

teachers' capacity for imparting instructions. I generally desired the teacher to proceed with the School in the usual manner, and to ignore my presence as much as possible. When the teacher manifested a want of knowledge of methods of instruction, I would, at the close of the visit, endeavor to present what I believed to be better methods and correct views.

Our County is sparsely peopled; consequently our schools are generally small, located at great distances from each other, separated by creeks and marshes. There are three schools upon islands in the Chesapeake, and two others are reached by public ferries. Therefore my visits have not averaged more than two Schools a day—and their duration from forty minutes to two hours.

As the duties of President commenced after the commencement of the summer term and my health was at that time very feeble, I was unable to visit the whole County: I can, therefore, give authentic information of the progress of pupils and improvement of teachers and the success of the system only in my own district. Every school is opened with reading the Holy Scriptures by teacher and pupils alternately. In more than half the Schools of my District, pupils, teachers and patrons are more than meeting my expectations.

INSTITUTES.

There was none held in the County the past year. So lately assuming the charge of the Schools, I was not satisfied that we could make an Institute successful. I found it impossible to secure the requisite accommodations at any central point. I attended the "Institute" held in Talbot County, under Professors Newell and Leakin, and became so well satisfied of its utility, that I at once engaged the services of the Professors for an Institute for our County in November. I am satisfied it will supply one of our needs more than any other mode or arrangement we could adopt, to furnish us with competent and accurate teachers, and I trust, will prove an incentive to some to make application for the Normal School. I regret to state that there has not been a single application for the Normal School from our County. I have made it a speciality in my visitations and at the examinations.

SCHOOLS FOR COLORED PEOPLE.

I am more than ever convinced that these schools should be encouraged. Divest the subject of its "politics" and I can see no reason why the colored people should not be instructed. Educated labor gives most satisfaction—is most sought—is the cheapest and always pays the best.