

labours in the Institution with great zeal and ability until the close of his life, (which there is reason to fear was hastened by disappointment,) the present generation are reaping the fruits of his labours. The venerable Chief Justice has referred to his first visit to Truro of 50 years since; I also well remember my first visit to this town in 1831, then but a scattered hamlet, Bible Hill, so called, being the most important point.

When I contrast its educational Institutions, public buildings, private residences and its general appearance with what it was on that day, the progress it has made must be acknowledged to be indeed wonderful, and while congratulating its people upon the flourishing condition of their town, I would add my assurance that no man can take a greater interest in its prosperity than myself.

When I look back to our opening ceremonies of 1855 and contrast them with the proceedings of to-day, I rejoice at the progress which has been made, and believe that the imposing scene we have just witnessed will make a lasting impression upon the rising generation. The old commissioners had but one thousand pounds at their disposal, but in the short space of twenty years this school section has, at a cost of \$10,000, erected a local school building which for admirable fitness for the purpose designed, completely casts the old Normal School in the shade.

The building, of which the foundation stone has this day been laid, will doubtless be an ornament to the town, and while its architectural beauties bear witness without to the increased interest and progress in the great work of education, we trust from within, in a far greater degree will more substantial evidence of its influence and power be felt on every hill-side and valley of this our own, our native land.

Speech of the Rev. A. S. Hunt, Supt. of Education.

He said that at such a late hour he would not detain the meeting by any extended observations. He, however, could not fail to regard the exercises of the day but with the most profound interest, in as much as these interesting ceremonies were as the inauguration of a new phase in the history of our Public Education. The time was, and some persons could well remember it, when not a few, even of the most substantial friends of popular education entertained serious doubts as to the necessity of an institution, such as the one now claiming our attention, and honestly distrusted the wisdom of spending public money in what they considered an enterprise of doubtful value. Long since such doubts