

Normal School on a grander scale than its predecessor, by the interesting and impressive ceremonies of which we have been spectators to-day ; you have thus stamped it irrevocably as an event of more than ordinary significance in the history of Education in this Province.

And here let me say that I miss one, who, had his life been spared, would have had peculiar pleasure in being present to-day. I mean the late Hon. Staley Brown, who took a deep interest in this work. To him it was largely owing that this project was undertaken. No resident of the County of Colchester would have rejoiced more in the proceedings of to-day than my lamented friend. As an upright and enlightened man, both in his individual and public capacity, his memory must ever be had in grateful recollection by the people of Nova Scotia. With the incentive arising from his zeal, and with the valuable aid afforded by your earnest support, Sir, as one of the representatives of this County, I have had great pleasure in aiding this movement ; and it will always give me pleasure to reflect that as leader of the Government I was enabled to assist in placing the great cause of Education by this means on a wider and firmer basis ; and I am convinced that the people of Nova Scotia cheerfully respond to the action of the Government in the expenditure of the money necessary for completing the work so auspiciously commenced. Of the necessity for the erection of this building there can be no doubt ; the unexpected increase in the numbers in attendance, rendered an enlargement absolutely necessary, and while providing additional accommodation, it was a wise and judicious thing to erect a building of imposing style and dimensions. There is an unseen influence emanating from the character of our surroundings which affects our thoughts and feelings almost unknown to ourselves. and I do not think it too much to hope that the silent influence of this noble edifice will elevate the tone of thought and feeling of its inmates and so indirectly promote the great cause of Education itself. No pains or care bestowed on that cause is ever thrown away ; our neighbors in the adjoining republic never hesitate to incur expense either in the buildings or other adjuncts of their educational system, and the marvellous results attained in that country abundantly justify their action. If we desire to walk in the same steps, to have our country advance, at however great an interval, in the same career of prosperity, we must imitate their policy in reference to this all important subject of education. But this onward march does not depend entirely or even chiefly on the assistance of Governments and Legislatures, valuable as these are ; the real