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RICHIBUCTO, N. B., MARCH 2, 1899

THE RECIPROCITY COMMISSION.

The adjournment until August next of the International Commission appointed to settle the different matters in dispute between Canada and the United States, has been seized by the Conservative press as a proof of the failure of the negotiations. The joy exhibited by such journals is so inconsistent with true patriotism or any motive higher than a mere party advantage, as to suggest to the average mind that with such critics the wish is father to the thought, and that rather than see the Liberal leaders get the credit of a peaceful settlement of the many annoying disputes and the honor of again arranging a fair trade arrangement between the countries, such patriots as Sir Charles Tupper and his followers would prefer to see the negotiations fall through. There is however no sense in their misrepresenting the situation. In a statement signed by Mr. Fairbanks on behalf of the American Commissioners and by Sir Wilfred Laurier on behalf of the British and Canadian Commissioners, the information is given that the Commission while agreeing on many matters of vital importance has been unable to agree in respect to the method of adjusting the Alaskan boundary. The position taken by the American representatives is that the coast settlements of Alaska now occupied by Americans shall remain the territory of the United States even though the arbitrators to be appointed shall declare these to be in Canadian territory. In other words, this part of the Alaskan boundary dispute is to be yielded to the Americans without arbitration and to be beyond the scope of the finding of the arbitrators. To this Sir Wilfred Laurier and his conferees object, fairly claiming that the whole matter of the Alaskan boundary must be left to independent arbitrators who should have full power to adjust same in accordance with their decision.

The second great difficulty is in connection with the make-up of the board of arbitrators to settle this Alaskan boundary difficulty. The Canadian representatives are willing that two arbitrators should be chosen by each country and that a fifth who should act as umpire should be chosen from any neutral nation, while the American Commissioners insist that this fifth arbitrator or umpire must be chosen from one of the Central or South American Republics. This stand on the part of the United States does not appear to be based either on common sense or justice and the adjournment of the Commission has been taken in the hope that by consultation with their respective governments the views of the Commissioners might be

brought to a meeting point. That the Canadian Commissioners were justified in their refusal to accept the American propositions in regard to the Alaskan boundary, even that strong Tory journal, the St. John Sun, freely admits in an editorial in their issue of Saturday last:—

"In the first place, the United States commissioners stipulate that the coast settlement now occupied by the United States shall remain United States territory, even though the arbitrators should declare them to be in Canada. In other words, Canada is asked to agree as to this part of the disputed territory that if the arbitrators find it to belong to the United States it shall belong to the United States, while if they find it to belong to Canada it shall belong to the United States. Obviously an arbitration on these lines is of no value to Canada so far as this part of the disputed territory is concerned. The coast might as well be given up before our right to it is established, as given up after we know it is ours.

"But there remains other disputed territory in respect to which the United States commissioners are willing to accept an award of a board of arbitrators. The difficulty here arises over the constitution of the board. Both sides are willing that two arbitrators should be chosen by each country and that an umpire should be selected from a neutral nation. But the United States commissioners have insisted that the umpire should be chosen from one of the South or Central American republics. The Canadian commissioners do not accept this stipulation.

"Of course the Canadian commissioners could do nothing else than refuse. They refused to accept the condition that the umpire in the arbitration should be a Central or South American, for the same reason that the United States insisted on the appointment, that is because both sides knew that the fifth man would not be an independent arbitrator."

Sir Wilfred Laurier and his conferees who have been representing Canada on the Commission, deserve credit for their decision not to sacrifice our important interests for the sake of hurrying through a treaty. Canadians would prefer no reciprocity treaty to one so dearly purchased. At the same time we just as heartily commend the patience and self-restraint of our representatives in not losing their temper and closing the negotiations when confronted with such absurd propositions as have been set up by our American cousins. It shows a long advance in Canadian diplomacy that our representatives have met the old American bluff with a good-natured but firm determination not to compromise. Readers of history well remember that in the case of both the Ashburton and Oregon boundary treaties, the Americans assumed a ridiculous and thoroughly untenable ground and then suggested a compromise of more than they had any reason to expect, but being a seeming yield on their part their wishes were met and millions of acres of territory given up to the United States. We are happy in the thought that Sir Wilfred Laurier will if necessary close the negotiations rather than give away our birthright in a similar manner. At the same time we have no patience with the silly exhibition of Sir Charles Tupper's senility at Toronto last week when in discussing the work of the Joint High Commission Sir Charles said: "He was amazed that the Canadian premier, representing as he did 'her gracious Majesty, had not at once said that the negotiations were closed. The Canadian representatives had forgotten what was due to Canada and the great empire to which she belonged, and he as leader of Her Majesty's 'loyal opposition, felt bound to 'protest,' &c., &c., ad nauseam. In other words, when the Americans set up a bluff claim, Sir Charles Tupper's dignity would be

of more importance than the material interests of an entire continent, and for fear he might yield to their demands in a moment of weakness, he would have to break off the negotiations altogether.

