

ALL THE ANNEXATIONISTS DEAD.

THERE were, until recently, two annexation newspapers in Canada, or at least in Ontario, namely The Goderich Signal and The Simcoe Reformer. The editors and publishers of these papers, "Dan" McGillicuddy and Hal B. Donly, are personally two of the most popular of the fraternity among their fellow journalists, both being thorough good fellows, and have had to stand lots of chaff for what they have always been careful to designate as their "Continental union" views. It carries special gratification therefore through the ranks of the Ontario Press Association to note how The Signal and The Reformer take the war scare. Brother McGillicuddy in The Signal says:

The duty of Canadians is plain, whether they be Grits or Tories, colonists or continentalists. They all love the land in which their lot is cast, and where the remains of their loved ones lie, and rather than yield one foot of the sacred soil to the armed foe-man they are prepared to march to the music of The Maple Leaf Forever, and defend fair Canada, if necessary, until the last man dies in the last ditch.

Mr. Donly in The Simcoe Reformer announces himself with equal vigor thus:

Three years ago many Canadians would have cheerfully voted for union with the United States; to-day we believe no difference of opinion exists from one end of Can-

ada to the other. War will not be discredibly avoided. The voice of England is the voice of Canada. Conscious that we are right and that the opinion of the whole civilized world is with us and adverse to the United States, strong in the fact that with us it will be a war in defence of all we hold dear—freedom, home and native land—we will resist to the last the advance of enemies, be they of our blood and language, or no.

It is an ill wind that blows no good, and Cleveland's ill wind tends at least to solidify Canadian patriotism.—Ottawa Journal.

PROTECTION OF BOOKBINDINGS.

A novelty for the protection of fine bindings without hiding any of their beauty has made its appearance. The material used is a transparent composition in sheet form, about one-sixteenth of an inch thick. A piece of this, a little larger than the book to be enclosed, is bent to the exact shape of the book—that is, with a rounded back—and the top and bottom are closed by leather strips. Into this case the book is slipped, and the transparent material permits every detail of the binding to be seen through it, as if the volume were enclosed in glass. Lying on a table a binding thus protected loses none of its elegance, and may be turned over and examined without touching the book itself. It is equally valuable for library shelves, as it is a complete protection, yet leaves the shelf back plainly visible.

ONE WAY TO GET STAMPS.

The ways of stamp collectors are persistent, to say the least. The Government has a 50 cent postage due stamp, which is somewhat rare, as there is not much demand for it, and it is not found in small offices; but it is worth its face value in the market and a small premium, and all collectors want one. So the local enthusiast selects a book weighing just 50 ounces, wraps it up, and addresses it to himself, marked "immediate." The stamp clerk, who is in the plot, rushes it over to the general delivery clerk, who must give it to the owner on payment of 50 cents due. The collector has hardly time to walk around to the delivery window before the package, all stamped, is awaiting him. Of course, an unsympathetic delivery clerk might put on a row of smaller denomination due stamps, but the official happens to be accommodating.—American Stationer.

CRITIC AND POET.

"Thou shalt do this and undo that," the pedagogue once said
But the poet strayed to Helicon and touched his lips in stead
Across the mirror of the fountain saw fair visions pass,
But never once the critic's face dark frowning from the glass.
The poet set his mortal lyre, and joyfully sang he:
"O hear! O hear!" the critic cried, "He learned that song of me!"
Ida Whipple Benham in January Century

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