

monly used in the examinations of the Board, and to show, by stating afterwards, in his own words, the substance of what he has read, either at once, or in reply to questions, that he understands the meaning of the author.

These two tests could, in my opinion, be so framed that their administration would be perfectly simple and amply sufficient to prevent the enfranchisement of all except such as were instructed, not merely mechanically but intellectually, up to any given point of information. It would be impossible for an individual to draw up his application in presence of the Board, who had not been taught to write; and no man would venture to prefer a claim who had not learned to read and to understand; for, where the choice lay with the Board to insist on the reading and explaining of any portion out of two or three volumes, it would be foolish to trust to the accidental turning up of a passage carefully got by rote.

The books used by the Boards might be those that were read in the highest English classes of such national schools as it might be found expedient to establish or remodel. One of them, at least, ought to consist of a plain but comprehensive treatise on the form of the British Government; an abstract, in common phraseology, of some of the more important laws affecting the subject; a brief history of recent public events; an elucidation of the leading principles of political economy; a summary of the duties of Electors; and a clear view of the position which the Voter holds in relation to the Government, to other Electors, and to his Unenfranchised Fellow-countrymen whom he virtually represents. A second volume should be devoted to his duties as a private