

much good, and has paved the way for greater favor towards the system. The frequent changes under our old local law was a source of great annoyance as well as of expenditure, and caused much dissatisfaction. The permanency and moderate cost attending the uniform series has dissipated much of this feeling, and has thus done good to the system of public education.

Very respectfully,

THOS. A. BOULLT,

*President of the Board.*

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WORCESTER COUNTY.

TO REV. L. VAN BOKKELLEN,

*State Superintendent of Public Instruction.*

*Sir:*

We have kept our schools open the entire year, so far as we could provide teachers. But some of the schools were kept open only a fraction of the term for which they were reported, and this occasions the average cost to appear small. To provide competent teachers has been one of our great difficulties, while the condition of our school houses and the accommodation to be secured for teachers in many of our County districts, have not been such as to invite teachers from abroad. Some attention has already been given to preparing for the position of teacher, and we hope ere long to have a supply of teachers from among our own people.

We have some surplus funds from our income of the past year, which we intend appropriating to building and repairing school houses. Something has been done towards the repairs of school houses; but we have not received the plans and specifications prepared by the State Board, in time to do anything as yet toward building new ones. Orders have been passed for building several; but from the cause here mentioned, no progress has been made in carrying out these orders. Where I have reported, in the balance statement, so few additional school houses needed, it is not that we need the additional number, and not that we do not need many new ones to supply the place of the old, the ill adapted ones we now have.

Our attention was, at first, confined to the district schools, and to getting them in successful operation, for we felt there was too much to do in that particular branch of our duty, to turn our attention so early to the establishment of High Schools. But as we advanced in our work, the question of High Schools came prominently before us.

Knowledge of our County, and of the disposition of our people in this matter assured us, that no one High School established at any place in the County would afford the de-