

people being *necessary* for the preservation of their *rights* and *liberties*, and as these depend on spreading the opportunities and advantages of education in the various parts of the country, and among the *different orders* of the *people*, it shall be the duty of the *Legislature* and *magistrates* in all future periods of this Commonwealth, to cherish the interests of literature and the sciences, and all seminaries of them; especially the University at Cambridge, *public schools*, and *grammar schools* in the town; to encourage *private societies* and *public institutions* by *rewards* and *immunities* for the promotion of *agriculture*, *arts*, *sciences*, commerce, *trades*, manufactures, and a *natural history* of the *country*; to countenance and inculcate the principles of humanity and general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and frugality, honesty and punctuality in their dealings, *sincerity* and good *humor*, and all social affections and *generous sentiments* among the *people*."

These clauses constitute the *heart*—the *seat of life*, of the social system of Massachusetts. They are not only founded in truth, but are omnipotent in signification. What is the clear and comprehensive import of these expressions, "been initiated into those arts and sciences which *qualified* them for public employment, both in church and state;" "and whereas, the encouragement of *arts* and *sciences*, and all *good literature* tends to the *Honor of God*, the advantage of the *Christian religion* and the great benefit of this and the other *United States of America*." They actually lay the axe at the root of the tree of evil, and if energetically executed would speedily *eradicate* it throughout the earth. But can there be found a clause in any instrument more significant than the second section. It expresses every cardinal virtue which can adorn the character of man—"wisdom, knowledge, virtue, *diffused generally* among the body of the people, rights, *liberties*, education, literature, sciences, seminaries, of them, University at Cambridge, (or at St. John's College,) public schools and grammar schools, private societies, public institutions, by reward and immunities, for the promotion of agriculture, arts, sciences, commerce, trade manufactures, and a *natural history* of the *country*, principles of humanity, general benevolence, public and private charity, industry and frugality, honesty and punctuality in their dealings, sincerity, good humor, and all social affections and generous sentiments among the people," are words enough, if energetically executed, to cover the earth with virtue and glory; and every one acting under these clauses, as legislators, by virtue of the obligation of an oath, would be bound to execute them to their fullest extent. *Government is intelligence, intelligence is government*. It is recognized as a cardinal or seminal principle of Christianity, that *knowledge is light, ignorance is darkness*. Men can see in the light of day, but in darkness of night they stumble and fall, and cannot tell what is or what is not doing. Such is the nature of free government, and brings us at once to a definition of government, because it is one and the same