

pulpit, the bar or the hustings. After having conquered the privilege of reading and speaking, and learned how to use it, they aspired to speak out of the walls of their drill-room and they entered in the fourth estate. None of those who founded *L'Avenir*, suspected what this title was, and the reason why it was, in profound dislike with the Catholic authorities. *L'Avenir* was the name of a philosophical paper established under the Restoration of the Bourbons by Lamennais and Lacordaire. Its liberal tendencies having been condemned by the Pope, Lacordaire submitted to the decree, but Lamennais died without retracting anything. Ignorant of the antecedents of the name, some of the young men of the institute started a small quarto sheet under that name. This was about 1847, J. B. E. Dorion, Esq., now member for Drummond and Arthabaska was the principal mover, in this enterprise, as he had been one of the most energetic founders of the institute. All those who could write, rushed into that scanty door of publicity and as an exploding steam, the ideas so long compressed in their mind aspiring to invade the social, philosophical and political arenas, this small sheet gradually extended its size to the extreme limits of the paper manufacturing establishments of the continent. In the meantime, the overthrow of the Orleans Family in February, 1845, and the expansion of democratic ideas that immediately followed, came upon the young French Canada as oil thrown upon blazing.

The political leaders since the Union, had received from public opinion a despotic or uncontrolled direction: and it was looked on in certain quarters, as a kind of revolution, when they heard this nucleus of a party uttering some doubts about the soundness of the upperhand direction. These young men were all independent, some very few by fortune, all by the tendencies of their mind, and they were maintained in that condition of freedom by their close and intimate personal connections. They wanted to reform everything and to make up for time lost by themselves and their predecessors. Just about the same time, Hon. L. J. Papineau returned into public life, by his election as the member for the county of St. Maurice. The jealousy with which he was treated by the Hon. M. Lafontaine then leader of the Lower Canada dominant party, enlisted for him the sympathies of the young Canada, who opened their organ to him and accepted him as their flag-bearer. But Mr. Papineau, notwithstanding his large mind and his power as an orator, had been out of the country since the operation of the Union Act, and he had lived too long under a system where opposition was the normal and unchangeable condition of a party, to know how to make use of the exuberant activity of the Young Canada, who were already older than their leader in the manoeuvring of the new state of things created by the Union.

Without consulting any one but themselves the editors of *L'Avenir*, who were twelve or fifteen in number, issued a programme of numerous reforms, some of which would be of questionable usefulness, but the programme was very substantial as a whole. Mr. Papineau was too isolated, in the Parliament of 1848, to attempt any move. In 1851, two or three members joined him in his Parliamentary opposition, but the work of the new or Rouge party was actively continued out of the Legislature, and in 1854, the success of that outside-door work was manifested by the election of 15 or 18 members of the new school, amongst whom was the Hon. A. A. Dorion.

Mr. Dorion had no participation in the erection of the platform of *L'Avenir*, but he was in every way qualified to take in hand the reins which could guide his younger friends to a path of practical usefulness. With an humble and persuasive mode of practising firmness, he succeeded immediately in collecting in his hands the varied elements of strength diffused among the unorganized but well-wishing youth of Montreal, and from his first appearance in the House, he was the tacitly elected and self-ordained leader of the so-called Rouge party.

His first act of leadership showed clearly that he understood well the relative position of parties. The Speaker of the previous Parliament, the Hon. J. S. McDonald, as we all recollect, had answered the dissolution address of the Governor General by a merited rebuke about the irregularity, if not the unconstitutionality of dissolving the House, for the convenience of the Ministry, rather than that of the community. At the opening of the new Parliament (1854) there was a strong party, especially in Upper Canada, for re-electing the Hon. J. S. McDonald, as a mark of approbation for his manly

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OUR AGENTS.

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THE CANADIAN Illustrated News.

HAMILTON, JUNE 13, 1863.

A HUNDRED YEARS, AND TO-DAY.

