

but not fairly or openly or manly, and he succeeded in tying the hands of the Canadian Government. He is trying to explain now that what he did was in the interest of Canada. I say whether or not his action was in the interest of Canada, it was not a straightforward one, and one dictated by his duty as a member of this House. But, Mr. Speaker, this was not the first time that the hon. gentleman forgot his duty to his country and even to his party. I hold in my hand a letter—I hope it will not be torn while I hold it—which I will read in order to give the hon. gentleman an opportunity of explaining it. It was written in 1866, when the hon. gentleman was living in the States. He had come to Canada, and had met some volunteers coming back from the Fenian Raid.

Sir RICHARD CARTWRIGHT. Are you sure it was not from the North-west ?

Mr. AMYOT. No, it was not from the North-west the hon. gentleman was coming, and I will tell you why : because in 1885, in the North-west expedition the Government did their best to send only men who were loyal to the Queen. Having gone back to the States, the hon. gentleman wrote to a paper in Tonawanda as follows :—

Your correspondent happened to be in Paris, C.W., on the 19th inst. (June, 1866) ; heard music, saw flags, civilians, military, &c. ; inquired what was going on ; found that volunteer picnic was in progress, and concluded to stay and see the show.

Six companies of volunteers, numbering about 300 men, in the Canadian uniform of black coats, with ridiculously short tails, and dark gray pants, excessively large in the rear, just below the waist band, were the guests in whose honour the spread was made.

The grounds where the tables were spread, and the stands for the speakers and music erected, were in the beautiful valley of Grand River, just below the Buffalo and Lake Huron bridge. The day was all that could be desired, sunshine and a fresh, bracing breeze, contributing to the enjoyment of the crowd of hilarious and self-satisfied Canucks.

The proceedings were inaugurated by a battalion drill of the warriors. Your correspondent knows very little of military tactics, but is decidedly of the opinion that the six companies of volunteers aforesaid got slightly tangled several times, and had not a very clear conception of what they were trying to do. They formed hollow squares, for the purpose of repelling cavalry (one of Colonel Booker's strong points, I believe, when resisting an enemy without horses), but got their squares so solid that moving arms was next to an impossibility. After going through various evolutions, the arms were stacked and the volunteers invited to the stand to hear the order granting them permission to return to their homes read. The reading was performed by a tall, amateur military man, rejoicing in the title of major, whose legs were long enough to enable him to keep up with the fastest member of the Queen's Own, if it ever became necessary to try, and whose coat-tails were not long enough to impede his progress in the least.

After reading the order, and what I took to be an address from the officers, complimenting

Canada on her loyalty, progress, and self-sacrificing devotion to British connection, and the volunteers on their soldierly qualities, patriotism, courage, virtue, fighting, height, weight, &c., the chairman introduced the Rev. Wm. Ryerson, ex-M.P.P., who made a speech by way of grace before dinner. The speech of the rev. gentleman was a very fine specimen of buncombe and bombast, and contained not a solitary acknowledgment to the United States for faithfully performing treaty obligations, and all the duties of international comity, in suppressing the contemplated Fenian invasion. The crowd, who stood open-mouthed, imbibing the sentiments of the venerable oracle, was informed that Canada had the finest volunteer force in the world, who had just gained a great victory, by repulsing and driving back the Fenian hordes, which a professedly friendly nation had permitted to attack them ; that their institutions were immeasurably superior to the ultra-democracy of the United States, and that Canada was to become, through the agency of confederation, one of the greatest powers of the earth ; had demonstrated to the world and all mankind her ability to take care of all Fenian hordes, and with the assistance of Britannia—that Goliath among the nations—to repulse and drive back, in ignominy and disgrace, if need be, that greatest nation in all creation which they had for a neighbour.

After the speech of the Rev. gentleman, the volunteers partook of the repast provided for them by the ladies of Paris, which I presume was a bountiful one, though I did not inspect the tables.

Dinner over, speaking became the order of the day, and the clergymen of Paris, in rotation, ventilated their sentiments. The rev. gentlemen are good on buncombe ; one, however, the Rev. Mr. Robertson, did get off a few sensible ideas, which refreshingly varied the monotony of clap-trap and self-laudation. He had the hardihood to assert that it would not be improper to inquire whether Ireland did not labour under grievance, and to doubt whether the tenure by which land was held and the fact that a state church was forced upon an unwilling people, was just the thing.

In all the speeches made, I did not notice a word of acknowledgment for the course taken by the United States. All the changes were rung on the repulsion of the Fenians ; the fact that they gained one victory, and left without being repulsed, was not mentioned.

The self-glorification and elation over the glorious demonstration of power and patriotism made by Canada certainly appeared, to an on-looker, like wasting a good deal of powder on a small amount of game ; and the studious avoidance of any allusion to the United States, except in tones of insult and disparagement, by the small fry who figured as orators on the occasion, is, I presume, an indication of the tone of public men and of the press in Canada, who will now attempt to counteract annexationist tendencies by misrepresenting the United States and sowing the seeds of bitterness and hostility in the minds of the people. Perhaps they may succeed, for the masses in Canada are not remarkable for intelligence.

The hon. member for North Norfolk has been charged with having written that letter. I am told that he once tore the letter when it was presented to him, but the fragments were collected, and it has been published again. He has not denied having written that letter, and it certainly looks very much like his own ideas of love for the United