

I have shown in part, the insufficiency of the Hospital Institutions at Baltimore, for meeting the wants of the citizens of Maryland, in relieving and affording curative treatment for the insane, and that these Hospitals are the sole resource of the citizens within their own borders. Briefly, that which is needed, is a new Institution capable of receiving *two hundred and fifty* patients, which is the maximum for any first class curative Hospital, and *in it* should constantly reside the medical Superintendent, whose whole time and care should be devoted to the pursuit of means for securing the comfort and recovery of his patients. Well timed employment, alternating with repose, useful labor, and suitable diversions, should be successively provided. What contrasts from these appropriate cases are presented in the condition of very many, though not the largest portion of this class throughout this State! The largest part, indeed, wear out life in adverse situations, but not in extremest abandonment to misery; that any abuses and unnecessary sufferings exist, is a sufficient argument for assuring now at once, such remedies as shall spare the repetition and perpetuation of these sore distresses.

Your memorialist knows, and all may know, that confined apartments, narrow cells, dungeons, and not seldom chains and manacles—both in private dwellings, in poor-houses, in county jails, and in the penitentiary, are the miserable alternatives, (in default of adequate Hospital provision for these unfortunates,) upon which every sentiment of justice and humanity stamps a negative. It is asked, how I know that any extreme examples of misery exist? I reply, that I have traversed the State with this express object to incite my search. I do not propose to detain you upon the detailed history of the prisons and poor-houses of Maryland, nor to break down the screen which shuts out from general inspection and curious gaze, the troubles and sufferings of many respectable but indigent families, who hide their insane in their own dwellings—for—what remedy have they? Nothing, save extremest necessity, and that only as a temporary expedient, can justify the incarceration of the insane in jails. In poor-houses, the objections though differing are equally urgent. The trustees and medical attendants, uniting with successive superintendents, in the Baltimore Alms-House, have, for years, earnestly and faithfully presented in their Annual Reports, the inhumanity and mischief resulting to all parties from this association of the demented, and the raving maniac, with the aged and infirm; the feeble and the sick; the young and the helpless; your memorialist can but add another voice of remonstrance against the perpetuation of this great abuse. I have said that the sufferings of the insane, exposed in unfit situations are great;—language, however strong, is feeble to describe them,—but I would not be understood to cast blame on superintendents of poor-houses, and keepers of jails: either they have not the means, or they have not the knowledge to