

five school houses in the County built with public funds, or legally deeded to the County Board.

School houses will not be built in this County upon the plan of "district taxation," because, 1. Many of the land owners are not residents of the districts and would not consent. 2. In the very districts where they are most needed at this time, the people are the least able to contribute. We must rely upon our County levy which now ceases, *unless renewed by the people*, or what we judge to be a better and more uniform plan, for securing a sufficient fund for this purpose, a general State law and tax.

It is our purpose to present the subject of the County levy of \$4,000 to the nominating convention, and the candidates this fall, and to ask that an expression of the will of the people through the ballot box in November be allowed, by printing at the head of the ballot "For the continuance of the County school tax." If any are opposed, they have the privilege of erasing or clipping it from the ballot.

FURNITURE AND APPARATUS.

Very little has been expended for this purpose. Judging from the condition of things before the new system began a house only was required, as we found many without stoves, desks, or black boards. These we have supplied as far as required in every school, and repaired nearly every school house in the County.

We purpose introducing Martenet's map of Maryland in each school, but to supply each school with proper and sufficient desks, maps, charts, &c., would require a larger fund than we now have at our disposal.

SCHOOLS.

Whole number in the County 55, average number open 48, with an average attendance of 32 pupils. There were during the year 2,057 different pupils in attendance, average attendance 1,384. The schools were open the whole year. We regret that we cannot continue them the Fall term, this year for want of funds. They begin November 1st, when we hope to be able to continue the balance of the school year.

We see the beginning of a marked desire on the part of the children *to be more regular in their attendance*. They see its benefits at their examinations. Parents are discovering that hired labor is cheaper and more effectual than that of their children. Teachers speak of the change in the progress of the pupils and in the decrease of their labor of classification and recitation. *Would that all could see its force and act accordingly.*