

in favor of our oppressed neighbours! I do not applaud interference, since the law forbids it; but, I do say, that it is natural, and not at all surprising. On the contrary, it would have been unnatural and astonishing, if there had not been interference. The criminality is upon our own government, and upon them will rest the odium, if the gibbets in Canada shall be adorned with American heads.

As to the Canadians themselves, they must at last be free. Revolutions never go back. The very horrors, now perpetrated in their country, must keep alive all the passions, that are most fierce and productive of war. The arts, necessary to success, in arms, will be learned. They will be growing strong. It is very easy to deride their late exertions, and to say "those, who would be free, themselves must strike the blow." I say, it is very easy to pretend, that the Canadians do not desire freedom, or that they are not oppressed, because they have not conquered. Such suggestions are utterly fallacious. No one can say, that the Poles or the Irish are free, or that they are not oppressed, because the military power of their oppressors is greater than their own.

Where is the slave so lowly
Condemned to chains unholy
Who—could he burst
His chains at first,
Would pine beneath them slowly?

Where has there been a successful, revolt, without foreign aid? Is it certain that our own revolt would have been successful, if we had been left to our own resources? Were we not compelled to petition kings and burgo-masters to help us? And, with all that kings and burgo-masters did, were we not struggling for seven years, ere we succeeded? We had two millions of people—the Canadians have not one-sixth of that number, and of these a fierce minority are subsisting upon the majority. The military force to over-awe the Canadas, is far greater in proportion, than the English armies in our own revolution. It is cruel and unjust, therefore, to pretend that the triumph of force, in Canada, is a discredit to the Canadians, any more than it is a rebuke to Poland, that Russia is more powerful.—There are more prisoners now in the jails of Canada, than there were in the jails of the thirteen colonies. I repeat the question, what revolt has been successful without foreign aid? And I have only to point to our own revolt, and to the revolts in Mexico and South America, for an answer.—The true source of the odium, attempted to be cast upon Canadians, is to be traced to British policy. To excuse oppression, the oppressed have always been held up to derision. The Scotch, and the Irish, nay the people of our own country, were represented, just as the Canadians now are. If the Canadians are not accustomed to arms, why are they not?—Because it has been the design of their rulers, that they should be ignorant. I say it is cruel, therefore, in Americans, to be echoing against the Canadians, such sarcasms as were once cast upon themselves.

Although I say all this—although I have written to you this long letter—I am not disposed to encourage the Canadians to further efforts at this time.—A war in Europe, a revolt in Ireland, or in India; or an invasion of the latter, may effect at an early day, what must take place at last—the expulsion of Europeans, as masters of any part of our American soil.

Yours,
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