

# THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY AT VICTORIA, B. C.

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THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL,  
Victoria, B. C.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1892.

## A FRIENDLY WARNING.

A gentleman in St. Paul, Minn., who describes himself on the title page as "An American Lawyer," has written a pamphlet on the subject of Canadian annexation, a copy of which he has sent to the *Manitoba Free Press* with the intimation that he would be pleased to have his little work noticed. From the text it is learned that he is a native American, one who loves his country and believes there is no land more blessed. It will be all the more surprising, therefore, to be told that the author strongly advises Canadians against political connection with the United States, and that he closes his pamphlet with the sentiment, "Canada for the Canadians; Canada forever!"

A curious task it would be to analyze the thoughts, opinions and beliefs which induce this native of another country to warn Canadians against association with it as he would warn a friend against the plague. The *Free Press* gathers from his pamphlet that he has a sincere regard for Canada and great confidence in its future; that is, he would have great confidence in its future if assured that we would have nothing to do with the United States beyond those relations which are expected to exist between friendly neighbors. He starts out by quoting Labouchere, to the effect that the manifest destiny of the Dominion is to become independent or attached to the United States, and the author strongly advises against the latter. He thinks we would not dream of doing so if we fully understood the true condition of the people there. At first sight, he says, we may be impressed with the prospect, the outer surface as viewed from a distance presenting the appearance of great brilliancy and magnificence. But we do not know what is underneath. The wealth of the country is fast getting into the hands of the few. The poor are becoming poorer and their

path harder. We see only the Wimans, Depews, Carnegies, Vanderbilts, Goulds and Rochfellers; but these are only one in a million. The United States is a land of monopolies and legalized plundering of the masses. This statement is quoted: "In 1889, the farm mortgages in the Western states amounted to three billion four hundred and twenty-two million dollars." We cannot follow the writer in the picture he draws. It is a gloomy, almost a despairing one. No sane man who is out of the country would care to go to it to live. We are not sure but the author has two or three hobbies, and that he has made this question of annexation the excuse for trotting them out.

The *Free Press* concludes its notice of the pamphlet in the following words, which, we are convinced, will find an echo in the breast of every patriotic Canadian:

"All the same, we are obliged to him for his kind words of Canada, and for the friendly advice he gives us. We shall act upon it; not particularly because it comes from him, but because it falls in with our own opinion of the matter. For we can assure him that there is no serious intention on this side of the line to link our political fortunes with the United States. We know more of his country than he gives us credit for. We know so much of it and its people that, while sincerely respecting and admiring both, we have not the least desire in the world to become absorbed by them. It is quite true, as he says, or, at any rate, nearly enough to suit our purpose, that there are no advantages enjoyed by the United States which Canada does not possess in common with her—'except the single one of national independence.' And on this point it may be worth while to say that our condition of dependence is neither burdensome nor humiliating, and the moment it becomes the one or the other we can change it."

## DO THE DEAD RETURN?

"I have met several people who profess to retain shadowy memories of a previous existence, but the most remarkable case I know of is that of my daughter," said Mr. Isaac G. Foster, recently. "Twelve years ago, I resided in E— county. I there buried a daughter named Maria, who was just budding into womanhood. The next year I removed to the West, where I have since resided. Nine years ago, another daughter was born, whom we christened Nellie, but who has always

persisted in calling herself Maria. She says that the name belongs to her, as we used to call her Maria. Some time since, I returned to E— county to settle up some business and took Nellie with me. She not only recognized the old home, but many people she had never seen, but whom my first daughter knew very well. A mile from the old home, was a schoolhouse where Maria had gone to school. Nellie has never seen the schoolhouse, yet she described it accurately. She expressed a desire to visit it. I took her there, and she marched straight to the desk her sister had occupied, saying: 'This is mine.' It seems like the dead come back from the grave, but her mother will not have it so. She says that if that is true, she has but one child, and that God gave her two. I do not try to explain it."

## PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF CHRIST.

The following is an exact copy of a document which is said to have been found among the ancient manuscripts sent by Publius Lentulus, president of Judea, to the Roman Senate:

"There lives at this time in Judea a man of singular character, whose name is Jesus Christ. The barbarians esteem him as a prophet, but his followers adore him as the immediate offspring of God. He is endowed with such unparalleled virtues as to be able to call back the dead from their graves and to heal every sort of disease with a word or touch. His person is tall and elegantly shaped, his aspect amiable and reverend.

"His hair falls in those beautiful shades which no united colors can match, dropping in graceful curls below the ears, agreeably touching the shoulders and parting on the crown, like the head dress of a sect called the Nazarites.

"His forehead is smooth and his cheeks without a spot. His nose and mouth are formed with exquisite symmetry. His beard is thick and suited to the hair of his head, reaching to a little below the chin, where it parts in a fork. His eyes are bright, clear and serene. He rebukes with majesty and counsels with persuasive language, his whole address, whether in words or deeds, being grave and strictly characteristic of so exalted a being. No man has ever seen him laugh, but all Judea has frequently beheld him weep.

"When he pleads, his tears are so persuasive that the multitudes are unable to restrain theirs from mingling with his. He is very modest, temperate and wise. Whatever this phenomenon may be in the end, he now seems to be a man of strange beauty and divine perfection, in every way surpassing the children of men."