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## AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION.

We know not that we can better commence the fifth volume of the Journal or Education than by presenting our readers with the Address of the Right Reverend Dr. Potter, of Philadelphia, one of the Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States, delivered at Cleaveland, Ohio, at the opening of the second annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Education—an Association of which the Chief Superintendent of Schools for Upper Canada has the honor of being a member, and which embraces the British North American Provinces, as well as the United States. Dr. Potter's language is as elequent and beautiful as his views are comprehensive and philanthropic. Dr. Potter, as President of the Association, opened the proceedings of the annual meeting with the following able and elequent exposition of its objects and character:

He remarked:—The Association which we have now ventured to organize—I use the term ventured, because I appreciate the responsibility which any of the friends of education assume in undertaking to associate themselves together for purposes so vast, and under a title so comprehensive as are indicated in this instrument, which the Secretary has just read;—the Association is not only national—it is in truth continental. It is an American Association for the advancement of Education, and it aspires to embrace within the sphere of its unpretending labours, representatives from all quarters of North America. It would recognize no barriers

between the citizens of this great republic, and the citizens of the neighbouring provinces of a British monarch. It would recognize. in regard to our own land, no distinctions, no dividing lines between the east and the west, the north and the south. It owns here, in its aspirations, but one country, and but one kin. Man as men, in all his high and illimitable capabilities, is the subject about whom we propose to counsel together—for the advancement and elevation of whom we propose to labour. A period seems to me to have arrived in the history of education in this country, and in every civilized and Christian land, in which re-unions, consultations, mutual deliberations, the calm, dispassionate exchange of opinions become very important. To give to these re-unions their appropriate dignity, and, above all, their appropriate usefulness, it is desirable to combine the labours of those who come from every section. To attain this object it is proposed to make the meetings of this institution migratory. It was cradled upon the shores of the Atlantic, in that city where the Declaration of Independence was first made, and where first saw the light that ægis under which we live. the Constitution of the United States. All we can hope for in this institution is, a career in some humble measure as progressive; and as rich in blessings to mankind, as has been the career of the two great instruments to which I have referred. By conversing at different points we hope to secure a fair infusion of the best intelligence and public spirit which has applied itself to this subject of education throughout the length and breadth of North America. We have met here, to-day, as if to indicate the comprehensive design of this institution. Where are we assembled? On the design of this institution. shores of one of those magnificent inland seas which constitute so much of the strength and glory of this people. We look towards the south, on that vast expanse, teeming with its millions of population, the waters of which discharge themselves into the Gulf of Mexico. Rolling at our feet are waters which reach the Gulf of St. Lawrence; and these same waters, on their backward course, carry you to that mighty territory of the North and West so rapidly peopling from every part of the earth, and from which, as a great hive, multitudes are to be sent forth to the Pacific. The time at which we are met is auspicious. During these hours, there are assembled at the capital of a neighbouring State, which has entitled itself the Empire State, representatives from the science of the land -from those who have consecrated themselves to knowledge in the departments of chemistry, mechanics, and natural history. have assembled ourselves at a place distant from them geographically, to confer about the great science and art of education..... science which seeks to investigate the laws which regulate the normal development of the mind—an art which applies these laws to the actual culture and development of that same mind. Now. I conceive we shall labour well and wisely in this cause, in proportion as we recognize the fact, that while much has been given us