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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., AUGUST 3, 1899

THE WAR SCARE.

A ridiculous attempt is being made to blame Sir Wilfred Laurier for compromising the International situation over the Alaskan Boundary question by his statement that efforts to compromise having failed, there remained but the two things, arbitration or war. No one who heard the speech to which we refer, took any other meaning than that which the plain words are capable of expressing. Sir Charles Tupper had just finished a very violent attack on the United States for its refusal to adopt a reasonable and equitable course in the adjustment of the difficulty as between friendly nations and for its attempt to misrepresent Canada's position to Great Britain. Sir Wilfred, while sympathizing with the view taken by the leader of the Opposition, stated that his own position made it necessary for him to be more careful in expression of his views over an international complication. He stated he was sorry to admit that the negotiations for the settlement of the Alaskan boundary were no further advanced than they had been last January, and inasmuch as these diplomatic negotiations had failed in view of the resulting deadlock, the only two possible ways of settling the question which remained were arbitration and war. The latter, he added, was out of the question.

As the New York Herald says in comment: "If the leading statesman of Canada had made a hundred speeches, he could not have chosen a more telling way of bringing out the fact that Canada feels that she is being crowded too hard. The phrase with 'war' in it—war remote improbable, 'criminal,' to use Sir Wilfred's own words to the Herald correspondent—is ringing in London and Washington." Canada's position is so just and reasonable that it were time the American nation were shocked into a realization of the unfairness of their attempt to coerce their kinsmen to the north. This position is not based alone on the correctness of the Canadian contention that the boundary line as settled by treaty crosses the Lynn Canal near its entrance, but on the willingness of this country to either leave the whole matter unconditionally to arbitration or to accept the American proposition to in any event leave them the possession of the settlements of Skaguay and Dyea if the Americans, in case of their view being considered correct by the arbitrators, will grant Canada Pyramid Harbour or some other port on the Lynn Canal so that Canada may have an outlet to the ocean.

The questions at issue are very well expressed by Sir Wilfred in the interview from which we have quoted above, and we cannot do better than give his own words:—
"Practically the whole dispute

now is circumscribed to the question of the establishment of the boundary line in the region of the Lynn Canal. The public is aware that the Canadian contention is that the line crosses the Lynn Canal near its entrance, whereas the American contention is that the line goes around the Lynn Canal, leaving the entire canal in American territory.

"If the contention were reduced to the exact location of the line, I think the solution might prove to be of comparative ease. But the Americans have establishments at Skaguay and Dyea. In our view the Americans at that point are on British territory, but we have to recognize the fact that they are there all the same.

SUGGESTS POINTS FOR ARBITRATION.
"At one time we thought we could have made the compromise and arranged the boundary by conventional agreement and mutual concessions. I am betraying no secret when I say that the Commission could not agree on such a compromise.

"Therefore, as we cannot agree among ourselves, we must ask the assistance of friendly arbitrators. The points to be submitted to the arbitrators might be the following:

"First, which is the right interpretation of the treaty in regard to the location of the boundary line on the Lynn canal? Is it the Canadian or the American contention?
"Second, in the event of the arbitrators declaring that the Canadian contention is the right one, then the subsidiary consideration would have to be decided. What disposition shall be made of Dyea and Skaguay, which are American settlements?

"We think that the Venezuelan treaty offers a precedent for the solution of that question. I am aware that the American authorities contend that there is a difference between the Venezuelan precedent and the case now to be disposed of in this, that, as they allege, Canada never protested against the American occupation of Skaguay and Dyea.
"We do not admit this contention in point of fact. But even if it were founded on fact, the arbitrators would have to consider what equities might arise therefrom and decide accordingly. Though I have strong views on this point myself, for obvious reasons I refrain from expressing them."

PROROGATION IN SIGHT.

After one of the most tiresome sessions in the history of Canadian parliaments the country has been at length favoured with an intimation of approaching dissolution. Sir Charles Tupper is booked to leave for England to-day, or it is quite possible the opposition might have kept talking until Christmas at least or until the Society for the suppression of bores had doomed to a timely fate the leading lights in the formidable talking machine commonly known as the Conservative Opposition. No wonder is it that the breaches in the opposition rank are many and wide, for even the full privates are so in love with the sound of their own voices that they insist on being heard in season and out of season, while the Tupperes, father and son, deem it a red letter day in the country's history when either condescends to speak for the enlightenment of the general darkness. The result is that the members of the opposition love one another quite as badly as they do the government or the country, and as no one among them seems to have any control over the rest it seems impossible to stop the incessant flow of words which is the whole cause of the trouble. When one takes up the Hansard Report and endeavours to read Sir Hibbert Tupper's 9 hour speech over the Yukon affairs, he ceases to wonder that ever since its delivery there has been a deadly hatred for its author in the breast of Mr. Geo. E. Foster. When it is remembered that two months later Sir Hibbert repeated the same speech to the House we can only wonder at the magnanimity of his party friends in abstaining from violent

ly robbing Picton of its Vancouver member. Then it must be confessed that to the younger opposition members the 7 hour speeches of the Opposition leader must be wearisome, dealing as they do with the paleozoic age in Canada and his own achievements, from the discovery of the country by himself down to its crowning triumph when the vast family of Tupper filled the lucrative offices of every department. Such a triumph of nepotism however, deserves recognition from the Immigration authorities.

