

The Polytechnic School, which is noted for the equity of its regulations, requires that the pupils who offer themselves from all parts of France, as candidates for admission, should have already acquired a considerable stock of mathematical and literary information. I have examined the lists of pupils admitted during the thirteen consecutive years, and have found, that of 1933 pupils admitted, 1233 were sent from the thirty-two departments of the North, and 700 from the fifty-four departments of the South.

The Academy of Sciences, which it is universally acknowledged, chooses its members with impartiality, from the learned throughout the kingdom, offers a result still more favorable to the North. Of the 65 members composing the Academy, 48 are from the thirty-two Northern Departments, and 17 only from the fifty-four Southern departments.

I have reserved, as a last mode of comparison, the rewards granted by government at the periodical exhibitions of the products of natural industry. At the exhibition of 1819, the rewards were in the following proportion:

	32 Northern Departments.	54 Southern departments.
Gold medals	63	26
Silver medals	136	45
Bronze medals	94	36
	293	107

The exhibition of 1823 presented results not less striking.

Thus in whatever point of view we regard the two portions of France, whether with respect to their agriculture or their commerce; at whatever period of life we observe the population of the North and that of the South; in tender infancy, at College, at the Polytechnic School, at the Academy of Science, in the invention of improvements in the arts and in the national rewards bestowed on industry—every where we find an analogous; and almost always a proportionate difference. To men capable of comparing effects with causes, this constant uniformity of results, this pervading superiority in favor of that part of the kingdom where instruction has been the most spread, will demonstrate clearly the advantage of this instruction in promoting trade, arts, and sciences, as well as private and public opulence.”

And the facts detailed in the foregoing statement, and their immediate consequences might be applied with equal justice to the grand divisions of our own country, and afford estimates to the due assignment and appropriations of our