

[p. 41 from Simeon Locke Doggett's chapBook, before March 30, 1848 and after April 30, 2847. This would seem to be a document supporting Simeon's attempt to defend his role as school teacher. The hand in which it is transcribed is especially elegant.]

The teacher cannot refrain from making a few passing remarks in vindication of his conduct and in regard to the labor required by the school. In respect to the latter, he can indeed say that they were onerous. It was necessary (from) owing to the abilities of the school and the variety of books used, treating on the same science, to have eight classes in arithmetic, in reading and equal numbers in spelling, grammar, geography &c.

This may be attributed to (a deficiency in class books, or to the fact that the books used were too numerous and were not adapted) to the capacities of most of the scholars. He found, that his predecessors had, evidently, to a degree deserving censure, neglected both orthography and grammar; or that the scholars had made but small proficiency in these important studies.

He had, in some cases, to contend with actual stupidity, and he lays the flattering unction to his soul, that he has done his duty; that he labored indefatigably toger' with supererogatory assiduity to bear away the temple of ignorance and to let in the light of reason on its benighted inhabitants

It is a source of no small satisfaction to him, to be able to entertain the opinion, that the scholars made commendable progress for the short period which the school continued.

In reference to his conduct he would say (that he looks back with complacency on the past, and rests assured that he has done his duty; that he met with a spirit of opposition on the part of the parents from the commencement and the prejudice w existed against him even before he began his duties; that he bore these persecutions until endurance had ceased to be a virtue, and until he had satisfied himself, that he was fit for the avocation he had assumed

He would here commend the scholars for their behavior, and for the respect, which they paid him, when he met with such an adverse spirit from so many of the parents

He would finally conclude by manifesting his gratitude for the support he received from the committee, hoping that prosperity may attend those, who may be called in time to come to be his successors.

SLD