

# CANADIAN EMANCIPATION

AND

COMMERCIAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES.

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JUNE 1880

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**Commercial Union with the United States.**—The following letter of Mr. Wharton Barker, Executive of the Industrial League, to Hon. James A. Garfield of the U. S. Congress, is of the highest importance.

“ My Dear Sir: I have just learned that the subject of our commercial relations with Canada will be before the House Committee of Ways and Means, in an indirect way, at an early date. I take the liberty of calling your attention to some important considerations, which I believe should have great weight in moulding our national legislation in that regard.

“ The Dominion of Canada, as we all know, is a purely artificial union of English Colonies, which possesses no internal coherence. Its different members, or provinces, have with each other but slight affinities of any sort, and in commercial interests any of them would naturally be more closely associated with the adjacent States of our own country than it is with any of the rest. Their union under a common government was effected partly by political pressure and partly by fiscal inducements held out by the Mother Country. One such was the aid given to erect an unprofitable railroad, by which to effect some channel of communication between the seaboard and the inland provinces, during that large part of the year when the St. Lawrence is impassable, and thus obviate the necessity for the latter making their way to the sea across our own