

And I think you would get as many men at \$2,000 and expenses, as at any other salary.

Mr. PUGH. I do not know but what the suggestion of the gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Daniel,) to fix the salary at \$2,500, and office and travelling expenses paid, would cover the case. I am only raising the general principle that it is notorious to all who have studied this subject, that wherever education has been considered valuable, there it has been thought important to pay those who had that business in charge. And in those localities where people have considered education a matter of high importance, and have created offices in reference to it, they have to the extent of the importance they attached to it, increased the salaries of the school officers.

How was it in the State of Pennsylvania? I remember well, as a boy, when the system of education was inaugurated in that State. And simply by looking at the election returns upon this question only, you could, on the one hand, pick out every county throughout the length and breadth of the State where ignorance prevailed, and on the other hand, every county where intelligence prevailed. And if there is any gentleman here who remembers that time he will bear me out in that statement.

Mr. SANDS. I would like to ask the gentleman a question for information. Will he tell me what is the salary of the superintendent of public schools in the State of Pennsylvania?

Mr. PUGH. I do not know.

Mr. SANDS. Or in any other State?

Mr. PUGH. I do not know. I am not thoroughly posted upon this question. I only know the general principle and its application. And I do know the application of this very principle in the State of Pennsylvania. At the introduction of the system there, the law required that each county should elect its own superintendent, and fix the salary of that superintendent. And there arose in the State of Pennsylvania the very question that is raised here. That is to say, if we consider this office an office of great importance, we will fix a salary commensurate with our idea of its importance. If we consider the office of but little importance, then we will make the salary small. And it so resulted in the State of Pennsylvania. Chester county voted for its superintendent one thousand dollars. Lancaster county voted either twelve or fifteen hundred dollars; I now forget which. Berks county, a populous county, and larger than either of the two I have named, voted three hundred dollars as a sufficient compensation to pay who was intrusted with the education of the children of the county; out of whom and from whom we must expect all the greatness of the State and of the nation. And in so far as we clog and interfere with the development of the people, through the channel of education in the county or in the

State, by just so much do we curtail and cut off the development of every other development which makes a nation or a State great.

I remember hearing my father say that he once travelled through the county of Berks on horseback. He had a map with him for his guide, which he accidentally lost. When he discovered his loss he went back to find it. He came up to a crowd of men, who had gathered around it, and were examining it with amazement. And there was not a man in that crowd who had ever seen a map before or knew what a map was. That was the character of the people of Berks county. And everybody knows that, compared with other counties in that State, or other counties in other States in the Union, that county was just as notorious for its ignorance as for its unflinching, unswerving devotion to democracy. And the people there vote for Jackson to this day. That county of Berks thought three hundred dollars sufficient to pay a man to superintend the instruction of its future men.

The PRESIDENT. There are individuals in Accomac and Northampton counties of Virginia, who never saw a newspaper in their lives.

Mr. PURNELL. Was this county of Berks, the county that gave two thousand five hundred votes the other day against allowing soldiers in the field to vote?

Mr. PUGH. The very county. But I now return to the point from which I started; that in every community, or county, or State, where the people regard this matter of public education as one of great importance to that community, county, or state, they announce to the world their idea of its importance by saying that they will pay well the man who attends to it. I would like to refer the gentleman from Howard (Mr. Sands) to an old school book in which there is a dialogue about the qualifications necessary for a school master. One of the committee men states this—your shoemaker must be a workman; your bricklayer must be a workman; your carpenter must be a workman, and they should all be paid for their work; but the teacher of your children must work cheap.

Now, if the people in this State are ready now to take their position, and say what I think they ought to say, that there is no office in the gift of this people, no position that can be occupied in this State of so great importance as this office which we are now about to create—if they are ready to take that position, if they have arrived at that point, all I ask of them is that they shall announce to the world that they think it an office of sufficient value to pay the man at least three thousand dollars a year. If they are not up to that point, then I am perfectly satisfied with two thousand five hundred dollars. But I do not remove myself one jot from the position I took at the outset.