

ling per annum by furnishing her surplus population means to seek that livelihood in the Colonies which their numbers forbid them to enjoy at home, while they commit the country to the payment of dishonest claims and squander the public money on its foes. The "Peace at any price" party is a greater curse and will cost the Empire more than another American contest would. Meantime for the benefit of such portions of the English people who read the *VOLUNTEER REVIEW* the following extract showing the way in which the United States authorities understand and observe the neutrality laws is submitted:

"On Monday the Senate of the O'Neill branch of the Fenian brotherhood was to meet preparatory to the assembling of the congress on the 6th of March. The latter has been called for the 19th of April, but it was subsequently deemed advisable to take advantage of the enthusiasm which culminates on St. Patrick's day. At no time during the history of the organization has there been so much bad feeling between its president and its senators. O'Neill can rely upon the support of but three of the latter. The remaining twelve, it is said, are either secretly or avowedly opposed to him. The hostility is said to be based upon the fact that he has usurped the powers of the senate in various relations, and made important moves and appointments without consulting the executive committee. It is possible that articles of impeachment may be founded upon this, and upon the additional circumstance that he has long considered the majority of the senate imbeciles or truckling politicians, who used their influence and position in the brotherhood for their own personal aggrandisement. Hence the mutual distrust and animosity existing between them, and the certainty of an interesting quarrel on the 22nd as has ever taken place in a deliberative body of Irishmen; although it is likely to be tame compared to what will take place in the congress.

"O'Neill, strictly speaking, says the *New York Evening Post*, may have done wrong in acting in certain relations independently of the senate or the executive committee, but it is surmised that he did so for the purpose of saving the organization from utter destruction, and securing to it a while longer the sixty thousand a year that has been so long secured out of the hard earnings of the poor Irish, and which has been squandered in a most culpable manner. He had sense enough to perceive that those who supported the brotherhood were beginning to lose all faith in it, and that the oft-repeated and as often broken promises of 'immediate action' had lost all their power, so that he was obliged to make a move that bore the appearance at least of real work, however unlikely to succeed.

"To this end, the plan of a campaign has been sketched out, and large quantities of arms and ammunition deposited at various strategic points unknown to the government, this he has done mainly on his own responsibility; he has also appointed a new secretary of war, who appears to have given mortal offence to some officers of the organization by volunteering to serve without pay. This gentleman, Gen. Michael Kirwin, is now on duty, but not at headquarters here. He is to travel at the business of his department at Philadelphia, to which city a secretary has just been drafted from 10 West Fourth street. In this selection O'Neill has done well. Kirwin, it is said is a brave and

able soldier, and his giving his services gratuitously has already made him very popular among the various circles. In this view of the case the senate will scarcely dare to reject his appointment, and here O'Neill has gathered to himself very considerable support.

"As what is called 'the fighting element of the organization' is with O'Neill, it is likely he will carry the congress against the senate, and scatter the latter to the winds. Should he fail in this, Fenianism will probably die."—*N. Y. Paper.*

If they choose to pay for the Alabama claims and to carry on the negotiations at Washington the Canadian people must make up their minds to put in their own little bill against the States for the expenses of the Fenian raid in 1866, and a quiet demand that the authorities of that country suppress the Fenian senate and congress at once, and if their municipal laws are not equal to the emergency to have them at once modified.

In no other country could a band of organized plunderers be allowed to make preparations for the invasion of a neighboring people with whom the nation was at peace. And, once for all, it concerns the honor of England to shew the world she will not be dictated to by a nation who is notoriously unable to control the ruffians in her own territory, and whose system of laws and government disable her Executive from acting when called upon to fulfil her international obligations.

The Canadian Executive will doubtless take care that those fast gentlemen shall fulfil their own duty before they presume to dictate to others; but it is humiliating to think that Gladstone, Bright & Co. should be allowed to trail the honor of Britain in the dust before a contemptible and dishonest foe.

SIR ALEX. T. GALT, Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George, is a politician of some standing in Canada, and up to the evening of the 22nd ult. stood well with the leaders, at least of the conservative party. It would be useless to say that his public character favorably impressed the great mass of the people at any time during the whole of his career he never succeeded in obtaining their confidence, his whole reputation being based on his supposed financial skill, and, like many others, he has attained dignities not as a reward of his merits, but in consequence of his associations.

His early political career was not calculated to give the people of Canada a high opinion of his good sense or principles. A subscriber to the annexation manifesto of 1849 he was more than suspected of "looking to Washington," and this feeling was intensified when it was found, in 1865, that he had in his capacity of Finance Minister, made most humiliating proposals to the Washington Executive avowedly for the purpose of securing a renewal of the Reciprocity Treaty. The commercial concessions he avowed himself prepared to make would virtually have

given the United States control of Canadian commerce, and as a consequence Her Majesty's responsible advisor was working towards the same end as Consul-General Potter—annexation. Luckily, before any positive harm had been done, the Canadian people received advice of the intended treaty and an universal cry of execration informed the Colonial Finance Minister that himself and his notes were equally repudiated. On this occasion his associations saved him from political annihilation. Immediately afterwards he left the Administration, but the leaders, Sir J. A. Macdonald and Sir G. E. Cartier, seem to have regarded him with kindly feelings which must have arisen from his social qualifications, as his public career brought them nothing but trouble and annoyance without any positive advantage beyond his own vote. During that career there were grave charges brought against him, but the high character and personal influence of his colleagues served to prevent any of the proper consequences which should follow. Entertaining towards him the most kindly feelings, Sir G. E. Cartier addressed the following note to Sir A. T. Galt, which, with the reply, was read in the House of Commons on the 22nd of February on the occasion of the debate on the Address:

OTTAWA, Sept. 13, 1869.

MY DEAR GALT,—When I had the pleasure of seeing you at Montreal a few days ago, I expressed to you my individual opinion that I would like very much you should resume the office of Minister of Finance on the retirement of Mr. Rose from it. Now I am happy to say I have the authority of Sir John A. Macdonald to make you the offer of joining the Government as Minister of Finance, so soon as Mr. Rose will cease to occupy his post. As you are aware of this question of "Independence of Canada" is now being discussed in the public papers, and it is well I should mention that if it should be brought before the Houses of Parliament, it will be expected, as a matter of course, that the members of the Government should be a unit in resisting any attempts in proceedings favorable to "Independence."

I regret very much that it is impossible for me to go near you to converse freely with you on the offer now made to you, but if you should like to have a personal interview with Sir John A. Macdonald and myself previous to your reply to this letter, I am enabled to say to you that Sir John as well as myself will be happy to see you here.

Believe me, my dear Galt, always your devoted friend,

G. E. CARTIER.

MONTREAL, Sept. 14, 1869.

MY DEAR CARTIER,—I received your letter of the 13th instant last night, and have given its contents my best consideration.

I thank Sir John and yourself for the desire you express that I should again enter the administration as Minister of Finance, but my views of public duty compel me to decline.

I would have wished that you had not referred to the question of Independence. As for other reasons I have no doubt my reply would have been the same. But I presume your reason for doing so was lest it should be supposed that in inviting me to enter the