

their possession, though they might have been sources of great wealth, had we undertaken to work them ourselves. Our capitalists hang back because mining has not been found so profitable in their experience as other less natural industries. Without doubt that is to a great extent due to the fact that mining here is carried on at a great educational disadvantage. The necessary skilled labour has to be imported, and that costs. A large salary for a thoroughly trained mining engineer is a large item in the expenses of a small mining company. The tendency therefore has been to carry on operations without paying it, and to do as well as possible without the trained engineer. As a consequence the workings taken in hand have been carried on with great waste, and much labour has been expended where there was absolutely no prospect of return. Were we training some of our young men to be mining engineers, their services could be obtained at comparatively low rates; capitalists could readily obtain advice, which would prevent them from engaging in fruitless undertakings, and would direct them to the places where their capital could with greatest prospect of profit be invested; while operations once undertaken, would under competent guidance, be carried on with greater economy than is possible at present. An efficient mining school would therefore, in all probability, give a great impetus to the development of our mineral resources.

In the case of shipbuilding, also, one of our chief natural industries, there are special reasons why we should establish training schools at once. Our ships must come into competition with those of all other nations. They are articles of which there can be almost no home consumption. Whatever the effect of our protective tariff on other manufactures, we would seem to be basing on experience if we expect it to exert no beneficial influence on this industry. Lest, then, shipbuilding should have in Nova Scotia the fate it has met with in other protected countries, we should counteract the relative increase in cost of construction, which the tariff tends to produce, by an improvement in the quality of the article produced. The only certain means of accomplishing that end is the education of our shipbuilders. We must begin to turn out trained naval architects, and for that purpose we should have in our technical school a department of naval architecture.

To sum up, then, we stand in greatest need of thorough university training for our High School teachers and of an Agricultural School. Our next most clamant want is a Mining School, and the order of necessity in which the other departments stand is probably Naval Architecture, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, House Building and Manufactures.

For the thorough training of teachers a staff of four or five Science Professors is necessary. Two more would give us an Agricultural School. Two more would enable us to have an efficient department of Mining; and the subjects of the other