

States and drawn to us by our judicious system and liberal return for services rendered.

Such applicants will be tested by examination before being placed in charge of a School.

We have now many teachers, Male and Female, of various degrees of qualification, engaged in our City and County Schools. They are doing the best they can, but never having enjoyed the advantages proposed to be hereafter offered, are necessarily ignorant of many of the duties required of them. Such teachers will undoubtedly avail themselves of the privileges and opportunities connected with the Associations and Institutes, and thus become qualified for the performance of their work. It is not strictly just to complain of the inefficiency of teachers while nothing is done for their improvement, or while the stipend is so pitifully small, that it offers no encouragement to such self-culture as is essential to produce a capable instructor.

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Every effort ought to be made to render the Teachers' Associations and Teachers' Institutes attractive and instructive. The Associations are assemblies of Teachers from one, two, or more Commissioner Districts, as may be convenient, for mutual conference, interchange of views with reference to teaching and discipline, and discussion of practical Educational questions. The Association selects its own officers and arranges its own exercises. The County Director is expected to be present and give his aid to render the exercises as profitable as he can. Such meetings are attended with very good effect. They make teachers acquainted with one another, they create a professional ambition, an *esprit du corps* animating and encouraging. They will prove seasons of refreshing from which the teacher will return to his work with new ideas and vitalized energy. Should citizens interested in Public Instruction be inclined to favor the Associations with their presence and take part in the deliberations, it will increase their interest and influence and, what is better, convince