

British North America.

If the plan of forming all the provinces of British North America into one Confederation should be successful, this new commonwealth would infallibly be in a short time the second power of the American Continent—second only to the United States. In point of population it is even now superior to Mexico and Brazil, both of which countries it would be sure to exceed within a few years.

In point of territory, the Confederation of British North America would be about equal to the present extent of the United States. The Toronto "Leader" claims for it a little superiority, estimating the territory of the British North America at 2,933,078 English square miles, and maintaining that the territory of the United States, the extent of which it says is generally overrated by their inhabitants, is that one critical examination not to exceed 2,364,450. We deem it unnecessary to enter with our Toronto contemporary into a discussion of this geographical controversy. We take it as conceded on all sides that the United States, if they retain their present territory, and British North America, if this proposed union be effected, will both rank among the most extensive countries of the world; but that, in point of population, our Northern neighbour must, from climatic reasons, remain forever considerably behind the United States.

The largest portions of British North America are the Hudson's Bay Territory, which the Toronto "Leader" sets down at 2,300,000 square miles, the two Canadas the estimates of whose area vary from 200,000 to 300,000 square miles, and British Columbia, which is roughly estimated at 200,000 square miles. Two of these, the Hudson's Bay Territory and British Columbia, have been the theatre of commercial, not of political importance. Trustworthy statements as to their population are entirely wanting. But both are beginning to play their part in the history of the American Continent. British Columbia has especially attracted the attention of the world by its newly discovered gold fields. It has received its own Governor and its own Anglican Bishop; and it has begun its life as a distinct British American colony. From documents laid before the English Parliament during 1863, it appears that 75 emigrants left the United Kingdom in 1862 for British Columbia, and 1,119 for Vancouver's Island. Two useful roads have been commenced, one from Lillooet and one from Yale, both terminating at Alexandria, from which point the Fraser has few obstacles to its navigation. From Lillooet about 128 miles of road have been completed at a cost of \$100,000. Gold continues to be abundantly found, though many of the old spots are abandoned, and Cariboo is now the chief place for mining operations, where in one locality the produce is said to be \$2,000 per running foot of land.

The immense tracts of land belonging to the Hudson's Bay Territory are also slowly being opened up to colonization. The Company intends to open up to colonization a large tract of country in the south portion of the territory, containing some 60,000 square miles, and of remarkable fertility. It is expected that this land will be settled from Upper Canada for a much larger number of persons are now interested in this question than heretofore, owing to the reorganization of the proprietary of the Hudson's Company on a more popular basis.

For the present, no one in British America appears to think of the possibility of immediately uniting the position of the Pacific with those of the Atlantic. There is still a large, uninhabited wilderness between them, extending over more than a thousand miles, which will take a long time to span with scattered inhabitants of civilized men. But, even if for the present the Confederation must confine itself to the Atlantic side, it would embrace territories more extensive than those of Germany and Spain taken together, or than the united territories of France, Italy, Portugal, and Greece, and it would contain ample space for a great empire.

The English press daily appreciates the importance of the proposed Confederation. They regard it as the first and enormous step towards independence. They are preparing themselves for an applicant on the part of the American colonies for peaceful secession. The liberal papers find this quite natural. The *Spectator* thinks that the House of Commons will be glad to give votes will be given against peaceful secession, and not a voice raised "for coercing them—the people of British North America—or fighting them, or bribing them, or doing anything else in connection with them, except withdrawing the large force of British troops now paid for by the British people." That journal even advises the Ministry to bring forward a law "decreting that any British colony numbering a million of English-speaking inhabitants may, by a vote of its parliament, ratified by an appeal to the electors *ad hoc*, or by a two-thirds majority, without such appeal, declare itself free and independent."

That the day is rapidly approaching when all the large colonies of Great Britain will declare themselves independent, no far-seeing statesman at present denies. But a law expressly conferring upon the colonies the right of declaring themselves independent would relieve the Government and the people of Great Britain of a great deal of that bitterness which otherwise would certainly accompany the severance of the bond of union between the colonies and England.

