

IMPERIAL TARIFF CONGRESS.

GATHERING IN LONDON OF DELEGATES FROM ALL PARTS OF THE EMPIRE.

A Resolution Offered Favoring Free Trade Between the Motherland and all the Dependencies.—Sir Charles Tupper's Amendment Defeated.

London, June 28.—The Congress of the Chamber of Commerce of the Empire held its first sitting to-day. The immense hall of the Merchant Taylors' Company was crowded with the most influential politicians and economists in the country.

Sir John Lubbock, on behalf of the London Chamber of Commerce, offered a resolution favoring a free trade union between Great Britain and her colonies.

Sir Charles Tupper moved as an amendment the resolution of the Montreal Chamber of Commerce, which was adopted by the Canadian delegates as a whole, in favor of

SLIGHT DIFFERENTIAL DUTIES. Sir Charles' speech carried away the Congress, all the Canadians present being most enthusiastic in its support.

Sir Donald Smith seconded the amendment. Mr. Wood, of Hamilton, made a speech in favor of free trade between Canada and Great Britain. Many of the British delegates applauded Sir Charles Tupper's proposal, while others declared that the increase in the price of food would be a fatal objection. The debate was adjourned until 4 o'clock.

THE CANADIAN DELEGATES are elated at the reception they have so far received. At the afternoon session, Mr. J. X. Perrault, of Montreal, and Mr. Burton, of Toronto, strongly supported a preferential tariff. Mr. Medley, of London, made a motion declaring that preferential duties were politically dangerous and economically disastrous. Sir John Lubbock's motion was postponed. The Congress will sit four days. The deliberations are presided over by the Right-Hon. Sir John Lubbock, president of the London Chamber of Commerce.

THE PROGRAMME of the Congress includes the discussion of the commercial relations of the mother country with her colonies and possessions, with special regard to the renewal of European treaties, and recent commercial legislation in the United States; boards of conciliation for labor disputes; the codification of the commercial law of the empire; Imperial registration of trade marks, and the adoption throughout the empire of the merchandise marks acts; bills of lading reform; factory legislation throughout the empire; commercial education, including a scheme initiated by the London Chamber of Commerce;

EMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION; the necessity of an Imperial system of decimal currency; weights and measures; the international monetary union; a system of Imperial penny postage; direct telegraphic communication throughout the empire; Indian taxation; light railways; the abolition of lights dues; and treaties of commerce with native tribes and territorial delimitation.

This is a longer programme by nine subjects than that discussed by the first Congress, which met on July 6 and 7, 1886, when ninety-eight Chambers of Commerce and other commercial associations, home and colonial were represented.

London, June 29.—The Congress debated nearly all day Sir Charles Tupper's amendment. Sir Thomas Farrar ridiculed the proposal of the Canadian High Commissioner, amid much indignation from the Canadian delegates in attendance. Sir Thomas Farrar contended that Canadian trade was infinitesimal, compared with the trade that would be lost to England by the adoption of Sir Charles Tupper's suggestions. "Should Great Britain," asked Sir Thomas, "forego fifty millions of American trade in order to secure a problematical eleven millions from Canada? Conceive of England's production, if the United States should conclude to offer free trade on the condition of being accorded the same terms as Canada, and England should be compelled, by a prior obligation, to Canada, to reject the offer." Sir Thomas was formerly Secretary of the Board of Trade.

Mr. Wm. McArthur, president of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, strongly opposed Sir Charles' proposition. He declared that the proposals meant

taxation of the British producer for the benefit of the colonies.

Sir John Lubbock urged that Canada should use the McKinley tariff, as it was a great boon for the Dominion to throw open her ports, and invite the nations of the world to trade with her, which would give her such progress as she had never witnessed before.

Messrs. Plews and Ellis, of Toronto, and Mr. J. X. Perrault, of Montreal, supported Sir Charles Tupper's amendment. Mr. Ballantyne, of Woodstock, N. B., denied that Canada was unanimous for protection, as many of the residents of the Dominion were in favor of free trade. The Congress allowed Sir Charles Tupper to alter his amendment in the sense of limiting the duties proposed to be imposed to five per cent.

THE MOTION LOST. A vote was then called for, and on a show of hands being demanded, the amendment was declared to be lost, 78 voting for and 34 against it. Cheers greeted the result. Mr. Erastus Wiman and two other Canadian delegates voted against Sir Charles' amendment, all the other Canadians voting in its favor.

Sir Charles Tupper, at the instance of Mr. J. X. Perrault, protested against the vote as invalid, as he claimed that each Chamber of Commerce only, and not each delegate, was entitled to one vote. He will claim that the vote be retaken tomorrow.

