

iously and daily becoming more endangered by unscrupulous assaults on our national liberties; in such noble work they would be well supported by all truly loyal and patriotic men of other races, and if the Order made a grave for itself in the agony of giving birth to a nobler and better hope and outlook for Canada, and establishing our liberties and national life *permanently* on the basis of *British unity and liberty* as a foundation rock of our political structure which no alien or foe would ever be allowed to touch, the Order might then be content to die, if needs be, so that its noble work and mission may take a more lofty and enduring form in the political edifice erected, which should be the guardian home of all that was sacred and precious to us, to be handed down to our children's children as a glorious heritage. Need any Englishman worthy of the name to be reminded that our motherland claims from us that we will never prove recreant to the trust she has committed to us here—that we will be worthy of her in patriotism and devotion to those principles that have made her great: and, as one of her devoted sons stirred the hearts of his comrades to daring deeds and victory, so let this message, given in no faltering spirit, remind you once again that "England expects every man this day to do his duty,"—duty to God, to our homes and children and to all that in the great welfare of this Canada is truly precious.

F. J. A.

THE ANNEXATION OF CANADA.

We have been favoured with a copy of this week's issue (March 16th), of a journal published in New York, by P.F. Collier, which bears the name of "Once a Week." It is devoted to fiction, fact, sensation, wit, humor and news. It certainly contains plenty of reading matter in its 24 pages 11 x 15 inches. Its typographical appearance is first-class, the paper good, selections and correspondence choice, and is profusely as well as neatly illustrated. It admires our Liberal political party in Canada, as it looks upon them (the liberals) as a gentle and humble set of half-starved beggars seeking the protection of the Stars and Stripes, i. e. ANNEXATION. No doubt this is very good literary food for the imaginative mind of its Yankee readers, and such Canadians as Mr. Erastus Wiman, but 19-20ths of the intelligent human beings on this side of the line would pronounce it so much waste space. *Once a Week* says:

"There has certainly been of late a decided movement of Canadian opinion in favour of closer relations with the United States. Not much is said as yet, to be sure, about annexation, but commercial union, instead of being tentatively put forward by a few independent newspapers, has become the avowed aim of the Liberal party, which is even now dominant in the Provincial legislatures, and twelve years ago was master of the Ottawa government. It is already evident from the tenor of the debate in the Dominion Parliament, that the next general election is to turn upon the commercial union issue. * * * * *

It is, therefore, a consummation, not indeed close at hand, but according to the trend of recent events not improbable, which is prefigured in our cartoon. There is nothing inconceivable, or indeed unprecedented, in the peaceable substitution of the American for the British flag. That exchange of national ensigns has twice before taken place; namely, after the settlement of the North-east Boundary controversy, and after the delimitation of the Oregon frontier. In each of these well-remembered cases territory which

had previously been claimed by Great Britain was formally made over to the United States. Whether England would forbid the bands, provided Canada were willing to enter into a political marriage with this country, would entirely depend upon which party and what statesman happened to be for the moment in power at Westminster. That no obstruction would be offered by Mr. Gladstone may be reasonably inferred from his relinquishment of the Ionian Islands to Greece, and his generous confession of independence to the Transvaal Republic. Nor should it be forgotten that Mr. Gladstone's speedy return to office seems tenfold more likely than it did before the utter collapse of the charges brought against Mr. Parnell by the *London Times*. It would now be not at all surprising should a new general election take place in England within six months. As, in that event, Mr. Gladstone would almost certainly become once more Prime Minister, they who wish to bring about the nuptials of the United States and Canada do well to hasten the courtship preliminaries. * * *

We believe that the Canadian Conservatives in public life will find it difficult at the next general election to justify to their constituents their unconciliatory and aggravating attitude towards the United States. * * * Mr. Blaine is said to look upon the Dominion as an apple not yet ripe, but which is certain to fall into our lap, if we have the patience to wait for it."

This paper no doubt is catering to the tastes of a few half-starved, lantern-jawed, puny blizzard-beaten descendants of the noisy, kicking, pessimistic tribe of Mannasseh.

Hah, ha! Annex us, eh? Just you come over and try it, cousin Jonathan, and if we don't pull you by the goatee and kick you all to pieces out of your boots, why, then we'll retire to the North Pole, wherever that is?

We wish, though that all of our readers could see the cartoon mentioned above, and which came to us as a supplement. It is an illustration 2 feet by 2 feet ten inches, with an immense concourse of people, such as the world has never before seen, and never will again. In the centre stands an immense flag-staff with a numberless congregation of American blatherskites, and on the other an unlimited number of humble British subjects, such as the Duke of Cambridge, Sir John Macdonald, Salisbury, Gladstone, etc., while the Prince of Wales is hoisting the American Flag for the annexation of Canada. Hats are in the air by tens of thousands on the Yankee side, while the poor Britishers are mum as oysters—poor things they are led over like sheep. Such is the manner in which our pragmatic and impertinent cousins picture to themselves the absorption of our fair Dominion of Canada. Thank God it is only a picture, or a dream; and dreams, it is said, generally go by reverses.

HOW TO STOP A PAPER.

The following from one of our exchanges, so fully and clearly expresses our views on the subject that we copy it without comment: "You have an undoubted right to stop a newspaper when you feel disposed, upon the payment of all arrearages. Do not hesitate to do so on account of 'tenderness' for the editor. Don't you suppose he would quit buying sugar of you, or meat, clothing, dry goods, etc., if he thought he was not getting his money's worth, and why should you not exercise the same privileges with him? And when you discontinue a paper, do so manfully. Don't be so spiteful as to throw it back to the postmaster with a contemptuous 'I don't want it any longer!' and have 'refused' written on the margin, and have the paper returned to the editor. No gentleman ever stopped it in that way, no matter if his head is covered with gray hairs that should be honorable. If you do not wish to receive a newspaper, write a note to the editor like a man, saying so—and be sure that arrearages are paid. This is the way to stop a newspaper."