorious country England, Ireland the hall were a variety of flags and or Scotland, whether it was fair, British streamers and mottoes while over the en- fair play, that the Liberals should be trance was draped the largest Union forced to go before the people with their Lands tied. Let us go before the peo-Jack in the Dominion. It seemed an Jack in the Dominion. It seemed an almost hopeless task to do anything with If that was allowed, protection would such a large building, yet the gentlemen not long be on the statute books. (Apof the committee succeeded in making it plause.) In the policy of protection, admitting that the principle was right, it really attractive. It was just about eight o'clock when Mr. Laurier and party arrived from the sirous of locating here and obtaining a Driard. They were escorted to the bonus from the city, would you not first platfom immediately, and their appearescertain what advantages were to be ance was the signal for a perfect storm gained; would you not consider what of applause, which lasted for several money was to be invested and how many Dr. G. L. Milne, chairman, minutes. hands were to be employed and how sat at the centre of the platform, and ranged on either side of him were 'Mr.

LAURIER AND LIBERTY. it, up went the cry of disloyalty. Can it be possible that all the loyalty was confined to the articles included in the treaty of '54. Could it be possible that Quebec, which I have the honor to reprecommit an act that will bring a blush of was more popular and more revered in Ontario than any leader the Liberals party had received at the hands of Victorians they would be glad to hear on the evening following the next election that the Liberals had taken the city. (Cheers and applause.) Dr. Milne, as president of the Liberal Association, then presented Hon. Wilfrid Laurier with the following address: To the Hon, Wilfrid Laurier. general public, the Liberal Association of Victoria tenders you a hearty welcome to umbia by a leader of the Liberal party, we feel that it is an event of no ordinary importance to the province at large as well framed in the interest of the manufac- as to that section of the party located We wish to assure you of our sincere admiration for the course which you have followed and of our confidence in the future success of the party under your leadership. Your visit to the province is certain to give a marked impetus to the cause of Liberalism here, and we trust the profit will be mutual. The pleasure of the occasion is much enhanced by the presence of Madame Laurier, whom, with you, we are delighted to welcome. As you are doubtless aware, British Columbia is blessed with great natural resources, which are as yet but slightly developed. The tardiness of development is principally due to the policy of trade restriction, which we hope to see terminated and especially is it to be desired that mutually beneficial commerce with Great Britain and the United States should be encournged. While the so-called National Policy is injurious to the whole country, it bears with special severity on this new province, whose people find themselves taxed three times as heavily as those of the other pro-vinces under the present customs tariff. and while our contributions to the revenue are the largest proportionately, the public expenditure in the province is the smallest. It is essential to the prosperity of British Columbia that those who are developing its industries should be able to secure the nec-essarles of life and their working equip-ment cheaply, but this result cannot be ob-tained while the policy of high taxation could be seriously attacked on the appli-cation of it. If a manufacturer was de-and trade restriction continues. As a particular lastance, we may point to the item of mining machinery, the duty on which is a deterrent to to the progress of an indus-try of great importance to the province. While the privilege of importing such ma-