The Congress then resumed the debate on the resolution offered by Mr. Medley, declaring that a fiscal union between Great Britain and her Colonies, by preferential duties, being based upon protection, would be politically dangerous and commercially disastrous, and that an arrangement that would best conduce to intimate commercial union would be for the self-governing colonies to adopt, as closely as circumstances will permit, the non-protective policy of Great Britain.

Mr. William McMillan, late Colonial Secretary of New South Wales, representing the Sydney Chamber of Commerce, held that free trade was the dominant factor in the prosperity of Great Britain. A rigid commercial union of the colonies, he said, was totally out of the region of practical politics. England did not care to give up her free trade. The moment she abandoned it her commercial empire would be gone. It would matter little whether the colonies went also.

Mr. William Tonke, President of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, said that certain members of the Congress had become so thoroughly attached to the fossil doctrines of 1841 that they were perfectly impervious to argument. (Cheers.) Mr. Tonke said a tariff of five per cent, on colonial produce would not cause an industrial war between the colonies and the Mother Land.

MERCIER CALLS THE QUBECOIS "CURS."

Hard Words For His Compatriots—His Last Desperate Resource is Annexation.

Ex-Premier Mercier, the late leader of the French Canadian Nationalists of Quebec, has been interviewed by a representative of the New York Herald. Mr. Mercier is credited with saying as regards his treatment by his fellow countrymen, the French Canadians of Quebec. "You will not see me in politics again, I am through with it for good and shall return to the practice of my profession, which I would have done better never to leave. Politics in this country is an ungrateful business. It has cost me my fortune, my health and my friends, and I say that is too much. I tell you, gentlemen, the people of Canada—the masses, I mean—are a lot of curs, who will let a man go forward and fight their battles for them, will see him pour out his best blood for them, will watch him die for them and then when his body has been trampled in the mud and lies rotting where he fell, they will not even bury it. That is what I think of the people of Canada.

"Is there no condition, sir," the interviewer asked, "under which you may go back into politics?" "Yes," he answered, "there is one condition and only one, and I am glad to name it to the representative of a great American newspaper. My condition is that there arise among our people a deep and serious movement in favor of the annexation of Canada to the United States, which I believe in, or in favor of Canadian independence. If such a movement arises, I may change my mind."

"Do you believe such a movement will arise?" "We are bound to come to it in time, but whether it will be in my time or not I cannot say. It may easily come quicker than any one supposes."

These words of the late premier led to a discussion, in which a number of gentlemen took part. For another train from Quebec had brought a new delegation of Mr. Mercier's close friends and political managers, including several former cabinet ministers and two directors of powerful Canadian newspapers. "To my surprise," says the interviewer, "in favor of the annexation of Canada to the United States."

"You will find," said one of the group, "that every other man you meet in Canada is in favor of the political union of the two countries, but that scarcely any one is willing to admit such an opinion openly."

BRITISH GENERAL ELECTIONS.

SCENES OF WILD DISORDER AT PUBLIC MEETINGS.

Mr. Gladstone Assaulted—Several Campaign Gatherings Broken up in Tumult—Lord Salisbury's Election Address.

London, June 27.—Lord Salisbury has issued an address to the electors of the kingdom. The document while reminding them that their votes will decide whether parliament shall be empowered to grapple with important social questions or wasted upon the protracted Irish struggle contends that the working classes are so powerful that no party is likely to disregard their unanimous wish. The vital question of Ireland overtops all others.

To Ulster the election is of terrible importance. Mistakes in other questions may be repaired but here the crisis is supreme. A wrong decision will mean a bitter protracted struggle culminating probably in civil war or even doom the Loyalists to the most dread subjection to their ancient and unchanging enemies. The address implores the electors to stop before deciding to reverse the policy of centuries.

"We do not indeed know," continues Lord Salisbury, "the details of the revolution proposed nor the precise designation of its appearance. Hollow and fragile securities will doubtless be offered to allay your fears and hide the wrong that is being done. They will serve to hinder the world from seeing the full cruelty of this abandonment though they will certainly hinder nothing else."

A long and powerful arraignment of the Gladstone policy then follows. The address concludes by praying the electors not to shatter the peace and order now reigning in Ireland resulting from a long period of steady government.

MR. GLADSTONE ASSAULTED.

London, June 26.—While Mr. Gladstone was driving through Chester to attend a Liberal meeting, the wife of an artisan threw a piece of hard ginger bread at him. It struck him below the left eye, cutting his nose and grazing the eye-ball necessitating medical attention. Mr. Gladstone afterwards went to the meeting, and made a spirited speech, which was heartily cheered. He evidently suffered great pain and was obliged to keep his handkerchief to the injured eye. After the speech, he went to the oculist again. The latter said great care was necessary. Mr. Gladstone, in describing the assault, said the woman threw the hard mass of gingerbread at him with great violence and with such suddenness that he could make no attempt to ward it off.

