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## AN OPEN LETTER ON THE QUESTION

## DO YOU WANT ANNEXATION

## TO THE <br> UNITED STATES?

WRITTEN TO AN AMERICAN FRIEND,

By " BASTION OLD."



## DO YOU WANT ANNEXATION

－．－TO THE．．．


Himitox，Oxt．
F゙ゥハnary！！ 1 s！
My 1）mar Site，
1 was phaced in receipt of som fasor of the 29th ultimo in which yon desire me wexprens my opinion npon＂the ammexation move－ ment＂in Camada．

I wonk say in reply that the so called＂movement＂has no existencer in tha minds of loyal british（＇madians or ontside of what is known us the＂（inar＂（calley fin＂rerellener the＂Reform＂）party and only amoug an insignitieam faction of them，which faction is loyal only to their ＂wa side of party polities．

There are in Comala as in the lontod States two great political parties， these atre suldivided unm minor questions；one is rallot the＂Roform＂ or＂Chir＂party；the other is the Liberal comservative party．＇Ther first mamed are ont of power ant othice，the second is in oftior and power ame likely to remain so，becamse they are the party who hase earried the combtry throght all its perils and suresses in the past ant have mande it What it is，in point of prosperity，amb manfacturing amd eommereinl and－ vancement，：mm in openting up its broad phins to tratfic ly ratroads， atilizing its ports for stemships，and settling contimators of the soil mon the vast wilderness．The other party rall themselves＂Reformers，＂ whomt anything to reform except themselves and their awn methorls mud asages，Who would fain stop the ！rogress of the comitry，or do any－ thing to get the mang party ont，provided，that they themselves conld
get into power, and they do not mind ruining the country to attain that objoct, in fict they stick at nothing! If you take the map of our NorthWest Tervitory and notice the numerons lakes, rivers and streans which lio letwern Onturio mad the Rocky Momatains, you will see the illastration of the wide difference in enterprise between these two parties, and be ahle to determine which are the "Refonmers."

The " (irit" party when in pewer made it one of the conditions of confederation with British Colmmbia which was then ontside of the old Province of Chumda (now constututing the Provinces of Ontario mud Quebec) that certain (ireat Roads shonld le constructed so as to facilitate communication between the Provinces from east to west and ciee cors.

It was their iden of putting down railroads between the water stretches of the great lakes and rivers in the North West so as to commect Ontario with British Columbia and avail themselves of the mavigation of the whter stretches by stembonts and other means of inter-communication, and put down railroads across the platins, und complete a through line from Vancouver to the railroad system of Ontario, so that all this would be ciosed up in winter, because in their simplicity they thought the plains would only he traversable in smmmer, on account of the depth of show in winter, and that system was to be completed in ten renrs.

That govemment went ont of office as the resulting cause of a general election which took place in $1 \times 7 \mathrm{~S}$, at which the two great parties contended upon the general National policy, upon the want of enterprise of the so called "Reform" party, and upon their desire to cuitivate commercinl amity and amenities with the United States to the sacrifice of our own Commercial, Agricultural and Manufacturing interests. The country sustained the aims of the Liberal Conservatives and their proposed National Policy, so that the so called "Reformers" or "Grits" were outnumbered at the polls; the "Grit" ministry resigned and Sir John Macdonald was called to form a Govemment, which he did. His Ministry has been sustained by the conntry for eleven years, and has stood before the Electors and their policy endorsed at three different general elections. They are as firmly fixed in power as they were when first called to power in 1878.

