

interested in their work and uses the means within his reach to secure uniform, harmonious, and energetic action.

CHAPTER III. PAGE 65.

SECTION 1. When we educate the faculties of the mind they become hungry and must have food to feed upon. Books furnish that food, and that the health of the intellect may be good the food must be wholesome. The District Library is designed as a free market of healthful moral and mental nourishment. In our State, specially in the Counties, where population is scattered, towns few and books are never sold unless by an itinerant agent or from a shelf in the corner of the grocery store, some plan must be devised by which wholesome reading can be given to the children of the Schools and through them reach the whole community. The District Library is the cheap and efficient agent by which this can be accomplished. Fifty or one hundred well selected volumes of History, Biography, Science and Art, with some books of Amusement for younger children will be a source of enjoyment, encouragement and of strength. These books will be read at home, they will present subjects for conversation and suggest topics for thought, they will open to the minds of many a knowledge of the world as it has been and as it is; and perhaps stimulate many youths, male and female, to do their best to accomplish what has been so well done by others who had no better opportunities than they. The Library will teach our people the value of books and perhaps after ten or fifteen years some State Superintendent may have the privilege to report that the District Libraries are ceasing to be used, because every family has a Library of its own.

The idea of including Honorary Membership of the Peabody Institute among the aids and encouragements to Universal Education was suggested by Messrs. Kennedy and Eaton. The former gentleman is conversant with the intended plan of operations and is able to speak with some degree of authority. The General Assembly may therefore proceed with confidence that this stimulus to intellectual