

(4) There must be no shirking of the preparation necessary for citizenship. All must attend school. There are evidences of the principle of compulsory school attendance as far back as King James IV., (1494.)

(5) Education must be comprehensive. The Parish schools were more than elementary schools. They provided a good classical and mathematical education, and in conjunction with the universities furnished those facilities for that higher education without which a nation can no more attain to greatness than life can be sustained without oxygen. From their early youth thousands of peasant boys had their minds enriched with the poetry of Virgil and of Homer, with the writings of Tacitus or of Xenophon, with the philosophy of Plato and Aristotle.

What a noble record of wisdom and forethought this epitome of Scottish education contains. Think of it, national schools, liberty of conscience, compulsory attendance, classical academies, universities—a golden stairway from the peasant's door to the