

arguments are based. First, as to the population of the Provinces, and the aggregate population of the confederacy, we have the following figures :

Newfoundland	125,000
Prince Edward Island	80,747
New Brunswick	252,047
Nova Scotia	330,857
Lower Canada	1,110,654
Upper Canada	1,395,091
Red River (about).....	10,000

Total 3,304,396

Assuming that the representation in the Lower House of the general Legislature to be based upon population, and an average of one representative to each 25,000 of the population, we should have the following as the representation :

	MEMBERS.
1 Newfoundland	5
2 Prince Edward's Island.....	3
3 New Brunswick.....	10
4 Nova Scotia.....	13
5 Lower Canada.....	44
6 Upper Canada.....	55
7 Red River	1

Total 131

Then as to the extent of the confederation, the figures given show that British America has a larger area than the neighbouring States north and south combined, and only a very little less than Europe. The figures stand thus :

	SQUARE MILES.
Newfoundland	40,200
Prince Edward Island	2,174
New Brunswick.....	27,105
Nova Scotia.....	18,600
Canada.....	330,000
Hudson's Bay Territory, N. W.....	2,300,000
British Columbia	200,000
Vancouver's Island.....	15,000

Total 2,933,078

Of course in this estimate considerable allowance has to be made for the Hudson's Bay Territory, a very large portion of the north part of which is unfit for settlement. But even excepting this, we have still a territory capable of sustaining a hardy population, quite equal in extent to the Federal States, and large enough to be at all capable of being satisfactorily governed under a united Legislature and executive.

The elements of a great naval power which British America, as a united confederation, would possess are very great indeed. The amount of tonnage owned in the Provinces is set down at 562,498, and the following table shows how rapidly has been the increase in this species of property :

	TONS.
1806.....	71,943
1830.....	176,040
1836.....	274,738
1846.....	399,204
1850.....	446,935
1861.....	552,498

The tonnage owned by the different Provinces respectively is thus set down, although it is quite evident that as to Canada the figures are quite reliable. It is a pity that more attention has not been paid to the important subject of commercial statistics ; and now that Mr. Simpson has taken the Secretaryship of the Bureau of Statistics, it is to be hoped that this reproach will be removed :

	TONS.
Nova Scotia, (1862).....	248,061
New Brunswick, (1861).....	227,718
Newfoundland, (1862).....	87,030
Prince Edward Island.....	45,000
Canada, (1861).....	44,365

Total..... 652,174

The commercial marine of British North America, exclusive of British Columbia, is thus found to be second only to that of England, the United States and Russia. The number of vessels, and the tonnage of them, built in 1862, in the Provinces, is set down as follows :

	NO. OF VES.	TONS.
Canada.....	109	29,803
New Brunswick	90	48,719

	NO. OF VES.	TONS.
Nova Scotia.....	201	39,383
Newfoundland.....	—	2,786
Prince Edward Island.....	69	9,008
Total.....	461	129,697

These figures are exceedingly interesting, and indicate that British America is destined yet to become a very important naval power. Its extensive fisheries afford good training for seamen, and its enormous coast and admirable harbours give it great naval advantages. The *Leader* very sensibly remarks that, "The commercial marine of British America being, in point of magnitude, the fourth in the world, it is obvious that she possesses one of the principal elements of a great naval power. She has besides an extent of sea coast, unrivalled fisheries, opportunities for commerce, which will cause the marine rapidly to increase. A country so circumstanced is destined to become, sooner or later, a great naval power. England would never have obtained the proud title of mistress of the seas, if she had not possessed in an uncommon degree the elements of a naval power, an enormous commercial marine."

Next we have an article on the commerce of British America, from which we cull the following figures. The imports and exports of all the Provinces, excepting British Columbia, are as follows :

	IMPORTS.	EXPORTS.
Nova Scotia, (1861)	\$7,613,227	\$5,774,334
P. E. Island (1860)	1,150,270	1,007,170
Newfoundland (1861).....	5,764,285	5,662,755
New Brunswick (1861)	6,190,665	4,735,455
Canada (1863).....	45,964,493	41,831,532

Total.....\$66,682,940 \$58,811,246

This is a larger import than had the United States in 1821, whose imports that year amounted to a little over \$62,000,000 ; while the exports of the states during that year were under \$65,000,000 ; a fact which indicates that even thus early the United States were reaping the advantage of the national policy of protection to home industry under which they have so enormously increased and flourished. The intercolonial trade of the provinces has not been great, but a union which would give them a uniform tariff and free interchange of commodities between themselves, would largely increase this. The trade is thus given :—

	IMPORTS.	EXPORTS.
Canada (1863)	\$501,713	\$935,096
P. E. Island (1858)	398,828	273,848
New Brunswick (1859).....	734,648	281,720
Newfoundland (estimate).....	50,000	50,000

\$1,485,189 \$1,541,264

The Commerce of the Provinces requires a large tonnage for its accommodation, nearly double the tonnage engaged in the commercial marine of France which is only 3,288,000, and over twice as great as that engaged in the foreign commerce of the United States twenty years ago. It is as follows :

	Vessels entered.	Tons.	Vessels cleared.	Tons.
New Brunswick, (1861).....	3,518	727,318	3,342	744,093
Newfoundland, (1861)	1,337	181,917	1,159	171,080
Nova Scotia, (1861).....	6,322	696,763	6,089	695,582
P. E. Island, (1861).....	1,137	79,580	1,166	87,518
Canada (1863) from sea	2,463	1,041,679	2,514	1,071,108
Canada Internal Navigation.....	16,235	3,638,701	15,724	3,368,433
Total.....	30,013	6,265,963	29,994	6,137,311

The revenues of the Provinces, which of course form an important element in considering the question of union, are set down as follows :—

	REVENUE.	PER HEAD.
Nova Scotia	\$848,200	\$2 56
Prince E. Island	140,030	1 73
Newfoundland	450,215	3 60
New Brunswick	727,960	2 88
Canada.....	9,760,316	3 89
Total.....	\$11,926,731	\$3 60

And the public debt of the Provinces are stated thus :—

	PUBLIC DEBT.	PER HEAD OF POPULATION.
Nova Scotia.....(1861)	\$5,062,680	\$15 30
Prince E. Island.....(1861)	286,580	3 55
Newfoundland.....(1862)	868,212	6 95
New Brunswick.....(1862)	5,643,045	22 39
Canada	60,000,000	23 93
Total.....	\$71,860,517	\$21 74