

NATION MAKING.

(From the British Colonist.)

Canada is but the germ, the nucleus of the Greater Britain of America. Look at the materials—the stones lying ready to construct the new and truly great empire. Look at the map of America. Mark that island (Newfoundland) commanding the mouth of the noble river that almost cuts the Continent in twain. That island is equal in extent to the kingdom of Portugal. Cross the straits to the mainland and you touch the hospitable shores of Nova Scotia, a country as large as the kingdom of Greece. Then mark the sister Province of New Brunswick—equal in extent to Denmark and Switzerland combined, with Prince Edward Island reclining like an infant in its bosom. Pass up the St. Lawrence to the Province of Quebec, a country as large as France. Ascend that great river to Ontario, the belle Province of the Dominion—in extent, twenty thousand square miles larger than England, Ireland and Scotland combined. Behold its inland seas and its magnificent rivers, its canal and railway system. Now pass over to the shores of the Pacific, and you see British Columbia, the golden land of promise—the key-stone of empire. With the coal-stores of the North Pacific securely in its grasp, and lifting its head of eternal snow to Heaven, it proudly proclaims British Dominion on the Pacific. The strong man armed, it securely keeps the door of empire; and, all conscious of its strength and destiny, it says to the great republican ocean seething and rolling on either side of it, “Hither shalt thou come, and no further; and here shall thy proud waves be stayed.” Look at the noble Fraser coursing over eight hundred miles of its golden bed, and cutting in twain its mountains of silver and copper and iron. It is equal in extent to the Austrian Empire. But, what about the vast territory between?—a territory greater in extent than the whole soil of Russia. A world within itself, with its great lakes, and its rivers sweeping through two thousand miles of unbroken fertility, it will make a dozen of Provinces, affording a happy home for as many millions. That vast region is as yet a sheet of white paper on which the institutions of a great country have for the most part to be written. Such is an imperfect outline of the materials at hand out of which to construct the Greater Britain of America. And what a responsibility devolves upon the builders. We are all builders in this great and glorious work of empire. “Only remember, my friends,” said an American orator to a company of Yankee troops, “Only consider as you’re a makin’ history, just do it clean and let’s have no splashes.” Let those who are engaged in makin’ the history of British Columbia “do it clean” and avoid “splashes.”

THE IMPERIAL POLICY.

L'Eoenement says:—British policy in America can have only one end; to weaken American power, to divide the United States. Two means might have been adopted for this purpose. The first was in 1861 to recognise the South; to assist France in establishing herself in Mexico; to erect on solid foundations, the Canadian Confederation, surrounding her with all the advantages which might retain population and attract emigration; in one word to make war openly on the Great Republic. Britain did not care to take this bold step; she adopted half measures. She did not recognise the South, but by secretly supplying arms and assistance, she deeply offended the North;

she allowed the French attempt in Mexico to become abortive; she urged, it is true, the Canadian Provinces to unite, but without furnishing them, the means of increasing in strength and prosperity. This policy of half measures having completely failed, and the South having fallen, there remained to Britain only one line of conduct to pursue; to leave America, to withdraw from Canada as France did from Mexico, and allow the United States to absorb everything and become so overgrown as to advance to certain dissolution. This is the policy we now see becoming developed. The British Government urges the American Government to take possession of everything beside it. The *Times* presses it to purchase Cuba, and the London bankers have arranged a plan, by which Spain would negotiate a loan of \$130,000,000, and give Cuba as a pledge. When the time expires, not being able to pay, she would let Cuba fall into the hands of the United States. At the same time they offer Canada, and from all sides at once comes the cry—when will you rescue Mexico from a state of anarchy? The United States hesitate, for if they are tempted by the glory of so many pacific conquests and the advantages of such vast territorial acquisitions, they are deterred by the danger which the introduction into their political organization of many diverse elements, so ill prepared for free institutions would involve. The Republicans, masters of the situation, say that the balance of power might be changed, thus causing their fall. Far seeing men say that it is better to tolerate as neighbours powers which are not unfriendly rather than absorb countries which may introduce discord into the National Councils. We are thus placed in a singular position, between two countries neither of which desires to have us. The Imperial Government says: If we keep Canada, we will sooner or later have a war with the United States and that must be avoided at any cost, for we can hope to derive no advantage from it. On the other side the American Government says: If we take Canada, we must take all the rest. In this situation the Independence of Canada may be accepted as a mean term by the two rival powers, which might come to an understanding to guarantee us against all exterior dangers. In this fashion, Independence would become possible, and would be established under the protectorate of Britain and the United States. It would give us still greater security than that of which we were formerly assured under the protection of Great Britain, and would offer us all the Commercial advantages of Annexation.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

PRINCE ARTHUR AND OUR FUTURE.

