

through to the Canadian boundary, so that in a few years there would not be an acre but would be taken up and settled. It would pass through the great iron district of these Colonies, and develop our mines and mineral resources. The value of our iron deposits is untold: the small operations so successfully prosecuted by Norris Best, Esq., shows what could be done if they were but properly developed. But it is useless now to go to England to try to obtain money for any such

purpose. Capitalists there would tell us to show some interest in the means of our defence; they would say we are split up and have no bond of strength, and that there is no security that money invested would be at all profitable. But if we had Confederation this would not be brought against us, and the railway would give to our shipbuilders a new strength by opening new fields for ship timber, whilst our young men would no longer have to go to other countries to obtain a livelihood,

but go back to our Father's interior and open up homes for themselves in their native country and under the protection of the British flag. Great alarm has been expressed with regard to the debt of Canada; it has been said that they cannot raise means to meet their liabilities, and so want us to help them along. I will now give some statistics to show the position and resources of Canada and ourselves:—

### Statements relating to the Area, acres surveyed and acres disposed of in the Five Eastern Colonies of British North America, 1863.

	Area in Square Miles.	Acres Surveyed; to Dec. 31st, 1863.	Acres disposed of by Sale or Grant to Dec. 31st, 1863.
Newfoundland, . . . . .	40,200	.....	*100,000
Nova Scotia, . . . . .	18,660	.....	*5,748,898
New Brunswick, . . . . .	27,105	7,850,000	7,551,909
Prince Edward Island, . . . . .	2,100	.....	*1,365,400
Canada, . . . . .	331,280	49,084,587	39,331,791
Total, . . . . .	419,346	.....	54,097,993

The figures marked with an asterisk (\*) are not taken from official sources, but are believed to be approximately correct. There would thus remain 214,282,817 acres in the hands of the Crown.

### Population and its rate of Increase.

	Population by the last Census.	Date of that Census.	Rate of annual increase since previous Census—per cent.	Estimated population, January, 1864, assuming the same rate of increase.
*Newfoundland, . . . . .	124,288	1857	1 50	137,000
Nova Scotia, . . . . .	330,857	1861	1 82	349,300
New Brunswick, . . . . .	252,047	1861	2 60	272,780
Prince Edward Island, . . . . .	80,857	1861	2 07	85,992
Canada, . . . . .	2,507,657	1861	3 48	2,783,079
Total, . . . . .	3,295,706	.....	.....	3,628,151

The population is calculated to the end of 1863, (or beginning of 1864,) in order to arrive at a correct estimate of the Debt, Revenue, &c., of the several Provinces per head, for which see Calculations as to the Revenue, Expenditure, Debt, Imports, &c. on next page.

\* Including the Labrador Shore.

### Revenue, Expenditure, Debt, Imports, Duty and Exports, in 1863.

	Revenue, 1863	Expenditure, 1863	Funded Debt, 1863, less Sinking Fund, held for its redemption.	Imports, 1863.		Exports, 1863.
				Total Value.	Total Duty.	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Newfoundland, . . . . .	480,000	479,420	946,000	5,242,724	861,640	6,002,212
Nova Scotia, . . . . .	1,185,629	1,072,274	4,858,547	10,201,391	861,989	8,420,968
New Brunswick, . . . . .	899,991	884,613	5,702,991	7,764,824	*767,354	8,964,784
Prince Edward Island, . . . . .	197,384	171,718	240,573	1,428,028	145,372	1,627,540
Canada, . . . . .	9,760,316	10,742,807	60,356,472	45,964,493	5,169,173	41,831,532
Total, 1863, . . . . .	12,523,320	13,350,832	72,108,583	70,601,460	7,427,528	66,847,036
Canada, 1864, . . . . .	10,918,337	10,587,142	60,387,575	52,498,066	6,637,503	38,665,446

\* There is also a duty on Exports (Lumber) of \$68,634.