

manufactured or produced in the Colony so importing the same. Articles above intended, viz:—Apples, Boards, Butter, Cattle, Cheese, Cider, Corn, Horses, &c. &c.

But upon this subject, of course, great consideration will be required, and, I doubt not, duly bestowed by the Legislatures of the respective Colonies.

For the last two or three years, my correspondence with Mr. Partelow, which, until then, had been, I trust, sufficiently regular and diligent, has become infrequent and occasional; and though I would by no means have the usefulness of my services, either before or since, measured by my correspondence alone, yet I am free to confess that these services have of late become very different in their character and importance from what they formerly were. So many great questions of Trade have now been settled, and such changes in other respects have taken place, that I feel bound to communicate to you the opinion to which I have come, that the office I have so long held of Provincial Agent, has become not only for the moment, but probably for the future, an employment of too little labour and usefulness to justify or require any longer the salary which has hitherto been voted for that service; but my connexion with the Province has been of too long standing, and still is too dearly appreciated for me to take the initiative in terminating that employment. I have ever regarded it with pride, as a mark of the confidence of my native Colony, highly flattering to me; and this consideration, and the kind indulgence with which my service has always been regarded, as they have hitherto been the best reward for that service, so will they, if I can retain them for the future, alone be an abundant remuneration. I therefore most respectfully beg permission to resign the salary of Provincial Agent, and at the same time, express my desire still to be continued in the appointment, but on an honorary footing only. I shall feel greatly obliged by your kindly taking a proper occasion to make this letter and my wishes upon this subject known to the House, or its Members, in such a way as you see fit.

I have the honor to be, dear Sir,

Your very sincere and obedient servant,

HENRY BLISS.

11 King's Bench Walk, Temple, London, 3d December, 1845.

To the Hon. the Speaker of the House of Assembly, in New Brunswick.

Mr. Partelow moved the following Resolutions, which were unanimously adopted by the House:—

Resolved, That this House is fully sensible of the valuable services rendered by Henry Bliss, Esquire, in his capacity for so many years as Provincial Agent, and that its thanks are justly due to him for such services:

Resolved, That in the voluntary surrender of the yearly salary of two hundred pounds, sterling, this House duly recognizes and appreciates the honorable motives which prompted such surrender, as well as the wish expressed to retain the appointment of Provincial Agent, without desiring any pecuniary remuneration therefor:

Resolved, That this House most cordially responds to the wishes of Henry Bliss, Esquire, as expressed in his Letter, and that His Honor the Speaker do communicate the same to Mr. Bliss, together with a copy of these Resolutions.

STATE EDUCATION IN FRANCE.

[Concluded from Page 2306.]

Ere we conclude this Paper we must again recur to the principal subject of it—the Education of Youth. It seems to us that the great object of France, coveted elsewhere as most desirable, is to cultivate mediocrity up to its highest pitch of attainment. The design is not so much to remove that ignorance which is hurtful to morals, and to encourage higher mental acquirements by leaving them free and open to all, who according to their providential circumstances and situations, may aspire towards them; as systematically and almost compulsively to work up the baser intellectual material of Society into such a state of activity that it may compete with, and by the aid of numbers, overmaster all real superiority, whether of rank or of mind. And this, we have no doubt may be done. The most ordinary capacity may under skilful management acquire vast qualities of information, and may be so well exercised in its weapons, so versed in all the arts and tricks of disputation, so abundantly furnished with facts, and rendered so quick and subtle by practice, as to exert a most formidable power. Yet the intelligence which nature intends for little things, will continue, however well stocked with matter, little and circumscribed in all its views, and in proportion to the narrowness of its horizon will there be an intensity of activity and presumption. Individuals possessing this character of mind, have ever been the most mischievous and noxious pests of Society; and the prospect of their multiplication to such an extent, that they may carry all before them, is not, we confess, to us, whatever it may be to some, a very exhilarating one. Besides we are thoroughly convinced, that in proportion as mediocrity is forced up into cleverness, genius will be pulled down to that level. Genius is killed in a scuffle—its ambitious and high aspirations must be dwarfed by the necessity of competing unceasingly with the multitudinous mass of ordinary minds. It may still shew its superiority, but only in the crowd, never above it, for from the contentions through it can never get free. It was this reflection, no doubt, that made Leichtenberg, an old German Philosopher, declare, that if it were wished a great man should never again appear in the world, pedagogues should be made so universal and so all-comprehending,

