

MANASSEH CUTLER AND THE
SETTLEMENT OF OHIO
1788

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A CROSS-SECTION of the life of the world of 1788 should hardly fail to hold our attention and interest for at least a few passing moments. It was marked by the presence of many great social and political issues; it abounded in dramatic characters and witnessed an amazing galaxy of outstanding genius.

France was about to flare up into revolution, a social upheaval which historians now see as the natural outcome of the English revolution of 1688 and the American revolution of 1776. Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette were to be on the throne of France for five more years. Let us pause long enough to pay our respects to the queen whose name this city bears, who lost her head because she first lost her heart to the radicals of her age, the American republicans.

George III, who had been ruling England for twenty-eight years, had lost his American colonies; nevertheless, he was to have thirty-two more years of rule. Bagehot might have said that this was another evidence of the stupidity and the stability of the British government. Frederick the Great of Prussia had been dead two years.

In the field of literature, Cowper was in his decline; Coleridge and Blake were rising in fame. Burns, the outspoken champion of Washington, had still seven years to live. Wordsworth, who favored both the American and French revolutions, was eighteen years of age; Scott was seventeen. Goethe, over in Germany, was thirty-nine.

In music, Beethoven had but recently visited Mozart in Vienna, astounding him with the evidences of his superb genius.

In the field of science, Priestly, the discoverer of oxygen, had not yet migrated from England to Pennsylvania. Watt's steam engine was three years old. It was growing up, however, and getting ready to paddle its way across the Atlantic

Ocean. Lavoissier, the father of modern chemistry, was in Paris. Ben Franklin, who, like Prometheus of old, had brought down fire from heaven on a kite string, was the governor of Pennsylvania. Congress was in session in New York, and the Constitutional Convention was at work in Philadelphia, while the incomparable Washington was resting in Mount Vernon between the storms of the late war and his first presidency.

The Ohio Valley in 1788 was commanding the attention of Congress and many forward-looking men on the Eastern seaboard, and well it might, for the reports of its wide expanse and its unlimited and varied resources were as stimulating to the imagination as tales from Marco Polo's *Journeys in Cathay*. The ex-revolutionary soldiers quartered at Newburg on the Hudson saw in this territory an opportunity for settlement and a realization of promises that had long been made to them, while many men in Massachusetts and Connecticut looked to the West as a field where they might transplant New England institutions and extend New England influence.

"I hear the tread of the *pioneers*,
Of nations yet to be
The first low wash of waves, where soon
Shall roll a human *sea*."

As to the physical characteristics of the Northwest Territory, we have an excellent description made by one Colonel Gordon, an English engineer.

"The country along the Ohio is extremely agreeable, filled with great plains of the richest soil and exceedingly salubrious. One remark of this kind suffices for all that region bounded by the Western slope of the Allegheny mountains and extending to the southwest a distance of five hundred miles, thence to the north as far as the sources of the rivers that empty into the Ohio and thence eastward along the hills that separate the lakes from the river Ohio as far as French creek. I can from the perfect knowledge

which I have of it affirm that the country which I have just described is the most advantageous, the most fertile land which is known to any people of Europe whatsoever."

But Colonel Gordon's description is merely a chant compared to the symphonic description of a French writer, which was published in English at Salem, Massachusetts, in 1787. Space forbids us to play but a few bars from its several movements. Of the lands which are watered by the different rivers emptying into the Ohio, he says, "They are remarkable for their variety of soil from which results everything which can contribute to the advantages due to their local position and which promise the success and the riches which ought to burst forth among every agricultural and manufacturing people."

Then he launches into his subject in detail. "The great level plains which one meets with here and which form natural prairies, have a circumference of from twenty to fifty miles; they are found interspersed almost everywhere along the rivers. These plains have a soil as rich as can be imagined and which with very little labor can be devoted to any species of cultivation which one wishes to give it. They say that in many parts of these prairies one can cultivate an acre of land per day and prepare it for the plow. There is no undergrowth on the land; the trees, which grow very high and become very large, only need to be deprived of their bark in order to become fit for use."

