

habits of reflection, of industry and sobriety; and a laudable ambition to excel in a business whose private gain, is always public good.

Fourthly Schools of agriculture will tend to improve the revenues of the state; the increased amount of assessable property, and the augmented receipts of turnpike companies, consequent upon the increase of the products of agriculture, will abundantly remunerate the public advances; our situation is singularly propitious in this respect, and presents a prospect of indemnity which other states do not possess; and we are induced to consider the appropriations requisite to this object, rather as loans than as donations; and as loans for which the public will receive usurious interest.

Fifthly It remains for us to consider the influence of schools of agriculture on the political institutions of our country. It has been urged against their establishment in Europe "that it is dangerous to educate the labouring classes, that their knowledge may become the elements of discontent; that an educated people are more difficult to govern; and that the government which labours to enlighten the people, prepares for itself the means of resistance."— However forcible these arguments may seem where the divine right of Kings is acknowledged, and where blood peers it over virtue and intellect, our policy and our duty demand the observance of opposite maxims. Our agricultural population constitute our strength in war; they sustain the mass of the public burthens; and they are the guardians of our civil and religious freedom. Hence our dangers arise, not from an excess, but from a want of knowledge in the great body of the people. The course of studies contemplated, will embrace every branch of science which is applicable or useful to agriculture; and the labours of the pupils will extend to every department of practical husbandry, including gardening and the management of cattle.

There is another and a very interesting view, which may be taken of this subject. We know that a limited portion of the population of every agricultural country, is adequate to the supply of its wants. It appears, from the British statistical tables, that 33 per cent. of their population supply the country with provisions; 46 per cent. are engaged in trade and manufactures, and that 21 per cent. comprise all the unproductive classes; and it further appears, that of those engaged in manufactures, 28 per cent. supply the domestic consumption; and 18 per cent. are employed for exportation. Our last census exhibits a glaring and awful contrast; 83 per cent. of the population of the United States, are ex