

By the House of Delegates,

February 23, 1831.

Gentlemen of the Senate,

We deeply regret that you have rejected the bill, entitled,  
An act to distribute the school funds of Montgomery county.

The sole object of this bill is to establish a safe and unobjectionable means of distributing equitably the interest and incoming portion of a fund provided by the 7th, 9th and 10th sections of the act of 1813, as recited in the preamble of this bill, and to secure untouched the capital now invested in bank stocks, (exceeding 12,000 dollars,) to the credit of Montgomery county. This amount of dividends is now nearly 1,500 dollars, and which we propose to apply this year, and about the same sum will be applicable annually hereafter, to the purposes of this bill, viz. to the education of the growing up population of Montgomery county.

If any objections to this effort to educate the indigent classes of society, out of funds purely and exclusively her own, have been sent to your honourable body from Montgomery county, which may have induced on your minds a belief that her citizens are unwilling to have this bill passed, we will thank you to make them known to us, as we assure ourselves that nothing short of such weighty considerations would influence the senate of Maryland to refuse her assent to the mere formality of a law, which the representatives of the people, directly under their instruction, have deemed it their duty to ask your concurrence in; for we cannot allow ourselves to believe, that the reasons assigned by you a few days since in rejecting the bill to distribute the consolidated school fund, founded as those reasons would seem to be upon a pledge in the act of 1825, will not apply with redoubled force in favour of this bill. Aware as we are that every other county in the state has hitherto, under the patronage and enactments of the legislature, received the benefits of these funds.

With this view of the subject, we cannot but hope that your honourable body will, upon more mature reflection, reconsider this bill, and by affording it your concurrence, you will co-operate with us in diffusing the blessings of education in a county, whose economy and great care of her school funds, have enabled her to store up a permanent capital to fulfil the benevolent intentions of the general assembly of 1813.

By order,

G. G. Brewer, Clk.