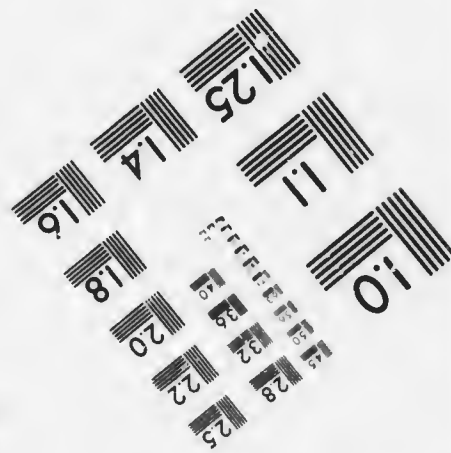
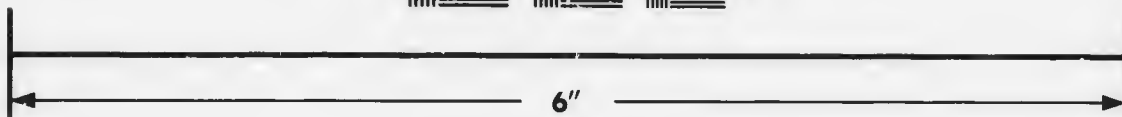
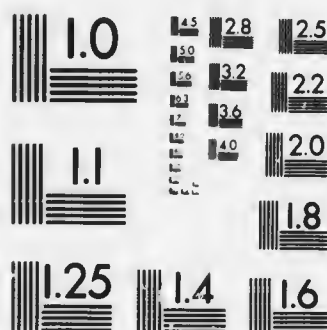


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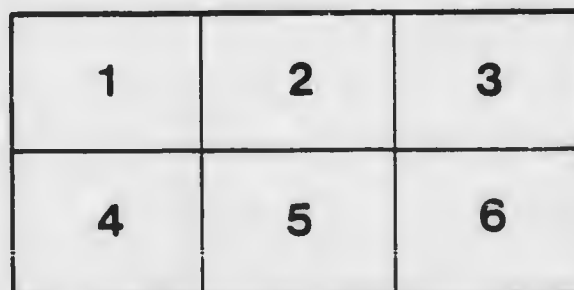
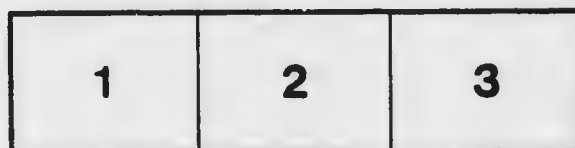
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TO THE PEOPLE OF T

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS:—The newspapers in some of the Atlantic cities of the United States have of late teemed with articles having reference to British Recruiting in this country, in which it has been throughout assumed that Her Britannic Majesty's agents were doing something which they had not a right to do, and in violation of your laws.

It is due to the Government and People of the United States, and to all the parties concerned, that this matter should be fairly understood. It is due to those who may desire to take service under the British Crown that they should understand it. A few brief explanations may therefore be useful at the present moment.

The British Parliament passed, a few months ago, what is called the Foreign Enlistment Act. By this Act, Her Majesty's Government was empowered to raise, either in England or elsewhere, a Foreign Legion, to serve with the British Army abroad, under the same rules and regulations: the officers and men to be entitled to the same pay and allowances as those received by British troops.

Parliament, I presume, had a right to pass this law, and the Queen to give her assent to it. British Ministers have the same right to act upon it which the American Secretary of State had to draw into the army which conquered Mexico, English, Irish, and Scotchmen, Frenchmen, Poles, and Hungarians.

A few weeks ago, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, Sir John Gaspard Le Marchant, was duly empowered to raise, in Halifax, the capital of the Province which he governs, regiments to be incorporated into the Foreign Legion. Sir Gaspard is himself a soldier, the son of that Général Le Marchant who won the battle of Salamanca by the splendid cavalry charge which Napier so spiritedly records. Sir Gaspard has seen much service, and is the old companion-in-arms of General Sir De Lacy Evans, under whom he served as Adjutant-General in Spain.

