

to defend—the idiots never pausing to consider that their fathers, with much less means at their command, won all this territory by their swords; that out of it grew the wealth they are so anxious to save, and for which, as the Yankee neatly and graphically puts it, “they are willing to pay.” Already the Empire has been subjected to the blackmailing process by the Washington Treaty, but as this weakness of Great Britain—Canada—must be consulted before that infamous surrender is consummated, we will venture to promise that our Yankee neighbors will not realize any pay for keeping their hands off the wealth of England. At the same time this country owes Gladstone and his followers no thanks for the trick attempted to be played at their expense. We can tell the writer in *Blackwood* what he does not seem to know, that the simple action of declaring ourselves independent would precipitate the very catastrophe depicted in his romance; because it would leave these dear friends of the Radicals, the Yankees, free to join the coalition against England, and Mr. Gladstone has done his utmost to bring about that interesting historical climax. But as long as the Canadian people keep the Red Cross banners afloat in America the Yankees may bully, but will not dare to strike.

We could put 200,000 soldiers in the field—we can turn out 40,000 picked men as readily as it can be done in Britain, and when the writer in *Blackwood* composes his next reminiscence he must to complete the picture—have Canada surprised and overrun by the two high and mighty potentates, Ulysses S. Grant and Lazarus Juarez, with an united army of down East Yankees and Mexican Greasers, led by those doughty heroes in person. Seriously, however, the description given of the movements before what is supposed to be the closing scene describes the terrible state to which the British army and naval administrations have been brought by such charlatans as Cardwell and Childers, and shows the utter folly of subjecting either to the control of the British House of Commons.

At the period of the Crimean blunders the late Prince Consort said on the occasion of a Guildhall banquet, “that representative institutions were on their trial.” It will be remembered with what a howl of rage the Radical press greeted this speech. It was the impersonification of despotism; the Prussian proclivities of the illustrious speaker were very harshly dealt with, for at that time poor *Clignet*, the brother and predecessor of the present pious Emperor, had just strangled Prussian and German liberalism. The short period of sixteen years has justified every one of the observations of that illustrious and good man. Liberal institutions were on their trial—have failed in France, Germany, and Prussia, are worse than a decided failure in England, because they threaten to bring down the British Em-

pire, and entail ruin and devastation on its people.

We would advise our readers to study well the article in *Blackwood*, as it exposes errors which it is our duty to profit by. We cannot restrain those who are seeking our destruction, but we can and will withstand them, and do our duty by Great Britain as brave and loyal subjects. And if the mysterious dispensations of Providence destine her candlestick to be removed and her light to be extinguished in darkness, we can, as true sons, mourn her fall if we cannot avenge it, and as true patriots shape our own course by those venerable institutions which we derive, not from Quakers or grovelling shopkeepers, but from the one proud and haughty aristocracy of the greatest empire of ancient or modern times. Whatever may be in the future our own course is clear. We are, thank God, an united people, able and willing to take our own part in the battle of life, with a kind word and warm heart for an honest neighbor, but hard blows for those who dare to meddle with us. And, may we ask, of what use is English wealth, if it brings neither safety nor national independence?

In another page will be found an article with the title of “The Emigration Commissioner in England,” which affords matter for grave and serious reflection. The action of the Gladstone government towards the Colonies, the result of the Joint High Commission, and the tendency to sacrifice the Imperial interests to English democratic theories are so evident that measures should be taken by the people of this Dominion to protect their own rights, which are seriously imperilled, without delay. There can be no doubt but the Washington Treaty will be pushed to a ratification in England by the Whig Radicals, without submitting it to the Canadian Parliament, notwithstanding the express clause therein to that effect. In that event it seriously concerns the people of Canada to weigh well the position in which they stand. If this course is adopted (and we believe the Gladstone administration treacherous enough to do that) it will be a plain declaration that the British Ministry will not sustain us in the enforcement of our rights—in other words, if we refuse to ratify the treaty or consent thereto, and if we endeavor to keep the Yankees off our fishing grounds we shall have no assistance from Great Britain in doing so. There is, however, two courses open to us and they are the honest, straightforward, and manly ones.

The Treaty is not acceptable to our people, we believe it will be rejected by the Canadian Parliament in so far as it relates to our local affairs. Our duty, therefore, is plain: First, to defend our rights to the fishery grounds by despatching the Colonial vessels there as if no Joint High Commission ever existed, and even if the treaty is

ratified by the Gladstone faction, to oppose by force, if necessary, any attempts not only to fish within the three mile limit but within the headland lines. Secondly, an address should be moved in the Canadian Commons to the Queen, Lords and Commons of Great Britain protesting against the treaty, and appealing against its injustice, as well as an address to the people of England generally on the same grounds.

We do not believe Gladstone's government represents the people of England in this matter at all, and even if it did such an appeal would be right and proper. This course would be acceptable to the Canadian people, who, foully wronged and abused as they have been, are loyal to a fault, and as members of the empire have a clear right to be heard. Amongst all classes of Her Majesty's Canadian subjects there is a feeling that a great wrong has been attempted, that their political existence has been imperilled, that a determined effort has been made to check their national progress, and that the final success of the measure will imperil the interests of the empire, and at best could only secure a mere sentimental advantage, of no real benefit to Great Britain, but calculated to inflict real, lasting, and terrible injury on Canada.

As a military journal we have nothing to do with mere local politics; our friends and comrades belong to all shades of opinion, but from what we know of the spirit of the country it is an unit on this question.

It is evident the men that govern Great Britain do not understand the value of Canada or what its institutions are capable of, compared with the democratic ideas prevailing in England—our most extreme Radicals would be justly deemed *high Tories*. It would be a highly interesting experiment to have one of those new lights, Beesley, Ogden, or Citizen Herbert to lecture our farmers on the rights of property, they would find that the landed proprietors in Canada, holding by patent from the Crown, will defend their acquired estates with their lives, and if the dear working men, the White Chapel gutter snipes of unwashed celebrity, could be brought in contact with them they would be taught what work and civilization really meant, while their leaders would be treated to a coat of tar and feathers.

The basis of all social order in Canada is labour—it is the only foundation on which it can exist—it can by no means be the apex of society, and it is thereon the Manchester cotton spinners are trying for their own purposes to place it. But they can rest assured for their comfort, that having once succeeded in raising the foul field of democracy they will never lay him till he tears them to pieces. And that consummation would be no great loss, if other considerations were not involved. Except in so far as the issues affect us we have no immediate concern with the British local politics,—unfortunately in the case under consideration their exi-