that every mental study and pursuit should be concluded and confined within the Schools. It is astonishing indeed how withering pretence is to genius. It divests the objects that genius would pursue, of all enthusiasm; it renders them contemptible, and like ridicule, blights all virtuous ardor and aspiration. Certainly to multiply pretenders and smatterers is the sure way to reduce real grandeur to very moderate dimensions, and thus to produce an intellectual level among mankind. Since the present system of public instruction in France, in which we perceive this tendency has prevailed, that is since Napoleon's accession to power, there has been a dearth of literary distinction in that Country. All the literary glory of the French Nation grew out of independent or chartered Schools—Gothic Establishments as they are now called. Similar establishments have nursed and brought up all our great men—and what land can match them. Yet Monsieur Cousin, in his Report on Public Instruction in Germany, with the true spirit of a demagogue, boldly puts England out of the pale of civilization, because she has no state monopoly of Education. But the truth is, England and every other Country that has produced great men, has produced them simply by not attempting to manufacture them. Where great capacities were, there were the means at hand for their spirited development. At present, however, the great aim is to give to mediocrity the ascendancy, by a forced and overwrought cultivation. Certainly to remove that ignorance which is opposed to moral welfare and appropriately to cultivate the humble intelligence, is pure benevolence; as to afford opportunity, encouragement, means and facilities of every kind, to talent and genius, is noble, and bespeaks a great nation; but to flatter and to stimulate the medium understanding and lowest capacities of society, into an ambitious activity beyond the scope and extent of natural endowment, is, in our minds, to promote an unmitigated evil. This, nevertheless, is the primal especial tendency of most modern educational efforts.

A DISCOURSE

COMMEMORATIVE OF THE LIFE AND CHARACTER OF THE

HON. JOSEPH STORY, LL. D.,

An Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Dane Professor of Law in Harvard University;

BY SIMON GREENLEAF, LL. D., ROYALL PROFESSOR OF LAW IN HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

To expatiate upon the death of Mr. Justice Story as a public calamity would be superfluous. His best eulogy is the simple narrative of his life:—

He was born at Marblehead, in this State, on the twenty eighth of September, 1779, and was the eldest child of a second marriage. His father Dr. Elisha Story, was a native of Boston. His mother, a lady of masculine understanding and great energy of character, is still living, in the enjoyment of a green old age. The son received his early education in the academy of his native town, then under the superintendence of the Rev. Dr. Harris, afterwards President of Columbia College in New York; but under the more immediate care of Mr. Michael Walsh, a gentleman well known, not only as a mercantile tutor, but as an accomplished classical scholar. With these instructors, such a pupil could not but make rapid advances in good learning. He accordingly entered this University in 1795, a half year in advance; and was graduated, with high and well earned reputation, in 1798. On leaving the University, his prompt decision was for the profession of law; the study of which he commenced under the Honorable Samuel Sewall, late Chief Justice of Massachusetts, then in the practice in Marblehead; and completed, after the appointment of Mr. Sewall to the bench, under Mr. Justice Putnam, of the same court, then practising at the bar in Salem. To the mastery of this science he devoted himself with unconquerable vigor of application, ardent thirst for knowledge, and the compacted and various energies of a superior mind.

The period of his admission to the bar, in 1801, is still fresh in the recollection of many, as one of great political excitement. The democratic party, after years of laborious struggle, had just gained a general victory, by placing its chief in the presidential chair.

In Massachusetts, the democratic party, in which Mr. Story was then found, composed at that time a minority, numerically strong indeed, but most strenuously opposed.

He had brought into his profession untiring diligence, native eloquence, keen sagacity, integrity unspotted, and a tenacity and firmness of purpose which opposition could seldom withstand. He was of course much resorted to, at a very early period, and received solid proofs of the wisdom and discernment of the public, in the great extent and variety of his professional engagements. Political considerations, also, may have had their influence in opposing him, so young, and often alone, in important causes, against the most eminent lawyers of that day. A distinction like this, at once so honorable and so perilous, is a felicitous event in the life of any professional man; since it brings him into immediate contact with powerful minds, and familiarizes him with the depths of his science.

In 1805, he was elected one of the representatives of the town of Salem in the legislature of Massachusetts; to which office he was annually re-elected, until his appointment to the bench. In times of such political excitement, generous spirits are always found foremost in the battle; but the high estimation in which he was