



ADDRESS.

I am very glad to be in Halifax to speak to this gathering on education and the improvement of agriculture in Nova Scotia. I need not congratulate the farmers of this province on the progress of agriculture during recent years. Every one in Nova Scotia and in Canada has reason to be pleased with the great prosperity that has been enjoyed over our whole land, especially in relation to agriculture. We have had years of bountiful harvests, absence of pestilence and enjoyment of peace. These have made for the weal of the people everywhere. We have always been a large country, and the agricultural interests of the country have been growing larger; but it is only recently that we have begun to recognize ourselves as becoming in any sense a great country. It is only still more recently that other people have given us credit for being at the beginnings of greatness as a nation. Largeness and greatness are not identical either in agriculture or in national life. In reading the English papers I have noticed many comments of late, not merely upon Canada's growth but, on Canada's strength and greatness. Our greatness is coming through the advance of our two most important interests, education and agriculture. There is no more important theme or question before the public of Canada to-day or before any body of legislators than education for the improvement of agriculture.

WHAT MAKES FOR GREATNESS.

You are a sturdy people in Nova Scotia. I do not know whether the newness on the first half of the name or the Latin form of its second part has helped you to improve on the qualities of the old Scottish race, but I hope that Nova Scotia may do for Canada in a large measure what the old Scotland has done for humanity at large in respect to educational matters and some other phases of human progress. Here you have, as we have all over Canada, that love of liberty which founded the school house and finds ever worthier nourishment and sustenance there. We talk on occasions of the merits and meanings of our institutions of self-government. Their permanence, their excellence, is assured by the school house. Not only is liberty insured to our people, but it is enjoyed in proportion to our intelligence. Here again we have a fruit of the school house. The administration of justice pure and undefiled is only possible by people who are well educated. Since we cherish most what is most worth while to us as a nation and to us as indi-