

of her position, the foundation of her future wealth and strength will be placed on a sure basis.

Such, then, is the lever which Confederation will place in our hands, unless Nova Scotia is to be an exception to all previous experience, in every country under similar circumstances. The raw material lies ready for use; and if we are true to ourselves, no power or influence from without can harm us. If we are resolved to accept the principle as a mere apple of discord,—if, with blind and unreasoning passion, we are determined at all hazards to spurn from us every offered advantage, then it may be that even this golden opportunity may be lost to the present generation, and reserved for those whom the bitter lesson of adversity will teach wisdom. But I have no such foreboding. The essence of the principle has in it an inherent justice, which extends or offers its benefits to every class alike,—to the capitalist, the trader, the manufacturer, the agriculturist, the fisherman, and the mechanic. I believe that no man, whatever his circumstances or calling, has any reason whatever to apprehend loss or injury in the event of Union. It looks not to the interests of a class, but the prosperity of a State, which embraces every class.

THE TERMS OF UNION.

But it may be said, and with truth, that the terms of union, or co-partnership, may be one-sided and unfair, that the stronger party may grasp the lion's share, so that our last case would be worse than the first. It is of the utmost importance, therefore, that we should understand the conditions of the proposed Union, and find out, by investigation, both its leading features and its details, whether justice has been accorded to each of the Provinces. To be in a position to do this, it will be necessary to understand something of the statistics of the respective Provinces—their population, revenue, debts, commerce, &c., so that we may be in a position to make comparisons and to draw just conclusions.

The aggregate population of the Provinces, destined to form an immediate Union, viz.: Upper and Lower Canada, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, may be put down as follows:—