

Granted that there were two-thirds of those prisoners who could read their Bibles and write their names, does that weaken my position? No! I think not; but, on the other hand, it shall be my endeavour to show that it materially strengthens it.

There are some people in the world who think that if a child goes to school long enough to read his Bible and write a letter without much regard to the rules of Orthography, he has then received an education sufficient, and has become as intelligent as is necessary for an ordinary intercourse with his fellow men. Now, that I most distinctly deny, and so I think will all those who have thought anything upon the subject. A limited education is worse than no education at all. As the man with a cunning disposition is more to be dreaded than he who has an open and frank countenance, although both may be equally culpable; so is the man with a limited education more to be feared than he with no education at all, since he will have just sufficient to render his cunning mind still more cunning, just enough to enable him to put his wicked practices into more certain and rapid execution; and I again distinctly repeat that a bad man with a limited education is a greater nuisance to society than a bad one with no education at all, and those men to whom the right honorable gentleman alluded would have been of infinitely greater service to the state, and more useful members of the community had they been entirely uneducated; I will appeal to your own common sense; I will appeal to your own judgment, did you ever know of thoroughly educated men, men trained up in Christian principles, so to lower their dignity as to *commonly* commit actions that would disgrace the name of man? I will not deny but that there are and have been some few cases to the contrary, but *no* rule is without an exception, and *generally*, I think you will find, that the better educated a man is the more orderly and refined are his manners.

"*Ingenuas didicisse fideliter artes
Emollit mores, nec sinit esse feros.*"

This sentence was written two thousand years ago, and universal coincidence has established its truth. "To have thoroughly learnt the liberal sciences softens the manners, nor suffers them to be rude."

But there may be some amongst you who might enquire whether there were no other means to extirpate crime except by education. I answer that to do away with individual and ordinary crimes there is another method; have no education at all but in the higher circles; do entirely away with *National* education; let those whose circumstances do not place them in a superior position be brought down to servitude and slavery; bring them under the feet of the opulent and great, banish every spark of freedom from their breasts, reduce them to the condition of the negro slave of the South; do all that, I say, and you will do away with crime!