

so flourishing a condition as it is at present. Its trade is enlarging, its agriculture improving, and its population increasing most rapidly, while the character of its merchants for honourable and upright dealing stands higher than that of any other community on the whole American continent.—Politics unfortunately engrosses too much attention every where to the exclusion of many indispensable duties. Party-men are apt to magnify its importance for their own purposes, and to extol it as a panacea for all the ills of life; but experience teaches us that the happiness of every country depends upon the character of its people, rather than the form of its government.—Why? asks the philosophical Goldsmith, after an attentive examination of many of the European states,

“Why have I stray’d from pleasure and repose,  
To seek a good each government bestows!  
How small of all that human hearts endure,  
That part which laws and kings can cause or cure!”

Let us keep out of the vortex of political excitement, learn how to value the blessings we enjoy, and study how we can best promote the internal communications and develop the resources of our native land.

The time has now come when the great American and colonial route of travelling must commence or terminate at Halifax. On the importance of this to Nova Scotia it is unnecessary for me to expatiate, as it speaks for itself, in a language too plain and intelligible to be misunderstood; but these advantages we can neither fully enjoy, nor long retain, without a “rail-road” from Halifax to Windsor. It is now no longer a matter of doubt or of choice, circumstances have forced it upon us. We owe it to the liberality of the British government, to make all those arrangements that shall give full effect to the noble scale upon which they have undertaken the Atlantic steam-navigation. We owe it to New Brunswick and Canada to complete our portion of the great intercolonial line,