

eration of Nova Scotians, who enjoy the fruits of his labors, can scarcely realize. But to those who remember him in Nova Scotia, he is honored "as the early reformer and the great tribune of the people; admired as the orator without peer, the poet, the wit and the man of letters; and loved as the most popular of politicians and most kindly of human souls."

To few countries have been given so noble a son. All



HON. JOSEPH HOWE

his life through he worked for his country's good. As a statesman, poet and journalist his life was spent in the service of his country and for the advancement of his fellow-citizens. For years he was the most commanding figure in colonial affairs and in his own province a leader whom the people delighted to honor.

At a time when certain liberties and privileges were being secured elsewhere only by war and bloodshed, he took the lead in the provinces and by constitutional means obtained for us the great blessing of responsible government, the freedom of the press and other of the advantages we enjoy. He was easily the foremost man

in Nova Scotia and in many respects he was the greatest statesman who has sprung from the soil of a British Dominion.

Joseph Howe's place in Canadian History rests upon his vindication of the freedom of the press; his services to the cause of education; the establishment of responsible government, and of railway enterprise; his oratory and his poetry.

In this paper we will consider his work in gaining for the province responsible government, and his rank as a poet.

Joseph Howe was the father of responsible government in Nova Scotia. It is not necessary and it would be altogether incorrect to claim for him that the doctrine of responsible