

DEPARTMENT

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
STATE SUPERINTENDENT
OF
PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NEW JERSEY
FOR THE YEAR 1858.

To the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

In presenting to the Legislature my annual report of the condition of the common schools and of the cause of education in New Jersey, for the year ending December fifteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, it affords me great satisfaction to inform you that everything connected therewith bears evident marks of improvement; of this, extensive personal observation in the discharge of my official duties, as well as the statistical and other information furnished to this department by the Town Superintendents and others connected with the schools, furnish abundant evidence.

It is also particularly gratifying to find that this improvement is not confined to any particular locality, city, county or township, nor to any particular department of the work, but is found to pervade the whole system, affecting alike all its material interests.

It is manifested by the people in an increased interest to the importance of the subject of education, its nature and value, in a social, intellectual and moral point of view; by school officers in the more faithful discharge of the duties of examining teachers, selecting school books, and in visiting the schools; by teachers, in better modes of instruction and discipline—in the greater desire to assume a higher position in their profession, and to become more useful instruments in the discharge of its responsible duties; but, more especially, in the increasing number of those who are seeking to make the business of teaching the great work of their lives.

These signs of improvement are full of encouragement; they show a deepening conviction on the part of the people, of the value of our common school system, and of its influence for good on the complex and varied interests of our State and Nation.

ABSTRACT OF THE REPORTS OF THE TOWN SUPERINTENDENTS.

The statistical tables appended to this report, will give you more particular information in regard to the schools, and the means provided for their support.

From these, the following general summary is derived:

The whole number of cities and townships in the State, is one hundred and ninety-seven.

Reports have been received from one hundred and eighty-one, leaving sixteen that have not made the report required by law—a less number than in any former year.

The townships that have not reported are Washington, in the county of Bergen: Shamong, in Burlington; Deptford, in Gloucester; Hudson City, in Hudson; Tewksbury and Union, in Hunterdon; Piscataway, in Middlesex; Raritan and Shrewsbury, in Monmouth; Stafford, in Ocean; Manchester and West Milford, in Passaic; Upper Pittsgrove, in Salem; Branchburg, in Somerset; Greene, in Sussex; and Pahaquarry, in Warren.

Whole number of school districts in the State, fourteen hundred and fifty-five, an increase of seventeen over the preceding year.

Whole number of schools established in the several districts, sixteen hundred and fifty-one.

Whole number of children between the ages of five and eighteen years, residing in all the school districts of the State, as ascertained from the reports of the district trustees, and other officers, to the Town Superintendents, one hundred and eighty-four thousand four hundred and seventy-five; an increase over the preceding year of three thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

Number of children reported as attending school for the whole period, (allowance being made for the usual vacations,)	28,155
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Number attending nine months, but less than twelve,	23,974
Number attending six months, but less than nine,	33,617
“ “ three “ “ six,	29,705
“ “ a less period than three months,	16,645
“ “ over the age of eighteen years,	1,447

Making the whole number of children that have attended school during the year,	133,543
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An increase over the preceding year of,	3,823
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The average number of children in daily attendance at all the public schools, from the best information I can obtain on

the subject, is about sixty-four thousand, rather less than one-half of the whole number reported as attending school for the different periods of the year.

Average number of months the schools have been kept open, nine and a quarter—a small increase over that of the preceding year.

Total amount of money raised and appropriated for the support of common schools,	\$526,572 17
Raised by tax for the support of schools,	338,160 06
Raised by tax, in addition, for building, repairing, and furnishing school houses,	61,518 63
Received from the State, as reported,	86,073 31
“ “ other sources specified in the reports,	40,820 17

The amount reported as received from the State, exceeds the annual State appropriation six thousand seventy-three dollars and thirty-one cents, and this excess is occasioned by blending with the State appropriation other money appropriated by the counties for school purposes. It properly belongs to the item of money received from other sources specified in the reports, being principally the interest of the surplus revenue appropriated by some of the counties for the support of schools.

So that the items composing the amount of money appropriated and raised for the support of the common schools of the State, for the year ending December 15th, 1858, is as follows:

Raised by tax for the support of schools,	\$338,160 06
“ “ in addition, for building, repairing and furnishing school houses,	61,518 63
State appropriation,	80,000 00
From other sources, being chiefly the interest on the surplus revenue, appropriated by the counties for the support of the schools,	46,893 48
Making a total of	<u>\$526,572 17</u>

An increase over the preceding year of twenty-two thousand six hundred and forty-two dollars and sixty-nine cents (\$22,642 69.)

The amount of money raised by tax, is alone, a pretty accurate index of the popular mind on the subject of general education, and the increased amount of this item during the year just closed affords conclusive evidence of a better appreciation of our common school system and of the strong determination to enlarge the means of diffusing knowledge among the people.

Liberal, however, as have been the means provided for the support of our common schools by the voluntary action of the people in the past, years to come will require that they be largely increased, if we expect to carry out successfully the *great idea* of the permanent establishment of free schools for the education of the great mass of the people.

This is not to be regretted, as industry and wealth augment with the increase of our population, as the aggregate of public expenses will diminish as the people are intelligent and virtuous, and as there are no coffers so secure as the minds of our children, where we may deposit in the form of knowledge and virtue, the largest share of our riches.

The number of teachers employed in the common schools of the State for the year just closed, was twenty-one hundred and three, twelve hundred and thirty-five males, and eight hundred and sixty-eight females.

The average salary per annum paid to male teachers was three hundred and ninety-three dollars. To females two hundred and thirty-seven dollars, a small increase in the cases of males only, over the preceding year.

The number of teachers employed is comparatively large, being greatly increased by the frequent changes of teachers in the schools, and the inadequate remuneration received for their services.

This want of system and this succession of new teachers, by whatever cause induced, is a serious obstacle to the progress

of education, and demands for its removal, and to meet the advancing state of instruction in our common schools, the permanent employment of a class of well qualified teachers, whose services shall be duly appreciated and liberally rewarded.

The common school system of New Jersey embraces—

One Normal School,

One Model School,

One Farnum Preparatory School, and,

Sixteen hundred and fifty-one Public Schools established in the various cities and townships of the State.

For the maintainance and support of which there has been appropriated and expended during the year as follows:

By the State for the support of the Normal School, \$10,000 00

“	“	Farnum prepa-	
ratory school,			1,200 00

By the State for the support of the public schools, 80,000 00

Raised by tax and other sources,	446,572 17
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Making a total of,	\$537,772 17
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A result highly gratifying to the friends of popular education.

THE NORMAL SCHOOL.

The Normal School established by the act of February ninth, eighteen hundred and fifty-five, for the term of five years, and which justly occupies a position at the head of our school system, continues to enjoy a high degree of prosperity, fully realizing in its operation the design of the institution in the great work of training and educating teachers for our public schools.

The number of pupils in attendance for the term, commencing February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, was ninety-seven, twenty-nine males and sixty-eight females.

For the term commencing September sixth, eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, one hundred and eighteen, thirty-one males and eighty-seven females, two less than at the corresponding period of the preceding year.

The whole number of pupils admitted and instructed in the institution since its organization in eighteen hundred and fifty-five to the present time, is two hundred and sixty-four, eighty-four males, and one hundred and eighty females.

Of this number thirty-two have pursued the full course of study and practice prescribed in the graduating course, and having passed a satisfactory examination in this department, have received the diploma of the institution. One hundred and fourteen have enjoyed its advantages for longer or shorter periods, but without completing the full course prescribed for graduation have left the school.

One hundred and forty-six, the number of those who have left the Normal School, are now engaged in teaching in the schools of the State, many of them occupying positions at the head of our largest and best graded schools, eminently successful as teachers, and greatly promoting by their efforts the interests of common school education.

The growth of the Normal School, though not so rapid, has been regular and progressive, and the demand for teachers trained in it, greatly beyond the power of supply, showing not only the high appreciation of the institution, in its influence for good on the schools of the State, but the growing conviction that its permanent establishment on a firm and liberal basis is the best means by which the improvement of our common school system is to be effected.

Normal schools for the training and education of teachers, though of recent introduction into the United States, are now incorporated into and form the most important element of every well organized system of general education.

Their aim is to supply that which is the most important want of the system, a class of well qualified teachers for our public schools, by furnishing them that training and prepa-

ration and that knowledge of the art of teaching that will elevate to the highest rank of human pursuits, and give to them that fitness for the work deemed as necessary in this as in any other professional employment.

Such is the object of the Normal School and the character of the relation it sustains to our educational system, it gives completeness to it, infusing new life and energy into all its movements, and its increasing prosperity is the best measure of the progress of primary elementary instruction in our common schools.

From these and other considerations which might be presented, it is our interest as well as our duty to sustain the Normal School by such legislation as will continue it in a permanent form, as the most efficient means at our command for elevating the standard of common school education, by furnishing for our schools a class of well qualified teachers.

Good teachers will make good schools, and schools made better by the labors of energetic, faithful and devoted teachers, is the best argument we can present to the people of the State in favor of improved school houses, the providing of the necessary furniture, apparatus and books, the co-operation of parents, the supervision of the schools and liberal provision for their encouragement and support.

You have already been informed by the Governor in his late message to the Legislature, that "the act to establish a State Normal School will expire on the 9th day of February, 1860, and it seems requisite that some action be had on the subject during your present session." This is rendered necessary from the considerations set forth by the Governor in his message, as well as from the important influence it will exert upon the educational interests of the State, in all its departments for the ensuing year.

If from the embarrassed condition of the State Treasury or other considerations you are not prepared to make the Normal School a permanent institution, you may safely adopt the recommendation of the Governor, in which I fully concur, and

extend the provisions of the act now in force for another term of five years.

This will secure to the schools of the State all the advantages resulting from the continuance of the Normal School, and afford to the trustees thereof an opportunity for the full developement of the plan now in operation in connection with the Model School, by which it is believed the Normal and Model Schools may ultimately become the property of the State without the appropriation of any money from the State Treasury for that object.

THE MODEL SCHOOL.

The Model School, established in connection with the Normal School, and forming one of its most beautiful features, is intended to, and does exemplify in its operation the best methods of teaching the branches usually taught in our best graded schools, and serves as a model for them.

It also affords an opportunity for the pupil teachers in the Normal department to reduce to practice the principles of the art, enabling them while imparting knowledge to others, to receive instructions in the proper management of a school similar to which they are preparing to engage.

The Model School is one of the best schools in the State, and affords to those connected with it, at a reasonable expense, superior educational advantages, while its connection with the Normal School furnishes to the pupils of that department the most suitable place to make their first essays in the art of teaching.

There are now three hundred pupils in attendance at this School, from various sections of the State; its condition is highly prosperous, and it sustains a high reputation for thoroughness, efficiency and success.

It is also gratifying to inform you that the Model School, not only sustains itself, but that under the contract made with

“the proprietors of the Model School building,” it is yielding a revenue which may, if desired, be devoted to the purchase of the property now occupied by the institution.

THE FARNUM PREPARATORY SCHOOL.

The Farnum Preparatory School, originally established by the liberality of Paul Farnum, as a local institution, but now forming a part of our State system of general education is in a highly prosperous condition.

The design of this institution is: “To perfect the instrumentalities of the State of New Jersey for the training and education of teachers for her public schools, and to furnish, as far as possible, the model of a well organized and efficiently conducted graded school, in which shall be exemplified the principles of education, as far as developed, understood, and practiced at the present day.”

In pursuance of this object, the school commenced operations as a State institution, on the 14th day of September, 1857, and will complete its third term on the 4th day of February next, having been in operation a little over one year.

It is now under the control of the trustees of the State Normal School, organized and conducted on a plan similar to that in operation in the latter institution, designed to furnish to those preparing for the work of teaching, that elementary training and preparation so essential to sound scholarship, preparatory to their admission in the Normal School.

The number of pupils now in attendance is one hundred and twenty; of those in the preparatory department, seventeen are preparing for the work of teaching, and the prospect is that this number will be much increased during the next session, from the other departments of the School—a fact which, taken in connection with the increasing demand coming up from all parts of the State for teachers trained in the Normal School, furnishes conclusive evidence of the value of this School to in-

crease and perfect the means by which good teachers are to be provided for our public schools.

From the auspicious indications that attend the infancy of this institution, may we not anticipate for it a career of great usefulness in imparting increased efficiency to the means employed for perfecting our school system, and of diffusing among the people the blessings of general education?

THE SCHOOL LAW.

Much has been said during the last few years on the subject of changing the laws of the State on the subject of common schools, and various propositions have, from time to time, been made on the subject.

In 1855, commissioners were appointed to revise and codify the school laws, and the report of the commissioners accompanied with a bill prepared with much care was presented to the legislature at the ensuing session.

This bill proposes a radical change in the character of the law, and its provisions were deemed so important, that its consideration was postponed until the next session, in order that its claims might be more fully examined and discussed; but notwithstanding all this, it has failed to receive the favorable consideration of the legislature, and probably will not be again brought before you.

The act of 1846, with the changes subsequently made, authorizes the election by the people of Town Superintendents in the several townships of the State, whose duty it is to divide their respective townships into convenient school districts, so that schools may be organized and an opportunity afforded all the children of the State to attend school, at some convenient place, within the limits of their respective districts.

The utility of this provision has been called in question, and the propriety of its continuance has been the subject of considerable discussion.

Were it a new question to be now decided in New Jersey, whether a township shall constitute a single district for school purposes, under the control of a local board of education, or be divided, for this purpose, into several districts, as at present, there are many reasons that might be presented in favor of the former plan, but where the principal obstacle in the way of its adoption arises from the inconvenience of substituting for a system with which the people are familiar, one to which they are unaccustomed, the change would, it is believed, prove a source of great difficulty and embarrassment, injuring, rather than promoting, the interests of education.

The district system, like any other that may be adopted, depends more for its success upon the manner in which it is executed by the township officer, than by the provisions of the law on the subject, the best law being powerless for good, if its administration is confided to those who lack the ability, inclination, or resolution to execute it.

The proper arrangement of the school districts, so as to contain sufficient territory and population to sustain a good school, and convenient to the people of the district, is a matter of much difficulty to those who are charged, by law, with the performance of this duty, and its proper exercise is found to affect materially, the permanency and success of the schools established in the several districts.

It is difficult, perhaps impossible, to regulate this matter by law, so as to obviate the difficulties complained of, and it is extremely doubtful if any new mode can be adopted by which they can be prevented or removed.

As a general rule no radical change should be made in a system with which the people are familiar unless from the most urgent considerations, and if a change on this subject be desired I would suggest such a modification only as will impose an effectual check to the formation of any new districts having within its limits less than sixty children of legal school age.

The principle on which the money appropriated and raised for school purposes is apportioned among the several counties,

townships and school districts of the State, is another feature of the law in which a change has been proposed.

The act of 1846 apportioned the money appropriated by the State to the several counties in the ratio of the taxes paid by said counties for the support of the government of this State, making taxation, the evidence only of wealth, the basis of apportionment. This principle was found to effect injuriously those counties possessing less wealth but more of the poor and uneducated and was subsequently changed by the act of 1851, which adopted population, as the only correct principle on which the money appropriated by the State should be apportioned to the several counties.

It would have been a wise provision had this principle been adopted also as the rule of apportionment by the counties to the several townships of the State with but one condition, that no township, the inhabitants of which do not feel sufficient interest in the cause of common school education to raise any money for such purposes should receive the benefit of appropriations made for that object from the State Treasury, but as a condition of its reception, should be required to raise by tax or otherwise, an amount equal to that apportioned to it.

Such a provision it is believed would secure the raising of money in all the townships of the State for this object, and prove a stimulus to greater effort on the part of the people in raising money for school purposes.

There are now sixteen townships in the State that raise no money for the support of common schools.

The rule of apportionment by the counties to the townships is in the ratio of the number of children residing therein between the ages of five and eighteen years as ascertained by the reports of the Town Superintendents made to the Board of Freeholders of the several counties. This, as a general rule is equitable and just, the number of children of legal school age bearing a pretty uniform relation to the whole population would seem to indicate that it might be safely adopted as a good rule for the apportionment of money to the several

townships, but its practical operation, growing out of the failure of District Trustees to make the required report to the Town Superintendents and of the imperfect reports from this cause, of the Town Superintendents to the Board of Freeholders, makes it liable to strong and serious objections. It is a source of great complaint, and frequent applications are made to the State Superintendent for the determination of questions growing out of difficulties connected with it.

From these and other considerations which might be presented I am of opinion that if the rule of apportionment was changed in the manner I have already indicated, it would obviate many difficulties that now occur in the practical working of the present system, and give greater simplicity and uniformity to its operations.

The apportionment of money to the school districts of the townships, by the Town Superintendents, is in the ratio of the number of children of legal school age, residing therein, without any reference whatever to the establishment of schools in the districts, or the number of children in attendance.

In this respect a change might advantageously be made, so as to apportion the money among the several school districts, in the ratio of the average daily attendance at school in each district during the year preceeding the said apportionment, thus making it the interest, as well as the duty of all to urge the constant and regular attendance at school of all the children of the district. This will remedy, to some extent, the evils of irregular attendance, make it the interest of parents and others to sustain the schools, secure to all the children of the district an equality of school privileges, and offer inducements for their prompt and regular attendance.

The raising of money for the support of schools, and for the building, repairing, and furnishing of school houses, rests mainly with the people. It is a wise provision which leaves to them the power and responsibility of determining for themselves, and by their own voluntary action, under no other influence of compulsion than a sense of public duty and legis-

lative aid, the great question of providing for the educational wants of the people, and of furnishing the means by which it is to be accomplished.

It is gratifying to know that not only in this State, but elsewhere, this system of voluntary action in the support of schools has been, and now is, eminently successful.

Under its operation many valuable school buildings, the pride and ornament of the State, have been erected, and free schools organized and established. The number of cities and townships of the State in which free schools have been maintained during the last year, is forty-three, and the number is constantly increasing.

The law also provides that the teachers of our common schools shall, before entering upon the duties of their office, be tested by a thorough personal examination, and by a frequent inspection of their labors afterwards. This examination is to be had before a board of examiners appointed by the freeholders of the several counties.

The appointment of county examiners has been made in but few of the counties of the State, to the serious injury of the schools and the interest of those connected with them; and the question has arisen whether their appointment should not be otherwise provided for, and conferred on those connected with the teacher's profession.

I am happy to add, in this connection, that the subject of appointing examiners has received greater attention during the past year, and appointments have been made in counties where heretofore it has been neglected. This has had the effect of benefitting the schools, by securing for them a class of better qualified teachers.

No teacher can be employed to teach in our public schools, unless regularly licensed according to law, and I respectfully suggest whether the law on this subject should not be so modified, as to confer on those who have pursued the full course of study and practice prescribed for graduation in the Normal School, and who have received its diploma, the same privileges

as are conferred on regularly licensed teachers, and admit them, without another examination, to teach in any of the public schools of the State.

The common school system of New Jersey, though imperfect in some respects, as has been intimated in this brief examination of some of its provisions, possesses, nevertheless, elements of great power, and when fully tested, will vindicate its claims to the cordial sympathy and generous support of every lover of his race.

Its principles may be regarded as settled; it only remains to reduce them to practice, under the conviction that it needs but a fair trial to show its capacity for good, in the elevation of the intellectual and moral powers of the people, adopting, as we proceed, such modifications in perfecting its details, as experience shall suggest in the development of its principles.

This must be the work of time; but when we look at what has been accomplished in our State within the last few years, in the success and development of the system, from the liberal and enlightened spirit of enterprise and progress, which is stirring to its depths the public mind of the State, I anticipate a progress in education, and in the general diffusion of knowledge among the people, during the next few years, that will more than realize our most sanguine expectations.

As has already been intimated, our school system depends more for its success upon the various local authorities, to whose supervision its interests are more immediately committed, and to the character of the teachers employed in the schools, than to any material changes in the organic law on the subject; and while I have thought proper to invite your attention to some amendments which experience suggests as calculated to give greater efficacy to our school laws, I deem it of more importance to secure a faithful compliance with the provisions of existing laws, in the examination, supervision and inspection of the schools, and in the continuance of the means provided for supplying them with well qualified teachers, than to correct, by new and untried legislation, the defects of the present system.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTES.

Teachers' Institutes have been held during the year in all the counties of the State, except Camden and Monmouth, at the time and place designated in the following table :

Counties,	Time of Meeting.	Place.
Atlantic,	October 13th,	Absecom. [hood.
Bergen,	September 6th,	English Neighbor-
Burlington,	May 4th,	Burlington,
Cape May,	September 5th,	Cold Spring.
Cumberland,	August 23d,	Millville.
Essex,	April 5th,	Newark.
Gloucester,	August 16th,	Clarksboro.'
Hudson,	June 14th,	Hudson City.
Hunterdon,	June 21st,	Frenchtown.
Mercer,	October 18th,	Pennington.
Middlesex,	December 14th,	Metuchin.
Morris,	August 23d,	Morristown.
Ocean,	February 22d,	Barnegat.
Passaic,		Paterson.
Salem,	October 4th,	Salem.
Somerset,	August 23d,	Bound Brook.
Sussex,	October 25th,	Newton.
Union,	July 19th,	Elizabeth.
Warren,	March 29th,	Belvidere.

The nature and value of the Teachers' Institutes, as a means of improving the qualifications of teachers, and of awakening in the public mind a deeper interest on the subject of education, having been discussed in former reports to the legislature, it will be sufficient for my present purpose to state that the interest in these meetings of the teachers is increasing in most portions of the State, and that, through this instrumentality, the public mind is being aroused to the importance of the proper education of the youth of our State, and to a consideration of the means by which it is to be accomplished.

The success attending their operation during the past year,

confirms the opinion heretofore expressed of their value, as an instrument in promoting directly the interests of public education, and as a public measure the utility of which has been fully demonstrated, it deserves and should receive the continued favor and patronage of the legislature.

DISTRIBUTION OF BOOKS TO THE SCHOOLS.

The act authorizing and directing the purchase of "Webster's Unabridged Dictionary," and "Lippincott's Pronouncing Gazetteer," for the use of the schools, have been complied with, but no purchases of books have been made since the presentation of my annual report to the legislature in January last; the supply then on hand has been sufficient to meet the wants of the schools during the year.

THE SCHOOL FUND.

The amount of the school fund on the first day of January, eighteen hundred and fifty-nine, was four hundred and thirty-two thousand seven hundred and ninety-five dollars and one cent, (\$432,795 01,) having increased during the year, after meeting the increased appropriations out of the income of the fund, sixteen thousand one hundred and forty-seven dollars, (\$16,147 00.)

CONCLUSION.

I have endeavored in the preceding remarks to present to you, briefly, the present condition of the common schools of the State, the evidences of their increasing prosperity, and, in connection therewith, such suggestions and recommendations as will, if adopted, give them greater efficiency.

My aim has been to furnish you, as far as possible, with

such information as will show the practical workings of the system, the result attained through its instrumentality, and its power to accomplish the work for which it is designed; believing, as I do, that the most important practical question that concerns the future of our State is, how shall we improve and perfect our system of general education, and secure to the people the blessings of the elevated general education of the young, which, having the promise and blessing of God, diffusing its light and elegance over the ordinary walks of life, will ever be the surest source of wealth, peace, prosperity and happiness of the whole people.

With the confident belief that the subject will receive, at your hands, the attention its importance demands, this report is respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. PHILLIPS,
State Superintendent.

Office of State Superintendent of Public Schools, }
January 15th, 1859. }

STATEMENTS
ACCOMPANYING THE
SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

STATISTICAL

TABLES

OF THE UNITED STATES

AN ABSTRACT FROM THE RETURNS OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THE SEVERAL TOWNSHIPS AND COUNTIES OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 15TH, 1858.

COUNTIES AND TOWNSHIPS.	Whole number of districts in the township or city.	Number from which reports have been received.	Number of schools in the city or township.	Number of children residing in the township or city between the ages of 5 and 18 years.	Number attending 1 year, with allowance for vacations.	Number who have attended nine months, but less than twelve.	Number who have attended six months but less than nine.	Number who have attended 3 months but less than six.	Number who have attended a less period than 3 months.	Number over the age of 18 yrs. who have attended school.	Number of colored children who have attended school.	Whole number of children who have attended school.	Average daily attendance.	Average number of months the schools have been kept open.	Terms of tuition per quarter.	Amount of money raised by tax for the support of schools.	Amount received from the State.	Amount received from other sources specified in returns.	Amount raised in addition for building, repairing and furnishing school houses.	Total amount raised and appro- priated to school purposes.	Number of teachers.		Salary of teachers per year.			
																					Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		
ATLANTIC.—Pop. 8,961.																										
Atlantic City.....	1	1	1	111	25	80	275	370	170	.....	3	920	450	8	\$1 00	\$200 00	\$25 00	.....	\$500 00	\$735 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Egg Harbor.....	10	10	10	1052	25	175	240	130	87	25	.....	677	299	6½	2 50	1,321 00	458 34	.....	.....	2,104 34	10	10	.....	400	.....
Galloway.....	9	3	8	894	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	440	225	6	2 50	1,336 00	266 10	.....	150 00	2,219 46	9	7	2	475	375
Hamilton.....	9	9	10	698	60	.....	150	230	.....	.....	.....	300	150	6	2 50	500 00	190 00	.....	60 00	1,692 10	9	6	3	400	280
Mullica.....	5	5	5	416	.....	.....	200	100	.....	.....	.....	275	125	7	98	789 00	120 70	.....	.....	690 00	5	2	3	300	290
Weymouth.....	5	4	4	263	50	200	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	909 70	4	4	.....	.....	.....
NEW JERSEY.—Pop. 14,725.																										
Franklin.....	11	11	9	686	118	83	37	36	60	1	343	222	9	1 86	310 58	435 32	745 90	9	7	2	220	190
Hackensack.....	11	10	11	1206	89	175	160	232	159	.....	29	815	450	11	1 90	2,967 99	515 22	531 11	1,518 81	5,553 13	13	10	3	430	225
Harrington.....	5	5	5	462	45	96	42	26	16	.....	17	225	200	11	2 00	924 00	363 91	.....	.....	1,287 91	5	5	.....	380	.....
Hoboken.....	7	7	7	716	150	254	115	60	45	.....	3	624	254	10	2 00	528 00	324 16	.....	125 00	449 16	7	5	2	250	225
Loell.....	3	3	3	422	87	10	45	46	32	.....	15	220	126	10	1 00	528 00	311 45	.....	200 00	1,266 45	3	2	1	382	240
New Barbadoes.....	7	7	7	860	155	125	98	115	105	4	39	602	287	12	1 19	1,720 00	356 76	395 38	265 00	2,647 14	10	7	3	411	174	
Saddle River.....	4	4	4	305	85	50	60	38	.....	.....	2	233	150	12	2 00	646 00	297 00	.....	.....	833 00	4	3	1	.....	.....
Union.....	2	2	2	298	30	31	18	25	19	.....	.....	123	75	12	.....	391 87	94 17	17	.....	486 21	2	1	1	400	300
Washington.....	6	6	6	584	88	84	105	61	62	2	19	402	114	10½	2 00	.....	264 80	200 55	1,185 00	1,650 35	5	3	2	290	275
• From last report.	66	66	64	5449	847	908	680	639	607	6	128	3587	1878	10¾	\$1 62	\$7,177 86	\$2,748 05	\$1,699 53	\$3,293 81	\$14,919 25	58	43	15	348	233	

COUNTIES AND TOWNSHIPS.

