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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, MAY 13, 1872.

LIEUT.-COLONEL WAINWRIGHT GRIFFITHS, at present on a tour through British Columbia, has kindly consented to act as the Agent for the VOLUNTEER REVIEW in that Province.

TELEGRAPHIC news apprises the people of British North America that the *London Times* discussing the attitude Canada has assumed towards the Treaty of Washington, censures the Imperial Government for its treatment of the Dominion and hints that it would be highly beneficial to the world if England were to absolve Canada from her allegiance.

There is no doubt that the *Times* representing the monied interest of Great Britain alone would be favorably disposed to facilitate the disintegration of the Empire, under the delusion that such an operation would enable English stockholders to collect their dividends without fear of interruption, but the *Times* should remember that Canada is not accountable for the consequential damages nor for the Alabama Claims; although English diplomats bartered away her territorial rights in order to render the settlement for damages brought about by their own folly and incapacity less onerous to English ratepayers and especially the very class the *Times* represents.

When it becomes necessary to sever the tie that binds this country to the British throne, it will not be a condition of the arrangement that a mere section, however important, of the English people will be alone consulted, especially a section whose patriotism is measured by per centage and of whose rule the majority of the British nation is heartily tired.

If Englishmen wish to know the feelings of the Canadian people on this question they may rest assured that nine-tenths of them look on the Washington Treaty as a disgraceful surrender of every principle for which a high spirited people should contend.

That they are the best judges of their own local affairs, that the disposition of the fisheries is tantamount to the acknowledgment of defeat, and that no adequate compensation whatever has been or will be received for such a shameful and imbecile surrender of national rights.

They cannot conceive any national exigency would warrant the course pursued by the English portion of the Joint High Commission, and they are quite certain the honor of the Empire and their rights have been sacrificed to the supposed interest of the monied class.

Knowing well the utter faithlessness of the United States politicians, their dishonest grasping and encroaching spirit, (of which Englishmen have already had a specimen in the consequential damages) they desire above all things to keep clear of all political or treaty relations with that country, and if British Statesmen studied the interests of the Empire they would follow a similar course.

The most extraordinary portion of the whole affair is that this surrender and sacrifice has been made to a people wholly impotent to enforce redress for injuries even from such a power as Spain, and that it has made in the face of the well-known facts that they had no right to make any claim whatever.

It is not a matter for much wonder if the Canadian people were thoroughly dissatisfied, or that they hesitated to commit themselves to a policy whose tendency is to bring about a conflict which they well know to be inevitable at a time when they and Great Britain may be far less prepared for it than at present, and it requires no extraordinary spirit of prophecy to foretell the effect of releasing Canada from her allegiance; within a year after British power in North America and the West Indies would be merely an historical fact.

It is quite possible the *Times* and Whig Radicals are working together for that end, Gladstone is fond of climaxes and theatrical coupes, and he might essay that *coup d'Etat* before he is consigned to the role which fits him best of local demagogue, but the day it is consummated will add an

unexpected page to the world's annals, and that page will proclaim the near advent of the downfall of Great Britain.

As a sacrifice to our position, as a dependency of the British Empire, we shall have to accept the Treaty of Washington; but it is as well to state distinctly at once that it is the last surrender the people of Canada will ever make; to this they are partly reconciled because they are aware that the sword will finally adjust all questions of boundaries and rights and they have no fear of the consequences of appealing thereto.

Our relations to Great Britain will have to be better defined, but we must await the advent to power of Statesmen who are not the tools of Manchester cotton spinners or London stockholders.

In a national and patriotic sense there is no sacrifice the Canadian people are not prepared to make to maintain the integrity of the Empire and uphold the honor of Britain, but they must be beaten in actual conflict before they will consent to a surrender of territorial rights, and that is a sensation they have yet to experience.

This country is no burthen politically or otherwise to the Empire: England would have to maintain a far larger squadron to protect her own commerce if the connection was severed, and we ask nothing from her in any quarrel which may occur and which will not be of our making, but to act by her naval force.

The Canadian people will not hear of separation but they will insist that their heritage and rights shall not be bartered away by doctrinaires or neglected by imbecile envoys.

"Let the galled Jade wince,"
"My withers are unwrung,"

If an individual cries out very loudly it is a certain indication that he has been hit very hard. Our very amiable contemporary, the United States *Army and Navy Journal*, in a short concise article evidently inspired by, and covering concentrated rage, devotes the author of the "Invasion of Canada in 1874" to the purgatory of unsuccessful writers, in terms singularly elegant and well chosen.

Our contemporary feels exactly like an irascible old gentleman on whose gouty toe a lively youngster has designedly trodden, and evinces his dislike of the operation by unintelligible choleric growls, not the less amusing because they are the expressions of powerless rage.

One thing is very evident, however, the result arrived at by the talented author of the "Invasion" is exceedingly displeasing to our contemporary.

It does not matter so far as the object which the author proposed to accomplish is concerned in what light the *Army and Navy Journal* viewed his efforts, the actions portrayed are sufficiently life like to give our contemporary a fit of the blues, and as the