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### AMERICAN DESIGNS.

A few numbers back we stated that the Fenian movement was a lever wielded for certain purposes by Secretary Seward. Every telegram we receive on the subject only gives substance to our assertion. It is now quite evident from the agitation in Canada, as well as in Ireland, that the flourishes of the brotherhood are not empty bravado, but indications of a concerted scheme. What that scheme may ultimately turn out to be—whether a deep-laid design to wrest Ireland from British domination, or force Canada into annexation, or whether it is merely a something to be held by the authorities at Washington in *terrorem* over the heads of Palmerston or Russell—it would be difficult to do more than surmise; but we think there is not much difficulty in coming to the conclusion that the whole affair is an American movement, receiving its inspiration from the Government of the United States, and intended in some way or other to inflict an injury upon England. The latest telegrams show that disturbances were anticipated in Canada, and that the authorities had been induced to adopt the most active measures to suppress them. The stories that are circulated in reference to the movement are in all probability exaggerated, and intended to deceive, but whether they are or not, we cannot, among other things, shut our eyes to the exertions the United States have been making and are making to induce the North American provinces to abandon the British flag for the Stars and Stripes. Everything that the American press can do to show to Canada her danger so long as she remains under the protection of England, and the grand future that opens out to her in annexation with the United States—has been done. The very last number of the New York Herald exhibits one of the most remarkable productions that have ever appeared on the subject in any newspaper. It is a report occupying considerably over two pages, and forms a most marked contrast in its matter and style to the ordinary effusions which appear in the Herald. The writer has not only discussed the federation scheme and taken up all the arguments in favor and against annexation, but has gone minutely into every detail of the present and future military strength of Canada. He tells us to a man what troops are in every town and city in the country, the nature of the fortifications at present existing and those that are intended to be erected. What Great Britain is *secretly* doing at Montreal and Quebec, what its intentions are, and how Canada is going to be affected commercially and politically by her adherence or non-adherence to the British flag. Of course there is much plausibility and a great deal of sophistry in the arguments adduced, but we cannot do better in this critical time than to place the most important parts of the document before our readers. It is a key to many of the incidents that have recently happened, and may turn even Gen. Grant's late Canadian visit into something more than a pleasure trip. The report starts off with the following prefatory sentence—"It will be the object of this report to inquire whether the people of the United States ought or ought not at this time to consolidate Canada with the Republic as one nation, peaceably if they can, forcibly if they must." The writer then goes on to state—"If a stranger to our history, with a map of the American continent before his eyes, should be told that from the Northwestern wilderness along the lakes and rivers which nature has showered upon us as her richest favors, runs an imaginary line dividing the vast territory into two separate and distinct nationalities, with diverse and sometimes hostile interests, cri-

pling the resources, retarding the development and destroying the unity of the country, he would wonder at the folly of man in thus rejecting and perverting the best gifts of the Creator. But how greatly would his astonishment be augmented when he learned that the people of the two nations are of a common origin, speaking the same language and governed by the same laws, and that they are kept apart in a state of semi-hostility only by the jealousies, intrigues, and fancied necessities of foreign Powers in another quarter of the globe, thousands of miles away." There is a humanity as well as an expediency, the writer contends, in consolidating at once the European races upon the American continent under one form of Government. But the expediency is evidently uppermost. "To-day the United States rest contented in the position of a housekeeper, who bolts and

