

to School work, and in the discharge of my duties as Superintendent will always give most careful attention to any suggestions emanating from a body, so strictly representative, as to the wants of the Schools in their daily work. To such suggestions heed ought to be given, and from such sources advice ought to be sought to bring School legislation out of the region of theory into that of substantive fact. As far as practicable I have attended the meetings of County and State associations, availing myself of the opportunity to expound the School Law, and to discuss the duties and responsibilities of teachers, the proper methods of teaching, and the correct system of discipline by which children may be made to love school and devote themselves cheerfully to their books.

THE STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

This Institution has been in operation since January 15th, 1866. For a detailed exhibit of its work I refer to the interesting report of the able educator who presides over this important School, which is the heart of our system of public instruction, for from it are to come the energy and intelligence which, circulating through the school houses of the whole State, will infuse vitality into the work.

The law of 1865 anticipated that the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore would provide suitable buildings for the different departments of the School, and thus secure its permanent location in that City. Thus far nothing has been done; but from the interest manifested in the subject it is probable that the City will unite with the State authorities in carrying out the design of the law. The School now labors under serious disadvantages from lack of proper accommodations, both for the normal department and the schools of practice.

By order of the State Board of Education, a large hall has been rented at \$1,000 per annum. This rent is to be charged among the incidental expenses of the School, but no specific appropriation having been made for this purpose, legislation is needed to enable the State Board of Education to comply with its contract.

The annual appropriation for the faculty is sufficient for the present wants of the School. A special appropriation of from 2 to 3000 dollars is needed for the immediate purchase of modern educational apparatus. The teachers of the children of the State ought to enter upon their work thoroughly prepared, familiar with the best modes of teaching, and practically acquainted with all the facilities for illustrating elementary branches of study, awakening the perceptive faculties of young pupils, and rendering attractive the work of the school room.

I cannot urge too strongly the importance of fostering, by