

The Colonist.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15.



The name Yukon has been hitherto associated with Alaska and it applies as much to that territory as to Canada. So true is this that careful writers speak of the Canadian Yukon, when they wish to refer to that part of the great river valley lying within the Dominion. If they do not use this expression they say Klondyke. Our suggestion is that the Dominion government shall recognize what is fast becoming to be the custom and call the Canadian Yukon Klondyke. One advantage of this will be that no other locality can claim the new name. Klondyke, in point of fact, the name of no place in particular. As everyone now knows, it is the result of a futile effort to pronounce an Indian word. How tough a contract it is to pronounce the word accurately may be judged from Mr. Ogilvie's heroic efforts to do so when he lectured here. He never said the name twice the same way. But Klondyke, no matter how it is spelled, has a lodgment in the public mind and will stay there. Let the name be retained, and as the discoveries on the river from which it has been taken have made the Yukon territory famous the world over, let it be applied to the Golden North.

Specifically: Let all that territory lying north of the Province of British Columbia, south of the Arctic Ocean, west of the 120th meridian and east of the 141st meridian, be known hereafter as the District of Klondyke.

AN ANTI-CLIMAX.

The report from Washington, D. C., that the President in his annual message to congress will say that there is no reason for interference with Spain in regard to Cuba foreshadows one of the most remarkable anti-climaxes in diplomacy. That it will disappoint a very great many people in the United States goes without saying. Keyed up by a sensational press to an exalted stage of expectation, a very large majority of the people looked for some new demonstration of the alleged championship of liberty, which the United States is claimed to have assumed. There probably never was a greater mass of bald-headed and Doctor Faustus invented the art of arts preservative, than has found place in the newspapers of the United States since Cuba, and what the great republic was going to do for the help of its down-trodden people. We suspect that there is a method in the madness, which underlies these ebullitions of frenzy. In ancient Rome the rulers had a trick of amusing the people with circuses and pageants in order to distract their minds from pressing domestic problems. There seems reason to think that, dazed with the magnitude of the questions of a social and economic nature arising at home, the leaders of public opinion in the United States seek to divert attention from them by diligently cultivating an absurd jingoism. This is at once caught up by the sensational press and the country is kept in an uproar about the affairs of people with whom it has really nothing to do. Nothing better illustrates this than the fact that during the last two years hundreds of thousands of presumably sane United States citizens have been wearing "Cuba Libre" buttons, while minstrels and light comedians have never failed to bring down the house by a far-fetched joke or bumptious assertion on the same fruitless topic. During the last session of congress under the Cleveland regime, warlike resolutions on the subject of Spain were more in evidence than legislation on the manifold and difficult domestic problems awaiting attention. When Mr. Cleveland contemptuously refused to pay any attention to the blatant demagogues, who inspired them, there was talk of impeaching him. The press fairly ran riot with cartoons depicting him as the enemy of freedom, and the resources of the language were exhausted in editorials describing his utter baseness. Then we were told that Mr. McKinley would show the world what a free people could do to help another people struggling to be free. It is no exaggeration to say that hundreds of thousands of people in the United States fully expected that one of the first acts of President McKinley would be to order Spain out of Cuba bag and baggage. Indeed those in his confidence took care to say in the most public manner possible that in the fullness of time he would develop

a Cuban policy which would meet the just expectations of every patriotic American citizen. A few days ago things looked as though he were about to do so, patriotism from the United States standpoint consisting chiefly in minding the business of every other country but your own. But Spain stood firm. Uncle Sam found his bluff called, and now we are told that the extremely courteous way in which Spain has said that she must not be interfered with has so impressed the President that he will recommend compliance with her wishes. Fortunately, as we said the other day, the United States has no sense of national dignity to prevent it from turning any corner, however sharp, in its international relations.

