

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TELEGRAPH, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1905

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Semi-Weekly Telegraph
ST. JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 9, 1905

AN ANNOUNCEMENT

The resignation of Mr. John Russell, Jr., president of The Telegraph and Times Publishing Company, with Messrs. E. W. McCready and A. M. Belling, editors of The Telegraph and The Times respectively, which were placed in Mr. David Russell's hands as a result of Mayor Russell's attitude during the strike crisis, have not been accepted, and these gentlemen will continue as before. Mr. David Russell feels that as the strike has been settled most satisfactorily so far as it effects the port of St. John, and as this was the main issue, the question of Mayor Russell's resignation will well be left in the hands of the citizens.

IMPERIAL MATTERS

The correspondence between the British and Canadian governments on the subject of an Imperial Council has just been published. It shows that the Canadian government is not at present prepared to go as far in that direction as the government of Mr. Balfour.

Lord Lytton, after a reference to the Colonial Conferences of 1887, 1897 and 1902, suggested that, as those conferences were now to be held every four years, the name be changed to "Imperial Council," the composition of which might be discussed at the next meeting of Imperial and Colonial Conferences. His lordship further suggested a royal commission of a purely consultative and advisory character, to have an office in London, and deal with questions affecting imperial and colonial interests on which more light and knowledge were sought before joint action was taken. This commission would secure data on all matters of joint interest.

The Dominion government, in reply, argued that any change in the title or the status of the Colonial Conference should emanate from that body, and that the term Imperial Council "might be interpreted as making a step distinctly in advance of the position hitherto attained in the discussion of the relations between the mother country and the colonies." The Canadian government further observed:

"As the committee understand the phrase, a conference is a more or less unceremonious gathering for informal discussion of public questions, if continued, it may be from time to time, as circumstances external to itself may render expedient, but possessing no faculty or power of binding action. The assembly of colonial ministers which met in 1887, 1897 and 1902, appears to the committee to fulfil these conditions."

"The term council, on the other hand, indicates, in the view of your excellency, a more formal assembly, possessing an advisory or deliberative character and in connection with the word 'Imperial,' suggesting a permanent institution, which, endowed with a continuous life, might eventually come to be regarded as an encroachment upon the full measure of autonomous legislative and administrative power, now enjoyed by all the self-governing colonies."

In view of this feeling the Canadian government suggested that the term Imperial Conference would be less open to misinterpretation. With regard to the proposed Royal Commission, the government "could not wholly disown the idea that such a commission might conceivably interfere with the working of responsible government." They were quite willing, however, to have the question discussed at the next conference with representations of sister colonies.

The correspondence further shows that the next conference has been postponed until 1907. Many things may happen, politically, in the meantime. The interesting point at present is that the Canadian government proposes to look before it leaps, which in a matter of such large concern, is a wise course.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Perhaps the most interesting sentence of President Roosevelt's message, so far as Canadians are concerned, is that which recommends that no immigrants be permitted to enter the United States from this country except such as are natives of Canada. This suggests a species of espionage along the border that might make the present system and the two-dollar head-tax appear to be very gentle forms of courtesy. If the regulation should be extended to include immigrants landing at Canadian ports and passing through, to the United States the result would be little short of disastrous to transportation interests; but the President surely has no such thought in his mind.

It is clear from the message, however, that he is strongly in favor of a more rigid system of selection of new citizens for the republic.

There is also in the message a declaration in favor of closer trade relations with Canada.

The message is full and emphatic on the subject of railway rate legislation. Rebates must be stopped and rates regulated, and he recommends a national commission with administrative power conferred by congress. He would even amend the constitution if necessary to achieve this end. He would inflict heavy penalties for disregard of the orders of such a commission. The commission would have authority to examine railroad accounts and enforce fair treatment. In his judgment "public ownership of railroads is highly undesirable, and would probably (in the United States) entail far-reaching disaster," hence he urges "such supervision and regulation of them in the interest of the public as will make it evident that there is no need for public ownership." This can only be secured, in his opinion, by "efficient government control."

The message is less emphatic in its reference to insurance, but declares that "state supervision has proved inadequate," and suggests that congress give the question of federal action "early and exhaustive consideration."

