

which sex) told him, when he got up, to say something complimentary to the ladies. Well, he would not shrink from that agreeable duty, but looking round, would declare, not only that he admired them all, but that he would not give the approving smile of a woman whom he valued, for the loud applause of a dozen men. (Cheers and laughter.)

Of late years the value of popular education, colleges, normal and free schools, had come to be universally acknowledged. Men of enthusiastic temperament had everywhere arisen to influence governments and legislatures, and to press forward the instruction of the people. Foremost amongst these in Nova Scotia was his life-long and esteemed friend, the late Dr. Forrester, to whom the Province, and especially the County of Colchester, owed so much. It was he who framed the first Free School Act in conjunction with himself, which was introduced into the Assembly in 1857, and was the origin and foundation of the present system, which a subsequent government successfully and honorably carried out.

But upon a much larger scale had the value and the power of an instructed free people been exhibited, and even despots been taught a striking and a wholesome lesson. The Prussians, the best educated nation in Europe, humiliated by Napoleon, and crushed by the disaster of Jena, have been trained to avenge themselves, and the memorable fields of Sadowa and Sedan had shown that such an army was an over-match for the disciplined forces both of Austria and France. Thus it was that ambitious leaders for their own ends were taught that they must instruct the masses, while the Almighty Disposer of events, pursuing his divine but mysterious purposes, subdued and directs the passions that agitate our race, and make them the ministers of His will.

Before he sat down, as short addresses were the order of the day, he would return to his local recollections. How well he remembered the professional and social claim that rendered Truro so attractive to him at an early period of his career. Then the Master of the Rolls, S. G. W. Archibald, was in the maturity of his powers, with a keenness of intellect, a polished wit, a tact and suavity rarely equalled and never surpassed in this Province. He is gone, and so also is his gifted son, Sir Thomas D. Archibald, who rose to such eminence in London, and with whom a little more than a year ago, I spent many delightful hours, surrounded by the great luminaries of the land, with whom he associated as an intimate friend. It is something for Colchester to have produced two such men. And now you have another Archibald, in the person of our esteemed Lieutenant Governor, with whom