

continuance of this establishment in its present position has been complained of for years and is a disgrace to the State and an outrage to every feeling of refinement.

On the first and second floors might be constructed eight fire proof record rooms of 32 feet by 20, which would, in the opinion of the committee afford suitable accommodations for the records, and also offices for the commissioner of the land office and keeper of the Chancery records. Apart from the security to the property of the State, this improvement is absolutely demanded by the wants of the Legislature. There is now no room in the State House suitable for the meeting of committees. The committee room, so called, of the House, is a mere thoroughfare constantly in use by the folder and his assistants. The room above it is needed for the committee clerks. The office of the Adjutant General and the Hall of the House are used by committees and both are unsuitable for the purpose. In the hall there are frequently several committees engaged at the same time, and it is impossible that the Public business can be carefully transacted under such disadvantages. This report is adopted in the Library where the committee have been obliged to hold their meeting, after finding every corner of the State House in the possession of other committees. No man would agree to transact his private business under such disadvantages, and it is improper that the business of the State should be less carefully cared for. When it is remembered that there are twenty-one standing committees in the House of Delegates and fourteen in the Senate, and that numerous select committees are constantly appointed by each body, it must be admitted that great confusion will necessarily attend their meetings under the present circumstances. It is but fair that those who are disposed to labor in the State's service should be allowed a suitable place to perform their work. This would be affected by the erection of the proposed building, as at least four good rooms in the State House would then be vacated which might be used as committee rooms.

The committee have consulted with Messrs. Dixon, Balbirnie and Dixon, Architects of the city of Baltimore, and find that a building of the proposed description might be erected for \$28,000, and they unite in recommending its construction without delay.

The committee recommend the removal of the present gateway for the admission of carts to the rear of the State House. The present road is very steep and inconvenient and will be obstructed by the proposed building. The walk from the front gateway is unpaved, and is very bad in wet weather: a pavement should be built from this point and also to the Treasury. The steps of the front entrance to the State House and the porch itself need some repairs, and the committee recommend that they be made.

No State in the Union, at all comparable in importance with Maryland, has public buildings so inconvenient and unsuitable.— Most of them have erected splendid edifices which are the pride of the States. The Capitol of Ohio is but little less in size than that at Washington City. In Tennessee, and indeed in almost every other State, a proper State pride has induced an expenditure for these purposes worthy of the object. There is scarcely a county