

the teachers that they are not without the sympathy of those who are laboring in less difficult spheres of duty. Such evidence of interest is earnestly invoked. Should it be extended, it will be one additional element of strength to our new system, by operating as an incentive to the teachers to prepare themselves for the exercises to which they are appointed by the officers of the Associations

CHAPTER III. PAGE 51.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTES are temporary Normal Schools, and designed to accomplish, partially, for teachers now engaged at their profession what the Normal School will do for those who design to fit themselves for the charge of Public Schools. They have been organized in every State now claiming to have a successful system, and the testimony in their favor is not only unanimous but most emphatic. I quote the following: "These Normal Schools have been in session from ten to eleven days each year since I commenced my official term. The interest manifested in them by Teachers and Educational men, at first moderate, is now intense; and it is truly gratifying to hear many of the attendants upon these sessions frankly declare, at the close, that they are able to teach better than before. There is no doubt in my mind of the fact that the Institutes are first in might among the auxiliaries for the improvement of Teachers and creating an interest in our Public Schools." In another report I find this: "Any apprehension that the dismissal of our Schools for the week would be time lost to them, was wholly dissipated by witnessing the renewed impulse given to the Teachers, and their practical improvement of the valuable principles of instruction presented in many of the Lectures and illustrated by model lessons."

The small amount of money appropriated for traveling expenses will be wisely invested; and it is hoped that the Teachers' hearts will be gladdened by such evidence of hospitable interest on the part of the citizens of the town where they assemble, that they will return to their Schools feeling under increased obligation to do all in their power for the progress of the Public School system.