

March	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31				

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## RUSSEL HOUSE BY AUCTION

Wednesday, April 20th. inst  
At 12 O'clock

I am instructed by Joseph Wise, Esq., M.L.A., to sell by auction, on the above date, the Brick Hotel Property on Sydney St., known as the "Russel House," and now occupied by Mrs. John McKinnon.

This hotel is built of solid brick, and heated by hot water, and fitted by electric lights, all in good repair. Together with yard and stables in the rear.

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Terms at sale.

E. H. NORTON, Auctioneer.

## THE SITUATION.

ABLY REVIEWED BY SENATOR FERGUSON.

Overwhelming Arrangement of the Government

(Continued from Hansard.)

But, hon. gentlemen, I want to point out to you that there were in the minds of every eminent man in England at that time, and not much wonder, serious doubts as to whether the denunciation of those treaties would lead, in Canada particularly, rather in the way of the disintegration of the empire than to consolidation. On the day previous to the prorogation of the British Parliament, on the 5th of August last, Mr. Courtney, one of the members from the county of Cornwall, brought the matter up before the House of Commons and I will just give a short extract from what he said on that occasion. He said: "A few years ago there was a strong party movement in Canada in favour of promoting almost complete fiscal freedom between the United States and Canada. But that could not be accomplished without differential duties as between goods imported by the United States and European countries, if not between this country and Canada. This step towards the fiscal freedom of the colonies was a step rather towards disintegration than integration, towards separation rather than combination."

This was the serious difficulty that presented itself to the mind of Mr. Courtney, a very able man, as Mr. Chamberlain admitted when he came to discuss the matter with him. How did Mr. Chamberlain reply to that? Mr. Courtney remembered that the party was in power in Canada had a few years ago advocated commercial union with the United States. He feared, and it was no wonder, that when these same men came asking for the denunciation of these treaties, their object was simply to obtain it so that they could differentiate against Great Britain, as the Liberal party in Canada had proposed a few years before.

Hon. Mr. Mills—Does he say that?  
Hon. Mr. Ferguson—He does say that: "A few years ago there was a strong party movement in Canada in favour of promoting almost complete fiscal freedom between the United States and Canada."

And then he goes on and says he feared that the denunciation of these treaties was a step towards the disintegration of the empire—to give these people a chance to go on with their nefarious work,—that was what his language pointed out; and in order to show that I am not misinterpreting what he says, we will see what Mr. Chamberlain said in reply: "My hon. friend introduced some remarks to which I am inclined to take exception. He said it down that if Canada had proceeded to make arrangements with a foreign government by which differential duties would be imposed on the mother country, then, as a matter of fact, the mother country would have had to submit. Now, I do not think that the most enthusiastic free trader ever laid that down as a policy of this country, and I repudiate it altogether."

He repudiated altogether that if Canada was to differentiate against the mother country, Great Britain would submit to it. That is what we told the Liberal party in their wayward course, we told them that Great Britain would never allow it. Oh, they said, the advantages she will get by the good-will of the United States will compensate for all this, and Great Britain will be happy and glad to have all difficult questions out of the way and Canada and the United States in a commercial embrace. Mr. Chamberlain said no, Britain would not allow it, no more than she would allow these gentlemen to legislate in the face of a circular despatch from the British Government, such as the Marquis of Ripon had sent out in 1895. But I will read on:

"I am happy to say it has never been the policy of the representative government of any colony, though it may have been advocated by some politicians; but there are, as we know politicians who will advocate anything." (Laughter.)

There are politicians, the right hon. gentleman said, who will advocate anything; and in this connection he was discussing Mr. Courtney's pointed reference to the Liberal party in Canada when they were advocating commercial union with the United States. But, he said no representative government of any colony has ever done this; it is only politicians such politicians as will advocate anything that were doing it. He continued:

"We must not judge the politics of a country (we are inclined to thank Mr. Chamberlain for that) by the views of the individual politicians. But it is, I think, most undesirable that a politician in the position of my right hon. friend should, as it were, hold out an invitation to a colony to take a step which would be certainly most patriotic, coupling it with an assurance that there would be no objection on the part of this country. A step of that kind would be a step that must lead to further and very important results—results, I am convinced, not desired by the colonies or people of this country."

