

in progress or contemplation in various directions, to connect with them
and to pour their tribute of wealth through these channels into our
Commercial Emporiums; and Maryland seems now destined by these
means to regain all the natural advantages of her local situation, and
to advance in her march to greatness with rapid and unflinching
strides. No reasonable doubt, it seems to us, can be entertained
of the sufficiency of the security given to the Treasurer of the State
for the payment, by the several corporations, of the annual
interest upon the respective Loans, and still less, with their brightening
prospects of their ultimate ability, and that at no very distant day,
to refund the principal sums advanced. It is the appropriation of
these sums, when so refunded, that gives to the law its most estimable
and interesting feature, great and highly beneficial as the direct
results which will flow from these stupendous works must be, yet
they are short of the blessings to be diffused amongst our posterity by
the re-payment and faithful application, according to the provisions
of the act, of the sums loaned for their completion. Long have the
patriots of our State sighed over the neglected State of Education;
long have her public functionaries and her people, busied themselves
in searching for means to provide adequately for that holiest duty of a
paternal government. Behold them now flowing from this measure.
Hitherto we have been on the subject of internal improvements
a divided people. A very large portion of the State, having no
direct interest in works of this character, has been reluctant to consent
to their construction, and many of our best citizens have pertinaciously
refused to lend the public purse, or public credit to any such enterprise,
thinking it unjust that all should be burdened in equal proportions
with expenditures of which a part only were to reap the immediate
benefits. But happily a change has taken place in our policy in
regard to such works. The systems of internal improvement and
general Education are now united. The former is made the hand-
maid of the latter. The Law of the last session lends the public
credit to insure the completion of works of great importance and
certain profit, and bestows the whole of the great direct pecuniary
gain of the State to provide for general Education, and the whole
State as with one voice approves the measure. All rejoice that
these magnificent enterprises no longer languish; all hail the
light of the new day which has dawned upon our native land;
all exult in the sure prospect of ample provision being made in
future for the development of the intellectual powers of our posterity.
Great, rich and powerful, the people of the State might have
been without this, but happy they could never have become a
sheet anchor for their Republican institutions they would not have