

rendered so morbidly sensitive. If this course, so obviously the dictate alike of conventional propriety and common prudence, had been taken, for aught any one can tell (with the facts now before us in reference to the spirit in which the claims of other provinces have been responded to, I would rather say, *who can doubt* that), concessions, both with respect to Representative influence and fiscal advantage, might have been obtained sufficient to propitiate every class of Her Majesty's subjects,—those alone excepted whose political proclivities are not calculated to inspire the highest confidence in their fealty as British Colonists?—a class which, if it exist amongst us at all, is, we rejoice to believe, as small as it is uninfluential.

But too much importance may, after all, be attached to the purely commercial aspect of the question of Confederation. Constitutional law and the actual administration of law, too frequently, as history mournfully attests, widely differ. A financial arrangement, ostensibly favorable in the highest degree to the interests of this Colony, might, possibly, by a corrupt system of management, be so thwarted as to completely disappoint the anticipations of the class of political economists among us, who confided in its operations to diffuse over the whole land the opulence of the golden age. Those sticklers for the preliminary fractional adjustment of every imaginable pecuniary claim, immediate and contingent, before committing ourselves to the proposed compact,