

For the Spectator.  
Education.

Mr. Editor.—As harmony is sometimes brought out of confusion, and regularity and order, out of disorder and derangement, I will continue my regular irregular communications, in hope, that some of your readers may be reminded of the obligations resting upon them as social beings, as intelligent gentlemen and ladies, as philanthropists, as republicans, as citizens of the United States, as parents and guardians, and infinitely above all, as CHRISTIANS.

I do not flatter myself, sir, with the belief that I shall enlighten the public mind. But if I succeed in "stirring up" the pure, the patriotic, and the intelligent to deeds, instead of words, and their united and harmonious efforts, prove to be the safety and glory of the country, then, order and symmetry and all their concomitants, politically, economically, and morally, would be a most copious, rich, resplendent, and honorable harvest. And with even a small portion of the fruits intimated above, I shall feel myself amply compensated.

You are aware that I labor under the same inconveniences, and encounter the same obstacles as before, for the want of a regular mail; I have not seen my second communication, and as I do not keep a copy, I am at some loss in the execution of this. The matter and manner both grow dim in the distance; and seem rather to evaporate with the occasion which gave them birth. And besides these little considerations peculiar to myself, there are others of a relative character, which I would cheerfully take into the account.

The true and absolute wealth of a country does not consist in the amount of dollars and cents which its inhabitants may chance to have in their possession, at any given time; but it consists

1st, In the intelligence and virtue, of the general population.

2dly, In the amount of productive and efficient labor, in the country; such as agriculture, horticulture, and the various branches of mechanical labor.

3dly, In the disciplinary order, in each department of each general association of individuals, operating relatively and harmoniously, as one conservative whole.

The first stepping stone, to the wealth of any country is, its intelligence—and in conjunction therewith, its virtue.

No tribe, or nation, or country, or state, or settlement, or town, ever became great, or even deserved the name of greatness, without these two graces, or acquisitions. And when these are conspicuous, almost every other requisite would follow in their train, as a necessary consequence. Where these two God-like characteristics shine with a halo and a radiance, as they should in every well organized and well cultivated city or country, it would be as impossible to retard and suppress the onward march, to greatness and wealth, as it would be for a solitary native with a solitary paddle, to check the velocity of those magnificently grand and violent waters which precipitate themselves so impetuously, near your city. Nay, I challenge any man to show any nation, town or neighborhood, that ever did become great and wealthy, as such, devoid of these characteristics—or, upon the other hand, to show that ever any nation, town or neighborhood, failed to become great and wealthy, possessed of intelligence and virtue.

If, then, we establish these two facts, affirmative and negative, (and the negative, in this case, is capable of proof,) that is, that every nation, &c., possessed of intelligence and virtue, became great and wealthy; and that no nation, &c., ever did become great and wealthy without intelligence and virtue, we have only to cast about for the best ways and means of giving or imparting to the rising generation, these two qualifications, in order to be in possession of all the rest.

Those who wish to examine the predicate of these remarks in the detail, may find their curiosity gratified, and their understanding enriched by consulting ancient history, such as Herodotus, Rollin, &c., and to shorten down and expedite this research, I would recommend "Whelpley's Compend."

When I say intelligence, I do not mean that aping and miming vanity, which distinguishes itself in either sex, by the peculiar primp and adjustment of the countenance; nor that stupid and painful waddle in the walk of some, across the street, so disgusting to a man of sense; nor, in the quality and make of the garments, used either for ornaments or comfort; but I mean an ab ablate knowledge of things as they exist. No one can be considered intelligent without the knowledge of things.

In the next place, virtue, is variously defined; but it is immaterial, about this discrepancy; we generally use it in the same sense, in either conversation or writing. Hence no ambiguity arises in any mind, as to what we mean. It is moral goodness so far as it relates to the mind alone; and practically, it is that course of conduct which flows from the principle of moral goodness within, as a stream does from a fountain. Those ladies and gentlemen, therefore, who have the principle, and whose conduct flows out from it, shaped and regulated by it, are virtuous, and those only, are so.