BRISTOL—Pop. 43,263.

Bordentown.....

Bordentown.....

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Whole number of districts in the township or city.	Number from which reports have been received.	Number of schools in the city or township.	Number of children residing in the township or city between the ages of 5 and 18 years.	Number attending 1 year, with allowance for vacations.	Number who have attended nine months, but less than twelve months.	Number who have attended six months, but less than nine months.	Number who have attended 3 months, but less than 6 months.	Number over the age of 18 yrs who have attended school.	Number of colored children who have attended school.	Whole number of children who have attended school.	Average daily attendance.	Average number of months the schools have been kept open.	Terms of tuition per quarter.	Amount of money raised by tax for the support of schools.	Amount received from the State.	Amount received from other sources specified in returns.	Amount raised in addition for building, repairing and furnishing school houses.	Total amount raised and appropriated to school purposes.	Number of teachers.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Salary of teachers per year.
3	3	3	1202	175	220	155	113	115	.....	84	778	425 11	Free.	\$4,856 00	\$576 71	.....	\$900 00	\$5,832 71	12	2	10	456	275
6	6	7	1735	319	230	206	225	112	4	95	1156	10	Free.	1,900 00	837 28	\$800 84	.....	3,567 12	16	5	11	350	190
14	14	22	1390	348	278	280	232	106	20	36	1294	.....	2 50	1,200 00	651 50	470 03	76 39	2,397 92	27	17	10	.....	.....
3	3	5	460	109	185	84	41	23	.....	18	442	10 1/2	.....	1,150 00	112 60	220 50	.....	1,483 10	6	3	2	.....	.....
14	13	14	968	29	104	162	272	392	9	66	908	366 8 3/4	2 71	.....	567 67	.....	.....	557 67	14	11	3	225	.....
11	11	11	770	.....	15	73	186	126	15	8	415	275 5	2 00	500 00	369 74	86 72	100 00	1,055 46	15	8	1	.....	.....
10	10	10	788	300	160	90	42	.....	.....	4	688	310 10	.....	1,983 40	382 90	.....	.....	2,366 30	10	6	4	.....	.....
7	7	9	911	10	124	94	131	232	9	24	659	.....	.....	.....	472 62	.....	.....	724 88	11	7	4	.....	.....
2	2	6	796	50	82	124	152	123	5	15	534	180 10	Free.	1,200 00	386 28	234 54	.....	1,820 82	6	4	2	390	280
9	9	12	941	55	76	98	148	80	.....	28	457	300 12	Free.	2,000 00	456 00	195 00	950 00	3,001 00	8	2	6	325	172
5	5	5	390	100	30	80	40	.....	20	12	700	350 11	.....	1,000 00	353 00	.....	.....	1,365 00	11	11	.....	400	200
7	7	6	615	39	100	201	161	36	1	.....	538	184 10	34	300 00	247 18	.....	.....	547 18	3	2	2	288	200
7	6	7	1098	128	145	122	136	88	.....	2	629	340 11	Free.	800 00	769 80	132 00	.....	1,701 80	7	7	.....	350	.....
6	6	6	486	.....	2	26	47	143	4	.....	530	.....	.....	2,196 00	530 52	278 80	.....	3,005 32	12	9	3	275	240
8	7	8	712	190	.....	80	40	.....	.....	36	222	.....	.....	400 00	116 00	65 00	.....	581 00	7	5	2	300	300
3	3	3	712	190	.....	80	40	.....	.....	2	310	.....	.....	300 00	340 04	.....	.....	640 04	7	5	2	300	300
132	122	157	14,568	2259	1833	2589	2116	1576	107	436	10,480	.....	84	\$20,785 40	\$7,691 84	\$2,743 69	\$1,426 39	\$32,647 32	183	110	73	336	252
1	1	1	184	100	50	34	.....	.....	.....	12	184	150 10	.....	300 00	40 00	30 00	.....	370 00	4	2	2	400	.....
6	6	6	534	.....	70	262	150	30	.....	.....	612	200 6	Free.	1,000 00	227 57	97 15	.....	1,324 97	7	5	2	450	225
5	5	6	423	.....	60	200	40	100	.....	45	400	225 6 1/2	.....	846 00	181 03	58 00	.....	1,085 03	9	6	1	300	215
7	7	7	725	.....	160	282	164	100	12	16	718	280 8	Free.	1,450 00	308 80	210 00	.....	1,968 80	9	6	3	.....	.....
7	7	7	475	.....	130	100	88	110	28	8	456	285 8	Free.	1,425 00	215 00	90 00	.....	1,780 00	6	5	1	400	300
26	26	29	2341	100	470	578	442	340	40	75	2270	1140 7 3/4	.....	\$5,021 00	\$972 45	\$485 15	.....	\$6,475 00	32	23	9	402	247

* From last report.

CAPE MAY—Pop. 6,433.

Cape Island.....

Dennis.....

Lower.....

Middle.....

Upper.....

CAMDEN—Pop. 25,422.

CAMDEN—Pop. 25,422.																									
Candem.....	1	1	21	4005	714	325	384	453	468	.....	107	2344	1012	12	Free.	\$13,636 54	\$1,533 87	.....	\$15,170 41	23	4	19	600	275	
Centre.....	5	5	5	397	.....	55	200	70	5	125	330	125	7	Free.	595 50	225 28	.....	.....	820 78	5	5	320	.....	.....
Delaware.....	6	6	6	891	84	130	193	214	148	21	33	790	320	7	1 75	350 00	593 80	.....	.....	943 80	8	5	3	.....	.....
Gloucester.....	10	10	10	930	.....	320	400	75	25	20	20	840	350	7	70	2,000 00	382 08	107 00	.....	2,489 08	11	11	.....	.....	.....
Newton.....	6	6	11	989	212	200	281	191	82	3	72	969	516	10 1/4	Free.	3,195 00	406 44	238 49	700 00	4,539 93	12	7	5	400	250
Union.....	2	2	4	690	133	40	23	48	136	.....	9	380	225	12	Free.	2,070 00	162 10	1,918 52	.....	4,150 62	5	2	3	600	250
Washington.....	10	8	9	904	100	160	295	280	60	23	3	858	340	8	2 00	1,550 00	370 00	115 60	.....	2,035 00	9	4	5	400	200
Waterford.....	5	5	5	529	115	100	100	85	.....	12	400	200	9	2 50	1,000 00	346 44	.....	.....	1,346 44	5	5	300	.....	.....
Winslow.....	7	7	6	581	150	150	100	50	50	81	7	581	200	9	2 50	872 00	240 00	.....	80 00	1,192 00	6	3	3	250	200
CUMBERLAND—Pop. 17,189.																									
Bridgeton.....	52	50	77	9896	1508	1425	1801	1566	1029	153	388	7492	3398	9	1 05	25,209 04	4,260 01	2,379 01	780 00	32,688 06	84	46	38	410	255
Belmont.....	4	4	8	920	400	.....	70	30	.....	58	500	450	12	.....	2,300 00	392 54	270 00	.....	2,962 34	11	5	6	350	225	
Colansey.....	1	1	1	351	20	43	90	100	87	8	13	348	158	12	Free.	1,400 00	77 70	161 64	.....	1,659 34	4	1	3	500	260
Deerfield.....	5	5	5	301	.....	24	360	74	5	.....	403	200	6	.....	400 00	168 80	128 00	119 19	816 79	10	5	3	300	160	
Downe.....	9	9	11	997	250	200	180	70	.....	700	475	6	30	3 00	2,000 00	613 21	218 00	200 00	200 00	3,051 21	16	10	6	500	200
Fairfield.....	6	6	12	762	.....	100	200	400	30	10	40	740	350	6	Free.	800 00	323 49	229 89	75 00	1,428 38	20	12	8	.....	.....
Greenwich.....	4	4	6	365	.....	70	112	98	60	8	80	348	168	8	Free.	500 00	155 62	155 12	.....	1,017 14	9	4	5	350	200
Hopewell.....	8	8	8	555	85	60	185	186	.....	20	416	215	7	2 25	600 00	226 44	328 82	450 00	1,615 26	14	6	8	350	190	
Maurice River.....	8	8	8	853	200	230	110	125	98	.....	763	300	8	2 75	2,100 00	349 58	155 56	.....	2,005 14	9	7	2	350	200	
Millville.....	6	6	7	1008	319	80	130	231	121	.....	1	881	319	10	Free.	2,950 00	449 56	247 00	.....	3,646 56	14	5	9	400	200
Stow Creek.....	4	4	4	340	.....	100	200	40	.....	2	340	120	8	2 25	517 20	145 98	.....	.....	663 18	6	4	2	250	135	
ESSEX—Pop. 73,950.†																									
Belleville.....	55	55	70	6551	1274	883	1301	1580	470	31	214	5539	2755	8 1/4	1 39	13,567 20	2,912 92	1,904 83	844 19	19,229 14	113	59	54	372	190
Bloomfield.....	5	5	5	1062	300	100	100	.....	.....	8	500	400	.....	Free.	3,186 00	464 40	.....	.....	3,650 40	9	3	6	500	200	
Brighton.....	5	5	5	1079	100	118	198	292	294	.....	16	832	380	9 1/2	Free.	2,500 00	463 64	.....	750 00	3,713 64	11	5	6	450	175
Caldwell.....	8	5	8	765	94	166	131	128	68	5	.....	592	288	10	2 00	1,000 00	342 00	.....	510 00	1,822 00	9	6	3	400	200
Clinton.....	9	9	8	859	336	34	27	49	.....	.....	416	370	11	.....	2,838 00	428 32	.....	.....	3,206 32	11	7	4	307	145	
Livingston.....	5	5	5	420	60	100	100	50	.....	.....	310	185	10	Free.	500 00	181 30	318 70	.....	1,000 00	5	3	2	280	200	
Milltown.....	5	5	5	407	84	66	44	36	36	.....	6	266	150	9	1 00	814 00	177 42	.....	200 00	1,131 42	4	1	3	300	200
Newark.....	1	1	41	15,978	2129	884	1700	2215	2223	210	215	10,432	492	12	Free.	40,000 00	6,571 22	250 00	569 25	47,309 47	101	26	75	715	240
Orange.....	11	11	9	1674	296	115	218	191	159	4	7	923	513	10	63	3,000 00	721 56	1,964 71	500 00	6,186 27	13	9	4	362	250
UNION.																									
Elizabeth.....	49	46	80	22,274	3330	1883	2518	3871	2790	219	282	14,311	6778	19 1/4	52	53,828 00	9,349 86	2,583 41	2,529 25	68,250 52	163	60	103	414	201
Edinburgh.....	1	1	18	2540	473	233	262	309	416	3	34	1686	756	12	Free.	10,500 00	1,294 00	.....	10,000 00	21,724 00	20	5	15	442	204
New Providence.....	5	5	5	363	106	72	81	46	14	.....	329	170	12	1 50	786 00	171 54	.....	.....	937 54	5	5	.....	400	.....
Palmyra.....	2	2	2	929	55	120	155	106	126	.....	17	638	301	11	Free.	2,400 00	399 34	160 00	.....	2,980 84	10	4	6	325	200
Railway.....	5	4	5	1031	269	152	153	205	151	.....	31	992	480	10	Free.	3,083 00	456 10	17 63	17 00	3,573 73	11	3	8	500	252
Springfield.....	3	3	2	237	14	22	24	9	15	.....	1	84	45	11	1 50	200 00	101 88	.....	1,200 00	1,501 88	2	1	1	300	160
Union.....	7	7	6	477	40	60	138	200	18	.....	6	456	150	9	2 00	600 00	205 04	.....	60 00	865 04	6	5	1	350	240
Westfield.....	5	5	5	453	25	74	80	92	135	4	10	410	213	10	1 25	600 00	198 60	741 19	.....	1,539 79	5	5	.....	375	190
† Including Union co.	28	26	43	6060	982	739	898	1117	875	7	99	4618	2115	10 1/2	89	\$18,109 00	2,756 50	\$918 82	\$11,277 00	\$2,121 32	59	28	31	385	204

ESSEX—Pop. 73,950.†

Belleville.....	5	5	5	1062	300	100	100	.....	.....	8	500	400	.....	Free.	3,186 00	454 40	.....	.....	9	3	6	500	200
Bloomfield.....	5	5	5	1079	100	118	198	252	204	.....	16	832	380 9 1/2	Free.	2,500 00	463 64	.....	750 00	11	5	6	450	175
Caldwell.....	8	5	8	765	94	166	131	128	68	5	.....	592	288 10	2 00	1,000 00	342 00	.....	510 00	9	6	3	400	200
Clinton.....	9	9	8	859	336	34	27	49	.....	.....	416	370 11	.....	.....	2,838 00	428 32	.....	.....	11	7	4	307	145
Livingston.....	5	5	5	420	60	100	100	50	.....	.....	310	185 10	Free.	500 00	500 00	318 70	.....	.....	5	3	2	280	200
Millbrook.....	5	5	5	407	84	66	44	36	36	.....	6	266	150 9	1 00	814 00	177 42	.....	200 00	1	1	3	300	200
Newark.....	1	1	41	15,978	2129	884	1700	2215	2223	210	215	10,432	492 12	Free.	40,000 00	6,571 22	250 00	569 25	101	26	75	715	240
Orange.....	11	11	9	1674	296	115	218	191	159	4	7	923	513 10	63	3,000 00	721 56	1,964 71	500 00	13	9	4	302	250

UNION.

Elizabeth.....	1	1	18	2540	473	233	262	309	416	3	34	1686	756	12	Free.	10,500 00	1,224 00	.....	10,000 00	20	5	15	442	204
New Providence.....	5	5	5	363	106	72	81	46	14	.....	329	170	12	1 50	786 00	171 54	.....	.....	5	5	.....	400	.....
Palmyra.....	2	2	2	929	55	120	155	106	126	.....	17	638	301	11	Free.	2,400 00	399 34	160 00	.....	4	6	325	200	.....
Railway.....	5	4	5	1031	269	152	153	205	151	.....	31	992	480	10	Free.	3,083 00	456 10	17 63	17 00	11	3	8	500	252
Springfield.....	3	3	2	237	14	22	24	9	15	.....	1	84	45	11	1 50	200 00	101 88	.....	1,200 00	2	1	1	350	160
Union.....	7	7	6	477	40	60	138	200	18	.....	6	456	150	9	2 00	600 00	205 04	.....	60 00	6	5	1	350	240
Westfield.....	5	5	5	453	25	74	80	92	135	4	10	410	213	10	1 25	600 00	198 60	741 19	.....	5	5	.....	375	190
† Including Union co.	28	26	43	6060	982	739	898	1117	875	7	99	4618	2115	10 1/2	89	\$8,109 00	2,756 50	\$918 82	\$11,277 00	59	28	31	385	204

COUNTIES AND TOWNSHIPS.	HUDSON—Pop. 21,821.												HUNTERDON—Pop. 28,080.												Salary of teachers per year.	
	Whole number of districts in the township or city.	Number from which reports have been received.	Number of schools in the city or township.	Number of children residing in the township or city between the ages of 5 and 18 years.	Number attending 1 year, with allowance for vacations.	Number who have attended nine months, but less than twelve.	Number who have attended six months, but less than nine.	Number who have attended 3 months, but less than 6.	Number who have attended a less period than 3 months.	Number over the age of 18 yrs. who have attended school.	Number of colored children who have attended school.	Whole number of children who have attended school.	Average daily attendance.	Average number of months the schools have been kept open.	Terms of tuition per quarter.	Amount of money raised by tax for the support of schools.	Amount received from the State.	Amount received from other sources specified in returns.	Amount raised in addition for building, repairing and furnishing school houses.	Total amount raised and appropriated to school purposes.	Number of teachers.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
Bergen.....	7	7	10	1661	180	315	400	263	155	11	33	1324	550 10	.....	.....	\$4,000 00	\$223 22	\$987 52	\$2,500 00	\$8,010 74	12	0	0	500	250
Harrison.....	3	3	2	431	41	50	86	105	.....	.....	.....	294	117	.....	.....	600 00	91 55	.....	.....	691 55	3	2	1	300	100
Hoboken.....	3	3	1	1455	19	109	223	335	301	.....	.....	21047	517 10 1/2	Free.	.....	3,000 00	458 32	600 00	.....	4,058 32	12	3	9	600	225
* Hudson City.....	1	1	4	966	423	.....	112	.....	.....	.....	.....	535	423 12	Free.	.....	4,000 00	150 00	.....	.....	4,150 00	8	4	4	575	225
Jersey City.....	1	1	3	5861	1620	626	813	934	45	.....	45	4038	1448 10 1/2	Free.	.....	12,374 00	1,874 72	.....	12,000 00	26,248 72	23	2	31	1200	325
North Bergen.....	1	3	5	1412	63	237	429	131	46	22	4	928	211 11 3/4	.....	.....	1,500 00	222 30	.....	2,200 00	3,922 30	4	6	2	575	300
.....	22	17	25	11,786	2340	1406	2063	1768	547	33	84	8166	3236 11	.....	.....	25,474 00	3,320 20	1,587 52	16,700 00	47,081 72	76	23	53	610	239
Alexandria.....	21	21	18	1244	252	315	210	105	35	12	2	929	450 9	.....	.....	2,488 00	575 74	392 91	.....	3,456 65	18	15	3	320	240
Bethlehem.....	1	7	7	409	150	125	80	45	50	10	3	400	275 10	.....	.....	.....	234 62	.....	.....	234 62	9	8	1	300	240
Clinton.....	10	10	9	940	60	52	267	230	30	.....	.....	575	325 8	2 75	.....	1,800 00	443 00	.....	.....	2,323 96	10	8	2	300	240
Delaware.....	9	9	9	828	109	141	247	120	89	11	13	717	216 10	2 25	.....	1,800 00	394 42	.....	.....	2,194 43	12	9	3	360	225
East Amwell.....	4	4	4	515	60	200	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	350	200 8 1/4	.....	.....	454 00	228 50	102 68	1,200 00	2,075 18	3	2	1	300	200
Franklin.....	5	5	7	497	25	75	125	200	.....	.....	.....	425	320	.....	.....	.....	231 40	160 00	.....	394 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Kingwood.....	9	9	9	637	296	44	35	21	13	2	3	411	217 10	.....	.....	1,500 00	257 16	220 06	473 00	950 22	6	5	.....	.....	.....
Lambertville.....	1	1	6	803	243	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	404	67 6	.....	.....	1,500 00	200 00	.....	500 00	2,300 00	13	2	11	475	.....
Lebanon.....	10	10	11	914	184	74	305	240	33	25	5	468	425 10	2 00	.....	1,806 00	424 50	.....	.....	3,173 30	20	14	6	330	250
Raritan.....	16	16	16	914	184	74	305	240	33	25	5	468	425 10	3 25	.....	2,742 00	431 30	.....	.....	3,173 30	20	14	6	330	250
Readington.....	12	12	12	945	80	107	201	323	151	18	16	880	336 10 1/2	.....	.....	1,800 00	447 21	365 51	60 00	2,762 75	12	5	7	341	288
Tewksbury.....	10	10	10	839	526	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15	520	2 00	.....	400 00	408 20	249 00	.....	1,048 20	15	13	2	300	180
* Tewksbury.....	8	8	8	437	.....	85	130	75	80	2	3	372	200 7	3 00	.....	.....	217 00	.....	.....	217 00	6	4	1	300	180
* Union.....	4	4	4	360	8	16	37	62	123	5	3	251	96 8	90	.....	360 00	169 28	.....	.....	529 28	4	4	.....	230	250
West Amwell.....	4	4	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	126	126	130	9836	1557	1754	1805	1549	847	86	83	7505	1290 9	.....	2 32	\$15,320 00	\$4,767 12	\$1,571 19	\$2,263 00	\$23,891 32	137	97	40	2304	237
.....	* From last report.																									

* From last report.

COUNTIES AND TOWNSHIP'S.

MORRIS—Pop. 30,156.

Chatham.....	8	8	805	197	87	102	56	27	3	18	472	273 11	44	\$2,442 00	\$371 70	\$310 86	\$50 00	\$9,173 56	11	7	4	300	275			
Chester.....	1	7	465	.....	25	72	115	180	5	5	597	166 7	Free.	1	700 00	214 18	229 80	.....	1,141 04	6	4	2	290	240	
Hanover.....	11	11	1034	55	134	165	198	64	5	5	616	450 9 1/2	1 50	1 50	1,000 00	501 12	420 55	.....	1,921 67	10	8	2	320	240	
Jefferson.....	8	8	496	.....	56	181	83	40	.....	.....	353	192 6	Free.	3	910 00	228 44	99 01	350 00	1,587 45	6	5	1	300	290	
Memphis.....	8	6	501	.....	25	50	181	178	.....	5	437	191 9 1/2	3 00	3 00	500 00	491 00	889 00	25 00	1,905 00	7	3	4	402	240	
Morris.....	12	11	1645	211	145	118	111	121	2	19	738	400 9 1/2	1 08	1 08	2,000 00	800 95	787 89	25 00	3,614 81	14	12	2	350	250		
Pequannock.....	14	14	1618	210	350	502	225	101	3	1188	561 9	1 75	1 75	2,000 00	1,165 00	251 89	100 79	3,514 11	17	11	6	4	360	260	
Randolph.....	9	9	1008	.....	100	350	500	.....	.....	.....	950	315 7	Free.	.....	2,218 57	403 80	.....	.....	2,715 69	10	6	4	360	260	
Rockaway.....	13	12	1194	27	124	199	321	461	14	11	1146	458 10	Free.	2 50	1,200 00	594 94	272 55	.....	3,255 49	26	21	5	380	290	
Roxbury.....	12	12	889	.....	.....	500	.....	.....	.....	.....	500	500 6	2 50	2 50	1,200 00	670 00	.....	.....	3,255 49	26	21	5	380	290	
Washington.....	9	9	855	150	99	106	180	62	20	15	608	290 10	7 5	7 5	1,200 00	699 40	.....	600 00	1,870 00	12	5	7	300	290	
.....	9	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14	11	3	375	255	

109 107 111 10,570 880 1139 2145 1970 1224 44 76 7415 3865 87 1 06 16,588 37 6,207 19 3,281 61 1,015 79 27,102 96 133 93 49 328 256

SALEM—Pop. 17,688.

Elisaborough.....	2	2	263	61	72	36	41	21	6	29	235	96 12	Free.	.....	300 00	204 80	.....	60 00	564 80	2	1	1	264	300	
Lower Alloways Creek.....	7	7	475	.....	35	375	.....	.....	.....	.....	410	265	Free.	.....	700 00	212 40	147 54	.....	1,159 94	7	0	1	360	.....
Lower Penn's Neck.....	5	5	582	.....	22	100	110	165	12	40	499	165 0	Free.	.....	800 00	254 40	371 78	.....	1,356 18	10	5	5	400	260	
Mannington.....	9	9	761	.....	27	156	104	13	36	.....	275	165 5 1/2	2 50	2 50	400 00	353 41	276 00	315 00	1,344 41	12	7	6	.....	.....
Pilesgrove.....	9	9	909	50	175	260	339	78	52	44	945	400 9	2 50	2 50	.....	416 72	310 80	.....	757 52	13	5	8	400	290	
Pittsgrove.....	7	7	698	.....	.....	310	.....	.....	.....	.....	310	310	.....	.....	600 00	365 20	160 70	.....	1,125 96	7	6	1	280	.....
Salem.....	1	1	975	172	90	73	133	89	.....	31	557	275 11	Free.	.....	770 26	437 33	292 41	.....	1,560 00	6	1	5	560	.....
Upper Alloways Creek.....	10	10	997	330	365	160	100	20	16	980	500 10	2 25	2 25	2 25	975 00	412 27	303 19	.....	1,721 46	11	6	5	350	260	
Upper Penn's Neck.....	11	11	970	205	150	250	300	.....	.....	.....	905	400 10	1 00	1 00	1,000 00	726 65	455 62	.....	2,182 37	20	10	10	300	140	
*Upper Pittsgrove.....	8	4	672	70	130	183	221	.....	22	2	632	300 6	2 00	2 00	600 00	276 71	603 87	.....	1,480 58	8	2	6	.....	.....

69 62 78 7342 788,1045 1754 1431 587 125 208 3750 2750 9 1 11 6,146 26 3,749 89 2,921 91 375 00 13,193 43 97 43 48 303 220

*From last report.

COUNTIES AND
TOWNSHIPS

WARREN—Pop. 22,558.

