

enter into partnerships for purposes of trade, or with some other monetary object. But communities do not coalesce for financial reasons. In fact, arrangement of financial terms is more frequently an impediment than an aid to union—as we may observe in our negotiations with Newfoundland. Desire for protection is with states the effective constraining influence.

Then what inducement could have been held out to Nova Scotia? She considered herself as already protected. The ocean and the British fleet were her safeguards. The usual reason for federation was absent. Nova Scotia felt that she was safe under powerful sheltering wings, and she was unurged to national effectiveness by the customary spur. She was withdrawn from the stress of struggle; her survival was not to be dependent upon her own fitness, but upon that of a people with whom she exchanged a steamer a week.

It is said that, of all sorts of governments, autocracy is the best, if you can find a perfect autocrat. I do not believe it. Upon the contrary, I am convinced that the more perfect and efficient the autocrat, the worse he is for his people. Do everything for a child, and you may make an idiot of him. Make him do everything for himself, and you will raise him to his highest attainable possibility. Let him tumble, so that he may learn to walk. Let him take risks of drowning and much else, that he may learn to swim and protect himself. Why are Laplanders unprogressive? Because they have withdrawn beyond the reach of competition. What stirred up the Japanese, and what is awakening the Chinese, but the necessity for national co-operation? No people can elude the cosmic law that fitness comes by survival—a survival, not by escape from struggle but by victory in it. In biological evolution we are told that the birds sealed their fate when they took to the air; they found safety in flying rather than in fighting, while man's progenitors remained on earth and sought success through cunning and combination.

Nova Scotia, had she been left to her own resources, would have been glad to enter federation with her neighbors. Being sheltered and protected she saw no necessity for it, and she