

THE DISPATCH.

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PRICE TWO CENTS

THE LIBERAL ORATORS

Address a Meeting in the Rink Opera House.

THE PLATFORM OUTLINED.

A TARIFF FOR REVENUE ONLY—AS NEAR FREE TRADE AS POSSIBLE.

Large Meeting, and a Good Hearing.—Mr. Carvell's Bone which He Picks with the C. P. R.—Mr. John Harper Presides.—What Mr. Davies Has to Say.—Nova Scotia's Premier.

An assemblage numbering something over a thousand—at a fair estimate—of ladies and gentlemen, greeted the orators of the evening in the Rink on Friday night last. Though advertised to commence at eight o'clock, it was thought best to delay the meeting until the accommodation from up river had arrived, that the people coming down on that train might not miss the first of the addresses. In the meantime the Woodstock cornet band filled the hall with music. John Harper, president of the Liberal Association of Carleton County, presided. Beside Messrs. Davies, Fielding and A. H. Gillmor, there were on the platform: Chief Commissioner Emerson, Dr. Colter, M. P., Mayor Hanson, Robert Brown, John Farley, James Good, Edwin Squires, Gideon Phillips, E. S. Gilmore, S. B. Appleby, James Watts, F. B. Carvell and Grenville James.

At the outset the rink was comfortably warm, but before the end of the meeting it got most disagreeably chilly, and many people went away with colds in their heads. There is scarcely room for doubt that the three speakers made a good impression on the audience, and they aroused no violent antagonism in those who differed from them by making personal attacks on conservative leaders.

Mr. John Harper began operations by introducing the speakers, who had been delivering addresses throughout the maritime provinces, and he asked the special attention of the audience in their behalf this evening. He first called upon Dr. Colter M. P.

Dr. Colter was greeted with applause. He said:—I feel very glad at seeing so many persons present tonight, not only from Woodstock, and its immediate vicinity but from the remotest parts of the county. I am also very glad to see the ladies are present tonight. This county has well been called a liberal county. It has never yet returned an out and out supporter of the conservative party. In 1878 an independent was elected in the person of the late Geo. H. Connell, but he was an old time liberal and his father the late Hon. Chas. Connell, who represented the county in the local house, and the Dominion Parliament as well, was a warm friend and admirer of the Hon. Alex. MacKenzie, the history of whose leadership makes the brightest and purest page in the history of Canada (applause). There will be plenty of time in the near future for me to give the electors of this county an account of my stewardship, and to show how their interests have been jeopardized by the conservative party of this great dominion. On your behalf I will extend a warm welcome to my honored leader for the maritime provinces, to the distinguished leader in the local legislature of Nova Scotia, and to my never-to-be-forgotten honored friend from Charlottee.

The chairman then announced that Mr. F. B. Carvell had a statement to make to the audience.

Mr. Carvell said:—I am very sorry to call your mind tonight to a matter regarding special rates on the C. P. R. I will detail to you what the transaction was and you can judge whether we or the corporation are to blame. At the earliest moment after we had decided to have this meeting some two weeks ago, Dr. Colter and I went to see Mr. John Stewart and asked him if it would be possible to give special rates to persons coming from points along the line to attend the meeting. He wrote a letter to St. John asking what advantages they could give us. Subsequently we received word that a special train would be given us for the sum of \$100.00, or tickets from all points for one half fare, good to return on any regular train the next day, but the company would require a guarantee of one hundred passengers. I replied that we would accept the latter proposition. Dr. Colter went to Mr. Stewart and told him he would give a guarantee himself for 100 passengers, and pay the balance if they did not come. Mr. Stewart then asked Dr. Colter if he would have some posters, and if so he would see they were

posted in the stations along the line of railway. I know myself that this was done, because I saw posters on the line of railway between here and Bath. This afternoon we found the arrangement had not been carried out by the company. We wired to St. John and received word that no guarantee had been given and consequently no instructions issued to their agents along the line. The fact remains that the arrangement supposed to have been made had not been carried out and we leave you to decide whether we or the C. P. R. are to blame.

Mr. L. H. Davies was the first speaker after the preliminary skirmish was finished. He said: It is with unfeigned pleasure that I stand tonight, for the first time, upon a platform in Woodstock, to discuss before the electorate some of the great burning questions of the day, and I more cheerfully come to take my part in this meeting in recognition of the fact which your esteemed representative mentioned in his opening remarks. You are one of the two Liberal banner counties of New Brunswick. I believe his statement is correct that never since confederation have you so forgotten your love of Liberal principles as to return an out and out Conservative to parliament. (Hear, hear.)

