

with education, knowledge or intelligence. It has been said, and is received doctrine, that language takes its origin from the resemblance between the sound and the sense; and it will be observed, that in the use of words the organs of speech in the act of utterance, move towards the object named. In this manner it will be found that the word government means the controlling action of mind. It will be found upon an examination, that all the words in the English language terminating with the syllable *ment*, have reference to the action of the mind. Such is the word government, and such it was intended to be when used to express that species of organization into which men enter and call government. And it is on the ground, that in proportion as you give the supremacy to intelligence, will there be certainly, safety, purity, permanency and usefulness in *material* action. Thus it was the omnipotence of mind or intelligence that formed the world and preserves it, and just as the creative intelligence of omnipotence made and governs the material world, so ought the creative intelligence of omnipotence in the popular power to govern the social world. Our Government takes its character from the influence of Christianity, working out in its structure and identity with the character and structure of the Creator. In the old countries, and indeed in modern Europe, it was not so. There it was acted out as a principle, that the monarch was the fountain of power, or that the rulers were the government, and not the people. It was the converted action of this principle which brought our forefathers to this country and achieved our independence. The people assumed to be the fountain of power. Thus it was that the rulers, instead of being recognized as the government, were but the agents of the government of the people, and acted under certain directions, indicated in our country by charters or written instruments.

Now whence comes this? It is easy of explanation—God the creator is a general principle, and acts out his purposes by agents or specifics. It cannot be conceived that the agent could possess more knowledge than the creator, God the general principle. If such were to become the fact all must perceive that all things would be speedily returned to chaos. Such is exactly the nature of our government. The people are the creator, the general principle, and in proportion to the decrease of the intelligence of the people, the creator the general principle will there be a tendency to disorder, confusion, chaos and then destruction.

All the nations of antiquity violated this rule, and hence of the many thousand of those nations that have lived, there remains only a few scattered remnants of the former grandeur to denote they once lived.

If the creative source of all being was *ignorance* all would be unutterable confusion. The creative source of all being is intelligence and all is unutterable order. If the people, the creative source of all organization was ignorance all would be unutterable confusion or destruction. *Government or intelligence ought to be with the people and not the ruler or agents.* The principle is a very simple