

many of the Loyalists came here. At later periods Ireland and Scotland have sent us emigrants.

Of these varied elements has the character of our population been formed. A new development is found in the native born, evincing in its impulsiveness much of the excitability of the Irish mind—in its steady and resolute tone, much of the English and Scotch origin.

The sons of Nova Scotia abroad have gained well earned honours. To the army Halifax has given a Beckwith—to the navy a Wallis and a Sir Edward Belcher. Nova Scotia has given to literature an Haliburton—to science a Gesner; and while our Province has supplied judges and public men of great ability to several of the other colonies, she has yet an abundant supply of talent and genius to store for her own uses—in the senate, at the bar, in the pulpit, in poetry and literature.

You commemorate to-day the building of your city. The true city, where is it to be found? not in the mere masses of buildings, but in the people. In your heads, in your hands, in your hearts. Here, then, assembled to-day I see the heart and the soul of Halifax. Other lands may boast greater wealth,—other cities a more numerous population; but where can you find a city or a province whose sons and daughters love her and cling to her as fondly, as proudly, as exclusively, as we do to Halifax—to Nova Scotia. The treasures of our land are her lovely and pure-minded daughters, the wealth of Halifax is in the 30,000 hearts that this day beat in unison for its welfare, its honour.

The future, the coming century, the second century of Halifax. In this shall we not see her advance. Your children are to be the citizens of the coming century. Educate them in right principles, in useful pursuits. Providence has pointed out nautical and commercial industry as our vocation by giving us this peninsular situation. In this we should study to emulate the upright character and the enterprise of the British merchant.

Members of the National societies enrolled under the flags of your dear native lands! For the holy love you cherish for them is our best assurance of your worth. It tells us you will prove good citizens and faithful friends to the land of your adoption, the home of your choice, the birth place of your children. The charities that bind you to each other indicate your social value.

Society of Nova Scotians! True virtue becomes conspicuous in the most adverse circumstances, as your Mayflower blooms amid the snow. Act on the lesson your favourite emblem furnishes, and your patriotism will come out of every trial as pure and brilliant as your native amethyst.

Most ancient and honourable Society of Free Masons! You display the emblems of science, order, union, and of all embracing love of your fellow men. You thus teach us how to lay the only sound foundation of the social edifice. By such principles cities flourish, kingdoms prosper. To lose them is to lose true civilization.

Sons of Temperance, members of Temperance Societies! Your high aim, your incessant struggle for moral reform is known to all.—The great influence you wield for good in Halifax is shown in your long array.

Members of Fire Companies! How can I sufficiently praise the vigilance, the activity, the courage and the discipline you bring to bear in your warfare with the terrible enemy you oppose. By day or night when danger call you out, your calm, resolute and unflinching efforts to subdue conflagration, to rescue property and life, are familiar to us all.

Brethren of the African Society! Your presence to day proves that