

remained, binding with its chains our young dependency, to which we have professed to give self government. So might I take one of you and leading you into a post of danger, might carry away your word, and say, "Now, go fight."

On the question of independence Captain Duncan speaks intelligently, "Nor let us," he says, "be ever contemplating a separation, even a friendly one. So lightly do the silken chains of our rule sit upon our colonies that there is no additional liberty to be obtained by them were the connexion severed. Let us avoid the example set by a short sighted portion of our press, which is always offensively begging our colonies to ask for separation. It will be the beginning of the end when such a separation take place; the shrinking of the empire into a pretty state; the dotage of a parent whose boast may be of her powerful offspring, but a boast uttered by mumbling lips in a palsied head, not the pride of a strong father in his unalienated children. Our fame, our strength, and our mercantile wealth lie in continued union with our colonies."

Captain Duncan is equally clever and decided on the subject of military defences. His remarks, indeed, are well worthy of attention both of Government and people, but we cannot afford the space their length would require.

These are a few quotations from a lecture which is really very creditable to the author, and very interesting to the reader. We might make other extracts, equally to the point. The whole lecture evinces a clearness of observation and thought, and an intelligent appreciation of our character and position, which are not always to be met with in British officers who are resident with us for a few years, and who for the most part give themselves up to amusement. Our readers, we are sure, will feel indebted to Captain Duncan, and we hope he will continue to diffuse among his countrymen should information on subjects on which English people are still lamentably ignorant. We dread nothing so much as a want of accurate knowledge respecting us as a part of the English parliament and the English press. Such efforts as those of Captain Duncan will have great influence for good.

CANADIAN MANUFACTURES AND COMMERCE.

We reprint the following communication lately addressed to the editor of the *Leader* by a Toronto gentleman who has had twenty-five years experience in business, in this, as well as in other British colonies:—

To the Editor of the *Leader*,—Sir,—It must be gratifying to every friend of progress in Canada to notice the rapid strides which have been made in our manufacturing interests during the past ten years, and it is largely due to the wisdom of our legislators that the duties on some articles were so arranged as to give an incidental protection to those in which we can successfully carry on and compete with the outside world, thereby inducing capitalists to invest their money and give employment to thousands who would otherwise cross the borders to enrich our neighbors with their energy and labor. I am of opinion that if Canadians will

now rise to the dignity of their position and insist upon (whatever government may be in power) carrying out a decided policy to open up our tremendous Dominion resources, by building new canals and improving our old ones, and giving land to build railways and roads in every part of the country, our manufacturing interests would thereby steadily increase, until we supplied a large portion of our own people and might export our surplus to the sister colonies of the Empire in the East and West Indies, Australia, &c., where they at present take cargoes of American wooden-ware, axes, hammers, &c., from Boston and New York, and bring back return cargoes of teas, spices, &c. Surely we can now compete with our Yankee friends who are so much heavier taxed than we. We have mill-sites and water privileges equal to any part of the world. The canal system to connect us with the seaboard is also now to be improved by a government grant of lands. These canals will give an impetus to hydraulics for manufacturing woollens and cottons. The Welland canal is an example of this. where Gordon, Mackay & Co.'s Lybster Mills have been turning out this year immense quantities of tickings, denims, and sheetings cotton yarn, &c.

We only require united action in favor of new railway avenues into the country, which I trust will be carried to the great Pacific. When this is done, no part of the world could offer greater inducements to immigrants. The writer of this can testify that Australia never can, for we can grow the staples for human sustenance to a far greater extent, and our climate is more healthy and invigorating. Let us lay aside vindictive political strife, and support measures rather than men for the progress and future greatness of United Canada. A national party is really required at the present time, which will promote good-will and protect moderately our manufacturing and mechanical interests for the mutual benefit of the people.

I am, &c.,

J. L.

THE MANUFACTURE OF SEA SALT—WHAT MAY BE DONE IN CANADA.

It appears that down in the lower St. Lawrence and the Gulf the people are contemplating the possibility of making sea-salt on a large scale, and it is quite possible that soon another important branch of Canadian production may challenge general attention. We find the following in the Quebec correspondence of the *Montreal Gazette*:—

"My allusion to the establishment of Salines on our coast, from the interest taken in manufactures just now, led to my being questioned upon a matter which was regarded as one of deep interest to our people. You know that the Republic of Venice owed the beginnings of its power and wealth to its Salines. For years and years the policy of Venice was to make a monopoly of this staple of life, and wherever a Saline was established that would compete with her she took possession of it, and the cases are not a few of the Venetians destroying such as the Republic could not make use of, and treaties exist by which she made peace with neighbouring princes, upon the condition that they would not again re-establish suppressed Salines. At periods of her history, Venice, in the interests of