

Canada every fifth person is at school—in Nova Scotia one-tenth,—that is, under the old law. The per centage of education in Canada is greater than that in New York, Massachusetts, or Pennsylvania. I think, therefore, that those who undertake to say that Canada is a country not to be desired—that we cannot either properly or judiciously unite with her—have not taken the trouble to inform themselves upon these facts that are within their reach. The greatest misrepresentation has been sent to the country by the Anti-Union press concerning Canada. Not a fight occurs, not a train runs off the track and kills one or two persons in that Province but it is blazoned forth in that press; but you hear nothing of the great capabilities of the country, and the surplus of crops and revenue.—With regard to the subject of Union and the Quebec scheme, I shall only remark on one or two points, for the whole subject has been already most fully and ably discussed. Some 15 years ago the hon. member for East Halifax introduced a bill to provide for representation by population; but I think nothing was done with it. A few years afterwards it was introduced again. We had a very unequal representation: Queens with her population of 9,000 had as large a representation as Pictou with her 29,000 people. Hants had five, Annapolis three, and Kings four members, with nearly an equal population. This discrepancy could not be accounted for on any just principle. This state of things has been the result of the progress of time. Whenever a dead-lock occurred between parties, and government necessities demanded it, the representation of some particular county was increased. It will be remembered what a hue and cry was raised when a bill was introduced by the present Judge in Equity to a ter and equalize the representation of the country. My own opinion is that there is no other true principle than representation by population. It has been said that wealth should be the basis. When discussing this question with a gentleman who has since passed away, I asked him: as Halifax has an amount of wealth equal to Lunenburg, Queens, Shelburne, Yarmouth and Digby combined would you give her the same representation that all these counties have? Certainly you would not. Take production again. I might bring statistics to show that there is more production in Antigonish than in any other county in the province, according to her population. Guysboro is another county which produces very heavily in fish, etc. Therefore I cannot see that it is possible to base representation upon any other principle than population. My attention has been turned to this subject ever since the hon. member for East Halifax introduced the bill I spoke of, and I have come to this conclusion. If you form a union with the other provinces, on what other principle can you base it? You could not base it on wealth, or production, or territory. Population is the only true and safe principle. Therefore, so far as that principle in the Quebec scheme is concerned, it has my hearty cooperation.

With regard to the financial part of the scheme that has been so fully and ably dealt with by Mr. Archibald and other gentlemen who are generally considered *au fait* with figures, that it would be idle for me to say anything on the subject. A great deal has been said on the subject, and were I to compare all the calculations that have been made, you would see what a diversity of opinion exists. Take the resources of Canada and divide it into population, and do the same with Nova Scotia or any other of the Colonies, and you will find pretty much the same result—only a few cents difference. Take the expenses of the government, and you find very much the same thing. Canada is obliged to collect a large amount of revenue on certain articles of importation, for she manufactures more largely than we do.

I shall now turn your attention to another feature in this question. Let me suppose that there is an individual desperately sick. The physician attending him feels hardly able to grapple with the disease alone, and calls in assistance. The physicians then hold a consultation, but they may disagree. How are they to settle the difficulty? They will consult the best authorities on the question and the men who have written and given the results of their experience, and the issue is that the weight of authority carries the day. The same thing may be said in respect to a Court of Law. The Judges consult the authorities, and bring to bear all the examples relating to the case, and decide accordingly. I do not wish to draw any invidious comparisons between individuals, but I would ask who have advocated Confederation in Nova Scotia. We find on the list the late Mr. J. Uniacke, the present Judge in Equity, Mr. Howe, the Chief Justice, the Provincial Secretary, Mr. Archibald, Hon. Mr. Henry, Hon. Mr. McCully, Hon. Mr. Ritchie, and others I need not now name. Here is an array of men who have occupied a very prominent position in Nova Scotia; every one of these gentlemen have expressed themselves in favor of Union, and no better authorities can be cited than they. Mr. Howe said, years ago, it was the dream of his boyhood and the purpose of his political life but I am told that it was only a theory with him—theory generally precedes practice. Now is the time to put that theory into practice—never was there a more auspicious period to do so than now. When I say that the most eminent men in this Province have supported, and are supporting Confederation, I need hardly add that the same thing may be fairly stated of the other Provinces. Whom have we in opposition to this scheme? We have the hon. member for Guysboro, who may be presumed to be the leader of the Opposition since he introduced the amendment to the original resolution. We have Mr. Jones, Mr. Andrew Uniacke, and two or three other gentlemen in Halifax. I do not wish to make any invidious comparisons between these gentlemen. If you can produce an array of talent against Confederation like what I have given as supporting it, I would like to hear of it. I will merely say that from the year 1834 up to the present time I have been a reader of the "Nova Scotian"