

would pass through a wilderness, not far from the border of one of those States,—bands of the enemy's forces could in the course of a few hours, destroy large portions of it, and thus delay or prevent the conveyance of our forces; or take possession of a portion of it, with such a powerful force, as could not be readily overcome and dislodged. A whole regiment, or battalion, would scarcely be sufficient for the constant protection of that exposed part; and that through a tract of wilderness of very great extent. In the event of such a war, it would be quite reasonable that each of the Provinces should contribute a *fair proportion* of the *expense* of the *Imperial forces* employed in their defence; and there is no doubt but *Nova Scotia would readily do it much rather than enter into the proposed Union.*

As regards commercial intercourse between Nova Scotia and the United Kingdom, it is far more for the interest of the latter, that the Union should not take place; for if effected, as the duties on goods imported from thence into this Province, as well as into the other Maritime Provinces, would be so greatly advanced beyond the present rates; and as the general taxation in these Provinces would also be so much increased, the present amount of such importations would be greatly reduced; and their mercantile communities would be obliged to seek, and would procure, from other quarters, large portions of those articles, which *now* they almost entirely obtain from the United Kingdom.

There is one general view which should be taken of this subject, comprehending a number of particulars; and which is well worthy of the deep consideration of each and all of the great parties concerned. Let it be supposed that a scheme of confederation is framed by the present delegates, and sanctioned by the Imperial Government; and that at the first session of the parliament it is confirmed by an Act, without any opportunity having been afforded to the people of Nova Scotia, of choosing representatives for deliberating and expressing an opinion on the subject; and without the scheme having been submitted to any of the other provincial Parliaments, for the like purpose. What are the further measures, and the consequences which will inevitably follow? Lower Canada will be extremely dissatisfied, that a new parliament had not been called, and questions concerning schools, and other important subjects, been previously settled. The like dissatisfaction, for similar reasons, will also prevail to a considerable extent in the Upper Province. In Nova Scotia there will be *almost universal discontent*, and even *indignation*, because the *just claim* and *petitions of its people* for the

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