

We have no slaves to rise upon their masters: no hostile Indians to dread. If they act at all, it would be as allies to the Canadians. Instead of savages, we have seventeen millions of sympathising freemen on our borders, from whom thousands, whatever might be the laws of neutrality, would come to our assistance, to prevent European butchery from again saturating American soil with American blood. Instead of 1400 miles of sea coast constantly exposed, we have only one inlet, at Quebec, only two-thirds of a mile broad, and closed by ice four months out of twelve. By commencing a revolution in November, we should remain in peaceable possession of the country for six months. Nor would it be safe at any time to send ships of war into the river. They would be hemmed in by sunken rafts, "snags," and "sawyers," that could be placed at an hour's notice. Then there is the danger of fire, from which there could be no escape in a narrow channel, with alternately a strong current setting one way and a strong tide the other. The whole British navy, if it came here, would in two years be destroyed by fire-vessels. The cities of Montreal and Quebec might, until starved out, remain in the hands of the British, but the troops could never go into the country. In winter, in an excursion of ten miles, the frost alone would provide frozen toes, frozen fingers, and frozen noses enough to keep half the detachment six months in hospital. In summer our clay roads will seldom bear up artillery or heavy wagons; and even troops unable to wade through them would have to straggle through the fields, to be picked off by any one who could load a gun behind a tree.

Your public men signed the Declaration of Independence, with halters about their neck. Ours in case of temporary reverses have only to step across the lines for safety. Your commerce was destroyed—you could procure necessary supplies from no quarters. Our inhabitants have only to direct their trade to the States whose water communications extend to our neighbourhood, and carry uninterruptedly a regular business, without feeling the inconvenience of war. You had difficulty in raising money:—"Patriot" loans have since been so profitable to capitalists and American Revolutions so universally successful that no trouble would now interfere on this point. The agent of Lower Canada would raise loans even in London on better terms than the Chancellor of the Exchequer, because this province is prepared by not owing one dollar of debt. Her legislators have not been duped by the cry of "public improvements," into mortgaging themselves and posterity, to raise loans of money, which, whatever be the pretence, goes in Colonies, for the most part into official pockets, and more completely fetters the people. Not only are we out of debt, but we have means to pay. The Assembly has declared that it will confiscate all the property of the British American Land Company, whenever it has the power. These lands are on the immediate borders of Vermont and New Hampshire; and then we have interminable forests of pine, as yet unsurveyed. It would be a glorious speculation for a company of enterprising individuals to furnish the money requisite for carrying on the war, and receiving their payment in wild lands.

"It would not require a great sum. We require no navy or expensive embassies—a trip to Washington costs next to nothing. Ports and fortifications are unnecessary; the ditches and fences, running in all directions, our farms, already form sufficient breastwork, which with *abatis* of fallen trees, would provide lines of defence at no expence. As to artillery, the enemy would leave as many guns about the country sticking in the mud as would be wanted for the troops, but every house is already furnished

with some sort of shooting instrument as well as with a man who knows how to use it.

" * * * * The Canadians on the contrary, would delight in a camp-life; with regular pay and good clothing any number could be kept together. They are hardly active patient and obedient, and would be entirely devoted to the wishes of officers in whom they placed confidence. As boatmen and voyagers for the northwest, their merit has been long established, and their behaviour as soldiers in the last war drew forth constant eulogiums from British commanders. Though admirably qualified for soldiers, they want officers—good officers will make good soldiers of any men. There are some in the country—there are plenty in the States. Even the cadets of your military school at West Point would be found on the road to Canada at the sound of war, anxious to put in practice the lessons now being taught to them, lest they should never in their lives have another opportunity. And then from your Havre packets, how many a scar-worn veteran whose blood has sprinkled the grass from the Guadeloupe to the Rhine, or from the Rhine to the Niemen, would be seen debarking, his stiffened limbs invigorated like the war horse at the trumpet sound, and hastening to efface the stain which he may imagine the last reverses of France have left upon his military character.

