

The causes of the non-convention of the Committee before this day, being thus explained, the Chairman, as leading to the discussion of the very important subject of the reference, begg'd leave to observe to the Committee,

That the main enquiry (the result of which was to be reported to His Lordship) appeared to be,

To what extent or degree, it was expedient to introduce the means of education in this province?

That certainly there could be no division of sentiment, respecting that elementary instruction, necessary to the lower classes in all countries; the want of which left a people in a state of *base barbarism*.

By these he meant,

(1.) *Parish* free-schools, or a school in every village, for reading; writing and the four common rules of Arithmetic.

(2.) A *County* free-school, one at least for further progress in Arithmetic, the Languages, Grammar, Book-keeping, Guaging, Navigation, Surveying and the practical Branches of the Mathematics.

The next step in civilised countries, was an University or a collegiate Society, for instruction in the liberal arts and sciences; and how far the province was prepared for such an institution, was the point which the Right Reverend Bishop, had with much reason, made the subject of his deliberation.

The Chairman concurred with the venerable Bishop, that the erection of an University, measuring it by the European scale, would be extravagant, as neither adapted to the abilities, nor the wants of a country, not yet consisting of one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants, who had a wilderness before them, to be brought into cultivation for obtaining the necessaries of life.