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ESSAYS,
ON THE
FUTURE DESTINY OF NOVA SCOTIA
AND THE
IMPROVEMENT OF
FEMALE EDUCATION

IN NOVA SCOTIA

1842

ON PEACE

HALIFAX, N. S.

PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT OFFICE

1842

PRIZE ESSAY,

ON THE

FUTURE DESTINY OF NOVA SCOTIA.

INTRODUCTION.

THE history of the rise and fall of nations, affords the only data from which we may gather the future destiny of those that now exist. Like swarms of ephemeral insects, Empires have arisen in the morning, occupied their few hours of sunshine in petty jealousies or deadly feuds, and then passed off the stage: for no senators however grave; no resources however ample; no walls however strong, have ever for a very long period preserved the most mighty people. That there is one who sitteth on the circle of the Heavens reigning supremely over all the nations of the Earth, saying to them in his Providence, as to the waves of the Ocean, "hitherto shall thou go and no farther," the history of the past plainly testifies. The proudest empires he hath laughed to scorn, and in a day hath laid low in the dust all their magnificence and boasted glory; while the weak and oppressed he hath succoured, and raised up to be an exceedingly great people. Yet, however paradoxical the principles upon which their revolutions may seem to depend, there are some causes, which may be clearly perceived, as accounting for both the rise and fall of Empires; and operating with the regularity of a general law. Knowledge, for instance, is the grand engine which removes the obstacles that hinder the onward progress from a state of barbarism to that of civilization and refinement. It is the chief agent in tilling the soil, in establishing manufactures, and protecting commerce. The histories of Greece and Rome strikingly exemplify the correctness of these remarks. From small beginnings they gradually arose under the fostering aid of science; and when her light shone in its brightest effulgence, the greatest national prosperity obtained. The same facts apply to the British Empire—England emerged from a state of barbarism under the genial influence of cultivated mind, which radiating like the Sun in his meridian splendor has rendered her a paragon of excellence among the surrounding nations, both in point of national greatness, and literary fame. Having premised thus much with respect to this one grand element, which is absolutely essential to the improvement, and pros-

perity of a country, let us now enquire what are the capabilities of Nova Scotia, and thence deduce such conclusions as the circumstances of the case may warrant respecting its future destiny.

HISTORY OF NOVA SCOTIA.

THE history of Nova Scotia presents none of the gorgeous drapery of Eastern or classic lands, to impress the mind with great and noble thoughts. It does not tell us of stupendous piles, all glorious as the hand of the most sublime artist could make them; of buildings whose domes courted Heaven, and drank in the living light from the sky; of oracles, which but lately have ceased to give forth a response; of temples, which ring with no chant; of the dilapidated palace where the shout of revelry has forever died away upon the breeze; of the hall, where the echo of the warrior's voice has for ages been lost in eternal silence. Yet its records possess sufficient interest and instruction to call forth the attention of all who seek their own and their country's good. Nova Scotia was first discovered by John Cabot, a Venetian, resident in England, during the tranquil reign of Henry the Seventh; after which it came into the possession of the French and English alternately, until the year 1749, at which period Halifax was first settled under Governor Cornwallis. From that time to the present, this Colony has gradually advanced in improvement. The forests, formerly the home of the Red man, who lived by the chase, have been to a great extent felled; his wigwam has given place to the more commodious dwelling of the white man; the marshes have been drained, and roads established. The face of the country has been changed: and the climate is improving in proportion to the progress of agriculture. Though its scenery cannot compare in point of sublimity with that of other countries, yet it is agreeably diversified by hills, and dales; numerous and beautiful lakes; harbours studded with islands; rivers; brooks and streams in profusion. All these combine in enlivening and embellishing the country, naturally picturesque from its variety of highlands and prairies. In 1817 the census

of Nova Scotia proper was 82,000, shewing an increase of 52,000 in 27 years, from natural growth and immigration. In 1827 it was 124,000, an increase of 41,000 in ten years.— Its present population is about 250,000. A calculation founded upon this rate of increase, will, after the short period of sixty years, give a population of more than 2,000,000 souls.— Rapid as this increase of population may appear, the expenditure of a moderate amount of capital on public works, directed by an enlightened policy, would no doubt augment the ratio of increase of population far beyond its present limit. The position which Nova Scotia occupies in the high way of emigration from the Old World to the West is a circumstance which conduces to so rapid an increase of population, and which must continue to pour in its thousands to any extent the country may require. In its noble harbours, which surround the whole coast, all the navies and merchant ships, which are borne on the bosom of the mighty deep, may ride safely at anchor. These circumstances render Nova Scotia of vast importance, situated as she is between Europe, the United States of America, and the Canadas: and should the time ever come, as it undoubtedly will, when our countrymen shall awake to their true interests, it is not extravagant to suppose that she may eventually be almost unrivalled in her commercial operations; a principal Emporium of Trade.

AGRICULTURE.

LET us enquire what are the agricultural capabilities of Nova Scotia? Our land, according to a scale of twelve parts, consists of about *two parts* incapable of cultivation; *three inferior*, yet so far capable of being tilled as to afford the means of livelihood to all who labor with the assiduity of an Irishman or Scotchman, and whose wants are as easily supplied: *four good*, which is known by the size of its timber, not always by its species, for where forests are totally consumed by fire, not unfrequently a new growth of saplings arises, entirely different from the first. The profit of this land may be learned from the fact that the expense of felling these forests, heaping, burning, fencing, sowing, and reaping, is frequently repaid by the first crop. From lands like those the industrious husbandman may accumulate more than the amount of his annual expense, which if constantly invested in the form of fixed capital would lead to comfort, if not independence. These remarks apply to the great mass of our farming population, some of whom, with the fearful and grim visage of want staring them in the face, as they imagine, not unfrequently migrate to the "*far West*" or to *Texas*, either to remain, or return somewhat more contented, though greatly diminished in purse. The *fourth* division, consisting of *three parts*, is prime land; a marine deposit, known by the name of *dyke*, more properly marsh, and is of immense value, never requiring artificial aid to produce the most luxuriant crops. These lands together with a fresh water alluvium, commonly called *intervale*, are

of the first importance to N. Scotia, as an agricultural country, rendering it capable of supporting a very numerous population. Such land as this is worthy of more enterprising owners than its present occupants. Never did a Baronial Lord of Great Britain gaze upon more fertile soil, from the parapet of his ivy-wreathed castle during the feudal, or any other age, than we possess. Even now, while the system of tillage is very inferior, the sturdy yeoman, the *bone and sinew of our country*, look with utter contempt upon the Metropolis of our thriving Province, as affording a market by far too small for its agricultural produce.— Yet to how small an extent are the agricultural resources of the country developed, from the want of scientific operation. Soil like this would, in a very short period, enrich its possessors, if properly cultivated. Let the science of chemistry be applied to purposes of agriculture, and our farmers keep pace with those of other countries, and we become at once comparatively an independent people. Probably the real capabilities of the soil have never yet, in any case, been fully tested on account of the strange distaste which has too widely prevailed to the application of science to purposes of agriculture. Query, would not the endowment of an agricultural Professorship, in connexion with an experimental farm at some of our Literary Establishments, be a wise policy on the part of our Legislature?

