

tician who would broach the idea of cutting them adrift would be driven from public life with ignominy. The affected admiration for American political institutions by Mr. Bright and other members of the Administration has had a ill effect on Colonial affairs. Distance, no doubt, lends enchantment to the view; and in no other light can Canadian Colonists understand how any Englishman can admire constitutional usages which are a bad travesty of their own, and only valuable when the original model has been closely copied. For instance, how would the English people admire the election of a Mr. Beales or a Mr. Bradlaugh every four years as Chief Magistrate, with a ministry of either individual's selection, who were wholly irresponsible, had no seat in either house, and disposed of the patronage and revenue at their own sweet will and pleasure till the next quadrennial period came round, and this is precisely the idol of John Bright's admiration, the much lauded American constitution. Or what would they say to the liberty of a country where it would be necessary to send the *Broad Arrow*, *United Service Gazette*, or *Volunteer Review* so closely covered that their titles could not be read, and yet this is of daily occurrence in the States.

Our ad- then is, to the real friends of the British Empire, make this question of Colonial relations a test question in politics and you will be acting the part of true Englishmen. In Canada we won't have independence, and our last round of ball cartridge will be fired before annexation is forced upon us.

Our good neighbors of the United States have formally notified the British Minister at Washington that troops will not be allowed to pass through the Sault Ste. Marie Canal—in other words, they will prevent as far as in their power our efforts to restore law and order at Red River. This action had been anticipated, and it would have been ordinary courtesy on the part of the Washington Cabinet to await overtures from the British Government before taking action in this insulting manner. As it is in the power of the Canadian Government at once to retaliate by a discriminating toll on all American vessels passing our canals, it would be as well to try whether a little wholesome pressure would not bring them to their senses. For we may rest satisfied they will heap injury upon insult on us as long as we will bear it patiently; therefore, the best, wisest, and most merciful course for all parties is to at once resist the bullyism of the United States, and to retaliate on every movement they make inimical to our interests.

The British Cabinet are disposed to treat those people as a backward nation, not bad in the main but petulant. This feeling is a grievous mistake. The British Empire has no more deadly enemies; their foreign policy is and has been directed

to her overthrow and the dismemberment of her territories.

This importunate interference in our local affairs, uncalled for and unnecessary, is an evidence of the hostility felt by the States, and as such should be dealt with at once. A bully is always a coward and respects those who meet his pretensions with resistance. This is exactly the position the States occupy towards us; the shallow pretext of neutrality is only a menace of what would be done if she dared.

A mob of squatters in British territory get up a row and the people that owe their national existence to the forbearance and generosity of Great Britain, repay it with pretended neutrality, as if it was a quarrel between rival States, and not a matter of mere police. Our people were fearfully excited over this Red River *emuele*, because a loyal subject was foully and barbarously murdered. Would it not be as well to direct a little of the indignation against the abettors of this murder at Washington. We trust that the Imperial authorities will take good care to keep the United States Government advised that any of the slightest interference with our affairs will be at once resented, and that her municipal laws must be enforced, as her pretensions to neutrality are deliberately violated by her own citizens with the sanction and concurrence of her authorities.

The people of Canada are becoming rapidly incensed against such a perfidious and shameless neighbor, and our Government had better look to it or we shall drift into a war with the States before they are aware of the danger. Questions will be asked by the country and must be answered. Who is to pay the cost of the Fenian scare? and why should any privileges be allowed to the people of the United States by this country?

The condition of Mexico is a disgrace to the civilization of our day. It is known to be a land rich in mineral and capable of being made the garden of the continent in agricultural wealth; but all these advantages are neutralized for want of a good government with a prudent and honest man at its head. Such a man was the late unfortunate Emperor, Maximilian, from whose hand the intrigues and villany of the Washington politicians, the stupid acquiescence of the British Cabinet, and the indecision of France, not only struck the sceptre of power but hurried to a premature and violent death—thus perpetuating anarchy and misrule in that unhappy country. There can be no doubt that the Mexican expedition which placed Maximilian on the throne of that country was a well directed and sound political movement—as it is a necessity of the times that no nation or people should be allowed to fall into confirmed anarchy without other powers interfering to prevent the direct and anticipative losses to civilization. At that period the people of the Northern States were engaged in the operation of co-

ercing the Southern, and no interference was anticipated. Indeed, it is most probable that the French Emperor believed the movement would lead to a recognition of the Independence of the Southern States, and at once remove the disturbing influences from the councils of the Great Powers. The fear of the English Whig Radicals were the only obstacles to the fulfilment of this scheme, its results are that Mexico has advanced towards barbarism with more rapid strides, and that the United States without real power to back up her pretensions has proved a very thorn in the side of her preserver and benefactor, Great Britain, while she is all humility and complaisance to France, well knowing the latter power would brook none of her insolence. The object she has in view is to annex Mexico at her leisure. That will not be till a party arises imbued with *American sentiment*, whatever that may be, or in other words, till one of the rival cut-throats in their periodical struggle for power is so hard pushed as to call in her assistance, which will be rendered for purposes of aggrandisement alone. This solution of the Mexican question cannot be attempted at present. No war could be sustained owing to the financial condition of the country, and it may not be the means by which such results as ought to be secured would be arrived at. Mexico wants an honest man and that the United States can hardly give her without exterminating the population.

Our dearly beloved cousins and neighbors across the lines are greatly exercised in mind at the idea of the Red River expedition being allowed to pass through the Sault Ste. Marie Canal or that even the steam vessels necessary to convey the troops to Thunder Bay on Lake Superior should be allowed that privilege. As far as the troops are concerned the difficulty will be easily obviated by passing them over the portage on the Canadian side; but if admission to the canal for steam vessels is refused the remedy is in our own hands, and that will be to close our canals at once to American vessels. They use at present the Welland, St. Lawrence, Grenville and Richelieu, navigations on the same terms as our own craft. Any prohibition of their tariff would result in serious loss to themselves; and as they have acted unfriendly, ungenerously and with hostile intent and spirit, they may look out for retaliation. It may be as well at once to say that Canada does not fear the United States, and her people will be neither bullied nor coerced by her. That this country has serious cause of complaint cannot be denied; the following extract will show what sort of an ally, neighbor, and friend the United States has been to us. This and other matters of similar import demand immediate attention and speedy redress. It undoubtedly carries the seeds of future strife, and the sooner satisfaction is demanded and enforced the better for all parties;