

**THE FREEDOM OF THE MIND,  
DEMANDED OF AMERICAN  
FREEMEN; BEING LECTURES TO  
THE LYCEUM, ON THE  
IMPROVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649478200

The Freedom of the Mind, Demanded of American Freemen; Being Lectures to the Lyceum, on the Improvement of the People by Samuel Nott

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**SAMUEL NOTT**

**THE FREEDOM OF THE MIND,  
DEMANDED OF AMERICAN  
FREEMEN; BEING LECTURES TO  
THE LYCEUM, ON THE  
IMPROVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE**



THE  
**FREEDOM OF THE MIND,**  
DEMANDED OF  
AMERICAN FREEMEN;  
BEING  
LECTURES TO THE LYCEUM,  
OF THE  
IMPROVEMENT OF THE PEOPLE.

---

BY SAMUEL NOTT, JUN.

---

BOSTON:  
PUBLISHED BY CROCKER & BREWSTER,  
47, Washington Street.  
NEW YORK.—J. LEAVITT,  
182, Broadway.  
1830.

Dir.  
Franklin  
2-4-48  
61530

02-6-48 423

## DEDICATION.

---

TO HIS EXCELLENCY LEVI LINCOLN,

SIR,—The ancient and foreign custom of dedication to the GREAT, has in it this advantage, that it claims of those who by hereditary privilege occupy the upper stations of society, their patronage and aid in the diffusion of useful knowledge. That this custom prevails so little among us cannot be understood as the acknowledgment of our Country's Literature, that she has less reason to expect the sympathy of those who are exalted by the suffrages of the PEOPLE; or does not value and demand

their unofficial aid, in enlarging her fountains and distributing her streams.

I am sure sir, that I should not offend the Genius of my country by presenting to any of her exalted sons, a work which bears an apology for all its defects in the patriotism of its aim: but I am desirous to offer it to the Governor of the Ancient Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as the PROPER REPRESENTATIVE OF OUR ENLIGHTENED FOREFATHERS; who bequeathed to their posterity an inheritance of which our civil immunities are not the substance but the outward and visible symbols.

THE AUTHOR.

## PREFACE.

---

THERE has been no end, and there appears no prospect of an end to the appeal to the people on their civil rights and privileges. The press teems with folios which are scattered many times a week, through the whole community, displaying to the American people *the rights of man*, and stimulating them to the extreme point of the demand. Let no one object to this work for which there are so many ready and active hands, if the Patriots of the periodical press will be the steady advocates of prin-



ciples, instead of the vacillating organs and instruments of party zeal.

It is grateful however to perceive an aspiring in the spirits of the people, for a higher liberty;—a liberty of the noblest character, which has no blood to shed in revolutionary battles; and no party warfare to maintain in its extension and establishment; a liberty which makes man FREE on whatever soil he treads, and under whatever government he lives; and which, if by the favor of Providence, it should become as universal as the elective franchise would secure the civil liberty and the happiness of our country, and make the United States the example and the ornament of the human race.

Every conscientious and careful Student in the common walks of life is a specimen of such a freedom—*The freedom of the mind*. If there had not been many such, our civil freedom would never have been either conceived or realised; and if it should be perverted or lost, it will be because their number and worth, have not increased with the growth and the necessities of the country.

The Lyceum, is a hall of patriotism for the union, and improvement; for the influence and increase of such freemen, which will do more for the cause of civil liberty, than the caucusses of party politics. For if its plans are carried into execution, if its designs prevail, it will produce a community, which the sophistry of party zeal will not long assail, because it cannot with its fickle light be forever exciting and misguiding them: over which ignorance and baseness would not dare to rule, even if such a people would construct a ladder for their ascent to the heights of office.

Let us hope that the Master-spirits of our country, will become the leaders and the guides of the people in their struggles for deliverance from mental bondage—in their aspirings and efforts for mental freedom:—That the time may be hastened on, for laying the top-stone of the temple of our liberty: and that the dangers which threaten its unfinished walls may be forever averted. The finishing and the securing of this noble structure, will not be accomplished by the

preparations and skirmishes of party warfare nor by grand quadriennial battles; nor by repairing and renewing our constitutions, but by renewing and creating those mental habits which alone can make self-government the glory and happiness of any people. Let us hope that every town and village will find within itself, not only candidates worthy to represent the predominant party in the state legislature, and to sustain the minor offices of civil society, but men released from the bondage of the mind; who shall be examples, and advocates and aids of mental freedom. And that those whom divine Providence has blessed with higher opportunities, will neither bury themselves in professional duties; nor vent all their patriotism in aspirings for high official station, but by an example of liberal studies, and by exciting the interchange of thought, and by laying their hand upon the great Lever of public opinion, possess and exert a power which is not gained in the halls of state—or national legislation—in the Cabi-