

## A VOICE FROM THE STATES.

(From the Toronto Globe.)

The *Montreal Gazette* publishes a letter written by a sanguine gentleman in Boston to a friend in Montreal. The statements in it are deserving of some consideration, especially by those who persist in taking a doubting view of the future of Canada, in spite of overflowing evidence that the prospect before her is highly satisfactory. In comparison with the position of our friends across the lines, we have constantly maintained the position of Canada to be by far the best. Married men especially enjoy much greater advantages in Canada than in the States, and these after all make the most valuable settlers. One "without encumbrance" may rub along even in circumstances such as the writer describes; but with house rents at an exorbitant figure and every necessary of life required for a family at the fearful prices current among our neighbors, we don't wonder that family men especially should cast regretful looks to the land which they were tempted to leave by the nominally high wages of the South and West. It is no doubt trying to acknowledge that one has been mistaken: but upon the whole it is the best plan to make a clean breast of it and come back, even to one's own district. A few jokes, very likely will be all there is to dread, and better endure these than pinchery and vexation in a foreign land.

There is no likelihood of the New England or any other of the States forcing on a war to annex Canada, so long as our Dominion is an integral part of the British Empire. What might happen, if the Canadians were foolish enough to set up their own flag, with four millions of people and half a continent to govern—is a different story. Fortunate that view of the case need not be discussed—for every new day's experience teaches us more emphatically than its predecessor the wisdom of leaving well alone, and recognizing and improving the great advantages we undoubtedly possess as we are.

It is thus the Bostonian discourses:

"In a former letter I promised to write again about the relation of Canada to the United States. You must excuse me for being slow, as my spare time is very limited. In the previous letter I stated that the purchasing power of wages was so small that workmen were cramped to provide for their families. This was mainly owing to one-sided laws, compelling the labourer to sell his labour in a market under competition with the cheapest labour in the world, and to buy his commodities in markets made artificially high, thereby reversing the principles of profitable trade to buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market. This state of things is producing great discontent; and among Provincials, a return to the Dominion is looked forward to as their only hope. Men who three or four years ago were strong for annexation, are now ready to take up a musket against it. They are wearied with the toil and disheartened with the prospect. After working for several years for \$20 and \$25 per week they find they can barely make ends meet, actually cannot get a decent supply of clothing, and dare not take a day's

leisure except when they are compelled to. But few care to go home worse off than they left; and they have not sufficient knowledge of the country to guide them in selecting other parts of the Dominion for a home.

"If you could send me a statement of what wages are paid in Montreal to cabinet-makers, carvers, joiners, machinists, dry goods clerks, and what disposition there is to take on new men; also rent of tenements of four or five rooms suitable for a good class of workmen, and the city rate of progress in population, property and taxes, such information would be very acceptable to a large number of work people here.

"The decline in the commerce of New England has taken away the very foundations of her prosperity. As a manufacturer for the home market she cannot hold a prominent place, having no natural facilities. Her soil produces no raw material to base manufactures on, and already the West is ahead in the manufacture of furniture, and is fast coming up in woollen goods. The South is coming forward in the cotton manufacture, and the Middle States will be sure to reap the profit of cheap coal and iron. If you examine the statistics of industry in Massachusetts for 1855 and 1865, you will see that the increase is made up, not of an increase of quantity, but of a higher nominal value, owing to high taxes and depreciated currency. You can also see that in collections from the tax on sales in the two years, 1865 and 1869, that Boston, compared with New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Baltimore and Cincinnati, had much the smallest increase. This position is being made more apparent every year, and with Canada right on her borders multiplying her ships, extending her export and import trade, it will be made more apparent. Then New England will do her best to hasten annexation. She can get from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, coal, iron, wood and agricultural products cheaper than she can from the West if these Provinces can only be brought into the Union. Her future progress depends on her success in this direction. I am well aware that such an idea would be scouted here just now, and it is well for the Dominion that it would. But this is a possibility which the Government of Canada cannot afford to overlook, for action springing from necessity is more earnest than mere sentiment. Now if the upper Provinces are able to develop their wheat fields at the rapid rate they are now doing, and to keep up an average of 20 or more bushels to an acre, when the export amounts to twelve or fourteen million bushels, then it will be able to something like compete with the West, and if Canada can ship at a less expense, as I think they can, then trade will be in their favor, and the West will look for relief in annexation. Now with New England on the one hand and the Western States on the other—you will see the danger of independence and the battle for annexation, which will only be prevented by Canada being fully prepared to resist, backed by the power of England. The principles of free trade and protection are highly antagonistic, and which ever is best fitted for the wants of the human family will be the victor. Canada has leaned more to freedom than to restriction. If she has found in it a benefit, let her improve her position by doing the work thoroughly and the victory will come soon, and be more complete, and New England may see it for her interest when no better can be done, to quietly ask for admission into the New Dominion; then she may reap the benefits of institutions that are free, and prosper accordingly."

## THE "CAPTAIN" AND "MONARCH."

Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas M. C. Symond has reported upon the trials of Her Majesty's ships, the *Monarch* and the *Captain*, and his report has lately been given to the public. The Admiral points out the faults of each but at the same time recognizes the superiority of both to the broadsides under his command. He says:

"Both ships are very easy in a seaway, and can use their guns in any sea in which an action is about to be fought." Instructed to watch carefully "the effect of a sea combined with force of double-reefed topsail breeze on the ship with low free board, whether there would be a liability of the height of the wave interfering with the efficiency of the fire of the 12-inch guns of the *Captain*," he reports that "the ship of low freeboard has shown no failing on this point. . . they hit a target (a small cart and flag) distant 1,000 yards to the windward (at the third shot); and in a treble-reefed topsail breeze and sea, shot were dropped 1,000 yards to windward, the sea not interfering in any way." After a heavy gale on the night of the 29th of May "both ships were very steady;" on the 2nd of June, in a long heavy swell from N.W., when the greatest rolling of the *Warrior* was 11 degrees, the greatest rolling of the *Monarch* was five, and of the *Captain* less than four degrees. On the 25th of May, when the *Minotaur's* main deck was wet throughout by the sea entering the weather ports, and a great spray wet the poop "of the flagships the turrets of the *Captain* were not in any way inconvenienced. Her hurricane deck was dry, although the sea washed freely over her main deck, "but in far less degree than I anticipated."

So strong is the Admiral's opinion of the *Captain's* power that he believes that it could destroy, in detail, all the broadside ships of the squadron under his command before it could be silenced or disabled. The *Captain* can be cleared for action in five minutes, while the *Monarch* takes an hour and a-half. Altogether these vessels are well equalled up to the present date for purposes of war by anything afloat; and Captain Cole may be congratulated upon the great triumph he has secured.

## MILITIA ORDERS.

We published the following District Orders for the information of those interested—  
Kingston, 24th August, 1870.

No. 1. The following corps will go into camp to perform their annual drill for 1870—71. 16th Battalion at Picton, on 29th inst. Napanee Troop at Adolphustown, on the 2nd September. 15th and 49th Battalions at Belleville, on the 5th September. Northumberland and Durham squadron cavalry, and the 40th and 57th Battalions at Cobourg, on the 16th September.

No. 2. Officers commanding corps will send in to the Brigade Major's office marching in states of their several corps. They will also send in marching out states and a camp report upon the breaking up of the camps.

No. 3. The duties in camp will be conducted in accordance with the rules laid down for encampment in the Regulations and Orders dated 12th March, 1870. Para. 220 to 259.

No. 4. The drill will be in conformity with the circular letter dated 19th July, 1869.

No. 5. Fifteen rounds of ball per man