President Roosevelt asks for an investigation regarding child labor, and the conditions under which five million American women are engaged in painful occupations. He also recommends limitation of the working hours of trainmen, and in a general way pleads for "a healthy, self-respecting and mutually sympathetic attitude as between employer and employee, capitalist and wage-worker."

Touching the Monroe Doctrine, the President repeats the sentiment he has expressed with regard to the obligations and responsibilities involved in its acceptance.

"The necessity for increased efficiency of the army and navy are touched upon. Free trade with the Philippines is recommended.

The only reference to the tariff or reciprocity is a suggestion of maximum and minimum tariff rates, and the following statement: "Having in view even larger considerations of policy than those of a purely economic nature, it would, in my judgment, be well to endeavor to bring about closer commercial connections with the other people of this continent." This is a distinct concession to the friends of reciprocity with Canada, and in view of a recent controversy will be highly pleasing to Mr. H. M. Whitney, of Boston.

On the whole, the President's message, like all his formal deliverances, is very interesting, and bears the stamp of a clear and honest mind seeking what is best for the welfare of all the people.

THE GUESSING TIME

The resignation of the Balfour government and the apparent lack of unity in both great parties in the United Kingdom have developed a situation which puzzles the political prophets.

Yesterday's despatches described one story that was given out the day before, relating to Irish Home Rule. The first despatch said:

"One thing is certain—that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman has explained his attitude on home rule for Ireland to those Liberal leaders who are known to be opposed to home rule on the lines of the last bills introduced in Parliament. It is confidently asserted in the Liberal clubs that he is ready with a policy which will secure the adherence of the Nationalists, and at the same time avoid raising the issue as one of the most prominent planks in his platform."

This statement was all right for a day, but yesterday the Irish National Convention, with Mr. John Redmond in the chair, handed out the following notice to the new premier:

"We solemnly assert that no new system of government in Ireland will be accepted as satisfactory except a legislative assembly, freely elected and representative of the people, with power to make laws for Ireland, and an executive government responsible to that assembly, and this convention declares that the Irish National party cannot enter into an alliance with or give permanent support to any English party or government which does not make the question of granting such an assembly and executive to Ireland the cardinal point of its programme."

It is very clear that what may suit the moderate English friends of Home Rule will not suit the Irish party; and it is equally clear that Mr. Redmond's policy will be flatly repudiated by Liberals like Lord Rosebery. And here arises the first link in the path of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman.

The new premier is also brought face to face with the problem of the unemployed, which is pressing for solution. And there are interesting positions in this direction also, for a London cable says:

"An interesting feature of the political situation is the prospect of a closer alliance between the Irish and the Labor parties in the new Parliament. James Keir Hardie, the Socialist and Independent member, in a political speech last night, frankly invited such an alliance. He pointed out that forty-five labor members combined with seventy-five Irish members would provide a voting strength which no government however strong could afford to ignore."

The situation is such that all the papers, even those of London, are guessing. There is no pressing matter involving foreign relations to unify the parties, and thus the various aspersions in domestic politics are able to assert themselves. The advent of the new premier is not hailed with enthusiasm, partly because he does

not inspire that sentiment, and partly because there is doubt regarding the course he will pursue. The London Times observes that the country wants a change, but though it wants Balfour out, it has no particular desire to see Bannerman in his place. "He takes that place because he is there to take it, but he must not imagine that he has any reserve of enthusiasm to play with." The Boston Transcript makes this comment:

"Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman is likely to prove the least brilliant of the statesmen who have been at the head of affairs for a generation. His age is not in his favor, and his past of mind is somewhat stolid, but even his stolidity may serve him in the present emergency. Rosebery has been sulking in his tent, and will not come to the front under the new dispensation, but probably we shall hear more of Asquith and John Morley and Herbert Gladstone than ever before."

There is a suggestion that the free-trade Unionists may prefer a Liberal Alliance to Chamberlainism, but they would not support such a measure of Home Rule as Mr. Redmond demands. The Unionists mentioned in this connection are the Duke of Devonshire, Lord George Hamilton, Mr. C. T. Ritchie, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, Mr. Winston Churchill and Lord Hugh Cecil. It may be assumed that if Sir Henry pleases Mr. Redmond he will not please these gentlemen and their friends.

