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By James S. Segee.

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Woodstock, September 1850.

## UNION OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN PROVINCES.

To the Editor of the Toronto British Colonist.

Sir.—Of the various objects which of late years have been brought before the public for consideration, there is not one, which it seems to me is more deserving of calm and deliberate attention, than the Union of the British North American Provinces, and in approaching it, I would prefer the following hurried remarks, with the observation, that they are addressed to you in no narrow party spirit, for I conceive that a measure, which I look upon as fraught with such important results to this portion of the British Empire, should be viewed irrespective of existing party distinctions, which it will be my aim in this letter, to look above and beyond, seeing in the measure, as I do, the prospect of a termination to the present system of cliques, which the smallness of our Legislative bodies, and the peculiarity of their composition, has called into being.—Union, the proverb declares to be strength, and in the case of the North American Colonies, it would, in the opinion of a large and growing section of the community, give a rapid impulse to their advancement, and unite and concentrate the energies of the people. Identity of interest would be created, identity of feelings would follow, and the narrow strifes of our present political arena would be merged in the wider field which would be presented in the general Legislature for the ambitious or the patriotic, and men would cease to take their stand upon the mere diversities of national origin, as is now undeniably the case.

Again the trade between the Lower Colonies and Canada, is a valuable and rapidly improving one. Unite them under one Government, and remove all restrictions on their intercourse, give it the healthy stimulus which identity of feeling and common interests would create, and the inter-colonial trade would at once be widely extended, and prove mutually beneficial. Canada, by opening her lower ports with freights, and in return would be enabled through their means to supply the great west with fish, and let me add coal, though a writer, distinguished for the power of his pen, has recently ridiculed this idea, though why the great coal fields of Nova Scotia could not be made available to supply that article at a cheaper rate than it could be imported from Britain, I am wholly at a loss to imagine. After the lapse of a few years, Lower Canada will begin to feel the necessity of having a supply of coal, easy of access and procurable at a cheap rate, as even now, in many parts of the country, wood has become very scarce. But apart from the direct colonial trade, the union would occupy a position which would facilitate the entering into a trade alliance with the British West Indian Colonies.—Halifax, Quebec and Montreal would then be enabled to compete with New York for the supply of West Indian productions, and our produce would supplant American products in those rich markets. A difficulty, which suggests itself to many, in the discussion of this question, is as to the mode of securing to Canada a proportionate representation in the Union. This might be satisfactorily obtained by dividing Canada, for legislative purposes, into three provinces, each of which would be of as great extent, and possess a population as dense as Nova Scotia or New Brunswick, say for distinction sake, the Province of Quebec, containing the districts of St. Francis, Three Rivers, and Quebec.—Gaspé and Bonaventure being attached to New Brunswick. 2nd. The Province of Montreal, containing the Eastern Townships, the Island of Montreal, and all the country between the St. Lawrence and the Ottawa, and extending westward as far as Kingston; and lastly the Province of Toronto, embracing the country westward of Kingston, and including the Hudson Bay Company's possessions. This arrangement would give to Canada a fair representation, and would be attended with many advantages, but which the fear of encroaching too much on your space, will prevent me, at present, alluding to, were the colonies united, and the general Legislature entrusted with the management of matters involving the interests of the whole, and relieved of the necessity of attention to the mere local measures which now engross so large a portion of every session, ample opportunities would be afforded for the preparation of measures of general importance, and we cannot but think that the legislation of such a body would be more mature and less hasty than it now is. Were the union brought about, and the halls of the Imperial Legislature thrown open to the entrance of colonial representatives, colonists would feel that they belonged to an integral portion of the British Empire, and the British flag would continue to float proudly for centuries to come over the flourishing inhabitants of a great and growing country, bound to Britain by the ties of blood and interest, and a counterpoise would thus be opened on this continent to the power of the adjoining Union.

The late proposition to aid the Halifax and Quebec Railroad, indicates a tendency on the part of the British government to receive favorably the proposal of a union, and it is, therefore desirable that the matter should be duly weighed, and attentively viewed in all its bearings, and should these remarks lead the attention of any to its consideration my object will have been gained.

Yours, &c.,

CLEANDER.

