

to England. Inquiry as to the cause of this brings us to the fact that cattle alone will not load a vessel. There must be a bottom cargo, and those who would wish to see a cattle trade from this port developed must set themselves to find a bottom cargo for the ships engaged. Were our apples classified and packed so as to arrive in a merchantable condition in the English market they would furnish a large amount and the production is only in its infancy. Our cheese factories and our dairies, if well conducted, should furnish a large export in addition to satisfying local requirements, and this business could be largely increased. I trust I am not over sanguine in looking to the time when West Indian sugars, after passing through a well conducted refinery here, may yet be amongst our exports to Europe. The want is serious, and injures our trade. Let us hope that it will in some way be met.

In all this Halifax is interested quite as much as the country.

On china breakfast sets it is not uncommon to see on the platter intended for the bread "God speed the plough," the consumer thus being made to show the deep and constant interest he must necessarily take in all that relates to the producer. To every man this motto must come home, for whilst the farmer lives by the plough all the world besides depends on him for their living. The backwoods man and backward farmer raises what actually maintains him; but he has no surplus for the rest of the community. Hence, if our agricultural class were limited to such men all must farm or some must starve. So, from the most selfish motives all are interested in the improvement of farming; and the more skilfully it is carried on the larger will be the return for the labor expended, and relatively the greater the portion that can devote their time to other pursuits; and I look upon it as a healthy sign—as a recognition of a community of interests—that the city has pressed its claims to apply to the country the stimulus of a well-conducted agricultural exhibition.

In the past the interests of this city have been more in the line of importation than production; times have changed, men have changed, and system must change. We are now casting about to ascertain not merely what we can produce for ourselves, but what we can export; in this all Canada is in earnest; Halifax has fallen into line, we want no stronger proof of this than the spirit with which an Industrial Department and handsome prize list have been added to our Agricultural Exhibition. On behalf of the Central Board of Agriculture, and as the farmers' representative, I welcome the innovation. Commerce has held out her hand to Agriculture and Manufactures—we welcome the auspicious union.

Let us hope that this is really the commencement of a new era in which all petty local jealousies shall be sunk, and that we shall all pull together for the good of our Province, our Dominion, and our Empire.

OPENING ADDRESS BY HIS HONOR ADAMS G. ARCHIBALD, C. M. G., LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF NOVA SCOTIA.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,—

Halifax occupies to-day a position of which she has just reason to be proud. She has erected this magnificent structure, which,

besides being an ornament to the city, is, what is of far more importance, a monument of the interest she feels in the great industries of the Province. If she has been slow to arouse herself she has done her work well when aroused. By erecting this noble building, Halifax has asserted her position as the metropolis of the Province. She has recognized the obligations which devolve upon her as the centre of our social and political life.

There are many things in which our city may well take pride. The beauty of the site will challenge comparison with that of any city in the world. In the peerless waters which surround the city, there are three admirable harbors, the poorest of which would compare favorably with—and one at least—transcends any other harbor on the continent.

The city is defended by numerous fortifications of the first class. The original idea of these fortifications was to protect all British America from the attacks of a Power which has long ceased to be a factor of any consideration on this continent. But another Power has succeeded that which has passed away. Unhappily the antagonisms of the world are not yet at an end, and men of our own kith and kin, who helped us to drive out the French, sometimes talk and write as if they would like to drive us out too. Long may it be before such an unnatural strife is waged, but if it ever should be, we shall then be sensible how much we owe to the restless aggressions of the French, persisted in for more than a century. A large part of our power of defence could never have existed but for the rivalry between two powerful European nations, separated from each other only by a narrow sheet of water, and constantly engaged in hostilities in every quarter of the globe. No British ministry, but for this, would ever have ventured to lavish on Halifax the expenditures which have made it one of the best fortified cities on the continent.

With its fortresses, let us enumerate their gallant defenders. The only spot in the great Dominion where the British soldier lingers—and we may add loves to linger—is this same Halifax. But we need not confine our remarks to military men—taking Englishmen generally, if there be any spot out of the old land, on which it may be said an Englishman feels himself at home, it is here. He is among a people with habits, and tastes, and manners, and even prejudices, like his own—all that he can object to is the excess of sunshine and clear sky. His happiness would be complete if he could be assured of more fog and rain, and could never stir abroad without an umbrella.

A city with all these claims to distinction could not afford to show itself insensible to its obligations. It could not, without abdicating its functions, leave to small country towns, such as Truro and Kentville, to unfurl and uphold the Provincial Banner. That role belongs to Halifax—*NOBLESSE OBLIGE*. This sentiment, which has prompted many a noble act, is crystallized in the noble structure we see around us.

When on former occasions I have argued in favor of holding these displays in the country rather than in the city, I put it largely on the ground that Halifax did not care for, or at all events, had given no evidence that she cared for the progress of agriculture. The Press of Halifax thought differently, but when the proof was asked for, what Halifax had done, it had none to give.

In my address at the opening of the Exhibition at Truro last year, I said, "until the city incurs actual sacrifices, such as the country has done both east and west; until it has submitted to taxation and raised a suitable structure for the Exhibition, it does not show, as the country has shown, a real and substantial interest in the matter. Till then we cannot treat the capital as a place for Exhibitions."

A year has now passed away. The proof that was lacking then, is now supplied. A beautiful site has been found, and, almost like magic, a building has sprung up that will be a lasting credit to the city—

"Si monumentum queris, circumspice."

This noble building puts an end to the objections made against Halifax as the place for an Exhibition. I have the greatest pleasure, a pleasure beyond the power of words to express—in withdrawing, and that without any mental reserve—all that I have said, and that under the circumstances I was justified in saying, as to the apathy of Halifax in the great industrial interest by which four-fifths of our people earn their bread.

I am glad too, to see that this display of public spirit on their part has met with its appropriate reward, in the rush which has been made to the Exhibition.

This is, no doubt, due, in part, to the increasing hold on the public mind which these Exhibitions have taken since they have been held yearly.

When last I had the honor to address a Halifax audience on this subject, at the opening of the Exhibition in 1874, nobody dared to hope for such a result. That was only five years ago. Yet such has been the revolution in public opinion, that nobody now thinks of any other system.

In the address referred to I took occasion to say that "the true way to stimulate improvement was to have these displays either every year or at frequently recurring periods. The spirit of emulation which is begotten at an Exhibition of this kind, would operate more powerfully if the opportunity for its exercise recurred without too much delay. The man who came there with the best of his products for display, when he found himself excelled in the department in which he hoped to shine, returned home determined to make a greater effort for success next opportunity.

But if his fortune could be retrieved only by waiting seven years—if he could vindicate his fame only when his boy, then at school, should become a man, it was very obvious we would lose much of the benefit these displays would afford if they recurred at shorter periods."

It cannot be doubted now that this view is correct. Year by year the facilities for attending on such occasions are increasing. The present month has witnessed the reception into the brotherhood of Railway intercourse, of one of the finest agricultural counties of the Province, and, if the people of that county are alive to the privileges they possess, and exert themselves as they should, the effects of the event lately celebrated at Antigonish, will soon be seen in the improvement of their stock and the better cultivation of their lands.

Presently the counties of Yarmouth and Digby will be in direct communication with the rest of the Province, so that whatever is excellent in any part of Nova Scotia can