

for such obvious services as properly pertain to his office. It will of course be unnecessary to a successful prosecution of this work, that the prevailing legislation upon the subject, should be entirely reconsidered and reformed. The privilege now given to each County to accept or refuse the system and which thus subjects the education of its children to the caprice of tax payers, should be abolished, and the uniformity of the system be ensured by a common responsibility to the Government, encouraged by the manifest benefits that should flow from it. A radical defect in our present system is to be found in absence of suitable provision for securing the services of competent teachers. This is a subject of paramount importance, and laying at the threshold of reform and extending its influence ceaselessly into the future. It is expedient therefore, that such measures be adopted, as will commence and perpetuate a source of supply, from which the whole state may look for ready, useful, competent and professional teachers, reared and educated under the auspices of our own institutions, and identified in every respect with the common welfare. I therefore propose the establishment of a Normal School.

Assuming that the gravest necessity exists for the organization of a training school, I will develop in outline the plan of such an institution as strikes me to be feasible and suitable to the design. The place for, and the character of the school, are the chief points to be regarded.

It will be readily appreciated by you, that such an establishment must be in connection with some literary institution of standard character. To erect buildings, to obtain the services of a competent corps of professors, to purchase a library, chemical and philosophical apparatus, and a cabinet of geological and mineralogical specimens would subject the state to such an outlay of money, as would not for a moment be contemplated, in the present condition of our finances, or within the current estimate of the means to be accomplished.

With my knowledge of the high character and resources of St. John's College, Annapolis, since its late reorganization, I do not hesitate to express the opinion that this institution will soon stand with the first colleges of our country, and is better adapted to the purpose than any other within the state. Its locality in a healthy position, and at the seat of Government, indicates its direct advantages; while the large and commodious buildings and grounds, the accomplished corps of professors, its extensive campus, its library, cabinet and scientific apparatus are sufficient to assure you of the highest eligibility.

On the necessity and propriety of the