In the description of the timber wealth of the region, we are told that a black walnut tree was found near Muskingum which measured twenty-two feet in circumference five feet above the ground, and a sycamore measured in the same way had a circumference of forty-four feet. As to the variety of woods to be found, there are "The sugar maple, the sycamore, black and white mulberry, black and white walnut, the chestnut, oaks of every kind, the cherry tree, beech tree, the elm, the cucumber tree, ironwood, the ash tree, the aspen, the sassafras, the wild apple tree, and a

great number of other trees of which it is impossible to express the names in French."

The country is well supplied with springs, creeks and rivers. If it did not flow with milk and honey, there were unlimited lands for pasturage, and sugar to be extracted from the maple tree. "This garden of the universe," as this writer describes it, "will bring forth abundant crops of wheat, rye, corn, barley, indigo and cotton. As the prairies reek with fertility, so the hills are filled with mineral wealth." Then follows an enumeration of the kind of game to be found here: "Stag, fallow, deer, elk, buffalo, and bear." The wild fowl include turkeys, geese, ducks, swans, teals, pheasants and partridges. The rivers abound with fish. All in all the resources of this great empire for manufacture, shipbuilding and transportation are monumental. This is but a small sample of the literary lure that was published in Paris in 1789 and was one of the means used by Joel Barlow, the Connecticut poet, and other land agents to promote emigration from France which resulted in the settlement of a French colony at Gallipolis.

But not everyone had this high opinion of the Ohio Valley and the Northwest Territory. It is said that Madame Pompadour urged the French king to sign away his claim to America in 1763, saying that it was fit only for "bears, barbarians and beavers." President James Monroe, late in 1785, made a journey westward. He was impressed by the "miserably poor" character of the country, especially of the lands near Lake Michigan, Lake Erie, and the Illinois valley. Robert Livingstone, after having helped to negotiate the Louisiana purchase, said that it would be a century before anyone crossed the Mississippi river for settlement.

Against such opinions as these of Pompadour, Monroe and Livingstone, the vision of Manasseh Cutler is most noteworthy. Sprague, in his *Annals of the American Pulpit*, says, "In 1787 Dr. Cutler published an anonymous pamphlet which seems not to have been prophetic to a degree truly

surprising. He hazarded the prediction that many then living would see our great western waters navigated by the power of steam and that within fifty years the North West Territory would contain more inhabitants than all of New England. What seemed at the time a random and most improbable conjecture has since risen to the dignity of a prophecy, the fulfillment of which has astounded the world."

"The rudiments of empire here,
Are plastic yet and warm:
The chaos of a mighty world is rounding into form."

Our interest in the settlement of the Northwest, for want of space if for no other reason, is confined to a relatively small group including Rufus Putnam, who is affectionally called the Father of Ohio, Parsons, Tupper, Sargent, Mills and Cutler. They were not the first to come to this valley. They had been preceded by the Indian hunter, the French voyageur, the colonial scout and squatter. But the group which we mention came to settle, to govern and develop a region that had few parallels, if any, for size, wealth, and accessibility. Even within this group it is not possible to assign with absolute impartiality the honor due to each for his share in the Marietta settlement. When George Washington paid his tribute to the colony here, he made only a general statement. "No colony in America was ever settled under such favorable auspices. . . . I know many of the settlers personally and there never were men better calculated to promote the welfare of such a community." Thus the high quality of the first settlers received hearty recognition.

But if we should accept Carlyle's dictum, which has something to be said for it, viz., "History is biography writ large," we should still be in a quandry as to who is entitled to the higher honors—Putnam or Cutler. And in all probability, we would be forced to the conclusion that each in his own way made a fundamental contribution, and their contributions are to be regarded, not as competitive, but as complementary. Putnam was a soldier, Cutler was a

diplomat; Putnam was a surveyor, Cutler was a social engineer; Putnam was a pragmatist, Cutler was an idealist; Putnam saw the end and carried out the details, Cutler saw the means necessary to the end; Putnam knew and represented the pressing needs of the prospective settlers; Cutler was conspicuous in inaugurating and achieving the plan for their settlement.

In selecting Cutler as a focus for our attention, there is no attempt to distort the true image of history, but with the full realization that we never can isolate an individual from his social environment except for the temporary convenience of our own thought and purpose.