The Yeomanry of Nova Scotia are entitled to such education as their calling demands, and must ere long come to feel that following the plough is not the degraded occupation of a semi-barbarous people; that they, the lords of the soil, are called upon to labor scientifically if they would reap the most abundant harvests from their labors. They must learn that nature has done her part in spreading before them these ample sources of wealth, this fixed capital,—this treasurehouse, capable of sustaining an enormous population; and that their operations when directed by scientific principles must raise them to a proud independence, when they with minds well cultivated like their lands, will taste the sweets of rural life in their substantial family seats, tasteful villas, ornamented pleasure grounds, shrubberies, and lawns. The imagination alone can spread before us the richness of that scenery which our judgment informs us must be the result of even ordinary care in tilling the soil of Nova Scotia. These capabilities of the soil alone are a sufficient foundation upon which to ground our firm hope of future prosperity and permanent happiness. For the culture of the soil is the only stable and lasting employment of capital; all else is perishable, and liable to the vicissitudes of fortune. Where are the gallees which fought at Salamis? Where the merchandize of Tyre? Where the costly perfumes of Arabia? Where the riches and pride of Carthage? Worn by the corrosion of time or consumed by the hand of the destroyer. The States of Asia Minor, the Republics of Greece, the Provinces of the Roman Empire itself have left no relics of their wealth, their magnificence and unrivalled greatness, save

the soil which they cultivated and improved. This is the alpha and omega of national greatness.

FISHERIES.

But nature has done more. In the exuberance of her bounty she hath thrown into the lap of Nova Scotia all that can enrich her inhabitants. The Fisheries on her coast are among her sources of wealth, and were one of the chief inducements to her colonization. The early records of this Province, though egregiously incorrigent with regard to their statement of its agricultural resources, have made its internal importance to consist in that of an excellent fishing station. Its fishing grounds are unrivalled both in point of variety and the quantity of fish which they yield. The whole Province, surrounded by the waters of the Atlantic, is one continued line of fishing coast. The deep and shoal water line fishing is, or rather might be made, exceedingly profitable. The net and seine fishing on the shores might be made equally advantageous if protected from the overreaching efforts of our neighbours. The bays and rivers swarm with fish of the best quality. No public documents can possibly give a correct statement of the quantity of fish taken annually on our coast, from the fact that they are constantly exchanged in large quantities with American Traders for supplies, and never come to our market.— Besides, some of the large fishing establishments on the coast transport their own fish to the West Indies and other places where a market may be found. But however great the capabilities of our fishing grounds, they can afford but little profit to Nova Scotia so long as all the eastern States of the Union are permitted, either in their own vessels or in English bottoms, to sweep with nets and lines the whole coast. Hitherto our Legislators have strangely diverted the benefits of the fisheries away from the Province, by furnishing fishermen with the produce of the United States, instead of uniting their interests with those of the husbandman;—and farther, so small has been the protection of our fishing grounds, that the State of Massachusetts alone has frequently taken greater numbers of fish in our own waters during a season, than our Province has done. So soon as abuses like these shall have passed away, and the real interests of all parties of our countrymen be regarded in their true light, the Province will derive no small benefit from the fisheries, both for home consumption and exportation. These abuses cry aloud in the ears of Agriculturists and Fishermen, and should speedily pass away. How our sage Legislators could have so long succeeded in giving a side wind to a subject so closely connected with our best interests, is to us matter of astonishment. *Nova Scotia is capable of producing a supply of bread stuffs adequate to the wants of all her sons. Why then shall a bounty be given to encourage the importation of Flour from the neighbouring States which is perhaps in too many cases doubtfully applied.* The fisheries do not

need such crutches as this to sustain them.— All they require is the enactment of wholesome laws; the union of their interests with those of the Farmer; and entire protection from the aggressions of those who still evade our ineffectual laws in trespassing upon their rights.

MINES AND QUARRIES.

The Mines of Nova Scotia are another source of future prosperity, capable of affording employment and wages for thousands of the inhabitants. The Coal and Iron Mines of other countries are regarded as of exceedingly great importance: why then shall we disregard these inexhaustible sources of wealth in Nova Scotia? The answer is at hand. Like children playing with diamonds we know not their importance. The Coal Mines of Pictou, Cumberland, and numerous other places attach immense importance to this Province. After a century or two when the forests shall have passed away, coal will of necessity, become our chief if not only article of fuel. Its importance in this respect cannot be too highly appreciated.— As an article of export it is invaluable, and also as a means of enlarging our Provincial revenue, as well as being capable of affording profitable employment for thousands of our countrymen. These mines and quarries are also the grand basis of manufacturing establishments: railroads, locomotives, and almost all sorts of machinery. The iron mines of this Province are numerous and of good quality. In 1825 an association called the Annapolis Mining Company, was formed for the purpose of opening mines in Nictaux, and Annapolis—the result of their operations was, that a very superior quality of iron was obtained. Pictou also furnishes iron which is capable of being largely wrought. Indeed there are but few districts in the Province where iron ore is not found. This may appear a matter of small moment to an inactive people; and in point of fact these mines are absolutely useless and unproductive capital, so long as they continue unopened. But they cannot much longer remain unproductive—they must be opened—the march of improvement demands it. They are one of the greatest treasures any country can possess, both for internal improvement and exportation.— Iron is necessary for the establishment of railroads, and the fabrication of the multifarious sorts of machinery which are essential to the growth and prosperity of a country.— Copper also is found. To what extent it exists the future alone can determine. A mine was partially opened some years since in Cumberland by the General Mining Association of England, and afterwards abandoned. Another is at present being opened in Hammond's Plain by the same company. What the result may be, time alone can tell. One thing, however, is perfectly evident, that our Province is unrivalled in its mineral resources; and no doubt after generations will look back with astonishment at the strange indifference of their forefathers in matters of so great moment.—

These mines, if opened, and even if worked by the General Mining Association of England would yield a large revenue to the Province. Gypsum and limestone are found in abundance the former affording an inexhaustible source of commerce, and the latter yielding the agriculturalist an abundance of nourishment for the soil of the best quality. Gypsum is largely exported to the United States, and although it affords but a small profit to the carrier at present, the time is approaching when it will become of national importance, and open another source of Provincial wealth. Advancement in the science of agriculture may yet prove to a demonstration that both Gypsum and Limestone which are now but little used in nourishing the soil may, in some modified state, become as profitable to the farmers of N. Scotia, as to those of the United States.

