

I have just returned from the assembled Parliament of the country—and I tell you if you want to maintain the influence of New Brunswick in the councils of the nation, you must educate your young men to be its fitting representatives. Talk of uneducated men beside Macdonald and Howe; and Cartier and Rose, and Galt and Holton, and Dorion and Cheanveau, and Dunkin and Chamberlin, and a host of others who might be named—men accustomed to deal with large subjects—men who are equally familiar with the languages and literature of France and England—and who, with a thorough knowledge of Constitutional History and the principles of Trade and Commerce, can enforce their arguments by ready references to the incidents of past and modern History, and by touches of human nature not the less dangerous because they are subtle. There are men in that Parliament, who, by means of their strong intellect or great industry, can make their mark, and advance the interests of their constituencies and their country, even without the early advantages of a good education; but those are the very men who appreciate it the most, and give their strenuous efforts to its encouragement; and who, if they were present this day, would tell you not an hour is to be lost.

In addressing you as men who are to be the future statesmen of your country, and directing your attention to studies and reflections which may prepare you for such a position, I earnestly desire that you will not understand me as lightly appreciating the classical and mathematical studies which are particularly embraced in your course. A "double first" will carry its weight anywhere; and among the first statesmen of England are found those who have thus distinguished themselves. Pitt and Mansfield, and Lyndhurst and Brougham, and Derby and Peel, and Russell and Canning, and Romilly and D'Israeli, and others equally well known, were remarkable for their appreciation and use of the beauties of classic literature; and Gladstone, whose position at the present day as a financier