

desires, and that we can promise without hesitation that they will be respected. You already have local bands, but the members, as I understand, are only able to give fragments of their time to practice, and they labour under other adverse conditions. You have an orchestral society, a choral union, and other musical institutions. All these may be assisted and developed in ways that will not lessen their self-respect, but will place advantages within their reach which would be next to impossible for other than wealthy men and women to obtain. Possibly we may yet have a town's band of trained musicians and a trained choir of singers that may challenge the supremacy at present claimed by some of the towns in Yorkshire. If I can trust my own judgment, we have had throughout my time in Dunfermline many excellent voices that only needed training to render their owners first-class vocalists. Museums must come in due time. I have been surprised at the amount of interest now displayed in providing these for various purposes. They are being re-organised and popularised and rendered educationally more serviceable, as well as a means of affording rational recreation. There is indeed what may be called a revival amongst curators of museums both in this country and abroad, and an interchange of ideas is going on which indicates a quickening amongst the curators and a view of their work far in excess of what has generally been assumed. Besides having permanent collections lodged in one or more museums, it will be possible to participate in the advantages of itinerant collections of art, and specimens of great value may be brought within our bounds, which practically would be beyond the power of the inhabitants generally to visit

in their usual resting places. In the Library, Reading-room, Baths, and Gymnasium, we shall have to join forces with the Corporation and the School Board. These have their work to do, and we must be careful not to overlap their work or to supersede them, but we can act in harmony with them, remembering the statutory limitations placed upon their resources which our funds may supplement and so enable their work to be carried to a further stage than can be done by themselves. Our Trust Deed warns us that we are not to presume to do for the community that which the community ought to do for themselves, but to exercise the high privilege of helping the community by doing that which they have not the power or the means efficiently to do. The experience of Friday last when all the children of the town through the kindness of Mrs Carnegie, enjoyed a holiday fraught with unalloyed pleasure, suggests the propriety of making such a holiday an annual occurrence. It seemed an excellent institution for creating local patriotism and generating fond associations for the youths referred to by the Truster, who may subsequently roam in other lands. Equally we may find it desirable to give the older scholars facilities for study of nature knowledge and national history by visits to the country and to towns or places of historical interest—such as Edinburgh, Stirling, or Perth. In doing so, we would be profiting and interesting the scholars and assisting the work of the schools in a manner which is not within the power of the School Board. I think I have said enough to show that we have practically an unlimited field before us, and we are now, I trust, to enter upon it with a due sense of our responsibilities. Do not let