I. ANCESTRY AND CULTURAL BACKGROUND

Manasseh Cutler was born in Killingly, Connecticut, that is, in the state that held the key to the settlement of Northern Ohio, migrating to Massachusetts, the state that inspired and directed to a large degree the settlement of Southern Ohio. He was of English Puritan stock, his family having come to America from Norfolkshire in 1634. He grew up on his father's farm, developing early a taste for learning, especially the natural sciences. Under the tutelage of the Reverend Aaron Brown, the parish minister, he was prepared for Yale College, graduating in the class of 1765. In 1768 he received the degree of Master of Arts and the degree of Doctor of Laws in 1789 from his alma mater. After leaving college, he engaged in a variety of activities before settling down to his life work. He taught school, studied and practiced law, joined in a local storekeeping enterprise and made a venture in the whaling industry. But in 1768, he decided to study theology with his father-in-law, the Reverend Thomas Balch of Dedham, Massachusetts. Before long he was settled as pastor of the Congregational Church in Ipswich, now Hamilton, Massachusetts, where he remained for fifty-two years, never receiving a salary of more than \$450 per year.

From the pen of his grandson, Joseph Torrey, we have a portrait of this man, Manasseh Cutler, who was identified

so intimately in founding the state of Ohio and worked so profoundly in settling its destinies. "His personal appearance was uncommonly prepossessing—a florid complexion; a good humored expression of countenance; a full-proportioned, well-set frame of body. He was remarkably slow and deliberate in all his motions. He possessed a natural dignity of manners, in which there was no air of stiffness or reserve, but on the contrary the utmost frankness and cordiality. He was fond of society. His conversation, interspersed with anecdotes and illustrations drawn from a wide experience of the world, made him a most entertaining and instructive companion."

In a new country such as ours in 1788 there was an opportunity and a necessity for developing the many-sided man. Older civilizations raise specialists; pioneers are marked by their versatility, for the rule of the wilderness is diversity or death. We are to see Manasseh Cutler in a wide variety of roles. The amazing thing is that he had more than elemental success in the many parts that he played.

II. THE SCIENTIST

Cutler had the instincts and much of the technique of the scientist. As a farm boy, he grew up with an interest in the world about him. He had an abnormal curiosity for the facts and processes that met him on every hand. His favorite motto was a quotation from Virgil: "Happy is the man who can recognize the causes of things." Along with his desire to know, he combined a passion for order, thoroughness and neatness. On coming home from the army he turned to medicine, and under the guidance of Dr. Elisha Whitney he soon gained skill sufficient to enable him to qualify for medical practice. On one occasion he looked after forty smallpox patients. He also used the process of inoculation in his treatment of such cases. Afterwards he seems to have gained a local reputation for his ability to cope with rattlesnake poisoning. One gains the

impression from the accounts left to us that, with modern training, Cutler could have been a physician of high standing.

In botany, too, he had an acknowledged place. He has been declared "The most eminent American botanist of his time." Making the first catalogue of New England flora, he identified three hundred and fifty species and classified them according to the Linnaean system. In his rambles of exploration, he climbed Mount Washington, estimating it by his necessarily crude methods to be nine thousand feet high, an error of twenty-six hundred feet.

But his mind ranged further than botany and higher than mountain peaks. In his journal, he entered the positions of Jupiter's moons. Before the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, of which he was a member, he described the transit of Mercury across the sun; an eclipse of the moon and on one occasion, he gave a vivid description of the Aurora Borealis, which he had witnessed. He was familiar with the sextant, the telescope, and the microscope and the electrical machine. He has been called the most truly scientific mind of his day after Benjamin Franklin and Benjamin Rush.

His interest in science won for him membership in many learned societies, including the American Antiquarian Society, and when he came to Ohio he spent some time looking over ancient mounds and fortifications, which he declared to be the work of a departed race. Charles Darwin once paid his tribute to just such men as Cutler represents, and in the history of science they have a recognized place. On account of their powers of observation and interpretation, they helped to lay the broad foundations upon which others were to build the higher and fairer structure of science.

III. THE STATESMAN

But our immediate interest in Cutler lies more in the realm of statesmanship than in science. Among his many pursuits soon after leaving college was his study and prac-

tice of law. How successful he was we are not told. The two professions of medicine and law have more in common than appears at first glance. Both own an allegiance to order and causality. Science has been declared by some eminent authorities to be the very best preparation for legal profession.

Having served as chaplain under two military commanders, Francis and Titcomb, one can readily see how such a man as Cutler would know and sympathize with the demands of the ex-soldiers that they be allowed to settle on the wide rich lands of the Northwest. It is not strange that we find his name most intimately connected with the Ohio land company and the Ordinance of 1787.

