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THE DREAM.

TO

## THE GOOD CAUSE,

 THIS PAMPHLET IS DEDICATED,WITH MANY SINCERE WISHES
FOR
ITS ULTIMATE SUCCESS,

BY THE AUTHOR.

#  

## THE DREAM.

As the steed, from the battle, when the hand that should guide,
No longer is able, the curb to control,
With terror-lent speed, o'er the plain gallops wide ;
Its course is uncertain ; uncertain its goal:
So our fancy, in sleep, by our reason forsaken,
Roams erratic and wide o'er a world of its own;
Paints picturcs fantastic, that fade as we waken,
And scours, in its course, o'er each circle and zone.
It was thus, when the grand scheme of Union I pondered Some nights since, then laid myself down to repose, With fancy my guide, into dream land I wandered, And, evolved from the darkness, strange visions arose. It seemed that the age when the nations consulted The priestess at Delphi, and sages foretold, Through two thousand years, rolling back, had resulted Intermixed with the present, in the scene I unfold. Thus the course, in which public opinion went flowing, Received its direction from omen and sign ;
If those once at feud, in the same boat went rowing The vessel that held them, should sink in the brine: So, when two whiskerod rats, in a sudden eruption, Crossed la place legislatif in frolicsome play, Certain statesmen were instantly charged with corruption, For the vermin were seen to have scampered their way.

And as nations of old held some augur more holy, And his oracles prized, as exceeding in worth, So, it seemed, we had one, that we credited solely :
He frowned, all was sadness-he smiled, all was mirth.
His temple, retired, in a solitude rose;
Before stretched a plain, and bencath rolled the flood; Few sounds ever broke the eternal repose,
Save the moan of the sea in its angrier mood.
No gifts of rare gems ornamented the shrine,
No statues of ivory, nor robes stiff with gold;
But homelier gifts, from earth, forest and mine, The gencrous faith of its votaries told :
There were manganese lumps, by an alderman brought, Who inquired how the balance of justice should turn, And rich scalskins, given by one who has sought The fate of an Arctic-bound vessel to learn.
A great "Globe" prospectus blazed bright on the wall, The agent had asked where the flames next should rage; While, over the door, spread a deer's antlers tall, From a hunter, who sought for advice of the sage. A column of coal, a gift most baronial, In a high niche, the place of a statue supplied; The donor had speered, if the Intercolonial Would pass lands that he owned on the Cumberland side. So I stood in my dream, at the tine-adorned portal, And gazed, not unmoved, on so solemn a scene, When a voice from within, cried, "Why comest thou, mortal,
To lift from the future, the God-woven screen?
Wouldst thou know what the end of a journey may be, If the stream of thy life shall flow calmly along;

Would'st thou ask if thy love shall look kindly on thee, And smile for thee only, though suitors may throng?" The voice ceased, and sudden, there rushed to my tongue Words unframed in my mind, and unthought of before, And I cried "Oh Great Prophet! all countries have rung With the fame of thy wisdom, and depth of thy lore. I come not to know how a journey shall end, Not to ask if my pathway in life shall be smooth, Nor inquire if sume fair one, on me only bend The glance of affection, or yield to my love. But pour, I beseech thec, the light of thy learning, On a question more worthy, a matter of state, That the people at last, all the future discerning, May yield to conviction, and cease from debate. Thou knowest that old party lines are extinguished, That "Liberal," and "Torv," are words of the past : That as Antis or Unionists now are distinguished The political factions, so lately recast.
Thou hast heard how these latter together have battled, In Pulpit and Press, on the Platform and Bench, What volleys on volleys of arguments rattled, As each sought, from the other, the laurels to wrench. Now the heroes have wandered to far distant climes And other eyes look on the strife that they wage, Then read me, I pray thee, the signs of the times, And turn, with thy finger, futurity's page.
Shall Howe's phamphlet succeed and the victory obtain, As the swamps won the war for the Turks at La Puit, When the Russians, attempting their trenches to gain, Found the morass so deep, that they could'nt get through it?