And thus, I have defined my position, with reference to these two great principles.

And by keeping alive, and in active requisition these fundamental principles, we shall secure for ourselves and our posterity, all those solid acquisitions calculated to confer either honor, ease, or comfort; so far as either or all of these can be enjoyed without detriment to the great principles whence they flowed.

Some things are right, from the reason and nature of things, and some are made right by authority. The first is right by virtue of moral law—the second by virtue of positive law. And after the positive has been published, having been enacted by proper authority, and based upon equity and utility, it has all the force of moral law—and consequently applies to man, in a two-fold sense. But, waving this branch of the subject, for the time being, we shall proceed upon the general principle.

If it has been, or can be fairly and satisfactorily demonstrated, that every desirable acquisition, for the universal good of the whole man, physical, intellectual, and moral, is known to flow from one or two general principles or acquisitions,

"As fruit would grow on a tree,  
Or, honey proceed from the bee,  
We may shorten down our labors,  
In the cultivation of the tree,  
And in the feeding of the bee";

and with confident expectation look to these sources for a rich and luxuriant supply, up to the full measure of our wants.

How, then, shall we make the rising generation intelligent, only by institutions of learning common to all? And how shall we make, or enable them to be morally virtuous, but by the cultivation of the conscience, with the same assiduity, as we do the memory, reason, and judgment.—

And be assured that the harmony and tranquility of our domestic society, depend much more upon the cultivation of the conscience, than, on that of the intellect. But our motto is cultivate the whole man; and this can be accomplished in a good degree, in the same lesson. Every look, and gesture of a respectable teacher or parent, called forth by the passing incidents of the day, exerts a degree of influence over the youthful mind, as so much moral culture.

Where there is no legal provision for the general education of youth, the rich, only, can with any degree of convenience, educate their children. The poor being subdued and depressed in spirits, from their wanting and indigent circumstances; and from witnessing the painful disparity between themselves and their more opulent neighbors, do not aspire, as they would, surrounded by more propitious circumstances, calculated to inspire hope, and brighten their prospects for future success. But where the laws make general provision for the education of the poor, as well as the rich; they level down those distinctions. Give them a par value in the public estimation, and in fact, by which they are enabled to compete with the rich in all the concerns of life. What the one does by his money, the other accomplishes by his mind; and like the spokes of a turning wheel, the one that is in the mud now, will be upmost in a very short time. Such a law is rich in principle, and is supremely democratic and republican.

It is well calculated to perpetuate our national union, than which, nothing earthly, is more desirable; and also to produce and perpetuate the common union and reciprocal sympathies in society, because it places them upon a common level; throws them together in one common bond of society in youth; casts them, intellectually and morally in the same mould; and the condition of all, being both equal and free, they form unaffected youthful attachments which remain indelible, on the tablets of their hearts in all after life. Where is the man, though 50 or 60 years of age, whose eye would not sparkle, and whose heart would not gush with the warmest and noblest friendship, upon meeting a school-mate, of youthful and by-gone years?

Did I this day possess all the wealth of North America, from Quebec to the Gulf of Mexico, and from New York to California; and had also at my disposal, well regulated common schools; and had as a deed of charity to donate to the youth of Oregon the one or the other, I should in all charity and benevolence, will, donate, or bequeath the well-regulated common-schools. This would be a permanent endowment, a sun to warm and enlighten; a friend to solace and comfort in distress; a porter, to introduce us into the most interesting circles of human society; it would also contribute to shape, and form our characters, which will cling to us in another state of existence.