In spite of adverse opinion in high places, on the whole the great Northwest was regarded as a prize to be sought and fought for when it was necessary. Discovered by La Salle in 1670, it remained a French possession until after Wolfe's capture of Quebec, when it came under British rule. The treaty of 1763 made it a part of the province of Quebec where it remained for twenty years, that is, until the close of the American Revolution and the Treaty of 1783.

After the Revolution, Virginia claimed the Northwest Territory by the authority of a royal charter and by reason of its conquest under one of her sons, George Rogers Clark. New York claimed it through purchases, and treaties made with the Indians. Massachusetts based her rights to this domain on her charter from James I, and Connecticut by reason of a charter from Charles II. There is a story told that when Governor Winthrop went to England to ask King Charles for an extension of Connecticut's boundaries to the Pacific Ocean, the king inquired of the Governor as to just how great a distance such an extension involved. Whereupon Winthrop replied that when one stood on the hills of the western edge of Connecticut, he could just faintly see the Pacific Ocean. The king was satisfied and signed on the line, dotted or undotted, we are not told.

But it was Maryland that played a most decisive part in

settling the destinies of the Northwest Territory after the Revolution. For she refused to sign the Articles of Confederation until these other states relinquished their rights. Consequently, New York in 1780, Virginia in 1784, Massachusetts in 1785, and Connecticut in 1786, relinquished their claims, with minor and what proved to be temporal reservations on the part of Virginia and Connecticut.

In the opening of the Northwest, three motives are to be traced: the opportunity for settlement, the possibility of securing public revenue, and the hope of the private gain that might come from bold, successful enterprise. In our political and social philosophy, no one of these motives is discredited in and of itself. We of Anglo-Saxon stock have a way of working through private or semi-public companies such as the East India Company, chartered by Queen Elizabeth in 1600, the Massachusetts Company by James I in 1629, the Hudson's Bay Company by Charles II in 1670, the first Ohio Company by George II, and now the Company of the Ohio Associates commissioned by the Continental Congress.

This company was formed early in March, 1788. Its directors were General Rufus Putnam, General Tupper, General Parsons, Winthrop Sargent, John Mills, and Manasseh Cutler. They met at the Bunch of Grapes tavern in Boston with the purpose of purchasing from Congress land in the Ohio country. Shortly after this meeting, General Parsons was dispatched to New York where Congress was in session, in the hope of carrying out this project. After his efforts had proven a failure, Manasseh Cutler was sent on the same errand in June, 1787. Cutler found there a threefold opposition to the plan. Some members of Congress objected to the low price proposed for this territory, some disliked the reservation of so much land for education and religion, and some objected to making any contract whatever. The final result in Cutler's own words, written under July 27th, was this: "At half past three I was informed Congress had passed an ordinance on the terms stated in our letter

without the least variation and that the Board of Treasury was directed to close the contract . . . By this ordinance, we obtained the grant of near five million acres of land, amounting to three million and a half of dollars, one million and a half of acres for the Ohio Company and the remainder for a private speculation, in which many of the most prominent characters in America are concerned; without connecting this speculation, similar terms and advantages could not have been obtained for the Ohio Company."

But along with the authorization of this sale there was the related problem which Congress had to face, namely the kind of government to be instituted in this region. This met with the issuance of the famous Ohio Ordinance already referred to. Among the many features of that instrument, it was provided that the Northwest Territory should remain within the bounds and subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. This territory, whether it should become three or five states, should bear its fair share of the national debt. Its government was to be republican in form. And slavery was to be forever prohibited. The Anglo-Saxon race has a record for producing unique political documents. There were the Magna Charta, the Mayflower Compact, the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence. And here was the Ordinance of 1787 that was to apply to a region imperial in size and was to effect the ultimate form of the Constitution itself.

This Ohio Ordinance was so broad in its scope that it foreshadowed all the important needs for many years to come. It was so just in its purposes and so deep in its social sympathies that it has called forth the highest praise from many competent authorities. Webster said of it: "We are accustomed to praise the lawgivers of antiquity. We help perpetuate the fame of Solon and Lycurgus, but I doubt whether any single law of any lawgiver ancient or modern has produced effects of a more distinct, marked and lasting character than the Ordinance of 1787."

Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase gave his testimony: "Never probably in the history of the world did a measure of legislation so accurately fulfill and yet so mightily exceed the anticipation of its legislators."

Considerable controversy has arisen over the authorship of this famous document. Webster once assigned it to Nathaniel Dane of Massachusetts, but later allowed that some of its provisions should be credited to Manasseh Cutler.

Thomas Benton of Missouri ascribed it to the pen of Thomas Jefferson. President King of Columbia University claimed the authorship of the anti-slavery sections for his father, Rufus King.

Few today would claim it in its entirety for any one man. It is highly probable that it was of composite origin. Cutler's own words, after seeing the document in its final form, are these: "The amendments I proposed have all been made except one and that is better qualified."

Most authorities today would assign to Manasseh Cutler those portions of the Ordinance which prohibited slavery, provided for education, and secured freedom of worship for all within its jurisdiction. "Make the land worth having," said Cutler to the Congress. "Unless you do, we do not want it." Here is the answer to those who think Cutler was only a lobbyist, spending his energy either in rolling logs or working buttonholes. "Exclude slavery forever . . . and we will buy your land and help you pay your debts, allow it to enter and not a penny will we invest."

Cutler's adventures in statecraft were to enable him to leave behind a record of having served two terms in the Massachusetts legislature, two terms in the national congress, and having had the refusal of a supreme court judgeship in Ohio offered him by George Washington. His versatility reminds one of a confession of Henry Ward Beecher. Someone, after listening to him, asked him what he studied. His reply was, "Everything, everything, except theology." Cutler might have made a similar reply.

IV. COLONIZER AND FOUNDER

Having helped in the organization of the Ohio Land Company, in securing its contract for western lands, and having been instrumental in both framing and securing the Ordinance, what was more fitting than that Manasseh Cutler should make a journey in person to the Ohio Valley? In his journal we find this entry:

“Lord’s Day, July the 20th (1787) Informed the people of my intention to set out on my journey. Relinquished my salary and they supply the pulpit.

“Monday, July 21st Set out for the Ohio country.”

At least one man, a brother minister, deprecated his going and said so. The Reverend Dr. Deane of Portland wrote him: “Your determination on a Southern adventure much afflicts me. Why must you remove to so awful a distance? You will mar my plan of growing in natural philosophy. As I glide into the evening of life I would sacrifice much to get you nearer to me. But as for your Garden of Eden, the fruit there looks too much like forbidden. But I wish you the blessing of Heaven on your undertakings.”

Under the date of July twenty-first there is a second reading:

“Set out from Ipswich on a journey to the Ohio and Muskingum. Mr. Ephm. Kendall of Ipswich was gone to Salem, where he with Mr. Peter Oliver, joined me on horseback. I set out myself in a sulky. Made some little stop in Salem. We dined at Newhall’s in company with Judge Cushing, and the Attorney-General, Mr. Paine. We were detained several hours in Boston. Left the town about sunset, having a prodigious number of letters for Muskingum. Lodged at Major Whiting’s in Roxbury, 34 miles.”

The journal tells of his day by day progress to the south and west until he reached Coxe’s Fort. Here he met a party of pioneers ready to take boat for a voyage down the Ohio river. Under Friday, August fifteenth we find an entry which shows the open-mindedness of Cutler and the

true pioneer spirit in mechanics as well as in exploration and organization:

"This morning we went pretty early to the boat. General Tupper had mentioned to me a mode of constructing a machine to work in the head or stern of a boat instead of oars. It appeared to me highly probable it might succeed. I therefore proposed that we should make the experiment. Assisted by a number of the people, we went to work, and constructed a machine in the form of a screw with short blades and placed it in the stern of the boat, which we turned with a crank. It succeeded to admiration and I think it a very useful discovery."

V. SPIRITUAL LEADER

On Tuesday, August nineteenth, Cutler and his party landed at Marietta, seven hundred and fifty-one miles from home. He was graciously received by General Rufus Putnam, who invited him to lodgings in his tent. Here Cutler remained about three weeks, preaching on three successive Sundays at the famous Block House on Campus Martius. His first sermon, preached on August twenty-fourth, was based on the text, Malachai 1:11.

