

wrote to the youth of his country in the heyday of health and the height of his fame: "Hold fast to the Bible, as the sheet anchor of our liberties; write its precepts on your hearts and practice them in your lives. To the influence of this Book, we are indebted for the progress made in true civilization, and to this we must look as our guide in the future." This list of testimonies which admits of indefinite extension may, for the present, reach a climax and close in that of *George Washington* who declared: "It is impossible to govern the world without God. He must be worse than an infidel that lacks faith, and more than wicked who has not gratitude enough to acknowledge his obligation." These are names somewhat better known than the name of our perambulating Agnostic. We can almost hear the very Spirit of unbelief, sickened and saddened by her so called champions, like the evil spirit in the days of old crying out scornfully: "Jesus I know and Paul I know, Newton I know, and Washington I know and all these others I know, but WHO ARE YE?" Humanity cannot be exorcised thus.

Does not the very fact that the bearers of such illustrious names rank among the sworn friends of the Bible of itself meet the charge of the secularist that it fetters the human intellect and is inimical to mental progress. The real leaders of human thought, the most eminent scientists and statesmen, philosophers and divines, the men of loftiest intellect and broadest culture have been *Bible men*.

May we not, without injustice, say of this chief of Canadian Agnostics as was said by Thomas Carlyle of Voltaire, when showing how valueless was his testimony against Christianity: "It is a serious ground of offence against Voltaire that he intermeddled in religion without being himself in any measure religious, that, in a word he ardently and with long continued effort, warred against Christianity, without understanding beyond the mere superficies what Christianity was." Very pertinent and pointed was the reply of Sir Isaac Newton to the astronomer Halley when he spouted infidelity in his presence. "Sir," said that Prince of Philosophers, "You have never studied these subjects and I have. Do not disgrace yourself as a philosopher by presuming to judge on questions you have never examined." Men the reverse of friendly to Christianity, as we understand it, such as Strauss, Theodore Parker, Renan, and Rosseau, have endorsed Richter's judgment on Jesus. "He is the purest among the mighty, the mightiest among the pure." Recall the elaborate eulogium of Napoleon Bonaparte on Christ, when talking with his sceptical General, Bertrand, in which he contrasts his own ruling by fear and Christ's ruling by love, vividly sketching the leading features of His character and facts of His history, and winding up with the exclamation: