

neighbor, and, having done all in our power to perpetuate friendly relations we can do no more, and for the future we must remain contemptuously deaf to all explosions of Yankee bombast, and if they should be so mad as to add aggression to insult we will only have to teach them as our fathers did before us that a brave, hardy and independent people can neither be bought like cattle, treated like slaves, nor have their dearest rights made the subject of commercial speculation. The destiny of four millions of British Freemen will be decided by themselves and that, too, in spite of all extraneous influence by whomsoever exercised.

It may not be generally known, but the fact is nevertheless well authenticated, that Canada possess a better trained male population than any nation in the world. The admirable facilities granted by our government to young men desirous of obtaining military knowledge have been abundantly taken advantage of, and the consequence has been to make the present generation of Canadian youth practical military men, fitted, at any emergency, to take up arms and not only use them effectively, but pursue the ordinary routine of military life without violently wringing their ideas, as must inevitably be the case with civilians suddenly transformed into soldiers. This fact is an evidence of wisdom on the part of our legislators of which they may well feel proud, and for which they deserve the commendation of the nation at large. There is nothing which tends so much to give a tone of manly independence accompanied with self reliance to the minds of the men of a nation as education of their military instincts. These are naturally well developed in Canadians, as their fondness for military life and aptness in learning its details fully demonstrate.

During the late war for southern independence many Canadians distinguished themselves in both armies, but principally in that of the North, and it is a well known fact that at the present moment graduates of our military schools are serving with honor in the armies of England, the United States, France, Spain, and South America, not to mention the large number enrolled in that devoted land—the Papal Zouaves. These men who have gone abroad to perfect themselves in the profession of arms have won honor for themselves and respect for the name of Canadian, and give another proof, if such were needed, that the people of the Dominion are foremost among the warlike races of the world.

Thinking upon this subject we cannot but congratulate the people of Canada upon the spirit which animates their young men, and while such deserves to be fostered and encouraged as giving the best guarantee for the future stability of our institution, we should cling with the utmost tenacity to the principle from which that spirit arose—Loyalty. Loyalty, not only to the Empire and

the Crown, but to Canada and those institutions under which we are rapidly becoming a great and prosperous people. This with strength and rectitude of purpose, firmness and self-reliance we may fairly hope to erect upon this continent an Empire that will be a worthy offspring of that grand old nation which has given us our laws and our liberties, and which is now so grandly conducting us upon the path of destiny.

Since the close of the late American war the flow of emigration to the United States which had been checked by that contest has recommenced with greater volume than ever. Every country in Europe is disgorging its surplus population, to swell the tide, which is pouring westward to fill up the prairies. The Eastern States of the Union have caught the Western fever and even Canada sends forth her quota to swell the flood. In every train for the West may be met Germans, Swedes, Norwegians, Austrians, down-cast Yankees, and habitants of Lower Canada, all bound for the Land of promise—all tempted by the glowing accounts of high wages and free homesteads to be obtained there. The failures of numbers of their forerunners has no power to check the tide, the warnings of the press are disregarded and the result in the majority of instances of this western movement is bitter disappointment and loss of fortune to the emigrants. The Western States are already well filled, and there is hardly a branch of business there which is not overcrowded. The cities are filled with hundreds of men out of employment, the supply of labor exceeds the demand, and the natural consequence is that wages are low. In fact newly arrived emigrants are glad to obtain work for their board. In the agricultural districts the case is little better. The immense influx of the rural population of Europe has furnished the farmers with an abundant supply of field laborers, so that in any portion of Ontario farm hands can obtain higher wages than in any state east of the Missouri. There is still a large tract of country to the west of that river awaiting settlement, but the pioneer will find the soil inferior to that of the free grant lands of Ontario, while his life and property are at the mercy of hostile Indians. The advancing tide of civilization will soon sweep away the latter, but can never make a naturally barren country, fertile. If our young population wish to find homes in the West amid the most fertile soil and one of the finest and most healthy climates in America, let them bend their course towards the Red River settlement. The great drawback to this magnificent country has hitherto been, the despotic sway over it of the Hudson's Bay Company. Now that this huge monopoly is about to be broken up, and the territory added to the Dominion, it will soon become under our wise laws, and sound institutions what nature has destined it to be the garden of North America.

The *Montreal Star* is a clever and fast paper, it is, however, a little too fast sometimes, and in its issue of last Monday came out on a new tack, this time it was not Anonyma, nor the piano, nor the umbrella that came under the pen of our lively contemporary but nothing less than British connection, which, it declares, would be beneficial to both Canada and England to sever. We would not wish to accuse the *Star* of annexation proclivities but the arguments by which it seeks to bolster up its proposition are mere assertions and through them we can see, as through a veil, the beautiful features of the New York *Herald*. Here are the proposed advantages:—

"It would remove the only possible cause of discord between England and America, or Canada and America. It would do away with the foolish prejudice of sentiment because of British connection, which makes the Americans misjudge Canada, and retards American investments. It would, wisely conducted, lead to the Zollverein, where the profits are five to one in our favor. It would swamp provincial discontents. It would bring to full fruition the industries of Canada, her carrying trade and manufactures. It would place the two countries on the same footing materially, and thus arrest the exodus. It would make the property holder more secure, and his property more valuable, give the workman higher wages, the employer a better business."

After this the article winds up by asking the very pertinent question:—

"Then Why Not?"

We will undertake to answer the question. It would not remove the only possible cause of discord between the countries, because the differences between them spring from other causes than British rule on this continent, and besides were Canada deprived of the moral and material support of England she could not hope to resist for any length of time the impertinent demands of an aggressive and unprincipled government like that of the United States. Then again the Imperial Government has guaranteed the loans for the construction of our great public works, and the public faith of Canada is pledged to England for the fulfilment of her share in the contract. It would not do away with the "foolish prejudice of sentiment" (beautiful euphemistic phrase) with which Americans regard Canadians, because there is a deep-rooted and irradicable distaste for republican institutions in the breast of the Canadian people and they will never willingly run risk of being at the mercy of such rings as manipulate public affairs at Washington. Zollverein translated means annexation, or, at least, intimate political connection and we will have none of it. It would "swamp provincial discounts" and provincial credit too and bring us under the glorious reign of shin plasters and greenbacks. We would like to know how Canada, thrown upon her own resources and deprived of the advantages of British commercial support is going to bring to "full fruition" her industries, her carrying trade and manufactures?