

lectual, God-given power, and is worth it in the market; and he takes his value. If one congregation will not give it to him, another one will give it to him; just as if you have a basket of apples worth twice as much as my basket of apples, somebody will give you the value of it.

Suppose we could secure such a man in this State as Horace Mann to attend to the public education of this State; would not he be worth \$3,000? Not because he is any better man than I am, but because he is worth it, because he can make it. That is the kind of man we want in that high office in this State. In my estimation the kind of man we want, is worth in the general market \$3,000 a year at least. With that view I sustain the salary given him by this committee. That is simply my estimate of the value in the general market of the kind of man we want. He should be a man of such business capacity as to be worth that anywhere. I want him in preference to a man who would be glad to get less, not because he would be any better man than the other, but upon the view that a man is worth precisely what he can make. I suggest that that is about the style of man that we require for this position.

Mr. MILLER. I admit that this is a very important office, and that we want a competent and able man to perform these duties. I am not one of those in favor of giving competent officers small salaries; but it seems to me that a salary of \$3,000 a year is rather too large. I have some knowledge of the amount of compensation received in similar offices in other States where a system of common school education has prevailed for many years. The State of Connecticut had at one time a most admirable school system under the control of a superintendent similar to this officer, whose duties were well performed; and yet he received a less sum than we propose to give this officer. I know further with regard to getting competent and able men to perform these duties, that if we look to the most eminent New England colleges, we shall find that the presidents and professors over the instruction in those colleges, and who are universally known in this country as the best educated and most competent men for the performance of these duties, generally receive a far less amount of salary than we propose here to give.

Mr. PUGH. Although eminently qualified for certain positions, they are not also to cover the point I make, business men.

Mr. MILLER. In regard to the business part of the duty we have imposed, any business man I presume could disburse the funds under the direction of the board of education proposed to be appointed in this bill. I suppose the salary of the superintendent is the salary which would properly be given to him for the performance of the duties of devising a system of public instruction for the State

of Maryland, and carrying it into operation. I suppose the most laborious part of the duty will be to devise modes to put in operation that system. When that duty is performed, then the duties of superintendent, and of managing the affairs of the schools of the State will be comparatively a light duty. It will require, to be sure, a man well educated, perhaps highly educated, a man of address, and a man who will take an interest in the education of the children of the State in the public schools. There is a large class of presidents and professors of colleges who are just the class of men most competent to perform these duties. And they receive for lifelong labor in these institutions a salary from year to year, very much less than the amount we propose to give to this officer. I do not think there would be any difficulty—if I did think so I certainly would not vote for the amendment—in obtaining a proper and competent man for a less salary than the committee have proposed.

But I should prefer an amendment to strike out this provision with regard to the salary, and to insert that he shall receive such compensation as the legislature may from time to time prescribe. I am aware that the first inauguration of such a system in Maryland would be attended with more labor than any other period. Such an officer may be selected, and may be compensated. But I think the legislature should determine, after seeing what the man whom the governor appoints has done for the benefit of the State, what his salary and compensation shall be. Those are the views which I entertain with regard to this question.

Mr. CUSHING. I am sorry to find rather a low view entertained of the capacity required for the officer whose salary is under discussion. The gentleman from Howard (Mr. Sands) seems to think all that is required in Maryland for a man to inaugurate and carry on a system of free common school education, is that he shall be able to go into the common schools of the State and inquire what books are used. Such a man would not be fit to teach a common school. Such a man would not be fit to teach the most ignorant child that the State of Maryland contains. Under such teaching, your children instead of improving, would deteriorate day by day. Any man to whom this office shall come as a God-send, is not the man we want. We want the man who does not want the office; who, feeling the sense of responsibility, and the labor which those duties shall bring, shall take it as a duty, a labor of love and of patriotism. We want to make the salary such that such a man may be able to take it, and may be able to keep it.

The school teachers with whom the gentleman from Howard has been brought in contact must have been a rare class if he can pick out among them even one fit for this