

tem of commercial and financial law,—a revenue common to both,—a system of internal improvements devised and executed for their whole territory, under the influence of the same views, and by means of their combined resources,—and that constant assimilation of the two Provinces, which must follow when once all these causes shall be at work to produce it,—what but the strictest identity of interests between the two can be the result?

Let it never be forgotten, that except as a consequence of improvement in Upper Canada, the Lower Province can never *really* flourish. Cut off from the rich back country which nature has assigned it, what hope is there of the successful development of its own unaided resources? The Eastern States of the Union owe their wealth and prosperity to the mighty West, which they have colonized, and whose commerce has in turn built for them their cities, ships and factories. How much more must not Lower Canada, with her ungential climate, depend upon her western country? Upper Canada offers her not merely her own trade and resources, vast as they must ere long become, but a large share in that still greater flow of wealth which the north-western States of the Union are ready and waiting to pour through the territories of both, the instant they shall be opened to receive it. Nor is any one to say that all this will affect only a single interest in Lower Canada,—the commercial as contra-distinguished from the agricultural. The one can never prosper without the other. Montreal and Quebec cannot double their population and resources, and the surrounding country remain unaffected by the change. What gives value to property of any description in the former, of necessity adds also to its value in the latter. The commercial and agricultural interests of the Lower Province are not less surely bound together, than are its commercial interests (as we have just seen) with the interests generally of the Upper.

To this great end, however, we must repeat, there is but one means. The mere progress of improvement in the one Province will do nothing for the other, unless the two are brought together so effectually as to make their interests thus identical; and nothing short of the Union can do this. Leave things to themselves, and in a few years the interests of Upper Canada will be just as intimately and indissolubly

connected with those of the United States, as it is now possible, *by the Union*, to connect them with those of Lower Canada.

If, however, under the Union, the interests of the two Provinces are sure to be connected, as we have shown they must be, what becomes of the fear we have been speaking of,—that somehow or other one may suffer from the greater prosperity and therefore preponderating influence of the other? Grant all that those who entertain this apprehension can assert; admit that the finer climate, richer land, and greater advantages of every kind, which Upper Canada has to offer, will attract to her many more immigrants than the Lower Province can; that her resources will develop themselves more rapidly, that more public works will be carried on, and more flourishing towns and villages spring up,—in a word, that the great work of general improvement will advance faster and further in the one than in the other,—what then? Upper Canada can never advance too far or too fast for the true interests of Lower Canada. The less favoured Province may not and cannot be made to prosper to the same extent with the more favoured. But it must, for all that, advance so much the faster for the rapid progress of the other: and must thus derive its full share of advantage from the prosperity which, to the superficial observer, it may *appear* not to show. If the public work which an observer of this class would call Upper Canadian, because situate in Upper Canada, really conduce to the prosperity of Upper Canada, it must conduce no less really, though it may be less directly, to that of Lower Canada too.

But, waiving for the moment this consideration, what danger is there of the claims of Lower Canada to her full share of *direct* advantage from the government, laws and revenue of the United Province, being ever overlooked or postponed to those of Upper Canada? The two are to have the same vote in the House. Is it to be imagined that Lower Canadian members of either origin will be found disposed to sacrifice the obvious local interests of their own Province for those of the other? On this point a most important fact requires to be borne in mind, namely, that in future all money votes (for internal improvements, or whatever other object,) must come before the House, recommended by the Government. This change must give rise to a new system of local administr-