

real or fancied wrongs suffered by the Americans during the war. Naturally this feeling causes some attention to be paid to affairs in Canada; and by far the most popular and prevalent idea is that Canada should belong to the United States, will ye nill ye. Of course, this is no new idea. It existed long ago; and the Monroe doctrine merely furnished its supporters an argument of their own making, on which to base, or rather by which to prop up, their absurd views. Nevertheless, that doctrine never had more adherents, or was more plainly and openly advocated than at present. Many of the more intelligent and thinking people, in view of the late Confederation of the Provinces, see that annexation is likely to be further than ever from accomplishment, if the British Dominions are allowed to consolidate and acquire strength, as they assuredly must do in a few years, and consequently say that now is the time to urge, and, if necessary, enforce annexation. Others again affect an indifference on the matter, and pretend that Canada is not worth having; while yet others seeing the inevitable quarrel with England that must issue, if any steps be taken by the United States openly to influence the Canadians, and not willing to acknowledge their fear of the consequences of such a quarrel, endeavour to salve their vanity by the reflection that Canada must eventually belong to the United States by the mere force of attraction; that, like a huge maelstrom, the States irresistibly draws every thing towards it: hence, spite of the efforts of England to retain Canada—which efforts the people here are too bigoted to see England does not make—Canada will naturally come into the Union, while for the present the enlightened subjects of the Republic are content to look on and smile at, and pity the people of Canada for their want of foresight.

Such a state of feeling as I have endeavored to describe, leads to but one conclusion. The United States is jealous of England having, even in name, any possessions on the American continent, and want the whole to themselves. People are not wanting who attribute to Seward a far seeing policy in obtaining possession of the Russian territory, so that whenever the time comes the United States may be able to surround the British Provinces, and so absorb them. We may, therefore, reasonably conclude that whenever a possible opportunity occurs, these opinions will assume tangible shape. The Americans think they could at any time invade Canada, and in much less time than they at first thought they could subdue the South, overrun and conquer the whole Dominion, and they may be only waiting a pretext for attempting such a course. This is no fancy of my own, or the wild ravings of a few fanatics here, but the calm deliberate opinion of a very large portion of the people; and such a movement would be decidedly popular. Of course we cannot suppose, that either the people or the Government of the United States would wilfully pick a quarrel with Canada or England, or would wantonly invade Canada for the sole purpose of

annexing it; but they would undoubtedly do so if a fair pretext could be offered, and the will to make such a pretext exists. Hence, it behoves the Canadians to continue their volunteer system with energy, so that in case of need they could at least keep their powerful neighbour at bay until substantial aid reached them from the Mother Country. That the struggle will take place, there can be but little doubt in the mind of any one who talks to, and hears the opinion of the people here. Such opinions do not often find expression either from the lips of public speakers or through the columns of the press, but are freely given utterance to in conversation, while at public meetings the lightest word reflecting upon England is met with enthusiasm, clearly indicating the tide of popular feeling. The knowledge of this should stir the Canadians to renewed efforts to acquire thorough efficiency in military matters, if they desire to retain their present connection with the Mother Country, or aspire in the future to be an independent Kingdom.

The *Journal of Commerce*, a by no means unimportant paper, lately said that England was anxious to settle the Alabama claims, but that the United States was more desirous for delay, as it would at some future time afford the needed pretext for the invasion of Canada. J. E.

VISIT OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL TO HUNTINGDON.