Or, shall statesmen, convinced by the answering letter, That Tupper has writ, with such judgment and force, Decide, of the two, that the Doctor's is better, And favour the U'nion, as matter of course"?
Thus I, and awaited the answer in dread,
When sudden the sage, on the threshold appeared;
The locks, of snow whiteness, rolled down from his head And low on his breast fell the waves of his beard; His eye sought not mine, but looked far into space, As though fixed on some vision, to me not displayed, And a look as of pain, slowly stole o'er his face, As glides o'er the landscape, the night's sombre shade. But not in the slow moving anapaest, fashioned, Be the words that he spake, while the future he scanned; In iambics, be moulded the language impassioned.
That he strengthened with gesture of body and hand. "Oh ! thou," he cried, " my Country shalt see intestine broil,
And brother's blood, by brother shed, shall desecrate thy soil:
The fires of party hatred, so long allowed to sleep, Fanned by ambition's fevered breath, in flames again shall leap.
The scores on scores of leaders, by Annand scattered far, That taught, if Union should be forced, our only hope is war,
In many a distant hamlet, by forest, field and fell, Havi: roused the fiend rebellion, that years alone can quell. So, when at last the heroes, the glorious cause have won, And after long and patient tcil, the Union web is spun; When, smiled on by our Sovereign, the embassy returns,

With ire and desperate valour, each Anti zealot burns. And all the various chieftans of the Anti League are met, The sudden crisis to discuss; dire mischief to beget:
Merchants whose ships are ploughing the waves of every sea,
With princely fortunes gathered from the sale of Rum and Tea;
Men skilful at the ledger, addicted to deride
Each scheme that fails, when, by the rule of double entry, tried ;
Lawyers whose doors but seldom vibrate to client's knock;
A colonel of the conscript guard, unknown to battle's shock; He , too, that held the balance in disputes that might arise About the fish, but now the scales have fallen from his eyes: All these, in secret conclave, bemoan the dire event. 'That they with Canucks should be joined without their high consent ;
When up starts patriot Willian, who late for Fenians sighed,
And cries, "that we are sold my friends, will scarcely be denierl.
I have stained the fame of Tupper till his oath's not worth a groat,
I have blacked McCully till he would not take another coat, And the Provincial coffers from the Beaver's maw, to save, Have taught that treachery hangs like mist on the St. Lawrence' wave;
We all have boldly striven, this hated scheme, to foil, Led on by zeal, we've even dared, our hands with bribes to soil.
Full many a man, my Joseph, has hungered for his stew,

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Or sighed for fat joints. , wrowing cold, when buttonholed by you;
And thon, my worthy Patrick, awhile forgot'st thy greed, And for a future harvest, did'st sow dis-Union seed.
'Thou namesake of the Prophet, whose ken of futare times,
Availed thee more than Hilkiah's son, for thou did'st make the dimes,
To all the calls of business, turned an unheeding ear,
And, crying in the market place, did'st seem another seer.
Yet vain have proved our efforts ; the Unionists prevail ; Then shall we idly stand to day, and thus our shame bewail?
Or shall we rather gather the Antis, near and far,
And try one other arbiter? My friends, I counsel war."
Scarce has the word been utterd, when each tongue takes up the strain,
And lond upon the startled air swells out the bold refrain.
"Nor we," continues William, " a hopeless cause espouse,
The people, long prepared for this, a single werd shall rouse:
A thousand bate shbseribers to the sheet that I control, Shath leap responsive to my word. and sign the muster roll.
These, I shall lead to battle, and for a standard bear
A copy of the " ('hronicle" proud fluttering in the air.
And you, ye merehant princes, your ledgers shall transfer
To Dooms-day books, and thence enlist cach doubtful customer.
The man who said last winter, that "twas an error grave,
For England, when she lost the States, these Colonies to save,
Tougether with that colleaguc, that taught maps to the members,

