

realized as by sustaining on a liberal scale a Seminary of Learning at the seat of Legislation—where parent and child are convened, the one to aid in devising wholesome regulations for the welfare of Society,—the other to acquire the principles of knowledge, which in the regular course of events is to be put in requisition under the favorable auspices of “uniformity of manners” and early associations. To give proper effect to the desires of the Visitors, it is thought important to enlarge the college edifice, and extend the means of accommodation for students, and at the same time endow Professorship, and thus be able simultaneously to receive and instruct an increased number of Youth. The resources hitherto relied upon is the annual appropriation from the treasury; and the ordinary receipts of the tuition. These are insufficient to enable the Visitors to effect objects so important to the prosperity of the Institution. It has previously been intimated in the abstract of the proceedings, “that it is proposed if the means of the college should prove insufficient, to collect funds by subscription.” It is an expedient, resorted to by many of the most flourishing Seminaries of Learning in distant states, to which our own citizens have liberally contributed, whilst the unpretending character of this Institution has shrunk from resorting to so familiar and legitimate a mode of obtaining assistance—and seems to have laboured under the belief, that the repeal or revocation of Legislative endowments at the same time annulled the right to collect individual subscription. The authority and policy of such a measure is urged to the consideration of the Visitors and earnestly commended to the public. It is esteemed a subject worthy of congratulation that the interests of St. John’s College are at this period entrusted to the superintending care of President Humphreys.

The committee consider that the present occasion calls for an opinion and that therefore it will not be considered indelicate to pay the tribute due that gentleman in whom there appears to be concentrated in an eminent degree, the essentials of a presiding officer, combining an enlarged observation of the systems, and experience of other Institutions, with a thorough acquaintance