## NO SALVATION WITHOUT A BISHOP.

Yesterday we saw, for the first time, a letter in the Church newspaper, from "J. G. D. McKenzie" correcting our version of the Puseyite motto on the banner of the pupils of his school. We regret that we did not see it earlier: but as it appeared on the page of the advertisements it escaped our notice. The motto was not taken down at the time of its display; but was written two or three days after from memory. It is possible that an error in a word has been committed by us—but the sense was not inferred with We take Mr. McKenzie's declaration, and substitute *Episcopo* for *Ecclesia*. But we ask where is the difference, in regard to the conclusion drawn from the motto? We exhibited it to show the Puseyism of the Episcopal Church in Canada, and the one word does so as effectually as the other. If anything were wanting to establish our point, Mr. McKenzie has furnished it. The translation of the motto, according to him, and which will not be disputed, is,—

"SALVATION IN THE CROSS. NOTHING WITHOUT THE BISHOP."

What is the Cross without the Bishop? Nothing!—Salvation is imperfect—the cross valueless without the Bishop! And this, Mr. McKenzie, a minister of the Episcopal Church, and one of the reputed Editor of the Church newspaper, calls—"our orthodox and pious motto." From such orthodoxy and piety, we say in the language of his own Church, "Good Lord deliver us!"

An intelligent contemporary who published a justly severe article on the assumptions and Puseyism of the Episcopal Church in Canada, and who introduced the motto as we originally published it, makes the correction pointed out by the Church newspaper. In doing so he says,—

"We are told by the writer in the Church that the motto was misquoted, and the word *ecclesia* was not on it at all. It should have read thus: *In cruce salus. Nil sine episcopo.* 'Salvation in the Cross. Nothing without the Bishop.' We are happy to make the correction, but we cannot see that the sentiment of the motto is at all improved. And we would as freely make our salvation depend upon the Church in general, as to allow that in matters of such importance we are to do nothing, and have nothing, without a Bishop."—Toronto Christian Guardian.

**ROMISH MISSIONS.**—Many Protestant communities might receive a lesson from the efforts of a missionary nature, made by the Romanists, to extend the reign of darkness and delusion. The income raised last year for this purpose, by the Romish Church, amounts to £140,000, of which France is said to have supplied £72,000. Nor, in estimating the aggressive efforts of Popery, should it be forgotten, that its agents proceeded single and unencumbered, while they are ready to submit to any privations called for in the cause of their Church. Many of their number, are, besides, insinuating and unscrupulous, and can employ money and influence with great effect. We extract the following details relative to this subject, from the Christian Journal:—

"There are at present 806 Catholic priests in Great Britain. They have 10 bishops, and 1,411 priests in China. They are actively engaged in America. Lower Canada, long the stronghold of Popery in the north, is pouring her well-trained missionaries into the Hudson's Bay territory. The valley of the Mississippi has become particularly the sphere of Jesuit operations. There are no fewer than 20 theological seminaries for training young men for the priesthood; there are 12 Roman Catholic colleges, and from 1,000 to 2,000 religious houses. There are now in Oregon about 30 missionaries, under the direction of 10 fathers of the Jesuits, and others are soon to join them; 1,500 Romanists have gone from Lower Canada to co-operate with them. 14 churches have already been furnished and dedicated according to the principles and forms of the Popish ritual; 6,000 Indians have been baptized; 15,000 Indians have passed the proper course of training for the same rite. Immense sums of money have been sent out from France during the past year, both to the Archbishop of Oregon, and the Jesuits in the rocky mountains. A diocese subject to the Pope of Rome, has been created in Texas, and 10,000 dollars were sent them by the same French society. . . . The Jesuits are busy in India. Catholic priests are busy in the South Seas.—Lately, when some extraordinary conversion took place in Lakemba, they tried every effort to dissuade the king from becoming a Protestant; and when they could not succeed, they afterwards attempted to win him over to them, or 'turn him back to heathenism.' And when they cannot succeed, they use intimidation. They tell the people that a French man-of-war will soon be at the island, and then they shall be punished for rejecting the Romish religion, and that the whole of their books, including the Bible, (their great enemy,) shall be collected together and burned."

A Philadelphia correspondent of the Roman Catholic Freeman's Journal says: 'While we are making a great noise about a few converts coming into the church, there are thousands upon thousands of our own people leaving it.'