On the probable composition of the new cabinet there is much speculation. Among those regarded as probable members are Mr. Asquith, Mr. John Morley, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, Sir Edward Grey, Lord Elgin, Lord Aberdeen, Mr. John Burns and Mr. James Bryce.

There is apparently no doubt whatever of Sir Henry's success in the general elections, and it is what may transpire afterward, when his government attempts to deal with Home Rule, the labor question and other important matters, under the leadership of Mr. Chamberlain and Mr. Balfour, and in the face of the dissensions likely to break out in the Liberal ranks, under so mild a leader as Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, that causes conjecture.

Naturally much interest is manifested in Premier Balfour's next public appearance, which will be among his own constituents at Manchester, next Saturday, where he will make a speech explaining the reasons for his resignation, and possibly outline the Unionist electoral campaign.

Doubtless Mr. Chamberlain regards the present situation with more satisfaction than does any other Conservative. He is the most aggressive of living English statesmen. He is now the practical leader of his party, and his scheme of fiscal reform will be an issue in the coming campaign, and in parliament after the campaign is ended.

WILL BE READY

The Halifax Chronicle makes the following statement:

"There is a possibility that Halifax next year will have the two big C. P. R. liners, the Empress of Britain and the Empress of Ireland, coming to this port. The St. John docks have been adjudged too small, and in this case the only alternative is to come to Halifax. The new steamers will go on the St. Lawrence route next spring. The presence in Halifax yesterday of Mr. Usher, of the C. P. R., coupled with the announcement of the company's decision not to send the steamers to St. John, lend credence to the report. Mr. Usher yesterday morning inspected the terminal facilities, and although he was very non-committal, it is thought his visit has some special significance."

The Chronicle is informed that by the time the new C. P. R. liners are placed on the winter route St. John will be able to give them dock accommodation. Has Halifax not learned that we are building docks at this port?

THE LEGISLATURE

The provincial legislature is called to meet on February 8 for the despatch of business. At the same time it is announced that the Premier and Hon. Dr. Pugsley will hold a conference with the Minister of Militia on the question of military drill in the public schools.

It may be assumed that the provincial authorities will favorably regard this proposition. The fear is expressed in some quarters that such drill will produce a sort of young enosis, and cultivate also a fighting spirit. There does not appear to be any ground for such a fear, and the physical feature of such drill will certainly prove very beneficial. With respect to the value of military drill, the words of President Roosevelt, though applied in a different way, are applicable here:

"As the world is now, only that nation is equipped for peace that knows how to fight and that will not shrink from fighting if ever the conditions become such that war is demanded in the name of the highest morality."

With respect to the measures to be submitted to the legislature, we shall doubtless learn something in a few days. The present or a stormy session, as the realm of provincial politics has been very peaceful of late.

PREMIER SEDDON

A cable states that the New Zealand elections have resulted in an overwhelming victory for the government of Premier Seddon. Mr. Seddon is at the head of a government which has gone farther than any other with the policy of public ownership and recognition of the power of labor unions. He gained some prominence at the Colonial Conferences of 1897 and 1902, and was subjected to some criticism

on account of his great willingness to figure in newspaper interviews and in the public expression of his views on all subjects of imperial concern. In this respect his conduct was in contrast with that of other colonial premiers.

Premier Seddon is a native of England, who went to New Zealand, and in 1870 became a member of the legislature. He rose rapidly in public favor, and has been premier for quite a number of years. He has now been given a new lease of power.

GRATIFYING FIGURES

The Montreal Gazette, which probably pays more attention to the Canadian dairy industry than any other newspaper, has just published a comprehensive review of the season now ended, with comparisons. It is shown that though the make of cheese was smaller than last year, there was a larger production of butter than ever before, and as prices for both butter and cheese were higher than last year's, the cash return was an satisfactory as to justify the phrase "a banner year." The average increase in price of both cheese and butter this year is stated to have been about two cents per pound. The total estimated value of cheese exports from Montreal for the season is \$18,029,358; and of butter \$22,000,000. This is a remarkable record, and illustrates the value of the dairy industry to Canada. There is estimated to be still in stock in Canada about 450,000 boxes, which would make the total value of the cheese produced about \$22,000,000.

