

CURRENT COMMENT

EAGER FOR ACTIVE SERVICE

HURRAH for the Eighth Hussars! Immediately upon the announcement of the British Egyptian Expedition up the Nile, an offer was received at the Imperial Foreign Office in London from the Eighth Canadian Hussars, of St. John, New Brunswick, to furnish help in the Soudan. This offer has called forth expressions of warm appreciation from the British Ministers. The Dominion certainly feels itself a part of the world's greatest Empire. Who is it that says the Canadians are not loyal to old England? Patriotism is a tree that grows well when watered by the snows of this north country. The Allan Steamship Company agreed to have the *Parisian* ready April 18th, to carry the regiment across the Atlantic. These are the men who volunteered to go to the relief of Gordon. But disappointment is again their lot. The War Office has replied that the troops necessary for the present needs in Egypt have already been provided. The military experts, moreover, explain that the ordinary cavalry, unused to the conditions in Egypt, would be of little avail. Transportation was another obstacle. But the chance of the Eighth Canadian Hussars is coming. And when it does come, let a goodly number of the enemy tremble—for the boys of the Eighth will be like lions held back and finally let loose. All Canada feels proud of this regiment. Again, cheer for them: Hurrah for the Eighth Canadian Hussars! And a tiger!

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ANNEXATION AGAIN

THEY are not all dead yet. A few weeks ago a telegram was received from Windsor saying that the Independence of Canada party is to get encouragement from Americans in New York. Mr. C. W. Gauthier, one of the party's agitators, had returned to Windsor after a week's absence in Toronto. We did not know

he was here. Mr. P. Beneteau, a distiller, who is said to be a leading "spirit" of the so-called Independence party, was in New York during the same seven days. But this was kept a profound secret. It is not likely that any difficulty was experienced in the effort. Mr. Gauthier now has on hand a quantity of literature favoring the political union of Canada and the United States. It is to be hoped that Mr. Gauthier obtained this paper at a low figure; because otherwise, owing to the demand being somewhat limited, Mr. G. may find that he has an elephant on his hands. However, if he does not keep the "literature" too long he may possibly be able to get half a cent a pound for it by careful placing. It may be remarked to the capitalists in New York, who are said to be interested in the independence of Canada, on the one condition that annexation be the ultimate result, that not only are the tactics amusingly puerile, but the names of the two gentlemen mentioned are utterly unknown to the people of Canada. There is no demand here for either independence or annexation. England is good enough for us.

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HONOR IN HER OWN COUNTRY PARIS has a new sensation! When was there a year that it hadn't? The vivacious spirits of the great French metropolis constantly demand some novelty to excite themselves about. This time their desire is realized in the shape of a very comely young prophetess—who, if cabled descriptions are to be believed, is a girl of exceptional beauty, possessing the fascinations of a siren and the virtues of a seraph.

Paradise street was Mlle. Conesdon's appropriate address until recently. So great were the surging mobs of the superstitious and inquisitive—doctors, psychologists, artisans, priests, tradesmen—it is not recorded that any lawyers