The adjoining county of Charlotte, must be called the banner Liberal county for it has not only returned my friend Mr. Gillmor to parliament since confederation, but I believe has returned him to public life for the last 40 years, without interruption. We held several meetings and discussed some great questions, which are agitating this dominion, on the decision of which depends the weal or woe of the future. We had an excellent meeting in Moncton, crowded to the doors; an enormous meeting in St. John, and an excellent meeting in Fredericton, and need not tell you that we have a very magnificent meeting tonight. I only hope that we may be able to calmly, coolly and dispassionately enter into this discussion so that we can arrive by means of calm, cool argumentative reasoning at a conclusion, such as every honest, fair minded man desires to do.

We had our great leader Mr. Laurier visiting the western portion of this dominion, and I am pleased to be able to bear a message to you, that his reception in that part of the dominion was everything that could be desired. The people received him with open arms, gave him a continued ovation from Manitoba to the Pacific coast, which I believe it is acknowledged by the press of both sides, has not been equalled in warmth to any public man in the history of Canada. What does that indicate? It indicates a great reversion of public opinion in that part of the dominion, which heretofore has been solidly Conservative in its views. Since Mr. McKenzie was defeated in 1878, Manitoba, the Northwest and British Columbia have returned an unbroken phalanx to support the Conservative party.

That day has gone by. The people, smarting under the unjust grievances of the past 15 or 16 years have revised their political opinions, if we can judge by the expression of opinion given today, and we can look with a reasonable certainty for one half if not two thirds majority, in favor of the liberals, at the next election. Now, what are these great public questions? There are a great many with respect to the manner in which the government is carried on. The Liberal party has been true to its traditions and true to liberalism. The Liberal party when it formulated a platform, did not meet with closed doors, with a few of their leaders. They determined to take the whole country into their confidence, and called a convention to be held in Ottawa, attended by a number of delegates from this county, when 2500 men assembled, at their own expense, many of them travelling 1000 and 1200 miles. There, in solemn, serious conclave, they discussed calmly and coolly these great questions, and arrived at a conclusion, put before you in the platform you have all read. I think I am not overstating it when I say that there has been no criticism advanced by our opponents, or by the large body of independent men of the country which challenges successfully one statement made. The first plank laid down was on the question of free trade. The Liberal party has opposed constantly and persistently the doctrine embodied in what the conservatives call—I will treat them with respect and allow them the name—the National Policy, the policy of protection, a policy of compelling the mass of the people to buy goods manufactured in Canada, by prohibiting the importation of foreign goods into the country. We have said that is not in the interest of the mass of the people.

We have said that protection is a policy in favor of the classes and against the masses. True to our liberal instincts, when called upon to decide between the classes and the masses, we said that our lot will be found

with the farmer, lumberman, fisherman, artisan, the great consuming class, rather than with the monopolist and manufacturers. (Applause.) I desire to say at the outset that the Liberal party has had, and has now, no quarrel with the manufacturers of the country. I desire to say that we wish them well all over the country. If we can relieve them now of any shackles which impede their business, we will be glad and happy to do it, but we say these industries must not be carried on at the expense of the consuming class. We say, the promises made when New Brunswick was first asked to give its allegiance to the Conservative party have not been fulfilled.

The experience of the past 16 years justifies us in stating that this policy should be reversed, and we look with faith and confidence to the dawn of a brighter day, when another policy will be adopted, under which Canada alone can prosper. We do not favor a policy of protection such as shall develop monopolies, trusts and combines for the benefit of a few, checking immigration, causing loss of population, impeding commerce and discriminating against Great Britain. In the words of our platform we declare that the customs tariff of the dominion should be based, not as it now is, upon the protective principle, but upon the requirements of the public service. That the existing tariff, founded upon an unsound principle and used, as it has been by the government, as a corrupting agency, wherewith to keep themselves in office, has developed monopolies, trusts and combinations: That the highest interests of Canada demanded a removal of this obstacle to our country's progress, by the adoption of a sound fiscal policy, which, while not doing injustice to any class, will promote domestic and foreign trade and hasten the return of prosperity to our people. That, to that end, the tariff should be reduced to the needs of honest, economical and efficient government.

