further physical relief is called for — the funds from the beginning have been left altogether out of the effort of prompt & cheering aid from Christ generally to the freedmen of our Church, & yet we for 4 years, can only be understood by those who have lived among them. It has made the heart of Christ Stronger to the principles of peace & righteousness, and it has lifted up many a desponding heart & stiffened around them the wreck of earthly possessions, of hard years of toil. The physical relief extended is but a secondary consideration in view of the starving minds of the children, after 4 years of waste from the war — the period of a school boy's life. The labor of these children was needed at home & upon the close of the war the people were left so impoverished by the demands of the Armies and the loss of State and Confederate currency, that they were unable to start schools. We have thus far established 24 schools with about 900 Scholars — two of whom are members — those who are not members are kept before each, are charged, being admitted into the Sabbath schools to fill up classes.

We consider this year work however but preparatory. It has been no small labor to gather up scattered children & organise new schools in an old Slave State, where there are large intervening tracts of waste & worn out land. Our first effort was to procure a resident Superintendent of Education, who could