Washington Oct. 20. 03.

The pressure if business of ceremony at the commencement of the session, &c. &c. it impossible for me to premise the note I till yesterday evening.

I sincerely wish well to whatever may contribute to give growth to the city, under which term I include Georgetown also; for I consider that of Washington as standing in the same relation to the general government, as constituting one of the different wards of the same city Great of government, at the convenience with the general body of the subject of the whole. I am not so familiar with the details as to consider myself competent to decide on it. If these, yourself, would examine it, you would be much better judges, and I should have supposed the plan to be useful. in fact it appears to be a communication of converting land into a circulating medium, by a paper representation divided into smaller & more convenient transfers. But the fact you mention of the Baltimore company, such deposited only in 5 it capital in money, the remaining if resting on their personal responsibility is a leading one, as an experiment is worth a great deal of theory. I consider the remaining 5 when bottomed on land, as far preferable to that resting on personal security. I don't know that I can be useful in promoting this object, but certainly will of I can, as I would in every other way which could promote this place. There seem to be a general conviction in congress that they cannot legislate for the districts; perhaps they may determine to give it a legislative society, which of course would be a novel and ought not to be harassed. Accept my salutations & assurances of respect.

Benjamin Stoddert Esq.