

HOWARD VINCENT ON THE Ottawa Conference.

(Continued from last issue.)

The Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. Sydney Buxton, Tower Hamlets, Poplar, said that we no complaint to make of the tone of his hon. friend's speech. He was glad to think that on this occasion,—which was not the case in respect of many of the hon. member's speeches,—it was not necessary to discuss the question of Free Trade. The hon. member carefully avoided dealing with that matter, and he was wise. Certainly there had been no intention of throwing any slight on the Colonies by not mentioning in the Queen's Speech the Ottawa Conference. Perhaps the hon. Member had forgotten that in the Queen's Speech at the close of last Session a distinct and satisfactory reference to that Conference was made, and, therefore, it was perhaps unnecessary to refer to it again. All those who were interested in the closer relations between the Mother Country and the Colonies, would desire to express the satisfaction with which they had watched and appreciated the way in which the proceedings at the Ottawa Conference were carried on, and the unanimity which prevailed, and of the strong expressions of loyalty to the Mother Country and of a desire to foster inter-colonial and British relations. This was the first opportunity which he had had of saying anything in regard to this matter, and, on behalf of the Colonial Office, he should like to acknowledge their indebtedness to Lord Jersey, not only for the great tact which he showed at the Ottawa Conference but also for the very valuable and lucid Report which had been circulated, and was now in the hands of the members. The hon. member rather assumed that the Government had neglected to consider the matters raised at the Conference and to deal with it. He could assure the hon. member that the Government had given them the greatest possible attention, and he would be glad to learn that it was proposed in the present session to take action in regard to one matter, and that another point raised at the Conference was under consideration, and it was hoped a solution would be found. The hon. member had referred to three resolutions moved at the Conference. One of them he quietly put aside—that relating to a Customs Union between the different parts of the Empire and Great Britain. He put it aside because it raised the whole question of our fiscal system, and because it was only carried by a majority of five to three at the Conference. It was, therefore, on a different footing than the others. The second resolution was proposed and accepted at the Conference referred to the question whether the Australian Colonies should be allowed to enter into fiscal arrangements with the other self-governing Colonies. Under their original constitution the Australian Colonies were prohibited altogether from entering into fiscal arrangements with one another or with other Colonies. This was altered in 1873, and power was given to the Australian Colonies to make inter-Australian fiscal arrangements with each other, as Canada could do with the Cape. He thought his hon. friend would be satisfied with the statement that the Government would introduce a Bill during the present session to deal with the question. Of course any proposal between one Colony and another on these matters must be one of the reserved Bills to be sent home and subject to veto if necessary. As regarded the third point raised that was a more intricate matter—as to whether any obligation in our present Treaties prevented us allowing our Colonies to make inter-colonial fiscal arrangements with one another, and whether England was prevented from entering into those arrangements. That again was a question which the government had actively under consideration. The position was this—that by two of what his hon. friend had rightly called "unfortunate Treaties," made years ago before these questions were considered, their hands were, it might be thought, in some way bound. For years past, however, their had always been in every Commercial Treaty a clause excluding any Colony which did not wish to enter into the particular fiscal conditions of the particular Treaty. He could assure his hon. friend that, as far as their information went, the Government believed that those two Treaties did not prevent any inter-colonial arrangement, and did not prevent England from giving preferential

treatment to her Colonies as against foreign nations; but, at the present moment, those two Treaties did prevent the Colonies giving differential treatment in favour of British goods. He would ask his hon. friend to be satisfied with the assurance which he had given. The Colonial Office, he assured him, were actively employed, in consultation with the Treasury and the Board of Trade in looking into the question, and were in hopes that some satisfactory arrangement would be brought about. In conclusion, he could only say the matters which had been referred to, and which had been raised in Lord Jersey's Report, were discussed much more from an inter-colonial point of view than from the point of view of the fiscal arrangements of the Empire at large. It was a much larger question whether England was at liberty or would be disposed to depart from her established fiscal policy. The Government certainly desire to meet the Colonies with all the favour they could, and he trusted that the Bill Administrative Acts following thereupon would enlarge inter-colonial trade throughout the Empire. Colonel HOWARD VINCENT thought it hardly necessary, after the assurance just given on the part of the Government, to put the House to the trouble of dividing. The Amendment was then by leave withdrawn.

A GRATEFUL MOTHER.

RELATES HOW HER DAUGHTER'S LIFE WAS SAVED.

Anæmia and General Debility Had Brought her to the Verge of the Grave. Physicians Held Out no Hope of Recovery—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Again Prove a Life Saver.

