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PROGRESS is the motto of this age. Advancement in the arts. Advancement in the sciences. Freedom of thought is in the highest degree tolerated. The wheel of practical investigation and discovery is being actively impelled onward by the lever of men's ambition and their insatiable love of knowledge.

The gratification of desire is the prime motive power in the great machine of life; hence those agencies which lead to the accomplishment of this end are most eagerly sought.

Each of the grandest steps in human improvement has, connected with its history, proceedings, strange and mysterious, yet grand and noble.

Amid persecution, starvation, and torrents of ribaldry have some of the world's greatest benefactors labored. Years of incessant toil frequently passed with no encouraging results. With unabated zeal on they plodded, regardless of the taunts and jeers of those narrow spirited drawbacks to every worthy enterprise. Standing

against all opposition, and feeling that their object, if gained, would confer a lasting benefit upon their race, they bent every energy to bring about its final and complete success.

They persevered and the world is reaping a glorious harvest; the fruits of their diligent and indefatigable efforts.

What vast results have been reached in the past by the workings of mind power. What may we not expect in the future?

The preeminence we claim above the uncivilized and most degraded is largely due to the interest taken in developing the mental capacities. Yet, how many raise a hue and cry against our institutions of learning, designed for the purpose of cultivating and disciplining the mind. They cannot in their judgment see the utility of a young man devoting from six to eight years of his life to study. The argument is: so much precious time wasted; so much money spent for which they cannot perceive any tangible results.

It is true that Colleges and Seminaries are not mints for evolving metallic coins; neither are they machine shops for grinding over, reconstructing and supplementing deficiencies of nature, but what they will do is to take the creature man in his rough, irregular and natural state and by a thorough course of mental training fit him, if he has any brains, for some worthy and noble sphere of action and influence. There are many young men and women in these Provinces who possess natural ability of no ordinary kind, who need but the discipline and fostering care of a few years institutional training, to enable them to fill stations of influence and honor.

We do not mean to intimate, that no man can fill any important office without such training, but we do say, that with such mental drill he will be the better prepared to discharge its duties and so increase by much the sphere of his usefulness.

We regret that too many parents rather discourage than encourage their sons and daughters when they speak of education, and begin at once to relate their own experience—how they worked and managed, and by so doing have been fairly successful in life. The inference is: "Do as I have done, there is no necessity for improvement.