

CLOSING WORDS

the creation or amendment of laws bearing upon every possible subject—social, political or educational. One of the first demands of an established people is a recognition of the rights of the represented. In extension of the suffrage, protection of the polling booth, the purity of the election and of electoral machinery, the equal rights of voter and representative were vigorously guarded, in the voters' list, the ballot-box, the punishment of bribery, the controverted election law, and the impartial decisions of a clean judiciary. Municipal laws were reformed so often and so regularly that some men complained of what they termed "tinkering." Education kept pace with, or went even beyond, the demands of the educated. From public school to university not a single year passed without some needed change, if you will, but reform undoubtedly. The school-house is the foundation of popular liberty, and it was built with unsparing expenditure of public funds. The compact with those controlling the separate schools of the province was honestly maintained in the face of frequent attack. Lands to actual settlers were profusely, not extravagantly, granted. Our assessment laws were gradually but effectively brought into unison with all that the light of the time and the experience of the past had revealed on the subject. Our timber, a valued asset, was economically managed. A moderate succession duty was exacted in accordance with a general sense of justice, and which yearly meets with growing approval. Railways were generously, perhaps lavishly, assisted, but nobody complained of excessive liberality in that direction, the need of means of transport being great. The law of dower and provision for the widows of intestates, and the grant of municipal suffrage to women, presaged a more liberal acknowledgment of the part which woman takes in the