of 1854, but when the Liberals discussed that there was another sentiment in my present time is this question of trade, it, up went the cry of disloyalty. Can heart, for which perhaps I ought to be We believe in freedom of trade; the Conproud. I thought of the banner city in servative party believe in protection. We another part of Canada, the old city of believe in expansion; the Conservatives believe in restriction. But, sir, I am told if you want to sell to the Americans a mule, which was mentioned in the trea-mule, which was mentioned in the treaty of '54, it was loyal, while to sell a baby carriage was disloyal? To the ladies he would say he hoped their senti-ments were with the Liberals and to the Conservatives he would say: We have Conservatives he would say: we have those feelings, but will you pardon me if tried protection and have failed to per- I tell you that although I am liberal in where else. It is not possible that at the suade ourselves that it is a good policy. politics I am very conservative in senti-It has failed entirely. The government ment, and when I speak of Quebec as could not carry out their promises. The my mother I consider her the most beau-Columbia Political Meetings of the Past Outdone---Great party brought good tidings of the pro-tiful woman on earth. But there is a we do not suppose that we can give blemish on the city of Victoria; there is freedom of trade. As it is at the present bec, and in fact in all the provinces of a treacherous rock on the placid sea, and time it is not possible, but we shall do it the Dominion. If war was immediately declared the Liberals would go into power. (Applause.) Be of good cheer. We have a policy that is in the interest as an encouragement to him on the dark and the Liberal party; the Conservative as an encouragement to him on the dark sea. I think there is enough money in the tracerum of Canada to build a light. ideal; we believe in freedom of trade. house on that rock and to pay a light- that is our ideal. And if we are to atshame to the brow of any Liberal. He house keeper, and even after that I be tain that freedom of trade we must comlieve there is enough to pay the letter mence the battle at once. (Applause) It would not be advantageous to create carriers the remuneration to which they discords, we must go step by step, gradhad ever had. After all the kindness the are entitled for their services. (Great cheers.) I have learned more. 1 did ually. It is not known when the know, for of course everyone knows, of tion will be; we are in the power of the the wonderful resources of British Co- government, and I am not in the secrets lumbia in lumber, in fisheries and in of the false god whose home is on parliaminerals, but I did not know-I know ment hill in Ottawa; but some time or other they will give us an election, but now-that British Columbia has great resources in agriculture. There are lands when it will come, to-morrow or next in this province of British Columbia that month, or next year, I cannot tell. They keep their secrets well. You know it are only awaiting the arm of the tiller in order to become fertile and smiling said in the Good Book that death will come like a thief in the night. On behalf of the Liberal party and the fields. Yet, great as are your resources, vast as are your riches, you have not risen to that measure of development that is just like the Conservative party. (Laughter.) In 1887 and in 1891 the government came upon us like a thier that you ought to. What is the cause? in the night and gave us an election when This is the cause: the mischievous fiscal we were not prepared for them. But policy that has prevailed at Ottawa for the last eighteen years, and which will when they do give us an election, if it not permit you to take advantage of the please Providence and the Canadian people that we shall be in power the follow freedom of trade which belongs to a free ing day (applause), then I tell you that country. Therefore I tell you that alwe shall not have freedom of trade at though at the present time you complain once as it is in England, but we will that you have not accomplished that meamake a step towards free trade, we will sure of development which you think you have no combinations, and we will tram should have, that it is the fault of the fiscal policy pursued at Ottawa. Will ple on the dead body of protection and better you men of British Columbia vou permit me to tell you, people of (Cheers.) Let me tell you what is also British Columbia, that for the last eighthe difference between the policy of the teen years you have failed in your duty Conservative party and the policy of the as citizens of Canada in being guided Liberal party. The Liberal party be simply by a question of person in the lieve that as long as we are obliged to choice of your representatives. I do not raise our revenue by a customs tariff come to the province to attack any one the duty shall be imposed so as to have here, and I have nothing to say against the minimum of taxation for the maxiyour representatives, but I repeat that mum of revenue. What is the policy of in the past you have been guided more the Conservative party? It is this: that by a question of person, and as citizens they levy their taxes on the people not of Canada you know that that is not as it should have been. (Hear, hear.) merely for revenue, but with a view to favoring special industries. Some one Now, sir, it is right-not only is it right, but it is the duty of every one, whether will doubtless ask what is our warrant for saying this. I have it here in the he be high or low, whether he is rich or poor, to take his share in the governwords of the Canadian minister of finance. You know Mr. Foster, I believe ment of the country. An honest opinion If I am not mistaken he paid you a visit on this question is adapted not only to last year. I don't know how he was disthis province, but to the whole of the posed just at that time, (laughter), but Mr. Foster has his moments of weakness Dominion of which this province is a part. We have been accustomed from and frankness also. (Renewed laughter.) early traditions to look with pride on the But we have it from his own words that courage of the soldier on the battle field, the object of the minister of finance was when with the air around him thick with shells and bullets he stands firmly to the not so much to get enough money to car ry on the business of the country as to post assigned to him. That was the sort of courage displayed at the time of the develop certain industries. What does battle of Waterloo, when some one questhis mean, I should like to know? tioned the Duke of Wellington about a simply means that the people are to be body of men and he returned the answer, taxed for the purposes of certain privi-"Let them die where they are." I am leged classes. This may be profitable to those industries, but it is injurious to glad to say that a higher sort of courthe rest of the community. (Hear, hear.) age has arisen in the Liberal ranks. I don't believe, for my part, in this de-I am glad to say that in a great many velopment; if an industry is not able to instances the courage which has been exchinery free is nominally conceded, it is hibited is the courage of the citizen, of stand on its own legs I don't want hedged about with restrictions which make the voter, whether high or low, rich or in this country. (Applause.) It is the old much it was going to cost the city and then decide whether it was in the inter-est of the city to bonus it. If the people declined to give the bonus it could not the set of the city to bonus it. If the people brittsh Columbia and a consequent increase it could not brittsh