"For from the rising of the sun, even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great among the Gentiles and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name and a peace offering, for my name shall be great among the heathen saith the Lord of Hosts."

From the modern point of view the sermon can be criticized as to its anthropology, its theory of inspiration and its division of history into secular and divine. But we also remember that the doctrine of evolution, the psychology of religion and the unity of history were doctrines far in the future even for the most liberal churches. That the sermon has so much for our generation is its significant feature. His theme might well have been stated "The Providence of God in our National History." He sees the great American Epic as the unfolding of the plan of God. In the creating, development, discovery, resources, govern-

ment, and destiny of America, he sees man's fairest opportunity and his noblest responsibilities. To enter into this inheritance, there is a call for personal consecration. To promote civilization and to secure social happiness, the life of the individual must incorporate personal virtue. It becomes us then as intelligent and dependent beings to devote ourselves to the service of him from whom all blessings flow. "Happy is that people whose God is the Lord."

Joseph Felt, writing in 1834, said of this service in the Block House: "Considering the object and the hopes of himself and his audience, the hardships they endured, their perils from wild beasts, disease and jealous plotting savages, the scene of such a sacred occasion must have appeared with lights and shadows, novel to their perceptions, romantic to their imagination, attractive to their attention, impressive to their minds and affecting to their hearts."

His message of individual responsibility under free government is all important for us today. It was proclaimed in the wilderness, but the machine age has not dimmed its luster nor lessened its vitality. The enemies of democracy like to point out its shortcomings and to encourage the belief that its days are numbered. To them democracy is a dinosaur, all bulk and no brains; it is slow, costly and ineffective; soon it will be superseded by Facism, say some; by Communism, say others. Our generation can do no better than return to Cutler and partake of his confidence and vision. Freedom is still our richest heritage: freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of thought and worship. When any one of these is lost, all the rest are in danger, and democracy is threatened. But Cutler goes below the surface of democracy, deeper than freedom, for he proclaims a truth on a still more basic level. Below freedom lies personal virtue, personal integrity, and personal responsibility.

Education, which was one of his primary interests, has multiplied its followers by millions since his day; it has builded its halls and towers far beyond any extent of his

imagination; it has experimented widely differentiating kinds, means, and ends within its own bounds, but its highest function as a corollary of free government, a truth which Cutler saw, we have not transcended. Marietta, Ohio, and the United States are still committed to the place he gave education and will remember him as pioneer, organizer, and seer.

Were we to look for his analogue in Puritan history, we might well choose John White of Dorchester, England. White never came to America. His name has been practically unknown to us. But modern historians are recognizing that he promoted the Dorchester Adventurers who settled Cape Ann. He organized another company to settle the lands between the Charles and the Merrimac rivers. He secured settlers, aroused public interest, obtained a royal charter, allayed public suspicion, enabling Winthrop's fleet to sail, and all this while laboring in his own parish in Dorchester. Today Massachusetts affectionately remembers him as one of the founders and builders of the Bay Colony. Cutler is like White.

Manasseh Cutler visited Ohio, but he never resided here. He loved Ohio and he labored with all his talents that Ohio might come into being and grow into a great and worthy state. He loved Ohio because also he loved his country and his fellow men.

Manasseh Cutler was a good man and was esteemed by the good men of all parties. He numbered among his friends men such as Putnam, Franklin, and Washington. It has been said that Washington loved Putnam, and Putnam was a man after Washington's own heart. And that Franklin loved Manasseh Cutler, and that Manasseh Cutler was a man after Franklin's own heart.

Manasseh Cutler was affectionate and hospitable. He was sociable and democratic. He prized knowledge and he kept his faith in what Bismarck called the imponderables, our ideals. He was a man of talent, discriminating observation, sound judgment, a courageous and enterprising spirit. He

was a student of nature, a minister of the church, a lover of his country, and a brother to his fellow man.

What John Harvard is to Harvard College and to education in Massachusetts, Manasseh Cutler is to Marietta College and is to the schools of Ohio. His bust should be in every school house. What Roger Williams is to Rhode Island, that Manasseh Cutler is to Ohio. What Thomas Hooker is to the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, Manasseh Cutler is to the Ordinance of 1787. Both influenced the formation of the Constitution of the United States.

Today, Manasseh Cutler's memory is affectionately cherished, his work is gratefully acknowledged, and his character is honored wherever his name is known.