

of Webster's International latest indexed sheep bound dictionaries in each of fifty white schools in the county.

Uniform Text Books.--I favor a State Uniform System of Text Books. I have given the subject considerable study and can see no argument that applies to County Uniformity that will not apply with equal force to State Uniformity.

The only difference between any of us, it appears to me, is, what shall constitute the unit of uniformity, one says the State while the other says the county. The same argument for or against can certainly be applied to either.

Give County Superintendents More Power.--On this subject I wish simply to re-write and emphasize what I wrote for your last Bi-ennial Report, "Enlarge the powers of the County Superintendent. Most people believe that he can carry or prevent the adoption of any measure at will. The truth is, he has no authority in regulating the conduct of the schools, no power or restraint or discretion on any subject matter, and yet he is held responsible by the people, his enemies in particular, for the mistakes or shortcomings of the school management. Responsibility without authority is unpleasant and unjust; justice and fairness demand that he be clothed with power and authority that will give him some potential voice and influence in the management of the schools, thereby putting him beyond the power of any member of the board who may be jealous and seek to retard his progress.

Why not make the County Superintendent a member of the School Board?

It would put no extra labor on him, and could be the means of doing away with one member of the board, which would save about \$4,000 over the State annually, and, in my opinion, would greatly improve the school system.

W. D. CARN

County Superintendent.

NASSAU COUNTY

Since my last report, the school work of this county has been seriously impeded by the severe measures of retrenchment adopted by the School Board in order to confine its expenditures within its resources, and the effort to reduce an indebtedness that has embarrassed its operations for several years.

Buildings.--We have erected no new buildings, and made only such incidental repairs as were actually necessary. As a result, a number of school buildings in the rural districts are verging on dilapidation, while all in the county are in need of more or less repairs.

Term.--Last year the school term was reduced from five to four months, excepting for the schools embraced within the sub-district of Fernandina, where the term was seven months.

Sub-District.--On June 13, 1899, the city of Fernandina was constituted a school sub-district, and voted an additional tax of two mills. As this system has been in operation but one term, its popularity can not yet be ascertained.

Scarcity of Teachers.--As the salaries of all positions have been reduced to a minimum rate, we have experienced much difficulty in securing teachers to supply our schools. We require forty-five teachers for our white schools