Should such a discovery as this be made, and we think it exceedingly probable, for lime is at present coming into use as a manure, our agricultural interests will be greatly advanced; while the export trade may still be carried on to any extent the demand of foreign markets may require. Slate and grindstone quarries of no considerable importance are also abundant, and probably may at some future period become much more valuable than at present. Slate exists in great abundance, and although several quarries have been opened to little or no practical advantage, *the difficulty has arisen not for the want of material to work, but from a defect in the "modus operandi."*—Slate if used in the covering of houses, would prove a much more durable material than wood, and likewise would prevent many accidents arising from fire. The grindstone quarries of Cumberland have for a number of years given employment to many, and are capable of being wrought to a much greater extent than hitherto. So rare and valuable are these rocks that they are largely exported to Boston and other American ports, and thence have been reshipped to different nations in Europe.

Some idea of the value of Nova Scotia as a mining district may be formed from the fact that the inhabitants of the Northern States find it advantageous to procure Coal from this Province; and as steam navigation and railroad enterprise increase, so must the demand for our fuel be raised. And, again, in proportion as their population, trade, and manufactures multiply, so will the demand for our coal, grindstone, and gypsum increase. In passing from place to place where minerals of various sorts are found, the mind involuntarily and with deep emotion conjures up the bright prospects at which these resources point with no doubtful index, and having revelled for a time in the wild ecstasy, produced by its own, perhaps too vivid paintings, turns away in utter hopelessness of ever participating in those merely possible realities. But however dark a veil the history of the past may throw over the future, in connexion with the development of our Provincial resources, that veil must be torn off, for the

period has come which demands no ordinary effort in advancing the true interests of our country. Our countrymen even now are awaking to know and to feel where their great strength lies.

MANUFACTURES.

Nova Scotia is likewise peculiarly adapted to the establishment of Manufactures. Her numerous rivers which beautify the scenery of the country in every direction, afford water power sufficient to move all the machinery of the globe; yet, they roll on from year to year almost undisturbed in their course, while we import from our more frugal neighbours articles which they produce under less favorable circumstances. She possesses all that is necessary for the fabrication of machinery in her mines and forests, and much of the raw material for manufacturing; yet while even the rake and pitchfork of the farmer are made by his neighbour some thousands miles distant, and brought to his door for sale, N. Scotians complain of poverty with all these means, not of comfort merely, but of absolute wealth.—All these circumstances call upon our countrymen in a deep and solemn tone, admonishing them to awake without delay;—to throw off the galling fetters of dependence upon their neighbours. Nova Scotia is capable of sustaining factories of her own, both for the fabrication of such cloth stuffs as the country requires; implements of husbandry, and most of the common articles we need. One of the grand secrets in the political economy of any new country is the production of their own articles of consumption; for it is as self evident as any axiom in mathematics, that when the imports of a country are greater than its exports it cannot prosper. These remarks are not intended to militate against the advantages of commerce, but to point out the propriety of sustaining our commercial operations upon such principles as that its advantages may be reaped by us, *not by our neighbors*. It is as strange as it is notorious that our Province is filled with all sorts of manufactured articles of wood, from the plough of the farmer to the churn of the dairy-maid, the production of our industrious neighbors of the West. This is bringing coal to Newcastle indeed,—selling wood in Nova Scotia! O, tempora! O, moris! The water power of this country teaches a far different lesson; its extensive forests of pine, spruce, maple, beach and birch, are capable of being converted in such articles of woodwork as we require. Our coal and iron mines form a basis for more enlarged manufactures than we shall ever require, yet we plod along the beaten track of bye gone days as though we were doomed to perpetual insignificance, by some strange and unaccountable fatality. If the United States of America had pursued such a course as we, they never could have accomplished such wonders as they have done in so short a time yet *their resources are no greater than ours*.—Great Britain herself owes her prosperity in a great measure to her manufactures. And should the same spirit of enterprise actuate

us that prompted her forward in her early operations, we cannot divine any reason why we should fail, for like causes at all times produce like results, *cæteris paribus*.

CANALS, RAILROADS.

Having said thus much of the *resources* of the Province, the Agriculturist, and the Mechanic, may now enquire, "what advantages are we to derive from all these?" We answer there lie dormant the means of extensive wealth;—arouse them; call them into active operation, and the work is done. Another question arises, "how shall this be effected?" Again we reply, open up your Shubenacadie Canal, where upwards of £20,000 of our Provincial funds are sunken to no purpose.—Drive another through from Cumberland to the Bay Verte and so facilitate the communication of places with each other, one of the grand means of a country's prosperity. Establish the *long-proposed-railroad* from Halifax to Windsor and thence through the whole country to the Western shore. Let another connect Halifax with Lower Canada, and the foundation is laid for enterprise and future prosperity. Such a policy as this could not fail to improve the country. It would give employment to its inhabitants and speedily develop its hitherto latent resources to a very great extent. This is the age of improvement;—and it is not improbable that in a short time, not only shall a railroad connect Halifax with the Canadas, and consequently the United States with Nova Scotia, but that it shall wend its way through the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific Ocean, there to meet Steam navigation connecting the New World with China, thence to be continued through Asia and Europe to the Mediterranean, united again with England by Steamers, and by the Cunard line complete the entire circumference of the globe! This would be a *noble enterprise*. It is certainly not beyond the bounds of possibility. The whole route might be passed over in a very few weeks. The vacation of a student would be quite sufficient for the entire journey. Should such an enterprise as this be undertaken, the character of Nova Scotia would at once be redeemed from insignificance, and its resources prove that it is destined to become a flourishing and rich country.

We should not regard public works like these as impracticable: it is a mistake. The term "CANNOT," should be laid aside in a country like this. See what others have done in redeeming the trackless forests of America from their native state! With them there is no cannot—not even tarrying in their course. Their motto is "go-ahead," and this they fully exemplify in practice. We have all the materials for railroads at our doors; iron and coal in abundance; stone of the best quality for canals; and timber for shipping, and all the purposes of commerce without importing from the Baltic.

To any people awake to their interests a country like this must at once present all that is desirable for the establishment of railroads.

The narrow minded policy of those who fear to invest their capital in the way here proposed, can never improve any country. But we believe that if these subjects were constantly presented in their true light to our countrymen, by those who should study them deeply and methodically, until the darkness of ignorance were dissipated, more capital would be found both at home and abroad ready for investment than would be required.

COMMERCE.

