

guages through which exhibits should pass as proofs of their fitness for the Central or Provincial Exhibition, which should be held yearly under the auspices of, and supported by the funds of the Province. There is a serious danger which I trust and believe that you avoid, but which John Young in his letters of Agriculture warned us against more than sixty years ago, that there was a great danger, and the greater if the funds are not locally contributed, but come from a sort of distant Providence in the shape of the provincial chest, that the prize meeting may degenerate into a job among the farmers of the neighborhood, who simply look on the provincial grant as so much money to be divided. Local contributions locally administered, will best check this, and the spirit of the people will best be shown by the principle of self help being recognized rather than by drawing on external funds. My acquaintance with the people of the counties forming this district assures me that they would not be behind hand in any undertaking to which they give their minds. Whether at home or abroad, one cannot but admire their push in all other than agricultural pursuits. Amongst representatives from nearly every county in the Province whom I met in my late visit to British Columbia, were a McKenzie from Pictou, a Chisholm from Antigonish, a Matheson from Guysboro, and all were doing well, but the hankering after the old home was strong within them, and both Matheson, with his thirty-five cows and snug dairy farm and bright Pictou wife, and Chisholm, too, told me they had fully made up their minds to get back to Nova Scotia and settle down on a comfortable "ranche." Wherever they may decide to remain, wish them success, as they are good and useful inhabitants. In the not distant past it was the custom of our people to gather together to assist each other at important operations on their farms. These "frolics" or "bees" are now almost a thing of the past, as population has increased, and help can be otherwise obtained; but though farming methods have changed and improved, the duty of helping one another devolves on farmers as much as ever, not now in manual help, but in publishing and keeping each other informed in the result of their experiments and improvements in systems they from time to time work out.

We sadly want a more general knowledge of the principles of agriculture diffused among our young people; the control of education is in provincial hands, and this might be turned to good purpose in giving the elements of a technical education in a branch that a majority of our population will necessarily follow. The more highly our farmers are educated the more interesting and engrossing the occupation will become; it will so progress that it will become a mine of research, inviting men to study its secrets still more closely.

The tendency of the present age is to demand that science shall prove its utility by its application to the industrial arts; it is no longer to be dreamed of or written about; the scientific man is no longer to live in an atmosphere of his own, apart from the world, but he is to bring his contribution to be at once worked into the web of our daily life. We welcome him and respect his learning, the more because we see it has useful bearings on our material progress, and comes in as a valuable assistance to the practical worker, and who more practical than Scotchmen.

We of Scotch descent claim our national attributes; you born in Nova Scotia, I in England, shall feel that we have retained some Scotch virtues and traditions. We are not easily discouraged. Robert Bruce learned a lesson from the spider, and was not too proud to own that a humble insect could rouse and instruct a King. He had an object to gain which was worth the effort, and set himself to do it. We can take pattern from the Kingly Bruce, or be shamed by the insignificant spider.

If we fail we should try again. We, too, have an object to gain, to develop and give high standing to a Province of which we are proud; we wish to place it on the high pedestal which Providence in the endowment of its natural resources intended it should occupy.

It was the wish of many of our young men to have joined in the expedition which bore the old flag of England triumphant through Egypt last month; they would have been worthy comrades of the gallant troops that carried the entrenchments at Tel-el-Keber with a rush in the grey September morning, but it was not given to us to be there. We can, however, work for our country elsewhere, and I believe that we can do as much to promote its prosperity and future greatness by developing its great agricultural resources, as if we had charged with the Highland brigade or ridden with the Life Guards at Kassassin.

We have found the work that is given us to do. Let us do it with our might.

GOVERNOR ARCHIBALD'S OPENING ADDRESS AT THE YARMOUTH EXHIBITION.

If an opinion were to be formed of the industry of this neighborhood from what is now displayed before us, we should be apt to conclude that Agriculture was one of your main stays. The various articles of produce arranged on these tables—the roots and the fruits which load them down and, in the adjoining enclosure, the fine specimens of stock, the cattle (more especially the Jersey, Ayrshire and Devon thoroughbreds,) which are collected there, all indicate much progress in agriculture. These exhibits would be creditable to Counties whose people depended altogether on the cultivation of the soil for a living. Nobody can look at what we see on this occasion without feeling assured that large tracts of land in this section of the Province are well adapted to the purposes of agriculture.

You possess in such land and in your milder climate and shorter winter, as compared with other parts of Nova Scotia, elements which will tell favorably on your success in this branch of industry. But yet, if I am rightly informed, it is comparatively but of recent date that your people have paid much attention to agriculture. I learn also upon good authority that the past season has been exceptionally unfavorable in this section of the country, and has seriously affected the classes of exhibits in which you particularly excel. If so, you have special reason to be gratified with the result of

your new departure. It shows that you have a valuable resource in lands which hitherto you have perhaps underrated. The people of other parts of the Province, at all events, were not aware you possessed them. We—I speak now of outsiders from this section—we were always aware of the energy and enterprise of the people of this part of the country. We knew something of your history. We were aware that the first hardy adventurers who came to Yarmouth settled on these shores in the same year that the townships of the upper part of the Bay were founded. We knew that your ancestors, like ours, had undergone severe privations—if anything, more severe than ours. We knew that they subsisted for many years largely on the produce of the fisheries, till in a happy moment they, and more particularly the people of this County, discovered and entered upon an industry, for which its situation and surroundings admirably adapted it. We knew that they engaged so actively in this industry that before long the sails of their ships whitened every sea. We knew that they were carriers for all parts of the world, and that by-and-bye the time came when the little seaport of Yarmouth, in this distant Province of the Empire, could boast of a mercantile marine greater than was owned by the entire Kingdom of Scotland at the time of the union. We knew that from this business streams of wealth poured into this County till it became probably the richest County in the Province, outside of Halifax. Of this wealth we have the evidence, printed in capital letters, all over the western shore. We see it in the fine houses you inhabit, in the lovely grounds that surrounds them; we see it in the air of comfort which enshrines every dwelling we pass in travelling through the County.

The other day, in coming from my country residence at Truro, I travelled as far as Kentville with a gentleman who, of all the men in Nova Scotia, is probably the best qualified to form a correct judgment as to the character of an exhibition. I speak of the learned Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, whose experience runs over so many and so varied a series of Agricultural Exhibitions. I knew that I could not be here in time to take a view for myself, and therefore I asked him to look around on the exhibits and give me some hints as to their character. Dr. Lawson was kind enough to undertake the work. He has handed me a report, which gives so graphic and valuable a statement of what is interesting in connection with the exhibition, that I would not be doing justice to that gentleman if I appropriated to myself the observations he has made, and I would not be doing justice to you if I were to deprive your exhibitors of the benefit of a certificate stamped with Dr. Lawson's