What is the explanation of this tremendous anti-climax? We are all concerned in the answer. Nothing touching the national life of our great neighbor is without deep interest to the people of Canada. We believe the true explanation is in part that suggested above, that the political leaders of the country realize their inability to deal with the tremendous domestic problems pressing for solution, and is also to be found in part in a desire to mask political designs by clouds of international dispute. Close on the heels of Cleveland's Venezuelan message came the bond issues. He wantonly and impudently interfered in the affairs of two other countries, talking about using force when he was well advised that he had no force at his command. The public mind was excited. Public attention was taken off party politics for a time, and he was able to carry out the financial policy devised for him by a coterie of New York bankers. The Dingley tariff, which is an oppressive measure of taxation and a great burden to millions, was pushed through while the country was hurrying about Cuba. The government of the United States has never had the least intention of going to war during the last ten years. Turkey was bullied, France was threatened, Germany was warned not to go too far, Great Britain of course came in for everything in the way of threats that ingenuity could devise, Japan was challenged and last but not least in point of ferocity have been the declamations against Spain. But during all these lurid times, the war and naval departments of the United States have known perfectly well that the country was in a condition to engage in hostilities with even a third class power. The insincerity of the whole business was well illustrated by the action of congress at the time of the discussion of the Venezuelan affair. Senators and members of the house of representatives talked glibly of going to war with Great Britain, though they were told in express words by their chief admiral that Great Britain, without weakening her squadrons on any of her stations, could capture every city on the American seaboard, and by the general commanding the army that they had few guns of modern efficiency and little machinery to make them, still fewer carriages for the guns and still less machinery to make them, no ammunition and no means of making any large supply, no arms, accoutrements or uniforms for an army, no commissariat, no plan of mobilization, nothing, in short, but a general condition of unreadiness. Asked how long it would take to get ready, General Miles said the preliminaries would require two years. For proof of these statements we refer to the report of the Committee on Coast Defence in the congress of 1895-96. Yet while these statements were being made in the committee room of the Senate, such men as Senator Morgan were declaiming as to the duty of the United States to at once teach England a lesson that she would never forget, and incidentally to show the European powers the proper way to deal with Turkey.

So we were not unprepared for an anti-climax in regard to Cuba. This is not the first time that the great American eagle has "soared aloft to Heaven's blue vault and lit on daddy's woodpile." We are not without hope that the great movement now in progress among the people, which seeks to find a way of handling the issues between capital and labor and other questions of that nature, will before long make itself felt, and the great nation, of which we have all expected so much, will rise above the antics of jingoism and aid the English-speaking peoples in working out the great problem of democratic government.

THE PRESS AND THE COURTS.

We begin what we have to say on this subject with the remark that no one claims greater freedom for the press in discussing the acts of courts of justice than the *Colonist*. Sir John Allen, lately Chief Justice of New Brunswick, laid down what we regard as the true rule in this matter when he said, *apropos* of a criticism to which he took exception: "Judges are public servants. What they do is a legitimate matter of public discussion, provided it is carried on so as not to prejudice a case with the court is deciding. But after a case has been finished, if a newspaper believes it has been wrongly decided, or that anything has been done in the process of it that is detrimental to the public interest, it is the duty of the newspaper to state its views in the plainest possible terms. But I think that a proper respect for the institutions of the country, not to speak of fairness to men, who

cannot very well speak in their own defence, should lead newspapers to refrain from imputing questionable motives to judges."

The reason why newspapers should refrain from comment upon cases pending in court are too many and too obvious to call for mention, and the right of judges to punish summarily those who disregard the wholesome rule laid down in this behalf is unquestioned. When the case is ended and the judgment becomes a matter of public record, the right of criticism exists, and we claim that the power of courts to punish such criticisms by proceedings in the nature of contempt is a fiction of the imagination. The case of John V. Ellis, of the St. John Globe, seems to support a contrary view, but we think it does not do so in point of fact. It would be a monstrous thing if a judge could violate his official duty and then punish summarily, and in his own discretion, any one who called him to account publicly for so doing.

Having thus made it clear that the *Colonist* is not in sympathy with the extreme view of the powers of the court to punish for contempt, and claims the fullest right of criticism consistent with the public interest, we desire to say that the observations of the Nelson Tribune in regard to the bench of British Columbia are entirely uncalled for and in the highest degree discreditable to any publication in this province. The bench of this province has the deserved reputation of being honorable and impartial. Its members are inspired by a desire to discharge their duties to the best of their ability and with an eye single to the public interest. If at any time any of them is guilty of an act, which calls for criticism, by all means let it be criticized, but let what is said be said definitely and not by miserable innuendo. There is nothing outrageous in such a course as the Tribune has seen fit to adopt.

