

we believe, unanimously rejected in the Legislative Council. With the fate of the grant at that time, your Committee were not much surprised, as the Seminary was not then completed, and the establishment of such an institution in the Province being novel, its results could scarcely be anticipated.

Before the meeting of the Legislature in 1836, the building was completed, and the School opened. It then became apparent to those who availed themselves of the opportunities afforded of becoming acquainted with the principles upon which the Institution was to be conducted, that good must result from its operations. Application was again made for aid, and a grant of £500 passed a second time by the Assembly, with much less opposition than before, and met with *one solitary* but able advocate in the Council.

Your Committee were not very much disappointed by the second rejection of the grant, as the Institution had been in operation but a few weeks, and the Council had no *security* that its avowed principles would be acted upon except the credibility of the Committee and Society, which appears to be considered by members of that branch of the Legislature, quite an insufficient *guarantee*. The grant has been made for the last two years by the unanimous vote of the House of Assembly, and supported by able and increased advocacy in the Council, but has still been rejected by the votes of a majority of the members of that body.

While your Committee disavow all intention of any improper interference with political questions, they cannot avoid expressing their surprise, and in this expression it is believed the Inhabitants of the Province almost universally participate, that a small grant of money made by the unanimous vote of the Assembly, recommended as it has been by petitions from some thousands of the inhabitants of the Province, who belong to the different denominations of Christians in the Country, in aid of an Institution of learning; through whose operations valuable instruction has been imparted to a great number of youth throughout the Province, without any regard to party distinctions or religious creeds, should be resisted from year to year by a branch of the Legislature, merely because the Institution was principally established by the liberality and exertions of one denomination.

When your Committee recollect that very large sums of money from the funds of the Province, towards which all contribute, have been appropriated for the establishment and support of Institutions of learning in the Country, which are conducted under the exclusive control of a single denomination, the conclusion is unavoidable, that the claims of the Baptist Seminary have not been equitably disposed of, and that the repeated rejection of that grant has not been dictated by a sound and liberal policy.

Your Committee think it worthy of remark that the claims of the Institution to Legislative aid have not in any instance been