Now, so far from their policy or their past history or from anything that they had done, giving strength and force to the movement for the denunciation of these treaties it turns out that their past yearwardness on these commercial questions interposed a serious objection in the minds of some of the best and ablest men in Great Britain, and furnished doubts and reasons why these treaties should not be denounced at all. On these grounds I think they are entitled to credit whatever with regard to the denunciation of the Belgian and German treaties. But it appears as I have already

indicated, and as many of the hon. gentlemen of this House now know, after the announcement made the other day by the Secretary of State, that they were even more radically wrong in this so called reciprocal resolution than we had claimed or pointed out that they were. Not only were they proposing to fly in the face of Lord Ripon's despatch, not only were they disposed to ignore treaties that every school-boy ought to know were binding on the government of Canada, not only were they doing all this, but they entirely misunderstood and misinterpreted the force of the favoured-nation clauses which Great Britain has in her treaties with a great many other countries, and after having secured the denunciation of the German and Belgian treaties they were still confronted with the difficulty which Mr. Chamberlain pointed out them. Even after that is done he said you will have to go back and modify and change this resolution of yours, you will have to do away with it altogether or you will have to confine your preference entirely to Great Britain and the chains were fastened around them so tightly that the Secretary of State had to announce the change, although in announcing it he placed the premier in a questionable position with regard to the condition on which he accepted the Cobden medal. Whenever I think of their devious course with regard to the denunciation of these treaties, and when I hear the gentleman on the government side of the House claiming credit to themselves for what they have done and for what it effected, I am reminded of the heading of a chapter in Pickwick papers where Dickens tells the story of how Mr. Winkle instead of shooting at the crow and killing the pigeon, shot at the pigeon and wounded the crow; or in another version of it, he fired at rook in a tree in the lawn and disabled a duck in the backyard. Even Dickens's sense of humor was not, however, strong enough to say that Winkle turned round and claimed applause of the bystanders on account of the accuracy of his shot; but that is just what these gentlemen have been doing—they shot at a crow in a tree on the lawn and wounded a duck in the back yard, and they asked the people of Canada to applaud their marksmanship. It is one of the greatest comedies of errors in the history of the country. It has been a series of blunders. Every step they have taken has been a blunder. They have to rescind almost every feature of their famous resolution; and the premier, in the end, will have to send back that Cobden medal.

(To be Continued.)

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ROBERT H. EDWARDS  
By W. S. Stewart, their Solicitor.  
Charlottetown, Feb 14—

## AT THE HOSPITAL WINDOW.

Ain't the stars purty  
Up there in the sky?  
Shinin an shinin,  
Oh, ever so high!  
Le's lay here, Billy,  
An count 'em an see  
How many's winkin  
At you an at me.

Ain't many yet; we'll  
Git over it soon;  
Ketch em a-comin  
An start with the moon,  
One, two, three, four, five,  
Which side are you on  
This side or that side?  
Oh, looky! it's gone!

Clond has come over.  
Wait now; it'll shine  
Just in a minute—  
Now! This side is mine.  
Why, there's a lot more  
Come out since. Le's see—  
Start it all over.  
Begin—one, two, three.

Looky there, Billy!  
See that thing! Whoo-ee!  
Flyin across there—  
Say, what can it be?  
Shootin an sizzlin—  
I'll bet somethin's wrong.  
That there thing's tail is  
Half a mile long.

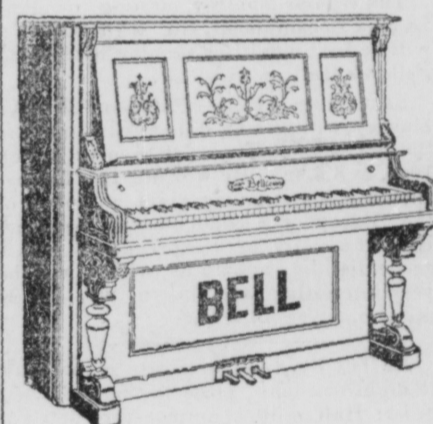
There! It's all gone now.  
Why, Billy, I swan,  
Millions have come from  
Where that an has gone.  
Pshaw! We can't do it.  
We never can keep  
Tally, they come so.  
Le's us go to sleep.

Billy—say—tell me,  
Now, who—do you s'pose  
Gethers the stars in  
When all the night goes?  
Bet—ho must start—work  
Along before—day,  
'Relse he could—never  
Put all—of—em 'way.  
—Carl Smith in Ladies' Home Journal.

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