

horse—in carriages, such as we have seen in the procession to-day—of every shape and build, (except perhaps those of the class familiar to modern eyes), fording streams—some even at low tide wading across the bay. Thus they thronged to the Sanctuary. These were the days of long sermons. Two or three hours of religious exercises were followed by an intermission of fifteen minutes. This, in summer, was spent by the people under the shade of the old spruce trees, which then stood in front of the church on the opposite side of the road. There they partook of the refreshments they had brought from their homes. It was a charming quarter of an hour. It passed away with marvellous rapidity. Everybody enjoyed it, the young particularly. When the time allotted had expired, and the people began to wend their way back to church, for three hours more of religious exercises, an acute observer might have detected on the faces, at all events of the boys and girls, an expression, that betokened a wish, either that the sermons were shorter, or if that could not be, at least that the intermissions were longer.

I have not spoken of the other denominations, because in early times the greater part of the people were Presbyterians. At first all were so, and it was only by secession from people of that creed, and by the arrival of new comers from without, that the other denominations grew to the position, as regards numbers and respectability, which they hold at this moment. Nor have I time to tell of the events which preceded or accompanied, or followed the construction of the buildings which have made Truro the centre of the common school education of the Province. Much less can I tell of that long line of public men, who have represented us in the Assembly, from the year 1766, when old David Archibald first took his seat for Truro, down to the present time. On this point let me mention in passing, a circumstance which I do not think has occurred in any other county of the Province in connexion with the representation. In the long period of 116 years during which our constituency has existed, the family of the first member has furnished four representatives in lineal descent one from the other, while the family of a younger brother of his has furnished three members in as many different generations. It is clear therefore that that family had had its full share of public honors, and it was quite time it should stand aside for others to take their turn.

But the waning time bids me bring my observations to a close. Let me say in conclusion that:—

The progress made by Truro within the past few years justifies the hope of a prosperous future. As the centre of a fine agricultural County, it would be assured under any circumstances of a continuous—even if only a moderate support. The site admits of an indefinite extension in all directions. It affords every convenience for carrying on industrial enterprises. As regards Railways, the position of Truro fits it for being a distributing centre. There cannot be a doubt therefore that so far as physical conditions are concerned, every thing is favorable for the growth of the Town. These are very important considerations—indeed almost indispensable—but they will not of themselves make a town. One thing more is wanted, and that is a spirit of energy and enterprise among its people. That spirit has created towns where many of our advantages were wanting, but without it all the advantages in the world will not avail. It is this which creates industrial undertakings that employ and reward labor. These invite population, create wealth, in short make what in American parlance is called a 'live' city. Of this spirit our people have shown of late that they have a goodly share. What has been done, is a fair measure of what we may expect to be done.

Let each of us do what in him lies to promote the interests of the Town. Let us feel for the place as a whole something of the regard we have for the part of it which belongs to us individually. Let us take pleasure in the sight of other houses as tidy and neat as our own—of other gardens, blooming with flowers like our own—of streets as clean and skirted by trees as beautiful, as are the streets and the trees which are nearest our own places. Let us delight in the evidence of culture and refinement all around us. We will thus make our Town an object of beauty as well as a place of business, and may cherish a pride in it, which these things will amply justify.

Then let us encourage in every way in our power the establishment among us of every industrial enterprise that offers a reasonable prospect of success. Let us welcome to our midst every man who can bring with him skill and energy, industry and probity, and who will place these qualities at our service in building up our Town.

I trust that one effect of this celebration will be to increase the interest we take in our past and present, to knit us more closely together as members of one community, and to induce us, however much we may differ on other matters of more or less importance, to work together with one heart and one mind for the best interests of our beloved Town.