THE CAMPAIGN.

The total number of candidates who will stand in the elections is 1,500. Nearly all the 670 seats in the House will be contested. A few Catholic candidates will stand in England. There will be only ten Jewish candidates, of which number four are Liberals, four Conservatives and two Liberal Unionists.

STORMY MEETINGS.

Campaign meetings are now in full swing. A number of meetings have been broken up in fighting and disorder. In North Lambeth, Henry Stanley the African traveller, who is a candidate in the Unionist interest, was refused a hearing until his wife who was on the platform and in tears sprang to her feet and procured silence for a moment. The meeting broke up in tumult.

At Coventry, Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, was hooted and jeered and called a turncoat and traitor, and a cabbage was thrown at his head. He had to withdraw from the hall escorted by the police and was lifted half fainting into his carriage and driven away.

BALFOUR UNABLE TO GET A HEARING.

At Sheffield to-day there was a terrible uproar at a meeting addressed by Mr. Balfour, 15,000 people being present. From the very beginning of his speech Mr. Balfour was continually greeted with cheers and groans. Finally he expressed regret for the deplorable accident that had occurred to Mr. Gladstone. This caused the uproar to increase and finally the noise became so great that Mr. Balfour could not be heard. The crowd made several attempts to rush upon the platform and the police had the utmost difficulty in suppressing them. Several women were extracted from the crowd in a fainting condition. The meeting was terminated in the wildest disorder.

Prof. Tyndal in a strong Unionist letter predicts that the first loyalist blood shed in Ulster for the sake of Archbishop Walsh and Timothy Healy will rouse a feeling that will sweep Gladstone's Irish policy to perdition.

Uphold the Empire.

Mr. W. J. Burgess, President of the divisional council of the Primrose League in Liverpool, speaking at a demonstration recently said one of their most important objects was to uphold the Empire of England. (Applause.) He was glad to think that the number of those who regarded the Greater Britain beyond the seas as an incubus and a source of weakness rather than a glory and a strength was rapidly diminishing, and that Englishmen both at home and in the Colonies were gradually recognising the fact that the great hope of the Empire in the future lies in the adoption of a carefully considered and well-devised plan of Imperial Federation. (Applause.)

A railway collision has occurred on the Midland Company's line, England. Passenger trains running between Ilkley and Leeds and Ilkley and Bradford collided at a point where the lines converge near Esholt Junction. Three persons were killed and several others injured, the permanent way also being greatly damaged.

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Billiousness, "I have been afflicted with billiousness and constipation for fifteen years; first one and then another preparation was suggested to me and tried but to no purpose. At last a friend recommended August Flower. I took it according to directions and its effects were wonderful, relieving me of those disagreeable stomach pains which I had been troubled with so long. Words cannot describe the admiration in which I hold your August Flower—it has given me a new lease of life, which before was a burden. Such a medicine is a benefaction to humanity, and its good qualities and wonderful merits should be made known to everyone suffering with dyspepsia or billiousness."

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BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The Beneficiary Board is now prepared to receive applications for increased beneficiaries. The Beneficiary is now composed of two classes, viz. A and B. Class A includes the present \$500 and \$1,000 Certificates. Class B represents the increased \$1,000 Certificates.

All Beneficiary members at present in good standing will be eligible to join Class B (providing they pass a satisfactory medical examination), on payment of \$2.00, \$1.00 of which is to be paid the Local Examiner, and the other sent to the Beneficiary Board, less the Lodge Secretary's fee of 25c.

Class B contains no Total and Permanent Disability clause. The rates of assessment in Class B is the same as in Class A, and until such time as an assessment realizes \$1,000, the heirs or legatees of a deceased member shall be entitled to receive only such an amount as shall be realized by an assessment made upon all members in good standing in Class B at the time of his death.

All old members of the Beneficiary over 50 years of age, desiring to join Class B, may do so until six months from the date of this circular, that is, November 2nd, 1892, after which time no such application can be entertained.

Members joining both Classes at the same time will pay an entrance fee of \$5.00; \$1.00 to go to the Medical Examiner, and the balance to be sent to the Beneficiary Board, less the Lodge Secretary's fee of 50c.—25c. for each certificate. The Beneficiary Board meets on the First Wednesday of each month. The age of an applicant is made up to the day the application reaches the Supreme Grand Secretary's office; for example, if the applicant is examined by the Lodge Surgeon, say on the 10th of the month, and he would be fifty on the 22nd of the month, and it doesn't reach the Supreme Grand Secretary's office until after the 22nd, it bars him from being admitted.

The Entrance Fees must in all cases be forwarded with the application.

JOHN W. CARTER, S. G. Secretary. Toronto, May 4th, 1892.

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