

tain; and in this County, after having been petitioned for that purpose, have refused Legislation to assist our schools. So that in order to effect a general establishment of free schools, there must be a law making it the duty of the County authorities to levy a certain per centum, and this duty should be made absolute, taking the discretionary power they now have taken, entirely out of their hands, or otherwise there must be some radical change in the law, by which such opposition may be practically overcome.

Respectfully yours,

H. KUHN,  
Supt. of Com. Schools for Atchison Co.

The information embraced under these several heads from first to eighth inclusive, is all I am able to communicate. I regret that it is so meager and illy filled, to aid you in the discharge of your more important duties. To the people the system is new. The officers of the districts are not always—perhaps not often qualified for the intelligent discharge of their duties. As a consequence, the business transactions of many districts become deranged, irregularities and dissatisfactions are some of its legitimate fruits, and not a little hostility to our system of free schools itself may be fairly traced to the same source. All this need surprise no one, for reasons too obvious to mention. Our people as yet are not homogenous—coming from all the different States, and subjected while here to scenes of which I will not attempt a description, it would be strange if they were; and an additional reason for this irrelative way may be, I think, fairly attributed to the defects in our school law. These, however, will soon be remedied by judicious amendments—time will quiet the public mind—the inhabitants of the Territory will become acquainted with each other. A State will soon be organized—as a new member of the great confederacy, new incentives to a high and honorable career will pervade the masses, and the great educational interests of the country thus promoted. Let no man therefore be discouraged in what as yet may be called “the day of small things.” Be comforted, my dear sir, with the assurance there is a good time coming. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Dated at Leavenworth City, Oct. 1st, 1859.

JAS. TAYLOR,  
Supt. of Leavenworth Co., K. T.