

made an arrangement which will be more satisfactory, viz: a direct loan from the Bank, which enables the teachers to get full face value for their warrants and obviates the necessity of looking after the discounts. The financial condition is improving.

Harmony and Interest.--There is probably greater harmony existing now among the various school officers than at any previous period. Upon the whole there is a greater school interest among patrons and teachers than heretofore. Our term this year was only five months in length, but there was a manifest desire to get the most out of it.

County Normals and Institutes.--In 1898 we had a very successful County Normal at Wildwood, conducted by the County Superintendent and assistants. This year we will hold a three months Normal at some place not yet determined. During the term for 1898, just expiring, we held several District Institutes for both white and colored teachers, and one County Institute for whites, at Bushnell. It was the best Teachers' meeting ever held in the county.

New Buildings and Examinations.--Several new buildings have been built for school purposes in the county. The State Uniform Examinations are conducted in the most impartial manner, without fear or favor, and the teachers pursue the work in a manly and business-like manner.

Course of Study.--We expect to soon have a course of study for our County Schools that will be comprehensive and specific without hampering the individuality of the teacher. While we have no distinctive County High School, we have a number of pupils in the public schools pursuing the studies usually embraced in a High School curriculum, and who will take the next examination for Teachers' Certificates.

Visits by County Superintendent.--I have visited each school once each month, carefully inspecting and reporting the conditions in the columns of our county paper. This has served as a valuable stimulus to excel.

Suggestions.--I hope you will use your influence in getting a law passed forcing each county to maintain at least one High School. I hope the time is not far distant when our boys and girls may, at least, be prepared for College in their County High School.

J. A. JONES,
County Superintendent.

SUWANNEE COUNTY

To comply with your request, in reference to the school interest in Suwannee county, I make the following: The School Board for 1897 and 1898, found that more schools had been established, than distance and number of pupils would justify. The Board, therefore, did something in the way of consolidation which has failed to meet the approval of most of the patrons affected thereby. Easy to divide, but not so to unite.

School Attendance.--My county is wholly agricultural, and at present prices of farm products, it is due my people to say, that a large per cent. of them believe they can not do otherwise than require their children to help make and gather the crop; and I can not be honest and report much general educational advancement. We look after the interest, try to have the schools taught at