In these circumstances and in this time they have fostered a National Policy which has opened up vast mamfactures thronghout the older setthed parts of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, 'and Fisheries and Industries of various kinds; water power which was in various places comparatively idle, unopened and unemployed, are now being ntilized for
manufacturing and industrial purposes. Our Farmers are now prosperous, and our comtry has grown in strength, wealth and population. I do not speak or refer to the present depressed state of trade becanse that is not peculiar to Canala but common to the whole commercial world. In a word the country lins awakened from a condition of comparative torpor to that of living activity. The Ministry in power dropped the idea of the water stretches and short railroads between them and the expense of locomotives on every little railroad between the water stretehes and leeping everything asleep and idle during the winter, and awoke to the necessity of a through rail route from hence to Vancouver in British Colambia, which shonld be kept open in winter as well as in summer. Instead of completing this midertaking in Ten yeors they did it all in Forr years! They heve since opened up commmications between Japan and Chinn with Camala, and it is part of their scheme to establish direct mail Steanship service, and passenger and trading lines and routes with Australia mud New Zealand, so as to make the Canadian Railway the hoghway between these countries and colonies and Great Britain, and still this party of progress is called the "Tor!! Part!," by way of repronch! whilst the standstill, platformless "(irits" without a policy, are called "Reformers" and the "Party of Progress" by way of distinction.

Now you will ask, what this has to do with your question? I will explain. This "Reform" party are the "sore heods," they want to get into power, they fostered the Rebellion in the North West for the sake of embarrassing the Govermment. After the traitorous Lonis Riel was taken prisoner they chmored for his trial and conviction as a murderer and malefactor. After his conviction they and their newspapers clamored for his execution as a slayer of Roman Priests, and a Rebel. At every step they knew the Roman Catholics and French of the Province of Quebee, led on by Jesuit conspirators, would sympathise with Riel, and raise an ignorant rice and revenge and cabalistic ontery that Riel was only persecuted because he was a "Catholic" and a "Frenchman," and they made a martyr of him. The Government of Sir John Macdonald refused to recommend the Governor General to exercise the royal clemency, anit so let the lnw take its course; the sentence of death was sustained and the traitor was executed, as he ought to have been. Immediately, the rery neat niny, the daily "Grit" papers from one end of Canada to the other, execrated the Government" as Monsters of Cruelty, and called them "Murderers," "Hangmen," and "Assassins," - and what not? It has since transpired that the so called "martyr" Riel was not a Roman Catholic at all. but a calumniator of that religion and of its priests and bishops.

That is the party to which the monexation morement bolongs, so fur as it has had motion. Tho fire-eaters of that party wre those who, if they were putriotic, would do well "hy leang their conntry for their eomstry's gome" and emigrite and leave this Camata of oms to resule wheme. ever in the Inited States or elsewhere-anywhere that either husinoss, or health, or convenience might seem to recommend them to go. Wio should be ghad mid the comtry wond do well to get rid of them, nem as thoy wond answer well to stir up the marchistic element in your citios which has been so largely imported from limope, and is of such achmowledged power, that we would profer their emjoying, to the full, ath the sweets of American liberty, as it is called, which is so much appreciated by demagognes of their stamp. for they are more needed in your comitry than they wre in ours.

The rank mad file of these people prate and sympathise and sympathise and prate about "Home linle for Ireland," mad with Hone Ralers -Feninns, and "Plan of Cmanaigners" with their dymmiturds and soeret ploters and assassins, beeanse they are themselves disloyal.

I nim quite aware that the "(irit" party do not all bolong wh this category. There are a great mony honest, loyal, peace-loving citizuns in the so called "Reform party" but the rank and file are disloyal to the comtry , and would do anything that might oust or overturn the party in power. It is mongst them mad by some of them and some af thrm ont!, that all agitation, (if I may call it so) has heen brought nbont, which you are pleased to term "the proposed Amexation of C'anada" to your own bomatry and Govermment, but they are a very small minority of our people.

I am aware that Mr. Erastus Wiman, a Camadian, residing in New York, outside of the Congress at Washington and some of your Legishators inside the Congress lave made a considerable sphater, (it coes bot amont to an agitation) in fivor of Commereial Union between the two cometries, and that two of the Toronto daily papers and other Grit $\mathrm{p}^{\mathrm{m}}$ pers in the Dominion have written and published a good dead in sympathy with, and in the interest of Mr. Wiman and those who favor his views. I am also aware that many, honestly enongh, only wish for Commercial Union, whilst some would willingly go in for amexation with the great North American Republic, and others for Colonial Independence; but rest assured, it is only the talk of the few, and almost, if not altogether confined to the "sore hemls" I have refervel to, and the few who would sell their comtry, (as many of your American citizens






 virthons ant trace American citizel mod putriat of the past hat fow where seltations. and on politienl influme at the presat tame; where the
 roperiall! in some rities: whre President mal publie men, candidates

 thate is h hetter element in their midst ( 1 menn the Noglo-Anariean) who have as mach right to be pleased and satistied and that the body politic hate as mach right to be raiser up, as the mob has to be pandered to.