—N. Y. Tribune.

Outrages in Hamilton.

ROBBERY OF \$50.

(From the Times.)

We are sorry to say that the past week has added to the list of crimes in this city, in two instances of more than ordinary outrages and audacity. We were in possession of the main facts connected with both outrages a few days ago, but refrained from publishing them, hoping that the police might the better succeed in arresting the criminals. On Friday night last, shortly after 12 o'clock, Mr. William Sanderson had locked up his establishment on King street, and was proceeding homewards, when on the corner of Wellington and Barton streets he was seized by a powerful blow on the left side of his face, he lay for a short time senseless, and when the powers of perception returned he found that his pockets had been searched. Fortunately he had no money on his person, and even his gold watch had been left the preceding day with a watchmaker to be repaired, so that the robber or robbers obtained no booty whatever. The night was very dark, and as Mr. Sanderson knows that he could not identify the person who struck him, it is feared that the offender will go unpunished. Even after he had fallen the robbers struck him several times with stung shot, and inflicted such severe injuries that Mr. Sanderson was confined to his house for some days. He is now, however, able to attend to his business, but still bears the marks of the blows he received.

Another daring instance of highway robbery occurred on Wednesday night last, at about eleven o'clock in front of the Custom House, the porters of a stage coach, as follows: Messrs. Gilchrist & Co., timber merchants, employ a large number of ruffians during the summer season at this port, and

the workmen are paid weekly by Mr. John Gilchrist, a member of the firm. On the evening of the day mentioned Mr. J. Gilchrist, it would appear, had \$1,000 in his possession, of which he paid sundry bills \$150, leaving \$850 still in his possession. When returning home with this sum in his possession he was accosted by two men one of whom enquired what hour it was? Mr. Gilchrist said he could not inform him, upon which he was pounced upon by both men, one of whom "throttled" him and rendered him incapable of shouting for assistance. The other robber sided in pinioning Mr. Gilchrist's hands behind his back, and whilst thus rendered defenceless, his pockets were ransacked, and the robbers took away the full amount in his possession. The suddenness of the attack and the darkness of the night may prevent Mr. Gilchrist from identifying the robbers, but it is thought that sufficient "clues" may be in possession of the police to warrant an arrest, and perhaps convict the offenders. We hope the authorities will use their utmost endeavors to bring the perpetrators of these atrocious outrages to justice. It is high time that peaceable citizens should be allowed to return home from their daily avocations unmolested and without their lives being put in peril.

Statistics of the Province.

A Western paper, in view of the proposed confederation of the Provinces, affords the following statistics as to the population of the Provinces singly and the aggregate population of the confederacy; the representation of the members; aggregate and separate extent of territory, amount of tonnage; commerce, revenue, &c. The compilation has been made with some trouble, and will not be read without interest. First, the population of the Provinces, and the aggregate population of the confederacy we have the following figures:—

Newfoundland.....	125,000
Prince Edward Island.....	8,747
New Brunswick.....	252,047
Nova Scotia.....	330,858
Lower Canada.....	111,054
Upper Canada.....	133,591
Red River (about).....	10,000
Total.....	330,436

Assuming that the representation in the Lower House of the general Legislature to be based upon population, and an average of one representative to each 25,000 of the population, we should have the following as the representation:—

1 Newfoundland.....	5
2 Prince Edward Island.....	3
3 New Brunswick.....	10
4 Nova Scotia.....	13
5 Lower Canada.....	44
6 Upper Canada.....	55
7 Red River.....	1
Total.....	131

Then as to the extent of the confederation the figures given show that British America has a larger area than the neighbouring States, north and south combined, and only a very little less than Europe. The figures stand thus:—

Newfoundland.....	40,200
Prince Edward Island.....	2,174
New Brunswick.....	271,058
Nova Scotia.....	186,000
Hudson's Bay Territory, N. W.....	2,800,000
British Columbia.....	200,000
Vancouver's Island.....	15,000
Total.....	2,933,078

Of course in this estimate considerable allowance has to be made for the Hudson's Bay Territory, a very large portion of the north part of which is unfit for settlement.

