

and Grammar Schools could be fully obtained here, and under circumstances not calculated to distract the pupil-teacher's attention from his work, but rather to call forth all the ability and zeal he might possess.

In addition to the above reasons for not selecting Baltimore, and for taking Frederick as the location of the Normal School, allow me to add that justice to Western Maryland would be done by placing the School at Frederick. The new law continues the State donations to St. John's College, Washington College, the Agricultural College and the Baltimore Female College, while it appropriates nothing for Institutions equally as important and quite as well known throughout the land. I refer to the Male and Female Seminaries in Frederick and Hagerstown. Free Scholarships are offered to meritorious scholars among the graduates of the County High Schools, but these Scholarships can only be made available by incurring the expense of living in one or other of the two most extravagant places of residence in the State, viz: Annapolis and Baltimore, or by hunting up an Institution located near Chestertown—or by prosecuting a course of studies in Prince George's County. The Free Scholarships to youths from Western Maryland will be of no avail, in consequence of the expense attendant upon living where these Institutions are located, or upon their inaccessibility. There seems therefore to be a necessity that some part of the general machinery employed in carrying out the Free Public School System of Maryland should be located in one of the Western Counties.

Hoping that this communication may serve at least to attract attention to Frederick as a suitable place for the location of the Normal School, and that such examination may be given to the suggestion as its merits and importance may deserve,

I have the honor to be your obed't ser'vt,

LEWIS H. STEINER,

*President Board of School Commissioners
of Frederick County.*

·HARFORD COUNTY.

In this Report I can do little more than answer the several questions asked in yours of 1st instant.

Question 1. Condition of the Schools under old local laws, &c.?

The condition of our Schools under the old local law was anything but satisfactory. During the past seven years, many persons have said to me that almost any change in the School law would be an improvement. Teachers felt themselves accountable to no one but the Board, and as the Board could not visit and examine the Schools, each Teacher was sole judge of his or her own work. Teachers were irresponsible persons, under no supervision or control; and receiving neither *instruction, reproof* nor *encouragement*.