

Legislature. He had lived to see us marching with gigantic strides to the attainment of the legitimate objects of government—the prosperity and happiness of the people. He had lived to see us attain the foremost rank among the nations of the earth, and the influence of our example overturning thrones and despotic institutions, establishing liberty and the rights of man upon their ruins; and his heart gladdened at the bright and glorious prospects of his country, and at the stability of that edifice which he had labored to erect.

But he had likewise lived to see our glorious Union lose that reverence in which, until recently, it was universally held, and the stability of our institutions threatened by that spirit of anarchy and disunion, which the warning voice of the father of his country calls upon us “indignantly to frown upon,” and to proclaim that the “Union cannot **IN ANY EVENT**, be abandoned.”

The present Chief Magistrate of our country having been re-elected by the voice of the people, his known and declared hostility to the Bank of the United States leaving the fate of that institution no longer doubtful, I deem it proper for the commercial purposes of Maryland, to point out some means of creating a substitute for the withdrawal of a large bank circulation. Under these impressions, I would suggest to the present legislature, the propriety of establishing a State Bank, to be founded upon the funds of the State. I have carefully perused all the documents upon this subject which have been submitted to me by the enlightened statesman, who the past year acted as Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means in the House of Delegates. My impression was formerly decidedly hostile to the measure, but from conviction, I now declare my change of sentiment, and the reason of this change is founded upon the success which similar institutions have exhibited in other states. I will close this subject, by recommending the communications which you will have before you, relative to this subject, to your serious consideration.

While thus submitting to you a scheme for the benefit of the people, let me not forget that there is another subject of still greater importance. I allude to the education of all classes. There is no subject which has elicited more solicitude than this: it is of vital importance to the existence of our free institutions; but it must be ad-