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17, Victoria Street,
London, S.W.
19th November, 1895.

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Recollections
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My dear Sir Mackenzie Bowell,

The meeting between the Agents-General and myself and Mr. Chamberlain took place to-day as before advised.

I stated to Mr. Chamberlain that my colleagues and myself were very much gratified at the prompt manner in which he had responded to our request that he would receive us in connection with the question of the Pacific Cable; that I had invited the Agents-General of all the Colonies to attend, including the representatives of the Cape and Natal, which Colonies although not directly interested, were warmly in favour of the project; that all were present except those representing South and Western Australia, who, for reasons with which he was already acquainted, did not propose to assist.

I then read the following letter which I had received from Mr. Playford, Agent-General for South Australia:-

"In reply to yours of the 13th instant, I beg to say
"that I have written to Mr. Chamberlain, in answer
"to his of the 11th, informing him that my Govern-
"ment have by cable advised me that they are not in
"favour of the appointment of a Commission to con-
"sider the Pacific Cable question.

"Under the circumstances I feel it would be out
"of place for me to attend a deputation the object
"of which my Government cannot support."

I also drew attention to the following statement made by Mr. Playford at the Ottawa Conference:-

"I told the Conference that if this line was required
"for public and Imperial purposes, our Government
"will never in any way stand in the way. I am giving

The Honourable
Sir MACKENZIE BOWELL, K.C.M.G.
&c., &c. &c.

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