And showed how bright a fire may glow from nature's flickeriner, embers,
Shall hold their county for us, and upon every ton, Levy a contribution large, till our good fight be wonRitchie, the gentle martyr, who for our cause has bled, In this, our dire extremity, shall serve us in good stead. And, riding through each county, shall bear aloft his coat. To show where fieree McDonnell struck, where recreant Miller smote.
And as when in the Forum, lead Casar's robe was shown. Each drop of blood called forth a tear, each rent evoked a groan
So, that mud-dabbled garment shall cause, with ire to burn,
The hearts of all whod, from their neeks, the yoke of bondage spurn;
And every sacred tatter shall gather to our cause,
Men who respect their country, and would uphold her laws."
Such is the counsel of the men, who, rather than be foiled,
Would see the land that gave them birth, by civil discord spoiled.
But now another conference hear, another scene behold; Tupper and Archibald are met, and Jonathan the bold; Nor lacks the assembly members to represent each guild, With men of learning, wealth, and note, the council room is filled :
There he, who in our Province, the Sovereignty reflects, Emblem of England's Guardian power, that shields us and protects ;

There Ritchie, Lynch, and Henry, their briefs awhile resigned,
And Wier, with his towering form and vanward marching mind.
There he, who, o'er our coffers, presides in happy state, And Chipman zealous in the cause and cunning in debate; And many another name of note, not to the world unknown;
That I omit to mention all, is due to haste alone ; When in the midst, the Doctor, rises with lofty mein, And glancing round with restless eye, that seems to drink the scenc,
Addresses thus his hearers, in loud indignant tone, " Why we are met to day, my friends, Alas! is too well known.
Would Heaven, there were room to doubt that with which fame hath rung,
But words must bear the stamp of truth, that hang on every tonguc.
The leaders of the Autis, in argument o'ercome,
Invoke the God of battles, and beat the muster drumTheir power, though now but little, shall in a few days hence,
Be much increased, their forces swelled, by thousand malcontents.
Each one whose thirst for office, our party could not slake,
This chance to wreak his vengeance, right joyfully shall take.
Every indignant rustic, that Archibald has shorn, Of that prized boon, the right to vote, shall join the hope forlorn.

And many a pedagogue, irate, forced by more stringent laws,
To quidt the birch, shall leap to join the Antis and their cause.
All, all, who by neglect or act, have ever sutiered wrong From Liberal or Conservative, shall join the insurgent throng.
Then shall we now my comrades, at last forego the prize,
That after years of toil and care, gleams bright before our eyes?
For all our past exertions, have we but pain alone, Or for impaired digestion, shall obloquy atone?
Are Annand, Jerry, Bobby, the only men of all
Who'd joy to see their country rise, or sorrow for her fall?
Shall we unfix our purpose, undo the work begun,
Because, forsooth! it seemeth good to "Citizen" or "Sun" No! by the God that made us! by Heaven above us all!
We've pledged our faith to this good cause, by it we'll rise or fall.
We'll e'en meet them in conflict, if they perforce must fight ;
And when the battle rages hot, may God defend the right!"
Loud are the acclamations that hail his accents high,
And noble ardour for the strife beams from each flashing eye ;
When sage McCully rising, assumes the speaker's place; His rugged form, his vigour speaks; with thought is stamped his face.
"Well has the case been opened," he cries, " and well are we

Agreed upon each separate count, yct would add a plea :
This quarrel is intestine, nor seems it right to draw
The troops of England to our aid, though in defence of law.
My word for it, our cause shall find enough brave hearts and true.
Of native Nova Scotians, to rout this rebel crew.
Dispersed is now the Council; its members scattered far, Gather each friend and partizan, and quick prepare for war.
With eloquent appeals for aid, the Press Provincial teems; In every corner of the land, the sword or bayonet gleams. Descrted are the collieries, the shipyards quict all, The fishermen their nets have left, responsive to the call ; And the choked flues of Halifax awhile shall smoke in vain The sweepers, with their bags of soot, have joined the Anti train.
The Devils from their presses, the cabbies from their stands,
The Peelers, from their wonted beats, have swelled the gathering bands.
O'er our once happy Province, discord alone holds sway, When now the party forces meet, drawn up in wide array. Upon a gentle eminence, the Unionists hold post, While further down, towards the west, spreads Annand's motley host.
Bright dawns the day of battle, but ere its hours have run, Widowed shall many a matron be, and sireless many a son.
Now in the Anti Camp, convened, the leaders, conference hold,

