

ADDRESS.

I APPEAR before you in compliance with the request of the Executive Committee of the Provincial Industrial Exhibition; but I do so with a sincere distrust of my ability to satisfy the expectations which the occasion may be supposed reasonably to excite. The difficulty of executing, in a fitting manner, the task assigned me, does not arise from any want of topics, but, on the contrary, from their very affluence. It is a nice business to select and classify from this abundance, the subjects and course of thought which are best worthy of consideration, and most likely to secure attention, and awaken interest in those whom I address.

The character and object of this assembly, remote from all the passions and jealousies, the political conflicts and local dissensions, with which small communities are peculiarly liable to be infested, and in which, to say the least, we are not behind the rest of the world, would alone afford a theme for copious discourse,—and for mutual congratulation, that here we meet in peace and genial brotherhood, rejoicing in the interchange of sympathies which belong to our common humanity, and safe and sheltered beneath that broad and tranquil spirit, from all the