The following table shows the exports of cheese from Montreal for a period of ten years:

Year	Quantity, boxes	Price per box	Value
1905	12,114,428	8.80	\$10,660,748
1904	12,114,428	8.80	\$10,660,748
1903	11,971,171	8.50	\$10,175,495
1902	11,971,171	8.50	\$10,175,495
1901	11,971,171	8.50	\$10,175,495
1900	11,971,171	8.50	\$10,175,495
1899	11,971,171	8.50	\$10,175,495
1898	11,971,171	8.50	\$10,175,495
1897	11,971,171	8.50	\$10,175,495
1896	11,971,171	8.50	\$10,175,495

The following shows the exports of butter, with the estimated value from Montreal for a period of ten years:

Year	Quantity, boxes	Price per box	Value
1905	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112
1904	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112
1903	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112
1902	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112
1901	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112
1900	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112
1899	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112
1898	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112
1897	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112
1896	77,449	\$12.50	\$968,112

Revised. Calculated on a basis of 70 pounds per box.

Of the butter trade the Gazette says: "On the whole the outlook for the Canadian export butter trade has never been brighter than it is at present. Not only is the demand for the Canadian product expanding in the markets of the mother country, but it is also finding markets in the Orient and Japan, the shipments during the past few months, while indications point to a still greater demand from that quarter, as the Japanese markets are beginning to use butter more freely and the consumption in the near future should be greater, thus affording another outlet for the Canadian dairies. South Africa, too, promises to be a profitable customer as no very distant date. But it is on the United Kingdom that Canada continues to rely for her great market."

The season is winding up in a manner very satisfactory to dairymen, while they talk much about the value of the wheat of Canada, it must not be forgotten that in dairy products this country also has a great source of wealth.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP

The National Civic Federation of the United States, in appointing a public ownership commission, has taken a step that will clear up many doubts on a subject that is now too little understood by the general public. The Boston Globe points out that "the commission is composed of representatives of every shade of opinion, who are connected with universities, railroads, newspapers, labor organizations, etc., and who will seek facts, not opinions, and give the public a collection of data which will cover every conceivable phase of private and municipal ownership." The following article from the same paper gives further interesting information regarding the work to be done by the commission:

"During this extensive investigation a considerable number of plants of varying size, location and character will be visited first in the United States, and a careful examination made by expert accountants and engineers into every detail of management. Not only will the public reports be considered, but the actual working of plants in all its phases, investigated by competent and impartial men. By this method the commission will be able to render an intelligent report, and theories must give way to facts."

"After the inquiries in America, the commission will visit Europe, proceeding first to England and later to the continent. Expert accountants and engineers will be employed by the committee or be employed by it abroad, and the same careful, thorough and comprehensive examination made into every phase of the subject."

"It is interesting to learn that the city of London has determined to ask parliament to grant it permission to own and operate its lighting plant. In that great metropolis there is an electric light trust, and consequently no competition. Residents must have their electricity from the subsidiary company in their particular area, and pay the rates which that company arbitrarily charges, or go without electric light."

"The commission of the civic federation will be able to inform Americans of all the facts in regard to this electric light trust in London, and more will be learned than can be ascertained from cablegrams and correspondence relative to how the municipality expects to handle its electric light plant to the satisfaction of taxpayers."

"When the commission reaches Switzerland it will receive a vast fund of information concerning the Swiss railroads which have become national property. It is claimed that the government just succeeds for the moment in coming out square with this enterprise. In some of the Swiss cities the financial results of the municipalized public utilities are very encouraging."

"The general feeling on this subject in the Swiss communities is thus described by Prof. Louis Waurin of the university of Geneva:

"Whenever the question is asked whether a community ought to be its own purveyor of water, gas, or even motive power and electricity, there is scarcely any difference of opinion in Switzerland; no more than a town sweep its own streets itself, or must this service be done for a long term by a well paid company."

