

of the past, of their habits and tastes, of the story of their wrongs and their struggles for the right, of the growth of principles, except what might perchance be transmitted by traditionary or legendary fable, what a wild world ours would be! With no directing ray from centuries of toil and experience how sad would be our case. History points out to us the shoals on which others have foundered and warns. It holds up to view the wise, the good and the great of immortal memory, and those too who are remembered only to be despised and scorned. Sacred history, the outlines of ancient and especially that part of modern history which refers to our own nation, should be thoroughly mastered by every student who aspires even to mediocrity in literary attainment.

Our own language in its flexibility, copiousness, and richness is admirably adapted for the highest purposes of the historian, orator and poet. It combines the force and strength of the Latin with the spirit of the modern French, and if it is inferior to the mellifluous language of Demosthenes, in smoothness and compass, it equals, and perhaps rivals it in precision. And our English literature furnishes an extensive field for study and enjoyment, and is rich in the highest productions of genius. From these, in our researches here, we will seek to cull the choicest flowers, and study their varied and surpassing beauties.

Love of the beautiful in nature and in art has an ennobling effect. The cultivation of taste and a leading to an appreciation of beauty and fitness constitute no unimportant part in the careful training of the young. While the ornamental should by no means take the place of the useful studies, we think that drawing, painting and music should be studied when at all practicable, not only on account of their being delightful sources of recreation, but also for their educative value.

We should aim, in the work of education, at inspiring our sons with a sacred regard for our institutions and laws, love for our country and anxiety for her prosperity. For years back the rush of material prosperity in the neighbouring republic has drawn but too many of our young men—the pride and strength of our provinces—away from their homes. The imbibing of republican principles by them has been the result. British America stretching from the iron-bound Atlantic coast to shores laved by the Pacific,