

meetings, during the interval of those of the regular County Association, at some school house in the district, taking the schools in the order of their numbers.

At these district meetings, a strict adherence to parliamentary forms, except in regard to decorum is not required; they are to be more of a conversational character. A temporary Secretary is however appointed by the chair, whose duty it is to report to the County Association anything of general interest that occurs.

If the method of teaching any special branch is under discussion, the teacher at whose school the meeting convenes, is expected to exemplify his own mode by the recitation of his class. These district meetings, thus conducted, must, I think, commend themselves for their practical utility, to general adoption.

The County Association has projected a Library of reference and professional reading, which already numbers forty volumes. A Magnetic Globe has also been secured, to which they intend, as their means permit, to add other illustrative apparatus. The members generally have subscribed to the 'Amer. Ed. Monthly,' whose columns they have already employed for the publication of some of their contributions.

The attendance on the Association has been good, and the increasing interest manifested by the members in its proceedings, encourages the belief, that it will prove not only highly beneficial to the teachers themselves, by sustaining their 'esprit de corps,' and perfecting them in their art; but, by bringing parents and others within the circle of its influence, greatly aid in disarming public prejudices, and in popularizing the system. While on this topic, I would remark that many of our teachers would gladly avail themselves of the benefits of the State Normal School, during the *vacation* of their own schools, but as the *vacations coincide*, it is of course impracticable. Could not the sessions of the former be altered as to time, to afford them an opportunity of attending?

FINANCES.

In my Report of December last, I stated, as you recollect, in reference to our income, "that it was barely sufficient to cover current expenses, and without an increase of funds, we could not hope to erect such houses as were needed;—that to meet the deficiency, our chief resource was the collection of a debt due us by the County for money borrowed by the latter from the School Fund in 1845;—that to adjust this claim, and avoid the expense of litigation, we had entered into a written agreement (August, 1865) with the County Commissioners, to submit the matter in controversy to arbitration, which had resulted in an award in our favor of \$4398 58 for *arrears of interest*, due us to 1st June, 1865." The prin-