A SUMMARY.

In response to numerous requests that the *Colonist* should prepare a summary of the principal points in regard to the gold fields of British Columbia and the Yukon, we present the following. The summary is not exhaustive, but it will doubtless serve the purpose for which it is intended. What our correspondents and callers have asked for is a general review of the whole situation with special reference to Victoria. They say that when they are writing to friends they are often at a loss to know just what to tell them. We hope they will find in this article the necessary information. We have endeavored to be accurate in every respect, and if there are any errors in regard to distances, etc., they will be found to be immaterial. Concerning the richness and extent of the gold deposits of British Columbia and the Yukon there is no room for doubt. The latter are in what is usually referred to as the Klondyke. But the Klondyke is only a very small area in comparison with the whole. If you take a map of North America and find where the 141st meridian forms the boundary between Alaska and Canada, you will see that about midway between the Pacific and Arctic oceans the great river Yukon crosses the boundary line on its way to Behring sea. A little to the east of the boundary—that is, in Canada—a comparatively small river joins the main river. It is not likely to be shown upon any of the maps, but it is some twenty or thirty miles from the boundary. This is what is called the Klondyke, and upon the tributaries of the stream, the El Dorado and the Bonanza, are the great placer mines which have attracted the attention of the world.

William Ogilvie, the Dominion land surveyor, who is the greatest authority on all subjects relating to this part of the world, says that he is satisfied that in these streams alone there is sufficient gold to warrant an estimate of their output at \$65,000,000 to \$75,000,000. The gold-bearing region extends far up the Yukon and its branches. Indeed the same gentleman is authority for the statement that there is in Canada alone a known auriferous area of between 100,000 and 150,000 square miles, with much country lying outside of it that will undoubtedly prove worth working. This estimate takes no account of the gold-bearing region of British Columbia.

Referring again to the map, if you take the point where the Yukon crosses the meridian as a starting place and draw a line thence southeast until it reaches the point where the eastern boundary of British Columbia touches the 49th parallel, that is the boundary between the United States and Canada, you will have a line something like 1,200 miles long. If you lay off on each side of this line a belt of country having a width of 800 miles, that is 150 miles on each side of the line, you will have what may be called the great gold-bearing belt of the Northwest. Near the southeast corner is Roseland; near the northwest is the Klondyke; midway are Cariboo, Cassiar and Omineca. This belt does not include all of the auriferous area of the Canadian Northwest, but in a general way may be called the auriferous belt. Its area is 300,000 square miles. Lying outside of it are gold-bearing areas. In addition to the deposits of gold, either in placers or in quartz, there are very many and very rich deposits of silver. The name of Slocan is associated with silver more prominently in the public mind than any other single locality; but the Slocan is not by any means the

only argentiferous district. The names of Cariboo, Cassiar, Omineca, East Kootenai, Elkoot, Boundary Creek, Kettle River, Nelson, the Great Bend of the Columbia and other places are already household words in connection with the production of gold and silver, and are only mentioned in this connection for the purpose of refreshing the memory of readers. On the Coast and the islands are many valuable deposits of copper, gold and silver, some of which, notably those on Texada Island and at Alberni, on Vancouver Island, have already been proved to be of great commercial value. Hundreds of prospects lying outside of the above described belt await development by men who have a little capital to invest in such work.

All this great region being in Canada, it follows that every British subject has an equal right to share in the development of its wealth. It follows also that the proper basis from which to work is some point in British Columbia. Persons who contemplate investing in the Kootenai country, that is in the south-west one-third of the belt, will naturally make one or the other of the cities of that section their headquarters. They will, however, find it to their advantage to make commercial connections with the wholesale houses of Victoria. Those who contemplate operating in Cariboo, Omineca and Cassiar will find Victoria the best point at which to obtain supplies, and the same is true of those who may contemplate going into the Yukon. At Victoria can be found merchants of extensive experience in this line of business. Engaged in trade here are some of the pioneers of the gold camps of Cariboo, Cassiar and Omineca. These men know what miners want; they know how to prepare goods for packing; they can advise miners as to what they ought to take and what they can do without. Of no other city on the continent can this be said with as much truth as of Victoria. Prices in Victoria are as reasonable as anywhere. An important matter to be mentioned in this connection is the fact that this great mining region being in Canada, goods purchased in Canada, and Victoria is in Canada, are not subject to duty, while all goods purchased out of Canada are subject to a duty averaging about 30 per cent., which is rigorously exacted.