And the strife of certain opposition factions against the Tupper domination has been pretty to see, while the dread of certain representatives that their voice might not be heard with sufficient frequency as to stamp them as prominent, has been the cause of more fifth rate speeches than have marked any previous session. The quandary of certain members whether to oppose the Tupper domination has been pitiful and we in Kent have watched with interest the struggle of our representative to ascertain whether it would pay best to be wid Sir Charles or agin him.

Meanwhile the Government has managed to perform its functions and get through a great amount of business in spite of the deluge of opposition talk. Less concerned with theories of government than with the overcoming of the practical difficulties, caring less for political fancies than for successfully coping with its actual responsibilities, the Government has shown a wonderful tact and patience in the management of its legislation. As a result it comes out of the session stronger in the eyes of the people of Canada than it ever was, more united in its makeup for the difficulties it has overcome and strengthened in the confidence of its own supporters for the hard fight made to further redeem the party pledges.

AN EXCURSION

TO P. E. ISLAND BY THE GRAND LODGE OF NEW BRUNSWICK, I. O. G. T. ON JULY 19.

On Wednesday evening, after two days arduous labour by the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick, I. O. G. T., which has recently been in session at Shediac, over seventy Grand Lodge officers and members embarked on the steamer Northumberland to pay a fraternal visit to the Grand Lodge of P. E. Island, then in session at Summerside. The day was perfect as a July day could be, not a cloud was in the Heaven above, a sea of glistening, rippling water rolling round us, and a glorious summer sun was shining over us to sink away a little later into the crimson west to be succeeded by a moon of radiant splendor. Happiness beamed on every face and anticipation ran riot as the boat left the pier at Point du Chene, leaving many friends who were unable to bear us company, among the number being the Rev. Thomas Marshall, whom we reluctantly left behind. And so amid the waving of handkerchiefs we sailed away on pleasure bent, thoroughly deserving our well-earned holiday. And as brilliant conversation and merry song went round, it became evident the old adage which tells us, "Wine quickens the intellect, gladdens the heart, brightens the imagination and permits men to shine among men," must forever more remain obsolete, for never yet, I ween, was more brilliant conversation or better rendered song and story, than that given by members of an Order which is composed of the most refined and intelligent men and women in the Province. Lawyers, doctors, teachers, and statesmen were there, and clergymen of nearly every denomination—Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Congregationalist, who had met in one common cause to legislate for the best interest of an Order, having for its aim the prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Nearly all our grand officers were present. Our past chief templar happy in well doing, our chief templar on whose sober face stern care was reflected, which seemed to chide us for our joyousness while the world was so full of sorrow and misery and wretchedness and sin, and while the ram fiend-still holds sway, and the powers that be are arrayed against us. Others were there who had left all the cares of life behind and who had given themselves up to the enjoyment of the hour. The Rev. Wm Lawson, universally known in New Brunswick, contributed not a little to the pleasures of the afternoon. The Rev. W. R. Robinson, ever thoughtful of others, passed along dropping little deeds of kindness on his way.