Instructions, based on an Act of Parliament, and *to be executed within the limits of British territory*, it is quite apparent that Sir Gaspard was bound to carry out. He did so, in no furtive or disguised manner, but in that straightforward and manly style which best comports with his character and that of the Government which he represents. He issued a public notification of the nature of his instructions and intentions, expressed in the following terms:

M E N W A N T E D
FOR
H E R M A J E S T Y ' S S E R V I C E .

which it was not right to do, or any part of the British Empire. When advertised in this country for recruits for the Army, it is the right of your officers to issue the orders, and find their way all over the world. What nation the Recruits belong to? Are they persons wanting to enlist from the United Provinces, or France, or Germany, or any other place? Who would think of preventing them from leaving Manchester for Liverpool, or any other port for the United States? I quite admit that it is a matter, if any attempt were made to prevent the British Dominions for shipmen from an intrusion on a friendly power. That is not England, and I trust it never will be. The people of this country, although many of them have sometimes most unaccountable notions at the frontier, without producing half the mischief that has been caused by the British American gentleman at a fashionable dinner.

So far I trust that I have made no violation of the laws of this country by the acts of Her Majesty's Government, or by the acts of the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia. Their acts have been in strict accordance with the friendly relations between two great nations, that cannot but be governed by each other's laws, whatever they have been.

But there is another explanation, and that is fairness. When it is given, I trust that the Authorities, general and particular, there is to complain of, and how serious has been the clamor raised upon this subject.

A number of letters had been received from Provincial Authorities, from British Officers, and from other gentlemen who either had seen or were desirous of seeing these gentlemen not only stated that they would join the Foreign Legion, but expressed the desire of persons, fond of the excitement of war, of employment by the depressed state of this country, would follow their example.

These voluntary offers of service were made to Sir Gaspard Le Marchant by people living in this country, who were their own, and that they had no connection with the United States as freely as they

424
337

F THE UNITED STATES.

do, or any act beyond the boundaries
When advertisements are published in
or the American Army, who questions
o issue them? Who complains if they
the world? Who stops to inquire to
s belong? Who attempts to prevent
t from leaving the British Islands or
Germany, to come here for that pur-
of preventing poor men, without arms,
ed, but intending to take service abroad,
for Liverpool, or Liverpool or Glasgow
I quite admit that it would be another
ere made to organize and arm men in
shipment abroad, or for aggression or
wer. That would not be permitted in
never will be permitted again by the
though men, fully armed and organized,
accountably been thrown across the
ng half the excitement in the United
ed by the appearance of a single Brit-
at a fashionable hotel in New York.
ave made it very plain that no viola-
country have been committed by Her
r by the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova
been legal, and constitutional, and in
e friendly relations which subsist be-
that can afford to respect each other,
whatever their by-gone differences may

planation, which I ought to give, in all
en, I trust that the American People,
neral and local, will perceive how lit-
f, and how unreasonable and ungener-
raised upon this subject.

ad been sent in to the Imperial and
om British officers, from Foreign offi-
tlemen residing in this country, who
desirous of seeing service. Some of
y stated their own desire to join a
essed the opinion that great numbers
itement of military life, or thrown out
pressed state of commercial affairs in
v their example.

of service neither the British Govern-
M reluctant invited. They were made
country, who supposed that their swords
at they had a right to go out of the
as they came into them; who were

pect, however, is—that a good deal has been done and said by
unauthorized persons having more zeal than discretion; by ras-
cals sent to defeat the object; by spies and informers—treated,
as all such persons should be treated—with perfect unreserve.

