

average expenditure for Text Books per pupil at the small sum of 98 cents during the years 1865 and 1866. If the value of books remaining on hand be deducted, it is estimated that the average would be reduced to about 75 cents for each pupil. The cost of books for Public Schools of the City of Baltimore for 1866 was \$34,349 42.

3. There is no record in this office showing the number of books disposed of by the County School Commissioners. Information on this subject has been asked from the several Boards of School Commissioners.

4. Text Books were purchased from the publishers or their agents, at prices named in their written proposals at the time the books were submitted to the State Board of Education for examination. These proposals included the price for introduction, and for subsequent years.

The cost of each book, delivered in the counties, is given in Appendix "No. 3." I have no record of the prices received for books from scholars in the several counties.

5. The bills of publishers and State Agents have been paid in full, no discount of any kind having been given directly or indirectly upon invoice prices. The Text Book accounts have been kept as required by law, and are ready for inspection at any time.

While the Act of Assembly gives to each Board of School Commissioners, and to parents, the option to purchase books of the uniform series wherever, and in whatever mode they may consider most advantageous; parents have generally purchased from the School Boards, and all the School Boards have sent their orders to the Agents of the State Board of Education.

The mode of distribution has proved entirely satisfactory, and by placing Text Books in the Schools at the beginning of each term, classes can be organized and work commence promptly.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted by the Association of School Commissioners at their meeting December 10, 1866:

Resolved, That the uniform series of Text Books has proved acceptable to teachers and useful to the pupils, and that the mode of purchasing and distributing books adopted by the State Board has been satisfactory to the County Boards, and economical to parents and guardians."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. VAN BOKKELEN,
State Superintendent Public Instruction.