Win do not ans your pulital condition in the lase for reasons which will herofter be showr, and ats onr patedotism is smemined, we hatse nothom to hope for from political mion with your combtry. There certain! ate nome hell ont to us from any social momages youm matier a people local to their own primelpes and instincts. Wie hate han kings and (Gnems mang, and tyrants mang amd mobs mad pulitical rints mang, and civil wars ame revolutions many : but the moteme of all these is that without the repressive force of a soldiery to keep us in order. we womb from free choier, fitr mother sumbit to what durevical citizans are imocently in thr hathit of calling the "tyramy" of ""onstitntional moler centored and emphasized be the ('rown and power mad dignity of unr own Imperial Comat bitanin, and Her Majesty's Representative sent out as (iownor- (iemeral of C'monda under a limited Monarehs. such as we mbige fit prosent, than all the ever-varying and senseless changes which your system bergets-with an occasionul ontburst of mob-rule or tomeh of over-powering demagogery thrown in-which som more monetain mate of the soverign poople secures, and which is ignormatly and valgarly misenlled "Liherts."

The English speaking ani Franch speaking loyalists of Cimain are like Ma. O'Rell's typical Englishman, whom he describes as " the stannchest "monarehist, and at the sume time, the freest $; * * *$ which proves that "freedom is compatible with a momurchical government. There is no "Fremw legitimist more loyal than he. there is no $* * *:$ Republican ". morr passionately fond of liberty : may, I will go so far as to say, that
"in France, people wonld be treated as dungerous demageghes who "demanded sertan liberties, which the Lnglish have long possessed "under a monarehy; to defend which the most conservative of then "wonld all whelf wimeront in pieces." And as O'Rell has satil in mother phace " we refinse to smbnit to despotism in any shape or form, certanly we do not come for that of !our mah democrey, "our mation keeps in onder and respects power,"-we how to the decision of a majority- we . discipline all our gaides mul ministers mut mblers,"our (Quem, onr princes, our gemerals, our judzes mad magistratesbecanse it is essential to n mational prosperity and to the matatename



Your historians and writers of ofeography for sehools, class your comary mong the first-class, civilized mad endightemed matoms, amel Span, Portugal und laly ats of the cisilized or secomelass mations. I do not care to correct mus seeming fror on this point, but let pe ask Sul or any other citizen amdidly ! do you betieve that in uny civilized comatry on eath, in proportion to popmation, there are more private assussinations, or one in which there are more people who. spumiat like, use the bowie-knife and the revolver instead of the dagher and the sthleto. than in the Conited States:

Your politicinns high up in oftice have always given commtemance ${ }^{\prime}$ the Fenim liotherhood for the salie of secming their votes at electoms, and encouraged their aim of smblning Canda and manying our people. Fillibusters woulh have long "go invaded mind tried to conquer our comber Gind upset the lbitish power and ammex Comada to the Linited states (ans was done with Texass, hat they were stopped be the obl hitish fluck which exists here like that which existed in the time of the he wolntion of the American Colonies, but which liblibusters and cowards do not carre to encomnter, for it says to them "(ome on if yeur ilfore".

