

local interests as well protected, even after the Union, as they now are under the disunion. But the scheme of Municipal Corporations furnishes an answer to the only serious objection which can be made to the Union. The extension of municipal rights and privileges to every county in British North America, will, doubtless, take place, at no distant day, whether a Legislative Union is ever effected, or not. The formation of Municipal Counties, and of those larger and similar organizations already referred to, should, and it can scarcely be doubted, would immediately follow such a Union.

Only two objections have ever been publicly made to a Legislative Union of these Provinces; and they are so nearly groundless as scarcely to require any serious answer. One is, the difference of race which exists among the inhabitants of the Provinces. It is argued that the people of Canada East, being of French origin, will not closely and cordially unite with their Anglo-Saxon fellow subjects. One great object to be obtained by the Union, is a complete breaking down of all local prejudices, and a fusion of races, throughout the Provinces. That such would be its speedy result, if the Union were maintained, there can be no doubt; and that it could be maintained is clearly proved by the present condition of Canada itself. Almost every species of disaster was predicted of that country a few years since, when a Legislative Union of the two Provinces it formerly comprised, was first carried into operation; yet we find that the closest possible, political union of the two most antagonistic races in British America, has been effected, in Canada, with complete success, and has been followed by a continuance of prosperity unparalleled in the former history of that country, or in that of any other country on earth.

The other objection is that much inconvenience would arise from the remoteness of some parts of the United Provinces from the seat of Government, wherever that might be. To this it may be said, that the same objection might be made to the Canadian Union; but no serious inconvenience of this kind is there found to exist. The distance from

Quebec, the present capital of Canada, to Sandwich, the county town of Essex, Canada West, is greater than from Quebec to Sydney, the most remote county town in Nova Scotia. When the line of Railway between Halifax and Quebec, now actually commenced at the two termini and upon an intermediate section of the line, shall have been completed between those two points, Halifax will virtually be nearer to Quebec than Antigonish, or Annapolis, now is to Halifax. That such a railway communication will, within a very few years, be completed, scarce any one now pretends to doubt; and the consummation of the work, so desirable for other reasons as well as those of a political nature, would be hastened by a Legislative Union of the Provinces.

A union of the Provinces, upon the plan above briefly sketched out, would supply all those wants so keenly felt by British Americans, and which are mentioned in a former part of this pamphlet. The author of these observations speaks the more confidently of the excellence of the plan from the fact that he does not claim to be the originator of any one of its details—they have each and all been discussed and approved of by some of the ablest politicians of the day. It is certainly not too much to say that the *Reformed British Constitution* proposed by that plan is the best suited to the feelings and wants of an intelligent and free people; the best calculated to develop their energies, and promote their prosperity and happiness; the most likely to bind a number of petty, detached nationalities into a compact and powerful empire; in short, the most perfect, of any Constitution which either the mere force of circumstances, or political foresight, has ever yet put into operation. And for British America, with her immense, yet thinly peopled, territories; her vast, undeveloped resources, and superior, geographical position; united under a Constitution so admirably adapted to extend and consolidate her power, to preserve and promote her prosperity: it surely would not be presumption to predict a most glorious and happy future.

Whether the proposed Union would be presided over by a hereditary Viceroy, or by one appointed as at present, is a matter