

tions. It will be recollected that the regents are composed of the members of the four faculties; this makes the body too numerous and unwieldy. In consequence of this, your committee found that, although the University has been in operation for more than thirteen years, the regents had not had even one meeting a year, regularly, during that time. The charter prescribes that the regents shall make rules and regulations for the discipline of the University. This duty has been entirely neglected. The law granting a lottery for the benefit of the University requires, that the money arising from it should be paid to the regents, and expended under their direction. This has never been done, but with the exception of a very trifling sum, all the money has, from the neglect of the regents to act, gone immediately into the hands of the Medical Faculty, and has been expended entirely under their direction. The body of regents is too heterogeneous in its composition, and being made up in part of professors, who have strong personal interest, often conflicting and opposed, will necessarily be distracted and divided in its counsels and measures.

After mature reflection upon the existing difficulties, and their remedy, your committee have unanimously determined to recommend, that a supplement to the law establishing the University should be enacted, which shall abolish the board of regents, and also the members of the different faculties, except the professors belonging to each, and to substitute in their place a board of trustees, consisting of fifteen members, none of whom shall be professors, or have any personal interest to be affected. The governor of this state, for the time being, to be the president of the board, which shall elect, from their own body, a vice-president. The trustees to have the power of appointing a provost, professors and lecturers, and also the dissector and demonstrator of Anatomy, and the same to dismiss at pleasure. But whenever a vacancy shall occur in the Faculty of Physic, each of the remaining professors shall have the right of nominating two persons, and it shall be the duty of each to nominate one person to fill such vacancy; and the trustees shall appoint some one from among the persons, thus nominated. All the money concerns to be under the control of the trustees, and all money to be laid out and expended under their direction; the trustees to make reports of their proceedings, and of the state and condition of the University, annually, to the general assembly, on the first Monday in January.

The difficulty of getting a quorum of Regents to meet, and the want of time, prevented your committee from ascertaining the opinion or wishes of the Regents, as a body, with respect to alterations of the charter. From conversations with the different members of the board, they found the opinion to be general, that a change is necessary, but they also discovered great difference of opinion as to what would be best calculated to remedy existing evils. A great portion, however, of those with whom your committee conferred, agreed with them in believing that the establishment of an independent board of trustees, as above recommended, would be highly salutary. Should the general assembly concur in this opinion, your committee believe, that there is nothing in the nature of the act of incorporation which deprives them of the constitutional power of making the change proposed, without the formal assent of the persons incorporated. That assent is only necessary, in the opinion of your committee, when a charter of incorporation is in the nature of a contract, as a bank charter for instance, where a bonus has