COUNTIES AND TOWNSHIPS	Whole number of districts in the township or city.	Number from which reports have been received.	Number of schools in the city or township.	Number of children residing in the township or city between the ages of 5 and 18 years.	Number attending 1 year, with allowance for vacations.	Number who have attended nine months, but less than twelve.	Number who have attended six months, but less than nine.	Number who have attended 3 months, but less than 6.	Number who have attended a less period than 3 months.	Number over the age of 18 yrs. who have attended school.	Number of colored children who have attended school.	Whole number of children who have attended school.	Average daily attendance.	Average number of months the schools have been kept open.	Terms of tuition per quarter.	Amount of money raised by tax for the support of schools.	Amount received from the State.	Amount received from other sources specified in returns.	Amount raised in addition for building, repairing and furnishing school houses.	Total amount raised and appropriated to school purposes.	Number of teachers.	Salary of teachers per year.			
																						Male.	Female.		
WARREN—Pop. 22,358.																									
Beldere.....	12	12	3	383	100	30	20	62	60	1	13	273	169 12	Free.	\$1,149 00	\$167 76	\$121 60	\$400 00	\$1,838 36	4	16	9	560	250	
Blairtown.....	17	17	12	483	75	100	120	100	10	4	6	409	200 9	2 00	1,342 50	201 00	117 00	.....	.....	321 00	16	9	7	200	150
Franklin.....	11	11	7	522	50	175	100	80	40	9	9	450	210 9	.....	1,044 47	229 76	179 86	.....	.....	1,752 12	17	7	.....	300	250
Fredrichshusen	11	11	11	406	100	200	200	100	.....	.....	.....	300	0	.....	2,667 00	190 00	.....	.....	.....	994 47	18	10	8	240	240
Greenwich	8	8	8	889	175	205	240	130	53	7	15	810	406 10	Free.	450 00	367 04	283 56	.....	.....	3,317 60	11	8	3	300	250
Hackettstown	1	1	1	300	98	80	80	.....	.....	.....	2	276	10	3 50	.....	122 00	97 36	.....	.....	689 86	3	1	2	.....	.....
Harwick.....	5	5	5	294	.....	20	130	.....	.....	.....	.....	150	100 5	2 00	700 00	124 00	.....	.....	.....	124 00	5	1	4	.....	.....
Harmony	8	8	8	464	100	175	105	14	.....	8	4	422	280 9	1 25	300 00	195 98	139 22	.....	.....	1,035 20	8	8	2	.....	283
Hope.....	8	8	11	668	200	70	35	17	100	.....	.....	383	.....	.....	621 00	294 00	167 76	.....	.....	761 76	10	8	2	.....	.....
Independence	11	11	11	621	.....	383	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	383	.....	.....	483 00	298 90	177 64	.....	.....	1,177 54	15	14	1	240	210
Knowlton.....	10	10	10	483	56	90	60	32	30	.....	.....	268	100	.....	1,078 00	204 00	110 95	.....	.....	797 95	10	5	5	345	264
Mansfield	6	6	6	539	140	60	81	73	37	8	12	399	197 10	.....	682 00	227 66	165 60	.....	.....	1,471 26	6	5	1	240	.....
Oxford.....	7	7	7	682	60	124	106	140	47	12	8	489	8	.....	.....	288 06	199 40	.....	.....	1,169 46	7	4	3	240	.....
*Pahquarry	4	4	4	134	.....	30	120	24	.....	.....	.....	170	120 3	.....	50 00	117 74	.....	.....	.....	167 74	4	4	4	.....	210
*Phillipsburg	5	5	5	959	235	313	184	134	44	.....	1	930	380 11	Free.	2,895 00	404 62	217 35	.....	.....	3,816 97	11	6	5	425	250
Washington.....	8	8	7	693	80	60	95	120	50	6	4	411	7	.....	1,386 00	296 60	170 00	.....	.....	1,852 00	12	10	2	360	240
*From last report.	113	113	116	8480	1480	1491	1868	1152	491	51	55	6542	.....	89 1/2	13,907 97	3,702 52	2,147 30	1,509 00	21,266 79	147	102	45	310	234	

APPENDIX.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORTS OF TOWNSHIP SUPERINTENDENTS.

ATLANTIC COUNTY.

EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP.

The teachers of this township have licenses according to law.

Free schools, or partly free, have been kept some part of the year in all of the district.

DAVID LAKE,
Town Superintendent.

GALLOWAY.

In conformity with our school laws, I herewith transmit the annual report of the state of schools in this township, and which is unavoidably not as reliable as it could have been made, but for the very imperfect and formless manner in which some teachers report, and from the fact that some do not report at all, and not one at the close of the term as the law requires.

I am not prepared to show that increase in the educational interest of this township, that I had hoped, which is in part occasioned by the setting off of two new districts, in which, as yet, there are no school rooms.

I am satisfied that were competent teachers to be found more readily, our schools would be kept open longer, and in two, at least, of the districts, the whole year.

And may we not hope that our State Normal School will soon provide for this disability?

I would suggest that the law requiring teachers to report should have a penalty disentitling them any portion of the school monies, without having first reported to the Town Superintendent.

And I would further suggest that an appropriation be made for the supplying of every trustee, teacher, and town superintendent in the State with a copy of our school laws, the ignorance of which is their *strong* and not unfounded *plea* for remissness of duty.

D. S. BLACKMAN,
Town Superintendent.

BERGEN COUNTY.

FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP.

I herewith transmit to you the annual report for this township.

In visiting the different schools I find them to be as forward as can be expected under the disadvantages under which they labor.

In a few districts much improvement has been made, and

particularly in the Goodwinville district. Being incorporated and having erected a brick building two years ago, and tastefully fitted up the interior the last season, too much praise cannot be awarded to the inhabitants and the trustees of the district, for the interest, judgment and taste manifested in their school. But there are schools not so favored, and which need much improvement. It is a lamentable fact that out of six hundred and eighty-six children, only three hundred and forty-three have been taught the last year. This is not as it should be. Too many are kept from school, owing, no doubt, to the cost of tuition, making it difficult to employ teachers. The amount of money received is too small to make the schools free, and hence the difficulty. The school fund should be materially increased, and could be done without the least inconvenience to the State or people. There are millions of acres of public lands yearly given away to aid various enterprises. Why could not a sufficient amount be appropriated for the establishment of free schools in every State in the Union? It can and should be done. Will not our Legislature take this matter in hand at the coming session, and instruct our Senators and members of Congress to bring about so desired a result? Certainly they could not be engaged in a more useful or more beneficial cause—a cause which, if accomplished, would be hailed with delight through every portion of our common country. No child should be allowed to grow up in ignorance. It is by intelligence alone that this nation with its free institutions can be sustained, and education should be as free as the air we breathe.

C. A. WORTENDYKE,
Town Superintendent.

HACKENSACK.

All the teachers of the township have been examined and licensed according to law.

The Board of County Freeholders refused to appoint ex-

aminers for the county the present year. The only reason assigned, so far as known, is that the teachers residing in remote sections of the county suffer much delay and inconvenience in waiting upon the examiners. At the late Teachers' Institute in this county, a committee of teachers was appointed to wait upon the Board of Freeholders and solicit the appointment of examiners. It is probable their reasonable request will be granted next year.

Two of the schools of the township, viz: Fort Lee free school and Mechanics school at Coytesville, are free, the former since the passage of the special act of the Legislature, incorporating the trustees, and the latter from the time of the formation of the district.

A Female Institute, organized independently of the school act, has recently been established in the township with highly flattering prospects of usefulness and success.

The interest manifested in behalf of public education continues unabated. Great pains are taken by the trustees of the several school districts to secure the services of well qualified teachers, whom they are willing to pay liberally.

The school houses are generally in excellent condition. A new school house has been built within the present year, which, in external appearance and internal appointments, challenges competition.

A uniform series of text books has been introduced in the majority of the schools, and it is highly probable that before the expiration of another year all the schools will enter into the arrangement.

The Township Teachers' Association, spoken of in former reports, continues to hold monthly meetings with marked success and profit, both to the members themselves and the schools in their charge.

JOHN VAN BRUNT,
Town Superintendent.

HARRINGTON.

The following is the annual report of the Town Superintendent of the township of Harrington.

During the past year but very few alterations have been made in school matters. The schools have all been kept open during the year, being supplied with faithful and competent teachers, who are unable to exhibit any *considerable* improvements in their scholars, as long as they do not attend more regularly than at present.

There were no county examiners appointed at the commencement of the year, and it has been my duty to examine two of our teachers, each of the others being in possession of certificates obtained from the examiners of former years.

None of the schools of the township are free, the assessments varying from one to two cents per day.

CHARLES TANNER,
Town Superintendent.

HOBOKUS.

I find it very difficult to comply with the requirements of the law in making an annual report, dating from December, 1857, whereas I was elected to this office in April, 1856, and not being able to find any school register in most of the schools, especially for the term taught previous to April, and when the teachers had changed their situations. During my first visits in May and June, I furnished the teachers in the several schools with a form of the report required to be made by them, but a majority have neglected to comply with the request, some having removed from the township after the expiration of one term, and others may have forgotten; and whereas, most of the registers have been made on sheets or pieces of papers, it certainly is very difficult to make a correct or satisfactory report.

The schools in this township have all been furnished with Webster's Unabridged Dictionary and Lippincott's Gazetteer, and my opinion is, unless the State furnishes our schools with suitable books and apparatus, teachers and scholars shall remain in want of them, and although we, as a people should oppose the prohibition of the Bible from our schools, yet I am sorry to say that very few contain this precious treasure—the Book of books. None of our schools have a map of the State nor county. I am inclined to think it would be a public benefit if the walls of our school rooms were ornamented with maps and school mottoes, and pictures of scholars occupying right and wrong positions in reading and writing, and also some pictures or portraits of some of our great men, such as Washington, Franklin and others. The school room should be made interesting, not only for the teachers and scholars, but for the parents also. I am sorry to say that very few of the parents seem to take any interest in visiting our schools. We have commenced furnishing our school rooms with mottoes in large letters to be pasted or nailed on the wall.

I have visited the schools twice, and have invited the trustees to meet and visit with me. In some districts they have all attended and in others not any, and I find that where the trustees and parents manifest an interest in the schools, the teachers and scholars are more interested, and the schools more prosperous. Corporal punishment is abolished by some of our teachers, and I think it has a very good effect. The scholars seem to have more respect for their teacher than where the custom of boxing their ears or applying the rod for an offence is still practiced; the scholars being induced to do right by being rewarded.

We have seven school houses, built of wood; most of them are too small, being about 10 to 26 feet, and containing only one room. Four have each a small entry or hall. Five of the districts have become incorporated, and the school houses in those, much better furnished with desks and seats than those that are not. Not any are supplied with the proper apparatus; only two have play grounds attached. We have six

parts of districts; the children from three of those attend school in adjoining townships. The books mostly used are Wilson's U. S. History, Sander's Seires, and McGuffey's; Mitchell's Geography, and Ivison and Phinney; Smith's Grammer; Thompson's, Smith's and Willett's Arithmetic.

Although our teachers are not all what we desire they should be, we are happy to say that some are well qualified and others are endeavoring to give satisfaction to their employers by doing the best they can. In many of the districts the general complaint is their inability to employ a well qualified teacher, and I believe that unless the State furnishes the means for educating our youth, a large majority shall remain wanting or destitute of that good part or portion which should be provided for them to become good citizens.

JOHN A. TERHUNE,
Town Superintendent.

LODI.

The Town Superintendent would beg leave to suggest the expediency of having a law passed making it obligatory on the part of the trustees of the various districts to report to the Town Superintendent. It will readily be seen that this would aid him much in making a correct report to the State Superintendent.

Such a law has been for some years in operation in the State of New York, and has been found to work well. No district failing through its Trustees so to report, is entitled to its public money. This secures promptness on the part of the Trustees.

District No. 1 has made minifest progress this year. \$200 have been raised for improving the school house, and a further tax will probably be raised next Spring for employing an assistant teacher.

AVERY S. WALKER,
Town Superintendent.

NEW BARBADOES.

Our schools have been kept open the whole year, with the exception of the usual vacations.

The condition of our school houses continues about the same as previously reported, with the exception of the house in District No. 5, which has been newly fitted up in a very neat manner, reflecting credit on the taste of the trustees and the liberality of the inhabitants.

The Teachers' Institute held in this county in September last, has exerted a favorable influence on the teachers, affording them an opportunity of becoming acquainted with each other, and of interchanging their views in regard to methods of instruction and government. Improved methods of instruction and discipline are taking the place of those which have prevailed heretofore.

Non-attendance, irregularity of attendance, and a multiplicity of text books in the same studies, are great hindrances to the proper education of our youth. There are some other great evils which prevail in our country districts; these are the inconvenient arrangement of our school houses, subjecting the teacher to great annoyance, and counteracting, to a great degree, his efforts to secure good order; and the total want of any permanent means of ventilation, except such as are afforded by lowering the sashes of the windows, and admitting a current of cold air on the heads of the pupils.

The opinion heretofore expressed that we shall never succeed in securing the attendance of all of our youth at the public schools, until they are made entirely free, has been confirmed by the observations of the past year. I am also of opinion, that no better expenditure of a small portion of the funds of the State could be made, than by placing a work, carefully prepared on the building, arrangement, and ventilation of school houses, in the hands of all the school officers of the State.

All the schools of the township have been supplied during the year with "Lippincott's Pronouncing Gazetteer," and those not previously supplied, with "Webster's Unabridged Dictionary." These works are likely to be of great use, as they are very frequently referred to by the pupils, and this practice has been generally commended by the Town Superintendent.

The text books in use continue the same, with the exception that an effort has been made to secure uniformity in some of the schools where a great variety was found a year ago, and with a tolerable degree of success.

Our board of chosen frecholders have refused to appoint a board of examiners for the present year, and our teachers are all acting under licenses received from former examiners.

As a specimen of the irregularity of the attendance of scholars in our country districts, I subjoin the report from one, which has been drawn up with considerable care :

Whole number of children in district,	103
Number who have attended nine months, but less than twelve months,	5
Number who have attended six months, but less than nine months,	24
Number who have attended three months, but less than six months,	17
Number who have attended less than three months,	25
<hr/>	
Total attendance,	71
Average number of visits made to the schools,	25

ISAAC HAMILTON,
Town Superintendent.

BURLINGTON COUNTY.

BORDENTOWN.

All the parts of a great enterprise are seldom or ever perfected at once. It requires time and experience. In relation to the system of public education which has been adopted by our State, there seems to be a very general impression, that for the education of her children she ought to make greater appropriations. Her honor, glory, power, stability, require it—in fact, it is demanded on the plain principles of equality and justice. As it now is, comparatively speaking, nothing is given, when viewed in relation to the importance and magnitude of the object, and the ample and increasing resources of the State. The social circle, to be elevated, happy and prosperous, must be instructed, educated, enlightened; and so it is with every state and nation. Only leave it to the baleful influence of ignorance, and you necessarily confine it to a low and narrow sphere. There is no power to raise. But educate the physical, intellectual and moral powers of man, and you give economy, frugality, energy, perseverance—everything that adorns, ennobles and qualifies for all the varied duties and high responsibilities of life. Money is well expended in the banishment of ignorance and the introduction of knowledge. Every individual, state or nation that reasons or reflects, must acknowledge that it is far more onerous to support pauperism, crime, poor houses, jails, and state prisons, than schools of a high rank and order. One evil disposed person, at the midnight hour, may destroy life and property of far more value than is required to sustain the education of a thousand children for years. Let, then, the appropriations,

whether individual or State, be liberal, munificent, such as clearly to evince to every beholder, that the importance of the object for which the appropriation is made, is in some measure appreciated.

And who does not see, that with liberal means, a far higher order of talent may and will be secured, to train the immortal powers of our youthful and rising generation? We need such talent; but with present rewards, it cannot ordinarily be obtained. Teaching is a laborious employment. Many that are qualified cannot endure the labor, and if they can, they will not, for a higher compensation is offered in almost every other pursuit or calling in life. Many of our teachers are overburdened with too great a number of scholars, and if the progress be not as rapid as it might be, under more favorable circumstances, in all cases they will hardly escape censure. We therefore not only need a greater number of competent teachers, but a systematic classification of text books. This would save expense, and promote the objects of education. The military ordinance of offence and defence is not always the same, and no enlightened commander would hazard in battle the interests of his country, with the same armor with which Alexander or Cæsar, Washington or Greene conquered. In every department improvement is the order of the day. And as our government appoints a committee of ordinance and inspection, why should not every State appoint a classical and scientific board to select the best and most improved works on education, to be placed in the hands of the rising generation? and not leave this selection as it is now left, to the injury of thousands.

And why should not our schools have libraries, and the size to be in accordance with the number of scholars? For in every school there are some who would be greatly benefitted in having access to a fountain of history, biography, travels and poetry. And why not, in addition to the more simple elements of education, teach some of the plain principles of our government, the laws of health, and the best modes of husbandry, on which the wealth and happiness of our nation so

essentially depend? And why not urge to a longer pursuit in the career of knowledge? The training is long to make a hub-nail, and short to discipline the mind to enjoy the glories of a created universe.

A. SCOVEL,
Town Superintendent.

BURLINGTON.

In transmitting to you the annual report from this township, I take occasion to say, that our schools in the city of Burlington are in a flourishing condition, and will compare favorably with most of the high schools elsewhere. They are under the care of an efficient principal, and a commendable interest is steadily manifested in them by the board of trustees. The branches taught include most of the studies comprised in a sound English education, and in the department of mathematics, especially, there is unusual thoroughness.

In the schools without the city limits, there is too little interest manifested on the part of trustees and parents, as a general rule, and the value of a good education does not yet seem to have received a proper estimate on the part of the rural population of this State.

The amount of \$809 84, under the eighteenth head of my report, is made up of \$510 surplus revenue, and \$299 84 received from my predecessor.

All the teachers in the township have been regularly examined and licensed. There are no county examiners, and hence I conduct the examinations.

J. HOWARD PUGH,
Town Superintendent.

EVESHAM.

Having been but a short time in the capacity of School Superintendent, I shall not undertake to point out the defects of the present school system. I think, however, we suffer a loss, by not having a sufficient number of *qualified teachers*, and I expect this will remain to be so, at the present low price of tuition. We have no county examiners, neither have we any free schools in the township.

JOSIAH ROBERTS,
Town Superintendent.

LITTLE EGG HARBOR.

The accompanying statistical report is derived from what information I have been able to procure from the papers left by the late Superintendent, and by personal inquiry of the trustees and teachers in the several districts.

Having been appointed to the office in August last, very little has passed under my immediate observation, from which to compile a report. From the sixth to the thirteenth columns inclusive, the statements are approximative only, but will not, I believe, materially differ from the truth.

The figures in the other columns are substantially correct. Schools have been taught in every district in the township at least three months of the past year, and I have therefore reported eleven schools, although but five are at present in operation. I have also reported the whole number of teachers who have been employed in the township at any time during the past year, when only five are now engaged in teaching.

The school in district Number three is under the supervision of the Society of Friends, and although essentially a district school, its affairs are conducted in accordance with the provisions of the twelfth section of the school law. Its details are

included in the data from which the accompanying statistics are prepared.

No county examiners have been appointed, in consequence of which the duty of licensing teachers devolves upon the superintendent and trustees, whose practice heretofore has been to grant licenses without examinations.

Since my appointment, however, all the teachers entering the public schools have been examined and licensed according to law, with the co-operation of one or more of the trustees of the district in which each candidate was teaching.

The school houses, eleven in number, are all of frame, and many of them have been constructed with but little regard to the comfort or convenience of teachers or scholars. It is difficult to interest the people in the subject of school house improvements, and it is my opinion that such a modification of the school laws as would authorize the trustees of any district, incorporated or otherwise, under proper restrictions, to use all or a part of the public school fund of the district in the erection or repairing of the school houses, until they should be rendered at least comfortable, would be of great advantage to many small and poor districts, and be received with favor by a majority of the people throughout the State. In District Number two, a neat and commodious school house has been erected the past year, which is both an ornament and credit to the district. The sum in the nineteenth column is about what has been collected by subscription towards this building.

“Webster’s Unabridged Dictionary,” and “Lippincott’s Gazetteer,” have been supplied to all our schools. An attempt has been made in one or two districts to introduce a uniform series of books, but very little has been accomplished as yet in this way in the township.

Many of the schools labor under serious and unavoidable disadvantages; some of the districts being large in extent, and but thinly populated, the scholars are obliged to walk one, two or even more miles to the school house. The schools in those

districts are always small, and rarely kept open more than six months in a year, often but three.

In the more populous districts, the schools will compare favorably with the majority of the public schools in the State. A very respectable select school for girls has been sustained in District Number two, for several yéars past. I believe that the people generally are quite as willing as their circumstances will allow, to do something for the cause of education. The tendency is upward, and a Teacher's Institute held in the township, or a few good lectures on the subject, would, I believe, entirely dispel any substantial opposition to all possible progress.

THEO'S T. PRICE,
Town Superintendent.

MANSFIELD.

In addition to the information given in the statistical report, I would say that our schools are in good condition. The teachers of the township are licensed, and for the most part believed to be well qualified for teaching. There being no county examiners, the teachers have been secured by the trustees and Superintendent. Our schools have been well attended during the year.

I have been present at some of the examinations, and have been instructed as well as gratified to see some of the small children manifesting a tact and readiness of perception unlooked for and unexpected. I think the schools in our township labor under a great disadvantage for want of a regular system of books.

The inhabitants of this township, at the last annual town meeting, voted to pay three cents per day for the time taught, including the State appropriation.

C. W. REEVE,
Town Superintendent.

NORTHAMPTON.

You will herewith receive the report of the operations of the public schools of this township for the past year.

I take pleasure in saying, that our schools are now in a very flourishing condition.

The trustees of the Mount Holly district, finding that their schools were in a very crowded condition, and believing that where the schools are supported principally by taxes assessed on all the inhabitants, that all should have the privilege of sending their children to said schools, called a public meeting of the taxable inhabitants, to consider the propriety of building an addition to the public school house, at which meeting it was resolved, by almost a unanimous vote, that an addition of brick, two stories high, thirty-five by twenty-eight feet, should be erected, and authorizing an assessment for the expense, which building, handsomely stuccoed, was completed and fully occupied early in September, and now presents quite an imposing appearance, and has three distinct play grounds, of ample size for the different divisions to exercise in.

P. S. BUNTING,
Town Superintendent.

SOUTHAMPTON.

I herewith present my report, and will only add, that I have experienced considerable difficulty in collecting the required information, in consequence of the frequent changes of teachers in our schools, particularly as in almost every case the teachers have neglected to comply with their instructions to report to the trustees when leaving their schools. I believe, however, that the figures are very nearly correct. All our schools are, at present, in successful operation, in charge of efficient teachers.

CHAS. B. JONES,
Town Superintendent.

WILLINGBORO'.

You have, doubtless, received my tabular report ere this. I regret to say, that the same impediments remain in the way of an accurate report, which I referred to in my last annual report—the want of interest on the part of teachers, from the fact that a great majority of them are not engaged for more than three or four months at a time, and cannot possibly feel that the well-being of the school requires of them a strict adherence to a system, except that which their own *crude* notions may suggest.

There are, I am happy to say, three exceptions to the above, out of eight district schools under my charge, two of which have adopted the Normal School system of teaching and class books, and necessarily are in a highly prosperous condition. The other, taught by a graduate of the Philadelphia Normal School, is fully up to the standard of the day.

The amount of money received from all sources, as far as I can ascertain, is—from the State appropriation, \$500; school assessment, \$750—total, \$1,250. Some of the schools assess a *per capita* tax upon the pupils who attend school, the collection of which is so uncertain, that no reliable account of the sum can be reached.

In fact, the present system of education is so inefficient for the purposes intended—the erecting and maintaining free schools—that nothing less than a radical reformation of the whole system will satisfy the wants of the people for the future. Let our legislators look to it, lest they be *weighed* in the *balance* and be found *wanting* in the estimation of their constituents.

WILLIAM BRYAN,
Town Superintendent.

CAMDEN COUNTY.

CENTRE TOWNSHIP.

There are no county examiners; the teachers are examined and licensed by the Township Superintendent and District Trustees. All of the schools have been kept free.

There are several of the children of the township that go to school out of the township, and therefore are not enumerated in the report.

ZEBEDEE NICHOLSON,
Town Superintendent.

NEWTON.

In consequence of the frequent change of teachers, and the absence of proper school registers in some of our schools, I find it difficult to make our statistics as accurate as I would like, but I think the enclosed are nearly correct. I am happy to say that there still seems to be an interest manifested in this township in relation to the education of our youth, and I think, since my last report, some improvement both in system and efficiency. We have no county examiners in this county, therefore the duty of licensing teachers devolves upon the Superintendent and trustees, which has been attended to according to law. It will be observed that we report but six districts this year, instead of seven as formerly. In explanation, permit me to say that the seventh, being very small, having only nine children between the ages of 5 and 18 years, and no school accommodations, has been annexed to the fifth,

making but one of the two; District No. 5 have established a colored school with colored male teacher and about 40 scholars, that seems to be doing good service. No. 6 have completed the enlargement of their school house, making three rooms that will seat 60 scholars each, at a cost of about seven hundred dollars, that has been entirely paid for. Other districts have repaired their school rooms, so that all our schools at present are pretty comfortable, and supplied with efficient teachers; but we still want a greater interest on the part of parents in order to secure a more regular attendance. There appears to be a pretty general opinion with the friends of public or free schools in this township, that the means of sustaining free schools should be provided by the State instead of the unstable course of leaving it discretionary with townships, and they express a hope that our State Legislature may take the matter into serious consideration this present winter.

MOSES HAMMELL,
Town Superintendent.

WATERFORD.

In transmitting my annual report, I have made very little change from that of last year. I believe the schools are in as good condition as at any period within my knowledge. Both teachers and trustees manifest a laudable interest, and I find, by my visits, the children are improving as much as we can expect.

SAMUEL S. WILLS,
Town Superintendent.

CAPE MAY COUNTY.

LOWER TOWNSHIP.

In accordance with the general custom, I will offer a few remarks in reference to our schools in this township. I have not had the opportunity of marking progress heretofore. Our schools do not come up to a satisfactory standard, nor never will, until a greater interest is taken for their advancement. Our county examiners strictly attend to duty ; license is given by a regular gradation from one to six grades, the last being the lowest for which a license is given. Trustees are not always careful enough in selecting teachers of sufficient competency, but employ those whom they can get the cheapest and with the least trouble. The power of vetoing all contracts made with incompetent teachers by the trustees, being given to the superintendent, would perhaps make trustees more careful in their selection.

Some good arrangements have been made in some of the districts to do away with such a variety of books, and I hope to see all the districts coming into the plan soon. Some of our school houses are too small and inconvenient. May rot and rust soon finish them, that they may give place for larger and better ones, and may every school be taught by a good teacher, with an assistant. The schools are all free but one. The trustees wish to keep the school open nine months, at least, if possible. One district has been incorporated this year, which is the only incorporated district in the township.