"Thoughtful residents of American municipalities will welcome an authoritative statement concerning the management of city-owned properties in those communities where the experiment has been fully tried. They can then determine whether they desire municipal ownership. All American cities need more income, but cities, like business men, should only engage in enterprises that will pay. The report of this commission should show the profitable and the unprofitable municipal plants."

NOTE AND COMMENT

Solicitor-General Jones has been attending to crown business with commendable industry since his appointment to office.

The developments in connection with the big American insurance companies continue to be of a most interesting and instructive character.

Can the harnessing of the reversing falls be made to solve the problem of cheap power? The question is one of vast importance to St. John.

The United States is no longer "the land of the free." It is now to be the land of the free and fit. Too much freedom has brought to the shores of that country scarce very unit citizens.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson told the American people that if they wanted closer trade relations with Canada it was up to them to take the initiative. President Roosevelt evidently thinks it might be desirable to do so.

The great railway interests of the United States do not appear to be worrying very much over the proposed rate legislation. They do not believe that any measure can be forced through congress that will seriously affect their profits.

The Grand Falls Power Company should get busy. A Pittsburgh despatch states that ferro-manganese is very scarce and prices continue to advance. The Russian supply has been interrupted, and the owners of American ore pockets are reaping the benefit.

The board of trade has done well to take up the consideration of new industries for St. John, and the meeting at which there was to be a general discussion of the subject should especially be attended by those already engaged in manufacturing. A vigorous campaign should be inaugurated.

It is unfortunate for the rumor-mongers who have the Intercolonial railway on the verge of transfer to a company that about the time they have the public mind somewhat agitated a statement comes from Ottawa to the effect that the railway deficit is much less than it was last year.

Relations between Britain and Germany are apparently approaching a more friendly condition. The Emperor of Germany has just expressed his "warmest thanks" in acknowledgment of news of a successful and influential meeting in London to promote good-will between the German and British peoples.

The Telegraph begins today the publication of a series of articles on the subject of "The New World," by Guy Thorne. This is a religious novel that created a great sensation, and called forth the strong commendation of the leading Bishops of the United States. Telegraph readers will find it a story of absorbing interest.

The Art School Board of Hamilton (Ont.), has decided to memorialize the Dominion government to assist mechanics and artisans by making grants to technical education, and to memorialize the Ontario government expressing the view that, out of 50,000 population and over, should be required to appropriate at least \$5,000 a year for technical education.

An Ottawa despatch to a New York paper says: "It is understood some consideration is being given by the Canadian Government to the question of patent medicines containing alcohol, in line with taking action similar to that of the United States authorities. It is urged that this should be done on the side of the line and the matter is to be fully thrashed out by the Dominion inland revenue department."

SONG OF THE FOUR WORLDS

(Bliss German)
It is northward, little friend?
And she whispered, "What is there?"

There are people who are loyal to the glory
Who hold by heart's tradition, and will hold
It to the last.
Who would not sell its shame
The honor of their name.
Though the world were in the balance
And a sword thereof were cast.

Oh, there the ice is breaking, the brooks are
Running free.
A robbin' calls at twilight from a tall spruce
tree.
And the light canoes go down
Past, portage, camp and home.
By the rivers that make murmur in the
lands along the sea.

And she said, "It is not there."
Though I love you, love you dear,
I cannot find my little heart with yours of
yesterday.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Dec. 9, 1905.

Much Being Said About CLOTHING BARGAINS

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BAPTISTS AND UNION

The following editorial from the New York Evening Post, is of timely interest to readers of newspapers in Canada as well as in the United States:

"The abolition of close communion in the New York papers a few days ago. People who are familiar with the policy of the Baptists are aware that this statement in unqualified form is far too sweeping. At a recent meeting of representatives of three national organizations—the American Baptist Home Mission Society, the American Baptist Publication Society, and the Baptist Publication Society—resolutions were passed which in effect declared that the doctrinal difference between the 'Free' and the 'Strict' Communions is a declaration, however, is binding only upon those who accept it. The Baptists are locally independent, the most rigid of creed, and the most numerous of the great religious bodies which choose to hold to close communion may do so in spite of all resolutions and conventions. The incident, however, has its significance, not merely for Baptists, but for all who watch the dying controversies over dogma."

