

ADDRESS

The subject that I will speak upon this evening is one of wide importance, and I beg your consideration in introducing a matter on which there exists a diversity of opinion and as to which also, I feel some diffidence, not having the advantage of authority for reference. We all know of the lines upon which education is conducted in this country; but few, however, realize the defects that exist. We are apt to be carried away in our appreciation of a veritable perfection in some branches of education, overlooking the shortcomings that exist and that can be shown in respect to some of the greatest needs towards fostering the material progress of our country. My words will carry you, I feel sure, to a conviction that the educational system of Canada does not cover all the requirements of our youth nor does it respond to all the demands of modern life. The institutions of learning ignore commercial education. They afford the least possible assistance to the young men and women of this country for entering upon commercial life. The benefactors—the donors of magnificent gifts to the cause of education—almost