

London

COUNTY.

ANNUAL REPORT of Superintendent of Schools for Year ending July 31, 1889.

The Superintendent will answer briefly the following questions :

1st. How can the efficiency of the Public Schools of your county be improved?

Ans. Such a general increase in the salaries of teachers as would secure the permanent services of well-trained and experienced teachers. We are compelled to depend largely upon the employment of untrained youths who teach for a little while in order to obtain funds to use in preparing for other avocations. Two of our districts need more money for buildings than can be obtained under existing laws for the extension of the school term.

2d. Date of Annual Meeting of County or City School Board for reviewing the work of 1888-9.

Ans. August 13th

3d. Were the Accounts of Treasurer laid before the County or City Board and duly examined?

Ans. They were carefully examined by the Co. Supt. aided by the Dist. Clerks and the results were reported to the County Board.

4th. Was their condition satisfactory?

Ans. Entirely so — very neatly and accurately kept.

5th. Were the Records of the District Boards all laid before the County Board and duly acted on according to law?

Ans. They were examined by the Supt. who reported to the Co. Board.

6th. What was their condition as to accuracy and neatness?

Ans. All accurate. Several of them not very neat.

7th. Report any irregularities which may have been discovered in the proceedings of any Board, together with such action as was taken by the County Board in regard thereto.

Ans. No irregularities were discovered, and the County Board was not called upon to adjust any difficulties. Our Trustees are men of excellent character and of fine business qualifications, but the work would be more promptly and efficiently attended to if the Trustees were paid for their trouble.

8th. Do your District Boards hold regular meetings, and how often?

Ans. They meet irregularly — as often as business requires.

9th. State the number of Teachers' Institutes held during the year, and the number of teachers present at each, and whether for white or colored teachers.

Ans. None. The law forbids holding Institutes during the session, and nearly all of our teachers who are competent to do institute work are absent from the county during vacation.

10th. Were the Accounts of District Boards compared with those of County Superintendent by the County Board, as required by Section 134 of School Law, and what was the result?

Ans. The Dist. Clerks, the Treasurer, and the Co. Supt. brought together and compared all their accounts and vouchers. They corresponded in all respects.

11th. Were all of your teachers supplied with the Virginia School Register, and were these Registers all returned at the close of the session to the District Clerks, as required by law?

Ans. Yes, except two or three teachers of new schools for whom Registers though ordered through local dealers were not obtained. I am sure that all registers were properly returned though two of the clerks fail to report under that head.

August 31st, 1889. L. M. Shumate Superintendent of Schools.