

ally and intellectually, hail the day of durable prosperity such as can only exist in communities educated and enlightened.

Upon the teachers, into whose hands these By-Laws will be placed, and to whose duties they refer, a solemn responsibility rests. After the school authorities have done all that devolves upon them, the full success of the work depends upon the teachers. Encourage them to enter upon their work as a sacred mission. They deal with a tender mind and conscience. They impart ideas of right and wrong which will remain through life. Thoughts impressed in early childhood are never erased. Habits of system, neatness and courtesy, may be found at school. The teacher has the plastic wax and may mould it at his will. Thus the daily routine duties of class and school room work give the teacher power. It is the province of the commissioner and of the visitor, to see that so great power be exercised for the greatest attainable good. Therefore no immorality or negligence, or even rudeness, is to be tolerated. The teacher must not only instruct properly but live properly. In school and out of school the example must be good, that the dignity of the vocation of teaching may be preserved, youth trained in the paths of virtue and knowledge, and become a comfort to their parents, a credit to their preceptors and, in process of time, an honor to the State.

To this end we labor. To this the Superintendent, with all the energy he possesses, will devote his thoughts and time. He feels the importance of his position. He regards it as a noble mission. He commences determined to work on, not discouraged by opposition, not dismayed by obstacles; not disheartened by misrepresentations, but fully convinced with perfect faith, that in process of time success will crown our efforts, and under the wise guidance of the able State Board of Education, with the aid of liberal minded and earnest commissioners a system of Public instruction will be developed for Maryland equal to the best in any State of the nation.

L. VAN BOKKELEN,

*State Sup. Pub. Inst.*

Baltimore, October, 1865.