

practically all they learned very shortly after leaving school. Should they devote the same attention to their mother tongue instead, they would be the proud masters of one of the oldest, the most copious, the most expressive, and the most euphonious of all living languages.

5. For any advance in philology a knowledge of the Celtic language is absolutely necessary. All the leading Universities of the world have established or are establishing chairs of Celtic. Why should the Celts of Nova Scotia, forming nearly one-half of its entire population, allow Germans and Frenchmen to take the lead in promoting the study of the Celtic languages?

In view, therefore, of the large percentage of our population who speak Gaelic, and whose dearest traditions and loftiest aspirations are embodied in that language; in view of its undoubted educational value, the excellence of its literature, and its great practical utility, your petitioners urge, respectfully but strongly, that Gaelic be included in the courses of study prescribed for both the Common and High School Grades of our Public Schools, and receive at least, the same prominence that is accorded the French language.

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

The Glory of a Great Empire is the variety of Races, Languages and Religions, each striving to excel each other in all good will and not as unfortunately has been too long and too often the case in the past, one type desperately trying to extinguish all traces of the traditions languages and folklore of the others.

The petition printed here which has been presented to my honoured name sake the Premier of Nova Scotia shows that affinity of ideas have been moving quite unconsciously to each other different parties hundreds of miles from each other. A common ancestral language is a strong bond between different peoples even when they differ in religious opinions.

Much has been written about the wild state of the Highlands at one time by people who knew very little about them.

The real fact of the matters is however that at the present time there is no class of people in the whole of the British Empire where there is less friction between Catholics and Protestant than there is among the Highland people both at home and in Canada. When they were exiled to Canada some to Glengary and some to Nova Scotia they have shown an example of brotherly love that it would be well for other people to follow. What a dif-