

(From Dr. Dixon's Tour in America.)

CANADA.

"I found the country full of complaints and dissatisfaction from one end to the other. The people everywhere, and of all shades of politics, spoke the same language. Their fortunes were wrecked, their commerce destroyed; their agriculture, the sinews of the colony, enfeebled, ruined. * * * *

On the enactment of Lord Stanley's Bill respecting the admission of Canada flour into this country, a vast outlay in building mills took place, which mills had just begun to work profitably; but the new policy effectually crushed this trade. I myself saw one of these mills, belonging to one of our friends,—a new building of great size, and which must have cost many thousand pounds in its erecting,—standing still. This I understood was generally the case. * * * * In the present state of things, cast off by the mother-country, and left to their own resources, with the United States just by their side, possessing vast political power and influence; a growing credit, and monetary resources; a prodigious mercantile and commercial navy; an active, industrious, and virtuous people; a Government capable, in all respects, and equally disposed, to foster, protect, and strengthen all its possessions;—we say, with all these things staring them in the face, the policy of this country has made it the plain, palpable interest of the Canadians to seek for annexation. This is as clear as any problem in Euclid."

From a Letter by the Great Apostle of Temperance, Father Chiniquy, addressed to the Melanges Religieux of October 19, 1849, on his return from the United States.

"I do not exaggerate when I say that there are not less than 200,000 Canadians in the United States, and unless efficacious means are taken to stop this frightful emigration, before 10 years 200,000 more of our compatriots will have carried to the American Union their arms, their intelligence, and their hearts. It is no part of my present plan to examine the causes of this deplorable emigration; but it must be always true, that when a people *en masse* quits its country, it is because that unfortunate country is struck with some hideous plague—is devoured by some cancer. * * * * God has placed in the heart of man love for his country, and when a man turns his back upon his country, and with the eye moistened by tears bids it an eternal adieu, it is because something essential has been wanting to him in that country. It is because he has wanted bread, room, or just liberty. I leave others to say which of the three has been deficient in Canada. All that I can assure you of is, that in the United States these three essential elements of the life of nations are found in abundance."

Nor is the decline in prosperity caused by the reversal of the protective policy of the mother-country, by any means less evident than when the former Address was issued. We need go into no proofs of this allegation; they have been recently proclaimed by those who are opposed to the course we desire to adopt.

Under these circumstances, encouraged by Great Britain and the United States to act with freedom in the exercise of an enlightened judgment, do you see any other probable means of escape from a position of acknowledged inferiority than that which has been set before you by the advocates of annexation? Those who have protested against the Address to the people of Canada have declared their belief that the evils of which we complain, and which they recognize, might be removed by judicious legislation. They are now told that Great Britain can do nothing to restore our past advantages.

Thus says the *London Times* on this subject:—

"It must be admitted that the latter have grievances, though not all equally oppressive nor all of the same origin. They have been planted and thriven under protective laws. Those laws are now abrogated; and abrogated—as the people of Canada have the sense to see—without a chance of re-enactment. So far they suffer, in common with all our colonies, the effects of a bad and obsolete colonial system. The change, however, is made. The colonists know that what has been done will not be undone, and that the grain crops of Western Canada must compete in the markets of England with the grain crops of the United States, of Poland, and of the whole world. They are suffering from the revulsion."

In this particular, as in every other, the views of those who addressed you in favour of annexation have been fully confirmed.

Is there any brighter hope from another quarter? Our opponents maintain that present causes of complaint would be removed by the attainment of reciprocal free trade with the United States. It is perhaps too soon to affirm as a positive fact that this advantage cannot be obtained; but it is quite clear that those who lately vaunted most loudly the benefits to accrue from it, now despair of securing it. They have already begun to depreciate it as something of very inferior utility.

For the social and political disadvantages under which we labour no adequate remedy other than that which we advocate, has ever been proposed. The most able British writers—those best acquainted with the colony, acknowledge, and at the same time deplore them as inseparable from the colonial condition, and inevitable while that condition continues.

Our country is of no account in the congress of nations; as individuals we are practically excluded from the honours of the empire, while men, who have no permanent interest in our welfare, acquire riches, and obtain honours on our soil. We have no common objects of national pride and solicitude; but as citizens of the United States, we should attain a nationality worthy of our highest aspirations.

These sentiments have been so well expressed in a late work, "The Colonies of England," by J. A. Roebuck, Esq., M.P., that we here transcribe his language:—

"The career that lies between two men, one of whom has been born and lives upon the