In what eivilized conntry in the wolld but your own, is there the diftientry of agreeing upon the terms of an lixtradition Treaty with the kinghom of Great Britain and Irehan? Where in all the wide world (where Monarchial Institutions are in foree) wonld you find a man in the position of the ruler of a mation stooping to take an adrantage for himself seeking office or aggramisement ont of the treacherous revealing of the contents of a private letter, written in the confidence of one gentloman towards another supposed gentleman? (who proved himself a low blackgnard and trickster) except Grover (leveland? and then following it up secking a
 ignominionsly to quit his Ambassu!orinl pestion? Where is there to be fomm in all tho laritish lominions, 11 statesman who would stomp so low
 (irit, who semons for ammexation to the l'nited states. beranse la is in the "old shatres of opposition to the (iovermment.
 tion with " romatry when the right of trial by jury is incondon, of

 it for fomm mothon of avenging the eommission of erime. Didy you ewer hear of a man in Chada who was a hanate af an irresponsible arank being tahom ont of goal and hanged be the bere matil ho was demi, as Was (initean" or, of "woman lemeg put to death as was Mrs. Surratt, withont the sanction of a legal sentener hy a constitutional fribmal? all tone to gratify the semsational craving of the soverega peoples. Do you suppose that these things comld tuke phace anywhere moler the British ('rown: mad especially in ('mata? or that lymol-law, as it is called, combl he put in force without the law taining hold of, and dealing with the perpetators of such erime as murderers. Jow many harbarous atrocitics of that kind do you rand of taking phace in the eourse of a year in the Chited states? I read of scores of them being perpetrated in your comentre. 'The pecolianity nttemding them is, that no one is pmished for taking the ha into their own hands be a mob, und putting smposed eriminals to denth without the intervention of a lag tribmal. That assmsimations take place, heamse every man anl womm, may carry a wapon as he or she lists, wherewith to slay, a neightor, for any offence howerer trivial, and beanse the people represented hy n mob may fo athething with impmity, is something we cannot join maprove her. The rule is for all such, in your comery, and under your democracy, to go mumnished and unwhipped of justice, in fact, every mob and everyone may, and do, set the law at defiance, and act as whim or passion dictates in the Chited States. Do yon imagine that there would be anys advantage aceming to us, to be ammexed to a comatry where Jodges are elected? and Lerishators and Funges and Juries are notoriously corrupted hy hiles? ant in which there are more murders committod for the lesser popmation, than there are in any of the combtries of Enuope with their larger populations? Statistics of course tell ns that there are mone morders commitfed in one year in the city of New York alone, than there are in the whole of Great Britain, inchuding the eity of London.

What advantage let me ask, has sofu comntry or system of Govermment to offer as to connterbalance all these weighty considerations and objections?

It is well known, that in the eities of the I nited States, full fifty per cent. are refugees from Einrope or their deandants. Who immigrated there becanse it was necessary for them to lewe the comntres whence they came, and they hat nowhere else to go. Th searehing for a conntry where they might hase "Libery" thes reached a comtry where they fomm license, where the best people are not politicians, but in which the politicians are the worst, the most membations, ims anpulous, and jaeobinital demagognes, who are alway homting for tronble, and making it sure.

Your population, once wise, law abiding, (iod fearing, patriotic and virtuous-- ber rason of importations of the reeremmen other comitres has got beyom the comtrol of sour own laws-so thar ... Aaces, the very preaching of the Gospel hats become an offence if ware not only so much herond the restrants of haw, merality ant shgion that the devecration of the Jomal's Dily, once hallownd and ly at ay of rest, hats, mater the sanction of nise and abuse, beeome the anle and not the exception, in your "Adens of America," with all its hallowed memories of the past, and its boasted leaming and retmement of mamers, and the law imprisons those who protest agrainst it. A filse oecured not long ago where, in loston, for the public preaching of the (iospel of the Lord Jesus, in an open park, a minister of that cospel, was fined and imprisontd becmse he did not first obtain a soefalled "premit" from the Chairman of the Park Committee, and that same Chtamman was "an alien" and a liquor seller.

