

elevate their minds, to cultivate their acquaintance with Science, and to afford them general information.

It is now many years, though I remember it well, since Henry Brougham, with a band of co-adjutors, formed the first Mechanics' Institute; and at the same time established the 'Mechanics' Magazine. Alas! how few of those excellent men are left! Brougham—the Philosopher, the Statesman, the Orator, seems alone to survive, to witness the triumphs of those Institutions, of which he was in a great measure the founder.

And here let me pause, to offer my tribute of admiration to that extraordinary man. Possessed of high genius, the profound Philosopher, and great Statesman, he now lives at an advanced age, honored and respected. It is now more than twenty years since I was one day crossing Lake Simcoe on the ice—approaching Thorah Island, I observed, with some wonder, a tree in the centre of the Island which rose to a great height above all the trees by which it was surrounded—a giant among giants. Such is Henry Brougham—a giant among the intellectual giants of England.

Thus were the means afforded to many a generous youth to become acquainted with the higher walks of Science—to grasp at attainments which otherwise he never could have reached.—How must the youth, possessed of genius which had hitherto lain dormant, just from wanting that with which such an institution supplies him, rejoice that his wishes are at last gratified. He wanders with joy through the realms of Science. He beholds the Heavens with a delight he never felt before: Astronomy has enabled him to tell the names of the constellations, and to marshall them in their order; Natural Philosophy has been his instructor, and the works of the Creator stand out before him, with a majesty and grandeur hitherto unknown. Chemistry has exhibited her more than magic powers. The ship which, sails against the wind and tide—the beautiful engine with its attendant train, that thunders through the