

but if, in an evil hour, these authorities should accept that unauthorised offer, there would be little prospect of their obtaining the money from that Union parliament.

Viewing the facts and circumstances as here exhibited, and as would surely occur, no *benefit*, whatever would accrue to any of the real parties concerned, but only *evil*. There would be perpetual discontent and strife throughout the provinces. *Disunion* instead of *union*. The whole causes of dislike and contention between the two Canadas, would continue, or rather be enlarged. Nova Scotia would remain indignant, and struggling in every way to get rid of the *hated connection*. New Brunswick would soon find causes of dissatisfaction, and likewise wish and strive for separation. Prince Edward Island even more so, if forced into the Union. Instead of increased power against foreign aggression or hostile attacks, it would be greatly diminished by thousands leaving the Provinces from *discontent*, *heavy taxation*, and other causes.

As to the Imperial Government, there would be *disappointment* and increased and constant trouble, and most likely *additional expense* also; for the Union parliament and government, considering the financial condition of the Provinces, *could not and would not* impose the heavy taxation requisite for the defensive purposes mentioned; and Imperial money drawn from the people of the kingdom, would, after all, be applied to effect them—or they would remain unaccomplished. In this way, and in other modes, the views and intentions of the Imperial government as to any increased means of defence, in the event of war, and on other points of policy, would be defeated, and the means of retaining the Provinces *weakened*, instead of *increased*. Most if not all, of these perplexing and evil consequences would inevitably result from any such *compulsory Union*. Surely the Imperial Government has long had perplexity and trouble enough with one *distasteful Union*, without adding *another*.

Other and important facts and reasons might here be urged against the proposed Union, but they may be omitted, and confidence be reposed in the *justice* and *equity* of the Imperial government and parliament, that they will not give a final sanction and authority to any scheme of the kind, without affording to the loyal people of Nova Scotia that *constitutional* and *just opportunity* which the sister Province of New Brunswick has had — of choosing, for a *new* House of Commons, representatives charged more especially with the consideration of this subject, so important both to provincial and Imperial interests.