HAVING opened our mines and quarries, established our Railroads and Canals; our farmers and mechanics still enquire "*what then?*"—never satisfied till the period of pocketing the pounds, shillings and pence arrives. Here the answer is equally obvious; build ships of your own timber; load them with your own productions, whether animal, vegetable, or mineral, and transport them to foreign markets, where they may be profitably exchanged for the aforesaid pounds, shillings, and pence, or for such productions as our own country may not yield, affording a handsome profit on the homeward voyage. The position of this country is peculiarly favorable to commercial operations, situated as it is between the Old and New Worlds. Its forests are capable of supplying timber for ship-building to any extent we may require. Its agricultural productions by industry might very far exceed their present amount, so as to supply its inhabitants, and leave a surplus for exportation.—Its fishery trade, as we have already said, might be very much improved. Its mineral treasures, if properly attended to might employ thousands of our population in exporting them to all parts of the Globe, wherever a market might be had. Time, that great chronicler of events will no doubt present facts on this head to after generations, which at the present day would be regarded as altogether improbable, if not impossible. *We have the germ of national prosperity*; but whether it is to be developed in our genial soil, and like the acorn become enlarged until its roots shall take deep hold therein and its green foliage spread over the face of the country, affording a healthful shade, or not, is for us now to determine. Here is a wide field for the enterprising youth of our land, where they may put forth their exertions with a prospect of certain success. Such a policy as we have proposed would draw men of capital and influence to the country and afford both labor and wages to an immense population. As matters are at present no man of talent and capital would think of establishing himself in Nova Scotia. There are no public works, nothing to engage the attention of the enterprising. But the work once begun, and set in full operation, manufactures would be established, arts advanced, and all that can make a free and prosperous people happy, enjoyed. These are not the wild speculators of a feverish mind but careful deductions drawn from matters of fact. What was the Island of Great Britain when Julius Cæsar landed on its shores, and what its resources? Yet that sea-girt Isle with perhaps

no greater national advantages than Nova Scotia, has arisen in national importance to the proudest eminence of human greatness.— Thus far we have regarded this Province as possessing in itself all that can constitute the germ of future prosperity in a high degree.

EDUCATION.

What is the main spring which is to set the whole machinery in motion? It has been already named at the commencement of this essay. And here we would gladly pause and ask our reader, nay trumpet-tongued, were it possible, re-echo the question, vivâ voce, to every village and hamlet in the Province, not passing by some of its chiefest patriots; what is the main spring of Nova Scotia's future greatness? Some might answer "Responsible Government," others another policy. I answer with the history of nations in my hand, *Education*. "Knowledge is power;" and the power which alone can set in motion all the multifarious machinery upon which our Provincial interests depend. If this be correct, knowledge should be cultivated; nay it is impossible any longer to conceal this fact from our countrymen, however vigorously such a principle may attack the narrow policy of those who act upon the principle that "*the popular passions are the imps and demons of a political conjurer, and that he can raise them as other conjurers affect to do theirs, by terms of gibberish.*" If knowledge be the foundation of our future prosperity, what lover of his country, with the least spark of a Briton's pride glowing in his bosom, while he sees the thousands of his fellow countrymen ardently striving to obtain that boon which alone can truly ennoble the mind and establish the firm basis of our real interests, would shut up the sources of knowledge; nay, glory in beholding the wreaths of flame and smoke ascend which might raze to their foundation all institutions of sound learning!

And here let none in their course of political jugglery add insult to injury by shouting in the ears of the populace; "Down with Colleges," "give us common schools!" The man, who at the present day, in the face of his country avows principles like these, is either a fit subject for a lunatic asylum or is goaded on to political madness, which is a still greater misfortune. Alas! that the private interests of *defeated demagogues* should prompt them to touch with unhallowed hand the sacred seats of Learning; to darken with opaque clouds, our Literary atmosphere! But these clouds must soon pass away, and the light of truth shine more brightly and in all its effulgence forever dissipate the pestilential vapor. Yet these are their country's patriots, who endeavour to render turbid the fountain of science, or forever to seal it up; and these are the men who seek to have their names emblazoned on the page of history, endeavouring to the utmost of their ability to stay the tide of knowledge which is spreading over the land. Their names may live in connexion with the educational history of the country, in the memories of their injured countrymen, but only to be ex-

ecrated. And here we appeal to our readers to answer on behalf of those in whose political pathway the light of science presents such an insuperable obstacle that they would annihilate all our higher institutions of learning, *what have they ever done in any form for Education? Have they toiled indefatigably to develop ANY system for the improvement of Schools?*

No! they have done nothing but snarl at those who have given their time and best efforts to improve the system of education in all departments. They talk of common school education for all, as the only substantial good, —while they themselves know they are endeavouring to deceive the people. We need not however, press facts which are so notorious.— The truth is that as men in past ages have sacrificed their country at the shrine of their ambition, so at the present day there is nothing too gross to attempt in accomplishing private purposes. Far distant be the day when men of such principles will hold the reins of state to bind our country with the galling chains of ignorance and oppression.— But we fear not such a doom, so long as Britain's flag waves on our shores. Education must advance—the light of science even now sheds its steady rays in the midst of opposing darkness and will continue to radiate till it shall mingle with the light of other lands to bless and save from ignorance and superstition the benighted millions of our race, who now sit in darkness. Nova Scotia as a new country is proudly elevated in an Educational point of view, and her advantages in this respect warrant the conclusion that she is yet to be a bright star in the literary firmament. Unlike countries emerging from barbarism she in her infancy has received from the hand of the Parent State, the refined results of science where they are found in the manhood of old age; and as there are heights, and depths, and breaths, in science, which are yet to be explored, why shall not Nova Scotia be the victor in scaling those sublime heights and descending to those profound depths, which are yet beyond the reach of mortal ken, and be crowned with the laurels of literary and scientific fame?

Do any ask when is this bright day to dawn? We reply, it has already dawned. King's College was established at an early period; and some of those who have graduated in its halls, are now our brightest luminaries.— Since that time, other literary Institutions have been raised up by the well-understood wishes and efforts of the people. And here we ask those who stand opposed to such a policy, are not the dearest interests of our country connected with their vigorous operation? Yes, answer the thousands who have aided in the erection of those seats of learning! Yes, reply the youth who attend the classic halls of Nova Scotia! Yes, re-echoes the genius of our country's prosperity! Let Novascotians who inherit the talent and mental energy of their forefathers arise with the spirit of free men in supporting their educational establishments, that they may leave a rich

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inheritance to their sons, and future generations embalm their memories in grateful hearts. EDUCATION! What is it? It is knowledge—it is power—it is the chief agent in the founding of empires, their bulwark of defence—it is the mighty lever which moves all the machinery of the Globe. In what does it consist? In comprehending a part of Dilworth's spelling book, and ciphering to the rule of three? No, but in that mental training which discovers the hidden relations between causes and their effects,—that deep digging and labour required fully to develop the powers and capabilities of the human mind. Let our countrymen who feel all the wants of the key of knowledge see well to it that their places of education both high and low are properly sustained, each bearing that relation to the others which a prudent policy would dictate.

