

afraid to advocate her principles and her doctrines so far as my ability will allow me, yet I do not think this the time or place for either, and I shall avoid to the utmost of my power touching upon the doctrines of any church of which any of you may be members. I make this introduction before entering upon my discussion; because however careful I may have been in the composition of this address, and particularly of this part of it; there may still be some sentences, which you might possibly consider aimed at your respective denominations, and which you would therefore think offensive. Now I most emphatically deny introducing here any phrase which I thought might annoy, or wound the feelings of any person present. I believe we are all Protestants, and therefore as Protestants and Christians, we ought all to join in endeavouring to stem that current of infidelity which if allowed to proceed without check, will eventually bring upon this Province and this people, the anger of an avenging God. We *all* ought to join in erecting such a barrier to its further progress, as it should never be able to surmount. And what so fit a barrier; what so well calculated to annihilate infidelity in its very bud as a sound and liberal education?

The present day affords a striking example of what cunning imposition can do in preying upon the minds of the ignorant and credulous; Mormonism has raised her loathsome head amongst us; the absurd doctrines of a madman are making fearful havoc amongst the unlettered and ignorant portion of our countrymen, and we hear with amazement and incredulity that above 200,000 believers have in the last few years been added to the flocks of the Prophet. Oh! murderous superstition; Oh! headlong fanaticism and blind frenzy; how long shall you be allowed to hold on your undisturbed career? How long shall your giant strides be allowed to pass unnoticed, and how long shall you dare to sully humanity with your pernicious doctrines? *Education* summon your dignity! *Reason* assert your sway! and show to Americans and the world that superstition *must* fall before you, and acknowledge your supremacy.

If ignorance has thus been the cause of altering the religious principles of a portion of our community, and withdrawing from the folds of Christ, thousands to follow and believe in the tenets of a penniless and ignorant adventurer; many more has it drawn from religion altogether, and sent them wandering in the dark abyss of undefined and interminable speculation. How any man however unlettered and ignorant, can follow and exult in the doctrines of infidelity, I am sure all of you are at a loss to imagine, and the only solution I can give to the problem, is, that some men with a smattering of education, and a little versed in the technicalities of science; having just learning sufficient to make them proud of their attainments, without enough to enable them to perceive their own deficiencies, are desirous of setting themselves up as oracles,