

of all departments of school work, and though we have not yet attained to all that has been desired, yet we feel that, with the foundations already laid, much will be accomplished in the future.

County High School.--Our County High School, at Inverness, in charge of three competent lady teachers, is now accomplishing better work than ever before.

New Buildings.--Since July, 1894, several new buildings have been erected and furnished. Twenty-one school houses have been built since the division of the county from the old one, upon the plan the Board furnishing the material and the patrons doing or having the work done.

No Suggestions, Yet Suggests.--In view of the contempt with which past recommendations of County Superintendents to the State Legislature have been treated by that august body, I have no suggestions to make. I will say, however, that our present special tax law is exceedingly defective, and needs material amendment; but as every time it is touched by our wise solons it gets into a worse muddle. I presume it had better be let alone. It is incomprehensible as it is, in some parts, but further tinkering would only make confusion worse confounded. Nearly all our school laws are more or less contradicting and doubtful.

Sub-districts and Tax.--We have ten Sub-Districts in this county, levying a tax of from one and one-half to three mills. In our County School levy, we always go to the limit of the law (five mills) without opposition of the part of County Commissioners or others.

No Warrants Discounted.--When we run out of money, as we sometimes do before the new taxes come in, we borrow enough to do us, and never allow our warrants to be discounted. This year, as for several past, we had enough left over from last year to pay all expenses to the first of December. Our finances are in a sound condition at present, and likely to remain so. This county was one of the five in the State, last July, that could cash any county or school warrant on presentation or at sight.

This report has been written in great haste and is not, therefore, what I would desire it to be in the proper arrangement of its various parts, but I have no time now to revise it, and must submit it with the compliments of

Your humble servant,

E. S. HARRISON,

Co. Supt. Citrus Co., Fla.

CLAY COUNTY

Hon. Wm. N. Sheats, State Superintendent Public Instruction, Tallahassee, Fla.:

Dear Sir--In reply to your request for a report of the condition of the schools of Clay county, I take pleasure in saying that they are in better shape this year than ever. We have in Clay county fifty-four schools; forty-five for white and nine for colored pupils; the enrollment being 1281; 1048 white and 238 negro (sic) pupils. While we had seven schools not taught by the 30th of June, 1896, we will be able to have all taught the present term, which will increase the enrollment to 1400 on 1500. We have 35 teachers, 30 white and 5 negroes (sic).