POLITICAL thinkers in June, 1863, have a centenary before them pointing the finger of philosophy to the events which befel an English military garrison in the backwoods of America on the 4th of June, 1763. The New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginian colonies of Great Britain had been through many years disturbed in their ocean coasting trade, invaded and plundered by the French colonists of Acadia, now called Nova Scotia; and of New France, the territory which is now called Canada, Ohio, Michigan, and the great West and North-west. And the American colonists had invaded and plundered the French in turn or before their turn. It was to protect the settlers of Massachusetts and others on the American seaboard that Great Britain captured Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, and the fortress of Quebec. American writers, unmindful of that historical truth, revile the mother country of their ancestors as 'ever aggressive, and ever insolent on this continent,' (Harpers Monthly Magazine for May, 1863,) whereas the aggressors were their own forefathers.

When Quebec was formally ceded to Britain by France in 1763, the Indian Chiefs who had been associated with the French Canadians in harassing the back settlements of New York and Pennsylvania, were informed of that change in the governmental relations of white men. They did not acquiesce in the change. The American British colonists had been their enemies. They desired to be faithful to their former friends.

Pontiac arose in the North West. In him, with the physical prowess and cruel instincts of an Indian Chief, were united the prompt strategy of Napoleon, or of Wellington, with the patriotism of William Tell, or of Sir William Wallace. He resolved to expel British Americans from Indian territory. He united the tribes which had been before hostile. He compelled the French to supply his warriors on the Detroit river with provisions, but like a modern statesman, issued tokens of indebtedness, the birch bark bonds of an Indian National Debt. When General Bradstreet marched out of Pennsylvania for the relief of Fort Maumee, near to which the modern city of Toledo, in the State of Ohio, has arisen in marvellous growth and prosperity, Pontiac sent him this missive—'I stand in the path!'

On the mainland of the Michigan peninsula stood the log Fort Makinaw, opposite to the island, in the Michigan strait, on which the American government is in 1863, constructing the 'Gibraltar of the West,' to ensure the military and naval dominion of the Lakes, as the recent committee of Congress phrases it. The attack on Fort Makinaw was entrusted by Pontiac to Minnawana, a Chippewa Chief. The birthday of the young and popular King, George the Third, was the 4th of June, and was appointed to be celebrated joyously; and for that occasion the game of La Crosse was appointed to be played by the Chippewas and Sacs.

They played for a stake, given by the British-American commander; but for a higher stake known only to themselves. Many soldiers of the garrison, and the commanding officer came without the pickets to witness the sport. In their feeling of security they left the gates open. In the heat of sport the ball was thrown within. In the intensity of the contest to possess the ball, the contending Indians rushed within the enclosure; where, raising the war-whoop, the game of La Crosse ended, and indiscriminate slaughter of the unguarded military garrison began, and closed with its destruction.

At Fort Detroit, where now stands the beautiful city of that name, Pontiac commanded in person, but was foiled.

But it is not a hundred years that gives the measurement between the patriotic barbarism of the Indian and the barbarism of our civilization. Thirty years have seen the sites of the flourishing western cities a wilderness. It is hardly twenty years since the main lines of railway penetrated the western forests and prairies; and now, thirteen railroads connect the populous western States with the Lake and River shipping at the great city of Chicago; five railroads centre in Detroit, seven at Toledo, and all that are Western and Eastern, and Midland, connect with the Lake and inland canal traffic at Buffalo. The whole of these are intimately related to Canada; and the through lines of this Province are in intimate union with the roads and rivers and canals of the United States. Nine millions of population have built towns and cities, and reclaimed the hunting grounds of Pontiac, which remained wastes with only an occasional village or fort upon their frontier so lately as the time of the war of Eighteen-twelve. Since then too, Upper Canada has been peopled, reclaimed from waste, and its cities, canals, and railroads built. The adjuncts of the industrial sciences in both countries—the wealth that legitimately rewards enterprise and industry, the civilization that is twin offspring with Christianity—all are, what? Within the compass of one day's crimes of Liverpool and Glasgow Alabama shipbuilders, and their piratical crews, with the possible indiscretion of an Admiral or Secretary of State; within one day's events of being hurled back a hundred years—far beyond the barbarism of Pontiac! plunged into a savagery of demoniac war, compared with which the campaign of Pontiac was a mild civilization.

'I stand on the path' was the missive sent with his embassy to the invaders of his inheritance. He sought not to provoke them to battle. Philosophically he bade them not come.

Canada, this day, in the face of the angry United States, has not the practical philosophy to organize, and be ready with the caution—'I stand on the path.' By a section of her newspaper press she has chosen the course of first making and exasperating an enemy; then, at leisure talking, but only talking of organizing a defensive force. And the other section of the press helps to make an effective organization impossible.

