

lows that the natives of northern latitudes, are forced to be active, both by the rigour of the climate, and the nature of their own requirements, and the certain results of that activity are, a more enterprising community, and a population desirous of diving into those mysteries, after which the negro is too idle to enquire. From the above considerations we can readily perceive, that the locality in which a nation is situated, exercises a material influence upon the character of the people, and when the state of the African mind can be thus simply and readily explained, I ask you, how can any man be so presumptuous as to suppose, that the difference between him and the negro, is a distinction prearranged by our common Creator? The idea carries absurdity on its very face.

But again, although local influences are thus apparent in the formation of character, they will not entirely explain that want of intelligence so observable in the negro mind; particularly after it has been removed from a warmer to a colder sphere, and I contend, that the good effects which might naturally be expected to arise from such a circumstance, have been counteracted by the bondage in which it has been held; a bondage obnoxious to the slave, and a disgrace to the government which maintains it, but although it had still been held in subjection, yet educated and trained in a proper manner, it is my firm conviction, that their intelligence would be materially increased, and after the lapse of a few generations become on an equality with that of the white man; but to bring this part of the subject to a conclusion, I say with such an example of the effects of ignorance before our very eyes, what other argument is necessary? what other illustration needed to prove that Education is essential for the proper development of the human mind? And in this young country, complicated by no evil effects of former mismanagement; free from the fruits of tyranny and despotism, and with its resources placed at the disposal of an enlightened government, what may it not be expected to do; but now allow me to tell you that all these bright anticipations of future greatness, will surely be blighted, unless you as a people assist your government in heart and hand, in carrying out those wise measures of *National Education*, which it has so judiciously commenced, and which are, as I have here endeavoured to show you, *absolutely* essential for developing the mind, and bringing forth the genius of your country.

Again, Education introduces a moral courage, and a high sense of duty into the composition of man, and it is therefore necessary, that every one inhabiting a free and civilized country should possess it. I believe there is no one present in this assembly, who will for a second think of denying what I have just said; to every reflecting mind the proposition must be self evident, and I might well be excused for passing on to some other point, the truth of which might not be quite so clear, but as I always think it best to