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If all these substantial arguments in favour of annexation remain unchanged, or have been strengthened by lapse of time, you will certainly not be deterred from pursuing the course indicated as desirable, by the arbitrary commands of those, who assume to be your masters. Those who addressed you were known to be beyond suspicion of seeking personal emolument from the public funds. They employed no force but that of reason—they repudiated every means but that, most lawful—the assent of every constituted authority in the state. They desired to fortify, and where necessary, to create a public opinion in favour of their views, which should be manifested not on paper merely, but in that authoritative way which the constitution has contemplated, in giving to the people the right of electing their legislators. They therefore did not endeavour to obtain all the names which might have been procured to the document they put forth. They were satisfied, when they had enrolled sufficient adherents without solicitation to show that they were not a few deluded men, acting without warrant of wide spread public thought. How have they been replied to? Their opponents have sent agents through the most populous counties immediately adjoining the city unexpectedly favored by the removal of the seat of government. As well there, as in this city, they have employed against us every influence derived from official patronage, and yet how trifling has been their success!

In the absence of argument, persecution has been resorted to by an Executive, affecting to owe its existence to the Popular Will, against such as dared assert the right, not of British subjects merely, but of intellectual beings,—the right of thought and of free discussion.

Fellow Colonists, will you submit to have your free political action suppressed by such means? Are your servants to dictate to you the subjects which may engage your attention and prohibit all others under pain of their interference and censure? We trust not. We feel assured that you will be the more inclined to support those who have been opposed by means which we will not characterise otherwise than as oppressive. We now call on such of you as are favourable to our views to exert yourselves in order that the great object before us may be speedily attained. All agree in believing that annexation is inevitable; a mere question of time. It is our conviction that there can be no settled policy—no established public credit—no cessation of political strife—no prosperity—until we reach the state to which we are destined. Let us then unite to secure it as early as possible.

JOHN REDPATH,
President.
R. MACKAY,
A. H. DORION,
Secretaries.

Montreal, 15th Dec., 1849.

••• The Annexation Association of Montreal begs to thank such portions of the press as have lent them assistance for the able aid they have afforded. The Association, while it recognizes no exposition of its views, except those which shall be signed by its officers, feels a deep debt of gratitude to those who have generously stood up for truth and the people, against the obloquy which have been cast on both.

The above Address was intended by the Annexation Association to exhibit the feeling of the people of Great Britain, as far as it could be judged of, by the publications of the influential press of that country. Since the Address was published, the Imperial Government, by a Despatch to Lord Elgin, have declared themselves to be determined to oppose the movement which the Association desires to promote. Of course the ultimate decision will depend, not upon the present, nor indeed on any future opinion of Lord Grey or his colleagues, but upon that of the people of Great Britain. In the meantime the Association deem it right to set Lord Grey's Despatch before their fellow countrymen, together with their protest against it.

TO THE PEOPLE OF CANADA—

The Annexation Association of Montreal feel it incumbent on them to address you in reference to the following despatch from Earl Grey, purporting to contain the views of Her Most Gracious Majesty on the question of the peaceable separation of Canada from Great Britain and its Annexation to the United States:—

DOWLING STREET, January 9, 1850.

MY LORD,—I have to acknowledge your despatch of the dates and numbers quoted in the margin No. 114, 19th November, 1849: 127, 3rd December, 1849: 129, 3rd December, 1849: 131, 4th December, 1849. I have laid these despatches before Her Majesty, and also the address of the Warden and Councillors of the Municipal Council of the Gore District—the Lieutenant Colonel and Officers of the Regiment of Dorchester—of the Officers of the 14th Battalion of the Regiment of Yanaska, and of the Inhabitants of the Parish of St. Anne de la Pointe, and of the Officers of Militia and Lieutenant Colonel commanding Battalion of the Regiment of Quebec, inclosed in the two first of these despatches which her Majesty has been pleased to receive very graciously, and it has afforded Her Majesty great satisfaction to receive these expressions of that loyalty and attachment to the British Crown, which she trusts is generally felt by her Canadian subjects. With regard to the address to the people of Canada in favor of severing the Province from the British dominions for the purpose of annexing it to the United States, which forms the subject of the 3rd of these despatches I have to inform you, that Her Majesty approves of your having dismissed from Her service those who have signed the document, which is scarcely short of treasonable in its character. Her Majesty confidently relies on the loyalty of the great majority of her Canadian subjects, and she is, therefore determined to exert all the authority, which belongs to her, for the purpose of maintaining the connection of Canada with this country: being persuaded that the permanence of the connection is highly advantageous to both. Your Lordship will therefore understand that you are commanded by Her