NATHAN C. PRICE,
Town Superintendent,

UPPER.

This report of the schools of this township is as full and correct as I am able to make it with the materials on hand.

There is a board of county examiners.

The teachers are all regularly licensed.

The schools are all free.

I still think that if the suggestions made in my last report were carried out, a larger amount of general good would be accomplished by the free school system.

I also think that if the whole board of Trustees were elected annually instead of only one trustee in each district, greater satisfaction would be generally given.

JOHN JONES,
Town Superintendent.

MIDDLE.

The statistics submitted with this report are as accurate as it is in my power to make them. I have found it difficult to obtain reliable data from all the schools, as some of the teachers do not make their quarterly reports. I have recently visited all the schools in the township, and it affords me great satisfaction to be able to state that there is unmistakable evidences of improvement in the mode of teaching and method of governing said schools. Examiners have been appointed, and to their labors I think is attributable much of the improvement manifested in our schools. Our teachers have been examined and licensed, and are laboring in their respective schools with a commendable zeal. The branches taught are reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, algebra, natural philosophy and geometry.

JOHN W. SWAIN,
Town Superintendent.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

BRIDGETON.

Our schools may be said to be in a flourishing condition. Our people tax themselves liberally for its support, which I think a good evidence in its favor. The branches taught in our Grammar School are reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, mensuration, algebra, geometry, modern and ancient history, natural philosophy, and chemistry, which branches are taught by a competent teacher. I am fully satisfied that our public schools are doing a good work for the rising generation in our vicinity, particularly among that class which would or could not do for themselves what the public schools are doing for them. We are in need of good teachers, but are looking forward when we shall be supplied from the State Normal School.

L. McBRIDE,
Town Superintendent.

DOWNE.

County examiners having been appointed by the board of chosen freeholders, they have examined and licensed some of the teachers employed in the township, and by their authority I have also examined and licensed the remainder.

The teachers have given, in general, satisfaction to the districts where they have been engaged. The branches which have been taught in the township, in their extent, have been reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, mensuration, algebra, philosophy, French language. I can

say, with safety, that the free school system has gradually advanced in interest from year to year since I have been Superintendent of the township: and as a fair exponent of this, in the year eighteen hundred and forty-nine the amount raised by the township in tax, was only two hundred and forty dollars; in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-eight, the amount raised from the same source is two thousand dollars. Improvements in books, school rooms, and teachers have also advanced in the same proportion. We have endeavored to adhere to the principle in the selection of teachers, that their qualifications should be adapted to the demands of the district in which they were to teach, some requiring more extended studies than others, and requiring more extensive knowledge on the part of the teacher. As to the school law, we think it is good enough, provided it is carried out in the spirit as well as in the letter, by those appointed to execute it. Is it not the duty of Town Superintendents to lay before the inhabitants, at their annual town meetings, something like an extended report, not merely in detailing the incomes and expenditures of each year in dollars and cents, but in showing the importance of the system, in the numerous interests it comprises in its provisions, that they may see from year to year for what purposes they are taxed, that it is to home, to society, to the whole country, as the salt cast by the prophet of old into the spring, whose bitter waters were made sweet?

WILLIAM BACON,
Town Superintendent.

FAIRFIELD.

Our schools, as a general rule, have made more progress during the past year than formerly. Our teachers have been better qualified to instruct, and the children have made more marked advancement. I think I may safely say that the word "stationary" will not apply to our school prospects at the present time—and as we have advanced in the past, may "onward" ever be our motto in the future.

There is but one district in the township that maintains a free school, and this is accomplished by special tax. The money raised and appropriated for schools is insufficient to enable the other districts to support free schools.

We have a county board of examiners, and a majority of the teachers have been licensed by them. This is, with us, a new feature, it being the first year of their appointment—and although meeting with some opposition, I think it has been attended with good results. If Township Superintendents would more strictly observe the law, and rigidly insist upon teachers passing the board of examiners, the beneficial effects of this board would be still more apparent. But all new measures are apt to be regarded, at first, as innovations, and people are generally suspicious of such, until convinced otherwise. Our examiners have labored under difficulties the present year, which I hope to see removed, and then I doubt not but that we shall be more fully able to appreciate their labors.

EPIHRAIM BATEMAN,
Town Superintendent.

MAURICE RIVER.

The schools throughout the township are in a prosperous condition generally. This year, for the first time, we have a board of county examiners. Do not understand me as offering this fact as an evidence of our prosperity.

I cannot understand the cause of so much delay attending the paying over the money derived from the State. I seldom receive the whole of it till late in the summer, when it should, if we may judge by the school law, be paid three months nearly before that time.

WILLIAM S. WARD,
Town Superintendent.

STOE CREEK.

The cause of education receives more attention in this vicinity than formerly, but is not yet brought up to the standard which the importance of the subject demands.

At the last annual meeting of the board of freeholders, county examiners were appointed, and they have just entered upon the duties of their office.

GEORGE TOMLINSON,
Town Superintendent.

ESSEX COUNTY.

BELLEVILLE TOWNSHIP.

In presenting my sixth annual report of the state of public schools in the township of Belleville, I have the satisfaction to say that they are all in a healthy, thriving condition. The trustees of the several districts are attentive to the wants of their respective schools, and are all anxious to have them under the care of competent teachers, and to see them prosper. All matters relating to them seem to work well. All our districts have good school rooms belonging to them, with one exception, our smallest district, the South Belleville, which at present is accommodated in the village chapel. I have reason to believe that the schools are daily growing in favor with the people, and the system of free schools seems to be gaining in the estimation of our citizens as a valuable home institution.

SAMUEL L. WARD,
Town Superintendent.

BLOOMFIELD.

Enclosed please find the required annual report of the public schools of Bloomfield township.

The blanks have been filled correctly, I believe, excepting that for the salary of teachers per annum.

In School No. 1, the male principal's salary is \$600 per annum.

In School No. 2, \$462.50 per annum.

In the rest, \$30 per month.

Of the female teachers, one receives a salary of \$225 per annum, one \$200, and the others \$150.

We have remarked during the past year an increasing interest manifested by our trustees and parents in regard to the public schools.

As a consequence, a better class of teachers are employed, children are sent more regularly to school, and more system is manifested in the conduction of the schools.

Organized and managed under a special legislative act, our schools have the facility to give a thorough course to all who may enter them.

JOHN J. H. LOVE,
Town Superintendent.

CALDWELL.

My visits in the districts have been more frequent than during the past year, and they have given gratifying evidence of a generally healthy, progressive state of feeling in regard to education.

Most of the teachers now employed are persons who consider teaching their profession, and they labor with much greater zeal and skill than those who make teaching a temporary resort.

There is a growing desire among the people to employ only such as recognize the business of instruction as an art requiring due preparation for its exercise, to train the youth in our schools, and when qualified instructors show by superior workmanship that methodical training actually produces an increase of mental power and skill; the need of thorough education as a means of fitness for any and all the conditions of life, will become a universal conviction.

The old error that females do not need much intellectual training, still remains in some degree with us. But I think I see some reliable proofs that this error is disappearing. If the gentler sex are not required to perform as much intellectual labor as those who bear the principal burden of life, there is no reason why they should be denied their share of intellectual enjoyment. As right views of the great objects of education more generally prevail, its benefits will be extended to all classes of persons, for it will be understood that no class can afford to do without it.

ARTHUR B. NOLL,
Town Superintendent.

CLINTON.

The schools, with one exception, are kept open during the whole year.

I have to report no new fact relative to the schools in this township. There has been about the usual amount of interest manifested by the trustees and parents. One new school house has been erected during the past year, a small, but neat and commodious edifice.

One of the districts have found it necessary to enlarge their house, and have resolved to raise a sum sufficient for that purpose. Another, the need of additional accommodations is also moving in the same direction.

There are several defects in the practical working of the common school system in our State, which need very careful

attention on the part of Trustees. One is, the frequent change of teachers. This is a very crying evil, and needs salutary reform. One teacher is hardly warm in his seat, his scholars just begin to become accustomed to him and his plan of operation, and he is displaced to give way to another, who inducts new mysteries and rules, to give way in his turn. The disadvantages flowing from this too prevalent custom of changing teachers are too prominent and glaring to need comment. Another defect is the great variety of school books employed in tuition in the same school. There should be uniformity in this respect; but that such is not the case is too apparent.

I am aware that these evils are of such common occurrence that they must have before this received your attention; but I am so constantly struck with them in my experience, that I beg to press them on your notice.

JOHN WHITEHEAD,
Town Superintendent.

ORANGE.

Agreeably to the requirements of law, I transmit my report for the current school year. There are in Orange eleven districts and parts of districts. Nine of them are wholly in this township. The trustees of all the districts have reported the number of children between the ages of five and eighteen years residing in them. The schools have been kept open as follows, viz.:

In five districts, twelve months each; in two, nine months each; in one, four and a half months; and in one, seven and a half months. At this time, schools are in operation in each and every district in the township. We have no county examiners, and hence all our teachers have been examined and are licensed in the manner prescribed in the absence of county examiners. In three districts the schools have been free, but they have employed teachers a portion of the year only, just

long enough to use up their apportionment of the public monies. In six of them the patrons have paid, on an average, sixty-three cents per quarter for each scholar, in addition to their apportionment of the public funds, and in these they have had their schools open during the whole year. All the public funds, so far as yet paid out, have been used for purposes of education, except the amount specified for furnishing and repairing school-houses.

It will be seen by reference that there has been a larger average attendance in our schools during the past year than was indicated by the report of 1857, and I think there is also an increase of interest in them. The largest number of our school houses are good and comfortable buildings, and very well furnished. There are only two of them that are absolutely poor buildings poorly furnished. I, however, believe the time is not far distant when these will give place to new ones, much improved in arrangement and construction. The following are the books principally in use in our schools:—

Spellers—Webster's and Sander's.

Readers—McGuffy's and Sander's series.

Geographies—Colton and Fitch's, Smith's, Mitchell's, and McNally's.

Arithmetics—Stoddard's, Davies', Smith's, and Thompson's, and Colburn's Mental.

Book-Keeping—Marsh's.

Phys. Geography—Fitch's.

Grammars—Brown's, Clark's, and Pinneo's.

Algebras—Davies' and Ray's.

Natural Philosophies—Parker's and Comstock's.

History, Goodrich's United States.

Outline Maps, Mitchell's.

Allow me before closing to again refer to the inequality that exists in the method of raising money by taxation for school purposes, and to suggest the propriety of levying a school poll tax on all the legal voters of the State who have no property

subject to taxation. I think it is a matter worthy of the consideration of the State Superintendent, whether or not each school district shall be furnished by the State with blank registers, to be kept by the teachers, in order to secure any good degree of uniformity and correctness in the reports of the Town Superintendents.

I also again suggest that measures be taken for the more general diffusion of knowledge among the people of our State in relation to the operation and bearing of the school laws now in force, and their duties towards the schools.

H. INGALSBE,
Town Superintendent.

GLOUCESTER COUNTY.

CLAYTON.

We have in our township five districts, one of which is connected with parts of others, the school house being in this township. The school in District No. 1 has been kept open during the year, except the usual vacations. The school building having (since last report) been enlarged, the school is now taught in three departments, *viz*: grammar, intermediate and primary, and consequently is doing much better than heretofore.

In District No. 3 the school has been kept open the most of the year, and is doing well. The schools in other parts of the township have been open less than half the year, partly for want of funds, but more particularly, as I think, for want of attention by trustees and people.

In the two districts, therefore, education seems to be on the

advance, but in the other parts of the township there seems to be but little progress. I hope, however, that a better state of things in regard to education is about commencing.

The salaries of the teachers in District No. 1 are paid by tax, and therefore the school is free; in the other parts, teachers are partly paid from the public funds and partly by an assessment upon the scholars. We have county examiners, but the same difficulty that existed at the commencement still exists, in regard to having competent teachers licensed, for the reason that many of our districts have not means sufficient to employ such teachers as seems to be contemplated by the law; and I don't know when the difficulty is to be remedied, as there seems to be a disposition among the people to have the territory cut up in such small districts.

BENJ. HARDING,
Town Superintendent.

FRANKLIN.

As this is the first year I have been elected Superintendent, and all the winter schools had terminated, and from the fact that I have not received any report from the winter schools, I am not able to give as full a statement as I could wish. We have county examiners appointed, according to law, and the teachers licensed. The cause of education has not been marked by anything worthy of especial notice during the past year. There having been a township formed out of Franklin the past winter, you will perceive that my report differs materially from that of my predecessor.

In some of the districts where schools have been kept, the trustees only pay the teacher a part of his salary from the public money, and the balance have collected from the employees, which helps to continue the schools longer than they otherwise could be. The cause of Education, I think, is looking up, and I hope the day is not far distant when every child shall be able to read and write, and when parents and

guardians shall be more fully impressed with the necessity of giving their children a good liberal education.

MATTHIAS R. CRANE,
Town Superintendent.

GREENWICH.

In thus transmitting to you my first annual statistical report, I have nothing new to inform you. We have in our township six school districts, and only one of them, number three, can be said to be a free school. In this district we have raised money by special taxation, in connection with the State appropriation, interest on surplus revenue, and township tax, which makes this school entirely free. It is to be regretted that the other districts do not follow the example. In district number two, the public fund, in connection with a special taxation, has been reserved for the purpose of building a new school house, which is much needed in this district. In the other districts, the schools have been only partly free, leaving the parents and guardians to make up the deficiency. The teachers have been regularly examined and licensed according to law. The board of freeholders appointed examiners for our county this year. The inhabitants of our township begin to be somewhat more liberal in raising money for school purposes, and it is very pleasant for me to be able to inform you that the cause of common school education in this township is receiving an increased attention. We hope to see the time when our schools may be made free, from State and other sources. Then, and not till then, shall we see the spirit of free school system carried out successfully. All of the schools in the township are now open, and in charge of good and competent teachers. I am sorry there is so much irregularity in the second payment of the State appropriation, making it unpleasant for the trustees to meet their engagements with the teachers. Before concluding, I feel bound to say that the statistics upon which the inclosed report is based, are taken

from the register of the schools, (with but two exceptions,) and hence are correct. Those two were made up from the memory of the trustees and teachers, for the reason that there was no record in existence.

SAMUEL T. MILLER,
Town Superintendent.

HARRISON.

But little change is manifest in the operation of our schools; many of them are much neglected, both in the attendance of scholars and attention of trustees and employers.

Efforts are made to secure good teachers in many schools, but in some, the school is kept open only about as long, and such teachers employed, as the tax and fund and revenue will pay for.

Of free shools, we have none, except such as I have just mentioned; the tax payers are generally averse to raising by tax a sufficient amount to keep our schools free; and, in my opinion, a measure adopted by our State or national legislature, which would secure us a sufficient revenue to make all our schools free, without a resort to direct taxation for that purpose, would advance the cause of education in the State to a degree which cannot be attained under present circumstances, and would be a monument to the wisdom of our law makers, and a blessing to future generations.

BENJ. G. PANCOAST,
Town Superintendent.

MANTUA.

Our present school system seems to have its full share of faults; one of which is the inattention of parents or guardians in visiting the schools, and the culpable neglect of the trustees

or visiting committee, in visiting the schools at least once a quarter.

The teacher of Carpenter's Landing school, numbering one hundred and sixty scholars, says, "The trustees have not paid me an official visit during the past six months." Yet said teacher was young and inexperienced, and had never taught school before. And I am informed, that none of the parents had entered the school room, except to call out a child on business. The same is not applicable to other schools in the township, in so severe a degree; but the trustees are more or less remiss in attending to the demands of the teacher, and the comforts and conveniences of the pupil. Another fault is in sending off a distance to procure teachers, who, in many cases, are a compound of brass, grammar and broadcloth, with but a smattering of practical education, but by carrying a gold watch, or sporting a diamond ring, or driving a fast horse, and speaking a foreign accent or dialect, pass themselves off as educated teachers, thereby obtaining positions that ought to be reserved only for those who, by diligent study and practical application, united to a strictly moral life, should merit the sacred and responsible trust.

Just so long as a few titled personages, through their influence, can wield the power to govern the ignorant, by employing such teachers, who kill valuable time by stamping long pages of rules on a child's memory, of which it is not taught the practical importance, just so long will our schools be destitute of a single pupil that can advance beyond what he has been learned, like a parrot, to repeat. I now hope that in this township such systems shall cease; and that practical demonstration, with reasonable explanation, will take the place of old memory-stuffing process that has been in force the past winter. Carpenter's Landing and Mullica Hill seem to have suffered most; but as such evils at last work their own cure, I expect to see an end put to squandering the public money, feeding such jay-birds of education. In regard to classification of scholars in the various schools, I must say, system is

too much neglected ; each one learns on his own hook, and if he excels, it is because he monopolizes more of the teacher's time and attention. Knight's Run and Paul's school houses want thorough remodelling and repairing, as the fixtures are as unfit as they well can be for a well regulated school. The various others houses, being arranged for school house and meeting house combined, are not as well arranged as desirable, and are deficient of the necessary conveniences of well regulated school houses. I might indulge in this fault-finding disposition, and say much that would offend, but as it is my duty to point out wrongs, so it ought to be my pleasure to offer some amendments. To be brief, first, hire no teacher that does not come well recommended by the community he lives in, the pastor of his church, by his manners and address, his behavior in school ; and lastly, examine him yourself, as far as you are practicably able, and let his moral character be without a blemish. Have your school houses large, airy, light, and well arranged, supplying them with good class books ; give your teachers reasonable wages ; let two quarters be free, one in winter and one in summer ; and my word for it, you will end many disputes, and your children will become educated men and women almost by magic.

A. I. E. ROMANS,
Town Superintendent.

WOOLWICH.

In transmitting my report of the number, condition, &c., of the public schools of the township of Woolwich, for the past year, I would state that, in general, they appear to be progressing.

Since my appointment to the office of Town Superintendent last spring, I have endeavored, by visiting the schools each term, addressing the scholars and conferring with the teachers concerning the best methods of discipline and classification, to promote the most rapid advancement in the different studies

pursued in each school, ever having in view that *pre-requisite* to a solid education, through knowledge of "Elementary Principles," being well aware of the superficial manner of inculcating knowledge so often practiced in the different schools in this locality.

I have the pleasure to state, that my efforts have been crowned with success, equal to my previous anticipations. I have found the teachers, for the most part, ready and willing to comply with my suggestions in regard to introducing various reforms.

The following things would, in my opinion, operate in favor of an advancement of the public school system:

First. There should be some revision of the present school law, in which the public moneys raised by each township should be specified, according to the number of polls, so much for each poll, instead of leaving the sum as at present subject to frequent changes, thereby often rendering the law a nullity, on account of the insufficiency of amount raised.

Second. Abolish the office of county examiner, substituting in place thereof township examiners, appointed by a majority of the respective votes of each township, at their annual town meetings.

Third. Raise the appropriations of both State, county and township to a sufficient sum to keep the schools open at least nine months in each year, *free* to all who may attend, between the respective ages of five and eighteen years.

Fourth. Furnish the county or township examiner with blank reports, to be supplied to the teachers of each school district, in which shall be given all the statistical information of said district, transferring said reports to the Town Superintendent. Previous to filling up the annual report of each fiscal year, making it incumbent upon each teacher to comply therewith, before receiving their quota of the public fund.

These amendments, with a thorough examination of teachers, more uniformity of text books, and a manifest interest on the part of school directors, parents and guardians, sustaining

the efforts of the teacher and application of the pupil, by their *frequent presence* in the school room, I think would conduce to a more efficient working of our present school system.

WINSLOW JACKSON,
Town Superintendent.

HUDSON COUNTY.

BERGEN TOWNSHIP.

Our schools have completed the work of another year with pleasing energy and success. The teachers have shown a very commendable interest in their calling. All of them have been required to appear regularly before the Board of County Examiners for licenses.

In the Columbia district, No. 1, a first class school house has been erected at an expense of about six thousand dollars. The corner stone of this building, which does great credit to the taste and enterprise of the trustees of the school and to the inhabitants of the ancient town of Bergen, was laid with appropriate public exercises on the twenty-eight of July last, and the building now complete was publicly opened for occupancy the tenth inst. This new Columbia Academy is a suitable monument to occupy the ground so long consecrated to educational purposes.

In Bergen Neck District, No. 4, from two hundred and fifty to three hundred dollars have been raised by subscription for the support of a female assistant teacher. With this exception all our schools have been kept free, and as this district has lately become incorporated, the above sum will hereafter be provided for by special taxation.

District No. 7, of our township, is a colored school. The teacher, a colored lady, is well qualified for her situation. Her mode of instruction and the progress of her pupils, have always afforded peculiar pleasure and satisfaction on visiting the school. The success of this school in elevating the condition of the blacks in its neighborhood gives great encouragement for the maintenance of similar schools wherever they are needed.

With exceptions of the colored school, which is usually open for about seven months in the year, and the school of District No. 1, which was closed for four months during the erection of their new building, all our schools have been kept open the full time, allowance being made for the usual vacations.

AARON L. STILLWELL,
Town Superintendent.

HOBOKEN.

There is no change to report in the condition of our school house. We still continue to occupy the building furnished by the Hoboken Land and Improvement Company. The building is of brick, three stories in height, and ninety-five feet deep; each story is occupied, the first story by the primary department, the second by the female, and the third by the male department.

The number of scholars taught in the departments according to the register, is as follows:—

Primary, 434; average daily attendance, . . .	202
Female, 302; “ “ “ . . .	178
Male, 313; “ “ “ . . .	137

The average daily attendance, . . . 517

Is an increase of forty over the last year.

The whole number of children that have attended school is one thousand and forty-nine, being an increase of three hundred and eighty-eight.

The number of visits made by the Superintendent and Trustees have been numerous, and have, I think, given encouragement to both teachers and pupils.

We have twelve teachers—three male and nine female—who are all licensed, according to law, by the Board of County Examiners, who have been appointed for the county.

I can only add that our school is in a flourishing condition, and that the respective teachers are well qualified, and have faithfully performed their duties.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SEBA BOGERT,
Town Superintendent.

JERSEY CITY.

In filling up the blank for the past year, I notice that it does not differ far from my last report. This fact grows out of another, which is the want of further school accommodations. We now have two large first-class school houses, and a small one for colored children. These are, and have been for the last four years, crowded to excess, while we have daily applications for admission, which we are compelled to decline.

There are in this city five thousand eight hundred and sixty-one children of suitable age to attend school. Of these, about one thousand attend private schools, leaving four thousand eight hundred and sixty-one to be cared for by the Board of Education, while we have accommodation for but two thousand one hundred, leaving two thousand seven hundred and sixty-one without school privileges. This important fact has been urged upon the Common Council, who alone have the power to provide buildings, but that honorable body have done nothing further than to make an appropriation sufficient for another building, and there the matter rests in the hands of their committee, and from all appearance it seems likely to remain there during their term of office. I am persuaded the cause of edu-

cation is very much hindered in our city by the division of the responsibility between the Board of Education and the Common Council; the first have the care of the schools, and know their necessities—the latter take but little notice of their requests and their importance; hence, nothing is done beyond keeping up the schools now established. These, however, are of the first class, and will compare favorably with any similar institution in the State. The pupils are much interested, and are making rapid progress in their studies, while several have so qualified themselves that we have been enabled to select them for teachers. Those we now have in the schools are of the first class, and eminently adapted for their positions.

Our Normal School has been established two years, and has proved of great advantage to teachers and scholars, in better qualifying the former, and securing to the latter a uniformity of instruction.

Our citizens are alive to the importance of education; very few are to be found who would not avail themselves of the privilege of the public schools if we had sufficient room.

I believe there are no burdens our people bear with more cheerfulness than the support of our public schools, which are at once the pride and ornament of our thriving city.

Trusting that my successor may be able to make you a more flattering report for the next year,

A. S. JEWELL,
Town Superintendent.

HUNTERDON COUNTY.

ALEXANDRIA.

The schools, generally, are in a fair condition; a few are not as flourishing as they should be, but more so than we could expect from the way they are managed.

The school houses are all in a very good condition, with the exception of two or three. The teachers have all been examined according to law, and but few applicants rejected. One thing I will mention; it is the too frequent change of teachers. It is indisputably a bad practice to change teachers so often. Wherever the changes occur most frequently, there is the least progress. The advantage resulting from the long retention of a good teacher, is at once apparent in the popularity and prosperity of the school. This practice should not always be taken as evidence against trustees. In many instances it only proves that good teachers are scarce, and trustees are making trials in order to secure a good one at last. A teacher may be well educated, of engaging manners, and give satisfactory answers to all the questions propounded by examiners, yet, on trial, may not accomplish what his abilities promised, or not be able to conciliate and attach his pupils. His *modus operandi* in teaching may be superficial and repulsive, or his habits rude. In my recent visits, I have noticed a remarkable contrast in our schools. In one I would find a well educated teacher, but needing ambition and attractive modes of imparting instruction. He would betray indifference to the details of the lessons recited, a superficial glossing over the exercises, attended with lassitude and impatience on the part of the pupils. The

effect on my mind was such as might be fancied on being called to witness the dissolution of a school from general debility. Again I have entered a school, and observed intelligence and pleasure beaming on the faces of all; a single glance would assure me that here the first element of knowledge had been successfully taught, *viz.: to think*. There were no symptoms of weariness or disgust, which are only found where instruction is divested of interest. There is a deplorable negligence among the trustees in not visiting the several schools to which they belong; much credit is due a teacher for laboring under circumstances so discouraging, for occasional visits from trustees greatly encourage both teacher and pupil. A trustee, in a visit of one or two hours' duration, can obtain a better insight into the character and capabilities of the teacher, than the most thorough and searching examination can furnish. The school room is the teacher's dominion, and there he must disclose his habit of teaching, and exhibit the order and condition of the school. This remissness of trustees may also measurably explain why so many changes of teachers happen. Our trustees desire too much to employ teachers whose salaries (if they properly manage the school) do not compensate them, consequently we have illy-qualified teachers, because they work cheap.

This I most humbly submit, recommending State appropriations sufficient to sustain the schools, independent of any other resource, if in the wisdom and judgment of the legislature it may seem practicable.

