



REPORT.

The committee on education, to whom was referred the various reports from the several academies receiving donations from the State, beg leave to report that they have examined the same, and find that all the endowed academies of the State have reported according to law except Buckingham Academy in Worcester county. That the said reports shew, that most of the academies are in a flourishing condition and well worthy the patronage of the State. That they amount in number to thirty-six, where the youth of our State can acquire a good English education and be advanced in the classics, so as to be able to enter any of the colleges of our country. But your committee are of opinion that the liberal donations of the State to academies would more surely attain the objects which her legislators had in view, if the amount allowed to each county in the State were bestowed upon some one academy, than as it now is, in many instances, divided between some three or four academies in the same county. Each county would then have one academy worthy of its support, and with your primary schools properly organized and properly conducted, and your State College at Annapolis receiving that support which should be given to it, your system of education would be as perfect as at present we can expect to make it. But to carry out this system it is all important that primary schools be established in every county, and that they be regulated upon some general plan and the course of studies to be pursued therein, marked out. If this were done, the liberal appropriations of your State to the great object of education would be made much more effective, and every citizen would have within his reach the means of instruction. Your committee have no certain information of the condition of the primary schools throughout the State, nor whether they exist in all the counties, and therefore, to bring before the next Legislature certain information upon these subjects as well as upon others connected with the cause of education, your committee have appended to this report a series of interrogatories, to be answered by those who feel an interest in the subject. Your committee have no doubt that there are many in each county who will gladly avail themselves of the opportunity to give the Legislature all the necessary information. They are also of opinion that some system should be observed in the reports to be made annually by