

When you consider that it has only been in active operation a little over six months, and that hardly any of the machinery necessary to get it into working order has as yet been brought to bear upon it, you will be surprised to find that so much has been done. It was highly desirable that as full a report as possible should have been presented at this time; and if the County Superintendents had sent in as full a report as they might have done, stating the condition and prospects of their Schools, our report would have been at least very respectable. Hardly any of the reports were received in time, and not one as full as the law requires, or as they might have been. But it is not surprising that it is so; men cannot be expected to do school labor without remuneration any more than any other kind of labor. Few Superintendents have received any pay for what they have done, and many of them have not even the prospect of ever receiving any. Then the unhinging effect produced by the decision of Judge Pettit, "That unpatented lands were not taxable," with the prospect of a new Constitution and better laws, when taxes would be paid, and non-residents would bear their part of the burden, &c., has had the tendency to make them remiss in carrying out the provisions of the law, and in reporting even what they have done.

The following is an approximation of what has been done during the past summer:

The reports of County Superintendents (an abstract of which will be found in the Appendix) exhibits the following statistics, for the six months ending December 1st, 1859:

The number of Counties reported by their Superintendents, fifteen.

The number of Districts organized during the year was 222.

The number of Districts in which schools were taught during the past year was 136.

The number of children reported, between the ages of 5 and 21 years, was 7,029.

The amount of public money received for school purposes was \$6,233.67.

The reports fail to state the number of schools taught in their respective counties during the year. They also fail to report the