

the two great divisions of education is best calculated to perform its work, namely *Mathematical* or *Classical* learning, but none have ever sought to establish that it would be better to have *no* education at all. It will be useless for me at this time, to enter into a discussion of the various arguments brought forward by either party, to endeavour to establish their own individual opinions; enough for me to say, that no one however rambling his thoughts; however unfixed his mind; can study that immortal production of Euclid, without having those thoughts concentrated, and that mind steadied, nor can any one read those elegant works of Cicero, without having his character refined and elevated; but that is not to my purpose, those who have any penetration, cannot possibly fail to perceive that a person devoted to *one* course of study; whether it be in discovering mathematical truths, or rendering the true reading of a difficult classical author, must of necessity have his mind enlarged, and his judgement sharpened by continual practice; he becomes acquainted by continual reading with the opinions and suggestions of the cleverest men, both of the past and present age, and has therefore a great advantage over him, who is deprived by lack of education, from such fertile sources of information; and when those things are taken into careful consideration it is impossible to come to any other conclusion, than that the man whose mind is richly stored with the accumulation of centuries, and rendered strong and fixed by steady and careful investigation, is more fitted to express his opinion, and to pass his judgment upon matters of importance, than he who has been allowed to grow in ignorance, and has been deprived of those priceless treasures which the other has obtained. I now consider all my second position established; I first attempted to show you that education was *necessary* for the *full development of man's natural powers*; secondly that it was *necessary* to give him that *dignified mind and moral courage which should form so important a part of his nature*, and thirdly that it was *necessary* to man in order to make him *mature, firm and execute a judgment with certainty and rapidity*, and although you may consider my arguments unsound, and my logic fallable, yet I think by a careful perusal of works bearing upon the several branches of the subject, and by a practice of judicious thinking, you cannot fail to arrive at the same conclusions that I have already done, and I will now solicit your attention for a few minutes to what I consider a point of the greatest importance, namely that education is necessary for the full appreciation of Religion, and that it is also *necessary* to stem that current of infidelity which is setting in so strongly at the present day.

I am fully aware I am now approaching a subject, that requires to be handled with the greatest delicacy. We have all our religious opinions; we are all subject to religious prejudices, and although I am neither ashamed to confess the church to which I belong, nor

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