T. M. BARTOLETTE,
Town Superintendent.

KINGWOOD.

I have the pleasure to say that there is an increasing interest manifested in this township in the cause of education. There are in this township seven whole districts and four parts of districts, nine school houses; six are of stone, and three frame—with some exceptions, in good repair; all have play-

grounds attached except two—black-boards in eight. Eight are of one room, and one has one room and vestibule. There has been erected the present year, in Frenchtown district, a very neat and substantial school house of stone, at a cost of over five hundred dollars. Regard is paid to the health and convenience of the children, in the construction and location of the school houses. The qualifications of our teachers are excellent, and they take great interest in the instruction of their pupils. No county examiners appointed in this county. This township receives from the State, two hundred and fifty-seven dollars and sixteen cents, and one hundred and seventy-four dollars interest of surplus revenue appropriated at the last annual town meeting, for school purposes. The said interest will not be due until the first of April next, therefore will not be ready for use until then. I have received one hundred and ninety-two dollars and eighty-seven cents from the State, and forty-six dollars and six cents balance from last year, and, as far as used, applied by me as the law directs for school purposes. Having been in office about eight months, consequently I have but twelve visits to schools to report; but what have been made, were attended with very satisfactory results—licensed seven teachers. The books most used in the schools, as far as ascertained, are:—Webster's Spelling Books; Reading Books; New Testament; McGuffie's, Sander's and Lovel's Readers. Arithmetics,—Perkins', Stoddard's, Rose's and Pike's. Grammars,—Pineo's, Smith's and Green's. Geographies,—Colton's, Fitch's and Smith's; Algebra,—Davies'.

A part of my report I have been obliged to make by estimation, on account of the reports of the schools not being complete. But I believe that it is very near correct. In reference to the operation of the school law, I do not know that I have anything new to advance, as the subject has been thoroughly investigated, and its defects and advantages sufficiently pointed out, to acquaint our State Legislature whether or not, in its operation, it answers the purpose for which it was designed.

URIAH LARUE,
Town Superintendent.

LAMBERTVILLE.

The town of Lambertville, as heretofore reported, comprises but one school district, and but one public school, in which are employed one male teacher, at six hundred dollars, and five females, at an average of one hundred and ninety dollars a year. There are five private and family schools, employing, in all, seven teachers. Both the public and private schools are but in session about ten months in the year. In the public schools, there are no charges for tuition. In the private schools, except one family school, the charges vary from ten to thirty-two dollars a year—one of them charging extra for instruction in music and the modern languages.

There has been received during the year, from the State, three hundred dollars, and raised by tax for school purposes, fifteen hundred dollars, besides five hundred dollars for building and incidental purposes. The whole sum paid for instruction during the year, cannot be less, but is probably more, than thirty-four hundred dollars; or, inclusive of that for building purposes, &c., two thousand dollars; which is very nearly equal to two dollars for every man, woman and child in the town.

The number of children in the town, between the ages of five and eighteen years, is six hundred and thirty-seven. The whole number of names on the roll of the public school during the year is four hundred and nine, and the whole number in the private schools somewhat over two hundred, making the aggregate number, as was observed to be the case last year, very nearly equal to the whole number of children in the town, between five and eighteen years old. This estimate, however, must be fallacious, as it is unfortunately notorious that a considerable number of children of the proper age never go to school at all. The error is probably due chiefly to the fact, which is also an evil, of the same children being found and counted in two or more schools in the course of the year.

The average daily attendance in the public schools during

the year is two hundred and seventeen, which relatively, is scarcely an improvement upon former years, and is a most serious evil, as well as a lamentable fact. With such irregularity of attendance, any very great improvement is not to be expected. The evil is undoubtedly aggravated by the too great neglect on the part of parents and others in visiting the school. On the part of the teachers, there is no lack of qualifications, certainly no want of faithfulness or industry.

On the whole, however, while it must be admitted that our public school enterprise has not yet fully met the expectations of some of its friends, it has nevertheless made some advance, and has, without doubt, been instrumental in conferring many precious benefits upon the rising generation. And there is good reason to hope, through a favoring providence, for more decidedly beneficent results to flow from it in future years.

S. H. PARSONS,
Town Superintendent.

READINGTON.

The Board of Freeholders for the county of Hunterdon have refused at different times to appoint county examiners. I regret that this is so. Numerous reasons have been given by the Superintendents of the different townships. I think the law should be obligatory on the counties to appoint county examiners. Now it is left optionable with the freeholders whether to have examiners or not.

We have maintained four free schools during the year, and six we have not.

I cannot say that parents and trustees have visited the schools any more than in past years. Many children sustain a serious loss by their irregular attendance, and both the teachers and the children would be greatly encouraged if the trustees and parents would appear to take a deeper interest in the schools. Let it once be adopted, and it is believed that the beneficial results will be apparent and duly appreciated.

GEORGE W. VROOM,
Town Superintendent.

MERCER COUNTY.

EAST WINDSOR TOWNSHIP.

The most common complaint in this township is the want of room for the accommodation of pupils. With the exception of two or three districts, the buildings are totally inadequate for the number who desire to attend school, consequently parents are often either forced to keep their children at home or send them to a private school.

The schools generally are free. Special taxation is sometimes resorted to, in order to keep the schools open, but the taxes are generally light.

A strong effort is being made at this time in district 1, which embraces more than one-fourth of the scholars of the township, to have the district divided, and another house built.—There is, however, a strong opposition to this measure by a portion of the taxable inhabitant who desire instead of dividing the district, to have the present building enlarged. The cause of education demands that one or the other of these be done.

I am happy to say that the intellectual standard of teachers is higher than in former years. The monetary crisis of the last year or two has compelled many young men who were about entering college to secure schools and teach. Some of this class have secured schools in this township, and possess the requisite qualifications for good instructors.

THOMAS J. PULLEN,
Town Superintendent.

HAMILTON.

The schools have all been regularly supplied with teachers, except District No. 9 which is composed of part of West Windsor, and as that township does not raise enough money to make the schools free, the whole time, the trustees have been compelled to stop the school for want of funds.

We examine teachers in reference to their ability to govern a school and communicate knowledge to the children, as well as scholarship, and when qualified, license them restricting said license to one district.

We still continue to improve our school houses. The past year, district No. 8, has erected a new house, finished and furnished after the plan of the Model School in Trenton, at a cost of about one thousand dollars, including the lot, which cost one hundred dollars, and agreed to raise by taxation six hundred dollars towards paying for the same. District No. 3 are also making preparation to build a new house the coming season.

WILLIAM H. WEST,
Town Superintendent.

LAWRENCE.

Since my last annual report, time has made changes in our midst, laying the foundation for a brighter day in the history of common school education. For a period of time, the diffusion of knowledge seemed confined to those whose circumstances in life enable them to procure the means necessary to obtain an education. A more recent enactment provides for all classes to have their minds stored with useful information and knowledge to enable them to act well their part in the drama of life.

It is my privilege to inform you, sir, of two new buildings, reared in our districts, a third one also in which we are inter-

ested, though in an adjoining township, as a proof that the public mind watches with care the young, their comforts, their mental training, in a word, all that fits them for high and important trust. Whilst I am pleased to report an improvement in buildings, I lament that so many changes have taken place with teachers in the different districts. The experience of another year impresses my mind more deeply, that many changes are productive of evil rather than good. I would urge great care and prudence in the selection of teachers, and as far as practicable to avoid separation. We have five full districts, three male teachers and two female. We have parts of districts, connecting with other townships. The salaries of teachers vary from two hundred and fifty dollars to eight hundred dollars. During the past year the schools have been open the entire year, with one exception, and that closed only to provide a more suitable building.

JAMES G. PHILLIPS,
Town Superintendent.

PRINCETON.

Since my last report, the graded public school in the borough of Princeton, under the charge of teachers from our State Normal School, has been fully organized, and has now been in operation sufficiently long to test the merits of the system. It gives me pleasure to report the complete success of the school, exceeding even the expectation of its most hopeful friends. As the average attendance at the public schools of the borough previous to the establishment of our present graded school was not more than seventy-five, it was not deemed necessary to make provision at the outset, for more than double that number of pupils. Within a few weeks after the opening of the school, however, the accommodations were entirely insufficient for the number of applicants, and it was found necessary to provide an additional room and another assistant teacher. The average attendance since that time

has been near two hundred. By the beginning of the next term (in January, 1859) it is expected that the building will be entirely completed, whereby accommodations will be provided for about two hundred and fifty pupils. It is altogether probable that before the close of the year the entire building will be occupied.

The building, exclusive of the lot, will cost when completed about six thousand dollars. The school furniture, desks, chairs, slates, furnaces, &c., will cost about fifteen hundred dollars. The annual expenses of the school at its present size, say two hundred pupils, in charge of one principal and five assistant teachers, is about two thousand two hundred dollars. Taking into account the number of children now attending school, and the fact that the school is kept open during the entire year, excepting vacations, it appears that the cost of common school education in our town has not been increased, but greatly diminished. Probably the best evidence of the general favor with which the graded public school is regarded by the community, is the fact that at our late district meeting, the amount deemed by our board of education necessary to the successful operation of the school during the current year was voted without a dissenting voice.

There is nothing in the condition of the other schools of the township that requires special mention.

JOHN T. DUFFIELD,
Town Superintendent.

TRENTON.

It affords me much pleasure to ascertain the fact that notwithstanding the financial embarrassment that has been experienced all over our land the past year, the school trustees of the city of Trenton have been enabled to keep all their machinery in operation, and in addition, to expend upwards of five thousand dollars in the erection of a new school house,

and putting in complete repair all the property in their possession.

It is well known to you that we are laboring under a special law, by which the whole of the city constitutes one district, and which provides for the election of one Superintendent, and twelve trustees, who constitute a board, having the control and management of all our schools.

It has been my good fortune since I have been a member of the board to be associated with gentlemen who feel a deep interest in the cause of education. I would particularly mention the President of the board, C. J. Ihrie, Esq., who spends many hours in the school room, and exhibits a deep interest in the children. The board is divided into three visiting committees and the city into three districts. Monthly visits are thereby made by the trustees to all our schools. The board meet on the evening of visiting day, and report the number on roll book, average attendance during the month, number present during their visit, and number of permits waiting in each school, and any other matter of interest that they have observed during their visit. These reports are entered upon the minutes.

The Chosen Freeholders have not appointed examiners for the county. The board have attended to the duty of examining and licensing teachers.

The books used in our schools are adopted by the board, and are uniform throughout the city.

In addition to the twenty-three teachers reported, we have a teacher of music for the schools where it is not taught by the regular teacher.

I do not think there ever was a time when our schools were more prosperous or had more favor with the people than at present. Thirteen hundred children in our schools every day, is evidence of the interest manifested by the people in public schools, and as often as the trustees have expressed an opinion that it was necessary to have moneys to carry on their schools, or to erect school houses, the people have responded at the

ballot box, and the desired amount has been placed at their disposal.

We have experienced and effective teachers generally, who realize the importance of filling up the places they occupy. Teaching in the capital of our State, also the seat of the State Normal School, they have much to stimulate them, and I think the children are reaping the benefit.

I have been pleased to see the interest you have manifested in the State Normal School. The position you occupy as State Superintendent of public schools, and being also a member of the Board of Trustees of the State Normal School, eminently qualify you to bring that institution into favor with the lovers of common schools of our State. It is the top stone of our superstructure—the perfection of our system—the practical working of which, I trust, will soon be felt everywhere. Forever distant be the day when New Jersey shall be without a State Normal School. The model school, connected with it, is indeed a model school.

Many matters of interest crowd upon my mind, but my remarks are already extended far beyond what I had intended.

WILLIAM S. YARD,
Town Superintendent.

WEST WINDSOR.

Nearly all the districts of the township have been supplied with teachers for the year. Most of the teachers have been at their post for a considerable time, which I deem a matter of the utmost importance for the welfare of the schools. The schools are in a prosperous state, and it gives me much pleasure to state that the progress made is sure. The teachers complain of the irregularity in the attendance of the scholars. They complain of the parents who retain their children at home very frequently on the slightest prettexts. The schools have been kept open all the year except a short vacation. We have good school houses and provided with good teachers.

CHARLES B. MOORE,
Town Superintendent.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY.

MONROE.

The schools of this township are all supplied with good and competent teachers, having certificates of license, according to law.

District No. 1 has been incorporated, and by a two-third vote of the inhabitants agreed to raise six hundred dollars for the purpose of building a school house, the district never having had one, being obliged to hire or borrow school room from the vestry of St. Peter's Church.

There has been considerable difficulty in Districts No. 7 and 14, in consequence of dividing them, (having been united for the last two years,) after the apportionment was made, thereby causing a controversy about the money.

I have found it a very great inconvenience to myself and teachers, in receiving the State school fund in three payments—one half in June, one quarter in November, the remaining quarter in January.

GEORGE A. SNOWHILL,
Town Superintendent.

NORTH BRUNSWICK.

I entered upon the discharge of my duties as School Superintendent of this township, on the thirteenth day of April last, since which time I have made repeated visits to the several district schools.

There are in the township of North Brunswick nine whole districts and three parts of districts, from the trustees of all of which I have received reports of the number of children between the ages of five and eighteen years residing therein respectively.

From these reports I ascertain that there are at this time in the township, three thousand three hundred and eighty-nine children between the ages aforesaid.

The number of those who have attended school the last twelve months, allowing for vacations, is six hundred and fifty.

The number who have attended nine months in the year but less than twelve, is three hundred and forty-nine.

The number who have attended six months but less than nine, is five hundred and thirty-one.

The number who have attended three months but less than six, is five hundred and thirty-five.

The number who have attended for a period less than three months, is three hundred and fifty-eight.

The number over eighteen years of age who have attended these schools within the year, is thirteen.

The whole number of colored children taught within the year, is one hundred one.

The whole number of children, without regard to color, taught within the year, is twenty-four hundred and twenty-three.

The average daily attendance at school for the year, has been eleven hundred and thirty-seven.

The average number of months that the schools have been kept open during the year, is ten.

Tuition is free in all of these schools excepting in one of the three parts of districts, where the sum of two dollars and fifty-nine cents is collected from each scholar per quarter.

The amount of money voted at the township meeting in April last, to be raised by tax for the support of the public

schools of the township for the year, is three dollars per head for each and every child in the township between the ages of five and eighteen years, which, in the aggregate, amounts to ten thousand one hundred and sixty-seven dollars.

* The amount to be received from the State this year, for the schools of this township, is fifteen hundred and fifty-one dollars and fifty-one cents.

The amount received from other sources is as follows, to wit :—From the last town superintendent, ten hundred and thirty-three dollars and sixty-seven cents ; from the last year's tax warrant, two thousand three hundred and six dollars and twenty-five cents.

There has been raised in the township during the year, for building, repairing, and furnishing school houses, the sum of twenty-seven hundred and sixty dollars.

The total amount appropriated for the year for school purposes, as derived from all sources, is seventeen thousand eight hundred and eighteen dollars and forty-three cents.

The number of teachers employed in the several schools is, in the whole, thirty-three. Of this number there are nine males and twenty-four females.

The average salary per annum paid to males is three hundred and ninety-six dollars per teacher.

The average salary per annum paid to females is two hundred and twenty-seven dollars.

The information comprised in this report has been obtained with difficulty, and in many particulars is not so reliable as it should be.

This is directly chargeable to the neglect of the trustees of some of the districts and parts of districts in the township.—It is clearly their duty to provide registers and to cause the same to be systematically and intelligently kept, and to be and remain a permanent fixture in their respective schools. Where two or more townships contribute scholars to a school, the teacher should be required by the trustees to keep a separate

register or account with each township, so that there may be provided for the superintendent of each township such information as concerns his township alone.

At present, in the absence of any such provision on the part of the trustees, it is very generally the custom for teachers to provide themselves with a memorandum or account book for their own exclusive use, which, being their private property, is naturally and rightly enough taken with them as such when a change of teachers occurs.

Nothing is more common than for a superintendent, in search of the material for his annual report, to be met with the reply that the last teacher took his account book with him, and that there is nothing left to show the history of the school further back than the last two or three months. All that is left in these too frequent cases is for the teacher, trustee, and superintendent to *guess* for the longer period from what is known of the shorter one. Can such results be very valuable?

No examiners for this county have been appointed, and the duty of examining teachers, in default of any better practice in this township, has devolved upon the unassisted superintendent.

I think that there is an increasing interest manifested by parents and guardians in the education of children, though there is everywhere, and more especially in some sections of the townships, room for much improvement in this respect also.

The system of common schools which the State has provided, so far as my observation extends, is regarded with peculiar disfavor, and deemed oppressive and unjust by the wealthy and more influential classes, who seem to see an inequality in taxation for educational purposes which they fail to recognize in other objects originating taxation, such as pauperism, road improvements, and the like.

This is but another instance of the struggle which is ever active between progress and conservatism. Education has for a long time been regarded as the almost exclusive right of a

privileged class. A system of education, therefore, which draws an equalizing line through the centre of all classes, while it naturally commends itself to the support of the many, just as naturally receives the strenuous opposition of those whose supposed rights are attacked.

Of course every district contains within itself more or less of the elements of such contention, and this irrational opposition the friends of every school are obliged to encounter.— But it is a difficulty which time and patient perseverance will ultimately remove. Age and an established position will give to common schools in this State that respectability which conservatism so much delights to honor.

Why may not our school houses and their play grounds, both in city and country, be made more attractive to those who pass so large a portion of their time in them? We need a change in this respect. Let us have buildings tastefully designed, commodiously arranged, neatly painted, and surrounded by shade trees.

Usually the most undesirable, unsaleable piece of ground seems to be selected, and a small house, of rough, unpainted exterior is erected thereon, in appearance resembling nothing so much as a small barn or a squatter's cabin in a western clearing. In these respects, some progress has been made in this township within the last two years, but much still remains to be done. Shade trees in particular seem, nowhere within the range of my observation, to have met with sufficient appreciation.

I find that where these mere external improvements have received attention, the schools are likewise well cared for in their more essential interests.

WOODBIDGE STRONG,

Town Superintendent.

PERTH AMBOY.

Owing to the fact that our school year is made to commence in the month of April, while the town superintendents are required to make their reports in the month of December following, it is very difficult to ascertain the amount that will be realized by the end of the year, not only from regular appropriations made for school purposes, but also from other sources. It would be much better could the reports of the town superintendents be made at the close of the year, and not as now, when there is much of the year unexpired, and the expenses and resources of the schools can be at best but imperfectly ascertained.

In the accompanying table, under the head of "moneys raised by tax for the support of public schools," I have named only the amount ordered to be raised by our last annual town meeting. Whether the amount named will really be raised from that source, must depend upon the practicability of collecting the whole amount appropriated. Of the preceding year's appropriation there has since remained uncollected a balance of two hundred and forty-three dollars. The appropriation of fifteen hundred dollars for the present year was made in anticipation of the collection of at least a portion of that balance. That balance, if collected, should be added to the amount of moneys raised by tax for the current school year.

In addition to the moneys above mentioned, a head tax of twenty-five cents per quarter has been collected from such of the pupils, and their parents, as were willing to pay the same. The head tax for the first half of the present year has amounted to over sixty dollars. This head tax, as it has been called, has been collected from the pupils by the teachers, under the direction of the trustees, the principal teacher having acted as treasurer and disbursing agent of the fund so raised. This money has been paid, with the understanding that it was to be expended in the purchasing of books and stationery for the

common use of the schools. So general has been the acquiescence in this arrangement, that the amount so raised prior to the commencement of the present year was more than sufficient for that purpose. At that time there remained an unexpended balance of sixty-nine dollars and ninety-three cents.

Upon the recommendation of my predecessor, the principal of our high school was authorized by our last annual town meeting to purchase therewith such additional globes, maps, and text books in the higher branches of an English education as he, in his discretion, might deem most advisable.

It is true the head tax mentioned may be regarded as entirely independent of our system of public schools, but as it has been co-operative with it, I have thought it appropriate to mention it in this connection. The balance of last year's head tax, together with the amount that may be collected from the same source the present year, might properly be included under the head of "moneys received from other sources." Of this I prefer you should judge.

Our board of trustees have heretofore regarded it as beyond their power to purchase the books and stationery necessary for the use of the schools. They have believed their official authority was limited to providing school rooms, teachers, furniture, and fuel required in their management. In this view of the school law I do not concur.

Section 18th of the act of April 17, 1816, authorizing the trustees, in connection with the superintendent, to select such books as they shall deem proper to be introduced into the schools of the district for which they act, implies the power to purchase the books so selected to rest somewhere. Where is this power to be found, if not with the trustees?

In section 7 of the act of 1851 it is made the duty of the trustees to apply the moneys apportioned to their district, or raised therein, to the establishing of free schools, in which shall be taught, free of charge, all the children between the ages of five and eighteen years desirous of attending the same.

Section 6 of the latter act of the Legislature authorizes the inhabitants of the several townships in the State at their annual town meetings to raise by tax or otherwise in addition to the amount appropriated by the State to their use, such further sum of money as they may deem proper for the support of public schools, not exceeding three dollars for each child contained in the lists transmitted by the trustees to the Town Superintendents in the year previous to holding such town meeting. An examination of the school act of eighteen hundred and fifty-one, will clearly show that the terms "public schools" and "free schools" are used synonymously throughout. It is equally clear that no school is taught free of charge in which the expense of furnishing books, slates, paper &c. for the use of the pupil is not provided for. The intention of the Legislature, therefore, would seem to have been to provide for every requirement of free schools. Books, slates, writing materials &c. are just as essential to the successful management of schools as are school houses, teachers, furniture and fuel, and no reason can possibly be assigned for the free supply of the latter that would not equally apply to the former. If the construction given to the school law by the trustees of this district is correct, there clearly exists a radical defect in our laws relating to public schools. It is manifest that if a charge for tuition was calculated to prevent the general schooling of the children of the State, the purchase of books for that purpose is calculated proportionately to interfere with the attendance of children at our public schools. No school system can be as efficient as it should be, that does not provide for a free supply of every want that could arise in carrying it into effect.

In the absence of judicial decisions upon the subject, your construction of the laws relating to public schools is made binding upon the trustees thereof throughout the State. It is therefore very desirable that general instructions upon that point should be given to trustees of public schools, provided you deem the present law sufficient authority for the purpose

mentioned. If it does not in your opinion give the requisite authority, I would earnestly recommend that application be made to the next Legislature, to grant by a supplemental law specific authority to the trustees of public schools to purchase all books, stationery &c. required in the management of schools.

The colored children of our city have not been admitted to our public schools. Whether this has arisen from the indifference of their parents or guardians, or from the refusal of admission on the part of the trustees I am not informed. The limited number of these children amongst us precludes the maintenance of a separate school for their instruction, even were the trustees authorized to make the invidious discrimination such an arrangement would evince. The trustees have taken it upon themselves, by what competent authority I know not, to apply a small portion of the money raised for public schools, towards their instruction in a separate school over which they do not pretend to have any control. A few of the benevolent people of the town, to a great extent at their private cost and trouble, have as far as they have felt able to do so, provided the only facilities for the education of that portion of the children of our district.

The question gravely arises, whether in this respect, the object of the school law has not been ignored. Your opinion upon that point would doubtless relieve the trustees from the embarrassment they seem to labor under on this subject.

While much may yet be done towards increasing the efficiency of our public schools, we have every reason to feel proud of them as they are. Our teachers are well qualified, and the pupils under their charge give gratifying evidence that they have received no superficial training.

It is a matter of deep regret that there is too much disinclination on the part of the wealthier portion of society to use the public schools. If they were to do so, they would feel greater interest in the subject of general education than they now do. The fact that less than half the children of this city

attend the public schools is as much to be regretted as it is suggestive of the true policy to be pursued. We must make our free schools as good, if not better than the best private schools now are. There would then no longer exist that lack of interest in the subject that is so apparent at this time.

Much has been done, much remains to be done, but time, experience, and persevering effort are all that are necessary to render our school system as valuable as that of any other State.

I. M. ROBERTS,
Town Superintendent.

SOUTH AMBOY.

It gives us much pleasure in reporting the schools of this township as being, for the most part, in a prosperous condition, and that an increasing interest is felt by the people in the cause of education, notwithstanding the numbers in some of the columns may fall a little short of last year.

We have eight whole districts, and three parts of districts, in the township, and eight schools, but one of which is kept open the whole year. This one is in the village of South Amboy, kept by Mr. O. Cox, an indefatigable laborer among the pioneers of the mind. The higher branches of English, as well as the classics, are taught at this school.

We have maintained no school entirely free, although in several of the districts they have been open for a period very little longer than the public money would support. It is to be hoped that the parents will soon discover this to be false economy. It would be as well if the trustees were to think and act a little more in the way of their duty.

We have no county examiners.

OBADIAH CLARK,
CHARLES BROWN,
J. I. TEN EYCK,
School Committee.

SOUTH BRUNSWICK.

I am happy to say that our schools are, as a general thing, in a prosperous condition. The teachers are all well qualified, and with the exception of one or two districts, general satisfaction has been manifested. The whole amount that has been paid for instruction, that is to teachers, during the past year, is \$505.00. The amount received from the State is \$564.94; interest on surplus revenue, \$89.26; the money raised by the township is \$1,500—by one district, \$45.00; making in all \$2,899.20, which, subtracted from the whole amount, leaves \$2,850.00 to be raised by assessment upon the scholars, amounting to about two dollars upon the daily average attendance.

As stated in my report, there are seventeen districts from which I have received reports from their respective trustees, all of the school houses being within the limits of the township. Eight of the districts only are within the limits of the boundary of the township, leaving nine lying in two or more townships. There are but two districts that have maintained a free school—one for a year,—the other for nine months. The school houses, with the exception of two or three, are in good repair, and answer the purposes for which they were designed.

The board of chosen freeholders did not see fit to appoint a board of examiners, hence the duty of examining and licensing teachers has come under my province.

CURTIS R. HOLMES,
Town Superintendent.

WOODBIDGE.

It is satisfactory to be enabled to report an increase of interest manifested by the people in the welfare of the public schools. Eight of the schools of this township have been free the present year. In the others a charge of from twenty-five

cents to one dollar has been assessed per quarter on those in attendance, in order to pay the teacher's salary.

