

COMMUNICATION

From Henry J. Williams, Esquire, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, to the Executive of Maryland.

PHILADELPHIA, February 20, 1830.

SIR: I have the honor to enclose a report from Mr. Lewis Weld, Principal of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, shewing the capacities and improvement of the pupils committed to their charge by the State of Maryland. The object of the Executive committee in transmitting this report, has been to give a full and accurate account of the moral and intellectual qualities of these children; and they have derived great pleasure from being able, with a single exception, to speak so favourably of the whole number.

The greatest difficulty which the directors of this charity have encountered, is to make known to the parents of the indigent Deaf and Dumb, that means of gratuitous instruction are offered to them, and to convince them that their children are susceptible of mental cultivation. To give practical evidence of this fact, one of the teachers accompanied by an educated pupil, was sent through a considerable part of your State, during the last summer. The result of this measure was to produce a strong feeling in favor of these unfortunate individuals, and a considerable accession to the number of our pupils: still, however, the liberal provision made by your Legislature has been but partially taken advantage of—and the board are satisfied that there are many who are not aware of the existence of such a law.

Information on this subject might easily be disseminated by the representatives of the people, who are now assembled at the seat of government—and we therefore take the liberty of requesting that, on their return to their residences, they will use their influence in inducing the friends of the indigent Deaf and Dumb, to embrace the opportunity of ignorance and imbecility.

I have the honor to be,

With great respect, &c.

HENRY J. WILLIAMS,

Secretary Ex. Com.

T. KING CARROLL, Esqr.

Governor of Maryland.