

In 1854 Lord Elgin effected a reciprocity treaty with the United States, by which, in return for the right of fishing in our waters, reciprocal free trade was permitted in certain articles between Canada and the States. This lasted twelve years, and as soon as our business relations had become closely interlaced, the treaty was summarily brought to an end. It was not that the treaty was disadvantageous to the United States, for the exports to Canada were greater than the imports from the Provinces. It was openly declared that it was abrogated in the hope that commercial disaster and financial ruin would drive us into annexation. This attempt failed. The loyalty of the race that had always stood by the Crown—a loyalty baptized in blood on many a hard-fought field—was not to be affected by sordid motives. The scattered provinces came together under the stress of foreign hostility, and Confederation was the outcome. The next incident in American aggression was the Fenian movement of 1866. For years preparations had been going on in the States—a public organization was effected, a President and Senate appointed, and an Irish Republic, without a territory, was formally proclaimed. The public offices of State of this so-called Republic was filled up, a large mansion in New York rented, and the Irish flag hoisted over it. The Secretary of the Treasury of the New Republic issued a large amount of bonds which were readily sold, and Fenian troops were organized, uniformed, armed and openly drilled in the towns and cities of the United States. In May, 1866, these organized bodies moved openly upon Canada. The railways furnished special facilities for their transport to the border—about 30,000 men were altogether thrown upon our frontier, and large numbers crossed at several points. They were promptly driven out, and not until the movement had failed did the United States Government take any action to preserve their neutrality.

Colonel Denison quotes Sir John Macdonald's opinion of his fellow-commissioners appointed to fix the amount of the preposterous "Alabama" claims. As usual, the British representatives wanted to do just what the Yankees wished—no matter at what cost to Canada. The upshot of this little affair was that Uncle Sam received \$15,000,000 wherewith to pay losses amounting to \$6,000,000. He put the balance in his pocket. It is there yet. But "Canada did not get her Fenian claims, which were founded upon the most flagrant breach of international law on the part of the United States. At the end of the term provided by the treaty the United States gave the necessary notice for the abrogation of the fishery clauses. Other attempts soon followed to embarrass us, and to coerce or coax us into closer relations with the United States. Efforts to annex the West Indian Islands, or to make treaties with them discriminating against Canada and the Mother Country, failed."

Further acts of "friendliness" on the part of the United States are cited by Colonel Denison, to wit, the famous Retaliation message of Cleveland's in 1888, the McKinlay Bill, and the use of deliberately falsified despatches and papers in the Behring Sea negotiations. This was very pretty. By the way, the large sum awarded to our sealers for damages has not yet been paid. Yankee history repeats itself.

The want of knowledge of Canadian and American affairs in England, says Colonel Denison, is easily explained:

The English people know absolutely nothing about the masses of the American people. Those Americans only who are possessed of considerable means travel in Europe. Those who have means are either the descendants of wealthy families who have inherited fortunes, or are energetic, industrious, and capable men who have been successful in business. The great masses of the people do not cross the Atlantic. Of those who do cross, those who are friendly to England go there, while the greater portion practically avoid it, and travel upon the Continent. Of those visiting England, only the best, as a rule, get an introduction into English society; and from these, the choicest of the American better classes, the English form their opinion of the people of the United States. They do not know that this class is out of sympathy

with the masses of their fellow-countrymen, and are despised and disliked at home for their friendliness to England. In fact, the distinctive term "Anglomaniac" has been given to the type. The ordinary American dislikes and despises an Anglomaniac about as much as a Russian official would dislike a Nihilist, or a French shopkeeper an Anarchist. Those Anglomaniacs, who are really the best people in the United States, no doubt feel friendly to England, and they find it much more pleasant and polite to tell their English friends of the kindly feeling they bear to England, than to dilate upon the hostility of the masses of their fellow-countrymen. The British people should understand, however, that this class has about as much influence upon American politics as the foreign lodgers in the neighbourhood of Leicester Square have upon the politics or public opinion of England.

The last eight pages of Colonel Denison's article are chiefly devoted to controverting certain statements made by Mr. Goldwin Smith in the *Contemporary Review* and elsewhere on Canadian history and affairs. With Mr. Goldwin Smith's political opinions, so far as Canada is concerned, we have no sympathy whatever, and we are glad that a refutation so strong and so conclusive as is Colonel Denison's should have been published in a London review. It has always been a mystery to us why Mr. Goldwin Smith should so persistently advocate the annexation of Canada to the United States when he knows that the very name of it stinks in the nostrils of our people. We will have none of it. But even apart from his annexation ideas, his whole attitude towards Canada is almost incomprehensible. We have already commented on his extraordinary article on the Ottawa Conference to which Colonel Denison rightly devotes so much attention. But his attitude was not always this. Colonel Denison remarks that he took an active part in the election of 1878, in support of Sir John Macdonald and the National Policy. He endorsed and defended the tariff legislation for several years. His own words are quoted from different numbers of *The Bystander*. In 1880 he said: "To allow Canada to be made a slaughter market was in any case impolitic and wrong, nor shall we fare the worse in any future negotiation with the United States, because justice has been done by our Government to our own industries in the meantime." Again in the *Bystander* for January, 1881, he once more defends the tariff: "But the tariff as a whole has fulfilled the proper purpose of all tariffs. It has raised the requisite amount of revenue. The opposition can assail it successfully only by showing that a revenue sufficient to fill the deficit could have been raised in a better way—and this not one of their speakers or organs, so far as we have seen, has as yet attempted to do."

In concluding his admirable article, Colonel Denison says:

Mr. Smith wishes to deprive England of an immense territory, to cast off 5,000,000 of her loyal fellow-subjects, who have stood by the Empire under every difficulty and every trial, on the same ground that Lord Shelburne made such sacrifice in 1783—viz., "reconciliation." If Mr. Smith himself believed this would be effective there might be some excuse for him, but his own article on "The Hatred of England" shows that he thoroughly understands American hostility, and yet he is willing to deprive England of great moral and material strength, of coaling stations of inestimable value, of fisheries unparalleled, of mineral and agricultural resources almost without limit, in order to build up and strengthen a nation that, as the *New York Sun*, the organ of his cause, says, "would view with undisguised delight the ruin of her hereditary foe."

In conclusion, permit me, as one of that great mass of the Canadian people whose ancestors fought for a United Empire in 1776, and in the British interests on this continent in every generation since, to appeal to the British public to stand fast by the Empire built up by our fathers—to strive to weld it closer and closer together—and to look towards the Colonies in the spirit that was voiced on their