

sing general knowledge by an exchange of duplicate copies of works and specimens of Natural History between the nations and literary institutions throughout the world.—A system, to the establishment of which, between all the governments of Europe, and even to the extremity of India, he had devoted ten years of his life. And then, not being satisfied that his great work of philanthropy was accomplished, he turned his thoughts towards America, “with that sympathy so natural to all Frenchmen, anxious to bear to his American brethren a branch of his system, an emblem of universal peace and love,” to induce them to enter into “the holiest of holy alliances for the preservation of all that is dear to man.”

With this benevolent view he came to America in September 1839, intending to remain for three months, supposing that space of time would suffice to spread over our land, his views and objects for visiting the new world. But when he found how great was the length and breadth of our country, and the greater extent of our wants in the especial matters which induced his coming, he saw himself unable to do that justice to the good work he had undertaken, in a less time than two years. And with that self-sacrificing spirit which characterized, and carried him through Europe, did he visit the most important cities and portions of our country, gaining friends wherever he went, for himself and to his cause.

The object, then, in making his communication to your committee, is to receive from your Library duplicate books, and to give you in exchange works of science and literature from the old world.

You have thousands of duplicate books in your Library, works of no value to us, but which Mr. Vattermare assures us will be gladly received in his country in exchange for others which we cannot obtain with money.

The advantage of such exchanges may be illustrated by evidences now upon your shelves. See the result of exchanges made between Maryland and other States during the last year. Also witness the many shelves of your Library now filled with useful and important volumes, the result of a system of exchanges with the different States of this Union. And which, I am happy to say, Maryland had the honor of introducing and recommending to her sister States forty-five years ago.

In 1797, Maryland had to purchase the Laws of Congress, for the use of her courts of law and equity. *Vide* Resolution No. 1 of that year.

In the same year, and at the same session of her General Assembly, the following Resolution No. 3 was adopted.

*Resolved*, “That the Governor of this State be, and he is hereby, authorised and requested to send to the Executive of