

MEMORIAL.

*To His Excellency Levi Lincoln,
Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

A late occurrence in this city has attracted the public attention to the evils which arise from Lotteries. A person at the age of thirty-five years, who had been in the employment of a Mercantile House in this City, as Clerk, at an annual salary, and whose integrity and ability were so much relied on, as to place him for the last ten years, in the relation of Book Keeper and Treasurer, has lately sunk under the temptation of gaining by Lotteries, in a manner which has excited very general sympathy. The life of this young man had been irreproachable. In the short space of eight months he not only consumed all his own means, but nearly eighteen thousand dollars of the money of his employers, in purchasing Lottery Tickets, and at last under the terrors of conscience, he closed his wretched existence by suicide.

This mournful event has led the undersigned and many other citizens to consider anew, with the seriousness which the subject demands, the evils which flow from the disregard of the laws of this State, prohibiting Lotteries, and the evils which arise from the existence of Lotteries in other States, of which Lottery Tickets are sold in this State or purchased by persons dwelling therein. It has been ascertained that not only are tickets of Lotteries granted in other States, openly sold in this State, but that Tickets are sold of pretended Lotteries; and that "quarters" and "halves" of the *same* tickets, are multiplied indefinitely to obtain money from ignorant and deceived purchasers. An immense tax is annually assessed in this Commonwealth on poor and necessitous persons, who are deluded by the hope of bettering their circumstances. If the evil were limited to such extent, that is to the mere loss of money, however distressing this may be to poor persons, it would be only a change of property though by very unworthy means, from