

large proportion of nearly one-third. One such fact is better than a volume of arguments.

CHAPTER VII. PAGE 43.

SECTION 1. A uniform series of Text-Books is recommended for economy and convenience, as well as to secure the same system of instruction in all portions of the State. Thus a child moving from one School District to another, or from one County to another will be able to continue his studies without interruption, without any expense for new books. Purchasing from the publishers, the books will be procured on the cheapest terms, and distributed to the City and County authorities at the smallest possible expense.

It would be impracticable to employ any existing agencies for the sale of books in the larger number of the Counties, simply because they do not exist. Out of our large towns there are no book stores which keep a general assortment of books, and even if there were, the custom of past years would prevail and all orders be sent to Baltimore.

It is supposed that the five per cent advance charged upon the books and stationery distributed will pay the salary of clerk and incidental expenses of the Book Department of the State Superintendent's office.

CHAPTER VIII. PAGE 45.

SEC. 4. The Academies of Maryland educated some of the most distinguished citizens of the past generation and now are remembered with affectionate regard by those who knew them in the day of their strength. Many of these Academies have ceased to exist. Others are struggling on, doing the work of ordinary Grammar Schools, and that very imperfectly. The funds once appropriated to their support have been divided, or else entirely diverted from the Academy to the Primary School Fund of the County. Thus we have, with a few honorable exceptions, no Academies worthy of the name, and youth are obliged to frequent expensive private Boarding Schools in order to be prepared for College.