

upon, it was deemed best to submit the matter to you for further directions.

We take the liberty of submitting to your consideration the situation of the Executive chamber, and the propriety and necessity of having it, as well as other parts of the State House, repaired and supplied with suitable furniture; and we recommend that provision be made for painting the exterior of the State House from the roof, and also the Hall of the principal entrance, and for such other repairs and improvements of the public buildings and property as may be necessary for their preservation and to keep them in proper order. The public circle around the State House, being now enclosed, at considerable expense, is, from its position, susceptible of being made an ornament both to the metropolis and the State. Its natural advantages, long neglected, could, with very little trouble or additional expense, from year to year, following out a proper plan, be greatly improved by cultivation, and, at the same time, the convenience and comfort of the members of the Legislature be promoted.

In connexion with this subject, we beg leave to recommend that the care of the State House and other public buildings and their appurtenances be, by law, placed with a competent officer, charged with the keeping of the whole in good order—and that his duties be pointed out in detail by the Legislature.

It is believed that such a provision for the care of the public property is important for its protection from injury and danger of destruction by fire. An officer of this kind, placed under the superintendance of the Treasurer, Clerk of the Council, the Clerks of the Senate and House of Delegates, the Librarian, the Clerk of the Court of Appeals and Register of the Chancery Court, with power to make reductions from his pay for negligence, would enforce the strict performance of his duties and a due care of the public property. His pay and expenses being placed under the control of his legal superintendants, who, being on the spot, would have daily opportunity of witnessing and correcting any omissions of his duty, would secure their faithful performance. Laws somewhat similar exist in other States.

We submit herewith, for your consideration, a communication from Joseph Richardson, Esq., Clerk of Caroline County Court, relative to one of the standard measures delivered to the Levy Court of that county, under the act of 1825, referred to in Mr. R.'s communication. Upon reference to the law, we found that the Executive has no authority to correct any of the standards after delivery; nor is there any other legal authority to make such correction vested any where. It appears to us that the law is defective in this respect;—and we recommend its amendment so as to provide for correcting any of the standards furnished to the counties, whenever they may be