I believe there are three policies adopted by the nations of the world with reference to the trade question. Economic writers all uphold free trade and say that it is impossible to challenge the accuracy of the principle on which that policy is based. You may challenge the application of the principle, but the soundness of the principle I think you will find, acknowledged by every professor of repute in most academies and colleges of the world, today. That policy has not been applied in its entirety anywhere. Even in England they raise a certain revenue from duties on coffee, tea, chicory, spirits and one or two other articles. And I have not heard anybody propose to do away with these duties. The Liberal Party believing in the principle of free trade, is now desiring to get as near to it as circumstances will possibly permit. They admit we have to get a large revenue somehow. They believe the people are not ready to raise that revenue by direct taxation, although a very large proportion of our men in the party, among whom is Mr. Gillmore, believe this is the proper course to take. I am here not to outline a policy for the party, not to determine it but to lay down what that policy is, and tell you exactly what the policy is we propose to put before the electorate. That policy has every vestige of protection or taxation for the purpose of excluding foreign goods removed and at the same time is based on the principle that the tariff and the taxation must be reduced to the last dollar, so that not one cent of taxes shall be taken out of the pockets of the people excepting what is necessary for, purposes of revenue. (Applause) If that measure of taxation affords any incidental protection to the manufacturers we are pleased that it may, but we will not be a party to put one dollar of taxation in the tariff for the purpose of protection.

The political party now in power challenges your voters and holds that the proper way to apply customs taxes is to have two purposes, one to raise the revenue the country requires the other purpose to do what they call developing and encouraging which means enriching a certain manufacturing class in the community. We attack the last proposition as unjust to the great mass of people. (Applause). That is simply and surely the difference between the two policies; but they say to us all over the dominion, "Why that means two things unjust in themselves! It means the tariff must be a uniform tariff all over, so that the poor man will pay a great deal larger amount than the rich man, and it means there will be no free list at all." Now, nobody but a lunatic escaped from an asylum could be guilty of making such a mistake as that. A revenue tariff would be not under 15 per cent. on an average; it would not be 15 per cent. on everything. Some articles would pay more, some less. Whether the average tariff be 15 or 16 or 17½ per cent., somewhere in that neighborhood, it will be

a tariff sufficiently high to enable us to derive revenue sufficient for the purpose of carrying on the government. We simply say that every dollar put on in addition is so much taken out of the pockets of those compelled to pay it. If you are asked, how are we going to form an opinion on this question, I say you have experience to guide you, not only in this country, but in the United States, and in the mother-land herself. Our opponents say that, "if the Liberal party means absolute free trade, it also means direct taxation." The Liberals, they say, will tax your windows, your houses, your implements of all kinds. What is the sense of talking nonsense? Nobody proposes to do that for the present. No one proposes absolute free trade. On the contrary we propose a tariff, known as a revenue tariff, which will raise sufficient revenue to carry on the business of the country, without resorting to direct taxation on anything. This bug-a-boo is not put in our policy, but is an unfair and unjust cry arising from ignorance, or from a desire to prevent a fair view getting before the people. A minister of the crown declared the other day that the condition of England is most deplorable, that she has been driven out of the civilized markets of Europe, and maintains her army and navy to force her products on uncivilized nations. England driven out of the civilized nations of the world! What is the fact today? According to the customs returns she exports more manufactured goods to France, Germany and the United States than she ever did in her history before. She can make and manufacture, although she has thrown open her ports to all parts of the world, more cheaply than they can. England maintaining her army and navy to force uncivilized nations? It is a foul slander on the mother country. We know that her army and navy are maintained for different purposes than that. They are maintained to protect English commerce, to defend her dependencies, her 300,000,000 of subjects in India, and her colonies of Australia and Canada, giving us the support of the aegis of her flag to maintain our own trade, and while she is doing this, you are not asked to contribute one dollar to maintain this army and navy. I think the minister who made this statement with regard to Great Britain will be very sorry that he ever made it. Forty years ago in England, the protective system was reducing the laborer, and the mechanic to poverty. 10,000 persons were on the verge of starvation. Anyone who studies the history of England knows that hundreds and thousands of her working men were not within the reach of meat. But a change has taken place, and at the present day England's trade and commerce have developed to a degree before unexperienced, and the articles which her laborers use have been vastly cheapened in price. She stands today the commercial mistress of the world, and the nations of the world lay tribute at her feet. (Applause.) You have the nation to the south, as an example of the results of the protective system.

The speaker then proceeded to show that the prosperity the United States enjoyed was due to the free trade existing between the forty-four states which formed an aggregation of commonwealths, and argued that there was nothing in the history of the United States to lead us to follow their example, as against the example set by the mother country.

