

THE FORUM, UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK.  
EDITOR'S ROOM.

2, August, 1893.

Dear Sir:

I beg to ask if you will not write a brief article for an early number of The Forum about one phase of the possible annexation of Canada to the United States. The subject is again brought forward here by the organization of a sort of League, the purpose of which is understood to be to make a systematic and continuous agitation of Annexation. Moreover there will be a meeting - in September, I think - at Duluth, Minn., of merchants, manufacturers and the

like to discuss, as their annual habit is,  
the desirability of abolishing customs  
duties on certain products of each country.  
Neither of these, the League nor the Duluth  
convention is, perhaps, of much importance  
in itself. But they are incidents that  
bring the whole subject into public  
attention.

I am sure that there is in  
the United States no very general interest  
in the project to incorporate Canada  
in the United States. But now and then  
when the subject is brought forward,  
the thought is suggested that the Canadian  
Provinces are bound one of these days  
to become American States. Doubtless  
this feeling is a part of the American

feeling that the United States is the great Nation of the future and that therefore it must some day absorb the whole of North America. Yet this is only a vague feeling and no considerable number of men expects within any given period to see such a political union.

But in this way the subject has got ripe for discussion. And there is one aspect of it that, it seems to me, would now be especially instructive - an aspect that American citizens are not likely to think of, because it takes in facts of which they are ignorant - facts of a kind, too, that they find it hard to understand. I mean the Canadian feeling towards the Home Government.

From the American point of view, it seems sheer nonsense that Canada should care at all for political connection with Great Britain; for what can Canada gain by it? American readers find it hard to understand the feeling of loyalty in Canada to Great Britain.

If therefore you will be kind enough to explain it and to point out its relation to possible or probable annexation, you may be sure that you will do a distinct service to the best class of American citizens. You will reach through The Forum the most thoughtful class in every part of the Union; and from The Forum our best newspapers will take

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the cue for discussion.

Permit me to say that the Forum has no fixed rate of payment to its writers. Our habit is to ask every writer himself to set the sum that shall be sent to him as an honorarium, expecting that he will frankly put his usual price.

Few of our articles exceed 4,000 or 5,000 words each, but we set, of course, no mechanical limit.

There are several reasons why such an article as this from you will come now with especial opportuneness, and I sincerely hope for your consent to write. I will thank you to inform me by telegraph at our expense when you

receive this letter whether we may expect  
the article.

You will do us a great kind-  
ness and our readers a noteworthy service,  
and you will have our thanks and their  
appreciation.

Very sincerely yours,

Walter H. Page  
Editor.

Sir William Dawson,  
McGill University,  
Montreal, Canada.

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July 1903

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