

Mr. Peabody's first letter.

and for all proper, contingent or incidental expenses of the Institute, in whatever branch the same may be needed. In the performance of this duty, I wish them to make a specific designation of the fund appropriated, from time to time, to each department, as well as of that for the general service of all; and that these several appropriations be made in such proportions as the necessities of each department may require and the means at the disposal of the Trustees may allow. And it is also my wish, in connection with this subject of the funds I have directed to be supplied, that they, as well as whatsoever I may hereafter supply, shall always be held under the control and guardianship of the Trustees, in conformity with such regulations as they may adopt for their preservation, appropriation and investment, from time to time, in the administration of the trust. And that when the Maryland Historical Society shall assume the management of the departments as I have mentioned above, the Trustees shall put at their disposal, in each year, the amount they shall have appropriated for each service, as hereinbefore required, to be disbursed by the Society according to its appointed destination.

These, gentlemen, are the general instructions I have to impart to you for your guidance in the laborious duties I have committed to your care. You will perceive that my design is to establish an Institute which shall, in some degree, administer to the benefit of every portion of the community of Baltimore, which shall supply the means of pursuing the acquirement of knowledge, and the study of art to every emulous student of either sex who may be impelled by the laudable desire of improvement to seek it; which shall furnish incentives to the ambition of meritorious youth in the Public Schools, and in that useful school of Design under the charge of the Mechanic's Institute, by providing for those who excel, a reward, which, I hope, will be found to be not only a token of honorary distinction, but also a timely contribution towards the means of the worthy candidate who shall win it, for the commencement of a successful career in life; which shall afford opportunity to those whom fortune has blessed with leisure, to cultivate those kindly and liberalizing

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