house and leaves the rear unguarded and open to the entrance of the burglar." The danger is thus more clearly explained—"a glance at the map is sufficient to show how readily, with the navigation of the St. Lawrence from the ocean to Lake Ontario at her command, England could devastate the Northern cities and lands of our own State. As will be shown more particularly elsewhere in this report, England is even now engaged in closing the St. Lawrence and rendering Quebec impregnable by works of enormous strength, to be erected on Point Levi. She is at this moment building gunboats at Quebec, at Kingston, and probably at other points, in violation of the existing treaty. She is laying in enormous stores of guns, of field arms and of ammunition, converting Canada into a vast European arsenal. She is urging the erection of defences at Montreal, Kingston and other points, and is prepared to proceed with some of the most important of the works at her own cost, if the Province does not speedily undertake them. She is urging the confederation of all the provinces with the purpose of building up in Canada a strong military power hostile to the United States. Is it prudent and politic for our government to remain inactive and suffer this aggressive policy of England to be carried out until we find a powerful enemy firmly established upon our rear and flank?" After attempting to show to some length the evil to the United States in both peace and war of Canada in her present position, the writer goes on to say that the British province is in a transient state, and that she must become speedily "either a confederated military power—a fortress and arsenal for Great Britain on this side of the Atlantic—or she must stand forth as a republic, independent or consolidated with the United States." Confederation the writer does not believe will succeed, and a quotation is made from a speech of the late Canadian premier, Sir E. Tache, in which it is asserted that "in case Confederation is not effected, if not forcibly annexed to the United States, Canada will be placed upon an inclined plane which will carry her there insensibly." Elaborate arguments are adduced to show that Confederation, if it does happen, will not keep away the real danger which threatens the North American provinces, nor promote the prosperity of the country in anything like the degree which would accrue from union with the States; and it is also endeavored to be proved that Great Britain will not, unless a show of compulsion is used, give up the colonies north of the States. This compulsion is to be done in the very manner which the Fenians seem to be taking—a kind of irresponsible effort that may at any moment lead to hostilities. Our space will not admit of a further allusion to the subject to-day, but we shall take it up again.

### EUROPEAN

FARTHER POINT, October 19.—The str. Scotia, from Liverpool October 7th, and Queenstown the 8th, has arrived.  
LIVERPOOL, October 7.—Denials continue to be published by alleged sufferers in the Confederate loan. Lord Warrington, Peacock and O'Kroyd deny ever having had any interest in it. Mr. Sampson, city editor of the London Times writes that he not only never had any stock, but declined to accept a proffered allotment when the loan was introduced. W. H. Lindsay owns up to a small investment, but his loss is only a sixth of the part named. He seizes the opportunity to express his regret that the South did not achieve her independence.  
WASHINGTON, October 21.—Despatches received at the State Department from the U. S. Consul at Liverpool, October 16th, bring intelligence of the appearance of the cholera at Southampton and the places adjacent to that town. The weather throughout England continues of a most unseasonable kind.  
A disease known as the underpest has broken out in the neighborhood of Windsor, 83 miles from Liverpool, and carried off quite a number of cattle.  
ARRIVED—Mrs. Estelle P. McDonald, a talented actress, who performed for a few nights in this city last year, arrived on Saturday by the Active to join Mr. Ward's Company.

## Our Cariboo Letter.

[From our regular Correspondent.]

BARKERVILLE, Oct. 20.  
MINING AND PROSPECTING.

Are still going on vigorously, the weather continuing to be most favorable to mining operations. Though I have no "big strikes" to record since my former letters, I am still happy to state that many companies are doing well, gold being washed out in larger quantities than a month ago. Fewer miners are now idle on this creek than at any previous period. The gloom that overshadowed their brows after the flood has faded away as a general thing, and the many cheerful faces show that the people are inclined to be in better spirits.

### ABOVE RICHFIELD

Several companies have set to work of late. Two new tunnels are just started on the east bank of the creek, hopes being entertained of the original channel being ultimately dis-

### BELOW RICHFIELD

all the companies are ground sluicing with the utmost vigor. I am informed that they are well rewarded for their labors.

### BELOW THE CANON

The Chipps Co. are still washing tailings and seem well satisfied with the result.

The Foster Campbell Co. are sinking a new shaft which is already over 60 feet deep.

The Bald Head claim is not paying expenses.

The Sheepskin claim continues to do well.

The Eagle claim is filled with water.