We should be stimulated to diligence in this matter by the noble examples of classic lands, such as Greece and Rome. The remembrance of their illustrious dead awaken feelings strangely interesting. Let us in imagination for a moment transport ourselves to Rome and visit the place where Cicero in the full Senate House under the most impassioned spirit of eloquence strongly inveighed against the atrocities of the haughty Cataline, having accused him of treason against the State; and the soul at once becomes riveted to the spot in reflections deep and vast. The mind in deep contemplation conjures up the

master spirits of those, whose counsels in the Senate, and whose exploits in the field, were the wonder and terror of the world, while we tread with solemn and reverential awe upon the ruins of a people now no more. Is it their *antiquity* that calls forth our feelings of veneration? No! it is their *literary character*.—In like manner the mind of the traveller in visiting the ruins of Greece becomes deeply affected. The reminiscences of her once flourishing republic rise thick and fast, and he involuntarily and with deep emotion exclaims—Where are thy Wise men and Philosophers who once taught in these hallowed groves the pure principles of science which scattered the ignorance of those remote ages as the rays of the rising sun do the shades of night? Where are thy Statesmen, whose eloquence reverberated from the inmost recesses of the soul, producing the most magic effects upon popular assemblies? Where are thy heroes? Where thy proud magnificence and boasted glory? Alas! nought remains but fragments of her ancient sculpture and architecture.—Athens has become a prey to the spoiler, the despot, and stranger. All these feelings are an involuntary tribute, which none can refuse, to the Genius of Science. Nova Scotia has every facility for making rapid advances in a literary and scientific course, and no doubt the generations to come will look back upon her Orators, Philosophers, and Statesmen, with like feelings of profound veneration.

IMPROVEMENT

OF

FEMALE EDUCATION.

IMPORTANCE OF AN IMPROVED SYSTEM OF FEMALE EDUCATION.

This subject we are well convinced is one of deep importance, and embraces much more than a cursory glance might discover, affecting our present and future happiness and that of our descendants, possibly to the latest generations. For our *intention* in treating of this subject, we wish to offer no apology;—for any incorrectness in matters of detail that may occur in presenting to our readers for consideration a subject so interesting, we beg the ladies to make out our defence in terms the most polite and courteous, since it is their case we plead;—their interests we seek;—their rights we maintain.

CHARACTER OF WOMAN.

AND first we offer a few remarks respecting the *character* of woman. Her earliest history is given by Moses, in whose writings we learn that she was made not the satellite or servant of man, but his companion, an intelligent being like himself. Man, to whose lot falls the more laborious duties of life, is commanding, resolute, daring, addicted to deep and abstract thought, as well as to high and imaginative speculations; woman is gentle, submissive, timid, with a mind perhaps little inferior in compass to man. She is commonly distinguished for quick apprehension, acute penetration, nice, and delicate discrimination, refined and chastened taste, and elegant and playful fancy. It was the opinion of Plato that with regard to the mind there is no natural difference between the sexes, except in point of strength. When the entire sexes are compared together, says he, the female is doubtless the inferior, but in individuals the woman has often the advantage of the man.—Numerous instances are on record of women possessing high military prowess. The Spartan women were as courageous as the men, and many a mother is said to have celebrated with festivals the death of her son who had fallen in battle, and to have put him to death if by a shameful flight or loss of arms he had brought disgrace upon his country. In later days women have taken the field and led on their forces to conquest with all the intrepidi-

ty of the most renowned generals. Thus much for their vigor of mind and strength of body—But this is not their sphere of action. With warm and tender attachments, pure morals, and high-toned religious feelings, they are admirably adapted to the sacred charge of watching over the young, and training them up, and of instilling into their tender and susceptible minds the useful lessons of early wisdom, of faith, truth, and charity. Female sympathy for the sufferings of others, and promptitude to render relief and administer the balm of consolation, is much more ready than that of man. To the truth of this remark every day's experience bears witness: and from the testimony of travellers it appears that the observation extends to woman in all the different grades of society. The strong testimony of Ledyard the celebrated pedestrian traveller on this point may be regarded as perfectly decisive. To a woman, says he, whether civilized or savage, I never addressed myself in the language of decency or friendship without receiving a decent and friendly answer; with men it has been often otherwise.

CONDITION OF WOMAN.

Secondly, the *condition* of woman in different ages claims our attention in connexion with this subject. At the most remote period of antiquity we find that respect was paid to woman; that she was regarded as high in the scale of being, and worthy of admiration, and devoted attachment. "Jacob served Laban seven years for his daughter Rachel, and they seemed into him but a few days, for the love he had to her," and at the expiration of that period obtained her upon the condition that he should serve yet seven other years, which he cheerfully did. Among barbarous nations of latter ages, woman is made a slave to her husband, and treated with the utmost disrespect, as a being unfitted and unworthy to enjoy equal rights in the participation of man's intellectual and social happiness. Some professing more philosophy than even the rude barbarian have raised the question, "HAS *the being called WOMAN* A SOUL?" In civilized and christian nations no such principles as those which make woman a being inferior to

man, obtain, at least not to so great a degree. The more refined principles of philosophy teach the important lesson that woman should be treated as a human being; that she has a mind of some sort, and is capable of some improvement. But the foul blot which has hitherto attached to her character through the neglect or manifest injustice with which she has been treated by man must be wiped away, and the fetters which have bound her down in comparative ignorance be broken off.—Then will her true character be more fully developed than at present,—her real dignity become more apparent; and her pure spirit, untrammelled, assert its gentle sway in the various departments which she has been designed by the Creator to occupy. The superiority which civilized nations claim over uncivilized, depends in a very great degree upon the higher position which woman occupies in society. And if the condition of the female world in the civil order of things may yet be greatly improved, surely the onward march in civilization and refinement demand immediate attention to such measures as may conduce to the mental improvement of woman.

PRESENT SYSTEM OF FEMALE EDUCATION,

WE now turn the reader's attention to the present state of female education in our Province, which we deem to be exceedingly defective. The present system of female education, reversing the original design, fits them more to be the satellites of men than their companions, and is neither suited to prepare them to discharge the duties of life, nor to answer the grand end of their existence. We do not hesitate to admit that there are some who rise superior to their disadvantages; are thinking, intellectual, accomplished, and in every way well suited to be companions of men of science. It is the *system* of education we condemn and deplore. A young lady, for instance, to be educated, is sent at a suitable age to a Boarding School. There she learns those things called accomplishments, first, whose very name seems to indicate that they should be taught last, while the improvement of the mind, the culture of the understanding, and the acquisition of real knowledge, which form the true and only basis of a substantial education are treated as if they were of secondary importance, and in many cases are altogether neglected. There is too much attention to the opinion of the world—a sort of slavery to fashion—even among those who are in no danger of being classed among its votaries, which leads them to overlook everything that does not contribute to the display of their charms or the embellishment of their beauty. Their education approaches something like systematic deceit, for every word is uttered with an attempt at attention to rule, and every movement made with regard to marked action, and studied grace, while every generous and noble feeling is repressed as unfashionable, and is only tolerated, when expressed in such a way as to deprive it of its natural power—of

its essence—of all that its essential to constitute it an elevated sympathy—so that it is only the semblance—the affected shadow of what it represents.

