

considered immoral in the eyes of one man, may be esteemed just the reverse by his neighbour. And if we undertake to trace out the causes which have produced these opposite opinions, we must ascribe them to those impressions which are either formed by education, or engrafted by the influence of particular associations. The first affording to the mind an unrestrained field to make up a free opinion, the latter, operating upon the feelings, too often fetters those opinions, and consequently binds them in the train of sectarian dogmas. Should they however, deem it proper that lotteries should be entirely abolished in this State, it is apparent to all who are well acquainted with the subject, that this can only be effectually done by the suppression of lotteries throughout the Union, for experience has taught these that the attempt to suppress lotteries in any one State does not accomplish the object, but increases in a manifold degree the evils complained of.

It serves, to be sure, to prevent the introduction of any State Lotteries for State purposes, if engrafted as a part of the constitution, but it does not, and cannot, by all its enactments, shut out the sales of tickets in Lotteries allowed by other States, as has been clearly demonstrated by the attempts heretofore made in this State to prevent the sales of foreign tickets; and this view of the subject is fully confirmed by the inefficiency of several prohibitory laws passed in the states of New York and Pennsylvania, to suppress the sale of lottery tickets, as it is well known that sales of tickets in all the current Lotteries are still effected there, and it has hitherto been found impossible to prevent such sales being made in those states.

Unless, therefore, a total prohibition to the granting of lotteries can be effected throughout the whole Union, the attempt to suppress, in any one or more States, will have the tendency therein to increase, rather than to diminish, the evils of which they are supposed to be productive.

It will then be left for experience to prove whether the morals of society can be regulated by legislative enactments, or whether much greater evil will not ensue from attempts to suppress them.

In conclusion, the Commissioners of Lotteries, with all due respect for those citizens who have signed these memorials, under the belief that they represented nothing but what the originators of them could substantiate, feel it their duty to declare them, in their general terms, as also the