

tax would be grievous and oppressive be true or false? To tax every man according to his actual worth is, undoubtedly, the true principle. If this be so, then a poll-tax must be wrong. The poll-tax must necessarily be a tax on all persons alike, and thus cause each to pay the same amount. This is not just or right.

It is said, however, that the poll-tax will not be the only tax, and that it will be an addition to taxes on property, and that the man who has no property will pay a poll-tax alone, and the man who has property will pay as well the property tax as the poll-tax. It is also said that every one who enjoys the benefit of a government, whether he does or does not own property, ought to pay taxes to the government. It is conceded, however, that a pauper should not pay, and no one contends that women or children should pay a poll-tax, and yet they enjoy the benefits. It is also said that no one should be permitted to vote unless he pays a poll-tax. This proposition seems to have been seriously made, but he believed will have but little support in this body. His answer to all this is, that each person should pay taxes according to his actual worth in property. It is the only sound principle, and hence the declaration in the Bill of Rights is true as a general principle. In conclusion, Mr. G. expressed the opinion that a poll-tax levied for educational purposes would fail to accomplish any good. He was in favor of educating the children, both black and white; but while the schools should be kept separately he hoped we would not hesitate to have them and to support them, but would be unwilling to jeopardize the system of connecting it in any way with a tax so odious as he feared the poll-tax would be. The black man was among us and would remain with us, and was in no way responsible for the results which have taken place. Their conduct for the most part has been remarkable for forbearance and manifestation of feelings highly creditable to them. If we be the superior race, our duty to be liberal, kind and just to them is only the more manifest and certain. He referred to the views last expressed to say that they rather fortified than weakened his unwillingness to authorize a poll-tax.

Mr. Ritchie regretted to differ with his colleague, who