

In the charges on the United Provinces Mr. Archibald sets down, as was decided by the convention, the following sum devoted to the local governments at a rate of 80 cents per head on the whole population \$2,790,000—this is the correct sum which is due at 80 cents per head for the present population of British North America 3,480,000 souls. A little later however when receipts are in consideration Mr. Archibald gravely asserts that since in 1866 the population will be 4,000,000, the taxation upon each head will amount to only three dollars. Does Mr. Archibald really imagine that the Provinces will increase by half a million in population in a year and a half? If he is not foolish enough to indulge in such wild hopes why attempt to deceive his audience by assuming our population in one case and another far larger when it suits his advocacy of the Confederation Scheme to do so? This is special pleading indeed! Mr. Archibald jumps at another assumption. He bases his financial argument on the supposition that the Federal government once established will be able to obtain money at 5 per cent to pay off the existing debts of both upper and lower provinces which at present pay 6 per cent. This may possibly be effected after a few years have elapsed. It savours however of unfair cajolery to speak of so chimerical a consummation as in the present grasp of British North America. This is dreaming indeed! We should also feel more confidence in Mr. Archibald's statement of accounts if he had not omitted all mention of a sum of \$63,000 to be paid annually for ten years to New Brunswick. This is perhaps a small omission but hardly smaller than some sources of revenue on which Mr. Archibald laid much stress. Let us now see how our balance sheets would stand after making the few corrections of which we have spoken—

Interest on old debt at 6 per cent . . .	\$4,965,000
“ on new debt at 6 per cent . . .	1,050,000
Charges for collection at 1 per cent . . .	60,150
Paid to Local Governments } (inhab. 4,000,000.) }	3,200,000
“ to Newfoundland	150,000
“ to New Brunswick	63,000
Expenses of General Government	4,367,688

\$13,855,838

This, assuming the population to be as high even as 4,000,000 will give a taxation of at least \$3.45 per head. It would thus appear that instead of the extra 40 cents per head for which according to Mr. Archibald, this Union is to be accomplished, the real increase of taxation which it must cause is 85 cents per head. It may be worth it—we hope it is so. Whether however it be so or not, nothing can justify a delegate well acquainted with every detail of the scheme in falsifying either through carelessness or design the figures which render it acceptable or distasteful to Nova Scotia. We beg Nova Scotians to consider a moment how far their taxation will be increased by Union and how much of the surplus taxation will be applied to the primary necessities of such a Union as Nova Scotia is led to believe she is about to enter. Her taxation is increased by a third—85 cents per head—and for what? Is it for self defence? NO. Since only £250,000 are voted altogether for that purpose, nearly half of which sum is expended on defence under the present system. Is it the Railroad? NO. The real fact of the matter is this. The taxation per head in Canada is reduced from over 5 dollars to something under 4 dollars. Of course it would not be wise for a delegate pleading his cause to make this fact public. Honesty however should have led to its publication. We have said enough to show that the whole scheme is not laid before the people by their representatives. That these latter treat it as a cause to be defended by fair means or foul, and leave to those necessarily less intimately informed of its

details the difficult task of seeking out its defects. This as we have said is not fair by Nova Scotia. Finally are the farmers of our county districts to pay a third more to the state per annum, that their markets may be spoiled by Canada? Are our merchants to be placed at a similar disadvantage, for the sake of a railway which, had our government acted honestly to New Brunswick, might have been secured last spring? and can the whole country believe that by a general additional expenditure of £100,000 per annum, their security from foreign invasion is secured.

MANIAS.

JOHN BULL is commonly represented as an easy going, plethoric, unimpassioned, matter-of-fact sort of individual, combining in his own person a strong under current of common sense, with a certain prosaic utterance which foreigners rarely interpret aright. We are inclined to dissent from this doctrine, and affirm that our race is beyond all doubt the maddest and most originally eccentric race on earth. Travel where we will, we find traditional records of Anglo-Saxon eccentricity in undertakings, dangerous in themselves, and utterly useless to the world in general. For scaling perpendicular peaks, for performing pedestrian feats in “marching order” under the most tropical suns, for riding full gallop down the steep side of a mountain, for these, and for other exploits equally fool-hardy and ridiculous, the Anglo-Saxon race is proverbially celebrated. But perhaps, as a people, our chief peculiarity lies in our readiness to adopt at a moment's notice some prevalent mania. The English upper classes are never without a mania of one sort or another, which for the time being is, to a certain extent, a decided nuisance. The mania which prevailed, some ten years back, for collars so contrived as to keep their wearers in a constant state of physical torture, was one of the silliest of modern times. Then we had “potebi-mania,” which set all the young ladies of England agunning transparent devices within transparent mantel-piece ornaments. Then came Archery, the mania for which condemned a number of good fellows to spend half their days picking up arrows, and listening to feminine squabbles concerning “best goods,” &c. Perhaps the Croquet mania was that beneath whose influence Englishwomen most ignored the wisdom of the injunction,—let your moderation be known in all things. At all hours, and at all seasons (save the London season), the cream of English society tacitly resigned its young men and maidens, its old men and children, to the all absorbing delights consequent upon knocking colored balls beneath a series of metal arches. Almost contemporaneously with the Croquet mania, society took to “sawing” and “carving,” and half the young ladies of England became amateur cabinet-makers and polishers. “Good day, Miss A., how d-ye-do?”—“Quite well, Mr. S., thanks,—but you must excuse my shaking hands with you, as I'm all over varnish mixture!” This sort of thing went on for some time, and was to a certain extent a nuisance, inasmuch as the smell of turpentine was conducive towards head-ache, colic, &c., and delicate young girls stooped longer over their “sawing” apparatus than was good for their health. The mania for filling up Photographic Albums in the shortest time possible, prevailed to an alarming extent, and the mania which attributed to every casual acquaintance a facility for writing impromptu verses in Albums of another kind, was an intolerable nuisance,—a nuisance almost as great as that which followed a mania for sensation novels, now happily on the decline. When it freezes in England two nights consecutively, the skating mania prevails to an extent which invariably results in a sad loss of life. Notwithstanding all the precautions of the Humane Society, and the various warning beacons erected wherever the ice is “dangerous,”

scarce a win
every sheet
eholy fact
by London
acords the
London pari
Londoners
another opp
their skates
skating man
can reasona
winter. W
take skating
long spell o
year we can
are almost e
hurry upon
a warning, i
several indiv
in time again
prove highly
thing is cert
taken strong
indeed, it w
class of ind
rarely go be
affair of ou
thoughts the
consideration
necessarily
point where
hardly fair t
the fact that
Equally unf
pondering t
him that,—
Poor man!
time: to his
deney. Ho
tendencies
vided people
—as indeed

X

FROM AN

! Scene—
ments of Fa
Simmons, ar
ty of Profes
curious relic
and extract
Enter the
A. G. Si
P. S. gail
be overcom
A. G. dot
the enemy
A voice is
But hark
list, it is H
to wee folk.
And the wo

By Jove
Enter the
men! A g