But let us look at this matter from another point of view.
The profession of arms is an honorable profession, and has, since
the earliest ages, presented to the young and active irresistible
attractions. Again, the veteran soldier is rarely, after a certain
period, content with any other mode of life. Shall it be said,
then, that Republican America will deny to her own sons the
right, if so disposed, to see a little of the world, and to win dis-
tinction in the civilized armies of Europe? Shall it be said that
when an old soldier drifts, by the accidents of life, or with the
storms of revolution, within the charmed circle of this republic,
he must never serve even his own country again? That “who
enters here must shut out hope”—must give up ambition, alle-
giance, country, the pride of race, the noblest feelings of our na-
ture? God forbid!

Would you deny to a Frenchman the privilege of joining the
gallant band who in the Crimea are illustrating the gayety and
valor of his nation? Would you restrain a Pole or a Hungarian
from lifting his sword against the Northern Despot whose iron
hand prostrated the liberties of his country? Again I say, God
forbid! I think more highly of the American character. I
have more reliance upon the elasticity and freedom of your insti-
tutions.

On the causes of the present war I do not wish to dwell—nor
on its management, which we may assume to have been defect-
ive. But look at the magnificent battle of Alma—at the splen-
did charge of the Scotch Greys and Enniskillen Dragoons at
Balaklava, who scattered the hordes of Russian cavalry like chaff
before the wind. Look at the fight of Inkermann, where eight
thousand noble fellows held their ground for half a day against an
army of sixty thousand. Now, shall it be said that an English-
man who wishes to leave this country, to fill a vacant place
among the Coldstream Guards, and keep up the reputation of
that distinguished corps, who crossed their bayonets with the
enemy eleven times in one battle, shall not go? Suppose that
an Irishman sees a vacant saddle in the Enniskillens, and thinks
that he might as well fill it for the rest of his life, with good
pay and rations, as to be sweeping the streets of New York—
shall he not go? Suppose that a Scotchman, dreaming of that
thin line of Highland warriors, who won the admiration of the
world at Balaklava, dreams also that he might, if he had the
chance, fill the ranks of that fine regiment, and perhaps suc-
ceed the example of their leader, Sir Colin Campbell, himself a
poor widow's son—shall he not go? Shall not a British Ameri-
can, if he desires to do so, cross the frontier into his own prov-

FOR
HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE.

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE.
Halifax, Nova Scotia, March 15, 1855.

THE Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia having been empowered to embody a FOREIGN LEGION, and to raise British Regiments for service in the Provinces or abroad, Notice is hereby given, that able-bodied men, between the ages of 19 and 40, on applying at the Depot at Halifax, will receive a bounty of £6 Sterling, equal to \$30, and, on being enrolled, will receive \$8 per month, with the clothing, quarters, and other advantages to which British Soldiers are entitled.

Preference will be given to men who have already seen service.

The period of Enlistment will be for 3 or 5 years, at the option of the British Government.

Officers who have served will be eligible for Commissions. Gentlemen who wish to come into the Province, will please lodge their names, rank, date of service, &c., at this office.

Persons who serve in the Foreign Legion will, on the expiration of their term, be entitled to a free passage to America, or to the country of their birth.

Pensions or gratuities, for distinguished services in the field, will be given.

Nova Scotian and other Shipmasters who may bring into this Province poor men, willing to serve Her Majesty, will be entitled to receive the cost of a passage for each man shipped from Philadelphia, New York, or Boston.

By Command.

LEWIS M. WILKINS, *Provincial Sec'y.*

Now I think it will puzzle the most ardent enemy of Great Britain, the most jealous stickler for the honor and peaceful relations of this country, to find fault with any thing done by the British Government or by the Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia.

So far, it will be perceived that neither have done any thing

NEW YORK, April 3, 1855.

United States as freely as they can
by people living in this country, who
were their own, and that they ha
United States as freely as they c
under the impression that, even be
procuity Treaty, they might have go
to enlist with no more violation of t
if they had gone to get a wife, to
a cargo of potatoes.

