

So much for Mr. Bryce's testimony. Now let us hear Bagehot: "Cabinet Government educates the nation; the Presidential does not educate it, and may corrupt it. It has been said that England invented the phrase 'Her Majesty's opposition;' that it was the first Government which made a criticism of administration as much a part of the polity as administration itself. This critical opposition is the consequent of cabinet government. The great scene of debate, the great engine of popular instruction and political controversy, is the legislative assembly. A speech there by an eminent statesman, a party movement by a great political combination, are the best means yet known for arousing, enlivening, and teaching a people. The cabinet system ensures such debates, for it makes them the means by which statesmen advertise themselves for future and confirm themselves in present governments. * * The deciding catastrophes of cabinet governments are critical divisions preceded by fine discussions. * * And debates which have this catastrophe at the end of them—or may have it—are sure to be listened to, and sure to sink deep into the national mind. * * On the other hand, the debates in the American Congress