Thank goodness Canada has at last got statesmen in control of her affairs, and the country is quite satisfied that Sir Wilfred Laurier and his associates will spare no legitimate effort to bring about a peaceful solution of all the difficulties between Canada and the great Republic to the south including a fair and equitable Reciprocity Treaty. At the same time our people feel equally satisfied that our great Premier will never consent to unfair conditions which will prejudice Canada's future, and that if necessary, after all other resources have failed, he will break off the negotiations rather than terminate them in a treaty which cannot meet with the approval of the Canadian people. In the meantime the adjournment is by no means to be regarded as foreshadowing an ultimate failure of the negotiations. On the other hand we are willing to place ourselves on record, as being firmly of the opinion that the Joint Commission will agree upon the matters at issue between Canada and the United States, but it is going to take a good deal of time and patience to bring about so desirable a consummation of their labours. In the meantime regret for the sake of his former greatness that the friends of Sir Charles Tupper cannot see their way clear to raise a sufficient sum to have the old warhorse of Cumberland retired to an old ladies home, where his servile aberrations could not possibly interfere with the important work of greater men than himself. There have been times in the history of the two countries when such utterances would have been fatal to the successful prosecution of the labours of a joint commission, but fortunately for Canada, while Sir Charles has the will to commit so much harm, his power is gone and his Toronto speech is a fair illustration of the impotent rage of a politician in his dotage.

THE CONSOLATION OF THE VANQUISHED.

The result of the local elections of the 18th instant was so disastrous to the hopes and ambitions of Dr. A. A. Stockton and his opposition followers that we in modesty abstained in our last issue from offering the necessary consolation lest our well intentioned tender of the balm to their wounded aspirations might be mistaken for the arrogance of the victor. In the past ten days our friends the enemy have come out of their political swoon, and have to their own satisfaction proved that untold thousands were squandered by the Liberal party in the debauchery of the electorate. For our part we would merely smile at the Munchausen-like stories of wholesale bribery told by Mr. Geo. E. Foster and others of the same stripe were it not that the good name of the people of New Brunswick is involved. Certain it is that every single constituency in the Province returned Government supporters with the exception of Sunbury and therefore the charge of popular corruption and lack of patriotism cannot be confined to one or two counties but must be shared by all alike. When Mr. Foster made the statement that from \$80,000 to \$100,000 had been spent in the Government interest he made a reckless statement in pure, sheer, malicious ignorance, for we venture to say that there was not a man in this province so utterly ignorant of the resources of the Local Government party as was Mr. Foster. To make an assertion of this kind

A Common Cold

and common carelessness can make a combination strong enough to defy all the healing skill of the physician. Common carelessness lets the cold root and grow. Common carelessness says, between paroxysms of coughing, "It will be all right in a day or two," and the common end is confirmed lung trouble, perhaps consumption. The common-sense treatment of a common cold is a prompt dose of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It is the most efficient and reliable cure for colds and coughs, and is constantly prescribed by physicians.

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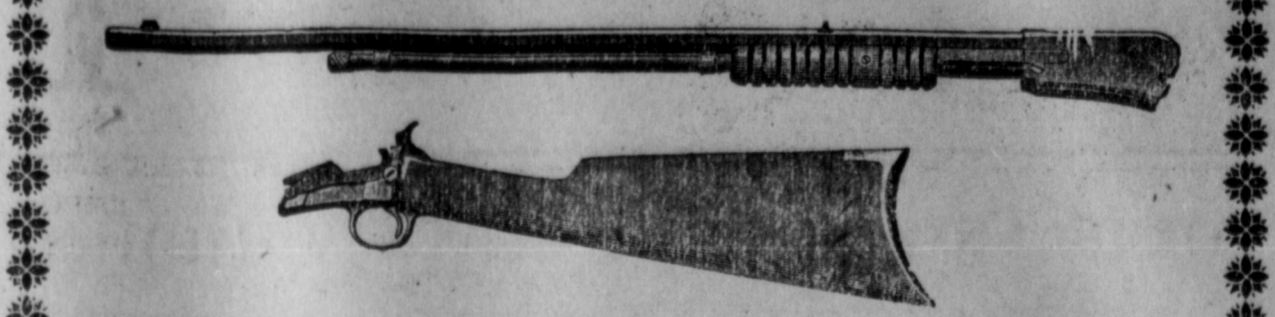
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in malicious ignorance is, we take it, as base as to state the same thing knowing it to be false, and it has the disadvantage of making the author ridiculous in the eyes of his fellow men. Speaking for the County of Kent we repudiate the nasty insinuation of Mr. Foster that our people held their birthright so cheap as he dares to assume. The very results make the assumption ridiculous, for money could not so influence the electorate of this constituency as to give a return of 2 to 1 for any party and no one in the County will accuse our opponents of being lacking in the sinews of war.