As stated in our last, we were honored by a visit last week from the Adjutant General and Assistant Adjutant General of Canada. Those gentlemen arrived here from Montreal by way of Hemmingford, at about one o'clock on Wednesday, and after having partaken of some lunch at Mr. Barrett's, proceeded to examine the section of country and the different routes between this place and the Dundee Frontier. The roads were very much cut up owing to the recent heavy rains and the great amount of driving with loaded wagons which is done at present, and their drive was certainly a very muddy and disagreeable one. Having made a pretty thorough tour through the various roads on the Irish Ridge and over the Pine Plains, they arrived at Dundee village late in the evening, where they stopped some time to refresh themselves and horses. At a late hour they started for Huntingdon again, and got back here some time before daylight on the morning of Thursday. The invincible determination and indefatigable vigilance of the Assistant Adjutant General is nothing new to the people of this district, and we are glad to have had an opportunity of learning that he has a match in this respect in the Adjutant General himself. During the afternoon of Wednesday and the morning of Thursday, Colonel McEachern sent out orders in all directions to the officers and men of his battalion to turn out at eleven o'clock on Thursday forenoon for special drill and review, and at the hour appointed the officers and men of the 50th battalion, "Huntingdon Borderers," assembled in full muster on the parade ground, whence they marched, headed by the Huntingdon Band, to Mr. Schuyler's farm, where the review was to take place. Having arrived at the ground they were drawn up into line by order of the commanding officer and received the Adjutant General and Assistant Adjutant General, with the general salute. The battalion was then formed into open column right in front, and inspected, after which they were put through a variety of intricate battalion movements, by Colonel McEachern, with the execution of

which the Adjutant General expressed himself highly pleased. The battalion was then formed into square and addressed by Col. McDougall, as follows:

Colonel McEachern, Officers and Men of the Huntingdon Borderers: When I left Ottawa I did not know that I should have the great pleasure of reviewing the Huntingdon Battalion, or I should have brought my military uniform, in order that I might pay you the respect which is your due; and I beg that you will, therefore, all of you, excuse the omission. Knowing that you had been so recently inspected, it did not appear at all possible that it would be convenient for the officers and men that the battalion should again muster; and I take it as a high personal compliment to myself, that you should have turned out for an inspection at such very short notice, in such numbers. Everything that I have seen has been most satisfactory; and I highly congratulate Colonel McEachern on his having the command of such a body of men; and I may with truth congratulate the men of this battalion on having at their very head a commanding officer such as Colonel McEachern, and on his being assisted by such field officers and company officers as I see here to-day. But I must go further and congratulate the Volunteers of this district at large on their having at their head an officer in whom I have such entire confidence as Lieutenant Colonel Osborne Smith, who has, I am rejoiced to find, gained the confidence and esteem of all who serve under him (Cheers). One of the first secrets of success in all military operations is that perfect confidence should be felt by all Volunteers in those whose duty it is to command and direct them, and I leave this district with the pleasant assurance that such is the case here. Colonel Smith has shown me what were his plans for meeting the threatened invasion of those ragamuffins calling themselves Fenians last year; and I am happy to assure you that I entirely approve of them. Go home with the very comfortable conviction that the Province possesses at one of its principal front doors such men as the Huntingdon Volunteers to meet any attack. I believe firmly that to deal with any such attacks as I believe to be possible, the Huntingdon Battalion is amply sufficient. In the very improbable contingency of the Fenians returning as far as Huntingdon, in any numbers, and which you would not have force enough to repel, I promise you that you shall have such a support as will render the event a certainty in your favor. You are now armed with the best weapon in the world—a weapon that makes you equal to four times the number of enemies on an equal field, and supposing those enemies to be as good as yourselves in all respects. In the case under consideration I should consider that on equal ground and with equal weapons the Huntingdon Borderers would be equal to at least four times their number of Fenians; and if we take into account the superiority of your weapons, I think one Borderer to about sixteen Fenians would be a fair allowance. I hope you will all consider your rifles as a sacred charge, and that you will take care they do not suffer any injury in your hands from inattention. I have only to say in conclusion that I shall have the satisfaction when I return to Ottawa of telling the Governor General what I think of you. Colonel McDougall and Colonel Smith then retired, after which the battalion was formed into line and marched through the principal streets of the village, headed by the band, to the parade ground, where they broke off.—*Huntingdon Journal*.