

in the patriotism and morality of its people, has long been regarded as second to no nation of any age. This England, with which the Canadian people desire a perpetual connexion, is greater and better, and more to be respected, imitated and loved, than the England of a century ago to which the American colonies of that day gave many proofs of deep attachment. She treats her colonies, too, with a generous consideration and a wisdom then unknown: and while the desirableness of continued connexion with the old land, has, in consequence, greatly increased, the distance between Britain and America, which was, formerly, one great difficulty in the way of long-continued connexion, has, through the progress since made in scientific knowledge, ceased to be any difficulty. Steam has brought us nearer, for all practical purposes, to the Motherland, than, at the period referred to, some portions of the British Islands were to each other; and for part of one ever memorable day, the 5th August, 1858, science accomplished even more than this; for, on that day, so far as relates to mutual communication, it annihilated all distance between us; and now we have again the gladdening news that a new atlantic cable is nearly completed, and probably will, before the year expires, renew the magic connexion between the old world and the new, never again to be broken.

In view of the contemplated union I have referred to, the men of Canada are daily reminding one another that we shall start on our new career with a population of nearly four millions: and that the increase of our population has always been, and is likely to continue, in a ratio far exceeding that of which European nations have had any experience. Our fellow subjects to whom the subject is interesting, (and to whom is it not interesting?) are calling to mind, that, in this population, there are half a million and more of able-bodied men between the ages of 20 and 45 to defend our country and our homes, from foreign aggression. They are referring to our vast grain fields, our extensive timber lands, our invaluable fisheries, our gold and copper mines, and our other yet almost undisturbed mineral deposits. They are reckoning up that the confederation, without taking into account the great North West, will embrace thirteen millions of acres of cultivated land; thirty millions of uncultivated in the hands of private owners; and many millions more that are still in the hands of the Government; that the exports of fish alone