REPORT

OF THE

CONSULTING PHYSICIAN.

To the Honorable,
the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore,

GENTLEMEN:

Another year teeming with health and fertility, has just completed its onward circle, bequeathing to its successor the results of its good or evil, and the beacon of its errors and experience. If during a succession of seasons marked by their mild and genial temperature, and the productiveness of our soil, the voice of complaint and privation has been heard, it is oftener traceable to the perverse or misapplied operations of man, than to the dispensation of a bountiful providence.

Unaffected by the wild dreams of Mesmerism and Homœopathy, with which a few visionary men are striving to delude the sober senses into a new era of the Arabian Nights, our city, protected by the sanatory ordinances of her councils, the untiring zeal of her Health Commissioners, and by an honest and rational application of the principles of a healing art based on science and experience, rapidly advances in knowledge, health and population. That these are facts, and not empty declamation, is readily proved by a survey of the present facilities of popular education, and the improved discipline of many of our private and public institutions, where knowledge is imparted not by *cramming* or through newly invented *short cuts* to the temple of science, but by rationally fostering the growth and development of the mind as that of the body, and distributing instruction in graduated and digestible quantities.

A retrospective view of the health of Baltimore and her comparative immunity from the great epidemic scourges of the human race, redeems her at once, from the undeserved imputation of insalubrity and elevates her to her true position among the healthiest sea-ports in the world.

The following synopsis exhibiting the annual nett increase of our population in round numbers, and the totals of annual interments for the last ten years, to which is appended a selection of the more prominent fatal diseases of the same period, will enable you, at a glance, to form a tolerable estimate of the comparative health of the city.