

They must be highly educated to be received—they can therefore account for the faith which is in them ; they are subject to a supervision besides that of the public, which must have a tendency to make them scrupulous in the performance of their duties, besides the higher aim which arises from their vows. For their support, upwards of twelve millions of dollars are annually raised and distributed, and through it and their means, christianity is heard, not in “strange and unintelligible sounds,” but in the sweet persuasive voice which religion and which conscience feels. Within a century, five hundred millions of dollars must have been expended for this holy purpose, from funds furnished by the State—add to it the building of churches, the public and private religious contributions, and then let impious tongues assert “that religion has not been cared for in England,” and the all-seeing God will not uphold and bless those acts.

Why, Jack, that sounds very like a sermon.—I’m dropping off. Wait a wee, Frank, you’re not *quite* ripe. Julia should have lived in the times of Cobbet—what an amiable pair of kindred spirits. Did you ever read the grammar he wrote for his son ? Never read anything but the army list. I’ll give you an extract or two. Make them short then, Jack, or I shall say as Robin does,—going, gone. “Nouns of number or multitude, such as Mob, Parliament, Rabble, House of Commons, Regiment, Court of King’s Bench. Den of Thieves, and the like, may have pronouns agreeing with them either in the singular or plural number ; but we must be uniform in our use of the pronoun,—we must not in the same sentence, and applicable to the same noun, use the singular in one part of the sentence, and the plural in another part,—we must not, in speaking of the House of Commons, for instance, ‘*they* one year voted that cheap corn was an evil, and the next year, *it* voted that dear corn was an evil.’ Figurative language is very fine when properly used ; but figures of rhetoric are edge-tools, and two-edge-tools too—take care how you touch them. They are called figures, because they represent other things than the words in their literal meaning stand for—for instance, ‘the tyrants oppress and starve the people ; the people would live amid abundance if those *cormorants* did not devour the fruit of their labor.’”

You know he came to this country, after repudiating, to escape the tyranny of England—that is being obliged to pay his debts ; he soon declared it was a thousand times worse here—he then dug up a skeleton, packed it among *his fixings*—called it Tom Paine’s bones—shook the dust off his shoes, and returned home. Isn’t that, Jack, what they call carnivorous ? No, Frank, only bonivorous—rather a passion for bones.—Adieu.