

Did you not retreat from Quatre Bras, Frank?—you know I was at Brussels. The more shame for you, sir, and if we did retreat, it was with our faces to the enemy, and please to recollect that I have still a steady hand, and can see a few paces. Pray don't mention it, Frank.—Good night.

New York—1843.

MY DEAR FRANK,—I select the following from Julia's change:—"The English are wise to learn, and quick to know the faults of other nations, in recompense no doubt that they are stone blind to their own, and if another nation existed with half the means of England, and left its poor uneducated and *uncared* for, when so grievous a thing became known," &c. &c. &c., "nothing can be said too strong, condemnatory of the selfishness, and *silliness*, of the rich here, who refuse food and schools for the poor." If this means anything, it means one of the most grave and serious charges that can be made against a civilized nation. How far it can be applied to the poor, I have endeavored to show.

That the promotion of education has been well attended to in the United States, especially the Eastern, no one wishes to deny; but before assigning any extravagant merit to one party, there are always to be taken into consideration, the circumstances relating to both, otherwise there would be great danger of falling into error, and doing injustice, which the fair Julia would greatly regret, as relates to England.

Upon inquiry, I have found, that at least one hundred and sixty millions of acres of public lands have been surveyed, and perhaps forty millions sold—as much more granted by Congress—for the support of education and for internal improvements—what precise quantity for the former purpose, I have not ascertained. This much, however, is certain, that to make provision for Common Schools, a portion of each township is reserved, besides that for Colleges. Now can there be any fairness in exclaiming?—look at our munificence, with respect to education, and what can you say for your uneducated poor?

If it had been necessary in this country to procure, and they had procured, grants of money from Congress, during periods of war and other pressure, instead of appropriations of waste lands of the Union, obtained in many instances, as Black Hawk, in his talk, best relates, then it would have been just to have made the comparison.

That Great Britain would have done more, under other circumstances, out of her public funds, there can be little doubt—that she might have, even now, no one denies; but there happen to be a party and paltry feeling there, as well as in "our country," which have frustrated the philanthropic attempts of Lord Brougham, and others, for that purpose. I