

Nearly every county boasts of a jail costing from \$10,000 to \$30,000, and yet many towns that are county sites, cannot vote a Sub-District and levy \$1,000 for a High School building.

Are the military displays and the criminals of more importance to us than our children and the future prosperity of our country?

School Fund Robbed.--The fine and forfeiture fund has been taken from us, and now a demand is made upon us by County Commissioners to pay the Assessor and Collector of Revenue their commissions (on county school tax) from our meager school fund. We will not pay this unlawful claim unless forced to do so by the Supreme Court.

God grant a reformation along this line. May the people of Florida awake and realize that they owe their children a debt, and pay it.

Three Mill State Tax.--Give us a three mill State tax for educational purposes, a compulsory school law, and the apportionment of the school funds between the races according to equity and justice.

Very truly yours,

E. L. McDANIEL,

Supt. Public Instruction.

SUWANNEE COUNTY

Live Oak, Florida.

Hon. W. N. Sheats, State Supt. of Public Instruction, Tallahassee, Fla.:

Dear Sir--The schools of Suwannee county are in a decidedly better condition now than at any previous period. We have employed more high grade teachers and paid them better salaries for the years 1895 and 1896 than at any other time.

Evidences of Improvement.--We have established nine new schools in the past two years, and the enrollment and daily average attendance have increased, at least, 10 per cent. The patrons have taken more interest and have co-operated with the Superintendent and Board more than ever before.

Uniform Examination Law.--The Uniform Examination Law meets with the hearty approval of almost every one. It has certainly given us better teachers. The teacher appreciates a certificate more after having received it under the present law, because a very rigid examination makes him hustle for it.

Efficient teachers are in great demand in our county, which has largely been supplied, but yet there is room at the top. The best teachers get the most work and the biggest pay.

High School--Sub-District Tax.--We have two school Sub-Districts in the county which levy a three mill special tax. They are the Live Oak and Wellborn.

The tax of the Live Oak district is paid to the Suwannee High School, and amounts to \$1,000 yearly. This school is open eight months in the year and is free to any child of school age in the county. The school has been in the hands of a most efficient corps of teachers for the past two terms, and it