

Free Schools in Nova Scotia

practical skill for the doing of their work and much of that glowing enthusiasm for which Dr. Forrester was distinguished, on the completion of their course they were scattered over the Province as teachers in the public schools. In such fashion were the people awakened and in some degree prepared for Free Schools.

In 1864 a Bill, the main features of which were drawn up by Dr. Forrester, providing for Free Schools supported by assessment, was brought before the Nova Scotia Legislature by Dr. Charles Tupper—later Sir Charles Tupper, Baronet—the leader of the Conservative party which had recently come into power. The supporters of the Government were not a unit as regards the School Bill, and those of them who were opposed to the measure gave the Premier to understand that they would vote against the Bill. But Mr. Adams G. Archibald—afterwards Sir Adams—the leader of the Liberal party, was too true a patriot to take advantage of a political rival by helping to defeat a measure which he believed the interests of the country demanded. Accordingly, he and several of his party supporters voted with the