The tendency of the present system of female education, says a writer, is to communicate as much knowledge as makes woman vain of herself, if not of her acquirements—to regard all real thinking as too masculine for the delicacy of the female mind—as destructive of that elegance which is the only and appropriate adornment of the sex—a libel upon education—a perversion of all that is true and noble in man and in nature—which confounds the languid expression of vacancy and ignorance, with the enraptured gaze of overpowered intelligence—substitutes recklessness for genius—pertness and effrontery for talent and tact—selfishness for fixedness of purpose—stupidity for sterling independence of character—and weakness, utter, increasing, and incurable, for extreme sensibility of taste, and excessive refinement of mind.

Let no one imagine that we discountenance the cultivation of those graces and virtues which are the true adornments of woman, which form her peculiar character, and cause her to be esteemed, admired, and loved. We most heartily, and unreservedly acknowledge the propriety of the sentiment that, “an enlightened, refined, and elegant woman is the most lovely and perfect of animated beings;” but to attempt to make a beautiful, a refined and elegant woman, without knowledge and thought, is impossible. It is to decorate the blossom while you neglect and destroy the fruit. Woman has ever been treated as the inferior of man; and it is to the eternal disgrace of Britons, and of every civilized nation that female education has been too much neglected, being confined to those things which least inform or strengthen the mind; thus perpetuating the idea, so prevalent in many countries, that her highest aim should be to minister to our pleasure by dancing gracefully, singing charmingly, and playing skillfully on an instrument of music—converting them into mere machines, beautiful, and attractive without, though lifeless, vain, and empty within. “It has been the object,” says an able and talented female, “to educate our sex to please the other. But reason and religion teach that we, too, are primary existences, that it is for us to move in the orbit of our duty around the Holy Centre of Perfection, the companions, not the satellites of men; else instead of shedding around us an influence that may help to keep them in their proper course, we must accompany them in their wildest deviations.”—The young lady whom we have sent to Boarding-school, and whose education, we have slightly glanced at, having gone through all her lessons, returns to the paternal roof, glittering in all the splendor of her lately-acquired arts. She plays gracefully, *perhaps*, on the piano,—she sings sweetly, and if streams stop not in their course to listen to the dulcet strains of her orphean-harp, and woodlands attend not to her melodious lays,—the rustic swain is captiva-

ted,—music to him hath charms—every eye is riveted upon her sylph-like form—while her fairy fingers so magically answer to the bidding of that spirit, which for a time, at least holds unlimited rule. Her Papa and Mamma, are delighted with the accomplishments,—oh magic word! of their daughter—their kinsfolk never could have imagined *such improvement!* So great is the joy that the poor neighbours, who by the way were never before noticed by the family, are permitted, nay requested, so benevolent is the nature of education, to come up close to the Hall door, and hear, oh yes, just to hear *Seraphina play on the piano!*—The consequence is that the young lady, admired by all, grows not a little vain of her accomplishments, except where dame nature has bestowed so much good sense as to bid defiance to all the tendencies of fashion. The adornment of her person—the graces of her manner henceforth become the chief object of attention. A knowledge of household affairs she deems absolutely vulgar. Every domestic duty is cheerfully resigned to her Mamma—consequently the study of domestic economy becomes quite unnecessary. The Science of converting flour into bread or wool into hose is quite too gross to be acquired by a lady of a refined understanding. Her butterfly existence scorns these meaner earthly cares—she flits in all the glories of sunshine, and lives to be admired, *not useful.*—Her leisure hours are employed in reading the fiction and romance of the day—in these aided by her own lively imagination, she absolutely luxuriates, soaring on the wing of conception far beyond the dull, monotonous scenes of active life, into the ethereal regions of vast contemplation! This is the exalted summit to which she has been raised by her governess and instructor, and to the present system of education is due the praise!

But a change comes o'er the spirit of her dream—a little coquetting and flirtation past and she becomes—What? a wife.—Yes; this beautiful, exquisitely symmetrical, it may be, accomplished, admired young lady has become entangled in the meshes of love, and this superlatively excellent creature is doomed to perpetual union with that biped called man. A change indeed has come to which succeeds ten thousand little cares and other etceteras, calling for the exercise of a mind, not skilled in romance merely, and for the exertion of hands adapted to more than thrumming on a piano forte. Her hands and mind are as those of an infant, so far as domestic economy is concerned—and now for the first time she learns that her duty is to be an helpmeet to her husband. The only alternative remaining at this late date is to commence learning the A, B, C, of her duty, or to compel her husband to employ some person to take charge of her household matters, which implies the possession of a greater fortune than is common to the lot of many gentlemen in our Provinces. And even should the united fortune of the parties warrant a case like this, still wealth may take to itself wings and fly away, then the alternative is—what? Let those who have laid the

foundation of the present system of female education answer the question. This is not romance, it is but a faint delineation of scenes which are continually occurring. If the view be unpleasant it is no fault of the painter.—The most prominent things, viz: the consequences or tendencies of the present system have been brought full in the foreground. In doing so we class ourselves not among those who would detract from the influence or dignity of woman, but having felt strongly on a subject of vital importance to the well-being of society, and indignantly that the female portion of our country should be denied, and *basely defrauded* of their rights, their literary rights, we claim the privilege of exposing such designing and heartless cruelty.

Who gave man the right to suppose that he alone had a mind capable of extended and infinite improvement? Look ye poets and poetasters at a Hemans—a Sigourney, and hide your diminished heads ye lesser stars. Their poems bear the touches of master minds with all that mellifluous blandness, characteristic of the sex. Who gave you men the right to establish Colleges, and Universities, at which to educate your sons, in all the substantial sciences, which are there taught, as creatures allied to that Great Being who is infinite in wisdom, and as those whose proper being consisteth not in the capability to eat and to drink, and to pamper the body, but to enlarge the powers of the soul by knowledge, drinking at its fountain here, and hoping hereafter to drink more deeply,—while you exclude your daughters from the Halls where a sound education is to be obtained? Shall man roam free to breathe the vital air, and receive instruction from the most profoundly wise and erudite of the age, —while woman, hedged about on every hand by the guardianship of a governess, is taught that strait-laced attitude,—a limited knowledge of history; of geography; of Murray's English Grammar; the whole science of composing and scrawling billetedoux after the most approved method, are all the substantial education she needs, or is entitled to? Has woman no capabilities for mathematical studies? Has she no soul capable of extended improvement in natural science? Nay, let us rather ask how can she submit to such indignity as to be treated like a servant, or at least a useful appendage to man's comfort, a small satellite to revolve around the glorious orb man.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT.

