

is better understood, and what is soundest and most stable in government is better appreciated and more firmly supported. The glorious career of England among the nations of the world demands of us this tribute to the tried excellence of her admirable constitution; it should be our pride to shew that far removed as we are from the splendours of Royalty and the influences of a Court, monarchy is not blindly preferred among us from a senseless attachment to antiquated prejudices, nor reluctantly tolerated from a sense of duty or a dread of change; but that on the contrary, it is cherished in the affections, and supported by the free and firm will of an intelligent people, whose love of order has been strengthened as their knowledge has increased—a people who regard with loyal pleasure the obligations of duty which bind them to the Crown, and who value their kingly form of government not only because they believe it to be the most favourable to stability and peace, but especially for the security it affords to life and property, the steady support which it gives to the laws, and the certainty with which it ensures the actual enjoyment of all that deserves to be dignified with the name of freedom.

#### IV. PROGRESS OF BRITISH AMERICA.

(Extract from the conclusion of the foregoing Speech.)

I close these observations by adverting to the very remarkable period in the history of this Province at which the Normal School in Upper Canada has taken possession of its magnificent home. We are advancing with a rapidity that surprises ourselves, scarcely less than the people of other countries who have been suddenly awakened to the truth of our astonishing, but inevitable progress. It was but a few weeks ago that I read in one of the leading English periodicals, an article written expressly for the purpose of impressing upon the British public a due sense of the importance of the North American Provinces, and of the great interests which with surprising rapidity are springing up within them, and claiming the attention of the mother country. In order to give force to his statements, the writer of this article speaks of it as a matter of surprise, that the British North American Provinces contain among them a population of not less than 1,700,000 souls; not imagining, that Canada alone contained nearly 150,000 more people than he gave credit for to all these Provinces.—In all of these extensive Colonies of the British Crown, distinguished as they are by a loyal and generous appreciation of their position as a portion of the British Empire, the same spirit of enterprise is at this moment in active employment with the aid of singular advantages, in developing their great national resources. Every thing that we can see and feel at the present time, or can discern in the future, is full of encouragement to the farmer, the mechanic, and the labourer,—and as for the liberal professions, it is impossible that they can languish among a prosperous people. The multiplying calls for intelligence in the varieties of employment which are daily increasing—the wonderful cheapness and facility which improvements in the art of printing have given in the production of books and newspapers, and the quickened circulation of intelligence which we derive from liberal postal arrangements and the magic wonders of the telegraph, must make the necessity of being able to read and write so great, and the desire so nearly universal, that the few who may remain without such instruction will be made to feel the marked inferiority of their position. And soon it will be literally true that in Upper Canada there will be no excuse for any person endowed with ordinary capacity, being found in a condition so degrading to a freeman, and so unsuitable to an accountable being. With everything to urge and to tempt them to the acquisition of knowledge, and everything to aid them in obtaining it, it will be impossible that the people of Canada can do otherwise than feel that in their case emphatically "*poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction.*"