Carthage and Greece, were once considered the most powerful nations on earth, because they were the least educated nations, then, on the whole face of the globe; but the term of their national greatness was measured out to them, by their devotion to intelligence and virtue; which became almost palpable, in every page of their history. So long as they were indefatigable and zealous, in their institutions of learning, (if institutions they may be called, in prosecuting the mechanic arts, in internal improvements, in agriculture and commerce, and in teaching and practicing domestic and national virtues, they were on the onward and upward march.—

But, alas! their basis for virtue, was too

metaphysical and cold, to warm the heart and give it nourishment, and vigor, to strengthen it against the violence and turbulence of the passions, and the propensities of the flesh; the dam was too weak, for so strong a current. And notwithstanding Carthage and Greece can justly boast their great men, great in literature, in philosophy, in some of the arts, and in military tactics, yet, this was not the common lot of the common people. They lacked virtue, both moral, and practical, and hence they fell—a monument of the displeasure of Him, who is the arbiter of the destinies, both of men, and nations. There is a common fate that has swept down nation after nation, and empire after empire, until it would seem, there was no stability, no security, no perpetuity, in any thing human beneath the sun. I do believe, however, that a remedy can be found, one which, if skillfully applied, would prove a sovereign antidote against those calamitous vicissitudes. That remedy, or antidote, is couched under the two words, which the ingenious reader will perceive, forms the nucleus of this essay.

The basis of intelligence is, science and history—while the basis of virtue is Divine Truth. The christianity of the Bible reduced to practice, coupled with science and literature, would accomplish that, which, all the ice-berg philosophy, and hair-splitting metaphysics of Carthage, Greece, Persia and Rome have been wholly inadequate to accomplish; and which to the day of eternity, they never will be able to accomplish.

Science, can be singularly promoted by legislation. Divine Religion, disdains all such unequal connections, and alliances, and such unholy associations; and asks but "to be let alone." Whenever a system of ethics on mere abstract speculations, and metaphysical discriminations, builds a house upon the sand; builds a superstructure, but to be hurled to the dust in confusion—materials for future speculation and future history. But he that builds his ethical system on the wisdom of the Deity, shall not be confounded.

Perhaps the ingenious and fastidious reader is beginning to conclude, that the writer would, if he had an opportunity, crowd every house and every school with an indiscriminate mass of tracts, pamphlets, &c. Heaven forbid! I desire no such thing; and regard such a course superlatively ridiculous, if insisted on by me. Many of those little tracts, are so nonsensical, bitter, and sect-oriental, that they ought to be very careful and prudent sorting, before they should, in charity and benevolence, be handed round in the family circle.—Schools, high or low, have no use for them.

Our beloved Oregon, has the fairest prospects, so far as children, means, and health, are calculated to brighten our horizon, of any portion of North America. Every teacher with whom I have had the pleasure of an interview on the subject, informs me that the children and youth of this country, learn much faster than those of the same age did in the States. Their entire freedom from autumnal and summer diseases, and also from hepatic, dyspeptic and other chronic affections, suggest the reason why it is so. The bold, picturesque scenery, also, may have a conspicuous influence; the facts, however, are demonstrated, and the reasons, need not a volume.

Let schools be established in every town and vicinity, having competent teachers, and who knows but some genius will arise, from some of the most unlikely and indigent families, that may equal, in some new discovery, the "Magician" of the nineteenth century, GEORGE ROBERT FULTON. Who, with only a common school education, annihilated, and taught his disciples to annihilate, both time and space—whose genius conjured up that vast Leviathan of the deep, which the dwellers on the banks of the Indus, of the Ganges, and of the Amazon, behold with terror and amazement. A power, which has almost revolutionized the science of war—diminished distances more than one half—bestowed a speed and a certainty upon traveling, which defy the controlling influences of winds and waves—the master-spirit of the age; and it is none other than our own American Lobert, with but a common school education!!!

HENRY CLAY, also, established his fame both as a lawyer, and an orator, before he had acquired any thing more than a common school education. Yes, our own Henry—the mill-boy of the west—who surprised the world with the boldness, variety, and comprehensiveness of his genius. Who surpassed a Demosthenes, and a Cicero, the far-famed Greece, in all the sweetness and majesty of a towering and chaste eloquence. Who fairly eclipsed a Sheridan, and a Burke, in a manly gracefulness of address—and in the path, force, and melody of his electrical oratory.

These arguments and facts—these suggestions and reasonings—and these concluding specifications, should animate our youth to unconquerable diligence, vigilance, and application in study.

