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ADDRESS
TO
THE PEOPLE OF NOVA SCOTIA,
ON
THE SUPPORT
OF THE
COMMON SCHOOLS.

BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION.

THE situation I hold, requires me not only to present annually to the Legislature an account of the educational condition of the Province, but also to offer such suggestions as may appear best fitted to promote its improvement. In pursuance of this duty I have, for five successive years, urged and pressed on the attention of the Legislature those views respecting school districts and school houses, the grading of schools, the qualifications of Teachers, the appointment of Inspectors, the establishment of a Provincial University &c., which I consider essential for our educational advancement; and, more especially, have I insisted, in my oral addresses to the public and in my reports to the Legislature, on what appears to me to be the best method of supporting the common school education of the land: and yet little or nothing has been done by the Legislature for the accomplishment of one or other of these objects.

The longer I continue in office, I am the more thoroughly impressed with the conviction that until something substantial is done with the Common Schools of the Province, we can neither keep pace with the general intelligence and progressive advancement of the age, nor furnish anything like an adequate supply of duly qualified students for the higher academic or collegiate institutions of the land. I have canvassed this subject in all its length and breadth. Since I entered on my present duties I have laboured, on an average eight hours a day, with a view of training up a