

school to the University, and there is no excuse for any parent's leaving his family destitute of the rudiments of knowledge.

This is a "heritage" from the past. In many a land, to this hour, the thought of educating the body of the people has never entered the minds of their rulers. In our native land, even, this idea, in its fulness, has only been developed during the present century. But God, who has our times in His hand, has been pleased to ordain that we should be born in the age of the Printing Press and of the Free School. Had we lived but a generation or two back, it had been far different with us.

6. Ours is also a land of *Freedom*. Neither we nor any class among us, are held as the property of any masters of our own or any colour, like their dogs, their horses and their sheep. Thank God for that ! for it is hard to say which suffers most by such a system, the enslaver or the enslaved, while every interest of society is blighted by the same means. Nor are we governed by a despotic monarch, whose will is the only law for his people, who holds their life, liberty, and property subject to his own absolute disposal. No manhood is possible, no public virtue can be developed, no national progress can be obtained under such an influence. But here, as the result of centuries of contention, suffering unto martyrdom, and constancy that could not be subdued, on the part of our fathers across the sea, the authority of an hereditary sovereign gives dignity and stability to the administration of government, while the Great Charter obtained at Runnymede, the Common Law of England, the Bill of Rights, and many a constitutional usage and Parliamentary Statute of earlier and later date, fence the person and the possessions of each individual, and the liberties of the people as a whole, with safe-guards so strong that no monarch dares to violate them, and such as all less favoured nations would count it their greatest glory to secure. There may be some danger that liberty may degenerate into democratic license, but we have nothing to envy in the freest country upon earth.

7. It greatly enhances the value of this liberty, that we enjoy it in connection with the *British Nation* and the *British Crown*. That Old Country, which we fondly delight to call "Home," has a history of which none of her children need to be ashamed, as compared with that of other nations. The early home of valour and of liberty, a welcoming recipient of the Christian Religion ere it had been fully corrupted, she has gone from strength to strength, increasing her population, developing her material resources, consolidating her liberties, maintaining yet always improving her form of government, founding or subduing mighty nations all over the earth, penetrating into every corner of the globe for commerce or discovery, carrying with her Justice, Liberty, Knowledge and Christianity ; hated, or feared, or loved, or respected by every nation, but despised by none ! Faults enough there have been, and are yet, in our Fatherland, but—"England ! with all thy faults, I love thee still ; my country !" There comes down to us, from all her past, an ennobling influence in favour of law and liberty, of all that is brave,