

taining to the schools is in a chaotic condition. My successor in office will, I hope, be able, in his annual report, to mention some degree of progress in the schools of this county.

This brief report of the existing state of things, relative to the schools of this county, is most respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH C. HEBBARD,
Superintendent.

Such is the sum and substance of the report from Nemaha county.

The next is a letter of inquiry in place of a report:

SUPERIOR, Osage Co., K. T.,
October, 20th, 1859.

To the Superintendent of Public Instruction of Kansas Territory—SIR: There are a few things in regard to school matters, of which I wish to be informed. 1st. Is there any public fund in the Territory, from which districts can draw, which have had schools according to law?

2d. Is it the business of the Superintendent, to see the school lands are not trespassed on, by removing timber, coal, etc., etc. Have any provisions been made by the General Government, by which school sections settled on before the survey, and now preempted, are to be replaced, either by money or land?

An early reply to these inquiries, adding such other information as you deem advisable, will be thankfully received.

Osage county, as you are aware, embraces only a small strip of land open for settlement, and was only organized last spring; hence but little has been done with regard to schools. Only two districts have applied for organizations. The one has a teacher employed for the winter, the other has a teacher ready to commence a school, and as soon as the officers are chosen, can be employed as a public school teacher.

SAMUEL BUSH,
Sup. Com. Schools.

These are but specimens of what have been sent to this office as reports. Credit is due some of the Superintendents for their exertions, while others are worthy of censure. Yet we should not be hasty in our censures, for when we take into consideration the unsettled state of affairs, and the position many of the Counties have been placed in by the Judicial decisions of the Territorial Judge, we will not be surprised at their want of action. Many of the Counties failed to collect taxes for any purpose whatever, while others could only collect on personal property. Where such was the state of affairs, we could not expect Super-