

our mineral wealth and our abundant fisheries undeveloped; our splendid forests and rich wilderness land inaccessible for want of roads, and consequently valueless; whilst our neighbours are prosperous and enterprising, not simply constructing railways to meet the wants of the population of existing towns and villages, but constructing them in the unsettled and trackless wilderness, in order to the location of a numerous and prosperous population—in fact, to accelerate the development of the latent resources of the country, wisely guided by comprehensive and not by contracted views? And with respect to immigrants who occasionally visit our shores, why do they so frequently remain but to spy out the nakedness of the land, or rather, the manner in which the various sources of prosperity are hermetically sealed up, and then scamper off to the United States?"

These and similar reflections must of inevitable necessity sap the foundations of the most unquestionable loyalty, and lead, sooner or later, to the most disastrous consequences, both to the mother country and to her slighted and neglected offspring.

There are two modes of preventing discontent, which may be thus generated, from breaking out into actual violence. One mode, irrational, expensive, and ineffectual; the other rational, profitable, and certain in its operation. The former of these modes—the irrational and brute-force system—has been recently enforced at an expense directly and indirectly which would go far towards constructing the railway from Halifax to Quebec. The present is a very fitting opportunity for a wise, energetic, and paternal Government to work out with honour and profit the rational system of uniting the British North American colonies to the mother-country by the rational and well understood ties of interest and reciprocal advantage.

Viewing the geographical position of the British North American colonies, placed in juxta-position with the advancing power, and the rapidly extending territory of the United States of America, in connection with the maintenance of the balance of power among the nations of the earth now being rapidly placed in comparatively close proximity to each other by the application of steam to land and marine locomotion, the subject must be one of absorbing interest to a British statesman.