

branches, by means of primary schools. Coming, as you do, so recently from amongst your constituents, who have just had the whole subject under their special consideration, you must, it is presumed, be fully acquainted with their sentiments and wishes in relation to it, and we, therefore, deem it unnecessary to trouble you with any of our views and opinions upon this interesting topic, further than to express our ardent hope that you may be able to perfect such a system as will be generally acceptable to the people, and promote the intellectual and moral improvement of the rising generation: and thereby conduce to the strength, energy and durability of our free institutions; which are based upon the virtue and intelligence of the community.

Before we take leave of the subject of education, we must beg to be permitted to call the attention of the legislature to the situation of St. John's College, located immediately under their eye, (in a healthy country, and amidst a polished society,) which is beginning again to rank among the best seminaries of the country; having at this time five Professorships, (one having been added during the present year, of Mathematics, Civil Engineering and Military Tactics,) all of which are filled by gentlemen of high standing and character. There are many circumstances connected with the history of this institution—the Alma Mater of many of the most distinguished men which Maryland has produced—that make a strong appeal to the bounty of the legislature. And although its present condition is prosperous, compared with what it has of late been, yet it has not so entirely recovered from its former depression, but that legislative aid to enable the trustees to extend its philosophical apparatus, and increase its library, would be very acceptable, and no doubt highly beneficial.

Of the alterations and amendments of the constitution, proposed by the act providing for the election of the governor by the people, and for abolishing the council, it does not become us to express any opinion. It was necessary to enable you to consummate them, that the act should be published for the information of the people, "at least three months" before the last election of delegates. No provision was made by law for the fulfilment of this constitutional requirement; but we deemed it our duty to cause the necessary publication to be made; and it was accordingly done, as we have before stated. You therefore, possess the power if, in your wisdom and judgment, enlightened by the opinions and wishes of your constituents, you deem it advisable, to confirm and adopt the aforesaid alterations and amendments, as parts of the constitution.

We submit for your consideration, copies of a correspondence between the Clerk of the Council, by our direction, and the Attorney General, by which you will be informed, that no legal provision exists for requiring or receiving bonds from the lottery commissioners for the faithful performance of their duty;—that there are such various provisions relative to the bonding of other officers as to make it difficult to determine what the laws really are;—and that the abolition of the clause, formerly existing in the constitution, which required a property qualification in persons to be elected or appointed to office, did not dispense with such qualifi-