

July, 1872.

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Church of that city. There he remained four years, until 1848, when he visited Nova Scotia as deputy from the Free Church. Here he remained, and had charge of St. John's Church, Halifax. He was appointed Secretary to the Provincial Exhibition of 1854. Here Dr. Robertson himself was honoured with a request to officiate at the opening of that Exhibition, and there first made personal acquaintance with Dr. Forrester, and learned the deep interest he felt in the subject of education and the general prosperity of the Province. In the following year—1855—Dr. Forrester was appointed Superintendent of Education and Principal of the Normal School. The founding of this Institution is chiefly due to Chief Justice Young and the Government of which he was then the Leader. As Superintendent of Education, the Doctor visited every section of the Province in subsequent years; and by his lectures, infused a portion of his own enthusiasm into the public mind. In these visits he was always received with the hearty sympathies of the people. In 1863, he visited Great Britain, France and Belgium, taking extensive notes of the school systems in these countries. In 1864, the Principalship of the Normal School was separated from the Superintendency of Education and again in the former capacity, Dr. Forrester devoted himself with renewed energy to the work. After a most successful career, he died in New York in 1869.

Dr. R. then referred to the state of education in the Province in former times, to show what had been done. He mentioned several amusing instances within his own knowledge of the primitive condition of the country schools at the time. The school-houses were poor and miserable in the extreme; look at them now, comfortable, respectable, and suited to the work. Then the system of education was most imperfect and deficient. Those who could not pay for schooling must be content in their ignorance: now every child, however poor the parents, can go to school free. The whole system is now supported by the property of the people, which is thus again protected in return. Our people are daily becoming more and more intelligent under this improved system, and are consequently able to wisely exercise the suffrages, political and otherwise, for which they are constitutionally responsible.

He briefly referred to Dr. Forrester's work on education, "The Teacher's Text-Book." He said it was far in advance of the works of Pestalozzi, Horace Mann, and Dr. Ryerson. He regretted that the Provincial Press had not given a more extended notice of the contents of this great work. The London *Athenaeum* alone did justice to its incomparable merit. It treated first of the science of education and the faculties of the mind to be cultivated, specifying their philosophical characteristics; then explains the art of education, setting forth the best methods of teaching and organizing schools, and expatiating at length on the duty of all—the state and church—to support and promote this great object of national importance. He thought an epitome should be made of the work, so that in a cheaper form it might come within the reach of every Teacher in the Province.