It will be seen by the news from Quebec in another column, that Prince Arthur embarked on the Troopship *Crocodile* yesterday evening, and sailed for England early this morning. Now that our royal visitor has left our shore, it may be profitable as well as pleasant to take a retrospect of the past few months of his stay amongst us. We may say that his visit has been exceedingly agreeable in many ways. His pleasing manners, and courteous deportment to all, have made him very popular wherever he became acquainted; and we feel assured, that if certain arrangements were completed, by which each group of Colonies of the Empire—such as our Dominion and the Australasian groups—were erected into independent kingdoms with an alliance offensive and defensive with Great Britain, and a member of the royal family allotted to each as Viceroy

or King, the Canadian people would gladly hail Prince Arthur as our future ruler.—*St. Catharines Constitutional*.

THE PRINCE.

His Royal Highness Prince Arthur set sail for England in her Majesty's Ship *Crocodile* yesterday morning. He took passage on the vessel the evening previous at Quebec. He received a parting address from the Mayor, and hearty cheers, and “God bless you,” from the crowd which assembled to see him off. A royal salute was also fired in his honor from the guns of the citadel.

During his brief sojourn in Canada, Prince Arthur won golden opinions in every portion of the Dominion which he visited. People were prepared to give him a welcome befitting his exalted rank, but they were not prepared to surrender to him so much sincere affection. The honest, kindly lad came among us with so much dignity and yet so little ostentation that he carried the hearts of the people by storm.

Will he ever come back again? Ah! there is more in that question than we should care to attempt to answer to-day. Should he return, however, it would not be in the capacity of a Lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade and should a higher destiny await him in Canada we are sure that his return would be welcomed with even more warmth than was his first appearance in the Dominion last fall.—*The News and Frontier Advocate*.

His Royal Highness Prince Arthur embarked, with his suite, on Her Majesty's steamship *Crocodile* on Thursday for England. We are sure we but express the universal sentiment of Canada in saying the Prince has been a welcome resident, that he has won golden opinions wherever he has shown himself in this country, and that he leaves it with the best wishes of its people for himself and all the members of the illustrious family to which he belongs. Nothing could have been more unassuming than his demeanor, nothing more gracious, kindly and polite than his bearing to all, even the humblest, who had the good fortune to approach him.—*Richmond Guardian*.

OUR POSITION.—Last evening's *Mercury* in commenting upon a statement made by the *London Times*, relative to the removal of troops from Canada, concludes an able article in the following words:—“The *Times*, in proposing this, suggests a termination to the British Empire, like to nothing in history, save the death of Vitellius. That tyrant is described in the pages of Suetonius as retreating to a porter's lodge and hiding under a truckle bed, after tying a dog before the door, which he barred behind it. Similar is the usage Canada is forewarned, will be the reward of fidelity to Britain. “Forty million” of Americans suffice, it appears, to cow the once bold spirit of the nation which, under Pitt, faced a world in arms and came off victorious. But if John Bull has resolved, in the matter of his desertion of empire, to imitate the vilest of the Cæsars, and in the porter's lodge of democracy to crouch beneath the peaceful truckle-bed of Broadbrim Bright, we trust Canada, commanded by England in 1856 to be merciful and conciliating to her Fenian foes, will have too much intelligence and spirit to actively or passively play the part of the dog thrown out, unaided, to the enemy, while tied at the portal his master dared not defend.”

RED RIVER EXPEDITION.—The first detachment of troops was to embark on Lake Shebanowan Wednesday, 13th inst. The troops had all arrived at the Lake from Thunder Bay.