

“our ad valorem duties will go up ten per cent.” It is true that Canada pays twenty per cent. and New Brunswick fifteen, for certain unenumerated goods; but *the burden per head in Canada or New Brunswick is no more than it is in Nova Scotia*, and Canada is a more prosperous country than Acadia. *Ad valorem* duties are no index of the burdens of a people—that depends on the ratio of importations to manufactures—and if it were, is it to be taken for granted that our tariff, in the future, will not be regulated by the majority in the general Parliament. It is not an impossible financial feat to make us a less taxed people than we are, and at the same time to fix *twenty per cent.* on certain unenumerated goods. A “retrenchment” Acadian Senator will find the ears of the Canadians as sensitive as those of the Acadians, to reduce taxation. “A Nova Scotian” says, “if we once relinquish the control of our purse-strings we shall never recover it. That may seem a most startling “remark,” yet all the answer it deserves is this—If we get control of the strings of an immensely greater purse we shall never seek to recover the strings of the smaller one. For the one *argumentum ad crumenam*, I politely submit another.

The great fallacy of this writer is the assumption that a majority will be continually combined against Nova Scotia to spoil her of her wealth. There is no reason why Nova Scotia will not be as safe in this Northern federation as little Rhode Island has always been in the American federation. There are besides to be other checks for our safety than the Republic of America afforded, and we have an appeal, in case of oppression, anterior to the appeal to the sword. There are really no fears that we shall be driven into the sea by federation.

*Third.*—It is denied that the Intercolonial railway is impossible without federation. This writer says that the railway will be of more importance to Canada than to us, and it must come even without federation. I take the money offer voted by Canada to be the measure of Canadian desire for that road. This vote was much less per head than was voted by Nova Scotia. But Canada withdrew from negotiations and refused to assist in building the road. Every year, as the power of her vast west in-