The Hibernia Co. (only three men are working.) They are cutting through the rim rock with hopes of striking a back channel in the hill.

The Welsh Co. are making above wages.

The Australian Co. washed up above 11 ounces the day before yesterday, but do not quite make expenses on the whole.

The Hitor Miss Co. have stopped working altogether.

The Ryan Co. are still hunting for the lead. They intend working during the whole winter. I wish them better success than they have had heretofore.

The Cariboo Co. were doing well when their claim got filled up again with water. This seems to be a most unfortunate company, still far from yielding to despondency, they are making the most strenuous exertions to get out the water again. Such perseverance and indomitable energy deserve to be crowned with final success.

The Aurora Co. washed up 71 ounces on Wednesday last.

All the side hill on their claim seems to slide by degrees into the creek and the timbers in their drift commence to yield to the external pressure, which makes the work now a most dangerous piece of business to the hands. New timbers are put in day and night and are now so thick that it is impossible to go through. But this seems to be of no avail. The claim has been drifted for nearly 300 feet in length and 103 feet in width. No such area of bed rock has yet been uncovered in Cariboo, and to make things worse and worse, it is adjoining the Wake up Jake and Saw Mill claims, which are entirely drifted out, the latter being in a very poor condition. Owing to these circumstances, ere long, I am afraid it will be risking life to proceed with the work. Such being the case, some of the very richest ground will remain unworked, though blame is to be attached to no one for such an unfortunate result, the claim being one of the best timbered in the whole creek.

The Saw Mill claim, which has been very badly timbered, commences to give way too, the timbers splitting all over like matches. Previous to giving way, two or three days ago they washed up 35 ounces, but I do not think they now make over expenses. Almost the whole of the old company have sold out. A whole interest was knocked down at public auction in the early part of the week for the sum of \$400. At the commencement of the season the shares were disposed of at \$5000 and \$6000. *Tempora Mutantur.*

The Wake up Jake Company make from 20 to 25 ounces daily; but the Aurora ground giving way theirs must follow suit.

The What Cheer Company, whose claim has been laid over for about two months, have sunk a new shaft, in which, I am told, they obtained a kind of prospect.

The Morning Star Company—I am informed that this company, who have done well during the season, intend soon to close up operations until next spring.

The Yellow Virgin Company washed up 666 ounces in twelve days' work.

The Watson Company have commenced to sink a new shaft, their claim having been laid over during the whole season.

The Never Sweat Company are still working, but with what result is more than I can tell.

The Beauregard and Confederate are at work, but not doing much.

The Moffatt Company have just commenced washing tailings.

The Caledonia Company are washing tailings and doing very well, picking up nuggets weighing two and three ounces. I was told that they make \$60 a day to the hand. This is hardly credible though not impossible.

The St. Andrew's Company are pushing their tunnel vigorously ahead.

The California Bed Rock Flume Company are busily engaged shovelling tailings into their flume.

The Last Chance Company are doing as well as ever.

The Forest Rose Company are not doing much.

The Dead Broke claim continues to yield small dividends.

The Cameron Company are now employing a gang of Mongolians to wash up old tailings, and are doing a good business at it. This is the first instance of a company employing Celestials to mine on Williams Creek.

The Ruby Co. are still at work in an upper stratum.

The Prince of Wales Co. are doing the same.

### NEW PROSPECTING COMPANIES.

A new company, composed of 17 interests, and formed of three old companies, viz, the Philadelphia, Catch me out and Far Away, have just commenced to prospect the ground on the east side of the Read claim through the Ericsson drift. It is called the United Company.

Another new company, composed of 13 interests, have just recorded the ground at the head of the Summit Co., between Conklin Gulch and Williams Creek. They intend to prospect the ground during the winter. The location is a good one and their chances are favorable.

### QUARTZ.

The great Ophir Co., formed of nine members, claiming 160 feet each, are to resume their work on Monday next, their claim having been laid over for the last six weeks past. As I stated in a former letter, they have sent 2000 pounds of quartz.