If our political opponents must have a consolation in defeat it would be wiser to face the truth and accept the real reasons for their crushing defeat, and we have no hesitation in informing them what these were. The people of New Brunswick are thoroughly sick of the Conservative regime with its later history of venality, cowardice, treachery and bigotry as displayed in the legislation of the past eight years, weary of the utter disorganization and lack of morals of the leaders of that party as instanced by the basest possible display of treachery to Sir Mackenzie Bowell in 1896, tired of the utter heartlessness and sordid selfishness of the Tupper and Foster who barnacle-like are but clogging the new hopes of the younger men of the Conservative party from a possibility of realization.

We do not hesitate to assure our Conservative friends that Mr. Foster was the cause of their utter rout on the 18th instant, as we predicted would be the result when he set up shop in the Moncton Convention. He is capable of killing any party he is associated with in the eyes of the people of New Brunswick, and it is because Conservatives realize that while such men control their party it can never be capable of producing anything of advantage to Canada, that there has been so many additions to the Liberal party. Our people realize that party is a good thing to consider but country is a better, and the wise and progressive legislation of Sir Wilfred Laurier and his associates have satisfied thousands of old time Conservatives in this province that they are patriotic in giving their support to the Liberal party. After the next federal election Mr. Foster will have more things to explain away and one of them will be why New Brunswick changed a Conservative majority of 11 members to 3 in the federal house into a Liberal majority

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equally great, but we presume he will never admit the true reason is himself.

THE HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS.

One of the canvasses used by the Opposition candidates in the recent local elections, was to the effect that the Dominion Government had no intention of carrying through the proposed Richibucto Harbour improvements and that the work which had already been commenced was only an anti-election dodge and would be dropped as soon as it had served its purpose. We scarcely blame the gentlemen for these assertions for so used in the past have they been to the Conservative Government employing such devices to deceive the electorate that they no doubt failed to realize that since 1896 a new order of things has come to pass in Canada and that in the stead of tricky politicians we now have statesmen in control of our federal affairs. As our people are aware, the work is still going on and will continue to do so until the promised improvements and accommodation are a reality. Mr. Allan Haines has been appointed foreman of the work, while the contracts have been given for the lumber, brush, &c., in connection with the breakwater. The material is to be delivered on the Beach by April 1st next, which is as early as the outside work could be successfully prosecuted. As we stated in a former issue, Mr. Tarte, the Minister of Public Works, is determined to have a proper channel into our Harbour and one sufficiently deep to admit the class of vessels coming to this port to complete their loading inside the bar, instead of our shippers being compelled, as has been the case up to this time, to incur the delay, danger and expense of

completing the cargo outside. We are pleased that the people of this County accepted so thoroughly the statements made by THE REVIEW in regard to these Harbour improvements in the face of the repeated statements to the contrary made by the Opposition candidates and their friends. We are further pleased that our people, and particularly our Acadian friends, showed themselves so loyal to the men who are working hard in the best interest of Kent, both in Local and Dominion affairs.

HEIR TO \$50,000,000.

INFANT WHO MAY SOMEDAY INHERIT VAST SUMS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 28.—A son and heir was born to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney, Friday morning. Mrs. Whitney is doing nicely and her infant son is well.

There are special points of interest connected with this addition to the Whitney household. One, of course, is that he is a grandson of the richest men in America, William C. Whitney and Cornelius Vanderbilt. Another is that he is the grand-nephew of Oliver H. Payne, the multi-millionaire bachelor. The capital and influence of the Payne family founded the great Whitney fortune.

If the baby grows to manhood its chances of coming into \$50,000,000 from grandfathers and grand uncles are good.

Mrs. Harry Payne Whitney is the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt. Her marriage with young Whitney was celebrated at "The Breakers," the Newport establishment of her parents, on August 25, 1896.

CONVICT NOW A MILLIONAIRE.

Moscow, Feb. 22.—Count Sollogub, a Siberian convict, who was sentenced to the mines for forgery and fraud in 1894, has just inherited the fortune and estates of his brother. The convict's holdings amount to about 5,000 acres and his personal estate to about 3,000,000 rubles \$1,470,000.

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