One of the districts have built by tax a very substantial and convenient school house, of Gothic architecture, and furnished with the most approved furniture. In it a school has been commenced by a young man late from the State Normal School, who I trust will endeavor to do honor to the institution which we all hope will soon furnish the State with teachers possessing superior ability to teach.

EILLIS B. FREEMAN,
Town Superintendent.

MONMOUTH COUNTY.

FREEHOLD.

Very little change of interest has transpired since my last report. The number of children between the ages of five and eighteen years, as handed in by the trustees of the various districts, amount to 1005—an increase of fifteen since last year. Our school buildings in the main are about the same, and I am sorry to be compelled to say that a portion of them, at least, are in a very uncomfortable condition. When I ride over other sections of the country and see so much more interest manifested in taste and neatness of school buildings, I feel ashamed and really sorry that we, the inhabitants of rich old Monmouth, are not more zealous and enterprising in this object, while we are rapidly progressing with the improvements of the age in every other particular.

It really seems that we are ready to lavish any amount of capital on our churches, our county buildings, our dwellings

and property general; but when called upon to aid in putting up neat and convenient public school buildings for the comfort and encouragement of our children, we are deaf and blind to any such appeal, and seem to imagine that any description of house will answer to educate our children in. We do not act thus, even with our horses; for these, in most instances, are housed and provided for with the greatest appreciation and care. Our school houses in general are not designed for convenience, health and comfort. The rooms are wanting in size, the desks and seats badly planned, and the ceilings so low that they will not admit a large map to hang suspended clear of the floor. This indifference of interest on our part seems unaccounted for at this day, when our expenses of education are so small in comparison with former years, while every possible aid is brought to us by the revenues of our State. We still number seven school buildings, all of wood structure, with single rooms, except the one in this village, which has a lower and upper room—one for girls, the other for boys. The whole number taught is about eight hundred—fifty-five of these colored: and this amalgamation of white and colored children is a source of much objection and dissatisfaction generally, and some plan is greatly desired whereby they could be taught separately. The terms per scholar are twenty dollars. The average salary of female teachers is seventy-five to eighty-five dollars; males about ninety to one hundred dollars.

The trustees and myself have aimed to procure the most reliable and efficient teachers, and have designed to visit each school once each term. The condition of the schools is certainly progressive. The lower and higher English branches are taught in every school, and in some instances the classics are taught with good success.

We have received this year \$2,500 appropriated by the township for common schools, and from the State, for the same object, \$717 79; all of which has been apportioned in due ratio to each district, and paid out as salaries to teachers by order of the several trustees.

Our teachers, male and female, are of high moral principles and good educational endowments, and are all duly licensed according to law. Our books are selected with reference to the most approved authors of the times. The discipline in general is not subject to the rod, but made to depend on individual responsibility for order and harmony. Vocal music, heretofore much neglected, is practised in most schools, and it is delightful, after the day's toil and study, to see an entire school, from the largest down to the least little urchin, relieving the mind by pouring forth with pleasure and delight the richest melodies of which the voice is capable of producing.— Their powers combine in praising that Being who hath endowed them with senses and faculties of so high an order, and placed them in institutions whereby they could put them in active operation.

Another year of our existence has rolled away, but it has not been void of its happy influences and effects. The cause is steadily and effectually advancing, and a happier era is yet to dawn upon us when education shall be more thoroughly diffused among the people. Then shall vice, ignorance, and crime be subdued by the purifying powers of knowledge, science, and christianity, and this now happy republic shall assume a standing and dignity transcendently above all the nations of the globe.

E. L. COWART,
Town Superintendent.

HOWELL.

What a poet says of another visitor is certainly true of time,—

“It knocks with equal rate
At cottage door and palace gate.”

And it now reminds me that the time for my report is at hand. We therefore send you a general outline of the history of our schools for the year which is now drawing to a close.

In my last report, I stated that notwithstanding the pressure of the times, we had made considerable advance in the improvement of school buildings. This year we have done nothing in that direction.

Yet we continue to advance. The number of children attending the schools has been greater than in any former year. The examinations also show some improvement in nearly all the schools. There is also a most important change in regard to the number of visitors at these examinations. Formerly the number would vary from two to six. Now the largest houses in the township will hardly contain the scholars and the visitors.

At these examinations we have, generally, speaking and singing by the scholars, followed always by an address from the Town Superintendent.

We are of the number of those who do not feel certain that mere intellectual cultivation is a real good. We have therefore, as far as possible, endeavored to surround the schools with a moral and religious atmosphere. A part of the music taught is of the cheerful kind that children love, and a part of it is sacred music. The Bible is daily read in our schools.

You will see by the figures inclosed, that we now number nine hundred and thirty-one children.

Seven of the schools have been free as long as kept open. All have been visited as the law requires.

We regret to see that any have lost courage to meet the difficulties of establishing a regular system of free schools.—We admit the difficulties to be great. But they can be overcome—they must be overcome. When this is done, by us and by our sister States, then, and not till then, we may point to our banner as it “floats over every sea and every land under the whole heavens,” and say with propriety,

Long may it wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

GILBERT Y. GULICK,
Town Superintendent.

MANALAPAN.

I herewith send, in addition to the statistical report, such information as I have been able to gather. It was quite late in the season when I was elected to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the late Dr. William L. DeBow, so that I have barely had time to visit the schools but once; therefore can say nothing by comparison with former years. I find the affairs of the late superintendent in an unsettled condition, and many schools have not been visited during the year. Schools very well attended, and kept open the most of the year, but there is great negligence on the part of parents and guardians in visiting schools, thereby keeping up that interest so necessary to the welfare of our schools.

I should be glad to see our schools made free, and would solicit your influence in obtaining from our legislature additional appropriations for the purpose of establishing circulating libraries in each district, upon each district raising as much as the sum granted by the legislature. With small yearly appropriations of this kind, each district would soon become possessed of respectable libraries, thereby disseminating a vast amount of useful knowledge very much needed in rural districts.

JOS. H. VAN MATER,
Town Superintendent.

MARLBORO.

You will observe that eighty-two dollars and fifty cents is the average salary for male teachers; the highest salary paid is one hundred and twenty-five dollars per quarter, two at one hundred dollars, and three young men are employed this winter for fifty dollars a quarter each; that makes the low average. The female teacher receives one hundred dollars per quarter; she is a Normal School graduate; she has not merely the

name, but she is well qualified. We have some very good teachers. There is evidently a gradual change making in the minds of our people, in favor of free schools ; but this is something that requires time ; the effects must be seen and felt, before public sentiment changes.

J. W. HERBERT,
Town Superintendent.

OCEAN.

I am happy to certify to a marked improvement of the schools throughout the entire township during the past year. To particularize, I will state, that the trustees manifest a great deal of judgment in the selection of teachers, books, and the general comfort and convenience of scholars, as well as teachers, in the construction of all new buildings to be used for school purposes. The inhabitants are becoming more zealous in the cause of education, thereby assisting the trustees and Town Superintendent in their several duties ; the qualifications of teachers receive some of the same kind of scrutiny that is generally applied by parents to master workmen who may have their sons as apprentices. *This I conceive to be a great step in the right way ;* it stimulates the teacher, and all others who are responsible for the success of the rising generation, with a generous impulse, feeling as they must, that they have the hearty co-operation of public sentiment. Our books are constantly being simplified and scientifically classed ; so that a teacher coming in a district can easily follow the course pursued by his predecessor ; thus avoiding a very great objection that prevailed but a few years since, *viz:* many of the books being the same that had been used in the schoolboy days of the father or the grandfather of the pupil.

In conclusion, I will add my hearty endorsement of the course pursued by the State officials, relative to the educational interests with which they are entrusted.

RICHARD S. POOLE,
Town Superintendent.

UPPER FREEHOLD.

Our teachers have been regularly examined and licensed, according to law, and to each a due proportion of the public money has been paid. No examiners have been appointed in this county. Only a part of the schools have been kept free, the amount of public funds being insufficient for that purpose where the schools are small, or where the teachers are paid a high salary. In five districts, free schools have been maintained during the year.

There are many parents and guardians who will not avail themselves of the opportunities they have of sending their children regularly to school, even when they have no objection to the teacher. The children are allowed to spend their time at home, or in the neighborhood, without any employment and under little control.

Some of these are desirous that their children should have a good education, but make no effort to secure the means for its accomplishment. A portion will not provide suitable clothing, when it is in their power, with industry and economy, to obtain it, and make it an excuse to keep the children at home. Another part is so unreasonably lenient and unwisely sympathetic, as to allow the juvenile members of the family to stay at home, if they manifest the least disinclination to go.

Among people of considerable means, a great change has been effected within twenty-five years, so that most of them attend to the education of their children in literature and science, but many in the poorer walks of life seem very indifferent, and do not appreciate their opportunities.

Town Superintendent.

MORRIS COUNTY.

CHATHAM.

I entered upon the duties of my office in April last; and in consequence of some of the teachers who had taught during the winter having left and failed to leave any report from which I can make an accurate report, I am left to fill up the same from the best information I can obtain.

Our township is about the smallest in extent of territory, but will, we think, compare favorably in point of educational interest with any in the county.

We raise by tax the full amount allowed by law, (three dollars per scholar,) and a majority of our schools have sufficient money to have them free by employing female teachers in the summer, of whom we have had some successful and competent teachers, two of whom have attended our State Normal School, and have practically demonstrated the great utility of that institution.

The teachers have been examined and licensed according to law, which had been done by the Town Superintendent, in connection with the trustees, there having been no county examiners appointed.

Singing has been introduced into some of our schools with marked good effect. In addition to our public schools, we have in district No. 1 a select school, taught by a female of the highest order of excellence, and in district No. 3, we have a classical and female, also a Catholic school, with large attendance, which lessens the reported number taught. The attend-

ance in our schools is not as regular as it should be for the success of the children.

On the whole, the cause of education is advancing. The schools which are now in session are conducted by efficient teachers, who are doing a good work.

BENJAMIN M. FELCH,
Town Superintendent.

CHESTER.

I have but little to add to the statistical report. The schools have been visited once in each quarter.

The want of interest among parents, noticed in last year's report, is still a lamentable obstacle to the success and good order of the schools.

Also, a want of punctuality in the attendance of the scholars, which can only be enforced by parents and guardians, being much complained of by all our teachers.

Some three or four of the school houses in our township are very poor constructions, but in one or two districts they talk of new buildings; and if interest in public schools don't induce them to act, necessity soon will.

In regard to the common school system in our State, the money appropriated by the State is scarcely more than an apology, in comparison to the amount absolutely necessary.

My idea of a correct system is this: that the State Legislature should appropriate to each township a sum sufficient to support the schools at least ten months in the year, or else abandon the subject altogether.

But it is not more money only that is needed to keep our schools open during the whole year, and to render them more efficient and useful. We must look to the operations inside of the school room, for it is there that the most important part of the work of education is to be performed. There appears to be a want of system in our public schools, that is productive of

waste both in time and money. That want of system is found in the number and kind of studies introduced, and the order in which they are attended to. The introduction of too many studies makes classes too numerous, and as a consequence, the want of proper time to attend to them leads to superficial and unsatisfactory results. Would it not be advisable for our Legislature to empower the State Superintendent and the trustees and principal of our State Normal School to fix such a course of studies as they in their judgment may think best, and which may serve as a guide to all our schools.

S. H. LEEK,
Town Superintendent.

HANOVER.

As I have been in office only since April last, I can give but an imperfect report, and no comparison of the past and present state of the schools in this township. I think, however, there is a growing desire for much better schools than we have.

The beneficent design of our school fund would be better accomplished if it were so apportioned as to aid feeble districts according to their necessities. There are in this township several districts which are feeble, because of scattered population. Schools can be maintained there only by the payment of heavy tuition bills. Inferior schools are kept but a part of the year, and the children of the poor are deprived of almost all opportunity for education. In more densely populated districts, schools are sustained for the whole year, chiefly by the public money; but as the schools are necessarily very large, they are also inferior, because of the impossibility of one teacher doing justice to so many pupils. If the more populous districts would tax themselves as the thinly settled ones are obliged to do, they might greatly improve their schools by dividing and grading them; but there is little disposition to do this. A very general anxiety prevails to make the public money pay all the expenses of public schools. This anxiety is increased

by the difficulties growing out of that part of the school law which requires trustees to appropriate public money to sustain free schools. More public money, or a different method of applying what we have, is needed before the children of our State can enjoy any thing like equal advantages of education.

JOHN M. JOHNSON,
Town Superintendent.

MENDHAM.

In making my annual report, I am happy to announce that our schools are in a flourishing condition. They are far from what they should be; but on looking back a few years, we can see a decided improvement.

All of our teachers are of a fair stamp. Some of them are among the first in their profession.

It is of the utmost importance that we should have county examiners. They would secure a much more thorough examination of teachers than we can have where the Superintendent alone, or together with trustees, does the work.

The tendency would be to scare off incompetent teachers. Duty has compelled me to reject several applicants for license during the current year.

There is an imperious necessity for an apparatus to illustrate arithmetic, geography, and natural philosophy. I have seldom found a teacher who could illustrate the rule for duodecimals. They can calculate correctly by it, but of the reason for each step in the process, they are wholly ignorant.

Any joiner could, for a few shillings, make an apparatus to elucidate this branch of arithmetic.

The State of Connecticut furnishes to every district, for three dollars, an apparatus worth twenty dollars. This apparatus is made by State convicts. To lock up those pests of society, and compel them to labor in the cause of education, is most certainly a capital as well as an original plan.

To furnish schools with a complete apparatus, is truly well worthy the attention of our Legislature.

We also need school libraries. Ohio has recently donated sixty thousand dollars for this object. Connecticut donates ten dollars to every district that will raise an additional ten dollars, thus furnishing a valuable foundation for a library. It also gives five dollars to each district that will raise five dollars more each successive year to procure an addition to the library. Will not our honorable Legislature do something to promote this worthy object.

New Jersey has the advantage of Massachusetts and Connecticut in geographical position, extent of territory, fertility of soil, and mineral wealth, yet she is far behind those States in agriculture, manufactures, and the thorough education of her citizens. Their superiority may be readily traced to their noble system of free schools. Had our present admirable school law been in operation for a long period, it would have told materially on the prosperity of the State.

A better school system than our present one, few States can show. The State gives a helping hand and then empowers each district to maintain a free school. With her splendid school system—her Normal School, and her yearly county institutes, New Jersey seems at last to be thoroughly aroused, while she gathers her resources and marshals her embattled hosts for the mighty conflict with ignorance, vice and crime.

History has important teachings for us on this vital subject. Our free institutions may be traced to the puritans of England, the Huguenots of France, to Scotland, Switzerland and Holland. Among the dearest rights for which those champions of freedom on many a gory field contended, was the right to sustain and direct the education of their children.

Despotic Prussia could never crush out the spirit of freedom from doomed and downtrodden Poland, until she had obliterated the last vestige of that oppressed nation's cherished and thorough system of education. Hungary and Bohemia have been for ages writhing under the iron heel of Austria,

nor could she long keep those oppressed nations under her despotic rule if she should permit them to direct the education of their children.

The intrepid John Knox said, "place the school house by the side of the church." Holland was for ages one of the leading powers in Europe, manfully doing battle in freedom's holy cause. Possessing a small territory, redeemed and kept with immense toil from ocean's crested wave, "yet dotted over with seven splendid universities," she owed her greatness to her munificent system of education.

Among the first enactments of our pilgrim fathers after they landed on New England's rock-bound coast, were laws to support and regulate common schools.

The history of all nations confirms the truth that the prosperity of a State may be measured by the intelligence and virtue of her citizens.

With my best wishes and hearty co-operation for the advancement of this noble cause.

JONAS DENTON,
Town Superintendent.

MORRIS.

Many difficulties conspire to render the duties of Superintendent of Schools in this large township exceedingly arduous. These duties would be sensibly relieved if something more were added to the responsibilities of district trustees, that might at the same time diminish the cares of the Superintendent. It has been next to impossible to gather correct statistics of our school operations, and I am obliged to content myself with only an approximation to the truth.

The people through this township seem deeply interested in the cause of popular education. They have increased their school tax from fifteen hundred to two thousand dollars. For the most part their school houses are good and the schools ex-

hibit a flourishing condition. In the supply of teachers we have been highly favored during the year in securing men and women of the most desirable stamp. A teacher's institute held in Morristown, was well supported, and engaged the attendance generally of our teachers, and there is much reason to believe that salutary influences attended its sessions. Much trouble has arisen in one of our districts from the imperfection of our school law concerning the duties of trustees to make returns of the number of children within their respective bounds.

In this instance the Superintendent had reason to believe the returns to be false. He took it upon himself to ascertain the true number of children in the district, and finding, as he thought, only about half the number reported by the trustees, he cut down the number and apportioned the school moneys accordingly. This has given rise to considerable litigation, and the questions involved remain yet unsettled. The right of the Superintendent to interfere is questioned, while at the same time there seems to be no check upon the trustees.—Certainly legislation is needed in this direction. Our schools are not entirely free. The teachers have all been examined and licensed properly. No examiners were appointed in this county. Enclosed you have my statistical report.

R. B. YARD,
Town Superintendent.

PEQUANNOCK.

In most of the districts the schools are in as flourishing condition as they have been the past few years. The school houses are, the most of them, in a comfortable condition; several have been repaired during the past year. The former disputes that existed in this township, respecting the construction of the school laws, have been settled, and things have gone on harmoniously. Some of our schools have been free a portion of the year, and one school has been free during the

whole year. The people of the township are more united than formerly upon our present school laws, and take a greater interest in the cause of education than they have heretofore, which must cheer the heart of every philanthropist. There is no doubt in my mind that if the present system is continued, (although some amendments may be made that would have a salutary effect,) our State will number equal to any in the Union in the cause of education. But while I have witnessed the improvement in the cause of education in other townships and elsewhere with great satisfaction, I have seen with regret an effort made by a few to alter our present system, and substitute a parochial school system, which past experience has shown, and what I think will be the inevitable result of such an alteration, will, instead of advancing the cause of education, make it retrograde; and I must say, with all due respect to those who differ with me, that parochial schools in this district of this State will have a most deleterious influence upon the cause of education. Suppose such a system should be established, what would be the consequence? Perhaps in every district a diversity of religious opinion exists. In our district perhaps the Presbyterians will have the preponderance, and the schools will be under the influence and control of that sect and their pastor; while Baptist, Methodist and other sects will consider themselves excluded; and just so in other districts where, perhaps, Methodist or Baptist or some other sect has the preponderance, the same effects will be produced, and instead of harmony, discord will arise, and all the antagonistic sectarian views of the several religious sects will, more or less, in every school district in this State, be called into action, to the injury of the peace of its citizens, and the injury of the cause of education. I am in favor of improvements. I like to see the cause of education progress, but I am satisfied that it would not be expedient, at this time, to alter radically our school laws, when the people are so well satisfied with them, and are making such improvements under them. In the manner in which our schools are conducted, the cause of religion, as well as education, is advanced—the Bible

is used in our schools, and the reading books used therein are of the strictest moral character, selected not only with a view of their useful information, but also with regard to the productions of the moralist, influenced by the sublime ethics of the Bible—while the greatest care (so far as I am acquainted) is taken to employ teachers of strict moral character. Under such a system, with such means, may we not hope to do much for the cause of education—advance the cause of religion—lessen the conflicting views of mankind in the rising generation? when, on the other hand, if we adopt the parochial system, may we not engender strife and animosity, not only among the youth of our land, but among those of us who have come to years of maturity, by creating a desire for the ascendancy in the rule of our school districts, among the different religious denominations. Perhaps it would be well for us to reflect upon the subject, and before we radically alter the system that is now working well, and a system under which the cause of education made, and is continuing to make greater improvements than was ever made therein before in this State—to consider our responsibility to the rising part of our generation, to the cause of humanity, and not cause education to take a retrograde step, but persevere in well doing, leaving well enough alone, and instead of spending our time and our talents in innovations and untried projects, spend them in useful efforts to improve the youth of our land, who must soon take our places when we are here known no more.

T. V. S. BANTA,
Town Superintendent.

ROCKAWAY.

The report which I send you has been compiled with more accuracy than any previously sent you by me. This is owing to the greater accuracy in the school registers which have been introduced recently in our school. The two districts not heard from are fractional, and together include only about twenty

children, between five and eighteen years of age. As these are attached to schools in other townships, I find it very difficult to get reports from them. My report proves, so far as the number of actual attendants on the schools are concerned, that the liberal provision of our citizens have not been without fruit. Last year we reported eleven hundred and seventy-three children who were entitled to school privileges, of whom eight hundred and ninety availed themselves of their privileges to some extent. The average daily attendance on the schools was three hundred and forty-one, and the cost of tuition per scholar among the actual attendants, was three dollars and forty-five cents. This year we report eleven hundred and ninety-four children of the school age, of whom (not including scholars over eighteen years of age,) eleven hundred and forty-three have attended the schools more or less. Six hundred and ninety-six attended more than three months. The cost per scholar of the actual attendants has been two dollars and seventy-eight cents. The average daily attendance was four hundred and fifty-eight.

The opposition of some very intelligent persons among us to the tax of two dollars a scholar has not ceased, although I think it less decided than formerly. I have sought to impress on the minds of our school trustees and teachers the necessity of making the scholars so good as to convince all reasonable persons that the benefits conferred by the schools are not procured at too great a cost. The fact is certain, that if the school authorities will expend the money in such a way to prove to the patrons of any school that the scholars are making great improvements, those patrons will not dispense with that school. As soon as our schools shall attain such perfection as they ought, all reasonable opposition to them will cease. For this reason we are endeavoring to be more careful in our examination of teachers. Personally I wish every teacher to feel that the examination for license is not a mere form, nor a matter of courtesy, nor yet of mere display of knowledge, but that it is one which aims to bring out at first, the moral qualifi-

cations of the candidate ; second, his attainments as a scholar, and thirdly, his aptness to teach. This costs me a great deal of time, but I am glad to see that real progress has been made in many respects. Our trustees are beginning to act in a higher capacity than paymasters, and many of them now visit the school, with marked effects. Our patrons are waking up to the fact that the six hours of the day during which they entrust their children to the guidance of the school teacher, are of such importance as ought to excite their constant and watchful supervision of the matter. In all such cases the influence is most happy. The whole tendency of things among us is to invest our public schools with an interest and importance which must in the end—if there be no re-action—put them beyond the reach of reasonable opposition.

There is still a great deficiency in the means of instruction in most of our schools. Owing to the diversity of books our teacher has eleven classes to instruct ! We are trying to attain uniformity and hope for success. But one of the most unaccountable deficiencies is in the matter of blackboards.—In our largest school there is but one board, and that a very inferior one. In some of our schools there is either no board or a very inferior one. Our schools cannot be what we wish until every room is furnished with blackboards, or better still with the large slates for chalk practice in writing, map-drawing, spelling, arithmetic, and indeed in every branch taught in the public school. I hope another year will show progress in this respect.

Upon the whole, however, the last year has been the most hopeful one for our schools that I have known, and the indications are that our citizens will not rest contented until much greater attainments have been made.

JOSEPH F. TUTTLE,
Town Superintendent.

WASHINGTON.

Tempus Fugit—As the time has again arrived for me to make my annual report, I would cheerfully comply with your request concerning the licensing of teachers, the appointment of examiners and the maintenance of schools.

The number of teachers reported have all been examined according to law, by myself as there have been no examiners appointed in this county. The schools have, for the most part, been kept open during the year, but not entirely free. A small portion of the teachers salary is collected from the inhabitants residing in the several districts.

Our school houses are mostly in good order. Some have been repaired and others rebuilt. Our teachers have all acquitted themselves as they should, making their chief concern the welfare of their pupils. In short, I think I am safe in saying that there is a decided change for the better in our public schools.

THEODORE NAUGHRIGHT;

Town Superintendent.

OCEAN COUNTY.

JACKSON.

The inhabitants of this township are beginning to take into consideration the cause of education, knowing that a common education is worth more to their children than gold. They begin to appreciate the common school and its advantages; although they have not the advantages of many of their sister

townships they feel thankful for what privileges they do enjoy. If we could have a little more help from the State we would ere long have some very good scholars, as we have some bright minded children in this township. Before I located in Jackson township I taught school in Howell township, in Freehold township, and in two of the adjoining townships, and had under my charge at different times some five hundred children, and I can say that I see in visiting the schools of Jackson as much natural talent and aptness to learn as I saw in any of the other townships; all that is needed is the means to keep our schools open at least nine months in the year. We have nine districts, two of which have been set off since my last report; one of said districts has erected a splendid house, a house that would honor any neighborhood.

JOHN CONINE,
Town Superintendent.

PLUMSTED.

We have had some trouble in this township concerning the pay of the teachers. As some of the teachers had not been licensed, the former superintendent paid some and refused to pay others, which created hard feelings among the people in the township. But the teachers now all have licenses, except one female teacher that teaches the school in district number six; this school being conducted by the Friends' discipline, and has been for many years. This school being in one end of the township is in a small district, but the adjoining townships uniting makes this a very good school. The school is kept open all the year, except the usual vacation. This school is taught in the summer season by a female teacher, and in the winter by a male teacher. Districts number one and four, New Egypt and vicinity, being united, has a competent teacher, and keeps one free school all the year, except usual vacation. This school being large we are about to commence the other school with a female teacher.

District number two being taught by the teacher that taught in New Egypt for twenty years and upwards; has a full school and is giving satisfaction in the district.

All the schools are now in operation, and are giving satisfaction to most of the employers.

We have five whole districts and two half districts, which number six hundred and sixty-five children.

EMANUEL HODSON,
Town Superintendent.

UNION.

Enclosed is my first report of the condition of the district schools in the township of Union, which is as near correct as can be obtained under the present circumstances, namely; that of having had the management of the school affairs only about nine months out of the year, our freeholders having failed to appoint examiners this year, *as usual*. The schools of the township for the most part have been only partly free, the trustees paying part of the teachers salary, and they collecting the remainder from the patrons of the schools. By having the schools made partly free we are enabled to keep them open for a longer time than if they were entirely free, for it is difficult to obtain patronage sufficient from the inhabitants in many of the districts to get a competent teacher unless there are appropriations from the public funds. We have in this township at the present time five district schools, all in successful operation, supplied with competent teachers, all of which have been examined and licensed according to law. We have also two other districts without schools, they being located in the thinly settled part of the township, and have schools only in the winter season, one of which has been set off the present year, and has, by request of the inhabitants in said district, been incorporated in order to levy taxes for the purpose of building a school house.