It is important to bear this in mind, because there has been considerable misapprehension on this very point. The claim has been persistently made by unscrupulous persons in the United States that no duties are exacted on goods taken into the Yukon, and therefore that nothing is gained by buying goods in Canada. Color was given to this claim, by the omission of the Canadian government to exact customs duties on the Yukon, the truth being that so little stuff was taken into the country that there was no object in keeping officers on the ground to collect duties. When the Klondyke rush began, thousands of miners from the United States set out for the mines with goods purchased in the United States, and no officers being despatched to intercept them the first lot got through without paying duty. Officers were subsequently put on and the duties have been collected. Owing, however, to the great inconvenience which would be caused parties who went north in good faith, believing that the customs barrier would remain down, a temporary exemption of one hundred pounds in weight of miners' supplies was allowed for the year 1897. This exemption has been persistently misrepresented as \$100 worth, 1,000 pounds, and in fact as anything which suited the convenience of conscienceless or ignorant people for the time being. This exemption will not continue after the end of the present year, so that hereafter all goods not purchased in Canada and destined for the Canadian Yukon, will be subject to the same duties as goods imported into other parts of Canada, which duty averages about 30 per cent.

In the matter of routes to the Yukon gold fields, the intending miner has a choice of several.

First, by way of the mouth of the Yukon. To go by this route, the miner must take an ocean steamer to St. Michael's, in Behring sea. This point cannot be reached before the latter end of June and sometimes not before July. Thence he will take a river steamer, and the length of time occupied in the journey up the river cannot be stated with accuracy. As the distance to Dawson City, at the mouth of the Klondyke, is 1,500 miles, it will be seen that the journey is a long one. It is likely to be made still longer by the grounding of the steamers. Under any circumstances this route cannot be said to be available for a greater period than two months annually for certain, with a chance in exceptional years of some few weeks additional navigation.

The Dalton trail. This is one of the trails starting from Lynn Canal, which is the northernmost prolongation of the channel lying between the Alaskan archipelago and the continent. The shortest distance by this route to the Yukon is about 300 miles. It is a good route in summer for taking in cattle, there being much grass on the way. It is also available for pack trains, but is rather too long to be much used for this purpose.

The Dyea Trail. This is a short route to the headwaters of the Lewis and Clark river. It starts from Lynn canal. A rope tramway is being built over the worst part of it. The distance is about

thirty-six miles to the lakes, and from there the route is down the river in boats.

The Skagway Trail. The distance is not much more than via the Dyea trail, and the route leads to the lakes at the head of the Lewis river. It is expected that railway communication of some kind will be established over this trail, in which event it will be a popular route. This also begins on Lynn Canal.

These trails begin in what is for the present recognized as United States territory, although after the summit has been reached the trails are in Canada. Canadian goods have to be bonded in order to be taken over them.

The Stickeen-Teslin route is up the Stickeen river to Telegraph creek, and thence overland to Teslin lake. The distance over the river is about 160 miles and from the river to the lake by the trail now in use about as much more. It is believed that the land route will be considerably shortened. The Stickeen is navigable by steamers to Telegraph Creek, and steamers ply regularly thereon in summer. A winter road will in all probability be kept open up the Stickeen this winter and across to the lake. In the spring a good trail will be made, which will be improved so as to make a wagon road. From Teslin lake, the miner will descend to the Lewis river by way of the Hootalinqua river, a fine navigable stream. A steamer will be built on the lake this winter. Next season one or more steamers will doubtless be sent up the Yukon to the lake. The advantage of this route is that it is an all-Canadian one. By transferring goods from the ocean going steamers to river steamers at Fort Simpson in British Columbia there will be no interruption from the United States customs house officers, for the reason that the free navigation of the Stickeen is secured by treaty to British subjects.

Persons desiring to go into the Yukon by any of the above routes will find ample facilities for so doing at Victoria, where nearly all north bound steamers call, and from which city several lines of Canadian steamers will run. All the transcontinental lines make direct connection with Victoria. All ocean steamers entering the Straits of Juan de Fuca from Australia, China, Japan, the Hawaiian Islands, San Francisco and other points down the Coast call at Victoria, which is thus a central point for all travel and the most convenient point of departure for the Golden North.