### THE BLACKFOOT COUNTRY.

Several parties left during the week for the Blackfoot country which is located at the head waters of the Missouri river. Sweeney (once a notorious Cariboo character) has written from the Blackfoot mines to one of his friends on this creek, stating that he had made more money there during the season than any Caribooite ever did. This has been enough to create here a kind of excitement which caused a few to start off.

### BRIDGE RIVER DIGGINGS.

Another party writes to a friend of his here from Bridge river inviting him to go there immediately. Within a short distance of Bridge river, says he, I have discovered diggings which pay from \$15 to \$30 a day to the hand. This letter has been another source of excitement during the week. Some parties here are making preparations already to go there.

### RUMOR OF ANOTHER DISCOVERY.

Dupuy, a French Canadian, who used to keep a public house at Cotton wood, is reported to have discovered good diggings some 80 miles from Fort Kamloops.

### DOCTORS, LAWYERS AND GAMBLERS.

A doctor friend of mine was telling me, a few days ago, that miners are so stout and healthy, owing to the Cariboo climate, that a dose of strychnine would scarcely kill them. All the doctors here but one have turned honest miners, finding nothing better to do. Let the lawyers now turn peace-makers, and gamblers preachers, and we shall then see the golden age flourish in Cariboo.

### STILL COMING IN.

About one hundred pack animals came in yesterday loaded with provisions and vegetables. Miners certainly cannot starve during the winter as there are at present more supplies on the Creek than will be needed for the next eighteen months to come.

### ANOTHER NEWSPAPER.

I hear that two parties most favorably known on this creek are to start a newspaper in Barkerville as soon as the spring opens. It will be, I am informed, a semi-weekly, about the size of the British Columbian, and independent in politics. Success to the enterprise!

### THE WEATHER.

continues to be all that can be wished, the cold having entirely abated during the night. Some folks suppose the hoary old gentleman who represents winter will forget to pay us a visit this season. But, as French people say, *nous verrons.*

### THE RIGHT MEN IN THE RIGHT PLACE.

John B. Lowell, Esq., Barnard's Express Agent, and H. T. Commeline, Esq., our Postmaster, deserve great credit for the courteous, expeditious and gentlemanly manner in which they discharge their respective duties. I am fully justified in stating here that they are most faithful servants, giving general satisfaction, and are the right men in the right place.  
More anon. B. D.

Modest—Our charmingly scrupulous morning contemporary modestly asserts that it is the only medium through which the advertisements of the commercial classes and auctioneers meet the public eye, and that it possesses a circulation (?) and influence (?) never before attained by any journal in these colonies!! The public looking at and comparing this statement with the two papers most come to the conclusion that the moving spirit of the Chronicle must either be a very facetious or else a very unprincipled fellow. Let him however judge for himself, when we tell them that having recently had occasion to print the Chronicle on our press, we are aware of the number of copies it circulates, and that this overwhelmingly influential and widely diffused journal actually sends forth throughout Her Majesty's Possessions on the Pacific less than 400 copies!! not nearly as much as our weekly circulation alone. We should not have made this humiliating exposure were it not to put an end to such barefaced and uncalled for misrepresentation. Regarding some of the auctioneers, the less it says the better for its own credit and theirs; the thing is however working its own cure, as those who advertise in the COLONIST are driving their opponents out of the field.

WHISKEY SELLING—Alexander McDonald was on Saturday fined \$250, with the option of six months' imprisonment, for selling whiskey to a squaw. This was his second conviction.

THE LEVIATHAN, with the Hon. Mr. Birch, D. C. Maunsel, Esq., and other gentlemen on board, left yesterday afternoon for New Westminster.