Except Mr. Holton, the Minister of Finance at Montreal, who has been defeated, no candidate in these elections now in progress, has made a military and naval organization for the defence of the Province a subject of leading remark in their addresses. Every political straw or feather affecting the balance of parties and the feathering of political nests, has been magnified to a vital issue. But this vital issue, shall the people of Canada defend their country, their property, wives, families, lives and political existence, or be subjugated to the dominion of military America? That has been diminished to nothing, or to a hustings jest.

Remittances.

I. W., Ayr; E. O., Brockville; R. W., Norwood; R. G. S., Elora; T. W., Stratford; T. M., Peterboro; W. A. McC., Pt. Burwell; A. S. I., Toronto; I. H. M., Pt. Dalhousie.

BRITISH WORKING MEN IN THE UNITED STATES.

To the Editor of the Canadian Illustrated News.

SIR,—An article in your paper respecting the position of British subjects in the United States has come under my notice, which is so entirely contrary to fact and my own experience, that I feel bound, as one who has met with nothing but the most friendly and courteous treatment, to do what I can to contradict it. I am, Sir, a British subject, resident in Detroit since 1858. Coming here an entire stranger, I am now generally known throughout the community and equally well known to be a British subject. My profession causes me to mix daily with all classes, from the highest to the lowest, and I have yet to meet with an instance of discourtesy, much less of insult on any ground of non-citizenship. At the time of the recent draft, my name was placed on the roll as a resident, and in common with that of hundreds of others, struck off on a simple personal affidavit, costing only the trouble of attending at the proper office. A young relative of mine, also a British subject, who had voluntarily enlisted, greatly against the wishes of his friends, was discharged immediately without difficulty, or use of any influence, or any application, I being held by United States law, his guardian, in the absence of his own friends. Such is my own experience, and I declare myself ignorant of a single instance to the contrary, or of the social persecution of which you speak. The statements in relation to the difficulty of obtaining employment are equally contrary to fact, nor could they be more so. Every kind of business is embarrassed only for want of the hands to do it. Common day laborers are not to be had for less than \$1½ to \$1¾ a day, and skilled mechanics average twice that amount. I have never known my own business as an Architect so active, and can vouch that the largest employers refuse to sign any time contracts from the uncertainty of obtaining the necessary labor, and in a business of a totally different character, in which I am interested the same difficulty meets us at every turn. These and other like facts I am prepared to substantiate, if called on, to any extent, and your readers will make their own deductions, if, as I take for granted, your sense of fairness induces you to publish this letter.

GORDON W. LLOYD.

Detroit, Mich. June 3rd, 1863.

Mr. Lloyd gives references to his personal respectability which are quite unnecessary; nor need they be commented on, but to say that one whom he names as connected with this office is not. No person named Siddons has been or is connected with the *Canadian Illustrated News*.

We willingly publish the foregoing letter, and doubt not that its author writes as he believes the facts to be around him. We also know the courtesy of many citizens of Detroit. By our Great Western Railway, and Grand Trunk, and by Lake and River shipping the Province of Canada is intimately related to Detroit and Michigan, and all the West in commercial fortunes.—We did not call in question the courtesy or conduct of the master employers in the United States. Our statement was, that working men, if British subjects refusing to run the hazard of the draft, or join the American Army, are socially persecuted by Americans associates, and driven from the country. They arrive in Canada by hundreds every week, and some daily.

Publisher's Notices.

J. W., Ayr—The numbers are sent as you request.

J. R., Caledonia—An answer is sent by mail.

R. I. S., Elora—A statement is sent by mail.

R. W., Norwood—Your order has been received; the papers are sent; receive our thanks.

H. A., Montreal—Your order is received; the papers will be sent regularly.

H. M., Cummingsville—Your order is received; the papers are sent, commencing with the number you mention.

O. P., Delhi—Back Nos. sent.

EDITORIAL NOTICE.—Mr. Dorion, Attorney General for Lower Canada, has been defeated at Montreal. He will probably be elected for Hochelaga. The memoir of his political life, inserted in this issue, is suggestive. Its great length, with other unexpected matter pressing on limited space, has caused articles which are in type to be postponed. Enigma writers will see their contributions in print next week.