

APPENDIX.

The following letter was addressed to Presidents of the School Boards of the State of Maryland, by the State Superintendent, Dec. 1, 1865. The replies, or extracts from them, are here presented:—

Dear Sir:

I wish to incorporate, in my Report to the Governor, so much statistical information as may be practicable, concerning the Schools organized under our new system. Although the Law does not require from you a detailed report until the close of the current School year, June 30th, 1866, it is important that some exhibit be made of the condition of public instruction in your County, and the opinions entertained by the citizens upon the subject of general education. I therefore ask for such facts as you may be able to communicate, and suggest the following topics:

1. The condition of the Schools under the old local law; the School-Houses, Teachers and mode of supervising.
2. By what funds supported, and what degree of efficiency the Schools attained.
3. Your opinion of the general intelligence of the people of the County, and whether there are many who cannot read and write.
4. Whether there is evidence of zeal in sustaining Public Schools, and a willingness to erect and furnish School-Houses.
5. The action of your Board relative to Teachers' salaries—the rule adopted for the distribution of Text-Books—the number of boys and girls who attended School during the Term ending Nov. 15, 1865—the aggregate amount paid for salaries, and the amount paid for incidental expenses.
6. How long will you be able to continue the Schools with the present income?
7. Your opinion of the School Law. Is it a good working system and adapted to your wants? What additions, alterations, or amendments would you advise?

Your views on these and any other points are solicited, that I may make my report of practical value.

I am the more desirous to have your suggestions because the General Assembly will meet in special session January, 1866, when,