

Again, *Manufactures*, I also include in my objects of encouragement—not because it has been neglected, but because in framing a new government for the State, I do wish to preserve equal and impartial justice to each and every interest. The liberal charters, and in some instances direct subscriptions to stock, (\$10,000 to the Union Manufactory Company,) will show the paternal regard, the State has had for this important branch of industry. *Mechanics* is so intimately connected with manufactures that it is impossible to separate them. To this branch also, or rather to the mechanics of Baltimore, a generous and paternal care has been shown by an annual donation to the Mechanics' Institution of Baltimore of \$500.

A similar donation was applied for at the same session of the Legislature for the great State Agricultural Society, and was refused.

It now remains for me to show authority, or precedent for the proposition I have had the honor to submit. And the first, because the most recent, to which I will call attention, is found in the California Constitution. The glittering gold of her hills and valleys has not even dazzled the eyes of her law makers to what is just and right and proper to the varied interests which may spring up in this land of promise. She has provided in her fundamental law that "the Legislature shall encourage, by all suitable means, the promotion of intellectual, scientific, moral and agricultural improvement."

Almost identically the language, though I was not aware of it when I drew my article, which I have employed—and this language appears to have been copied *verbatim* from the Michigan Constitution—which I have reason to believe was drawn by that eminent statesman, Gen. Cass, now so conspicuously before the country—for within a few days past, I have had the honor to receive from him an able and eloquent address delivered by him in October last, before the Agricultural Society of Calamazoo county, Michigan, in which I find the following cutting and well merited rebuke to the members of the National Legislature. He says in his conclusion: "My fellow citizens, I come to you from a far different scene from this; from a scene where there was neither eye nor heart for the peaceful and prosperous labors of agriculture."

Neither an eye nor heart for the peaceful pursuits of agriculture! What a censure upon a Legislature, three-fourths of which were composed of the immediate representatives of the agricultural interest. I trust, Mr. President, that this Convention will merit no such rebuke, but that we will show, by our action, that we have both an eye and a heart for the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, as well as all other interests in the State.

Mr. President, I could multiply authority. I could read from the Constitution of the granite State of New Hampshire—from Old Massachusetts—from Maine—from Indiana—I could give the example of New York and New Jersey—I could weary this body and exhaust myself with the reading of them, were it necessary. But I forbear—I am sure more cannot be necessary.

I have thus, Mr. President, as briefly as I could, in my plain way, shown what interests have been fostered and encouraged by the Legislature and what neglected, and authorities for my proposition, from the constitutions of many of our sister States. I have shown, I hope, conclusively so, that while literature, including law and medicine, have been patronized and encouraged, and commerce lavishly so, agriculture and associations for the diffusion of knowledge and virtue, have been neglected. Shakspeare says, "Ignorance is the curse of God, Knowledge the wing wherewith we fly to Heaven."

And its kindred *virtue*, as compared with religion, is beautifully put by Dr. Watts, who says: *Virtue* teaches us our duty towards man—Religion our duty towards God."

Shall these innocent and useful associations continue longer to be neglected. Will Maryland suffer the reproach of continuing to be behind the times, in moral and social culture? Will she in this enlightened age, at this period of moral, intellectual and physical improvement, falter in her duty? For one, I trust not—I hope not. Let us for a moment forget party strife—political aggrandizement—and apply ourselves to the peaceful pursuits of life. Let the people of all classes, and all interests, throughout the length and breadth of Maryland, see that their wants, their wishes, and their interests, are thought of; are cared for—are provided for.

We then shall have proved ourselves, to be in fact, as well as profession, their true representatives. We then shall entitle ourselves to the commendation of "well done good and faithful servants." Mr. President, my task is done—my duty performed—and in the language of the poet I will say in conclusion,

"To you the polished judges of our cause,  
Whose smiles are honor, and whose nods applause,  
Humbly we bend, encourage arts like these,  
For though the actor fails, he strives to please."

NOTE.—The Legislature of NORTH CAROLINA, at its recent session, passed a bill authorizing an agricultural, mineralogical, and botanical survey of the State. The Governor is to make the appointment, and the surveyor is required personally, or by his assistants, "to visit every county in the State, and examine every thing of interest or value in either of the above departments, to ascertain the nature and character of its products, and the nature and character of its soil, as well as to give an account of its minerals."

Mr. JENIFER said that the views presented by the gentleman from Montgomery, (Mr. Davis,) were well worthy of consideration here and throughout the State; but he, (Mr. J.), thought that it was questionable whether the bill of rights was a proper place for the provision. He thought that the bill of rights should stand as a declaration of rights, without the introduction of matters into it which belonged properly to the Legislature. It would be better, Mr. J. thought, that the amendment should be permitted to lie