There are "Americans" and Amrricons and it requires two entirely different kinds of men to represent them both. As we find them in the United States, one of them are the mano born and are like onselves wherever we meet them; their traditions, their aspirations, their instincts and proclivities are Auglo Saxon, and-if you please. Anglo Ameriean-hut the othors are aliens. in blood, in instincts, in arythin!!! 'Ihey are "Bohemians," "Dogoms," "Anarehists," "Polacks," "Dilesians" and "Jumgarians," made Americans as some men are mate gentlemen, bey of Parlament! which no law ean reach and no law of naturalization or oath of eitizenship will ever hind in fealty to the sovereignty that "on national sceptre had once over your people. They have no traditions of their own to care about, and they and theirs will
never care for those which belonged to the American people of the past, you cannot absorb them and still they are, forsooth, American citizens !

There are questions looming up above the horizon in your near political future, which it would become Canadians to be very shy of encomtering, and which, believing in ourselves mat our own destiny, we would do well not to hazard chances upon There is the Negro gnestion in the South; that will make tronble for your comatry, if it has not commenced ahready. The lynching of colored people, whom slavery has brutnlized, and a proclanation has cufranchised withom a proper course of instuction or probation, will not propitiater a class who outmmber the whites.

We have civized negroes who were refugees from slavery, and their descendants; with them the right to the fanchise and hospitality are not elements of danger to us but af ronfinence in us, and the Indians who were treated so crnelly in hakota by sour peenhating and raseally United States and (iovermment Indian Agents, are, with us, perce-loving eitizens, not yet possessing the franchise, but so appreciative of the benignity of our Govermment and our good will manifested towards them, that they refused to join in Riel's rebellion in the North West, bat on the contrary offered to aid our troops and to take up arms in defence of our white settlers. They came to us as "Sionx" from Minnesota and Dakota, where they were ill-treated by your people, and degradingly and inlimmanly spoken of as "bneks" and "does," because by wrong they had been driven to desperate deeds-mpine and murder. Here, kind treatment and our patemal govermment, and trust in their honor and honesty, has made it mmecessary for the white settler to lock up his barn or stable, or to turn the key in his door loek.

We have the greatest and most healthy and complete democracy in the world; our Govemors and officials do not purchase their way into office as do your officiale, from the President down to the Sheriff. Such a thing was never heard of as a British statesman sending money to any one to secure the office of Governor General of Canada, as Grover Cleveland was said to have sent $\$ 10,000$ to Chicngo, in order the hetter to secure the Democratic rote; nor do they ever stoop to do mean and contemptible things, or resort to low electioneering expedients in order to propitiate political rings such as that of Tammany Hall.

The Premier of Canada who represents the democracy of the elective clement in our system of Govemment wisely and really exereises more power and commands more patronage (for which he is directly responsible to the people in their Parlimment) than does the Governor General,

Who represents Her Majesty the Queen only, and unless he could command a majority in the demoeratic branch of the Legislature he could not hold his place for a day. Had such a vote on a general election in this comitry have manifested the want of farther confidence of our people in him and his Governmental Cabinet, as was done to Grover Cleveland in November, 1888 , Sir John Macdonald would not have held the seals of oftice for a single week, and still under your system Gover Cleveland and his irresponsible Cabinet, notwithstunding that verdict of the whole nation against them, held on to office for four months. Why did they do so? It was not because they still represented the confidence of the people, but becausn their time to serve in the office, like that of a fooman who has received a month's waming from his master, which month was not expired, and they staid in anyuray until the oflice belonged to others by effluxion of time without reference to public contidence.

The primary instincts of a British subject are that he is willing to be governed hy those who bear rule, and he knows and feels, under our better system of Democracy, that he has a full voice in the choice of his rulers throngh his Parlianentary Representative. He goes through the process of being ruled from the cradle to the sehool house, and from the school honse to the grave. Each man has a voice; and the only ditlerence between your system and what I have represented us ours, is, that sou admit men to share in the Govemment who have never learned to either govern themselves or to submit to authority or to that which shall be for the common weal ; the very yonth of your country are not tanght to obey or even respect their parents, much less are they tanght to obey or respect rulers of the Nation, or superiors in any rank. I ook at some of your cities, In San Franciseo only six per cent. are native Americans, all the rest are foreigners. In Chicago only from eleven to twelve per cent. are Americans, the rest are foreigners. Boston used to be governed by natives, or men with Amorican instincts; now it is almost entirely under the rule of Irish of the lowest classes.

