

STRENGTH AND RESOURCES OF THE CONFEDERACY.

We become a portion of a Confederacy containing nearly 400,000 square miles; with a population of about 4,000,000; an annual revenue of \$14,000,000; an export and import trade amounting in the aggregate to \$150,000,000; a tonnage which in 1863 numbered 8530 vessels, and nearly a million of tons, and which has increased immensely since that time; 2500 miles of railway in operation, with the Intercolonial, to be completed as quickly as possible—so that there will be a net-work connecting every portion of the continent, from Halifax to New Orleans; several hundred miles of canal; the finest river and lake navigation in the world; forty million acres of land unsurpassed for agricultural purposes; the most extensive and valuable forest lands on the continent; fisheries, whose actual value cannot be calculated; mineral resources greater than those of Great Britain; a fertile soil; a healthy climate; a free constitution; and an industrious, intelligent, and enterprising population. Such are the materials of the new Confederacy; such are the elements of strength and growth it has in it, with room enough to hold thirty millions of people, and ample means to sustain them all; a territory behind it stretching to the Pacific, and rivalling in magnitude that of the Great Republic. Such, then, is the condition, and such are the prospects, of this young State. She starts on her career with much in her favor; and by the blessing of Providence with a high destiny before her. By this very Act of Confederation, our political safety is secured, our freedom as a people guaranteed by the whole resources of the British Empire. We have, therefore, nothing to fear, if internal dissensions and jealousies should not rend us. A great responsibility is upon us—one which involves the future even more than the present. Let us, therefore, be true to ourselves—confident in ourselves and in each other; let the men of the counties of Nova Scotia look to the interests of their sons and daughters, to the claims of family and country, rather than the clamors and selfishness of faction; let them look for counsel to the opinions of the wise and good—to those whose character is above reproach and beyond suspicion, but turn away resolutely and persistently from the preachings and denunciations of the demagogues.