

engaged and the Public Schools be made equal to the best private Schools in the State.

COST OF COURTS, JAILS AND ALMS HOUSES, COMPARED WITH
THE COST OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS DURING THE YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30TH, 1866.

Ignorance and Crime go hand in hand. The antidote to such vice as crowds our Jails, is a sound moral and mental training. The Statistics of Penitentiaries, Jails, Houses of Refuge and Alms Houses, together with the Asylums where the profligate and degraded are cared for, prove that crime and immorality are the result of neglected education. When proper instruction is not provided for children, the seeds of vice are sown which in adult years produce an abundant harvest of iniquity. Ignorance begets hardness of heart as well as dullness of intellect. There is neither ability to comprehend nor sensibility to feel the duties which pertain to manhood, and consequently society suffers. It will be an interesting subject of investigation to examine the statistical relation which ignorance bears to crime in our own State. The statistics of civilization furnish ample evidence that the class of crimes consequent upon neglected moral education is lessened in those States which provide for the instruction of the whole people. An effort will be made before the close of another year to present practical information on this topic.

Attention is now directed to the following table showing the amounts paid in Baltimore City and each County for Courts, Jails and Alms houses, taken from the official statements of City and County Commissioners. The sum total of more than one million dollars might be largely increased by the amounts expended for private and denominational asylums of various grades and contributed for the support of the destitute. If education is the antidote for crime and pauperism, then it may be asserted that the heavy taxes paid for the support of Courts and Jails will diminish as the moral and intellectual training of a community advances.

The money paid for Public Schools in Baltimore City and the Counties is placed in parallel column with the cost of Courts, &c., that the public may see which is the more expensive, to educate children in the ways of industry and virtue, or to detect and punish crime. Multiply good Schools, and taxes to support paupers will diminish. Discontinue Schools and taxes to prevent and punish crime will increase. When discussing the cost of Schools let those who complain look at the cost of Courts. Let them remember that the expense of educating each child attending public School, during the last year was only six dollars, while the expense of a single criminal trial often reaches one thousand dollars