

A committee, consisting of Rev. Doct. Anspach of Ann Arundel, F. A. Ellis of Cecil and Thomas A. Boullt of Washington County, was appointed to present the views of the Association to the General Assembly and to advance the important interests involved in our system of Public Instruction.

In connexion with all legislation upon School questions I most earnestly suggest the importance of consulting these gentlemen, representing as they do, a body of intelligent educators from different sections of the State, and coming fresh from the field of labor which they supervise, the difficulties and needs of which they fully understand. We can thus avoid the rocks upon which the School systems of other States have been wrecked. Guided by practical wisdom instead of theory, our Schools will be adapted to the needs of the children, if they do not correspond with the ideas of theorists; they will be beneficial to the whole State, though they may not advance the special interests of any party.

With these suggestions I refer again to the bill reported to the Senate at the Special Session of the General Assembly, Jan. 7th, 1866.

SCHOOL REVENUES.

These are derived from six sources :

1. The 15 cent State direct tax.
2. The Free School fund.
3. State donations to Academies and Public Schools.
4. Fines and forfeits.
5. Interest on the County permanent School funds.
6. Local or County School tax.

The local tax having been repealed to take effect after Dec. 31st, 1866, the Schools of every County are left dependent upon the other sources of revenue at the close of the current School year, June 30th, 1867, unless provision is made for a local tax by a Public General Law, or a local law for those counties which, by popular vote, have signified a desire for such tax.

Reference to Table II upon page 12 will prove the necessity of a local tax in all the populous counties if Free Schools are to be sustained longer than 6 months each year. The fifteen cent State direct tax, under the new assessment, together with the Free School fund, will yield ample revenue for all the Counties in which there is a large population of colored persons. These Counties can, without local tax, continue the Schools in operation the entire ten months; while Allegany, Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Washington and perhaps some others, require a local tax to supplement the State funds.