

fect, and strengthen all its possessions;—we say, with all these things staring them in the face, the policy of this country has made it the plain, palpable interest of the Canadians to seek for annexation. This is as clear as any problem in Euclid.

From a letter by the Great Apostle of Temperance, Father Chéniquy, addressed to the Mélanges Religieuses of October 19th, 1849, on his return from the United States.

I do not exaggerate when I say that there are not less than 200,000 Canadians in the United States, and unless efficacious means are taken to stop this frightful emigration before ten years, two hundred thousand more of our compatriots, will have carried to the American Union their arms, their intelligence and their hearts. It is no part of my present plan to examine the causes of this deplorable emigration; but it must be always true, that when a people en masse quits its country, it is because that unfortunate country is stricken with some hideous plague—is devoured by some cancer.

* * * God has placed in the heart of man love for his country, and when a man turns his back upon his country, and with the eye moistened by tears bids it an eternal adieu, it is because something essential has been wanting to him in that country. It is because he has wanted bread, room, or just liberty. I leave others to say which of the three has been deficient in Canada. All that I can assure you of is, that in the United States these three essential elements of the life of nations are found in abundance.

Nor is the decline in prosperity caused by the reversal of the protective policy of the mother country, by any means less evident than when the former address was issued. We need go into no proofs of this allegation; they have been recently proclaimed by those who are opposed to the course we desire to adopt.

Under these circumstances; encouraged by Great Britain and the United States to act with freedom, in the exercise of an enlightened judgement, do you see any other probable means of escape from a position of acknowledged inferiority than that which has been set before you by the advocates of annexation? Those who have protested against the Address to the People of Canada, have declared their belief that the evils of which we complain, and which they recognize, might be removed by judicious legislation. They are now told that Great Britain can do nothing to restore our past advantages.

Thus says the *London Times* on this subject:

"It must be admitted that the latter have grievances, though not all equally oppressive nor all of the same origin. They have been planted and thriven under protective laws. Those laws are now abrogated; and abrogated—as the people of Canada have the sense to see—without a chance of re-enactment. So far they suffer, in common with all our colonies, the effects of a bad and obsolete colonial system. The change, however, is made. The colonists know that what has been done will not be undone, and that the grain crops of Western Canada must compete in the markets of England with the grain crops of the United States, of Poland, and of

the whole world. They are suffering from the revulsion."

In this particular, as in every other, the views of those who addressed you in favour of annexation have been fully confirmed.

Is there any brighter hope from another quarter? Our opponents maintain that present causes of complaint would be removed by the attainment of reciprocal free trade with the United States. It is perhaps too soon to affirm as a positive fact that this advantage cannot be obtained; but it is quite clear that those who lately vaunted most loudly the benefits to accrue from it, now despair of securing it. They have already begun to depreciate it as something of very inferior utility.

For the social and political disadvantages under which we labour no adequate remedy other than that which we advocate, has ever been proposed. The most able British writers—those best acquainted with the Colony, acknowledge, and at the same time deplore them as inseparable from the Colonial condition, and inevitably while that condition continues.

Our country is of no account in the congress of nations, as individuals we are practically excluded from the honours of the Empire, while men, who have no permanent interest in our welfare acquire riches, and obtain honours on our soil. We have no common objects of national pride and solicitude; but as citizens of the United States, we should attain a nationality worthy of our highest aspirations.

These sentiments have been so well expressed in a late work, 'The Colonies of England,' by J. A. Roebuck, Esq., M. P., that we here transcribe his language:

"The career that lies between two men, one of whom has been born and lives upon the Southern shore of the St. Lawrence, and the other on the North of that river is a striking example of the observation here made. 'The one is a citizen of the United States, the other a subject of England, a Canadian Colonist. The one has a country which he can call his own; a great country already distinguished in arms, in arts and in some degree in literature. In his country's honor and fame the American has a share, and he enters upon his career of life with lofty aspirations, hoping to achieve fame for himself in some of the many paths to renown which his country affords. She has a Senate, an army, a navy, a bar, many powerful and wealthy churches; her men of science, her physicians, philosophers are all a national brotherhood, giving and receiving distinction. How galling to the poor Colonist is the contrast to this, which his inglorious career affords! He has no country—the place where he was born, and where he has to linger out his life, unknown to fame, has no history—no past glory, no present renown. What there is of note is England's. Canada is not a Nation; she is—a Colony—a tiny sphere, the satellite of a mighty star in whose brightness she is lost. Canada has no navy, no army—no literature—no brotherhood of science. If then a Canadian looks for honour in any of these various fields he must seek it as an Englishman; he must forget and desert his country before he can be known to fame."

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