NAVAL POWER.

The elements of a great naval power which British America, as a united confederation, would possess are very great indeed. The amount of tonnage owned in the Province is set down at \$62,498,498, and the following table shows how rapidly has been the increase in this species of property:—

1806.....	71,943
1830.....	176,040
1836.....	274,738
1846.....	399,204
1850.....	446,335
1861.....	552,498

The commercial tonnage of British North America, exclusive of British Columbia, is thus found to be second only to that of England, the United States and Russia. The number of vessels, and the tonnage of them, built in 1862 in the Province is set down as follows:—

No. of vessels. Tons.	
New Brunswick.....	109 29,853
Nova Scotia.....	90 48,719
Newfoundland.....	201 39,383
Prince Edward's Island.....	69 9,006
Total.....	461 129,997

These figures are exceedingly interesting, and indicate that British America is destined yet to become a very important naval power. It extensive fisheries afford good training for seamen, and its enormous coast and admirable harbours give it great naval advantages.

THE INTERCOLONIAL TRADE.

Imports. Exports.	
Canada (1863).....	\$501,713 \$935,696
P. E. Island (1858).....	398,828 273,848
New Brunswick (1859).....	734,648 281,720
Newfoundland (est.).....	50,000 50,000
Total.....	\$1,485,189 \$1,541,264

The commerce of the Province requires a large tonnage for its accommodation, nearly double the tonnage engaged in the commercial marine of France, which is only 3,288,000, and over twice as great as that engaged in the foreign commerce of the United States twenty years ago.

The revenues of the Province, which of course form an important element in consideration of the question of union, are set down as follows:—

Revenue. Per head.	
Nova Scotia.....	\$191,848 206 \$2.50
Prince E. Island.....	140,030 1.73
Newfoundland.....	186,140 2.15 3.60
New Brunswick.....	186,140 2.15 3.60
Canada.....	\$1,485,189 \$1.54 1.82
Total.....	\$1,926,731 \$3.60

The Imports and Exports of all the Provinces, excepting British Columbia are as follows:—

Imports. Exports.	
Nova Scotia (1861).....	\$7,612,227 \$6,747,334
P. E. Island do.....	1,150,310 1,007,170
Newfoundland do.....	5,764,985 5,485,765
New Brunswick do.....	6,190,685 4,785,455
Canada (1863).....	\$6,964,493 \$1,831,822
Total.....	\$66,682,940 \$58,811,246

PUBLIC DEBT.

The public debts of the Provinces are as follows:—

Per head of population.	
Nova Scotia.....	\$161,845,062,680 \$15.30
Prince E. Island do.....	286,580 3.15
Newfoundland (1862).....	868,712 6.95
New Brunswick do.....	5,643,045 22.39
Canada.....	\$60,000,000 23.93
Total.....	\$71,860,517 \$21.74

The debts of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have principally been incurred in the construction of railways, about \$4,500,000 having been expended in each Province for that object. With the improvements that are now contemplated in railway extension in those Provinces, there is little doubt that the disparity between them and Canada will soon disappear. Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland have small debts; but they have no railway facilities like the other Provinces.

The Herald.

CARLETON PLACE.

Wednesday, Aug. 17th, 1864.

There is, really, nothing new in Canadian politics this week. The long talked of visit to the lower British Provinces is being made and some of the members of both branches of the legislature and of the press of Canada have striven themselves of the invitation to make themselves acquainted with the lower Provinces.

We understand that at the meeting of cabinet held last week, the proposed constitutional changes were discussed in a good spirit—apparently in good faith and with a desire to effect a useful settlement of the question. The public, however eager to learn the details of the measure, must bide their time and wait until the meeting of the proposed convention in September. We are sure all parties will be pleased if any real reforms can be brought about which will tend to better our system of government.

