

ago to the same places. No doubt if a small amount of encouragement is afforded by the Dominion Parliament to the coal of this Province, in case the Americans refuse Reciprocity, the consumption in Canada will next year be much greater and will annually increase.

The old Province of Canada is already a manufacturing country, and must always consume a great quantity of coal in her mills and factories; and it is clearly for her interest to buy from those who are connected with her politically and commercially, and can furnish her with the necessary supply at the cheapest rates. But Nova Scotia herself, in the course of time, must foster a very extensive and valuable manufacturing industry. Her natural advantages for the creation of such an industry are very superior to those possessed by other sections of the Dominion; and it only requires the introduction of capital and enterprise to make her the Massachusetts of British America. Great Britain now finds in the Brazils, the West Indies and other parts of South America, the largest consumers of her manufactures; and though we can never expect to compete with her in the great staples of her commerce, yet there are many things which we can manufacture cheaply, and for which we can find a ready sale in those countries. The Americans have also annually shipped to the same countries, a large quantity of articles, consisting both of natural products and domestic manufactures, which the Confederation must be able, sooner or later, to export far more cheaply than the former people are likely to do for a long time to come. Situated on the Atlantic, possessing valuable coal mines and water facilities, Nova Scotia must outrun all those who compete with her as a manufacturing country on this continent. It requires little reflection, however, to show that if she should be isolated from the large population occupying the noble country on the St. Lawrence, and the great lakes, she could make little or no progress in manufactures. Let her, however, be closely connected with that large and growing country, and her resources must be rapidly developed and an important manufacturing industry gradually grow up on her shores. It is true Canada has the vantage-ground at present; but, as I have previously stated, with the natural facilities Nova Scotia possesses, she must eventually outstrip that country when once started in the race of competition. In the creation of this manufacturing industry in Nova Scotia, Cape Breton necessarily possesses the deepest interest, for it will be one great means of rapidly developing her mines, and increasing her wealth. Therefore, to isolate Nova Scotia from the rest of the Dominion, is to prevent her establishing a large system of manufactures, and at the same time circumscribes the development of her mineral resources.

Free trade with the United States in all articles of natural growth is a measure in which everybody in Cape Breton is more or less deeply interested. It is only necessary to travel through the island to see how much of its prosperity depends on the American trade. We see forcibly exemplified, the folly of any commu-