

institution thus abandoned. It is to be hoped, however, that this determination will now be reconsidered, in order that its benefits may not be confined to the corporate limits of the City of Baltimore, but extended to every section of the State. From the report herewith sent you, I infer that a class of harmonious subjects has been discovered, which, it is expected, you can aid in carrying out by available means and in such a manner and from such sources, as will be sufficient to make but comparatively small drains upon the State resources of the State. Such an enterprise must, in the early stages of its existence, stand much in need of pecuniary support, but I have no doubt that in time it will be abundantly capable of sustaining itself. If the State now indiscriminately withdraws its aid we cannot surely expect, when it can exist independently of public appropriations, to be allowed a participation in its advantages. With these observations I commit the subject to your hands with an expression of the hope that the last step taken by the State will be retraced.

In view of the present deplorable condition of our State finances, I have no doubt an effort will be made to induce you to reduce the taxes. I hope, should the attempt be made, it may not meet your favor. I regard any material change in our revenue laws at this time, as exceedingly injudicious, for although we are now in a condition that admits of no apprehension as to the ability of the State to do more than meet all its current liabilities, yet there is an absolute and pressing necessity for appropriations on behalf of education, and interest on the State, which cannot well be deferred, and which I have commended to your notice. If these measures should meet with your approbation, and that they will I cannot permit myself to doubt, they will occasion unusual drafts upon the Treasury, and you should be exceedingly cautious how you permit the present sources of revenue to be diminished. Some of these laws, I am aware, are extremely burdensome, and proceed upon principles at variance with the generally received theories of taxation. Of such are the acts imposing a tax upon mortgages, judgments, collateral inheritances, promissory notes, &c. These