Columbia and a consequent increase it could not brittsh Columbia and a consequent increase it could not brittsh Columbia and a consequent increase it could not brittsh Columbia and a consequent increase it could not brittsh Columbia and a consequent increase it could not it it it not it it it not it it it not it it poor, to exercise the rights that God has story. We must assist in developing given us. Sir, that is the kind of courage | those infant industries. It is believed (Cheers.) Let me tell you this. I don't but it seems these "infant industrie come here to try to do violence to the never grow. (Laughter.) You have to We regard the methods of administration conscience of any of you, to force my give them the feeding bottle all the time. and if you try to put them on their legs opinions on any one of you: I don't come they tumble about most helplessly. here to insult the feelings of any of my that the kind of industry you want in fellow citizens: but I come to you as a British Columbia? Sir, I repudiate for Canadian, as a new man to the city of Victoria, to ask you to stand up for the my part that system. I don't come here duties of Canadian citizenship and to as a demagogue to tell you not to submit to any taxation. I say taxation is neccharge you to perform the duties of essary; it is the duty of every citizen to Canadian citizenship whenever an occapay his country for the measure of prosion offers. (Cheers.) I believe that the tection, he receives from the country an time has come when the people of the. amount of taxation necessary for the province of British Columbia, or the prowants of his country, and nothing more. vince of Ontario, or Quebec, or any other I believe in giving to the government province for that matter, realizes that every cent necessary for the carrying on Canadian citizenship is worth working of the business of the country, but not a for, aye, and even worth dying for if cent to a fellow citizen. If it were to be needs must be. (Cheers.) I come to you our misfortune that we were to have in in the name of the Liberal party of Canthis country the curse of war; or if we ada, and let me tell you this: I know had to repel an invasion or stand up for that in other portions of Canada it has the honor and integrity of our country 'been insinuated, it has even been asserted, that the Liberal party of Canada I believe there is not a man here who were hostile to the Northwest Territories would not give every dollar necessary. Nay, more; I believe that the Canadian and British Columbia ever since the days women, like the women of old, would of Mr. Mackenzie. Mr. Mackenzie is in give their bracelets and jewels for such his grave, and I do not wish to rake up a worthy object. old sores, but on the day he went to his grave old mother earth, I venture to say, You will remember that in the session never received into her bosom a greater of 1893 there was such an outcry against character or a bolder heart. (Cheers.) protection throughout the length and He was a Scotchman, of the kind that breadth of the land that the government Scotchmen might be proud. Very often then promised to take the question in in the time of his premiership when he hand and devise some scheme to reduce was blamed for not proceeding with the Canadian Pacific railway as rapidly, pertaxation. They said they would go haps, as he night have done, he was all through the country and consult the the time turning the matter over in his wishes of the people. They did. They the cheers subsided on only his mute | mind, and many now believe that if his went to the people of the country at appeal to the vast assemblage who so plan with regard to bringing the railway large. A commission went to the cities royally greeted him. Mr. chairman, la- by the Yellowhead pass had been carried and where there were manufacturers to dies and gentlemen, said he, it would be a out the interests of British Columbia be consulted their meetings were secret. vain effort on my part to endeavor to might have been as well served as by But when they came to such countries find words to convey in any adequate the present route. I don't want, as I as this, there are not many large indussaid a moment ago, to rake up old sores, tries in Victoria, you heard the minisbut whatever may be the faults of the ters. Mr. Angers and Mr. Foster cam Liberal party-and I don't pretend that before you, to consult you? No; but to they are without any. for they are comconvince you if they could that protecposed of flesh and blood-we don't feel tion had been a success. But the people that we are any better than others; we would not be convinced, and so the govocean to the shores of the Pacific ocean, claim only we are just as good. (Laughcan say with perfect truth, with no ter.) Whatever the faults of the Liberal vernment brought down some measu of reduction. Mr. Foster came down party are, they are of the past; the faults been my privilege to stand before a more of the Conservative party are of the with some measure of relief. I am substantial or more representative audi- present. I come here to explain to you bound to give him at least some credit ence. And also the character of our the principles of the Liberal party; I for the attempt, as I like to be fair to an opponent. I must therefore give h come here now to preach to you a new credit at least for the intention; would to gospel of freedom of trade; new, yes, its resources, and the more you love it, | new in this country, and new in the coun-God I could also give him credit for the and for my part I never felt this so much try to the south of us, but not new, I action. (Cheers and laughter.) as when it was my privilege to land on | am glad to say; not new, I am proud to when this act finally passed the Hous this part of the Dominion. Of course say, in the good old mother land. of Commons Mr. Foster did not know I had heard before I arrived here of the (Cheers.) Not new in the small islands his own child. It was white when h vast resources which this country pos- which have been the cradle of every form brought it down; it was black when got through the house. (Laughter.) M of liberty throughout the world (cheers); the cradle of civil freedom, the cradle Foster was bound to do everything erlasting snow; I had heard of your of religious freedom, and the cradle of powers behind him required What w mighty rivers, with great torrents, and commercial freedom as well. (Great the reason? We all know the sam your vest, placid lakes; I had heard of cheering.) I come to you to preach this cause, which produces the same result our gigantic forests, of your mining and ' new gospel because it is derived, and we The reason is that combination and mon fishing riches; for all this I was in some are proud to derive it, as we are proud opoly which are stronger than the gov measure prepared; but I must confess in to derive all our inspirations, from the all sincerity I was not prepared for the old mother land; not like the Conservaernment, faced the government, and government gave way. Twenty years spectacle which was presented to me on tives, borrowing their inspirations in ago Sir John Macdonald said he was pr landing at your city. It was a revela- political economy from the American repared to give the Americans reciprocipublic and singing God Save the Queen of trade if they would give us reciprocit touched here, with the glory of the set-ting sun radiating over the city when we great ground of difference between the Well, the of trade, but if not then he would give them reciprocity of tariff, and he said i reached the wharf. I will confess to you . Conservative and Liberal parties at the they would be fools not to accept, we

