Nova Seotia has need of a University to prepare her youth at home for the learned professions; to impregnate those who will be her future public leaders with the refined and intellectual spirit imparted by high mental cultivation and an acquaintance with literature and science; to draw out and foster the native genius of her people; to scatter abroad a knowledge of the sciences and useful arts, by which alone we can hope to render available the rich material resources of the country. Who doubts that Nova Scotia abounds in natural poets, orators, mathematicians, mechanics, and numbers of others fitted to enrich and adorn their country, if their minds were stored with the requisite knowledge, and invigorated by the requisite cultivation.

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid

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Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire,

Hands that the rod of empire might have sway'd,

Or waked to ecstasy the living lyre;

But knowledge to their eyes her ample page,

Rich with the stores of time, did ne'er unrol.

That a people may avail themselves of all their resources, and take rank among the nations by contributing to the stores of literature and philosophy, they must have the means of educating the varied talents of their sons to the highest point. The natural force of genius will do little without information and training. This was the case, even in former times, when the first prizes to be won lay on the surface, inviting men to gather them. If we examine the lives of those eminent men who have enriched mankind by their literary works and scientific discoveries,—who have laid the foundation of the present magnificent structure of literature, philosophy and the arts,—we find them, with few and trifling exceptions, to have belonged to the most highly educated classes, numbers being found among the priests and nobles.* All that the unedu-

* This will be at once seen on enumerating the names of Copernicus, Tycho Brahe, Kepler, Bacon, Galileo, Napier, Newton, Leibnitz, Pascal, Boyle, Cavendish, Lavoisier, Laplace, Cuvier, Lyell, the two Humboldts, Grotius, Montesquieu, Locke, Voltaire, Adam Smith, Hume, Gibbon, Reid, Robertson, Burke, Johnson, Bentham, Byron, Walter Seott, Goethe, Bulwer, Macanlay, &c.