

Free Schools in Nova Scotia

summit of civilization—that you have attained that skill and success which mark the full distinction between civilization and savagedom. Let me tell you that you who are living at the close of this nineteenth century will find things wondrously changed and your children will think of the conditions of 1865 much as we do of those that prevailed in the days of our fathers. If you do not live to see this day your children will have taken your place. Surely you are not taking thought for yourselves alone.

“But, again, suppose you refuse to join in the onward march and no more have a public school. Will that not affect the well-being of every man in this section. You form a community. It is not every man for himself alone. Civilization means that the people are bound together in one great bundle of life. What affects the community affects every individual, and what affects one affects all.

One word more, and I have done. I know that you would all like to feel that you have done something for the betterment of your country—that you have made some sacrifice for the permanent good of