THE present essay having grown to a considerable length under our pen, we fear the ladies may have become impatient to know what are the measures to be proposed for improving the system of female education. Here lies no ordinary difficulty—having shown that the condition of young ladies in whose bosoms is implanted a strong desire for knowledge is not unlike that of Tantalus, who famishing of hunger and thirst was condemned to stand in water up to his chin, which as he stooped to drink, yielded to the pressure, and could not

be tasted; and to be continually within the reach of fruit, which the zephyrs gently moved from him as he attempted to pluck it: we advance to the task.

Believing that woman has a soul capable of the highest improvement in literature and science—that it is of the utmost importance to society, that she in every relation which she sustains in life should possess a substantial and extended education, and that she is justly entitled to all the benefits which letters can afford, we propose as follows viz: *That it is the imperative duty of Nova Scotians to establish an Institution of learning for the female portion of the community, where science and literature useful to gentlemen should be imparted to the ladies;* believing that such a measure would be one of the most important means of promoting the general interests connected with our country's prosperity. The arguments in favor of this proposition are the following. First it would aid in diffusing a literary taste, by enlisting the efforts and sympathies of the ladies of Nova Scotia in the cause of education.—Secondly, it would refine the taste and elevate the literary character of the females of our country, and consequently better fit them for the duties of life, than the present system; and, Thirdly, the duty of training the young, which falls to their lot being better performed, their sons and their daughters would reap a harvest of blessings incalculable. We cannot dwell, nor need we upon arguments in favor of such an establishment as that here proposed. *Reason and justice cry aloud in its favor.*—Place within the Halls of such an Institution competent instructors—and let our female youth resort thither to learn to think, and to drink deep at the fountain of science, then will that stigma which seems to characterize their mental powers be removed and a new impetus be given to the cause of education.

BENEFITS ARISING THEREFROM.

NAPOLEON said justly that the future good or bad conduct of a child depends entirely on the mother. The natural tie that binds the mother to her child will secure a perfect willingness on her part to attend to its instruction. How important then is it that woman should have a substantial and thorough education, for upon her character depends in a great measure the principles and morals of succeeding generations. Such Institutions as those alluded to, would inspire them with a noble enthusiasm in the cause of real and universal education,—and as *all in which they heartily engage must succeed*, a tone would be given to it which would call such power into action, as would render its triumph at once extensive and complete. If the basis of a nation's prosperity be the high character of its Institutions of learning, and its subsequent improvement depend upon the deep tone of instruction given at such Institutions, who is prepared to shew reasoning philosophically that females having received such sound, extensive and pure instruction as Collegiate Halls afford, our Provinces, nay, our nation, and the world, these Institutions widely prevailing, would not speedily

outstrip, in the march of intellect, its present condition as far as we have done that of unenlightened nations?

This may seem to be an extravagant case, but even if it be, which none can prove, the tendency of such an order of things, we believe to be strictly as we have described it. Let us enquire what is the end in view in promoting science beyond the knowledge which is necessary for conducting the ordinary business of life? The grand object of teaching science is to enlighten the mind, to enlarge its powers,—to render man more emphatically man,—to purify the soul by raising it above the earth;—to lead it to high and holy contemplation as it scans the wonderful works of the Great Creator; and to deep-toned piety, as it from the unbounded prospect which lies before it, “looks far back into the awful depths of Deity.” Man's duty, as we have already observed, is not to live to eat and to drink, and to luxuriate in the sensual gratifications of life, but to eat, and drink, that he may live as man, an enlightened, exalted, dignified being; who though now connected with infirmity and mortality is destined to rise superior to all the difficulties of the present life and in a more exalted state to put on the robe of immortality. Turn we now to enquire what position does woman occupy in the wide arena of creation? Is man made to approach nearer and still more near the Great Centre of Knowledge and perfection—God, and woman to hold a relation to none superior to man? How daring the impiety that would strip woman of all that is noble, excellent, sublime!—Has she too not a soul exalted, unfettered, arising under the superincumbent weight of disadvantages which are her lot, not of divine appointment, in high and holy contemplation, superior to earth? Then, why shall not this soul which thirsts for knowledge, drink at the fountain? *Why shall men seek their external adornment, and deny them that which will beautify and adorn the mind?*—for woman has mind, sensibility, taste, and all the virtues which man possesses, in a higher, yes, we repeat it, in a higher state of perfection. If evident marks of divine impress on woman warrant the conclusion that she stands quite as high in the scale of being as man, why shall she be denied a liberal education?—Is it because the generations to come are likely to receive injury from the early lessons of sound instruction they may receive from a mother!—Is it because woman may wield too much influence in society, by training the tender mind, and moulding it in its early development for an enlarged sphere in the active duties of life? If this be the fear, sweep away education from the face of the earth;—let in a universal flood of ignorance, and darkness:—let our young men and maidens become stultified!—By as much as we would dread such a chaos of mind, by so much should we seek the elevation of woman in point of character by means of literature and science.—An improved system of female education would speedily correct many errors respecting the mental capacity of woman, and result in mul-

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tipling an hundred fold all those virtues and graces which render her one of the purest specimens of nature's handy-work.—But the question may be raised how shall we establish Literary Institutions for the instruction of young ladies, desirable as such a thing may be, in the present state of our country's exchequer? Ah master Prudentius; not able! say not willing. *We are able.* We have now at least three or four Colleges in our Province;—and how many of them for educating young ladies. Not one;—no, nor if there were ten more erected would a female; for any scientific purpose, be permitted to enter their halls, under the present system.—To correct matters of this sort the *public mind must be changed*: and we hope that these humble remarks may be as leaven, there to ferment until this much-to-be-desired-change come. We cannot but think that if the subject were laid before our Provincial Parliament by a regularly-organized society, zealous and active in the matter, cheerful and liberal grants would be given: for be it known that while the gentlemen hold the reins of the Coach of State, the ladies instruct them how to drive.

The present system of Boarding School education—and we have every respect for it, but could wish that its advantages might follow an education, not usurp the place of one—is we believe for the most part enormously expensive, perhaps double that which an education at one of our proposed Institutions would cost, for equal periods. This fact certainly favors our object and must have its due weight in calling the attention of the Public to the establishment of an Institution conferring upon the young ladies of our land greater advantages than those which Boarding Schools afford, at a less expense.

COOPERATION OF LADIES REQUISITE.

