

to their choice; and it was hoped that if the laudable efforts of those gentlemen, who first brought the University of Maryland into life, should succeed to furnish the facilities of education here, and to save the state from the expenditure of money abroad, necessarily consequent upon the emigration of our youth, that their enterprise would be favored by the patronage of the government, and all the protection necessary to a young and rising establishment readily afforded. A disposition to second these efforts was early shewn by the legislature. The state of the treasury necessarily circumscribed the bounty of government, and a patronage was accorded which at that time was deemed sufficient for the purposes of the institution. By means of lotteries, considerable funds were raised, and a large portion of the present building was erected. Since that time the necessities of the University have multiplied with its growth. Students have flocked in from all quarters, the number of chairs from time to time been increased, and it is believed that the University of Maryland has more rapidly forced itself into useful and extensive operation, considering the slender means of its foundation, than any similar institution in the world. It has at length arrived at a very peculiar crisis. Never until the present year has it been enabled to present any formidable competition to the great rival University of Pennsylvania: Such is its present condition, that the best founded hopes may be entertained of this institution maintaining a position in every respect as lofty and conspicuous as any other of the same nature in the Union; and if an augury of its future character may be drawn from its past progress, its complete ascendancy over all others is unquestionable. This unexpected prosperity has been the effect of vigorous and persevering efforts on the part of the several gentlemen who have connected themselves with its interests, and has been produced not without great personal sacrifices both of time and money. The consequence has been, that the University has accumulated a very considerable debt, which it is impossible to discharge, without some assistance from the state. A large portion of this debt is due to the mechanics and citizens who have been employed from time to time in making the necessary improvement in the buildings of the establishment, and are of a nature too pressing to be further delayed. Indeed your committee discover that in regard to a number of these debts a very indulgent forbearance has always been manifested by those to whom they are due, (perhaps in some cases for eight or ten years) under the constant hope that the importance of the establishment, and its general utility to the state, would sooner or later recommend it to the attention of the government. Your committee would therefore represent, that in this point of view, they deem it a proper subject for the consideration of the house, and would respectfully suggest the propriety of some relief. It is unnecessary, your committee conceive, again to express the general sentiment of the committee in relation to the usefulness of such an establishment in our state. That subject has been so frequently recommended to the legislature of Maryland, and has in all instances met with such favorable regard, that it would be but the repetition of an opinion already universally received. There can be no doubt of the disposition of the state to gratify the memorialists as far as the act may be compatible with the means of the government. With a view therefore to do all that in such circumstances it becomes the state to do, your committee would recommend the adoption of the bill accompanying this report.

Al which is respectfully submitted.

Which was read.

By order,

GEO. A. SMITH, Clk.

And a bill entitled, An act relating to the University of Maryland; which was read.

Mr Hughes delivers the report on the petition of Elizabeth Poe, as amended; which was read.

Mr Whiteford presents a petition from sundry inhabitants of Harford county, praying that the said county may be authorised to lay out a county road on the located turnpike road; read and referred to Messrs Whiteford, Forwood, Allen, Norris and Orrick.

On motion by Mr Forwood, Leave given to bring in a bill entitled, A further supplement to the act entitled, an act to incorporate a company to make a turnpike road from the city of Baltimore to Havre de Grace. Ordered, That Messrs Forwood, Whiteford and Barney, report the same.

Mr Rogerson presents a petition from sundry inhabitants of Charles and Prince George's counties, praying for a road from Bean Town to Ignatius Gardiner's gate; read and referred to Messrs Rogerson, Edelen, Semme, Garner and Chew.

Mr Barney presents a memorial from Joseph W. Townsend and others, counter to the petition of John Murray; read and referred to the committee appointed on the petition to which it is counter.

Mr King presents a bill entitled, An act relating to public notices in certain cases therein mentioned.

Mr Cannell reports a bill entitled, An act for the benefit of Ebenezer T. Massey and Emily Ann his wife.

Mr Frazier reports an additional supplement to the act entitled, An act authorising the appointing inspectors and wood corders, and to regulate the cording of fire wood brought by water to the city of Baltimore for sale.

Mr Woodward reports a bill entitled, An act to authorise and empower the levy court of Anne Arundel county to assess and levy a sum of money for the purposes therein mentioned, and Mr Orrick reports a bill entitled, An act to make public two roads in Baltimore county; which were read.

On motion by Mr Kennedy, the following order was read:

ORDERED, That the clerk of this house furnish the committee on internal improvements with a copy of the act, with its supplements, if any, of the legislature of Virginia, establishing in that state a board of public works.

Mr Forwood reports a bill entitled, An act for the benefit of the heirs of Mary Logan, of Harford county, deceased; which was read.