

and the Colleges, I would, respectfully, refer to the last report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, in which he says: "The continuance of State support to these Institutions (the Colleges) is claimed not as a boon to higher education, but distinctly on the grounds that it is necessary for the solution of the problem of primary education. Collegiate education for all who have time and means to avail themselves of it, under the auspices and at the expense of the State, is the surest guarantee for ample facilities for the elementary education of every child within our borders."

STATE ANNUITY.

With respect to this support, I beg leave to refer to the late message of the Governor of the State, in which he holds the following language: "The General Assembly will no doubt continue to these Institutions (St. John's and the Agricultural Colleges) that generous aid to which their present prosperity is due, and without which they must sink into insignificance. In order to be effectual, the stream of State generosity must run from a perennial fountain, and not as in the past, an intermittent spring. Had the liberal policy with regard to higher education, which the State inaugurated in 1784, been continued to the present time, we might have had within our own borders, a rival to Yale or Harvard." But why, I would respectfully ask, may not the State yet have a rival to Yale or Harvard, or the University of Virginia? There is greatly needed in this State an institution of sufficient standing to prevent the annual efflux of students to the Colleges and Universities of other States. On glancing over a few catalogues for the past session, on my table, I find no less than one hundred and forty Marylanders attending College outside of the limits of the State, a larger number than were in attendance upon any single Maryland College. Adding but fifty per cent. (a small allowance) for the number of those, especially from the western portion of the State, attending Pennsylvania Colleges, of which I have no catalogues, and we find two hundred and ten students who might be contributing to build up the Colleges of their own State. Viewing this from a pecuniary point of view, and taking the moderate estimate of three hundred dollars for each student, we find an annual drain of sixty-three thousand dollars upon the resources of the State, or more than the whole amount annually appropriated by the State for the support of Colleges, High Schools and Academies, including the amount of the Academic Fund received by the several counties. These students might readily be retained within the State, by enabling this College to develop itself commensurately with the wants of higher education.