Captain Goodall, of the firm of Goodall, Perkins & Co., has been making a speech to the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, in which he bitterly complains that though goods can be bought as cheaply in the United States as in Canada, a duty is imposed on them when taken into the Yukon Country, so as to compel miners to make their purchases in Canada. We can tell Captain Goodall something that may seem stranger than that. There are a quantity of things that can be purchased very much more cheaply outside of the United States than within that country, and yet the United States congress has placed a high duty upon them in order to compel people to buy them in the United States. We can produce some things more cheaply in Canada than can be produced in the United States. Will Captain Goodall kindly raise his voice that Canadian products shall be admitted into Alaska, duty free? If not, why not?

Mr. R. T. Williams is quite correct when he says that English Bluff is not mentioned in the charter of the Victoria, Vancouver & Eastern railway company. The charter of that company authorizes it to build a line to a point on the coast between the Fraser river and the International boundary. This gives the company authority to build a line to English Bluff, but does not compel it to do so. So far Mr. Williams is correct. But at this point the subsidy act steps in and declares in so many words that to entitle any company to the subsidy to Penticton from the Coast it must maintain and operate a ferry from English Bluff to Vancouver Island. As the company cannot claim a subsidy without complying with this condition, it is quite correct to say that the construction of a line from English Bluff and a ferry to the Island are secured by statute.

At last a statue is to be erected to Cromwell in London. It will be done none too soon. It is yet the fashion in some quarters to shrink with horror from the name of the man who, as Carlyle said, "taught kings that they had a joint in their necks"; but the cause of liberty the world over owes more to him than to any other single individual. He has no monument; but it could be said of him: "Si monumentum queris, circumspecte."

The legislature of Georgia has passed a law making the birthday of Jefferson Davis a public holiday. And yet thirty-two years have passed since the close of the war of secession. It is astonishing that such a law should have been passed by a body of men, most of whom can have only a faint recollection of that struggle.

The promotion of the Hon. Mr. Emerson to the premiership of New Brunswick has more than local interest from the fact that he is an avowed champion of woman suffrage. The St. John, N. B. Globe thinks legislation to

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that end is likely to be introduced into the provincial legislature at a very early date.

The discussion now in progress at Washington City between Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Secretary Sherman are decidedly interesting. It will be very strange that with both sides desirous of settling all serious questions between the two countries a reasonable conclusion cannot be reached.

It is proposed to employ Chinese in the coal mines of Northern Illinois in order to break the strike now on there, and there are a good many dark threats as to what the result will be. In the present temper of the working classes in the United States anything may suffice as a pretext for riots.

Lieut. PRARY, U. S. N., went up to Greenland at considerable expense to bring back what he claims is a very large meteorite. Nansen has seen the stone, and pronounces it only a mass of telluric iron, specimens of which are not uncommon in the far north.

MONTREAL has decided not to have a winter carnival. That is wise. It would be well to leave the holding of winter carnivals to Dawson City and places like that. By the way, how would it do for Victoria to have Christmas flower show and water fee?

The Chicago Drivers' Journal says that since cattle raising has become a regular business have the ranges, north and south, been so completely cleaned up of anything that will make beef.

The Spokesman-Review hits it about right when it says that the more you talk to a man about the difficulties of getting to Klondyke, the more he wants to go there.

ACCORDING to programme Theodore Durrant is to be hanged to-day. To concede his guilt is to place him among the most remarkable criminals that the world has ever seen.

NEW YORK state has its first beet sugar factory in operation, and the product is said to be equal to any manufactured. British Columbia can grow sugar beets "to beat the world."

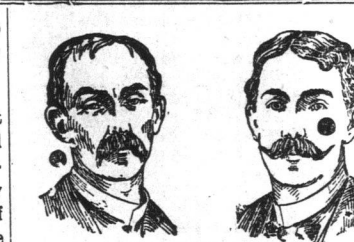
SOMEBODY has arisen in Manitoba with a proposition to drain the lake of that name. It would be bad policy to begin any monkey business with nature's plans in that regard.

THE CANADIAN PRESS.