would be as and I am bou as his word. S. monopolies exist stronger stronger than know also how a reduction of gave an imperpresentatives t ter a session the will of th the President's trusts, monopo tinue to rule. combinations soon as it wa intended to r came to Ottav of them from from the east came to Otta Foster and down. (Lau confused and it as an expla tended to give measure of his bill, but (Laughter.) anything to tection: the system of fr in England. always been of the world but a nation greatest powe ample is a we The example land, you wou ed by the res neither Franc ed the system the will of States has b you believe for very long. ing when the will be crow present time through simil same princip New Zealand ada the first have an oppor it. (Cheers.) to the errors I better illus ence you hav me this even ery. Machin velopment of Where have y to go to the if you do the cent. to the g say that they similar one to ada. The you purchase pay duty to article. Tha weighing dow producing an and boodling. sure as a so duce mortific tection produ Unless you h necessities of corruption wi of the United slave war: 1 raise money, ation. But stead of redu it on with the money in the sary to meet ernment. 7 try was thr currency, the ply to reduce revenue dent Lincol leath desi

Senator McInnes and Secretary Beth-Then ranged about the platform une. were Messrs. Hyman, Fraser, Choquette and Gibson of the Laurier party, and Messrs, Templeman, Munn, Burnes, Powell, Martin, McMillan, Ross, Houston, Robertson, Cameron and his worship Mayor Teague The audience were treated to three schools of speaking. Mr. Hyman, who opened, made a clear, forcible, logical talk. It was more the argument of a business man, and cold reason and fair argument were relied on more than oratorical effect. Mr. Laurier is an orator. He is gifted with a wonderful flow of language, a graceful expression and delivery and his gestures were simply ad-He dwelt largely with the mirable. broad principles underlying the affairs of the Canadian people, and his argument was on the line of principles. He was indisposed, and therefore not at his best, but the impression he made needs no apology or explanation. Mr. Fraser is a good stump speaker of the highest order, who could capture a crowd anywhere. He told funny stories, he riaculed certain things and then when the occasion required it he was serious and forcible. When Chairman Milne stepped to the front of the platform a silence fell upon The doctor opened by exthe crowd. pressing the greatest pleasure at presiding over such a vast crowd, and proud and happy that the meeting was gathered together to welcome and to hear the Hon, Wilfrid Laurier. (Cheers.) He knew they were all proud to welcome Mr. Laurier and Mrs. Laurier to the city of Victoria. He was pleased that the errors of the fiscal policy in operation could be clearly pointed out and their way to former prosperity shown them. They had had good times here, merchants had been prosperous, and there had been no complaint in years gone by. He did not want to go back to colonial days, States 49 per cent. were dutiable. The but he wanted them to give the place back its good times. (Cheers.) Here we were at the gateway of the west; and on the highway to the Orient. (The opportunites for trade were as boundless as the broad ocean, yet they found themselves restricted and at a standstill. He was loyal to confederation, but he wanted the good times brought back. Again welcoming Mr. Laurier and his party, he presented Mr. Hyman to the audience Mr. C. S. Hyman, ex-M. P. for London,' said there were undoubtedly many present who would wonder at members of the Liberal party coming out west. The object of the trip was twofold. First to disseminate among the people the principles of Liberalism which he considered to be in the true interests of the people, and secondly they came so that they might know the people and the the manufacturers, who do not want recountry better and become better ac-

