

age attendance for all the Schools was twenty-four. Length of time of the Schools from three to seven Months—average about four Months.

The scarcity of Books and the unsuitableness of many already in use, made it needful to furnish a supply to the Schools generally. This has required a pretty heavy outlay on the part of the Association.

On a general review of the Schools, it became apparent, that in order for their greater efficiency in the future, it would be necessary to have a Normal School, especially for training Teachers in the branches to be taught and in methods of teaching, and governing, or else to obtain those from a distance who had had the opportunity of some training in the profession. Believing that the requisite talent and qualifications could be obtained here if made available by proper training—with the unity of the Association a call was made for such a School to be held at Springfield Meeting House for a month or more; which met with a liberal response. The School continued for nearly seven weeks and numbered over fifty attendants before its close. It was throughout an interesting and satisfactory occasion, not only to those in regular attendance, but to the numerous visitors from the surrounding and more remote neighborhoods. From those who attended the Normal, there have already been selected twenty-two Teachers for our Schools the coming year.

The present school year may be regarded as beginning with the Ninth Month. As the Schools have either just opened, or are about opening, no very definite and systematic report can be made out as yet. In order that the fund might satisfactorily accomplish the result desired, it was indispensable that a number of new school houses should be built, others enlarged, many of the old ones repaired and nearly all of them furnished with seats and desks. Friends of N. Carolina are doing the principal part of this work themselves, and their efforts for the education of their Children are encouraging, but still, on account of the scarcity of money and the shortness of the crops this year, it has been thought proper to render them considerable aid towards houses. Some delays in building and repairing have made it impracticable for the Schools to begin simultaneously. In several instances Schools have commenced in Meeting Houses, with the understanding that school houses would soon be erected.

There are either completed or on the way, nine or ten new school houses, viz: One at Deep River; one at Marlboro; one at Back Creek; one at Centre; one at Cane Creek; one at Hunting Creek; one in limits of Rich Square; two in limits of Piney Woods, and probably one at Holly Spring. Those with two exceptions, are ample and convenient buildings, and situated near the Meeting Houses. The work being thus better centralized, the Schools will be fewer in number than last year; but we have reason to hope, much more efficient. The number for the present year is twenty-five, nearly all of which are now in operation. The Schools would correspond more nearly in numbers with the Monthly Meetings, were it not that in nearly all the Monthly Meetings the Children are too remote for all to have access to the same School. The Schools are distributed as follows:

New Garden Quarterly Meeting has the Yearly Meeting Boarding School within its limits, but no School under our care.

*Deep River Quarter.*—Deep River Monthly Meeting, one School. Springfield Monthly Meeting, three Schools. Deep Creek Monthly Meeting, two Schools.

*Southern Quarter.*—Marlboro Monthly Meeting, three Schools. Back Creek Monthly Meeting, one School, (perhaps two.) Holly Spring Monthly Meeting, two Schools, (perhaps three.)

*Western Quarter.*—Centre Monthly Meeting, three Schools. Cane Creek Monthly Meeting, two Schools. Spring Monthly Meeting, one School.

*Contentnea Quarter.*—Newso Monthly Meeting, one School. Nahunta Monthly Meeting, one School.

*Eastern Quarter.*—Rich Square Monthly Meeting, three Schools. Piney Woods Monthly Meeting, two Schools.

For those Schools, in addition to those Teachers who reside in North Carolina, we have two from New England, one from New York, and one from Indiana.

The whole number attending our Schools the present year, will in all probability, judging from the opening, be something over eleven hundred, of which, about seventy per cent. are Friends' Children. Others than Friends pay tuition at moderate rates, and whilst being benefited themselves, help to make up Schools in some neighborhoods where the number of Friends' Children would not be sufficient. The money thus received goes into the fund.