

seem to have peculiarly fitted them to shine as Orators and Statesmen—and you will be convinced that there is a power in the human mind, to controul all outward circumstances, and raise itself up from the lowest deep of social degradation to the highest point of moral influence and intellectual renown. Need I refer you to the Franklins and Fergusons, the Johnsons and the Fultons, to convince you that even on the roughest roads of Scholarship and Science, those who would appear to have the greatest advantages may be distanced by the genius and perseverance of the most obscure.

These splendid individual instances have often been pressed upon your attention; and I only allude to them here, that I may enquire, whether men in masses may not atchieve for their common country, a moral and intellectual reputation, and a measure of collective prosperity and influence, equally disproportioned to her apparent means—equally honorable to their joint exertions—and equally worthy of that untiring dilligence and indefatigable hope, without which nothing valuable can ever be attained? I think they can. I would have you think so; and sanctioned by your judgment, I wish the sentiment to go abroad over the Province, and to become strongly impressed upon the minds of my youthful countrymen, until it ripens into a cheerful and fixed determination to raise up their native land to a point of distinction in Agriculture, Commerce and the Arts—in Literature and Science—in Knowledge and Virtue, which shall win for her the admiration and esteem of other lands, and teach them to estimate Nova-Scotia rather by her mental riches and resources, than by her age, population or geographical extent. With Nations as with Individuals, though much depends on natural endowments, much also depends on first impressions and early culture; and with them, as with us, though in some cases accidents may make or mar, it rarely happens that their ruling passions and fixed determinations do not controul their destiny.

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