We observe that the "True Witness" in Montreal is raving terribly at the idea of three Upper Canada Reformers having seats in the Cabinet. We regard this as a most favorable omen for good. A sure proof that even the small number are making themselves felt and are exercising an influence upon the minds of the other members which will result in better government. It is not uncommon to find one ruling spirit controlling a board, and it will be no great stretch of imagination to suppose that Brown, Mowat and McDougall, will "leave" the cabinet without some principles of honesty. This, in doubtless, what the "True Witness" foresees and dreads; and under these circumstances, and taking this view of the matter, there is good cause of regret that Mr. McDougall was not elected in his own constituency.

He cannot be spared from the Cabinet at present. Almost the whole press of Canada seems inclined to give the coalition a fair trial, to work out their policy. And, we think, a man of Mr. McDougall's talents will not be long without a constituency willing to make him its representative in Parliament.

All honestly inclined people will be "death" upon anything in the shape of humbug; and will heartily support the motion to censure the public against receiving the worthless American cents which are now being brought into Canada. If the reports of our exchanges be correct, they are on a par with the Basewood candles and the wooden outcrops of former years. It appears that quite a number of Yankees are attempting to circulate small copper coins which have not the value of an English farthing. They are issued by the United States mint to represent the fractional currency of the depreciated greenback dollar; but shavers are collecting them and bringing them to Canada, seeking to exchange them for our silver and to obtain a premium. The coin is of no legal value in these dominions, and will not be used in the States when they get back to specie payments; it should therefore be rejected by Canadians in all transactions of trade. The coinage is now sufficiently nondescript in character without the introduction of any more debased American coins. If there be any Canadians so foolish as to purchase packages of this coin from American pedlars, they will surely bring their fingers. The principal store-keepers in the cities will have nothing to do with them, and those who do receive them and pay them out, deceive both themselves and others.

Quebec, August 13.

About ten o'clock last night a fire broke out in Peter's Saw Mill, Grant street, St. Roches and spread with great rapidity, till some forty houses were destroyed. Two entire blocks of buildings formed by the intersection of St. Vallier, Fleury St. Dominique, Grant and Desparre streets. Several houses were pulled down in order to prevent the flames from communicating with other blocks. Most of the buildings consumed were composed of bricks. Loss estimated at over \$100,000; but particulars not yet accurately ascertained.

The scenes which have occurred in our village during the past week, and which are well known to the authorities, call loudly for a look-up in which to confine some of our fast living citizens. We hope the council will attend to the matter.

The Hon. Isaac Buchanan, of Hamilton, has declined the offer of the Constitutional convention tendering him the candidacy in the Conservative interest of Burlington Division.

The Hon. Walter McCrea has consented to allow himself to be re-nominated for the Western Division.

A woman named Mrs. Bayley Robinson

died recently at Port Hope, from the inhalation of chloroform, administered for the purpose of rendering painless the extraction of some teeth.

The greatest caution is necessary in dealing with the numerous quacks, dubbing themselves doctors and dentists, who are too lazy to work and try every other means of extracting money from the unwary. We think such characters ought to be severely punished for administering chloroform or any other dangerous drug without knowing its nature or effects. They will, however, continue to practice and deceive so long as they find unsuspecting people willing to be duped and, what is worse, to risk their lives in their hands.

An inquest was held on the body of the deceased, before an intelligent jury, and the following verdict rendered:

"That Bayley Robinson came to her death by chloroform at the office of Mr. James Wade, administered by George Chambers, assisted by Charles D. Wade. Your jurors wish to express their disapprobation to the giving of chloroform by unqualified persons. The jury consider that no person ought to be allowed to administer chloroform except a physician."

