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Letter to George Chase

Dudley Chase

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Washington Dec: 13th 1816

Dear George

I enclose you the Richmond Enquirer, because it contains the "Report of the President and Directors of the Literary Fund", an elaborate, and in my opinion, an unwieldy system. It is however worthy of your perusal, and will, in some measure, corroborate your opinion of the excellency of our 8 dependant primary institutions for the instruction of youth in the first rudiments of learning. For this purpose the report recommends the establishment of one school in every town ship!! ~~Why~~ The little town of Burroughs in Vermont, (probably not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ part as large as the most platted towns in Virginia) contains, & thru system of these Primary Schools, all of which have sprung up without any uncommon effort of the people, and without any care of the Legislature or support from a Literary Fund.

There are many other curious things in the gov^t report, which I have not time, now, to observe upon. — I also send you the Intelligence, which contains a report of our Union Society Com^{tee} & a bill for the estab^t of a Unit^y As I have heard your mention this subject I suppose you will be pleased with seeing what is said & done, in regard to it. I have conversed with the President on the subject of your former letter, his opinion coincides with mine. I will ^{write} you more, in regard to this, anon.

yours affectionately, D. Chew