this was what was intended by the parties. How much more certainly is this the proper interpretation to place upon a correspondence by telegraph where every idle word is penalized and communications are as brief as they can be made consistently with being intelligible. Not so, however, is the correspondence read by the Privy Council. The owner of the property is by their judgment permitted to say to his correspondent, "I knew that you wished me to make an offer of my property and that this was your reason for asking me the price. When I told you that my lowest price was £900 I had every reason to assume that you would understand my reply to your enquiry as an offer to sell to you at that figure. So would any ordinary business man in any ordinary business transaction. But if you will examine your telegram closely, you will perceive that you asked me two distinct questions and that I answered only one of them. I told you that my price was £900, but if you will closely scrutinize my telegram, you will see how careful I was not to say that I was ready to sell at that figure. I am a 'pretty smart dog,' as you will have discovered, and the probability is that in the future when you deal with me, you will construct your sentences more cutely and parse mine more carefully before you arrive at your conclusions. If you had said, 'What is the lowest price at which you will sell me Bumper Hall Pen?' you would have caught me out, for my answer would have been precisely the same as it was and I would have been bound. If I had said 'Yes, my lowest price is £900,' which is precisely what I meant to say, you would have had an offer of the property and your reply would have been an acceptance of an offer to sell, instead of being a mere offer on your part to purchase. Language is an invention to conceal thought. Words are not to be understood in the sense in which ordinary persons in like circumstances, and in view of all the circumstances, would read them but may be understood in some narrow, so long as it is a strictly grammatical, sense which happens to suit the convenience of a tricky correspondent." This is not "Crowner's Quest law." This is Privy Council law. For Colonial courts it is final and