An important debate occurred in the House of Commons previous to the prorogation, on the subject of the emigration of British subjects to the United States. Lord Howard, in a full and eloquent speech, called the attention of the government to the hardships undergone by emigrants, who are inveigled into the United States army, and whose wives and families are in consequence left without support. Mr. Layard, on the part of the government, admitted the existence of the evils which beset Irish emigrants on their landing in New York, but said there was some cases a voluntary action on the part of the emigrants which debared the government from good ground of interference; but he trusted that the United States Government would do its part to prevent abuses. So that the only good which will come of this interpellation will be that Lord Howard's speech will go into the English and Irish newspapers, be made a subject of remark, and the risks to which emigrants and their families are subject will be more fully comprehended. The publicity of these abuses, the shameful treatment of English factory girls at Lowell, and other incidents calculated to render British emigrants from resorting to the United States, will, no doubt, have the effect which Lord Howard intended.

The *Quebec Chronicle* says:—"We understand that the troops now stationed at London and Hamilton are to be withdrawn and detachments stationed at Ottawa and Sorel. These movements are in conformity with instructions from home, removing the regiments from what in England are considered to be outlying posts."

We are requested to intimate that a meeting of the inhabitants of the village of Carleton Place will be held at Metcal's Hotel, on the evening of Saturday, the 20th instant, at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning the County Council to have a look-up erected in this village.

The congregation of St. George's Church, Clayton, are hereby notified that, owing to the unavoidable absence of the Incumbent, there will be no service on Monday next, 21st instant. The service will be held as usual at St. Paul's Church, Almonte, at 3:30 p.m., on Sunday next.

The Carleton Place Rifle Company will meet for ball practice, at the target, on Friday evening, the 19th instant, at 3 o'clock.

Correspondence.

Cricket Match.

A very exciting Cricket Match was played at Arnprior, on Thursday, the 11th instant, between the Arnprior and Almonte Cricket Clubs. The day was fine. The wickets being pitched by the umpires, Messrs. Harding and B. Rosamond and the Almontes having won the "toss" took the bats at 10:30 a.m. and went out at 11:30 with the respectable score of three-three. The play, however, was in this innings very tame. The bowling though not equal to that of the Almonte Club in the first innings was very effective, and some fine catches were made. The Arnprior batters went in at 12:30 and although they batted carefully, the bowling of the Almontes was too much for them, and they finished the innings at 2:40 with a score of thirty-seven.

The members of the Almonte Club were invited to dinner at Lyon's, and both parties sat down to an excellent repast, to which they did ample justice.

The willow was resumed by the Almontes at 3:20 and given up at 4:51. Carleton won the match by the large score of ninety. Some of their own party said that the Arnprior players did not field well in this innings, but I think they did, they missed some catches, but most of them were difficult. Their fielding throughout was excellent. The Arnprior eleven took the bats at 4:10 with little hope of success; but their friends' faces began to brighten, when by their brilliant putting their score commenced to run up; and they did make a splendid score, viz., one hundred and two, one not often made at ordinary matches, which however lacked four to tie and five to beat. The fielding of the Almontes in this innings was very loose, caused by mismanagement in the placing of the field, but this was attributable to the indisposition of two of their best players. The largest single score was made by Arnprior. Mr. W. Thompson being highest in both innings, scoring twenty-eight runs. After cheers had been given for both clubs, and for the umpires, all proceeded to Lyon's where a ball was presented to the Almontes by E. Harrington, Esq., President of the Arnprior club, with a few congratulatory remarks, which were responded to by both teams. The folding of the Almonte Club. Some toasts were then drank and the Almontes started homeward. Both parties seemingly well pleased with each other and the result of the game. Indeed the utmost harmony prevailed during the day. It is true that towards the end of the game,

the spectators made some display of excitement, but this considering the closeness of the Contest, can easily be pardoned.