If these impressions were natura
natural than that the Lieutenant
should select a person, in whom he
the United States to ascertain wh
were made in good faith; whether
of good character, of capacity, an
there was any foundation for their
of the unemployed classes here wer
army? Surely His Excellency ha
person so selected had a right to
has discharged his very delicate du
and discretion of a gentleman.

It must be confessed, however, t
The person to whom they were co
doing nothing very heinous. He
manner—saw any body who calle
frankly to such officers and other ge
of their services, that Sir Gaspard L
ered to accept them *upon their be*
the boundaries of his own Provin
expression of his implicit belief tha
men would be enrolled in Nova Sc
vertisement signed by the Provinc
chants sending, or Shipmasters t
to Halifax, might rely implicitly
of the British Government.
America can not say and do all th
what can he say and do?

All this, I presume, was done a
was done and said, in ignorance o
the United States, I am not going

they came into them; who were
country, who supposed that their swords
t they had a right to go out of the
as they came into them; who were
even before the passage of the Rec-
t have gone into the British Provinces
lation of the laws of this country than
a wife, to buy a barrel of mackerel, or

ere natural on their parts, what more
Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia
whom he had confidence, to come into
ertain whether these offers of service
whether the parties were gentlemen
capacity, and experience; and whether
for their belief that a large number
here were disposed to join the British
llicity had a right to do this, and the
right to come. Let us hope that he
delicate duties with the common sense
man.

However, that the duties were delicate.
y were confided thought that he was
ous. He lived in an open and public
who called to see him—and explained
d other gentlemen as had made tenders
Gaspard Le Marehant was now empow-
in their being renewed to him within
n Province. Nor did he disguise the
belief that any number of able-bodied
n Nova Scotia, in the terms of the Ad-
e Provincial Secretary, *that any Mer-*
masters taking, Steerage Passengers
implicitly on the honor and good faith
ment. If a gentleman from North
do all this in the United States, then

was done and said. If any thing more
ignorance or in violation of the laws of
not going to defend it. What I sus-

can if he desires to do so cross the frontier into his own prov-
late the example of their leader, Sir Colin Campbell, himself a
poor widow's son—shall he not go? Shall not a British Ameri-
can, if he desires to do so, cross the frontier into his own prov-
ince, or take passage in one of his own vessels, without being
called upon to declare whether he does not intend to enlist when
he gets home?

But above all—shall French, or German, or Holstein gentle-
men—shall the gentlemen of Hungary and Poland, thrown out
of their true positions by the convulsions of Europe, be condemned
forever to teach music, or fencing, or dancing, for a livelihood,
when honorable service is offered to them in the professions to
which they were bred—when their rank as officers, and the
social distinctions to which they have been accustomed, are again
within their reach? Shall these gentlemen not be free to go
into Nova Scotia, if so disposed? And if they do, and many of
them have gone, who can prevent their countrymen, who have
fought under their banners, and have confidence in their leader-
ships, from following their example?

Surely, surely, it has not come to this—that the United States
are to be converted into a great eel-pot, that lets every body in
but nobody out. That a ring fence is to be made round Uncle
Sam's farm, so contrived that though all the produce of the farm
can go abroad, the laborers can not. All this is too ridiculous
to be supposed possible, and yet some people are sanguine enough
to hope that it will turn out to be true.

I do not believe it; I have too high an opinion of the intelli-
gence and common-sense of the American people—too much re-
liance upon the free spirit which pervades their institutions, to
believe this possible. Let the question be fairly stated in any
drawing-room in Boston, New York, or Philadelphia, and every
American lady would say—"Let them go!" State it fairly to the
Democracy of any large city of the union, in their wildest mo-
ment of excitement, and the people would say, "Let them go."
Put the question to any gallant regiment of riflemen in Kentucky
or Tennessee, and I much mistake the characters of the men if
the answer would not be—"Let them go!"

I have the honor to be, with great respect,

Your obedient servant,

A BRITISH AMERICAN.

