

and rendering their names notorious to the world, by repelling religion with doctrines of their own creation, and which they do not themselves believe, and as nothing has ever appeared, be it as absurd and improbable as it may, but has caught the ear and gained the attention of some; so freethinking established by men of reckless disposition, soon gained the approbation of a class, with minds similarly constituted to their own, and to whom it was very gratifying and convenient to believe, that their course would finish here, and that no *future* punishment awaited them for whatever atrocities they might commit, I believe Tom Payne of unenviable repute first openly supported the doctrine of infidelity, and the flame that he kindled has been kept burning with a greater or less degree of fierceness until the present day, when the eloquence of a Holly-hook has added fresh fuel to the fire.

That ignorance the most contemptible, and wickedness the most censurable, could alone make people depart from the religion of their forefathers, and follow with the enthusiasm of fanatics the new fangled doctrines of the present age, is a fact which no one will be inclined to dispute; and thus, I say, in order to rid society of a nuisance, and your country of a plague, it is absolutely necessary that you should liberally educate your offspring. It is said that the genius which discovered the universal law of gravitation, the man who proved from Mathematical calculations impossible to be disputed that

"The very law which moulds a tear,  
And bids it trickle from its source;  
That law preserves the earth a sphere,  
And guides the planets in their course,"

was inclined to scepticism before those masterpieces of the Creator were revealed to his gaze, but he could not then resist the convictions which those discoveries forced upon him; discoveries which have rendered his name famous through all the civilized world; alike known from the rocky cliffs of northern Europe to the sandy plains of Australia; from the fertile valley of the Ganges, to the sterile heights of the Andes, his name shall not be allowed to dim by time, nor grow indistinct by the lapse of ages; and as gold becomes brighter from age, and purer from being subjected to the furnace, so the name of Newton shall as year succeeds year, and century is heaped upon century, display itself with additional brightness and brilliancy to every succeeding generation.

If a man of this kind doubted when in comparative ignorance; but was obliged after reaching the highest pinnacle of knowledge and earthly fame, to lower even his lofty genius before an Infinite Deity; how much more shall we educate the rising generation, that like Sir Isaac Newton, they may increase in godliness, as they increase in wisdom; and so form an impenetrable barrier against the further progress of infidelity.

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