The following is the score:—

ALMONTES.		ARNPRIOR.	
1st Innings.	2nd Innings.	1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
Norbridge, c. W. Carr 9	c. Thompson 13	W. Carr, c. W. Carr 9	c. Thompson 13
P. Bamford, c. McDougall 12	b. J. Oakes 3	Thompson b. McDougall 12	b. J. Oakes 3
McIntyre, c. McEwen 11	c. Craig 12	McIntyre, c. McEwen 11	c. Craig 12
Russell, b. Cranston 0	c. Stewart 12	Russell, b. Cranston 0	c. Stewart 12
Cowburn, b. Cranston 11	c. Thompson 8	Cowburn, b. Cranston 11	c. Thompson 8
Patty not out 4	c. Stewart 8	Patty not out 4	c. Stewart 8
Douglas, b. Cranston 0	c. Munford 0	Douglas, b. Cranston 0	c. Munford 0
McEwen run out 0	c. Craig 3	McEwen run out 0	c. Craig 3
P. Bamford, b. J. Oakes 0	run out 0	P. Bamford, b. J. Oakes 0	run out 0
Laidlaw, c. Thompson 0	b. Cranston 0	Laidlaw, c. Thompson 0	b. Cranston 0
Patterson, b. J. Oakes 5	not out 0	Patterson, b. J. Oakes 5	not out 0
Byes 4, Leg Byes 1	5 byes 13 wickets 14	Byes 4, Leg Byes 1	5 byes 13 wickets 14
Total both innings 143.		Total both innings 143.	

Shooting Match.

A very interesting Rifle Match took place at Mohr's Corners, Pitzroy, on Saturday last, for a purse of twenty dollars, between 20 men of Captain Dunnet's Company, of Pakenham Rifles, and 20 men of Captain Fraser's Company of Fitzroy Infantry. The ground chosen for the match—a field of Mr. Riddle's—was in every way suitable. The firing commenced at 11 a.m., and continued to 1 p.m., when a heavy rain-storm obliged the firing party to seek shelter; at this time four rounds had been fired and the fifth commenced—the Pakenham Rifles being 12 points ahead. Shortly after three o'clock firing was resumed, but from some cause the Rifles did not make as good shooting as they had done in the morning. I may here remark that the ground was entirely strange to them. The ranges were 200 and 400 yards, five shots at each. The Match was concluded at 6:30, when Dr. S. G. Conway declared the result to be in favour of Fitzroy Company by 30 points. Subjoined is the score, which, taking into account the strong wind which prevailed the greater part of the day, preventing in a great measure accurate aim being taken, reflects great credit on both companies.

Captain Dunnet, on behalf of his company, then challenged the Fitzroy Company to a Match to take place after harvest, and said that he hoped the Infantry would be no worse shots, but at the same time he hoped that the Rifles would beat them a good score. The challenge, after some deliberation, was accepted by Capt. Fraser on behalf of his company.

The usual round of cheers was then given, ending with three for the Ladies and three times three for the Queen.

PAKENHAM COMPANY.

Name.	20 yds. tot.	400 yds. tot.	both
Segal, Cowan 00204—6	02000—2	8	
Alison 03432—12	02030—5	17	
Robt. Bradley 00040—4	00000—0	4	
W. S. S. 03304—10	02333—14	24	
A. Ferguson 03230—9	02232—9	18	
Thomas Smith 23020—7	00022—9	8	
James Smith 40040—8	00000—0	8	
Jacob Bond 06020—2	00040—4	6	
Thomas Burke 04020—8	00035—5	14	
Thos. Bradley 02040—5	00200—0	5	
John Thoburn 03000—3	00000—0	3	
James Graham 03233—11	04320—9	20	
James Dunlop 30030—6	02030—5	11	
John Drysdale 03404—11	02000—2	13	
James Quigley 30403—8	02020—4	12	
B. Dunnet 00024—2	00003—5	7	
Robert Scott 02040—6	02000—5	11	
James Cowan 03232—9	02004—6	15	
Capt. Dunnet 23232—12	04200—10	22	
Lieut. O'Neil 03002—5	20000—2	7	
Totals.....	148	92	240

FITZROY COMPANY.

this time four rounds had been fired and the fifth commenced—the Pakenham Rifles being 12 points ahead. Shortly after three o'clock firing was resumed, but from some cause the Rifles did not make as good shooting as they had done in the morning. I may here remark that the ground was entirely strange to them. The ranges were 200 and 400 yards, five shots at each. The Match