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Bro. L. W. Fowler and Prof. McMillen who had been appointed by the Grand Lodge of P. E. I. to visit our grand lodge and escort us across the straits, were a welcome addition to our company. Bros. Dodge and Moore of the I. C. R. and A. H. Robinson, superintendent of the Elgin & Havelock, represented the railways, and last but not least, the Rev. J. Bennet Anderson, Past Grand Counsellor of the Grand Lodge of England, and delegate to the International Supreme Lodge which recently met at Toronto. The Rev. gentleman is making a tour of the Provinces and visiting the Grand Lodges of Canada. Our English Brother, who is known as the singing evangelist, rendered a number of beautiful sacred songs most acceptably. After a well prepared supper on the boat, our party reached Summerside and was there met by a committee of arrangements, who hustled a number of us in the conveyance of Hotel Russ, while others were entertained at the Clifton and Campbell, private families taking charge of those who could not be entertained at the hotels. A public reception was tendered our Grand Lodge in the Methodist church at Summerside, presided over by L. W. Fowler. Addresses of welcome were extended to our Grand Lodge by the Rev. Mr. Goldsmith, Rev. Mr. Linkletter, Rev. Mr. McLaughlan and others, after which a solo was beautifully rendered by Mr. Fair. The different speakers in their remarks convinced us that they were justly proud of their beautiful Isle. Our Grand Lodge responded with an address by our Grand Chief Templar, Rev. R. Barry Smith, Rev. Mr. Austin, Rev. W. R. Robinson and Lawyer Davis, after which our distinguished visitor or Rev. Mr. Anderson gave an address and solo. The meeting then closed with the benediction. Among those to welcome us was Rev. E. J. Grant of temperance fame and formerly of New Brunswick. One of the most encouraging features of all our meetings, both public and private, was the unanimity of opinion in regard to the plebiscite, and the action of the government on the temperance question, it being generally conceded by all that the temperance party had gained a victory in the recent election, where Prohibition was carried by a fair majority despite the opposition of even talented ministers and the whole liquor combine, with money at their disposal and all the unfairness that characterized the election in some sections. And the opinion of our leaders, irrespective of party, is that the temperance electors will hold together and demand temperance legislation from the government of the country. On Thursday morning our party took in the sights. Through the kindness of Mr. Holman and Mr. Alward, of the celebrated department store of Summerside, we were taken through the building and were well repaid and very much surprised at its magnitude. At 10.30 we again embarked with cheers for the Grand Lodge of P. E. I. and Bros. Fowler and McMillan and the Rev. Bro. Anderson, who stayed on the Island. And so we regretfully left the snug little Isle to the tune of "Go be with you till we meet again." Our voyage home was especially pleasant, and our

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musicians were re-enforced by Mrs. F. Riley, an American tourist, who very kindly assisted in the singing. Away down below deck our Grand Secretary, Wm. Barnes, with an eye to business, called a meeting of the Executive, where after due deliberation a programme of propagation work was planned, which will be heard from in the days to come. And so ended one of the most pleasant chapters in the life of a good templar.
ONE OF THE NUMBER.

BASS RIVER NOTES.
JULY 29.—Not having read any news from this village of late I think your correspondent is neglecting his work, as I am sure this village is deserving of some notes every week.
We need a new weather man up here, Mr. Editor, as the wet weather never seems to end, but for all that the farmers are busy haying between the showers. Crops look well and the harvest will be large.
The new public hall in this place is being finished as rapidly as possible under the supervision of "master carpenter," James Campbell, and when finished will add greatly to the appearance of Sunlight avenue.

We are much pleased to see so many of our young ladies returning from the land of the "Stars and Stripes" to spend their vacation at home, we always welcome you girls.
Miss Fannie Campbell who has been home on a short visit will return to Boston in a few days. Sorry to see you go Fannie.
Mr. Dave Clark who has spent the last seven years in the Western States and who has been home for three months on account of his health, will return west about the 1st of August. Dave is looking fine and we know that his many recent visits to Moulies River has not done him any harm. Gossip says that Dave will not travel the paths of single blessedness much longer. She will never be happy till you take her west, Dave!
Miss Florence Warman has been visiting at the homes of Mr. Clarke and Mr. Simpson for a few days. Stay in Bass River, Flo.
Miss Sarah Mills is visiting her friend, Mrs. Jas. Hannay.
We had an exciting race here one evening last week between a cow and a bicycle. The cow came in ahead. We would like to know what kept the man with the wheel, but we believe there was a young lady from Boston on the same track.
Misses Ester Brown and Maggie Glenn gave us a short visit last week.

Miss Bessie Baldwin, of Salem, Mass., who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baldwin, and who has spent many pleasant visits at Bass River will return to Salem at once. And it is rumored that Bessie will not have to travel alone. We congratulate you Bessie, "Give us your hand!" But they say he is a flirt.

Miss Annie Starrak, of Trout Brook, leaves for Boston soon.
Our friend Bert is looking well. You have a hard road to travel Bert, especially on a wheel.

Mrs. Jas. Hannay leaves here in a few weeks to join her husband in Florida.
Mr. Herbert Easter is building a new house and Mr. Jas. Hanson is putting an addition to his house.
The picnic and dance held here a few days ago was a great success. Come again people of Bass River you are always ahead.

We must say good bye to our friend Dave, as we hear he leaves us on Monday the 31st. Don't linger too long in Boston, Dave.
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SEVEN BABIES AT A BIRTH.
PITTSBURG, July 29.—What is said to be an authentic report comes from Brownsville to-night of the effect that Mrs. Geo. Hackett, colored, of that place, gave birth this afternoon to seven babies, four girls and three boys. They were all alive when born, but tonight all are dead but one. The report says they were all small, but well formed.
The parents are poor, the father being a miner. He is about 25 years old. The mother is a young woman and had two children before. She is said to be as well as can be expected and that the one child will probably live.
"Two little boys of mine were troubled with worms. They would wake in the night and vomit and sometimes were quite feverish. I got a bottle of Dr. Low's Worm Syrup which gave them complete relief from their trouble." Mrs. Wm. Merce, Testerville, Ont.