

although it would bring what it is now a collegiate education, within the power of every citizen even the humblest. It is a clear process. The present collegiate system or rather fragment of a system is based upon a certain degree of intelligence where some citizens can read and write and others cannot. If then it was established so as to bring an accurate and practical knowledge of the general principles of science and of our government to every man's door, the collegiate system would still be elevated, as much above such a degree of intelligence as it is elevated above that which now exists—in other words, for the future progressively improving collegiate system, there would be a basis of increasing brightness instead of that which is formed of increasing ignorance.

In every country the graduation of great men is almost imperceptible just as it is difficult to distinguish the superior brightness of one star from another. Thus if every citizen, by means of instruction and the degree of intelligence produced by the action for a long time of such a system as we have just described, had possessed the same research in political science, which Calhoun and Webster have displayed for the last several years, where would these two men, with their superior natural intellects have been—just as much above their own present degree of learning in political science as they now are above the masses—in other words under the influence of the action of such a system as we have described for a sufficient length of time, their present degree of knowledge in political science would be an anxious and as perfectly understood as the A, B, C, now is by the school boy.

Towards the acquisition of such results as we have described what is necessary to be done. To establish such a system as is described with a central head, to make it permanent to make it equal, and give it full and ample sources of sustenance; and place those sources upon a basis from which they are not to be removed, by those temporary storms of passions which sometimes sweep away the most valuable institutions. It should be kept in a steady action by a fixed organization and by a strong power, so that its improvements may become progressive and its consequences cumulative—the intelligence of each successive generation being heaped upon that of its predecessor.

This committee would most respectfully suggest, that towards the acquisition and maintenance of the beneficial and permanent consequences above described, it is proper that the public mind should, through the medium of its studies, receive a practical and an American, instead of a foreign and Roman or Latin direction. Religious intelligence is of paramount importance, and ought to be extensively disseminated. Upon the force, solemnity and obligation of an oath, our free institutions entirely rest. Withdraw from them the influence of its solemnity and obligation, and you would as effectually dissolve our social organization, as the abstraction of the law of the attraction of gravitation would dissolve the globe on which we live. And how is it possible that a man