

This subject will undoubtedly secure, as it deserves, the attention of the representatives of the Counties interested.

The rapid increase of population in Baltimore City and the adjacent Counties renders a new State Census essential to a correct distribution of School money. The apportionment is now made according to the Census of 1860.

I recommend the passage of a Public General Law authorizing and requiring the County Commissioners of each County, in which the people have signified their desire, to levy and collect such local tax as the Boards of School Commissioners may deem necessary to prolong the School term, to build and repair School houses, and to pay the salaries of School Commissioners;—the proceeds of this tax to be paid to the Treasurer of the Board of School Commissioners.

I also recommend a continuance of the fifteen cent tax.

#### SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN OF GERMAN PARENTS.

Among the pleasant and profitable incidents of the year have been visits to the large and prosperous Schools in which the German language is taught and the thorough system of instruction, prevailing in Germany, has been introduced. Without wishing to detract from the excellence of other Schools, I think it proper to mention specially the Institute of Prof. Knapp and the Schools under the direction of Rev. Dr. Scheib, known as the Zion Church Schools, which have been personally inspected.

In these and other German Schools, more than 3000 children are taught in the City of Baltimore alone.

The rapid increase of the German population not only in the City, but in all parts of the State, makes it the duty of the State Board of Education to provide means for the education of the children, by introducing, when practicable, the German language into the Public Schools. No element of our population is more industrious and thrifty than the German, or more appreciative of the value of education. In proportion to its numbers it embraces as large a proportion of tax payers, as do the native born citizens, and is justly entitled to favorable consideration in connexion with the plans adopted for the promotion of Public Instruction.

#### THE FLOATING SCHOOL OF BALTIMORE.

The following communication received from the Superintendent of Public Schools in the City of Baltimore, refers to an interesting and important subject, and is commended to the attention of the General Assembly.