

of the animal creation, which gives him an undoubted superiority over every thing made by the Creator for his enjoyment or use, and places him in the undisputed possession of his natural inheritance. The human mind is capable of infinite expansion, and was evidently never designed to grovel away among the masses of ignorance, to lose its noble powers by inaction, or yield to the despotic sway of undisguised tyranny. In a word, knowledge is an essential property of freedom, the true *sine qua non* of civil liberty, the power which alone qualifies the human race to accomplish the important purposes of their being. Knowledge is emphatically *power itself*—the true *Archimedæan lever* which moves the world. Hence the necessity of making the subject of education a legislative consideration; for, as all governments are supposed to be established for the express benefit of the people, it is the unquestionable prerogative of civil rulers to turn their thoughts to such measures as will most tend to secure the prosperity and happiness of those over whom they are placed in authority; and it is their bounden duty to enact *such* laws, and make *such* regulations irrespective of personal or party conditions, with a view to promote the best interests of rising generations. And it will, no doubt, be found by a reference as well to the pages of history, as to the present aspect of society, that that people who have been the most enlightened and intelligent, have held the highest rank and the most prominent stations in the scale of nations. Acting upon this principle, Classical Greece rose to the wonder of her own and all succeeding ages; whilst the names of ~~Scarcely~~ Aristotle, Socrates, Plato, Pythagoras, and Demosthenes will live long as sound learning, science and eloquence continue to be appreciated. Rome, who was for a time mistress of the world, owed her magnificence and splendour to the intelligence of her citizens. And it is more than probable that had not the arts and sciences declined, and luxury, indolence, and their concomitant evils entered within her walls, the "eternal city" would still remain, an imperishable monument of the infinite capacity of the human mind, and the durability of true greatness. Great Britain, (a name dear to every Canadian ear) by avoiding the rock upon which so many powerful nations have wrecked, has been acting upon a system which, if fully carried out, will ensure her continued prosperity and enduring renown. In our own country, we find matters, in this respect, evidently differing from those of almost all others. Few, if any, have been more highly favoured with original grants and government promises, than the people of Canada. But their object, through the instrumentality of covetous, egotistical, and designing men, whose only principle is passion, and whose ruling motive of action, self-interest and personal aggrandisement, has been inva-

+ Thales