

respect with yours, except sixteen pupils being the minimum, in the place of fifteen.

Mode of distribution of books: Each Commissioner is supplied with books for his District. He supplies the demands of Teachers, and each Teacher supplies his School. I collect from the Commissioners, the Commissioners from the Teacher, and the Teacher requires the cash from the pupil.

Number of boys who attended School during the term ending November 15th, 302.

Number of girls, 272.

Amount paid for salaries, - - - - \$2,500.00

Our income enables us to continue the Schools throughout the scholastic year.

The System, I think, is admirable if every officer performs his full duty. I am satisfied that it is a good working System, and adapted to our wants.

Your Obedient Servant,

WM. R. WILMER,

*President of the School Board  
for Charles County.*

## DORCHESTER COUNTY.

THE Board of School Commissioners of Dorchester County, was organized August 21st, and elected Mr. Robert F. Thompson, one of the Commissioners, Secretary and Treasurer. The County was divided into five Districts, called Commissioner Districts, and numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and one District assigned to each one of the Commissioners.

Some of the Schools were opened on the 1st of September, and the others as soon as Teachers could be procured. The School System, under the local laws establishing free schools in the County, was so defective as to be almost useless. The funds received from the State Free School Fund and the County levy were not sufficient to afford educational facilities to the children entitled to instruction, and in many of the School Districts no effort had been made to increase the fund by private donations. The Schools in many of the School Districts were open only three months of the year for want of funds. No system of supervision had been adopted, no order or system in the course of instruction, no uniformity in text-books. The School Houses in the great majority of the Districts were totally unfit for school work—small, badly constructed and uncomfortable, without furniture, or any of the appliances necessary for successful Teaching. The Board found that the whole educational edifice had to be reconstructed:—the foundation stone even to be laid, and the superstructure built. The work is immense. School Houses to build, Teachers to prepare for their duties,