

P. S. The Table C of the schedule is imperfect. It is impossible to fill it. Many of the places reported as School houses, are no more School houses than they are stores, or churches, or Odd Fellow halls, being used for one purpose as much as another. The approximate value of School houses, it is also impossible to give.

If the average cost of Schools in this County seems large, it must be remembered, that there is probably not a more expensive County in the State to live in. Our County produces comparatively little of all that is consumed here. The general commodities of life, except coal, cost more here than in our eastern cities. Board is high. Then in the thinly settled districts, the Schools are small. On the one hand, the number of teachers is increased, on the other the cost of living.

In reply to Circular No. 6, asking information in regard to certain questions, I have the honor to report :

*Topic 1st.* "What has been done towards organizing the County High School?"

*Answer.* Previous to the resignation of Rev. Mr. Perin-chief, a Committee was appointed, consisting of himself and Rev. Mr. Ross, to wait upon the trustees of Alleghany County Academy, to see if they would not be willing to transfer the Academy to the Board of Commissioners.

The reply of the trustees to the Committee was, that for the present they could not, that they had employed a teacher for one year, commencing with the 1st of September, 1866, thus leaving the board to infer that, had the application been made in time, it would have been complied with.

At the proper time, the subject will again be pressed upon the trustees, to transfer the said Academy to the Board, and I think an influence can be brought to bear upon them, so that they will not hesitate to comply with the wishes of the Board, seconded by those of the citizens.

*Topic 2d.* "What action has been instituted, to secure the continuance of the local tax for prolonging the School terms, &c.?"

*Answer.* I had a notice published in all our County papers, calling the attention of the citizens and friends of Education to the fact, that after January 1st, 1867, our Schools would be entirely dependent for their support on the funds derived from the State alone, unless the citizens of the County express their willingness at the November Election, for a County School tax.

A meeting of our citizens was also called on Monday evening, the 15th, to consider the subject, at which time resolutions were passed, a copy of which I sent you, instructing the friends of Education how to vote to secure the desired end at the coming election.