

he swears allegiance. If any one gives his suffrage in putting a man or party into power, he ought to know something of the ideas of that man or party, and why he prefers one to the other. The ballot is the highest function of citizenship, it is the crown and scepter of a Republican Sovereigns upon the wisdom and intelligence of the one who holds it does the safety of the state depend.

Ignorance can undo in a year what ages of knowledge and patriotism have built with toil and sacrifice.

George Elliot says "It is a common sentence that knowledge is power, yet, who has duly considered or set forth the power of ignorance? Knowledge slowly builds up what Ignorance in an hour pulls down. Knowledge, through patient and frugal centuries, enlarges discovery and makes record of it. Ignorance, wanting its day's dinner, lights a fire with the records, and gives a flavor to its one roast with the souls of many generations."

Let the attainment of a man's right as a citizen be made an object, let it cost something, and in this way our country will not only be protected from the vile, cunning and shrewd politicians. who seek to serve their country for the only purpose of serving their own interests, but we will, at the same time, annihilate our greatest foe, Indifference.

To the end that the poorest of her citizens may enjoy the fruits of an education, the State should not only provide the means of instruction, but make these means up to a certain limit compulsory.

Realizing the fact that the stability of our republic depends upon the capabilities of its citizens to govern, laws ought to be enacted prohibiting child labor, and compelling their attendance at school, up to a time when the duties and allegiance it owes to its country are inculcated upon its mind.

I do not mean to say that education will accomplish everything, it will not, and to guard against the encroachment of any malignant power upon our institutions, we must continually and assiduously watch for every symptom that threatens our national vigor: but education, if properly directed, enables a man to realize to the fullest extent, his abili-