

either to God or man, and as his bosom is animated by neither virtue nor refinement, he feels no incentive to high and rational enterprise, and is consequently incapable of achieving any thing to elevate his nature, benefit his fellow-beings, or render him a useful member of society. It is only by a liberal mental culture, that the faults of his nature can be corrected; that the wild turbulence of his passions can be restrained; that his morality can be improved, his intelligence expanded, and his being so exalted and refined as to elevate him above all base and sordid actions, and fit him for usefulness and the achievement of those high and dignified enterprises which adorn human nature, and contribute the only true means of human happiness and moral worth.

These truths are incontrovertible; and we accordingly find that it has been the constant policy of all enlightened governments, to promote the diffusion of knowledge, among the people, by providing means of instruction, by the liberal endowment of seminaries of learning, and thus disseminating among all ranks of society, the invaluable principles of social and moral greatness.

Of the various departments of learning, which merit liberal legislative encouragement, that of medicine stands pre-eminent. However important the diversified interests of society, those which concern our health and our lives, certainly claim the first consideration, and if they be neglected all others become valueless.

Deeply impressed with this conviction, a few enterprising individuals, long since, conceived the necessity of establishing a Medical College in the city of Baltimore, and although the difficulties of the undertaking seemed almost insurmountable, they proceeded to carry their design into execution. Upon their own responsibility, and unaided either by public patronage or legislative endowment, they firmly encountered the various obstacles which opposed the success of their enterprise, and by untiring zeal and perseverance, they succeeded in overcoming a series of difficulties by which less spirited and philanthropic dispositions would have been awed, and eventually built up an institution of which the state may well be proud, and which has already diffused its blessings to the remotest regions of the United States. They hazarded their own fortunes and their individual