The districts, with but two exceptions, are supplied with good and commodious school houses. The house in district number four has undergone a thorough fitting up and repairing, at a cost of one hundred and sixty dollars. Our schools are nearly all supplied with Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, and we have four copies of Lippincott's Pronouncing Gazetteer, which have recently come to hand, for which we desire to feel truly thankful, and hope ere long to see the schools made free from State and other sources. Then, and not till then, will they advance as we wish them to do.

D. S. WILLIAMS,
Town Superintendent.

PASSAIC COUNTY.

PATERSON.

The public schools in the city of Paterson are under the supervision of fifteen school commissioners and a Superintendent, who constitute the board of education. The board of education was incorporated, and the powers and duties of the respective branches of the board are defined by an act passed by the Legislature, and approved sixth March, eighteen hundred and sixty-six.

Our school houses consist of three substantial and commodious brick buildings, and three ordinary frame buildings.

We have two male grammar schools, one female grammar school, five primary schools, and one normal school, all of which are kept open during the year, and two evening schools, which are kept open for about five months in the year.

All our schools are free, and the scholars are furnished with the necessary books and stationery.

Each teacher in our employ has been examined and licensed by the legal board of examiners. It is the duty of the teachers' committee and the privilege of the other members of the board to be present while teachers are examined.

The efficiency of our teachers, the intellectual improvement of our scholars, and the arduous and gratuitous labors of our school commissioners merit a continuance of the liberal support of our discerning and appreciating citizens, and a visit by our State Superintendent.

C. S. VAN WAGONER,
Town Superintendent.

SALEM COUNTY.

LOWER ALLOWAY'S CREEK.

All the districts made a report to me last spring, but only the second made a full report, such as is required by law; most of the others merely showed the number of scholars.

First District.—Included in this district is a school organized and established by the Society of Friends, previously to eighteen hundred and forty-six, and controlled by them, as allowed by the nineteenth section of the school law, having their portion of the public money, as in the district schools; it reports on its list, from various parts of the township, forty-seven scholars. The present teacher, Hannah Antrim, is from Philadelphia, has been a teacher there among the Friends,

comes well recommended, and, I think, fully sustains her recommendations. The school is supplied with a library and a set of Pelton's outline maps. There is taught in the school reading, writing, arithmetic, drawing, geography, grammar, history, etc. Taken as a whole, from year to year, it is the best school in the township; it is kept open all the year, except the usual vacations, and pays about four dollars per quarter. There is now upon the teacher's list about fifty-two different scholars, including five colored children. The teacher complains of the irregularity of attendance, only averaging about twenty-five to thirty generally.

The regular district school is in the village of Hancock's Bridge, and in my humble opinion is a poor recommendation for the inhabitants of a town; it is supplied with no library except the two books furnished by the State, and is conducted on the old system, *viz.*: "That readin, riten and siferin is the most usefulest part of larnin." There are sixty-one scholars reported, about sixty on the list of the teacher; it has been kept open all the year, and pays two dollars and fifty cents per quarter.

Second District.—This school is situated on a neck of land running into the marsh, and is kept open only during the winter; through the summer many of the children attend the Friend's school; it reports thirty-four scholars.

Third District.—This is the central school of the township, and I would like to see the day when we might have a first-class school located here. The school has been kept open all the year, allowance being made for vacations—has Pelton's maps and a pretty good supply of books—has been under the care of Annie Bradway the past summer, and is now under the care of Hollis Carr, from Massachusetts, both very efficient teachers. There were fifty-eight scholars reported, while the teacher's list shows about fifty attending school.

Fourth District.—This is the largest district, numbering one hundred and two scholars by the report—has been a pretty good school the past summer, under the guidance of

Miss Pease, from Connecticut; it has a good library, and is well attended.

Fifth District.—This is an old class school, numbers sixty-two scholars, averages about twenty-five, and pays about two dollars per quarter.

Sixth District.—This is like Fifth school, numbers fifty-three scholars, is conducted and pays the same as No. 5.

Seventh District.—This is made up with a part of the township of Elsinborough, in which the school is located; there are thirty-seven scholars in our part of the district, and the average attendance about forty, at \$2 50 per term of sixty-six days.

Eighth District.—This is made up with a part of Upper Alloway's Creek township, and reports twenty-one scholars; making an aggregate of four hundred and seventy-five scholars in this township, composed of six whole districts and two parts, containing seven school houses. We raise for school purposes in the township eight hundred dollars. We receive from the State two hundred and twelve dollars and forty cents, three-fourths of which is received, and the balance promised in January, and from the county (interest of surplus revenue) one hundred and forty-seven dollars and fifty-four cents, making the sum of one thousand one hundred and fifty-nine dollars and ninety-four cents for school purposes in the township. The teachers employed by the quarter receive from eighty to one hundred dollars for sixty-six days.

Upon the receipt of this, will you not please send me a form of a report, with instructions how to make one out, and also how to keep a register, as required by law to be kept in each school. I find most of the school officers, like myself, willing to do their duty, if they were furnished with information on the subject. I should be thankful, too, for a list of such books as you would recommend for general use in the schools throughout the State.

And I have often wondered whether there are not published somewhere, suitable tracts or papers, which might be

obtained at a reasonable price, for distribution among the scholars, when visiting the schools occasionally, for the purpose of *interesting* and *encouraging* them in their duties and studies ; if you know of such, please let me know ; I would willingly spend a part or the whole of the little I receive for my services in this business, for such a purpose, if I could satisfactorily.

Please direct the above "instructions" to

THOMAS A. MASKELL,
Town Superintendent.

MANNINGTON.

The public schools in the township of Mannington have all been visited, and I herewith transmit a summary of such information, in accordance with instructions sent me, as I have been able to obtain.

My predecessor last year furnished the teachers in the several districts, each, with a book for a register to be kept in the school—containing instructions how to be kept. Claysville having no school, did not receive one ; the children living near go to the Salem schools. In the Red School District, the whole number marked as attending, includes the winter term only. Since the female teacher left in the fall, the register cannot be found. In Haines's Neck District, there is one school, exclusively colored, and taught during the summer by a colored female. She has left, and the necessary information cannot be obtained now. There are thirty-six colored children in the district, located so as to form a school by themselves. In Halltown the register has been only partially kept. There is another, not a district school, kept in this district, not included in the report, numbering twenty pupils and upwards, made up of children from Halltown and Haines's Neck, and in Centreton there has been a private school open during the summer, not included in the summary from that district.

Mount Zion is made up exclusively of colored people, numbering fifty-nine children. The school has been kept open only three months the last year; the trustees are also colored. I have not found their register.

The amount of salary for teaching ranges generally from fifty dollars to seventy-five dollars per quarter. The teachers are generally chosen by the trustees—sometimes examined by Superintendents. No free schools—no board of examiners.—The schools generally appear to be in a prosperous condition, modern modes of instruction having been introduced. I intended to have visited the schools, and made an earlier report, but some of them have just commenced their winter term this week, and I have found it more difficult to obtain the desired information than I anticipated. This, too, has been one reason of the delay in sending this statement. These difficulties can be overcome only by retaining a suitable person in office for a term of years. Here there have been three Superintendents in as many years.

DAVID PETIT,
Town Superintendent.

PITTSBORO.

Schools have been kept open the whole year in Districts Nos. 1 and 3; in No. 2 about ten months; in Nos. 4 and 5 six months; in No. 6 six months; in No. 7 three months; in No. 8 the whole year. I say the whole year—there is, mostly, a short vacation in the summer season—the other districts are fractional ones, and schools are only kept from three to six months in the year. There has been one female teacher employed from the State Normal School; the salary of teachers vary from about sixty dollars to eighty dollars per quarter.—There has been no county examiners appointed for our county. In addition to reading, writing and arithmetic, book keeping, geography and grammar are taught—I have only found three studying mathematics—also algebra. I find the public money

will pay about one half the schooling where the school is kept open the whole year, and some do not send only when it is free school, and some not then, and many send their children to school very irregular, consequently do not get the benefit of the public money that the school law intends they should.—Our school houses have none of them been remodelled or improved any since my last report, although some are in a very uncomfortable condition.

JAMES COOMBS,
Town Superintendent.

UPPER ALLOWAYS CREEK.

The interest manifested in the welfare of our public schools is increasing. The schools are, with but one or two exceptions, supplied with competent teachers. If we could have a uniform system of text books in our schools it would materially add to the interest and improvement of them. Our public money is divided a portion to each term, and most of the schools have been free the past year. Parents and trustees neglect to visit the schools very much in my township, which makes it a difficult matter to get them to purchase books, &c., for the benefit of the pupil. Webster's Unabridged Dictionary has not been furnished to scarcely any of our schools, which is very much wanted, and Lippincott's Pronouncing Gazetteer of the World for the use of schools is much called for.

DAVID SHIMP, JR.,
Town Superintendent.

UPPER PENN'S NECK.

Accompanying I send the statistical report, filled only so far as my positive knowledge goes. I have been unable to ascertain the number of children who have attended school for either nine, six, or three months, or even the whole num-

ber of children taught for any period during the year, on account of my being otherwise employed in pursuing my daily calling. The teachers of the various districts have failed to send me reports of their schools, and as my time has been so taken up that I could not visit all the schools to ascertain for myself, I must report a non-compliance of this part of the list. Another difficulty in the way is, some have only taught one quarter, some two, and so on. Thus you perceive that the same district has had two teachers this year. In fact there are but two districts in the township where the same teachers have taught the whole year.

The salaries of teachers are various, males receiving double and treble that of females, and the amount I have specified is the supposed average. No examiners have been appointed in the county to my knowledge.

Not a single district has maintained a free school for the whole year. The summer sessions are partly free and partly supported by the patrons. The winter sessions are generally free.

The teachers are sometimes examined by the superintendent, in the presence of the trustees, but more frequently in their absence. It is a habit in this township for the trustees to select a teacher, place him in the school, and call on the superintendent for a license, and that is the end of the business. If the teacher gives satisfaction, all right—if not, at the end of the quarter they shift him. Now, this is all wrong, and a violation of the law. It is impossible for the superintendent to perform his duty without the aid of the trustees, and I must say that the interest manifested by the trustees in many of the schools is very inconsiderable. In others, however, the spirit of improvement is manifested. Great care is taken in the selection of proper persons to teach, and much labor given towards the support of the schools, and in maintaining a high moral and intellectual tone of instruction to the pupil.

MAYHEW JOHNSON,
Town Superintendent.

SOMERSET COUNTY.

BERNARD.

The schools of this township have been conducted during the year with about the ordinary degree of efficiency. The school houses, with one or two exceptions, are good and well adapted to purposes of education. The general appreciation of the true nature and importance of public schools seems to be advancing. In some instances, however, teachers of a very inferior grade have been employed. Not many of the pupils of the Normal School have yet found occupation in this part of the State. This want must continue to be felt until the districts are willing and able to employ teachers permanently and on higher salaries.

JOHN C. RANKIN,
Town Superintendent.

BRIDGEWATER.

As our town meetings take place in April of every year, and the reports are required to include the whole year, beginning in January, I have found it very difficult to make this report as accurate as desirable, including, as it does, one quarter which transpired before my official duties commenced, and about one-fourth of the schools having changed teachers in April, some of the rolls were lost. I have, therefore, been compelled to rely upon estimate for some of the statistics, but I think they may be relied upon as very nearly accurate.

Districts Nos. 8, 9, 11 and 12, comprising one hundred and thirty-five children, are parts of districts attached to schools in the adjacent townships of Branchburg and Bedminster.

Our teachers are all employed upon a fixed salary, designated in columns 23 and 24. I have left the 15, 16, and 17 columns blank, because the sums they would contain respectively are given by their total amount at the foot of each.

It is not safe to infer that because there are one thousand four hundred and forty children whose legal place of tuition is in Bridgewater, there must be five hundred and fifty who receive no educational instruction whatever. We have a school house in District No. 5, for colored children, in which a school is kept one quarter in each year, and I regret that I have no means of reporting the number of children that attended it for the quarter taught in the early part of the current year. The teacher, however, was not licensed, consequently I could pay him no public money, and he left without a record.

Besides, there are three private schools in the township, one an incorporated seminary at Boundbrook, another, the Young Ladies Institute at Somerville. The number of children and youth taught in these schools I can have no official knowledge of; but I think it safe to conclude, that of one thousand four hundred and forty children whose place of instruction is within the township, not more than four hundred have been out of the schools; and when it is considered that children finish their education at the age of fifteen, we account for three hundred and sixty of the number, leaving forty outside of the schools.

On the whole, we think our schools and the interest of education are gaining ground and rising in public favor. The teachers now employed understand the science of government much better than some crowned heads who sway their sceptres over much larger empires. I can say what perhaps very few superintendents can say: that all our schools are now orderly and well governed.

CALEB MORTON,
Town Superintendent.

FRANKLIN.

I herewith transmit to you a statistical report of the schools in this township, as accurately as the reports received enable me to do. I find it very difficult to obtain correct reports, from the change of teachers and want of school registers. We have still an efficient board of county examiners, who statedly attend to examining and licensing teachers. The appropriation from the State, and the money voted by the township, amounting to three thousand four hundred and ninety-three dollars and thirty-eight cents, except a small balance, has been apportioned to the several districts which maintain the schools free from eight to twelve months; one-half the State funds only has been received, which I divided to the several districts. Since my last annual report, two school houses have been included in this township from North and South Brunswick townships, by a change of the county line, and two new districts have been formed in this township. The schools generally have been well attended. The school houses are mostly comfortable frame buildings; one new school house has been built in one of the new districts, and one quarter school has been taught therein by individual subscription. The books used in the school are very various. Most of the schools have the Unabridged Dictionary, and some have Lippincott's Pronouncing Gazetteer.

As so much has been suggested, and so much advice given in former reports of superintendents, I deem it unnecessary to say more.

J. J. VAN NOSTRAND,
Town Superintendent.

MONTGOMERY.

In presenting my annual report of the condition of the schools in the township, I have nothing of special interest to record. The most of the schools have been kept open the whole time during the past year, except some delay in procuring suitable teachers. There are eight districts in the township, and all supplied with teachers—six male and two female—who are licensed by the county board of examiners, except two, who have not yet had an opportunity of presenting themselves before the Board. I cannot say there has been any marked improvement in our schools the past year; while some are kept up with an increased degree of interest, others are still plodding in the old paths. There does not seem to be that manifest interest on the part of parents which should prompt them to greater exertions in the education of their children. They are too willing to leave the whole matter in charge of the teachers, when they should be co-workers in the great work of training up their children in the way they should go. I trust the time is not far distant when all will see the great necessity of renewed energy in the cause of education in our land, and not spare their time nor means in accomplishing the great object.

LAWRENCE VANDERVEER,
Town Superintendent.

SUSSEX COUNTY.

BYRAM.

I am happy to say, that, as a general thing, the cause of education in this township is in a good condition; our schools are well attended, and the interest taken in them by the parents of children is on the increase. None of the schools have retrograded since my last report, but all seem to be rather on the advance. In this district, number one, Stanhope, the school has been kept open all the year by voluntary contribution from the patrons, over and above the amount of the public funds appropriated to its support, and has been, for about two-thirds of the time, full. In most of the other districts the schools have been free as long as the public funds would last, say from five to six months in the year. We have no county examiners in this county, and all teachers in this township are licensed by the town superintendent.

We here, in common I suppose with all the other parts of the State, are much annoyed and inconvenienced by the manner in which the State school funds are paid over to the superintendents. I this year received in July one half (about one hundred and fifty dollars,) of the said fund, and at the same time was notified by the county collector that I could not have the balance until after January 1, 1859. Now this is all wrong, as the law requires *all* this money to be paid over by May 1st, in every year; and as it is now managed, all the schools are carried on comparatively without funds all the summer season, which renders it almost impossible to procure good teachers, as they do not want to wait until the taxes are col-

lected in December, for their pay for teaching all summer. To show you how this thing has operated in this township, I will only state, that with one hundred and fifty-six dollars and thirty cents—one half of the State fund and interest or surplus revenue, I have had to carry on and keep going *seven* schools from April to December, when the school taxes of the township will be collected and paid over.

We can easily see to what annoyance this subjects both teachers and superintendent, to have the district trustees drawing orders on our empty treasury, and the treasurer being unable to pay, through the neglect of the State Legislature to so arrange the State school fund, (which should be held sacred to the wants of the school system,) that the teachers in the State should not be asked or expected to lose in getting the monthly or quarterly orders cashed, or teach all summer *for the State on credit*. This is not only a great inconvenience, but is a disgrace to our State, and a blot on our school system that should be wiped off without delay.

E. A. REEDER,
Town Superintendent.

FRANKFORD.

I am somewhat of a novice in the business of school superintendence, yet, yielding to the wishes of my too partial friends and neighbors, I consented to serve. Should it be their pleasure to re-appoint me for the next year, I hope to be able to present statistics more accurate, and a report founded on careful observation, that shall furnish you with correct data as far as the township of Frankford is concerned.

I have no facts of former years at hand with which to compare the present, and thus to exhibit the progress of education in this township. Judging, however, from the limited inspection which I have been able to make, I should say that the several district schools will compare favorably with those of any similar agricultural town in the State. Most of our male

teachers are competent men, some of them highly so: that is, men of good attainments in the several branches of English learning, and what is no less important, "apt to teach." Of our female teachers, it is enough to say, that so well satisfied are their employers with their services, that the greater number of them are retained term after term, without any desire or thought on either part to dissolve the connection, and I do think it would be a serious loss to the several districts should either of the truly excellent ladies to whom I allude conclude to retire from their work.

A word about school buildings. I am of opinion that it requires a more than common amount of Christian philosophy on the part of teachers to pursue their avocations, and greater powers of endurance on the part of the children than they generally get credit for possessing, to study in such buildings as are found throughout the State, commonly ill-ventilated, small, low frame buildings, unprotected by a single tree, (indeed, the trees seem to have been carefully and purposely removed for a great distance around the school house;) there is nothing to shield the poor patient martyrs from being roasted alive in the summer, and, taking the fractured walls and ill-fitting doors and windows into the account, frozen in the winter. Besides, there is nothing suggestive of refinement, nothing to educate the eye and taste of the young in such ill-conditioned shanties as are often dignified with the name of school houses. It will indicate the growing interest of our population in the subject of education when the country shall be dotted over with little tasty structures, neatly ornamented, and well shaded by groups of elms or maples, and standing in the middle of a spacious and well-fenced play ground. It will cause the countenances of the residents of the district to glow with honest pride, as, pointing the inquiring stranger to such a building, he can say, "That, sir, is our school house." Some may be disposed to reply to this, "Impracticable!" Well, it may be, but I believe it isn't.

G. W. LLOYD,
Town Superintendent.

HARDYSTOWN.

There has been no material change since my last report. Some of our schools have been unfortunate with their teachers, on account of sickness, and have been vacant when otherwise they should not. Most of the schools have been kept open during the year, allowing for the usual vacations.

Our school money amounts to \$2.37 per scholar, which enables us to pay better wages than we otherwise should. But we have too many "penny wise" among us, who stick to the "old foggy" system of employing those who will work the *cheapest*. Until that is done away with, our common schools cannot be what they should. Again, I repeat, *increase the wages of the common school teacher*.

THOMAS C. ELSTON,
Town Superintendent.

NEWTON.

It is very evident that the cause of popular education has made substantial progress in this township during the past year. We have a corps of earnest, faithful teachers, and they have accomplished all that could reasonably be expected of them, especially considering the adverse circumstances under which *some* of them have been laboring. In several districts the experiment has been made of employing female instructors, and in every instance I believe with entire success. Can any good reason be given why ordinary male teachers should be employed in our small schools at \$25 per month, when females of as much experience and infinitely better qualified can be secured for a much less sum? It would be well for trustees to take this matter into consideration, for it is a well known fact that in those portions of our country, especially in the north east, where our public schools have attained the highest degree of excellence, female teachers are employed almost exclusively

in the smaller schools. We raise here by tax \$2.50 per scholar, which with the amount received from the State, and the balance from last year, amounts to \$4,799.60. This is sufficient to keep most of the schools in operation during the entire year. A profitable session of the Sussex County Teachers' Institute was held at this place in October, under the supervision of Messrs. J. S. Smith and J. D. Reynolds. About forty teachers were in attendance, and the zeal and earnestness with which they engaged in the several exercises of the Institute evinced their determination to attain a higher eminence in their profession. Our institutes fail of accomplishing the purpose for which they were established, from the fact that less than one third of the teachers in the county are accustomed to attend them. Those who most need their instructions are very sure to stay away, and will continue to do so until it shall be made an explicit requirement of the law that no district shall be entitled to public money whose teacher has not been in attendance at some institute. Our institutes are one of the best means the State affords for the professional improvement of teachers, and it has a right to demand their attendance.

One great obstacle to the complete success of our schools, is the miserable condition of our school houses, some of which are scarcely better than a merciful man would provide for his animals, and quite insufficient to protect the youthful inmates from the piercing blasts of winter. Or what is decidedly worse, if possible, from thirty to forty pupils are in some instances crowded into a small room, with no means of ventilation, and there compelled to inhale an atmosphere entirely unfit for respiration. Indeed, the whole arrangement of many of them seems to have been made without the least regard to taste, comfort, convenience or health. It is passing strange that in a township like this, which can boast of so much intelligence, wealth and public spirit, such unsightly structures should be permitted to stand as monuments of disgrace to the several districts in which they are located. It is a sad fact that we have some men who never fail to attend an agricultural

fair, who will go into raptures over a "fast horse," even going sixty miles to witness a test of speed in which their favorite "Patchen's" reputation is involved; yet who will persistently oppose the erection of a comfortable school house for their children. Nor do these men ever visit their schools; they would consider a man foolish or insane were he to employ a laborer, even for a short time, upon his farm, without closely supervising his operations, yet they will, with apparent unconcern, permit a teacher to operate upon the deathless minds of their children, to fashion and mould them at his will, and in all probability control their destiny, not only for a time, but for eternity. Another evil arises from the fact that districts are not sufficiently guarded in the selection of proper men to fill the responsible office of trustee, but elect men to that office who have not a single qualification for it—men incapable of judging of the merits or defects of a school, and who are so wedded to the methods of instruction practiced years ago, as to regard with suspicion and distrust any of the modern improvements which intelligent educators have approved and adopted, and which is forming a new era in the education of youth. When it is remembered that at our public schools the great mass of the rising generation are to receive their only education, that they are there to form those habits of thought and principles of action which will influence their whole future life, how can any one regard with indifference the efforts now making to give permanence to these institutions? or who can deny their urgent claims upon all who are desirous of perpetuating the priceless blessings of civil and religious liberty, and of elevating man to that position in the scale of being which the God of nature has made him capable of attaining?

HENRY D. CHAPIN,
Town Superintendent.

SANDYSTON.

There are some districts in this township where the school houses are in so dilapidated a condition that a school cannot be kept in them, and the inhabitants will not repair them, and consequently they are without a school, except three months in a year; then, if they can rent some private room, they will have a school long enough to use up the free money, and then the children run at large for another twelve months.

I request that the Superintendents of such, or all townships wherein the inhabitants of a certain district fail or neglect to rebuild or repair their school houses, be authorized by law to rebuild or repair said house, and to tax the inhabitants thereof, each according to his last assessment, to the amount of his (the Superintendent's) expenses, and the same to be collectable immediately.

JOS. W. FISHER,
Town Superintendent.

SPARTA.

Examiners have not been appointed in this county, consequently the duty of examining and licensing teachers devolves upon the superintendent and trustees of the several districts. The trustees generally apply the public funds to the schools in due proportion in each term, and the balance is collected from the employers. Our township raises only two hundred dollars by tax, which is not sufficient, with the State money, to keep our schools free but for a small portion of the year. We have but one school (District Number five) that is kept open for the year. District Number four has been kept open for ten months of the year, and is in a flourishing condition. Most of our schools languish for the want of attention on the part of trustees, and interest on the part of parents. None of our schools have been free for the whole year.

Would it not be well for our Legislature to remedy the deficiencies of the treasury by a State tax, and the deficiencies of our schools by making them all free?

AMOS H. BELLES,
Town Superintendent.

STILLWATER.

In the many numerous visits I have made to the schools in this township, I have been able to discern a gradual improvement, notwithstanding that in all of the districts, except Numbers one, three and eight, where they have had permanent and experienced teachers, continual change of teachers is still going on. And alas, it is too frequently the case that very many of them are both incompetent and inexperienced. No county examiners have ever been appointed, I believe, in this county, nor is it probable there ever will be, without an amendment of the law. On any subject, a law without a penalty is useless, and not only useless, but becomes simply ridiculous, when on the subject of education it requires acts to be performed by a usually illiterate, always irresponsible, and sometimes reckless body of men. I think it is high time that the requirements of the freeholders is removed, or a penalty annexed that will ensure the faithful performance of the duties enjoined upon them, relative to our public schools. For I believe, as I submitted to you in my last annual report, that there is nothing but a board of examiners will ensure the township of Stillwater good teachers in her public schools; for the law has been construed by some of my illustrious predecessors, that the trustees and patrons of schools license a teacher, and that a Superintendent is but a presiding officer over that formidable body.

H. L. EMMANS,
Town Superintendent.

VERNON.

In compliance with the laws of our State, in respect to our free school system, there is one point that ought to be particularly noticed, as regards the application of public moneys, whether it is just to apply the whole to the summer school, and none to the winter, or the whole to the winter school, and none to the summer. I recommend that one-half be applied to summer, and one-half to the winter, that all may receive the benefit of it. And further—that no person applying for a school, shall enter upon the duties as teacher, until he or she has obtained a certificate of license for such school. And further, that it be definitely made known, whether the trustees have the power to draw twenty dollars of their public money each year, for the purchase of school house fixtures, such as stoves, repairing of house, or furnishing fuel.

There has been a decided improvement in the schools from last year. The schools were well attended at my quarterly visits, in nearly all. Teachers have been less frequently changed, which result is beneficial. The whole number of male and female teachers, who have received license this year, is twenty-one, *viz.* : fourteen male, seven female teachers. No county examiners have been appointed.

