

position and with those insular idiosyncrasies that are rarely corrected except by a liberal education and transatlantic travel,—are to decide for ourselves? Does not such an overweening conceit of our powers of discernment and political vaticination assume, to a sober and unbiassed judgment, very much the appearance of infatuation?

I am neither advocate nor apologist of what is styled the *Quebec* scheme, in *all* its details. I merely assert that its fundamental principles and noble object are worthy of all acceptance by every People and Parliament in Eastern British America. It has already been subjected to the most searching examination, and in some of its aspects, no doubt, modified so as to meet the views and secure the acquiescence of deputations to the Colonial Office from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The authors of that scheme never claimed infallibility; yet, whatever may be its defects, as a *tentative* programme, not authoritatively issued, but humbly submitted, not stealthily wormed into practical developement, but frankly and ingenuously thrown open, for years, to the gaze of the public eye, it is marked in the estimation of those preeminently qualified to form an impartial and just appreciation of its merits, by statesmanlike ability of a high order. And, from the harmonious adjustment of some of its details, to which Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, in the first instance, took exception, there can exist no doubt that had the Government of Prince Edward Island