

DISTRIBUTION OF TEXT BOOKS.

The Secretary of the Board furnishes each Teacher with appropriate blanks on which to make out his order for books and stationery. This requisition, after being endorsed by the Commissioners, is returned to the Secretary, who has the order filled, and the books distributed, accompanied with a bill showing the selling prices affixed by the Board. The Teacher is required to make out separate bills for each patron and to exact payment in advance. No deviation from this rule is allowed, except in case of indigent children, to whom the books are loaned, upon the written permit of the Commissioner. In determining the price at which the books should be sold, the Board used the margin now allowed them by the publishers as liberally as possible, without reaching the retail price.

INCOME.

The present income is barely sufficient to meet the existing salaries and incidentals. Without an increase of funds there is no possibility of erecting School Houses, or of securing thoroughly qualified Teachers. Until this is done, the full benefit of the new system cannot be realized. To meet this deficiency the Board, at one time, contemplated the sale of certain Bank Stock, held by them. But upon consultation with those, whose opinion was entitled to respect, were induced to abandon their intention. Our next resource was, to endeavor to obtain the amount due us by the County.

This debt originated in 1845, when our County borrowed \$12,000 of the Bank Stock, standing to the credit of the Schools. By the Act authorizing the loan, it was stipulated, that the County should levy annually for the use of Schools, \$750, as interest, and "whenever Primary Schools were established under the Act of 1837" levy in addition \$2000 per annum, till the School fund was reimbursed. In 1862 an act was passed requiring the County to levy \$300 additional to the \$750, to meet arrearages of interest then due. This \$1050, since that date, has been regularly levied and paid. At the time of our organization, it was claimed that the arrearages had been fully met. This the Board disputed, and by mutual agreement with the County Commissioners, an arbitration was had, which awarded the Board about \$4,000, arrearages of interest, making the entire indebtedness of the County, to the School fund, about \$16,000. Under the views entertained by the County Commissioners, however, no part of the principal is immediately available, as the condition precedent on its payment was never fulfilled, "no Primary Schools having been established under the act of 1837," and even the present levy, will, in their opinion, cease to be obligatory after January, 1867, under the operation of that clause of the existing School Law, which repeals all local laws relating to the levying of taxes in the several counties. (Vide "Sources of Income," Chap. 1, Sec. 9.) Whilst we do not see the