

Education of their Children from the People." Shame, shame, on the men who have thus deliberately slandered the Legislature of their country. From first to last, we have disclaimed any coercive legislation. The Baptists, or any other body, may maintain a dozen Colleges, if they choose, but they must do it with their own resources. The public funds must be dedicated to public objects, in which all have an interest, and if religious bodies choose to build Colleges as they now build Churches, the Legislature has neither the right nor the disposition to interfere. The House of Assembly wrest from the People the education of their children! Do not the persons who make this charge know that the House has called into existence and endowed, to the full extent of their means, 30 or 40 schools in every County, which are independently managed by Trustees chosen from the people themselves? Do they not know that all these are to be left, as part of our plan, but extended as our resources increase? Do they not know that an Academy has been planted by the Legislature in every County some of them as good, and some of them even better, than that of which so much is written and published? That all these are under the controul of the leading men of the counties, selected by the Executive without regard to sect or party. All this has been done by the Legislature—while those who have erected a single high school and called it a College, at which some 20 or 30 boys are instructed, think themselves entitled to defame the men who have made this judicious provision for \$5,000. These Common Schools and Academies are part of our system—they are to remain. If the religious bodies choose to keep up their Colleges, they will remain also—and then the Central Institution will give to those who require it, a still higher polish and more extended advantages. But we want Schoolmasters! of course we do. And what are 17 County Academies for but to provide them? What do the 30,000 uneducated Children require at our hands? What is the first want—the paramount necessity of their condition? Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic. These, with Geography, and the Mathematics, are taught in the 17 County Academies, which