

A MEMORIAL TOWER (PROPOSED).

It has been customary in all ages and by all great races worthy of the name, to celebrate great events and great achievements in their history. How can we most worthily commemorate the cradling of the British Empire in our midst? How can we proclaim to the world our high sense of gratitude, that we and our forbears have, for so many generations, enjoyed all the blessings of the fostering and protecting British constitution?

History teaches us lessons. In the early centuries, the nations of Western Europe were benefited and enriched by imitating the Romans in many things. If we allow ourselves to be influenced by Ruskin, on this side of the Atlantic, we may with advantage do likewise. We may imitate the Romans, by erecting an architectural edifice on the line of the celebrated campanile at Venice, or some other historic tower. In order properly to commemorate the ever memorable event, why should we not symbolize in stone, the history of Nova Scotia since it became the seat of representative government—the pioneer of parliamentary government in the outer Empire?

The plate is intended to suggest such an historical tower. The edifice is designed to be of noble proportions, and the first course of masonry, laid on the bed rock of native Nova Scotia granite, would typify the beginning of representative government in the year 1758, associated, as has been shown, so closely with the foundation of the Empire. Each course of massive masonry upwards would have its meaning, and would be adorned by references to the names and deeds of distinguished men who have served their country.

The historical purpose of the building should always be held in view. It was many years before representative government developed into responsible government; not indeed until about 1840. Accordingly, for a space above the foundation representing 82 years, the tower would be characterized by massive simplicity of outline. Again, in 1867, Nova Scotia federated with the other provinces to form the Canadian Dominion, and from the natal day (July 1st) in that year onwards, the pioneer province by the sea has done its full