In the earlier days of colonization the strong, the healthy, the enterprising, the thrifty and the goob were the immigrants who peopled your country. From them sprang a progeny which did honor and worked benefit to your nation, but the spirit of land speculation and the rage for making money out of manufactures, by importing theap labor for handicrafts, and building up manufacturing and other monopolies requiring operatives, was the means of importing the very dregs of society and the offscourings of Europe. Until these came the Anglo Saxon race held
the mastery which it is now losing, and in some localities has lost. This is a problem which we would rather your people should solve for themselves withont our taking part or lot with them in it. It will in time prove a kind of "rod for thr gool's back" which you have prepared for yourselves, and as you have prepared it, we are willing that your masters shonld lay it on, and that we should not be mixed up with it. All the ill-gotten milions of the Vanderbilts and the Goulds mothers I could name, will not save your comstry trom rain. We have the Ghorlish, Scotch, Irish, French, (iermans, Semblinavians and others as settersthey are coming in every yom-they are frogal, sober, inhustrions; their success does not lie in their numbers, nor does the lenefit that their coming brings with it, depend so moch upon their muscles and sinews as on their moral wos h; that will bring wealth mol weal with it to the Nation at large, and we would be unwilling to dilute these benctits by abandoning our advantage to join hands with you in national ties.

The great hope which Canadn has as regards the finture is by remaining mader the agis of the lhritish flag, with British modes and liritish rule and British liberty and in federal mion with the Mother land. We know what it is to share in her traditions and the !l/wr! af the !rembest fimpire on earth! We are therefore not dhaposed to be suicilal and to exchange the advantages and liberty and protection we possess and know of for the more than meertain or ideal advantages of belonging to a comntry which is truly great in its area and capabilities, in its commereial position and rich productions, but which has proved, and is yearly proving a great social and govemmental failure. Besides it wonld insolve a depth of degradation that we as Canadians are not capahle of, to hand over our allegiance to foreiguers. In short, Canada and Canadinns are neither to be sold or given away.

Look at Great Britain and France! which have been pointed at as "the happiest the richest, the most imhustrions-mioneers of cirilization, ** * passiumately fond of liberty, in every shape-amd each passessing the glorious goodless, ( 1 strange iromy of finte) the one in reality under "monarchy, the other in dueans under a roublic!'"-Such is your dremm of liberty! Look at our respective conditions, Cmada moder that same monarchy, a confederation of Provinces with a govermment directly responsihle to, and controlled by the electorate of a free people and the United States muder a President, elected (as was your General Harrison) by a possible minority of your people, under the guise of a so-called "universal suffrage" and a myth, (and not by any means a fit representation of
the intelligence or respectability of the whole mation) with a (abinet



 mose loprath pomises of liberty:
 samb of mys way of thimhing. Who nse the asmments I rmphos, and




 the satisfinetom of the loyal people of ('matda (the vast majomity of the



 own commetion with he mothertand. Which was ummanomsty ansented to.


 tative mene at Symense, $\therefore$. S.. at a dimer of the members of his profession sembe two gears iso : the sentimente of whels have fomed an edo all over the Womminn, and if what he satid ont that oedasion will be of aly value. 1 seml it for son to permse and witiae in tho way yom wish: hat as I have no other copy of it, I must har you to
 in pamphet fom, but I hate met ge been able to - bply metit with it in that form. Wil that may he said on the other sild of the qumation yon can easily ohtam hy athossing a letto to Exastus Wiman. Fixq. Now forls, who will be sure to semb yom a eomenose reply.

I shall be very happy to recene a letter fom yon at ans time, Bollowing up om phasant actmantance formed att--or to see son at my homse, any thm that yom may he passing this way.

> With kimbest regards, $$
\begin{array}{l}\text { reman, my dear sir, } \\ \text { lomes very sucerely, }\end{array}
$$

1:ntion Ol.b.


