

To the question so often addressed, 'what will you do for the Exhibition?' nearly as often comes the reply, 'Nothing. I take no interest in it—nothing has ever succeeded in Nova Scotia, and this is certain to be no exception.' And a failure it will most assuredly be, if this spirit is allowed to prevail. Why is it that nothing has succeeded in Nova Scotia? Simply because her people will not unite, and bring all their interest and energies to the promotion of one common object. Because the objecters are so many, and the workers so few. Not that we would insinuate aught against the industry of our countrymen, for we believe a more active, laborious people does not exist in any land; but it is because they will not *unite* that activity and labour, and produce together what can never be accomplished single-handed. Our monied men nail down the coffers which they have filled from the produce and trade of the land they will not make an effort to serve. Our public institutions are disregarded and deserted because men of one creed or party will not work with those of another. Our Schools and Academies, are inefficient and unprovided for, because men suffer sectarian prejudice to eclipse common sense, and merge the advancement of the country in the gratification of private opinion. And when men less grasping than their neighbours, have devoted their wealth and their energies to the promotion of an object, which has for its aim the benefit and convenience of the public in general, because a few selfish individuals are justly excluded from its management and proceeds, a work of opposition is set on foot, and plans laid to wrest their lawful profits from the enterprising few who have conferred the benefit; private and public prejudice is brought to bear against them; the press teems with opposition, based only on the most selfish and avaricious grounds; and thus any good work is endeavoured to be frustrated, because a party chooses to oppose it.

But why should this state of things, disgraceful and painful, as every right-minded person will acknowledge, be allowed to continue? Here is an object in which all, for once at least, may unite. The project for an Industrial Exhibition was got up by no political faction; it is based on the broad principle of love of country, a desire for its advancement in knowledge and prosperity,—a laudable emulation to raise it in the estimation of other countries,—to foster its infant manufactories,—to draw forth the skill, art and industry of its inhabitants,—to place Nova Scotia, by her productions, on a footing with her sister provinces,—to take away the reproach that we can do nothing well among us. These are the aims that influenced the founders and promoters of the scheme for an Industrial Exhibition in Nova Scotia; and surely if there is any patriotism to be found in our country, this is an occasion to call it forth, and prove to us who are our friends, and who are the men we should entrust with our rights and our government.

It is a subject on which we as Nova Scotians eager for the welfare of our country, may be permitted to speak warmly, and we wish to inspire the like