

stitution which requires the people to provide for the Education of children of the next generation in addition to taking care of their own, ought to be repealed. We trust that they who follow us, living as they will under the blessed influences of Universal Freedom and Universal Education, will so increase in prosperity, that they will be able to take care of themselves. We also hope that the benefit of Free Public Schools will have been so clearly demonstrated, that posterity will not refuse the full amount needed for their support. Let us at least trust them for that much.

Appropriate to this I refer to the opinion of Mr. Eaton, the President of the Board of School Commissioners, of Baltimore City, with whom it has been my privilege to have frequent conferences while preparing this Bill.— His large experience and wise counsel have been of great value. When each County can enjoy the services of such a man as Baltimore City has, for half a score of years, without a dollar of expense to the Treasury, the cause of Public Instruction will progress and prosper. In his last report Mr. Eaton says :

“ As for the tax of five cents for a permanent fund, there will be found many who object strenuously to it, seeing that it imposes a burthen upon the present generation, in addition to its own proper and unusual expenses, in order that future generations may be relieved from all tax whatever for Educational purposes. In times like these especially, when taxes are heavy, and those demanded for the immediate exigencies of Education are to be largely increased, the propriety of a further assessment for the object referred to may be questioned. But on this point the Legislature must be its own judge as to its duties.”

Among the sources of revenue allowed by General and Local Laws, are certain fines, forfeitures and penalties. I am of opinion that in many instances these are not collected by the School authorities, and hence are lost to the funds to which they most appropriately belong. The attention of those concerned is directed to this subject with the sug-