"It is my opinion that England will never coerce the Canadas, if they only declare they will not be coerced. There would be difficulty in raising the means in the House of Commons, because so strong a party, upon a principle of interest, consider that Canada would be more profitable to Britain as an independent State than as a colony. But suppose they commence hostilities, what power could they bring to subdue the natural and physical strength of the country? Every European soldier landed upon our shores costs, with his equipment, be it recollected, 100 pounds. A penny worth of powder and ball will prevent him doing any mischief after he has landed; or the penny may be saved by simply extolling the advantages of the United States and facilities of desertion. The school-master has unfortunately, been abroad among the soldiery, and taught them that they are responsible agents, not passive instruments in the hands of despotic power. I doubt if Irishmen would fight against the Colonists, especially when it would be so "mighty convenient" to pay a visit to their friends or cousins at Albany, or "Baltimore." Indeed, it would only be necessary to commence a canal or railroad within a hundred miles of the lines, and whole regiments, whatever their nation, "pioneers and all," would emigrate with drums beating, preferring digging, at a dollar a-day, to sixpence and a red coat, to be the mark of a musket ball whenever it strayed thirty yards from the barracks.

"With the passing of a bill for robbing the Canadian Treasury will commence the separation of Canada from the British Crown. I speak not thus confidently because *I wish*, but advisedly because *I know*. Though a nominal allegiance may for a while continue, it will be only nominal. The people have wary leaders, who will not hurry them into premature or partial rebellion merely to gratify the impatience of city loungers, but preparations are already commenced that will render them invincible whenever they choose to say, "*We are ready*." I allude not to the proceedings of simultaneous public meetings, but to the still small voice, which, moving from house to house, from neighbour to neighbour, slowly, silently and irresistibly animates, enobles, and unites the determination of a people.

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"L. M. N."

EDITORS' OPINIONS OF CANADA COERCION.

The proscription has begun! Let it proceed. The government has deserted the loyal subjects of the King, and is leaving them to their fate. Shall it be said, that in this colony, houses are shot into in the dead of night by hands of murderous assassins, women seized by a gang of brutal wretches and exposed to the most degrading insults, **BECAUSE THEY ARE LOYALISTS?** If we are under a government that has even the spirit of a stricken deer, let us know it. If we are under no government, let us know it; we can look to ourselves. The scenes at St. Eustache are too truly depicted. A gentleman from that quarter called at this office yesterday, and confirmed the statement of "One of the Sufferers" to the letter. We could wish there had been exaggeration, that there had even been falsehood. But the whole truth has not been told.

In addition to what we published yesterday, we are now informed that Mr McKim, Notary Public, at St. Scholastique, has had his dog killed, his horse mutilated and himself threatened. A loyal French Canadian there obtained a warrant against a villain who threatened to burn down his house; he put it into the hands of a constable of the name of St. George, who told him that he dared not execute it. A farmer of the name of Walker, and his wife, were obliged to fly from their home, at Côte St. Joseph, because they were British!

My Lord Gosford, you have published a proclamation; the honor of a peer, the Majesty of a King command you to follow up its intention without faltering and without mercy. **There are names of places, my Lord; there are names of persons.** We wish not to think, that you are indifferent to their sufferings because you yourself are safe in the Castle at Quebec. We demand, then, exertion; in the name of our insulted countrymen, we demand revenge, —such revenge as the laws will give them. Now is the time for vigorous measures; men expect them; every old countryman, will support you, and thousands of loyal but deceived French Canadians will support you in them. But these things must be stopped. They must be put down, or—the responsibility rests with the Earl of Gosford.—*Montreal Herald Abstract.*

We again address ourselves to the Earl of Gosford. Are subjects of the British crown, my Lord, to be exposed to robbery and murder, in a British Province, **BECAUSE THEY ARE LOYAL.** Fences are thrown down, cattle shot in the fields, and houses threatened to be burned, because the proprietors are faithful subjects of the King. Is this infamously dishonorable state of things to be the characteristic of your Lordship's rule in this province? If so, in God's name leave it, and hide your head where the wailings of the widow, and the execrations of the survivors of murdered relatives will not reach your ears.—*Id.*

A couple of sloops of war, with about 500 soldiers have arrived at Quebec. Bless us! is not the 8th Resolution authority enough to rob the chest? Are the robbers cowards to boot? Do they require to be backed by all this force before they can screw their courage to the robbing point? Alas! for the **FALSTAFF** brigade. HAL cannot rob the Exchequer without two sloops of war and half a dozen regiments of "sogers" at his back. The Tories are apt to sneer, now and again, at the opposition of the Reformers of Lower Canada, and to call them all manner of bad and contemptible names. "Behold, now, how great a matter a little fire kindleth." Before that 'little fire' is extinguished, it will require — What? Time will tell.—*Vindicator.*