The books in use are the same as last year. Eleven schools are now in progress, employing ten male teachers, and one female. Number of whole districts is sixteen, and one part of a district. Average number of months the schools have been kept open is seven and three-fourths. No teachers are hired by the year. Average monthly wages of male teachers, sixteen dollars; female, ten dollars. There has been school in every district this year, varying from four to twelve months. Ten of the schools have been free, supported by their public money—average number of months kept, six and two-fifths; six by the patrons and public money—average number of months kept, ten.

Two school houses have been thoroughly repaired, costing about two hundred and forty dollars—Numbers twelve and fourteen—the former costing about one hundred, the latter one hundred and thirty-seven dollars. The money has not yet been paid by the collector.

The whole amount of school money to be used for school purposes, is one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine dollars and eighty-eight cents. Raised by the town, one thousand dollars; from the State, six hundred and thirty-two dollars and fifty-four cents. Due on last year's money, twenty-seven dollars and thirty-four cents. For repairing school houses, two hundred and forty dollars. One-half the State money is not due until after the first of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine. Since April last, (at which time the Superintendent makes his report to his successor and the committee,) I have paid out seven hundred and seventy-eight dollars and forty-five cents, leaving eight hundred and eighty-one dollars and forty-three cents subject to order, up to next April.

N. B. The legislative body will please notice that the schools of this township have not received Webster's Unabridged Dictionaries, although orders were forwarded for them two years ago. The schools are in much need of them.

N. B. GIVEANS,
Town Superintendent.

WANTAGE.

I shall make but one suggestion at present as to the school law, and that is, it should be so amended that the teachers should go to the superintendent to be examined instead of the superintendent travelling the township to examine them. This would save expense, besides much trouble, and be conducive in other respects to the benefit of the schools. The way it operates now is, a teacher comes along and wants a school, and the trustees or district employs him and he goes to work, and

it may be from two to four weeks before the superintendent hears of it or they send him word, and then he goes to examine him and finds he is not qualified as he should be; and the trustees see it too, but they say he has been with us some time, and some like him, and if we turn him away now some will be dissatisfied, therefore we better keep him the quarter out. But it gets noised about that he is a little deficient in qualification, and he loses his influence and the scholars begin to drop off, and at the end of three months he must leave, and therefore there is continual changing among the teachers; whereas if the teachers would go to the superintendent first, and be examined, and let him specify in the license given the branches they are competent to teach, then when they make application for a school all the trustees would have to do would be to examine the license, and if the branches specified therein were sufficient for their school, to employ them; and then there could be no deception as far as qualification is concerned; and the license should be for the townships in which it is given.

MOSES STOLL,
Town Superintendent.

UNION COUNTY.

NEW PROVIDENCE.

Our schools have been in successful operation during the entire year, and I am happy to be able to say, a very decided improvement has manifested itself in the cause of education here. Within the past two years we have increased our school tax from one hundred and seventy-one dollars and

eighty-two cents, to seven hundred and eighty-six dollars—a very respectable advance.

The teachers are well qualified to teach the elementary branches of an English education, and seem to have made teaching a profession, and are fully impressed with the great responsibility that rests upon them in the discharge of their arduous duties.

Our school houses are generally in good condition, so far, at least, as the health and comfort of the children is concerned.

We have no county examiners, and consequently our teachers are licensed by the superintendent and trustees of the respective districts.

J. A. McEACHRON,
Town Superintendent.

PLAINFIELD.

Is it not time that our State should move in providing libraries for our district schools? It is difficult to imagine why the effort has not been made before this time. The example of neighboring States who annually appropriate large amounts for this purpose, together with the admitted need and the salutary effects of such libraries in elevating minds of the youth enjoying them ought to stimulate our legislators.

In our public schools, feeling the need of such a library, so universal in New York and other States, we endeavored long since to collect one by the contributions of friends. A large number of musty old books, the refuse of private libraries, were collected, but the children would not read them. So last Spring the plan of a fair for the purpose, to be held on the Fourth of July, was started and carried out successfully by the girls department, assisted by public spirited ladies of the place. One hundred and sixty dollars were the nett proceeds of this effort, sufficient to purchase about four hundred volumes of works adapted to their tastes, the very best to be obtained

both as to matter and style, such as Abbott's Illustrated Biographies, Harper's Story Books and the like.

The regulations of the library, which has now been several months in operation, requiring punctual attendance for the week as a condition to its use, has produced a remarkable effect in improving the punctuality of the school, the number of readers having increased from thirteen in the first week to more than one hundred at the present time, while much more important will be the habits of reading thus formed, and the lessons of virtue thus instilled in their youthful minds.

C. H. STILLMAN,
Town Superintendent.

RAILWAY.

With regard to the progress made by our schools since my last report, it has been on the whole satisfactory. The experience of the past year has shown the true economy of employing competent and efficient teachers, even with such remuneration as may be necessary to secure the services of such instructors. The schools throughout the township with but one or two exceptions, have been kept open during the year.— In one or two of the less populous districts, the amount raised by tax is not sufficient to maintain a teacher throughout the year, and I should be glad to report more readiness on the part of the patrons of the school and the inhabitants generally, to make up any such deficiencies.

Our school houses generally are in good repair, and as comfortable as they can be made under a system which takes no account of the necessity for proper ventilation. It is perhaps too much to expect any change in this respect in our country school houses until the progress of time and an increased population shall cause them to be replaced by better buildings, constructed on more rational principles. In the better class of school edifices which are now erected, this point, fortunately for the children, is better attended to.

The amount raised in our township for school purposes, from various causes, as will be seen, falls short considerably of that of last year, the amount raised by tax for the current year, not being sufficient of itself to maintain the schools free throughout the year as heretofore, though it is believed that proper measures will be taken to meet any deficiency that may arise, so that the interests of the schools may not suffer in consequence.

WILLIAM E. BLOODGOOD,
Town Superintendent.

UNION.

In addition to the statistical report herewith transmitted, I have only to add that no examiners have been appointed for the county.

We have no free schools in the township. All our teachers are examined according to the requirements of the law, and duly licensed. We regret that they are not all as well qualified as we could wish. The deficiency is not so much in education as in aptness to teach, yet we have two or three excellent teachers. There has been an improvement in some of our school houses during the year, rendering them more comfortable, attractive, and suitable for their designed object.

ROBERT STREET,
Town Superintendent.

WESTFIELD.

Our schools throughout our township, during the season so far have been furnished with good and competent teachers, and bid fair to continue so during the winter; and notwithstanding there appears to be a growing interest among parents in the cause of education, it appears like "confidence, a plant of slow growth." Might not something be done by way of

appointing a competent person to visit the different townships throughout the State, and deliver lectures on the subject, by which parents, guardians and all, young and old, may become alive to the interest of so important and indispensable a subject as the education of the young and rising generation of a State so rich and abundant in her resources and revenues; a State among the first to resist tyranny and oppression from a foreign foe, to cast off the yoke of British thralldom, and dare to declare itself, among her twelve sister States, a free and independent State, and shall we, the legitimate descendants of this illustrious bequest, the heirs of this inestimable legacy, be content to stop short of giving every child capable of receiving instruction, a good and thorough English education. Cannot our State Legislature the ensuing winter make such appropriations as our schools throughout the State may become (as they should be) free.

The school law is very imperfectly understood by our joint districts in our township as regards the election of trustees.—They presume it necessary to elect three trustees in each township, making six trustees in some of our joint districts. How long this state of things has been allowed I am not able to say; and another error is the appropriation of the school money raised by the different townships in unequal sums. The money raised in each township has been applied exclusively to the children residing in their respective townships. To illustrate my point: A district is formed partly from township A, and partly from township B; township A raises three dollars per scholar, while township B raises but two dollars per scholar; consequently the children residing in township A are enabled to attend a free school one third longer than the children residing in township B. Such has been the manner heretofore in which the money has been appropriated; but you will accept my thanks for your explanation of the law, that no district is entitled to but three trustees, of how many townships it may be composed, and the moneys appropriated to any district are to be equally apportioned among all the children of

the district, however unequal the moneys raised in the several townships which make up said district.

The Teachers' Institute, held in our county, it would have afforded me much pleasure to have attended, as well as the teachers in our township, but we received no notice of its meeting.

Our schools are all in a very flourishing condition, with but one or two exceptions. The books used, principally, are Town's and Sander's series of readers; Town's and Sander's speller and definer and analysis; Davis' and Greenleaf's series of arithmetic and algebra; Smith's and Weld's English grammar and Green's composition; Smith's National geographical series of geography; Phelps's botany and philosophy.

Lippincott's Gazetteer we have not been able to procure for any of our districts, which I very much regret. Our districts are all supplied with Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, which is a valuable acquisition to our schools. Will not our legislature extend their liberality, and place Brown's Grammar of English Grammar side by side of Webster's Dictionary, in every district throughout the State.

And one great and paramount cause of the apathy and indifference which is so manifest among our people, as regards education, is, we are not as much as is desirable a reading community; and if any of our young people are inclined to read, the first reading matter thrown in their way, is the New York Ledger, or some other reading equally as trifling and fictitious. As a remedy, I would suggest that one-fifth or one-fourth of the money appropriated to school purposes, for five successive years, in each and every district, should be applied for the purchase of a library for each and every district throughout the State, with restrictions, that no novel, fictitious or sectarian book of any kind, shall be allowed in any school district library, but each and every book to contain useful, interesting, and instructive information, by which the standard of society and of morality may be improved throughout the State.

The present school system, as regards the "raising any sum

of money, not exceeding three dollars, in any township, for the establishment of free schools," appears to be rather unequally divided in different parts of the State; for instance, in some towns there may be but little wealth, and a large population, consisting mostly of that class of the community who pay no other than a poll tax, who hold the balance of power in their hands, and if they see proper to vote for free schools, or to raise three dollars per scholar, a very onerous and oppressive tax is imposed on a few, whom fortune has favored with a competence. While in an adjoining township, composed mostly of farmers, and persons possessing wealth, and but few who do not possess real estate or other taxable property, maintain a free school at a much easier rate. And if so unequal in townships, how much more so in districts incorporated, where they have the power, by a two-thirds vote, to raise by tax a sum sufficient to support a free school. In some districts the whole expense of keeping up a school would devolve upon four or five individuals, which allowing a teacher's salary to be four hundred dollars, would impose a tax from eighty, to one hundred dollars a year, while in an adjoining district his neighbor worth double the amount of property pays a tax of twenty-five dollars a year. It appears to me that the school question is a State question, and while we admit it to be to the interest of every township to educate the masses, it is no less to the interest of the State of New Jersey to educate her citizens, knowing "that popular intelligence is a powerful element of national strength, and the surest safeguard of right institutions."

Would it not be more equitable if the school tax were a State tax? and what our legislature fails to appropriate sufficient to establish free schools throughout the State let the State Treasury be responsible for the balance.

FREDERICK A. KINCH,
Town Superintendent.

WARREN COUNTY.

FRANKLIN.

As usual, the inhabitants of this township raise a liberal amount for the support of common schools the present year. In most of our schools we have frequent changes of teachers, and in some instances no regular school register is kept; those that do attempt to report, make very inaccurate ones.

It would be well for the State to furnish the districts with suitable blanks, in order to obtain reliable school statistics. Some of our schools will compare favorably with any in the rural districts. In Broadway, Hicks, Franklin, and Good Spring, free schools have been maintained for nine months the past year. And in Burd's district, a free school has been open only for three months, it being too small a district to maintain a free school for any longer period. New Village and Asbury have been kept open twelve months. In these districts about ten dollars have been assessed on the pupils each term.

No examiners for the county have been appointed. The teachers are all licensed by the Town Superintendent and trustees.

JAMES VLIET,
Town Superintendent.

FRELINGHUYSEN.

I inclose you my report, as required by law, though I have not been able to fill up all the columns.

The range of studies has been somewhat extended. There are very few of our schools in which one or more of the following studies are not pursued, in addition to their other studies, *viz.* : algebra, geometry, natural philosophy, botany, physiology, and Latin.

In some of our districts the schools are not as well attended as they have been, owing, in a measure, to the changes in the mode of paying teachers. Heretofore the plan has been (and is yet in some of the districts) to draw up what is called "an article," and to get as many to sign it as possible, specifying the number of children they intended to send. For that number they paid, at the rate of two dollars per quarter for each scholar, whether they sent or not. Those who did not sign, paid for every day the children attended, and no more. On this plan, the compensation of the teacher was rather uncertain as to amount. Some teachers have therefore adopted the plan of demanding for their services a certain amount per month, which is certainly the fairest way. But many refuse to send to the schools where this plan has been introduced, on the supposition that the price must be higher per scholar, which need not be the case.

Our State has been talking for some years about free schools. If we ever have them, some other plan will have to be adopted, than any yet produced. The present plan produces much mischief, for it throws a bone of contention and strife among neighbors, which must be the case where they are required to tax themselves. Why would it not be much better to transfer to the School Fund all the income of the State from railroads, canals, &c., and provide for the expenses of the State by taxation. The benefits that would arise from this, would be numerous, and there would, perhaps, be as little objection to it as to any mode that might be devised.

W. C. MCGEE,
Town Superintendent.

HACKETTSTOWN.

I enclose a very imperfect report of our schools, on account of our having changed our teachers, and am unable to make any further remarks on account of my ill health, having been confined to my room for the last seven weeks, and can only say, that our school is now in a flourishing condition.

WILLIAM REA,
Town Superintendent.

HARMONY.

The number of school districts in this township is eight.—The school houses are generally in good repair. There are six frame, and two stone buildings. With respect to play-ground, there is not an enclosed, much less an ornamental play-ground in this township connected with a public school; the play-grounds are the open woods, the rough hill sides, or the public highways, the very place where the scholar of any school should not be.

The school houses are shaded by the natural forest, those that have any shading; as for being ornamentally shaded, they are not.

Three of the schools of this township are supplied with outline maps, and one, in connection with the outline maps, is supplied with globes, geometrical blocks, &c.

Five of the school houses are *properly* ventilated.

The branches taught in the schools of this township, are orthography, reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, and definitions. Some of the higher branches are being taught, with considerable success, in three of them.

By all the most judicious teachers, black board exercises and illustrations are extensively used, and principles, not books, are demonstrated.

In relation to the books used in this township, we have Sanders' series of reading books, Smith's geographis, Wells,' Smith's, Tower's and Kirkham's grammars; Thompson's arithmetic, and Davies' elementary algebra. Punishments are rare in the schools of this township; corporal punishment has almost disappeared; other plans, appealing to the conscience, or setting a proper example before the pupils, answering the better purpose. The Town Superintendent has visited all the schools in this township twice, and will endeavor to visit them twice more before his term of office expires. But two of the schools have been visited in connection with the superintendent, by any of the trustees or inhabitants of the districts.

Since the first of April, the superintendent, in connection with the trustees, has examined and licensed eight teachers, and rejected one. The amount of money raised by tax in this township is seven hundred dollars; this sum, in connection with the State fund and interest of the surplus revenue, amounts to one thousand forty dollars and fifty-four cents.

The children reported by the district trustees in this township, between the ages of five and eighteen, is four hundred and sixty-four. From this you will see that the amount appropriated is equal to two dollars twenty-four cents and twenty-six hundredths to each scholar.

All the schools are supplied with a copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, and two of them with Lippincott's Pronouncing Gazetteer.

E. M. ALLEN,
Town Superintendent.

MANSFIELD.

As far as I am able to judge, most of the schools in the township are in a prosperous condition; some of them decidedly so, as they have obtained the services of the most thorough and efficient teachers, thereby introducing many of

the higher branches, and calling in advanced pupils from adjoining townships and counties.

One district has fallen into a local disturbance, (the cause of which it is not necessary to state here,) resulting in the application by one party for a new district. I refused to make any division, as it was strongly opposed, and the district is not large enough to admit of it.

Most of the schools change teachers frequently, many of them two or three times a year; one has retained the same teacher for the last two years; it is now the farthest advanced and most regularly attended school in the township.

I have noticed in some of the schools a lack of uniformity of books; several children pursuing the same branches, equally advanced, each with a different kind of book; this makes the classes more numerous, consequently the labors of the teacher more arduous and less effectual. But I think by a little care of the teacher and Town Superintendent, a better classification can be substituted.

The school houses are all in good repair, and well furnished with stoves and fuel for winter.

I deem it unnecessary to prolong my remarks.

E. T. CASKEY,
Town Superintendent.

OXFORD.

I have nothing to communicate respecting the schools of this township for the last year that would materially differ from my former reports.

They have all been visited as the law directs; all the teachers have been licensed, and I am gratified to be able to state that some of them have made further advances during the last year, and are in a higher state of excellence at the present time than, to my knowledge, they ever before have been.

By furnishing each district with a school register, arranged and ruled in such a form as to give all the information to the superintendent that the law requires, the difficulty of procuring correct reports from the several school districts, which heretofore has been attended with much difficulty and uncertainty, has been obviated.

The inequality of the funds* of different townships where a school district has been formed from parts of two or more adjacent townships, is a serious inconvenience, and tends to interrupt and distract the harmony of such a school. Some townships raise by tax but one dollar per scholar, while others raise two, and others three dollars. Of course it follows, that where a district is formed of parts of two or more townships, each raising by tax different sums for the support of schools, that that part of the district belonging to the township having the least funds, is unable to pay its equal proportion of the expense of the school for a whole year, without having recourse to the subscription policy; and it is with much difficulty that any sum can be raised for the support of schools, after the expenditure of the public money.

An act by the legislature, authorizing the different townships to raise by tax some definite sum, adequate for the purposes of education, for every scholar between the ages of five and eighteen years, would, it is thought, contribute much to the cause, and have a tendency, in a great measure, to remove the objections that are now urged against the present method of raising money for the support of schools.

Men of wealth who are not directly interested in the maintenance of public schools, generally oppose the policy of raising money by tax, or reluctantly give their support to the measure. If every township should be compelled by law to raise a specific sum, according to the number of children, without submitting the question to a vote, all, it is believed, would acquiesce, while at the same time we should have a permanent and fixed policy of maintaining public schools.

D. D. CAMPBELL,

Town Superintendent.

PHILLIPSBURG.

It affords me pleasure to say that all our schools, during the past year, have been in the full tide of successful operation. Our public schools have become a permanent and indispensable institution; no longer regarded as an experiment of doubtful and questionable expediency, but of absolute necessity.

Gradual, but certain, have been their advancement, and most cheerfully have the people acquiesced in the necessity of contributing to so noble and worthy a cause. No labored arguments now, as in former times, are needed to convince the people of our township of the importance of common school education. This is encouraging, and promises a bright future to those who are yet to labor to sustain, or to be benefitted by the success of our common schools.

During the past year one of our school houses has been remodelled and greatly improved in regard to convenience, light, and ventilation. Our school houses are now all in good condition, with one exception.

The branches taught are reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, grammar, history, book-keeping, algebra, &c.

The teachers employed at present have all been examined and licensed, according to law, and it is believed are faithful and laborious in the discharge of their important duties. The attendance has been tolerably good throughout the year—the children seem orderly and attentive to their studies, which fact may be regarded as a good indication that the government is such as to command the proper respect of the children for their teachers.

While there may be defects in our school system, it is believed that if properly carried out in all its provisions, it will secure to the people of our State all that its most devoted friends can reasonably anticipate.

J. R. LOVELL,
Town Superintendent.

WASHINGTON.

The schools appear to be in about the same condition as in my last annual report ; the only difficulty is in regard to the money accruing to the several districts. In some three or four districts they have more than is required to keep the schools open, and in others not a sufficiency. We receive from the state and surplus revenue about sixty cents per scholar ; there is raised by tax two dollars per scholar, which on an average gives us about seven months free school. There appears to be a growing disinclination on the part of the inhabitants in regard to raising money by tax for school purposes, owing altogether to the difficulty in dividing it in such a manner that all alike may receive equal benefit. It is earnestly to be desired that the State may make such appropriation, or so arrange or modify the laws that free schools may be inaugurated throughout the State. I have only to reiterate my views of last year in regard to the re-division of all surplus or unexpended moneys of the various districts, either every, or every second year.

JNO. V. MATTESON,
Town Superintendent.

PRE

OF

Number of colored children who have at-
tended school.....

3
128
436
388
75
214
252
135
84
83
98
167
364
76
28
84
208
159
34
99
55
3170
132

SUMMARY OF THE PRECEDING ABSTRACTS,

EXHIBITING THE RESULTS IN THE SEVERAL COUNTIES OF THE STATE FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 15th, 1858.

COUNTIES. Population, 450,555		Number of townships in the county.....	Number that have made reports.....	Number of school districts in the county.....	Number that have reported to the Town Superintendent.....	Number of schools in the county.....	Number of children residing in the several townships of the county between the ages of five and eighteen years.....	Number who have attended school twelve months, allowance being made for the usual vacations.....	Number who have attended nine months but less than twelve.....	Number who have attended six months but less than nine.....	Number who have attended three months but less than six.....	Number who have attended a less period than three months.....	Number over the age of eighteen years who have attended school.....	Number of colored children who have attended school.....	Whole number of children who have attended school.....	Average daily attendance at school.....	Average number of months the schools have been kept open.....	Terms of tuition per quarter.....	Amount of money raised by tax for the support of schools.....	Amount received from the State.....	Amount received from other sources specified in the returns.....	Amount raised in addition for building, repairing and furnishing school houses.....	Total amount appropriated and raised for school purposes.....	Number of Teachers employed in the schools during the year.....	Males.....	Females.....	Salary of the teachers per annum.	
Atlantic.....	6	6	39	32	47	3,404	135	255	1065	863	257	37	3	2,612	1219	61	\$1 75	\$5,098 00	\$1,487 00	\$125 00	\$710 00	\$8,320 00	37	29	8	\$394	\$315	
Berge.....	0	0	50	55	54	5,440	817	908	680	630	507	0	138	3,887	1878	103	1 62	7,177 96	2,748 05	1,699 53	3,293 51	14,910 25	58	43	15	348	233	
Burlington.....	17	15	123	127	57	14,568	2250	1833	2589	2116	1576	107	436	10,450	4736	94	84	20,785 40	7,691 84	2,699 59	1,426 30	32,637 32	183	110	73	336	232	
Candee.....	0	0	52	50	77	9,806	1508	1425	1801	1666	1059	165	388	7,492	3309	9	1 05	25,266 64	4,260 01	3,279 01	780 00	32,686 66	84	46	38	410	355	
Cape May.....	8	8	26	26	22	2,341	100	470	878	442	340	40	75	3,270	1140	72		5,021 00	972 45	485 15		6,478 60	52	25	9	492	247	
Cumberland.....	10	10	55	55	70	6,551	1274	889	1501	1680	470	31	214	5,539	2755	81	1 39	15,567 20	2,012 62	1,904 83	844 19	19,229 14	113	59	54	372	190	
Essex.....	8	8	49	46	85	22,274	3330	1533	3871	3780	291	167	6,604	3450	10	1 12	21,708 00	5,000 62	4,944 18	4,505 00	36,337 80	105	54	61	430	245		
Gloucester.....	7	6	34	42	38	5,637	346	637	1370	1408	651	149	185	4,648	1559	92	2 25	8,338 00	2,702 04	1,865 36	1,619 70	11,615 04	71	49	22	380	258	
Hudson.....	14	12	126	126	30	9,833	1557	1754	1505	1549	847	30	83	7,548	4200	0	3 32	15,320 00	4,767 13	1,371 10	2,233 00	23,891 32	137	97	46	330	237	
Hunterdon.....	8	8	58	47	80	9,085	2924	778	1228	908	588	17	98	6,513	3274	103	94	18,977 00	4,837 69	813 47	8,400 00	32,828 16	93	47	40	410	154	
Mercer.....	7	6	75	75	81	10,100	1675	2016	1216	1197	462	30	167	6,604	3450	10	1 12	21,708 00	5,000 62	4,944 18	4,505 00	36,337 80	105	54	61	430	245	
Middlesex.....	14	12	110	102	19	11,968	2094	1552	2505	2124	1107	135	364	9,407	4357	92	2 14	23,276 00	5,830 48	2,588 77	550 00	32,344 25	121	83	38	380	250	
Monmouth.....	11	11	100	107	11	10,570	880	1139	1848	1970	1234	44	70	7,415	3865	84	1 06	16,588 37	5,207 19	3,261 61	1,045 73	27,102 96	133	83	40	338	230	
Ocean.....	6	5	46	33	42	4,408	235	615	1102	1104	734	34	25	38	3,030	1420	74	1 55	3,300 00	1,820 19	587 34	278 00	5,601 53	62	35	19	330	240
Pascale.....	6	4	35	35	48	8,701	1415	1012	1340	1030	983	54	28	84	5,669		92	1 16	16,342 46	2,480 70	2,364 26	1,406 22	21,190 62	84	54	24	462	233
Salem.....	10	9	69	62	79	7,342	789	1045	1554	1451	877	125	208	659	2758	9	1 11	6,145 26	3,749 89	2,029 31	275 00	11,140 46	92	49	43	363	220	
Somerset.....	8	7	50	70	76	6,847	433	937	1592	1494	614	105	75	150	4,687	2420	10	1 71	11,872 00	3,470 04	2,846 84	3,050 00	21,236 59	107	116	35	380	278
Union.....	12	12	124	124	184	8,272	1535	1426	2018	1196	822	100	34	6,905	3500	81	2 09	9,095 50	6,997 39	441 54	395 50	16,829 73	167	116	51	257	181	
Warren.....	7	7	28	20	43	6,060	982	739	893	1117	875	7	60	4,618	2115	104	89	18,169 00	2,750 50	918 82	11,277 00	33,121 32	69	28	31	385	204	
Warren.....	15	15	113	113	116	8,480	1480	1491	1868	1152	491	51	65	6,563		82	1 27	13,907 97	3,702 52	2,147 20	1,509 00	21,268 70	147	102	45	310	234	
	107	181	1455	1370	651	184,476	28,156	22,974	83,017	29,705	16,045	1447	3170	135,542		91	\$1 29	338,160 96	\$86,078 31	\$40,820 17	\$61,616 65	\$26,572 17	2103	1285	608	\$395	\$287	

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JUN 13 1952

AUG 21 1952

