

ADDRESS.

Nothing is more apparent to any reflecting mind than the fact that, in Canada, and particularly in Lower Canada, there is a want of a just appreciation of the importance of academic education. A great majority of the early settlers of this part of the Province were men of enterprise, men of stout hearts and brawny arms, able and willing to contend with the hard necessities of a new country, but poor men; men who were forced to exert all their physical and mental powers to eke out a livelihood in their forest homes. Their education was little else than what the necessities of their condition compelled them to learn. The numberless wants of a new country, the absence of all the facilities and conveniences of more advanced state of the arts of living, rendered reflection absolutely necessary. The consequence was the mind was not suffered to rust and decay, but ever preserved a keen edge. Inventive talent was brought into requisition, for without contrivance, living was entirely impracticable. A man who has the courage to withdraw from the haunts of society into the forest, far distant from mills, from marts, from places where mechanical skill and a division of labor has attained a degree of perfection, finds himself in a new world of action. He finds obstacles at every turn which his unassisted skill must surmount. He must do a thousand things which in other circumstances by an exchange of labor or property he could procure done for him. He has to do almost every thing in another way from that to which he has