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The Volunteer Review,

AND

MILITARY AND NAVAL GAZETTE.

"Unbribed, unbought, our swords we draw,
To guard the Monarch, fence the Law."

OTTAWA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1872.

LIEUT.-COLONEL WAINSWRIGHT GRIFFITHS, at present on a tour through British Columbia, has kindly consented to act as the Agent for the VOLUNTEER REVIEW in that Province.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—Letters addressed to either the Editor or Publisher, as well as Communications intended for publication, must, invariably, be *pre-paid*. Correspondents will also bear in mind that one end of the envelope should be left open, and in the corner the words "Printer's copy" written, and a two or five cent stamp (according to the weight of the communication) placed thereon will pay the postage.

The London *Times*, true to the instincts of the shopkeepers it represents, cannot allow the occasion of national humiliation and defeat, by the imbecility of the nominees of its masters and in accordance with their traditions by the award of the German Emperor, to pass without improving it by a malignant snarl at Canada and its people.

There is, however, a party at home powerful enough to defeat the wishes of the mere section of the people of Great Britain whose political sentiments the *Times* echo,

and that party feel they have an heritage in the Colonies of far greater moment than all the manufacturers in England.

It is true we cannot look to the degenerate Tory party for the support of those principles known "as ships, colonies, and commerce," which made England a great nation, the expansion of Empire, the extension of commercial relations, the provision for finding homes for a constantly increasing surplus population and using the new settlements as bulwarks for the old, has given place to the selfish and sordid idea of cheap labour and greater profit to the manufacturer at the expense of the artisan, and this feeling unluckily pervades the great factions into which the mass of the middle and upper class of Englishmen are split, amongst whom the policy of isolation because they don't want to be troubled has many admirers.

The force that holds the Empire together is principally derived from the working classes the doctrines which the *Times* avow and the *Whig Radicals* admire as well as hold but dare not avow, finds no favor with the vast mass of the English people, and we are satisfied never will.

Recent developments of the danger underlying the social fabric in England, the imminent peril into which she has been brought since her foreign policy was guided by the Manchester School of politicians, the uneasiness consequent on a vaguely defined impending crisis in European affairs generally, the uncertainty depending thereon, the increasing difficulty of living enhanced by the high price of labor and food, the continual contraction of the labor market and the certainty that means of livelihood must be sought in the outlying settlements of the Empire has turned the attention of the working classes to the Colonial relations so that the policy of GLADSTONE and BRIGHT in 1869 of forcing Canada into annexation, which their Governor General, Lord MONCK, did not hesitate to avow, and which then might have been possible, dared not be even hinted at 1872.

Under these circumstances the cool impudence of the *Times* and its forcibly suppressed malignity are refreshing and laughable. We give a quotation from its article.

"When the Canadians turn round upon us, and say, 'You have muddled away our interests without obtaining for us aught that we desired. You have abandoned our Fisheries; you have sacrificed our frontier; you have not given us open trade with the States; you have not secured any satisfaction of our claims for wanton injuries,' what answer shall we give? We must begin by confessing our faults. It is true we have failed; we did our best; but we had to keep one eye on ourselves and another eye on you, and all the time to watch the temper and meaning of the American Commissioners with very little intelligence to guide our interpretation of their words; and if the result is not satisfactory to you, neither is it to ourselves. This we must say if it would

be frank; but we may go on to add something more. It is this: From this time forth look after your own business yourselves, you are big enough, you are strong enough, you are intelligent enough, and if there were any deficiency in any of those points it would be supplied by the education of self reliance. We are both now in a false position, and the time has arrived when we should be relieved from it. Take up your freedom; your days of apprenticeship are over."

The *Thunderer* is evidently in a bad way, after pleading guilty to imbecility and selfishness unknown in the annals of history he dares not speak out, but in the colonies we are in the habit of giving free utterance to our opinions and can seriously assure the *Times* that all its growling or advice is entirely thrown away on us.

We care as little about Manchester as we do about JOHN BRIGHT or the *Times*, and if the Yankees have bought one or subdivided the other, we can assure those keen speculators that the money was by no means as well laid out as that invested at Berlin, we have our fortunes in our own hands, and shall take good care in future not to submit our affairs to arbitration.

There is, however, one problem we should like to see solved, and it is this, "how long after Canada declared her Independence would Printing House Square be a profitable location for a large newspaper business." As we are a practical people have no time to spend on a declamation, we like to see every thing put in a business shape.

As it is the imbecility of the Manchester School, the stupidity or worse of the Whig Radicals and the business capabilities of the *Times* have burdened Great Britain with the obligation of keeping up as strong a fleet in the Pacific as in the North Atlantic, and that is not economy.

It is a remarkable development of the foreign policy of the Whig Radicals to find that the question of the cession of outlying military posts of the British Empire is being seriously entertained by foreign powers.

Deputies in the Spanish Cortes have been recently quite outspoken in their desire for the recovery of Gibraltar, while English journals, in the confidence of Mr. GLADSTONE's Cabinet, proclaim it as a fact that the occupation thereof by Great Britain, has, on the whole been most injurious to the Spanish people.

The Prussian Press already lays claim to Heligoland, an island off the mouth of the Elbe, and on the newly established doctrine, in the San Juan question, German jurists and experts have established a precedent which Prussian Statesmen will not be slow to avail themselves of it is "that islands always belong to the mainland," never to another island far from or near to it.

Both positions are essentially necessary to the very existence of Great Britain, Heligoland inasmuch as it enables her to control or close as she sees fit, the mouth of the