## CALIFORNIA NEWS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 26.—A suit is on trial in the 12th District Court, before a jury, the result of which will settle a point of interest to the mercantile community. In July last the firm of Wilson & Stevens negotiated, through a broker, a sum of \$5,500 of J. R. Whitney & Co., giving as collateral security, 536 cases of coal oil, stored in the Pacific Warehouse. The building and goods were subsequently destroyed by fire. Wilson & Stevens refused to pay the note, alleging as the goods were delivered to J. R. Whitney & Co., the latter firm is to suffer the loss, which principle J. R. Whitney & Co. combat by bringing the suit now on trial.  
P. Hafman, a private in Co. D, 2nd Artillery, committed suicide on Tuesday.

M. Mayer, lately a banker at Virginia Nevada, filed his application in insolvency in the County Court to-day. Liabilities, \$32,500.

A man named Jewel, an employe at Hayward, Coleman, & Co's oil works on Townsend street, was severely burned this morning by an explosion of gas in the still.

A dispatch has been received at headquarters stating that Capt. John T. Hill, who is charged with murder, was arrested at Svisun, yesterday, by Major Morton. He will be brought to San Francisco, and be tried by Court martial at the Presidio. The mining stock market is devoid of interest, and the limited business at the morning Board was at lower rates.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 25.—The Pacific Mail Steamship Company promise to shorten the schedule time of their through line between San Francisco and New York to twenty-one or twenty-one and a half days, under the new arrangement which goes into effect the first of November. The time between this port and Panama is not to be lessened. Reduction in the through trip is to be effected by making the time on the Atlantic side inside of eight days. We learn from New York that Ben. Holladay has recently organized a joint stock company to take shares of his steamship business on the Pacific coast. The new organization is to be known as the California, Oregon and Mexican Mail Steamship Company, and to have a capital stock of 2,000,000, of which Mr. Holladay retains two shares, the remainder being taken by the other directors. The Board is composed as follows: P. S. Forbes, the eminent ship owner of New York; John Bell, jr., S. S. Barlow, Capt. W. Dall, of California, J. E. Russell and Ben. Holladay. The company have already purchased the side-wheel steamer Oriflamme, now supposed to be on her way to this port from China. This vessel is quite new and is of the same size as the Sierra Nevada with a less draught of water, and said to be very fast. Another vessel of the same character is to be built by the company immediately at New York.

### MARKETS.

Butter—Sales 100; fkn., choice New York, 42c.  
Coal Oil—A good jobbing trade.  
Candles—Adamantine, brisk demand at full prices, sales 1500 bxs at 25@25c, and 400 do Knapp's Anchor, at 26c.  
Lard—Quotable about 28@28c.  
Provisions—Sales 200 bbls mess pork, private, quotable at \$41.  
Tobacco—Natural leaf, 70@77c; for inferior, 86@87c; for medium, 90@91c; for extra Western, half pounds change from 80@85c for inferior to prime.  
Flour—The leading mills are sold up close to production; and prices are well sustained, we quote Standard brands in half an qr sks, \$6 62½ to \$7 per 100 lbs; extremes superfine, at \$6 25 to \$6 50.  
Wheat—There is still a hitch between buyers and sellers; the market is quiet and unsettled, sales include 3000 sacks strictly No. 1, at \$1 95, and 420 do private.  
Barley—Sales 2100 sks in lots at 90 to 97c per 100 lbs for feed.  
Oats—Sales 800 sks prime, \$1 70; 500 do ordinary, at \$1 40 to \$1 42½.  
Beans—Bayous, \$3 40 to \$3 42½ per 100 pounds.  
Hay—\$10 to \$14 per ton.  
Legal Tenders—71 to 71c.

### SHIPPING.

Arrived—Ship Ne Plus Ultra, 200 days from New York.  
Cleared—Brig Brewster for Victoria.

RUNAWAY—Yesterday afternoon a horse and buggy were seen to come tearing down Humboldt street. On reaching the corner of Government street the box of the buggy and one of the wheels were, from the violence of the jerk, completely disconnected and the horse proceeded along Government street with the remaining three wheels. The occupants of the vehicle, we believe, were not hurt.