

if not regarded, to rend the throne to atoms. The rocking thrones of continental Europe clearly evince that education is in advance of liberty and religion. But the reciprocal influence that exists between them will ere long bring them upon a level — by elevating the two latter, as we may hope, and not by sinking the former.

History furnishes another support to this argument in the fact that the countries most distinguished for freedom and general education are those where the Bible is most widely circulated. For examples we may refer to the United States, Scotland, and Iceland. The latter country, separated from all the world, with arctic snows upon and volcanic fires beneath its surface, and too poor to be an object of cupidity, though nominally subject to the Danish government, is in reality a free state, and is blessed with a most effective, though peculiar system of education, and with primitive simplicity of piety. Scotland, too, is nominally a part of a monarchical empire. But it were to be wished that all republics enjoyed as much liberty, and their people were as well educated, and their virtue and piety as pure and elevated. With the exceptions above referred to, we might say the same of England, where the Bible has a wide distribution. The republics of Switzerland, too, may be quoted as a striking illustration of this argument. For here we have professedly free states, lying side by side, in some of which the Bible is restrained in its circulation, and in others it is widely diffused; and it is said that the traveller needs no map to inform him when he has passed from one description of these provinces into the other.

Now, it needs no time spent to show that, if education and liberty follow in the track of the Bible, and, with a few unimportant exceptions, are cramped and sickly where that book