Laurier, Hon. A. N. Richards, Q. C.,

quainted with that legislation that would tend to the peace and prosperity of the them there just as long as possible. The people. There was a wide and diverging between the policies of the Liberal of disloyalty when they asked for reciand Conservative parties. It was not procity. The Conservatives said they in the mouth of any man to explain the

leclined to give the bonus, it could not in the prosperity of the whole country be said that they did not want the fac-Fisher. tory but it would mean that they conat Ottawa as no less in need of reform than sidered they were paying too dearly for is the trade policy pursued. The extravthe whistle. Take for example the production of oil in the vicinity of London, Ont. The duty on oil permitted the refiners to charge 61-5 cents per gallon more for their oil, placing four hundred thousand dollars in the treasury and six hundred thousand dollars in the pockets of the refiners. Let us see the benefits the people derived from this. Almost all the refineries are at Petrolea and

tection. The manufacturers were the

masters of the government and they de-

manded full value from the government

and received it. The manufacturers

or lower. It was said that the Liberals

wished to discriminate against Great

Britain. The present tariff discrimin-

ated against Great Britain. fron axles

from Great Britain were taxed 61 per

cent., from the United States, 41 per

cent; boiler iron from Great Britain; 41

per cent., from the United States, 23 per

cent.: cast iron from Great Britain, 52

per cent., from the United States, 43 per

cent. Taking the whole dutiable and

free list there was imported from Great

Britain, \$31,689,000 of dutiable goods,

and \$11,279,000 of free goods; from the

United States, \$28,562,000 dutiable

goods and \$29,659,000 free goods. Goods

from Great Britain paid \$9,948,000 in

duties while American goods paid \$7,

738,000. From Great Britain 75 per

cent. paid duty and from the United

loyalty that the Conservatives talked so

much about allowed the government to

tax British imports 22 per cent. and

American 13 per cent. The Conserva-

tive journals of the Northwest contended

that it was impossible or difficult to ob-

tain reciprocity as it depended upon the

will of the people of the United States.

He would ask the Conservatives to re-

member the year 1891, when they had a

reciprocity treaty on their own hands

which they thought important enough to

ment the house was dissolved they did

not think the proposed treaty was im-

ple desire reciprocity they caunot get it

from the Conservative members, who go

to the United States determined not to

accept anything that is offered to them.

They are in the hands of their masters,

ciprocity. They have got their hands on

the people's throats and intend to keep

Liberals were called rebels and accused

wanted a treaty on the line of the treaty

If the peo-

portant enough to discuss.

go to the country upon. But the mo

est of the city to bonus it. If the people

agance and the wrongful diversion of pub ic funds under the present regime-such as McGreevy, Caron, Curran Bridge, and othe exposures have revealed-are made the ore noticeable to the people of this community by the wages of hardworking employees of the postoffice department eing cut down to the starvation point. The people of this city feel that, in view of the large trade which centres here, and the substantial revenue derived therefrom, some effective plan for the improve Oil Springs. Petrolea has a population ment of their harbour should be adopted of 3500 and Oil Springs 918, and altoand carried out. The efforts so far made in this direction have been largely wasted gether there are but four hundred men owing to the improper methods of adminemployed in the refineries. The tariff istration which have been alluded to, and made the people pay the manufacturer. the advantages to local and general trade and the government \$2500 annually for which should flow from such expenditures each of these men. He contended that are still wanting. in that light the Liberals could attack In conclusion, we may repeat the both the principle and application of pro-

that the next general election will bring success to the Liberal party under your able leadership, that the principles enunciated by the Ottawa convention may be carried into force, and that the country may soon experience that change of policy and said whether the tariff should be higher of administration which it sorely needs G. L. MILNE, M. D., President.

J. T. BETHUNE, Secretary

Hon. Mr. Laurier, on rising to reply to the address, was greeted with a spontaneous outburst of applause the like of which has not been heard in Victoria for many years. It was several moments before he could get a hearing, and then manner, at all events, the great feeling, the deep sense of gratitude which filled my heart for this great demonstration. It having now been my good fortune to visit all the other parts of this broad Dominion from the shores of the Atlantic element of flattery, that it has never country is such that the more you see of t the more you appreciate its glories and sesses. I had heard of your lofty mountains, whose crests are covered with evtion to me when for the first time we touched here, with the glory of the set- over them.