

creases, the prospect of the success of the project would wane. Has she not a shorter and cheaper road to the ocean for commerce? And I have heard it denied that the road is of the strength of a single bayonet, as a military defence for Canada. "A Nova Scotian" admits that the "road will greatly benefit this province"; but he asserts without even a rag of reason or argument that Canada is more eager for it than we are. There is no doubt that her eminent statesmen, looking far down the future, with that kind of solicitude which prompts wise men to act for posterity, desire to secure an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. The Canadian people are entirely apathetic, however. If we may be permitted to describe a future, with Canada a separate people, outgrowing her present greater ratio of increase, as she promises to do, and attaining magnificent proportions in the interior of the continent, she may then indeed "make use" of Acadia to gain the sea. We know how Prussia is tempted to lay a threatening hand on the Oldenburg territory to gain a fine outlet to the North Sea, and we have an Austria imprisoned in the centre of Europe violating the rich and fertile province of Venetia to touch the head of the Adriatic. We have already offered to pay *seven twenty-fourths* of the cash cost of the road. Now we can have it by paying *one thirteenth*, and we are told forsooth that Canada desires to victimize us. To-morrow it may be too late, and our children may verily be left the victims of the great inland people whose watchword is progress.

*Fourth.*—We are told that the *status* to be acquired by British American Union goes for nothing. Though now we stand nowhere among the nations, and though the one hundred and fifty millions of annual trade and twelve millions of tons of shipping which, united, we shall claim, will place us at once among the third rate powers of the earth, this pamphleteer sneers at "ideas of size and grandeur" as "utopian," and bids us put aside visions of a national greatness, and all we are to acquire both in the way of gain and glory, by assuming a national attitude, as foolish dreaming; and all he has to say to sustain his anonymous advice is that "it remains to be shown how the increase of our population will be more rapid, or how our