

of the events of 1865 and 1812. His matter was good and well arranged, and he spoke extemporaneously, but he failed to take advantage of the gross misstatements of his opponents. Mr. McNaughton is gifted with a powerful voice, but greater moderation of it would make him a much more effective debater.

Mr. Murray, in closing the debate, emphasized the desirability of throwing the country open to exploitation by American capital, and asked us to believe that the Canadian artisan would receive the entire benefit of such exploitation.

The meeting was then thrown open to a discussion which proved to be far from edifying.

Mr. Coote did not think that annexation would destroy or divert our trade routes. In the case of flour, for instance, "Canada has the largest flour mills in the world—at least there may be a very few larger ones in the States, but —."

Mr. Walsh asked us to look at the question from the broad point of view of personal interest. His ideal also seemed to be the rapid exploitation of our natural resources. Mr. Walsh has the makings of a very good speaker.

Mr. Babcock foresaw an increase of prosperity analogous to that of the Southern States since the civil war. He was greatly depressed by visions of black and yellow hordes advancing on Canada, were we to continue refusing the shelter of Uncle Sam's beneficent arms.

Mr. Dewey resuscitated the spirit of parochial nationality and decided against annexation.

Mr. Johnston assured us that our nationality is doomed anyway through immigration of Russian Jews, etc.

Mr. Beckwith dispensed humour and the milk of human kindness to the meeting for five minutes. At least so it seemed, for he considered Mr. President of much more importance than the audience, and we heard nothing.

While not acquainted with the inner workings of the Literary Society, we do not altogether approve of the selection of such threadbare subjects for such important debates. It must be a severe trial to the good debater to find himself dependent upon arguments standardised by his grandfather, while the mediocre man can, to a large extent, cover his deficiencies without possessing even a suspicion of originality. We hope that this defect will be remedied in the near future.

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