

it would, I think, be competent for the people of those Counties, provided the question could be put to them at some general election, by authority of the Legislature, to direct that the money due to those Counties from this source should be applied to the purposes of education. Almost all of these Counties have systems of Education, and these systems are largely supported by Taxation.

The sums due to several of the Counties, as yet unclaimed by organized Internal Improvement Companies, would by the interest thereon, produce nearly or quite as much for the support of Public Schools, as the entire School Tax now imposed upon the Tax payers of those Counties.

This disposition of the money due to the Counties alluded to, would thus greatly, if not entirely, relieve the people of such Counties from taxation for the support of Schools, or permit them to improve their systems and extend the benefits of Education, whilst the State would have the advantages which always flow from the spread of knowledge, and the increased intelligence of the people, without the expenditure of additional means to secure these results.

The receipts from Auction Duties, as will be seen by reference to Table No. 4, of the Appendix, are not encouraging.

The money derived from this source, to an amount not exceeding \$20,000, is placed, by section 127 of Article 4 of Code of Local Laws, at the disposal of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, for the improvement of a Channel in the Chesapeake Bay and Patapsco River.

The returns and receipts from this source have been, and continue to be, irregular and defective.

Some of the Auctioneers have steadily refused to accompany their returns with the form of oath prescribed in section 120 of the same Article, and others neglect to report entirely.

Whilst section 95 makes it the duty of the Auctioneers to report to the Comptroller, under oath, quarterly, there is no power conferred on that officer to compel such returns.

The remedy for this difficulty is placed with the Treasurer by section 121.