

2nd Resolution. **RESOLVED**—That this meeting congratulates the country on the establishment of a Normal School in this Colony.

**J. M. STARK**, Esquire, Superintendent of Schools, on being called upon to propose the above Resolution, came forward, and spoke in the following terms :

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen—It is with great pleasure that I come forward to fulfil the duty assigned to me on this interesting occasion. The event which we have to-day met to celebrate, is one to which I have long looked forward with eager and anxious expectation ; so much so, that I have sometimes experienced that “ hope deferred ” which Solomon has said “ maketh the heart sick.” When on the other side of the Atlantic, the attraction which shone the brightest in inducing me to leave my native country for a time, was the establishment of a Normal training School in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. To aid the people in the application and working of their noble Free Education Act, to encourage and assist the Teachers in all their efforts after self-improvement, and their aspirations towards a more intelligent method of imparting instruction to their pupils and conducting their schools ; and, above all, to lend a helping hand in the establishment of, and to organize an institution in which young persons who intend to follow the profession of a teacher, might receive some preparatory training in the art of communicating instruction ; such were the objects I had in view in coming to this Colony, and these I have pursued with all the ability and energy I am master of. It is, therefore, with feelings of no common satisfaction that now, after having been three years amongst you, I meet with you at the opening of the Normal and Model Training School. I most heartily concurred in Your Excellency’s idea of signalizing the event by an educational assembly—a meeting of the teachers of the Island and of all the friends of education who have this day honored us with their presence. The commencement of any new undertaking is always an event to be specially marked. Even in our own individual experience, at the beginning of an epoch in our history, or the commencement of an enterprise, we usually mark it in some special manner. The opening of any educational establishment, in which children are trained to those habits, and instructed in those things which will fit them for the business of after-life, would be a matter of importance ; but when we consider that a Normal School is intended for the training of teachers, who are to educate the youth of the Colony, from whom the rising generation are to receive their knowledge and enlightenment, I think that all present will agree with me in feeling that this day is a memorable one in the history of the Colony. The

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