

some excess of summer's heat or winter's cold, proves itself sufficiently adapted to growth, strength, vigour, and the development of the higher powers and faculties of man; in a soil whose fertility, had it not been otherwise attested, is abundantly displayed in the magnificent variety of forest crowning our highest hills, and the luxuriant herbage which overspreads our plains and vales; in its timber, and metals, and minerals, and exhaustless fisheries, with streams and rivers and bays and harbours, promising a progressive extension of commerce and of opulence;—and, I will add, in the elements of social and moral progression, to be found in an assemblage of colonists speaking the language, imbued with the sentiments, and cherishing the customs and institutions of the British Isles;—whence has sprung, what I shall venture to call, notwithstanding inevitable defects which time alone can supply, our truly admirable scheme of Provincial Education, designed to provide needful instruction for every child of a New-Brunswick, from the indigent occupant of the hut in the remotest clearance, to the landholder, the citizen, and the public officer. To accomplish this scheme,—not by destroying foundations well and wisely laid; not by capricious alterations, to be abandoned as soon as made; not by unadvised and ludicrous attempts to perform in a few days or weeks what the nature of man requires to be the work of months, or rather of years; but by well-considered, steady, and persevering application of the best available means,—this is the Teacher's task; this must be the patriotic Statesman's aim and hope.