

classes in two languages in all subjects from the alphabet to the highest embraced in elementary education, besides the work of the senior class preparing for matriculation in Normal School or College.

I learn with satisfaction that, as an evidence of educational progress in this province, pupils who have entered this year are better prepared than those of former sessions. This is gratifying, and will lessen the difficulty of your task, but still you have to encounter a deplorable measure of illiteracy ; and in battling with it let me charge you never to forget that the supreme aim of your work is missionary. This is not incompatible with the adoption of the latest and best pedagogic methods,—but it demands that the teaching of the word of God shall hold the first place in our curriculum.

While using all possible means to deliver boys and girls from the crushing incubus of ignorance touching secular matters, and while seeking to teach them to think for themselves, and to qualify them to occupy positions of usefulness and eminence as citizens, our aim above all things is to lead them to know and love God and Jesus Christ our Saviour.

We see no reason for excluding God's word from educational institutions of any class, whether elementary schools or colleges. On the contrary we accept the lesson of the history of nations as to the disastrous results of such exclusion, and we feel sure that it is only by the proper use of Divine truth the highest type of character is developed and the fullest measure of human freedom, progress and righteous government is secured. "Godliness is profitable for all things, having the promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." It has been the glory of these schools for the last half century that they excelled in teaching the Bible. So let it be in all time to come.

I therefore desire to encourage and cheer you by another thought, viz. : that yours is a most hopeful work. The record of the past is instructive and inspiring. You are not beginning an experiment the issue of which is uncertain, an untried enterprise the utility of which way be questioned. God has already set his seal of approval upon it. During the