Sir, &c.,  
JAMES McBRIDE.

50 LABORERS WANTED to complete the road from Milton to the Tualatin plains. Apply to  
CROSBY & SMITH.  
may 16-17-47

NOTICE.  
W. M. K. KILBORN, would invite the attention of the public to his  
LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GOODS,  
which he has now on hand at the store next to the Methodist Church in this city, where he would be happy to see his old patrons, and all the new ones he can get. He would also request all indebted to him by note or account to call and settle, as all demands not settled by June 1st, 1850, will be left to the hands of an attorney for collection.  
Oregon city, April 16, 1850-1847

BOOTS & SHOES.  
Gents Morocco boots,  
do Kip do  
Ladies gaiters and slippers,  
do high shoes,  
Gents brogans,  
Cow hide boots,  
Childrens shoes.  
For sale by  
O. HANAN  
Oregon City, February 21, 1850.

NEW GOODS!  
RECEIVED PER BARK ANN SMITH AND O. C. RAYMOND.  
THE subscribers have received and offer for sale their stock of Goods, consisting of  
DRY GOODS, GROCERIES,  
CLOTHING, HARDWARE,  
TINWARE, FRUITS, &c., &c.  
BROOKS & BARLOW  
Oregon City, March 21st, '50-47

LOOK!!  
IN consequence of the late freshets, the undersigned were compelled to box up their goods and suspend for a time, but are now pleased to notify their good patrons, that they are now reopening their goods on Main street, next door below Col. Loring's quarters and opposite Campbell and Smith's store. They have also a general assortment of merchandise on board the Barkes Louisiana and John W. Coker and Brig Almona—all of which are now at or near Portland. We hope in a few days to have them all here in readiness for sale.  
J. D. & W. C. HOLMAN  
Oregon City, Jan. 21, 1850

FARM FOR SALE.  
THE subscriber offers for sale the land, &c. formerly owned by Captain Crosby, and situated about one mile below Portland.  
This claim has a dwelling house, barn, and other improvements upon it, and is decidedly the most desirable one on the Willamette river.  
For particulars apply to  
ANDREW WILLIAMS.  
Portland, April 4, 1850

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.  
THE undersigned, by order of the Probate Court of Marion county, made the 13th day of April, in the year of our Lord 1850, was appointed by said court administrator of the estate of Thomas M. Kay, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate, are hereby notified to present them to said administrator in due time from the date of said order.  
G. T. ROOM,  
April 19, 1850-16-31 Administrator

NEW LANDING, from bark "Louisiana," and for sale by Crosby & Smith, American and Spanish saddles, black leather and russet harness, martingales, girths, fancy plaid jaconet cravats, venon huffs, gloves, &c.  
Portland, April 15, '50-16-31

REGULAR U. S. MAIL LINE.  
FOR SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.  
Bark Louisiana, Crosby & Smith, 25th May  
Bark Green, Crosby, 1st June  
Bark Tanqua, M'Intosh, 15th June  
Bark Ann Smith, Flinders, 15th June  
Bark O. C. Raymond, Meunier, 1st July  
Rate of freight \$24 per ton  
" " " " \$100 in cash  
For freight or passage, apply to the Agents  
CROSBY & SMITH,  
Portland and Milton  
Agents of the regular line at San Francisco, California, Stark & Co., and Benj. Reynolds.  
may 16-17-47

Notice to Shipowners & Merchants  
THE undersigned, having been appointed agent for the disposal of lumber manufactured at Oregon City, Clackamas and Milwaukie, seven miles from Oregon City, the present head of navigation of the Willamette, and will be ready at all times to contract for shipping or sale by the cargo or retail, assorted lumber, square timber, shingles, &c., &c.  
He is also an agent for a line of vessels running between San Francisco, California, and this place. Vessels will be loaded with great dispatch, as the cargo can be taken from the wharf shore or raft.  
LOT WHITCOMB.  
Milwaukie, January 20th, 1850.

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