

mittee, the distinguished gentleman from Harford, (Mr. Farnandis,) he would not now make it.

Mr. George proposed the following as an additional section:

“The public schools of the city of Baltimore shall be a separate organization under the control of the mayor and city council of said city.”

Mr. Kilbourn wanted this matter left to the Legislature, and hoped the gentleman from Baltimore, (Mr. George,) would withdraw his amendment. He (Mr. K.) had been for abolishing the present system by constitutional enactment, but after the arguments of the gentleman from Harford in the committee he had been content to leave it to the Legislature, but in no shape or form would he consent that the system should continue one day beyond the time indicated in this article, but thought it best to adhere to the report of the committee. The committee had ample evidence of the almost entire voice of the people of Maryland against the system. The reason why he was willing to leave this matter to the Legislature was because he was thoroughly convinced that no section of the State would send a delegate to the Legislature who would not be in favor of abolishing the present system. The enormous expenses of the system, the mode of raising the money and the mode of expending it, and the power of the superintendent, are all reasons why this system should be dispensed with. The committee had abundant evidence that the reports made to the Legislature, to the people and to this Convention are not founded in truth. The aggregate cost of books is stated at \$64,000, when by examination of the details it has been ascertained that the amount is one hundred per cent greater, or \$128,000. To show the working of this in the counties, the superintendent receives the books and passes them over to the teachers and the teachers to the scholars, and in this shifting of responsibility the cost of the books to the scholars is enhanced 100 per cent. They had abundant proof that the intolerant misrepresentations of the superintendent had not been unadvisably made. The whole system has radical, fundamental objections. It would be supposed that it would be right to commit the expenditure of the funds to those who contributed them,