

becomes responsible to the Regents, and is pledged to sustain the Scholastic reputation of the University. They are all preparing young men for the Law School and the School of Medicine, they will all present candidates for the Honors of the Peabody Institute, as explained in the comment on Title VII. They will work together with an honorable ambition to excel in the contest, in which all earnest competitors find honor if not the highest reward.

I know of no State in which the idea of a University can so readily and so beautifully become a reality as in Maryland, possessing as she does all the agencies, (but one,) now in active operation, and the means to provide that promptly and effectively.

The idea of uniting the Colleges in the celebration of their Commencement Day, fixing it on the fourth day of July, in the City of Baltimore, and within the Hall of the Peabody Institute, the degrees being conferred by the Provost of the University, the candidates presented by the President of each affiliated College, was suggested to me by the Hon. John P. Kennedy, who, although having reached that age when, full of honor and with a record of service to the State that few citizens can claim, he might think that the measure of his duty is full, enters with earnestness into the project of Universal Education for Free Maryland.

This Commencement Day will, if our plan be developed, become one of the great days of the year in a double sense. The combination of ideas will be strictly logical. Independence and Intelligence. Under the shadow of the Monument of Washington, patriotic sentiment will be awakened. In the Hall reared by the munificence of the Merchant Prince, who dedicates Commerce to Art, Science and Literature, philanthropic munificence will be honored. The assemblage of sympathizing citizens will greet the successful aspirant for literary honors, and amid circumstances novel and inspiring, he will pledge his talents to the honor of the State of his nativity or adoption.