

most others, that ruin had been brought on by different causes, before lotteries had been resorted to, and then recourse had been had to these as a last and desperate alternative, to regain their lost condition.

As regards "the aggregate of all schemes of lotteries in which tickets are sold throughout the United States, every year," and which is represented in one of the memorials, to be upwards of Fifty Millions of Dollars, it is impossible for the Commissioners as it is immaterial for the State to know, but what is material to be informed of, to wit: the total amount sales of tickets sold in the State of Maryland, both foreign and domestic, they herewith subjoin; being for the last fiscal year, ending the 30th day of November, 1834, \$446,532 90.

It is for the Legislature to determine in their wisdom on the policy how far they should interfere by enactments; with the morals of society. Mankind are so differently constituted, that their opinions upon these, as upon many other questions, are as diversified as the various subjects that attract their attention, or engage their time. That which may be considered immoral in the eyes of one man, may be esteemed just the reverse by his neighbour. And if we undertake to trace out the causes which have produced these opposite opinions, we must ascribe them to those impressions, which are either formed by education, or engrafted by the influence of particular associations. The first affording to the mind an unrestrained field to make up a free opinion, the latter, operating upon the feelings, too often fetters those opinions, and consequently binds them in the train of sectarian dogmas. Should they however, deem it proper that lotteries should be entirely abolished in this State, it is apparent to all who are well acquainted with the subject, that this can only be effectually done by the suppression of lotteries throughout the Union, for experience has shewn that the attempt to suppress lotteries in any one State does not accomplish the object, but increases in a manifold degree the evils complained of.

It serves, to be sure, to prevent the introduction of any State Lotteries for State purposes, if engrafted as a part of the constitution, but it does not, and cannot, by all its enactments, shut out the sales of tickets in Lotteries allowed by other States as has been clearly demonstrated by the attempts heretofore made in this State to prevent the sales of foreign tickets; and this view of the subject is fully confirmed by the inefficiency of several prohibitory laws passed in the states of New York and Pennsylvania, to suppress the sale of lottery tickets,