From the Ottawa Free Press. A personal paragraph in the Free Press some time ago stating that Miss Sophie Belanger, 428 Cooper street, Ottawa, had recovered from a serious illness caused by anæmia and general debility, has apparently awakened more than usual interest and pleasure among her relatives and acquaintance. So much so, indeed, that a reporter of the paper found it extremely interesting to visit the family and enjoy a chat with Mrs. Belanger on the recovery of her daughter after she had for two years been considered irrecoverably a victim of this terribly enervating and dangerous disease. Mrs. Belanger is a very intelligent French-Canadian, wife of Mr. Joseph Belanger whose wall paper and paint and glass establishment is at 146 Bank street. Miss Sophie Belanger, the whilom invalid, vascillating between death and life, is a promising young lady of seventeen years. She



She lay on a couch like one dying.

is a student under the nuns in St. Jean Baptiste school on Primrose Hill. Over two years ago she fell sick and rapidly wasted away. The nature of her disease appeared to be a profound mystery to the physicians as they were called in one after another. Despair seized the family as they looked upon the once beautiful, spirited girl laying day in and day out weeks and months on her couch, simply slowly vanishing and they powerless even to raise a smile on her wan lips. Each succeeding medical man told the parents to prepare for the worst. However, Mrs. Belanger is not one of those women who give up in despair while there is still hope, as her own words will denote. "It was a terrible time," she said. "We had been told again and again that nothing could be done to save Sophie, and had almost been forced by appearances to believe it. I have now to say that but for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills she would have been in her grave instead of attending school every day the liveliest of the lively. It began like this; the poor girl was coming to me three or four times a day exclaiming, "Oh, ma; I have such a terrible headache. I cannot stand the pain of it." This went on for a long time, weeks in fact, till we began to look at it in a very serious light. We had almost every French doctor in the city called in, but with no result. Sophie got worse and worse. Her face was small and yellow while her lids were as white as your collar. She was listless

and apathetic, and so weak she could not raise her hand to her head. A leading doctor forced her to take a certain kind of powders, which seemed to be taking the flesh from her bones. Her skin became hot and parched, her eyes sank into her head and she lay on that couch as one dead, taking no interest whatever in the things going on around her. Then it was we became confirmed to the popular belief that she was going to die. It was agonizing to look at her, but we became partially resigned to the fate that appeared to be overtake us. She was watched day and night, but we could detect no change unless for the worse. All hope had gone. I had read of the cures by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and about this time I notice a description published in the Free Press somewhat similar to Sophie's case. Something seemed to urge me to give them a trial, and now I thank God I did. I sent for some and began giving them to her one at a time. Before long we saw an improvement, and gradually increased the dose from one to two and then to three at regular intervals. It was incredible to note the change. Her colour came back and a different look in her eyes, her general health and appearance gave us all new interest in her. Before the fourth box was gone Sophie was able to be up and around again, and a further use of them fully restored her health, or rather snatched her from the brink of the grave. To Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is due all the credit for we had stopped doctor's medicine, and simply gave her these, following the directions around the box. My daughter's life was saved by Pink Pills and no one knows better than her mother. I wish to tell everyone of the cure, as it is almost impossible to believe that the poor thing that lay there and the happy rosy-cheeked girl who goes regularly to her classes are one and the same person in such a marvellously short time, and you may be sure I am advising ailing neighbors to use this wonderful medicine." Just as the reporter was leaving Miss Belanger returned from school. She was the picture of grace, health and beauty, her lithe physique denoting health in every movement, while her face showed the warm, ruddy glow of health. She corroborated all her mother had said besides adding some new testimony. Happiness now abideth in that home where misery held sway too long, and Mrs. Belanger rests faith in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, which will do for other weak and ailing girls what they did for her daughter.

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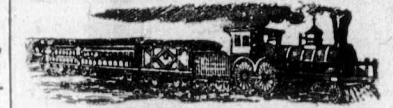
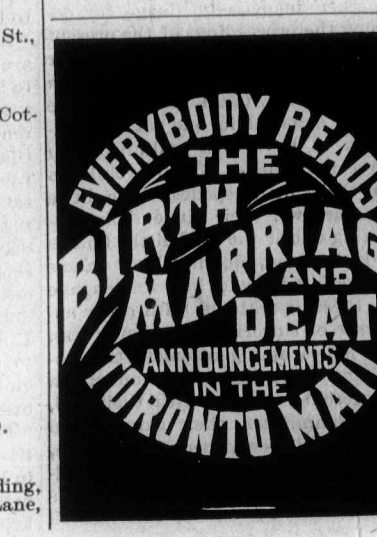
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