

operation, except during the Summer term, when the School fund was withheld and used for repairing and furnishing school houses. At the same time more than one-half the school houses were used for private schools, with the approval of the Commissioners of the District in which the schools were located. The result is that the school houses generally are in good condition. Some few, however, still need repairs and furniture.

The Teachers generally come up to the standard the law requires, and are energetic and faithful in the discharge of their duties. Their salaries depend upon the number and average attendance of pupils; the minimum salary being three hundred dollars per annum. There is more interest manifested on the part of Teachers and pupils than I have ever known in our county.

Among the public generally, and especially among those who have children to be educated, I think the opposition to the present school law is subsiding. It commends itself to the approval of those who have thoroughly and impartially investigated the subject.

Since my last report we have built three new school houses, repaired twenty-three and furnished nine. The number of pupils, during the last Fall term, is one hundred and ninety more than the Fall term of last year.

WM. R. WILMER,
President of Board School Commissioners, Charles Co.

CAROLINE COUNTY.

Denton, November, 1866.

To the State Superintendent of Public Instruction,

Sir:

I have the honor to report as follows:

The first year of our schools has to some extent demonstrated the working of the uniform system of Public Instruction in the State of Maryland; under many disadvantages that system has proved to be of great practical benefit to Caroline County. There has been a decided improvement in the mode of teaching, and governing of schools. Teachers have manifested a greater interest in the work, and pupils have attended with more punctuality; but both teachers and pupils have suffered loss from not being provided with suitable school houses and furniture. We have not the means for making either comfortable during school hours. We earnestly hope that the present Legislature will provide the means by which this difficulty may be removed. There are not more than five comfortable school houses in the Coun-