

entering them. I say nothing, because there is no need of saying anything, about the matter of health, about the tastes and habits of mind and body likely to be found in such places. If our little ones drink out of such troughs, they must of necessity become, mentally and morally, "ringstreaked and spotted."

Then some of our localities have no place, good, bad or indifferent, which can be procured for Public School purposes. The second town in the County had no Public School in it last year, cannot have any Public School in it this year, for there is literally no place in which to have it.

If I may be allowed to make a suggestion in this connection, I would say, that in the absence of any other means, furnished by the Legislature or otherwise, it would be wise to suspend the Schools in this county altogether, for two or three years, and spend the whole money in the erection of School houses. The children during those years would not go wholly without schooling. Some provision would be made in the way of private Schools. Then when Public Schools did start, they might be what they ought to be, and what they do not now even *seem* to be.

The question might arise about the law in this connection. The Legislature, if they will not give the money, might give authority to the State Board of Education, to do as they deem expedient. If not, then the law is, there must be six months School. That is, *by law* this county must go for a considerable time without proper School houses. *By law*, the money, little enough at least, must be to a very considerable extent thrown away. All that remains is the same fact, we very much need School houses.

Of course, only the people who have Schools know the value of them. It is not therefore to be wondered at, if the desire for good Schools does not here amount to anything like a longing. If it did, we should soon illustrate the old maxim: "Where there is a will, there is a way." We are not however without some progress. Two School houses have been put in thorough order, and brought up to the standard. Some five or six are in process of construction, all to be paid for, *when the county can pay*.

Again, all the children do not go to School even when they might go. The people, many of them, will not send their children to School more than six weeks, or two months out of a year. The Fall work keeps them well into winter, and Spring work begins before winter is well over. In some respect we are a very enterprising people. One teacher left last spring, School and all, to go to make maple sugar. In remonstrating with the people once for not sending the children to School, one man spoke out and asked "When or how he was ever to *make anything* out of his boys?" I am still of the opinion, there should be some law regulating this