

diture for which now exceeds by far the most extravagant sum that can be asked for the Support of Schools.

All these things are true, but they and similar axioms are irrelevant when the higher claim of duty is acknowledged, a duty as broad and imperative as to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and minister to the necessities of that humanity which embraces all sorts and conditions of men.

The obligation which rests upon us is that promulgated by the Divine Teacher whose precepts we, as a Christian people recognize, it is enunciated in the best and most comprehensive law ever announced for the guidance of man, the GOLDEN RULE, the substance of all benevolence the epitome of every duty, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you; do ye even so unto them." This law is limited in its application by no boundary short of that which Political, Moral and Personal obligation reaches. With the people of Maryland its application extends through the length and breadth of their territory and its binding power rests on the whole property of the Commonwealth.

The duty of citizens in each section of the State is to have an earnest and active solicitude for the welfare of all within the limits of the State, and to take young and old, the humble and those of high degree, the alien and those born on our soil, the freedman and the free and prepare them all, as God has given us the ability and them the capacity, for the duties which the Law of the Land, and the Divine Law require. This is to be accomplished by making the property of the whole State bear the expense of educating every child in the State, and as far as practicable, do for those of mature years what the law, in time past, forbid to be done.

Hence the wise and righteous provision of the Constitution, that Public Education shall be sustained by a General State Tax, so as to insure its benefits to a certain limited extent, but at the same time leaving to the people the privilege to impose upon themselves, by vote, such further tax for the support of Schools in their Counties and Districts as an enlightened and liberal sentiment may suggest, and the