

THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS

All Communications regarding the Militia or Volunteer movement, or for the Editorial Department, should be addressed to the Editor of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW, Ottawa.

Communications intended for insertion should be written on one side of the paper only.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. Correspondents must invariably send us, confidentially, their name and address.

All letters must be Post-paid, or they will not be taken out of the Post Office.

Adjutants and Officers of Corps throughout the Provinces are particularly requested to favor us regularly with weekly information concerning the movements and doings of their respective Corps, including the fixtures for drill, marching out, rifle practice, &c.

We shall feel obliged to such to forward all information of this kind as early as possible, so that it may reach us in time for publication.

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The Volunteer Review,

AND MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

"Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw,
To guard the Monarch, fence the law."

OTTAWA, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1868.

THE *New York Herald* of 29th ult., contains an article under the caption of *The New Treaty with Canada*, remarkable for the amount of effrontery with which the writer endeavors to misrepresent the whole question of Reciprocity and to cover the defeat of the politicians of the United States by characteristic bullyism.

As a question of policy the course pursued by the people of the United States in the Repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty has resulted in their loss—the anxiety to renew it now is thoroughly well understood, and although the *Herald* may endeavor to impose on the public by swaggering assertions that the Nova Scotian difficulty is at the bottom of the negotiations now asserted to be passing between Her Majesty's Minister at Washington and Mr. Seward, the American Secre-

tary of State, no one is likely to take in except the Editor of that veracious sheet.

Passing by the nonsense in the two leading paragraphs of the *Herald's* article with the assurance that the people of Canada do not desire Mr. "Secretary Seward to lend" them any "helping hand to pull through the crisis," feeling perfectly satisfied that he has quite enough to do to manage "*The muddle in the South*"—(which by the way is the caption of the *Herald's* next article)—without meddling where he is neither wanted nor welcome. We come to what is evidently the disturbing cause of the *Herald's* wrath.

"With respect to the condition of affairs in Canada we have no sympathy with Mr. Seward in any attempt to relieve England from her colonial troubles. We do not want to get her out of the repeal agitation in Nova Scotia. We do not require an Anglo-imperial dominion on our border. Twelve years ago a leading London journal, controlled at the time by the late Lord Palmerston, sent forth an editorial prophecy, supposed to be from the pen of that eminent statesman, to the effect that the day was not distant when Canada, so far from being absorbed by the United States, would become the centre of rule for the whole American Continent. As an offset to this hope and in dissipation of a long cherished British idea we say, let the principle of colonial disintegration just evolved in Nova Scotia extend and progress to its legitimate conclusion, and permit the free annexation of all or any one of the provinces to the Union to result from the solution.

"Mr. Seward permits his official opportunities to pass. He has accomplished nothing in regard to the Alabama claims payment, but is, on the contrary, likely to play into the hands of Britain in an attempt to help her out of her dominion troubles by treaty negotiations, supported, it may be, by Congressional resolutions. Did Great Britain afford comfort or aid to the American Union in the dark days of its difficulty? The "belligerent" recognition of Lord Russell, the Alabama, the Bahamas blockade runner station, guns, food and ammunition for the Southern armies, make the reply. Did England ever confederate peoples or territory but with an eye to the future aggregation of new dominion to the more solid centre? Never. Why, then, should we encourage her policy at our own doors? There remains one certain cure for the Canadian situation, one remedy for Anglo-Canadian border smuggling, one anodyne for Nova Scotian discontent. It is annexation to the United States. The colonists will take the remedy if Doctor Seward will only stand aside and permit them."

The dread of the absorption of the Western and North Western States of the Union by Canada has become a leading idea with American politicians—it is very evident that all idea of annexation by fraud or force has to be abandoned, and judging others by themselves the dread of being swallowed by the British Empire in America haunts the shallow plotters that guide the destinies of the States. That Canada is destined to become the centre of power for the whole continent is likely enough, and for the reason, which journals of the *Herald's* stripe ignore,—there is Constitutional Government here—not equality—and if any annexation takes

place it must be because the people of the States will be taught by the inestimable logic of facts that there is peace, safety, and liberty under the old Red Cross banner, while anarchy, misrule, and the worst of slavery prevails under the Stars and Stripes.

It is to be hoped that in the negotiation of a New Treaty Mr. Thornton will remember that the old one was objectionable because it gave the Yankees all the advantage. If Fishing rights are conceded—we must have an abolition of the United States coasting laws—free navigation of all the internal waters of that country without question and on the same footing as their own vessels, and the admission of all our natural or partially manufactured goods duty free, and that the errors into which Messrs. Galt and Howland fell in 1865, of offering to subject our Excise to Yankee control by assimilating the systems will be avoided. The fact is this country does not want Reciprocity except it is in the direction of Free Trade—while the people of the States suffer by the imposition of high duties which they pay themselves, every article of Canadian produce and manufacture has been enhanced in price to a far greater degree than Reciprocity could afford; the people of the British Colonies have opened for themselves new avenues of commerce and are dependent on the States for nothing, while the latter power must conciliate the friendship of the Empire if she has no desire to see her grain producing States shut out from the Ocean and her development retarded.

That a new power (or rather the old one developed) has arisen on this Continent is very evident, and the sooner the politicians of the States recognise that fact the better; because a true appreciation of its mission will tend to dispel the dread which parties represented by such journals as the *Herald* may feel of its extension. It is not a question for mere speculative political philosophy, but the practical solution of a great problem which the British Empire in America is destined to demonstrate—it is that of finding an outlet for the surplus human power of Great Britain, adding to the industry of the world affording a highway across the Continent between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and by opening the means of access to the Western States, develop the resources of those true centres of population and wealth to their utmost extent. It is not greed of Territory or lust of conquest which actuates the Statesmen or people of North America—the integrity of the Great Empire to which they belong, the welfare of its people and the extension of the commercial industry of the Continent are sufficient objects to occupy the minds of its people without any of the motives attributed by the *Herald*.

We understand that advices of the Snider Rifles to be offered as prizes bought by the President C. S. Czowski, Esq., from the Imperial authorities during that gentleman's