AS TO RECIPROCITY.—Let the United States now lay aside its exclusive policy, let it adopt liberal and rational views, let American statesmen treat commercial relations on business principles, not inconsistent with our self-respect as an independent community, and the government will be supported by the whole public opinion of Canada in going far to meet their overtures.—Ottawa Citizen.

GOOD ADVICE.—Get your name on the voters' list soon if you are a British subject. Even your name may be the turning wheel that decides for an extra representative for Kootenay; just as, for instance, 5,000 has a much larger look than 4,999.—British Columbia News.

WHAT'S SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE, ETC.—If a seal born in a country remains the property of that country wherever it may be found, the same privilege must apply to fish. Therefore, fish hatched in Canada, say on the Canadian side of the Detroit river, would remain the property of Canada if caught by the fishermen on the Michigan side. The same



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would be true of the wild ducks and geese bred in these northern climes. If the Americans will stop catching "our" fish and stop shooting "our" wild fowl they can talk to us about "their" seals. Montreal Herald.

A NOBLE PURSUIT.
There are no blood or tears on the miner's gold. It is clean wealth and is not gained by sharp practices or the swindling of the miner's fellow man. That is one of the main reasons why there are so many noble, whole-souled fellows engaged in the business of mining.—Roseland Miner.

CAR FERRY SERVICE.

TO THE EDITOR:—The comments made by certain aldermen at Monday night's meeting of the council, re my letter to the board, if carefully read condemn their utterances. I certainly take exception to the following remarks in your issue of Monday, in which you were evidently led into a slight error. Speaking of the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern Railway charter, you say, "The charter of the company provides for the construction of a line to English Bluff." As the words "English Bluff" do not appear in the charter, and no positive assurance that any line will ever be built by the Vancouver, Victoria & Eastern Railway (to English Bluff or Victoria) than Vancouver or New Westminster cities, and as Victoria is not even mentioned as one of the terminal points, while both the mainland cities are, I fail to see wherein the holders of the charter were given a right to use the word Victoria, intending, as they fully do, to ignore this city altogether (if allowed to do so). I do not blame the government in the matter and I feel convinced that they will not allow them to have a dollar until it is positively understood that the three cities—Vancouver, Victoria and New Westminster—stand on an equal footing. Victoria needs a transfer car-ferry service from the nearest point on the mainland, which is English Bluff, and if the government grant any bonus without such a stipulation being unmistakably understood, they will certainly fall in their duty.

K. T. WILLIAMS.

The best preparation to remove dandruff from the head, and to cure and stimulate the scalp, that dandruff will not gather again, is Hall's Hair Renewer.

First Widow—What did your husband leave when he died?
Second ditto—Nothing.
F. W.—Mine did better.
S. W.—What did he leave?
F. W.—The earth.

In detail, the figures catch are: Total catch

SHERMAN

Opening of the Settling Issues States and

Ottawa Denies T. Main Is Uneasy Sealing

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—The first of the for the purpose of agreement by the question between the U. Dominion of Canada, signed by treaty conference will be the seal. The conference was brought about by the Secretary of State, Mr. Sherman, and the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. McKim, at the executive mansion, Mr. Sherman, the and Lady Laurier, the minister of marine, Mr. Davies and the official the Behring Sea negotiations. The first of several events in honor of the row night Secretary Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and on Saturday the guests of the Canadian officials of the government are somewhat visit of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the concessions which probable he will a reciprocity provision of the are apprehensive that the Premier will direct largely to securing reductions on Canada's agricultural products to this count is antagonize any special lines. It is expected the department official country is capable of barley, and believes that not want a reduced rate. The opinion is expressed that it would be red States to confine relations with Canada largely to Mr. Sherman and together for two hours that authority had been voted to the consideration of important questions a relations between the two countries. It is expected the department official country is capable of barley, and believes that not want a reduced rate. The opinion is expressed that it would be red States to confine relations with Canada largely to Mr. Sherman and together for two hours that authority had been voted to the consideration of important questions a relations between the two countries. It is expected the department official country is capable of barley, and believes that not want a reduced rate. The opinion is expressed that it would be red States to confine relations with Canada largely to Mr. Sherman and together for two hours that authority had been voted to the consideration of important questions a relations between the two countries. 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