

CONFEDERATION.

An unsuccessful effort was made to bring Newfoundland under Canadian Confederation in 1869. This question is one in which every Newfoundlander should take an interest, because if we are keeping out of Confederation to our own detriment, immediate steps should be taken towards entering it.

I do not think the subject should be treated as a political-party question. Liberal and non-Liberal, Confederate and anti-Confederate should stand together and study the Federal Constitution of Canada, and the much-talked-of direct taxation law, comparing Canada's revenue-making system with our own, her laws with our laws and so on, until every subject has been fairly dealt with.

I may say I have given a good deal of attention to this very important matter, and I am strongly in favor of Confederation. Canada is a great country even now, but she is to be greater still. In fact, her real march of progress has only just begun. We find her population of about six millions of people, united and happy, standing as one great family to make their country a great country. That they will succeed seems certain, as already Canada's greatness and power are being wondered at. Her wonderful resources and her future possibilities have the admiration of the whole world. With foreign capital flowing into the country on every hand, trade and commerce steadily advancing; industries of all kinds being established, the good will of every nation manifest, Great Britain's strength her own, the future of Canada seems bright indeed.

In my opinion, Newfoundland has everything to gain and nothing to lose by becoming a part of the Great Dominion and I think the same can be said of Canada. She has nothing to lose and everything to gain by taking Newfoundland on any reasonable terms.