

Article VIII

Education and School Lands

Sect 1st The Governor shall be Superintendent of public instruction, and his powers and duties in that capacity shall be such as may be prescribed by law; but after the term of five years from the adoption of this Constitution, it shall be competent for the Legislative Assembly to provide by law for the election of a Superintendent, to provide for his compensation and prescribe his powers and duties

Sect 2nd The proceeds of all the lands which have been, or hereafter may be granted to this State, for educational purposes, (Excepting the lands heretofore granted to aid in the establishment of a University) all the moneys, and clear

proceeds of all property which may
accrue to the State by escheat or forfei-
-ture, all moneys which may be paid
as exemption from military duty,
the proceeds of all gifts, devises and
bequests, made by any person to the state
for common school purposes, the proceeds
of all property granted to the State
when the purposes of such grant shall
not be stated; all the proceeds of the
five hundred thousand acres of land
to which this State is entitled by the
provisions of an act of Congress, entitled
"An act to appropriate the proceeds of the
sales of the public lands and to grant
preemption rights, approved the fourth
of September 1841," and also the five
percentum of the net proceeds of the
sales of the public lands, to which this
State shall become entitled, or her

admission into the Union (if Congress shall consent to such appropriation of the two grants last mentioned) shall be set apart as a separate and irreducible fund to be called the common school fund, the interest of which, together with all other revenues derived from the schools lands mentioned in this section shall be exclusively applied to the support and maintenance of common schools in each School District, and the purchase of suitable libraries and apparatus therefor. L.L.

Sect 3rd The Legislative Assembly shall provide by law for the establishment of a uniform and general system of common schools, ~~which schools shall be free and without charge~~

for tuition to all children between
the ages of four, and twenty years;
and the instruction in such schools
shall be free from party or sectarian
bias.

Sect. 4 Provision shall be made by law
for the distribution of the income
of the common school fund among
the several Counties of this State in
proportion to the number of children
resident therein between the ages of
four, and twenty years

Sect 5th The Governor, Secretary of State and
State Treasurer shall constitute a board
of commissioners for the sale of school
and University lands, and for the
investment of the funds arising therefrom,
and their powers and duties, shall

be such as may be prescribed by
law. ^{provided} that no part of the
University funds, or of the interest
arising therefrom shall be expended
until the period of ten years from
the adoption of this Constitution,
unless the same shall be otherwise
disposed of by the Consent of Cong
-ress for common school purposes

Abstract on Education
and School Funds

Reported by engraver
Sept 14th 1859

Received Sept 15th 1859

Sept 14th
engraved