

CONCLUSION.

I have now given, in as brief a manner as the attempt allowed, a connected, and, I hope, intelligible view of the rise, progress and present state of our Schools. In reviewing the results of the past year, I think we are entitled to claim for the New System, *decided improvement*, if not complete success. I read it in the greater zeal, competence and faithfulness of the teachers; in the greater interest and industry of the pupils, and last, but not least, in the increased and increasing patronage of the Schools. It is evidently taking root in the affections of the people, and we are beginning to realize the truth of my prediction of December last, 'that with a better comprehension of the law, and the practical exemplification of its benefits, our noble educational system will win its way to public favor, and our people rise to the full measure of their duty in sustaining it.'

Before closing, permit me to acknowledge my obligation to my colleagues, for their ready and efficient aid they have always rendered me in the discharge of my official duties; and in their name and my own, to thank the teachers generally, for their cordial co-operation with the Board, in all measures calculated to advance the interests of the Schools.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. R. QUINAN,

President B. S. Commissioners, Calvert Co.

 CARROLL COUNTY.

Uniontown, Carroll Co., Md.

DR. L. VAN BOKKELEN,

State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Sir:

The Public School System is working its way but slowly into popular favor in this County, not that the people generally are so much opposed to the system itself, as to the manner in which we are compelled to conduct it. Quite a number of our people it is true are decidedly opposed to the entire system of taxation for school purposes, yet I believe that a respectable majority would be found willing to sustain it. But there are other causes which are operating very seriously to prevent the complete success of this excellent system of Public Instruction, in Carroll County. The great difficulty against which we have to contend, and which produces so much embarrassment in conducting our schools, is the want of competent teachers; some of the schools cannot be supplied, while others are indifferently taught. This deficiency in the supply of teachers is not occasioned by insuffi-