For the better disputes between the 'Free' and the 'Strict' Communions are typical of the quarrels which have rent Christendom into hundreds of warring sects.

Baptists differ from other Protestants—broadly speaking—in rejecting the validity of infant baptism and in holding to the doctrine of immersion. No organization has a more ancient history than the Baptist Church. The first half of the sixteenth century—the Reformation period, in which the discussion of minor details of creed raged so furiously. The Baptists, like other major divisions of the Protestant church, have split and split again, until in this country we have, or have had, eight or ten minor organizations, such as the Six-Principle Baptists, the Seventh-Day Baptists, the Anti-Mission Baptists, and the Free-Will Baptists. These Baptists differ from the main body of the church Christians who do not subscribe to the strict doctrine of the sect is an old one. John Bunyan himself, the greatest man whom the denomination has produced, was inclined to be lenient on this point, and in consequence he was so much attacked by more thoroughgoing Baptists. It was an age in which biliousness was regarded as a legitimate weapon in religious argument. Not until the eighteenth century, however, was there a formal organization of Free-Communion Baptists—made up partly of persons who had been converted by the preaching of Whitefield. In 1841 the Free-Communion Baptists were organized.

The main body of the denomination, from which these two offshoots sprang, has nominally adhered to Strict Communion, though in recent years the topic has been but little agitated, especially in the North, and individual churches have tacitly abandoned the old policy, as being hardly worth the trouble of chronicling here and now, were it not that this movement within the limits of the sect is a sort of epitome of the whole movement of Protestantism. First, separation; then realization that the disagreements relate to non-essentials; then co-operation in religious work; and finally union. Of course, we do not mean to say that the Protestant sects have actually united, but the conference in this city last month—in spite of the bar against Unitarians and Universalists—is a public declaration that differences of creed are small matters.

The long debate between the Strict and the Free Communions was carried on according to the most approved methods of theologians, whether Calvinists, Arminians, Antinomians, or Unitarians. We have to begin with the marshalling of all the Scripture texts which can by any possibility be interpreted as bearing directly or indirectly upon the point; next a series of deductions from these premises, each of which is treated as an inspired statement of exact truth, from which the logical inference should be as unvarying and inevitable as in mathematics; thirdly, the appeal to precedents and the practices of the apostles and the fathers; and finally the appeal to passion and denominational prejudice. There has been abundant heat, and as is usual in these contests, too little light. Of sweetness, none. For example, the Strict Communions used to assert roundly that all they were asking was a rigid adherence to the communion of Christ; that deviation from it was an ignorant and craven yielding to modern error, not—as the misguided and some-

times malignant Free Communions maintained—an act of charity and Christian wisdom. One of the great champions of open communion was that dogmatic English divine, Robert Hall, who is said to have preached when eleven, and who died in 1831. His writings on the subject served as an armory for half a century. He, it is true, rose above the low level of partisan rancor and the odium theologum. Nothing could be better in tone than the solemn words with which he closes his Reply to the Rev. Joseph Kingham:

"When the Spirit is poured down from on high, he will effectually teach us that God is Love, and that we never please him more than when we embrace with open arms, without distinction of sect or party, all who bear his image."

But such passages in this, as in all other religious controversies, are pathetically rare. Fruitless wrangling over, about their theology to the exclusion of Greek, savage assaults upon character, the imputation of base motives, shocking exhibitions of hatred, malice and uncharitableness—these have been the stigma by which for centuries men have instantly recognized the utterances of professed followers of the Prince of Peace. One reason is the growth of toleration in all matters of opinion; another is that thousands of Christians do not care to quarrel about their theology to the exclusion of it even the feeblest and most amiable defence."

THE NEW TABLE MAID

(Concord News)
Frank Gilmore, formerly of the New England (N. E.), son of the late Gov. Gilmore, entertained in a lavish manner many guests at "Intervals," his home.

On one occasion a party of about twenty men came from Boston to remain over Sunday. It so happened that on the Saturday of their arrival the table girl departed, leaving Mr. G. in an embarrassing situation, as no one could be secured at short notice to fill the position.

At the last moment came an inspiration. Just