For the speedy accomplishment of so desirable an object, as that which we have proposed, let the ladies, if their flatterers and tyrants, the men, who *pretend* to regard their interests, will not espouse their cause in this matter, band together, not in an unholy, but a holy alliance; arise in all their might of persuasion, to demand, modestly, yet firmly, *deeds* proving the attachment to them, which men profess, in the erection of a suitable Place of Public Instruction in Nova Scotia, for the young intellectual and amiable daughters of Acadia. Let such a spirit as this prevail through the length and breadth of the land and the work is done. A building erected—suitable teachers obtained, having the power of conferring degrees—a regular curriculum established, embracing languages, mathematics, natural and moral sciences, &c;—hundreds would eagerly flock to the sources of knowledge and bear off the noble palm, having obtained an education entitling if not for

bachelors of arts,—“*Maids of arts*” and “*Mistresses of arts*,” for which they are not now permitted to contend. A new tone and vigorous, would at once be given to our educational interests: then should we not have a Charlotte Elizabeth to grace the annals of our country, and her writings to afford instruction and pleasure to generations yet to come? Yes! answers a Sigourney, Yes reëchoes a Hemans! whose lines breathe exalted sentiments of refined taste, and purity, inspiring the soul, and bearing it in triumph above the corroding cares of life. Having *educated* our young ladies, we now recommend the cultivation of those graces and virtues which are the adornments of woman. A true refinement befitting such a being, obtained, cannot fail to raise woman to her rightful position,—to improve the whole machinery of social society, and to raise man himself infinitely superior to his present condition, both in point of domestic and social happiness. Then would the sweet strains of music have a double charm,—and a halo of intellectual brightness gathering around this noblest work of the Creator, proclaim her queen of earth and native of the skies.

CONCLUSION.

At this date of our Provincial existence, living as we are under the mildest, yet noblest, sceptre that can rule a free, enlightened, and happy people, it requires no prophetic art to raise the veil which separates us from the future, in predicting that Nova Scotia is yet to be radiant with the light of science, emanating both from the literary Halls of our sons, and of our daughters;—that her mines, and her fisheries are to afford the means of sustenance to thousands of her inhabitants;—that the busy throngs of our commercial cities and towns, lading and unlading the numerous ships which shall crowd our harbours, are to be the certain index of our country's prosperity; that the noise and bustle of our manufacturing establishments, and the rapid speed of our locomotives, as they bear the various products of commerce from one district to another, will be a like proof of the capabilities of Nova Scotia;—that her hills and dales, subdued by the plough in obedience to the principles of science, and covered with herds and bleating flocks are to gladden the generous heart of the rustic swain; that her picturesque scenery, painted by nature's pencil, relieved by the graceful meanderings of her numerous rivers as they glide softly on to the mighty ocean embellished by the student of nature, will in connexion with science enkindle all those pure, noble, and sublime sensibilities of soul which elevate the thoughts far beyond the starry firmament, to the throne of Him who is omniscient in wisdom, illimitable in benevolence.

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ORIGINAL ESSAY, ON PEACE.

(By another of the Competitors for the Prize of Ten Guineas.)

WHEN the Almighty fiat called the fair Creation into existence, he arranged all things in the most harmonious order. Peace reigned through the stupendous whole, from the radiant throne of Deity Himself, through all the bright celestial orbs, down to our own terrestrial sphere. In the sublime language of Divine inspiration—"The morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted" for joy." Not one discordant note was sounded, not one jarring sound was heard, among the united strains which burst forth from all created intelligences in praise to Him who launched the rolling spheres from his Almighty hand. Peace,—Heaven-born peace pervaded Creation. But we must clip the wings of our high-soaring imagination, and quitting the Celestial spheres, take our stand upon earth. When the moment predestinated from all eternity had come, the Creating fiat was put forth and this terrestrial ball took its destined place in the scale of Creation; the countless and varied myriads of animated creatures of the inferior orders were next spoken into existence by the same creating word; and last of all, MAN was created, lord of the lower world: and as such, in order to enable him to exercise authority over all below him in the scale of being, in addition to his animal propensities he was endowed with intellectual faculties, at the head of which enthroned in sublime majesty sat REASON subjecting his passions to her benign and peaceful sway, consequently each and all his passions were restrained within their proper limits, producing harmony and peace throughout his moral and physical constitution, nor of this dire change had not the great Omnipotent, whose Almighty arm alone could stay the progress of those fearful consequences, interposed, saying to those conflicting subjects, thus far shall thy rage and conflict extend, but no farther! Peace shall be restored to the world! Accordingly when the fullness of time was come, the mighty Prince of peace visits our earth. An angel flits his way from the fair fields of Eternal light to announce His birth! "A multitude of the heavenly host" proclaims, "On earth PEACE! good will towards men!" What though man's malignant passions are opposed to the teachings of this Prince of peace—and consequently the truth of his words—"That he came to send a sword," is demonstrated, yet eventually all shall be subjected to the reign of this high and mighty Prince of peace. Cheering thought!

The sway of the demon of War which for almost six thousand years has scourged our earth, and drank the blood of millions of our race will be broken forever. War has been productive of more evil in this world of ours than all other causes combined,

"What pains and griefs from this source arise,

What floods of tears into mournful eyes."

Could our eyes take in at one glance all

the scenes of suffering and misery, which have sprung from this source; could they behold all the writhings and contortions of the agonized throng of sufferers who have fallen on the embattled plains; could our ears take in at once all the groans and shrieks of agony which have burst from their agonized hearts; could we at once witness the heart rending griefs of the widows and orphans which this scourge of nations has made, the vast assemblage of horrific sights and sounds which would greet our ears and burst upon our gaze, would shatter and shiver our nerves to pieces as if struck with a stream of Heaven's own lightning. Great God! How vastly different would the Universal state of society be at this day, had War never been! A renowned patriot thus writes, "Give the money which has been spent in War, and I will erect a School house in every valley—a Church on every hill, and place in the one a competent teacher of Arts and Sciences, and in the other an able minister of Righteousness, until the pure streams of Education shall abundantly flow through the world, and till peal shall answer peal of the Church going bell around the circumference of the Globe. What wonder then that the heart of every christian and philanthropist anticipates with emotion and joy, the time when "men shall beat their swords to ploughshares, and their spears to pruning hooks, and they shall learn War no more."

Was this the boundary of the dominion of Peace. Under man it extended downwards through all the varied inferior Animal Creation to the minutest insect which had an existence. Thus did gentle peace shed her balmy influence around. All, all was under the blest dominion of Peace. But alas! a change—a sad change has come over the proud lord of this lower sphere, and by him over all, under him in the scale of being, nay, even over the face of Nature herself. Behold the sceptre of Peace wrested from the hand of Reason! Behold Reason herself hurled headlong from her seat, and the throne usurped by Passion! Behold each of the conflicting passions striving to acquire controul over the whole man. Behold each in turn dethroning the other and assuming the government of this once happy but now wretched being.—Behold the inferior animals breaking over their prescribed bounds, the reign of peace broken up among them also, and the strong preying upon the weak; because wretched man is now unable to govern them, nay, he is unable to govern himself. All, all is horrible discord. We shall not now pause to enquire by what means this direful change has been effected, suffice it to say that such is the case—War now prevails where once all was peace. Dreadful beyond conception would be the result of its recurrence.