

*Descending Grade.*

For 15 pupils—salary.....	\$60.
From 15 to 12 deduct.....	\$1.50 each.
“ 12 to 10 “ .....	1.00 “
“ 10 downward, .....	50 “

## EXAMPLE.

15 pupils.....	\$60.00	11 pupils.....	\$54.50
14 “ .....	58.50	10 “ .....	53.50
13 “ .....	57.00	9 “ .....	53.00
12 “ .....	55.50	8 “ .....	52.50

3. Teachers must collect from their patrons all incidental expenses—  
Rent, Fuel, &c.
4. Teachers must make their Reports full—even to the number and kind of Books required.

*Ques. 6.* How long can Schools be kept in operation ?

Three Terms.

*Ques. 7.* Opinion respecting the New System ?

My own opinion, which seems to be the opinion of nearly every person who has studied the law and knows anything of the system, is that it is admirably adapted to the wants of the Counties, and we trust of the Cities also. The restrictions and supervision under which Teachers are now placed will work wonders for them, as well as for their pupils. Already in some parts of this County, even the older and more experienced Teachers meet in classes at some convenient School House, on Saturday, for mutual instruction and improvement.

Such a course as this I had never heard of before. They are beginning to realize that the office of Teacher must be magnified.

There is but one suggestion I shall take the liberty to make, and that is to change the law so as to exact a *term fee* for every pupil who attends School twenty days—say one dollar per term. The law, however, as a whole, is undoubtedly a good one, and rather than risk many changes by special legislation, I would cheerfully submit to it as it stands. The danger is that the Legislature, once induced to alter or amend, may whittle the original entirely out of shape.

Very respectfully, your obedient serv't,

T. S. C. SMITH,

*Prest. Board School Commissioners, Harford Co., Md.*

## HOWARD COUNTY.

Your letter of the 1st instant, soliciting information in reference to the Schools of the County, and also the former management thereof under the old local laws, has been received.

In reply, I will answer your questions in the order in which they are given. The condition of the Public Schools under the old local