"Let us look at Canada since the introduction of the present system and see what the results have been. 16 years ago the principle was first introduced. You know how and under what circumstances. You know that it was accompanied by certain promises, and its fathers and promoters did not scruple to say that the depression existing in Canada in 1877-78 was in consequence of our not having higher taxes, saying, 'if you had higher taxes you would not feel the trade depression so much.' They also said that if we put a high tax on foreign goods the result would be the bringing of emigrants from other lands, who would come to work in our factories and build our tall chimneys." Dealing with the debt, Mr. Davies pointed out that it was \$245,000,000 net, and \$300,000,000 gross. \$100,000,000 of that had been incurred during the last 16 years. Money had been borrowed from the countries of the world brought here and spent here. That no doubt caused some businesses to prosper. It would be impossible to spend \$100,000,000 without benefiting some persons. You have had your dancing, "you have in the future to pay the piper." (Applause.) You stand with a debt amounting to \$50 for every man, woman and child of the country, while the country to the south has been reducing its debt, so that per head today it is less than one quarter the debt of Canada. They told you that they

(CONTINUED ON FOURTH PAGE)

KILLED BY A FALLING ROCK

AN ANDOVER YOUNG MAN WHO WAS SUDDENLY CUT OFF.

While Working at the Plaster Rock up the Tobique.—Killed Instantly.—Remains Brought to Andover.—Inquest Held.—Funeral by the Foresters.

Everyone in Andover and Perth, experienced the sense of a personal loss when it became known that C. V. Hutchinson had come to his death through an unavoidable accident at the Plaster Rock on the Tobique. Mr. Hutchinson, who was only 22 years of age, was foreman of the crew engaged in excavating plaster for Connor, Lawlor, & Co. at their works, some 28 miles from Perth up the Tobique Valley Railway. On Wednesday afternoon last about three o'clock the accident occurred by which the deceased lost his life. He was prying out a large rock when it suddenly loosened and fell. He ran forward to clear its path, stumbled and the heavy rock falling on his neck and shoulders killed him instantly. As soon as possible the remains were brought to his home in Andover, where his father lies dangerously ill with typhoid fever. Mr. Ezekiel Hutchinson, the father of the deceased, lives near the end of the bridge in a new two story house.

It was considered advisable to hold an inquest into the cause of the death of the young man, and consequently Coroner Geo. W. Murphy summoned the following jury who met in Mr. T. J. Carter's office:—Geo. A. Wade, Geo. Baxter, Jno. E. Stewart, Wm. D. Appleby, Jas. E. Porter, H. B. Murphy, A. E. Kupkey.

Dr. Wiley, who was the first witness, gave evidence as to the cause of death, testifying to the wounds as being evidently caused by the falling rock, and being sufficient to cause death.

Levi Campbell said:—We were at work at a rock lodged in the side of the bank. We quarried the front of the rock away, and that left a cliff hanging against the bank. We undetermined that and took part of it out. The rest of the cliff hung frozen fast in the earth. Three of us were working at it. I wanted to come down and blow it up. I came down. Deceased and Edward Giberson remained. Deceased went on the dangerous side to clear away. He cleared the dirt away, and then began prying the rock with his bar. We asked him to come away, but he kept on prying. The rock started and he started to run ahead of it. He had to run over a pile of loose stones. He stumbled and fell, in passing over the pile, and a part of the rock passed over him. He would have escaped I think, if he had not fallen. The piece of the rock that came out weighed a ton or so. One end rolled over him. We went to him at once and found he was dead. Stewart's crew were 100 feet away. They came to us, and we carried the corpse to the train, took it to Abner Turner's on the engine, and then got a team and drove to Andover with the remains.

Augustus Giberson, in the course of his testimony, said:—The deceased and my brother were working at the rock. It was five or six feet long, four or five feet in breadth. They were trying to work the rock, which stood in the side of the bank, loose, when it started suddenly and the accident occurred.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, no blame attaching to anybody.

On all hands were heard the highest words of commendation for the unfortunate young man, who seems to have been a general favorite. He stayed at the plaster quarry most of the time. He had been down to Andover to see his sick father and had returned on Tuesday, the day before he met his death. The deceased was a prominent member of Court Andover, I. O. F., and the order took charge of the funeral, which was held on Friday afternoon. The remains were buried in the Methodist cemetery.

By this untimely accident Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson are bereaved of their only son.

Death of Norris Best.

Mr. Norris Best, well known in Woodstock in connection with the iron works at the Upper Corner, died in Montreal, last Sunday, of paralysis. He was born in Bilston, Staffordshire, Eng., and came to Woodstock in 1861, taking charge of the iron works. He left when the works closed in 1868, and lived for some time in St. John, afterward moving to Montreal. Mr. Best married a Miss Allan, daughter of Jas. Allan of Harris & Allan, iron founders, St. John. His wife and one daughter survive him. The remains of the deceased were brought to St. John for burial.