

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

BY R. MC QUEEN, KIRKWALL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :

In accordance with use and wont, I now appear before you to deliver what is known as the President's Address.

I confess at once to the difficulty I had in selecting a line of thought not already travelled over in these Addresses before this Convention, at our Annual gatherings in years gone by.

Almost every subject of importance, bearing directly or indirectly on the profession to which we belong, has been touched on, treated of and handled, much more efficiently than I am competent to do, or than you could reasonably expect of me,—considering those who have preceded me in the position, in which, through your kindness and confidence, I find myself at present placed.

The needs and requirements of our School System, its Legislative and historical development, have all been taken up and discussed most ably and efficiently.

In view of that difficulty, in the light of these facts, I have resolved to address a few plain words to my co-workers in the calling of our choice—with regard to our work as the Educators of the Youth of this Province.

(1st.) As to the bearing of that work on those committed to our trust from day to day, from year to year.

(2nd.) Some characteristics of that work, as viewed from our standpoint, as teachers.

(3rd.) Inquire what ought to be the nature of that education which we seek to give to those under our care and influence.

(4th.) Motives for the earnest and faithful prosecution of the work of our calling.

"It has been said that the work of the Educationist, touches the individual at every point of his being, bears on him every relationship in life, and influences him in every stage of his being, and during the whole period of his existence."

I mean to be brief: some points I shall merely state, on none shall I enlarge at any length.