Educational

To the Teachers of Cumberland County.

The office of County Superintendent was created for the purpose of aiding the teacher in his arduous duties, to elevate the profession and to give directions in the art of teaching.

At this season of the year, when all our schools are going into operation, it may not be amiss to suggest some ideas for your consideration.

He who enters upon the profession of teacher, should not consider himself merely a person placed there, to teach a certain number of hours each day, but while he is engaged in imparting a knowledge of the studies *now required*, should remember that our common schools are progressing and ere long more advanced studies will be required.

The teacher should not only employ his leisure hours in the study of the different branches, but more particularly should he prepare himself for the daily exercise of the school-room.

To know the nature and disposition of pupils, is indispensable for the progress of a school, and by close observation, with some reflection on the part of the teacher, he will arrive at that form of school government which will secure to him the respect of his pupils.

That there is more interest manifested in the cause of education than formerly, needs no proof; and if so, no one should appreciate it more than the teacher: if parents, guardians, nd citizens generally manifest increased interest, the teacher who would refuse to exert himself, should not be considered worthy of a place in a school-room.

There is a want of uniformity in teaching and to remedy this evil, teachers should form institutes in every district at as early a day as possible; to do this, they must divest themselves of all selfishness, and with the sole aim to assist each other, enter into the matter in good faith; inviting the directors and other citizens to join with them, assuring them that their object is to qualify themselves more fully for a faithful discharge of the duties of teacher.

A teacher to be successful must be "*one of the people*" and he who feels himself above this, can never succeed; visit as frequently as you can those who send children to you; but remember that noble hearts and bright intellects dwell in *log cabins* as well as in *brick mansions*.

Many of our teachers keep a record of the daily progress and conduct of their pupils, which is always open to the inspection of the directors and patrons of the school; this seems to have a salutary influence and should be universally adopted.

In submitting your monthly reports be very candid in giving the deportment of your pupils; if they are good, say so, and if they are bad be not afraid to report them as such. The disposition to report favorably of every scholar appears to be prevalent; in some schools the teachers are constantly complaining of the bad conduct of their scholars, and yet when the reports are submitted, they are all good—such conduct if known, will not pass unnoticed.

I purpose visiting each district twice this session, (if possible,) and would suggest to you the propriety of holding a meeting of teachers, directors and patrons every night while I remain in a district, for the purpose of discussing and demonstrating the best method of teaching the several branches taught in our schools. I will cheerfully spend my evenings with you in this manner, and have no doubt much good will result therefrom; it would afford me an opportunity of giving the people an idea of the workings of the system, and you might possibly be benefitted by it.

I do not wish to be considered as a *dictator*, but as a co-worker with you, and while my term of office continues, it shall be my constant aim to join with you in everything that may tend to elevate our schools, and bring the teacher a just recompense for his services.

I think I may safely say that the schools of our county are not a *whit* behind those of other counties in the State, and yet there is considerable room for improvement in *many* of them and a *little* in the *best* of them.

In conclusion, permit me to thank you most sincerely for your becoming conduct at the several examinations, and for the many acts of kindness shown to me since my election to office.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,
DANIEL SHELLY,
County Superintendent.

N. B. In a short time I will publish a county report, in which I will try to exhibit our educational condition more minutely.
D. S.

Agricultural.

Medicines.

Stove & Tin-ware.

Hardware.

Medicines,

Medicines.