

if not certainly, seen more and greater changes in the character of human thought and speculation, and more progress in human discovery and invention than any other equal period of time in the whole history of civilization.

Within the past seventy-four years the great doctrine of evolution—a doctrine that has profoundly modified the whole forefront of human knowledge—has been logically presented and satisfactorily established. And there is no department of human knowledge, speculative or scientific, which has not felt its broadening influence. Some of the sciences, as Geology, Biology, and the far-reaching subject of Medical Bacteriology may almost be said to have had their real beginning during the past 74 years, while such things as the electric light, the telegraph, the marconigraph, the telephone, the talking machine, the cinematograph, and others, which have given us a new fairyland of wonders, are products of the last 74 years.

It is a thoroughly practicable matter at the present day to establish a new and quite fully supplied university in a few years, as we see exemplified in Saskatchewan and Alberta and British Columbia, but such was not the case when Ontario—or Upper Canada as it was then called—was a new and sparsely settled country, and when the great Northwest was an unknown wilderness.

The inhabitants of Upper Canada, especially of that part of it in the vicinity of Kingston, and along the north shore of Lake Ontario, came mainly from two sources — the newly-formed United States of America, and the British Islands.

The United Empire Loyalists, as the former were commonly called, were those colonial subjects of Great Britain, who, refusing to throw in their lot with the newly-formed Republic at the close of the revolutionary war, in 1776, were compelled to leave their former homes and seek new ones in the wild and wooded country north of the great lakes and the St. Lawrence River—many went, also, to the Maritime provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. These people had no exalted idea of education or of educational institutions, as these things were not well developed in the country whence