And Otto rises, as he would his sentiments unfold, When James, upspringing quickly, cries "Brethren, forbear
To open thus your Council, ere you engage in prayer ; Myself will be the Cliaplain of this puissant host, Here I'll remain and pray for you, when in the battle toss'd."
But Otto's words, arrested just as they took the wing, Were gathering venom, all the while, more potently to sting ;
"Those to the creamy hypocrite, may list," he cries, " who choose,
I'll to the front and range the troops, there's little time to lose."
"And I," cries Jones, "have fear that they may charge us in the rear,
Mine be the'post of danger then, I'll take mystation there.
Annand leads on our centre, Stairs on our right commands, While, on the left, Ben Christmas heads his gallant Micmac bands.
But why stand idly talking? let us dispose our force
To charge upon the enemy; to horse! my friends to horse!"
Then Annand mounts his charger, a badly spavined hack. His vertebrae like mountains, ran, a ridge along his back; And spurring slowly to the front, addresses thus the host, "Soldiers, be valorous to-day, or our good cause is lost; And when again our party shall o'er the land hold sway, Honours shall recompence each deed of valour done to-day."
Meantime, with intermittent glance, he scans the long array,

Where, rank on rank, extended far, his restless columns sway,
And proudly notes the banners that c'er the bearers float, Emblazoned with the various arms of many a chief of note. Brave Dr. Cameron's standard a space conspicuous fills, Bearing a rampant mortar, and a couchant box of pills. O'er stately Campbell waving, a roll of parchment pure, Bears an eye argent, quartered upon a Guinea or
'Twas he, who thrice last winter, expelled the list'ning crowd
When, in the gallery of the House, their raptures grew too loud.
So finely strung his system, it agonized him sore
To hear their hoarse approval when Tupper held the floor.
A swine vert, playing on a harp, shows where brave P...r commands,
While a green cabbage on a lance, precedes the N....p bands.
Then proud the leader lifts his glance, where, fluttering far on high,
A copy of the "Chronicle" cuts sharp against the sky ; The "Chronicle" that sheet adored, of all his hopes the sum,
That curses Union while it puffs the Zylobalsamum.
And, as the glance were potent, new vigour to impart, He strikes the rowels in his steed and almost makes him start,
While loud he shouts " no more delay! quick! let the sweeps advance
And range themselves before our troops, the full length of a lance;

And when in charging, they shall come in arms length of the foc,
Let each at once his bag discharge in clouds of sooty snow; Then through our opening columns, retreating at a run, Our own good swords shall soon complete the work so well begun."
Then simultaneous up the slope, the Anti lines advance, Each rustic warrior burning to break a maiden lance :
But Jove, propitious to the cause on which the Sov'reign smiles,
Aolus, keeper of the winds, with honeyed speech beguiles,
To call back to its caverns, the west wind sighing low,
And pour forth Eurus from his caves upon the Anti foc.
So, when with expectation large, according to command,
The sweeps, their bagsof soots discharge upon the Union band,
Caught up by Eurus, it rolls back in one huge ebon cloud, And instant wraps brave Annand's lines within its sombre shroud.
The moment, thus propitious, the Doctor hastes to seize, And "charge for Queen and Union" swells forth upon the breeze.
Down on the dust choked columns, they thunder to attack, But find no foe behind the cloud, for each has turned his back :
Horse and foot, indiscriminate, are mixed in headlong flight,
While gallant Stairs leads on the van and Christmas heads the right.
And Annand's gallant charger, his spavin all forgot, Flies like an arrow, from the bow of some strong archer shot;

And Otto in his horses flank strikes decp the pointed spear As though his ruined client's ghosts were thundering in the rear,
While the pained air is rent with groans of those who fall bencath
The feet of the stampeding braves, to die a bloodless death."

The Prophet's gaze unfixed, No other word he spoke,
And startled by the sudden pause, In terror I awoke.


