REPORTS
OF THE
AUDITORS, SELECTMEN,
AND OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF HENNICKER,
FOR THE YEAR 1850.

CONCORD:
BUTTERFIELD AND HILL, PRINTERS.
1851.
REPORT.

James Straw in account with the town of Henniker, as Treasurer, for A. D. 1850.

Dr.

To cash per receipt to Selectmen, being the balance in the Treasury on settlement March 4, 1850, $169.42

* from county for support of county paupers, 360.50
* Edward B. Whitman, it being the balance of highway tax not worked out, 84
* from State, the literary fund money, 42.50
* from State, the amount paid out to soldiers, 222.00
* from State, the amount of railroad tax, 222.48
* from Selectmen, it being advanced for use of town, 325.00
* from the town of New Boston, for support of Mark Dodge, 9.82
* Zadok Dustin, Jr., Collector of taxes for A. D. 1846, 341.94
* James P. Baker, Collector at sundry times, 269.38
* James P. Baker's note to balance the amount of taxes committed to him to collect, 25.96

$458-14

Audited by the undersigned this twenty-eighth day of February, A. D. 1851.

FREDERICK WHITNEY, } Auditing
JOHN S. CRAIG, } Committee.
ROBERT WALLACE, }

James Straw, Treasurer aforesaid in account with the Town of Henniker, for A. D. 1850.

Cr.

By paying Edson Hill, State Treasurer, the State tax, $347.40
* Mitchel Gilmore, Jr., County Treasurer, the county tax, 265.98
By paying Hazen K. Plummer, the balance of his services with interest, upon the Town Farm for A. D. 1848.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Samuel K. Gove, for his services on the Town Farm for A. D. 1848</td>
<td>125 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Pillsbury’s note dated January 16, 1850</td>
<td>104 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. C. &amp; A. Winnship’s note dated March 29, 1850</td>
<td>78 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Straw for services rendered as follows:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 visits to Nancy D. Searle, Co. pauper, $30 00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 do to Chas. McAuley, Co. do 17 00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 do to Thomas O’Brien, Co. do 16 00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Kimball, for boarding and nursing Nancy D. Searle, Co. pauper, twenty-eight weeks at 15 shillings per week.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventy-nine soldiers fifty cents each on muster day.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Plummer, for provisions furnished John Bushier and family Co. paupers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Morrison, for nursing Timothy Driscoll, Co. pauper, and paying watchers, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Pillsbury, Jr., for paying the following:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. M. Fairley, fare, 3,10; express, 1,12; two days, 2,00; also for journey to Concord on pauper business and to procure appointment of Road Commissioners, for entry of petition, 1,20; C. G. Atherton for services, 5,00; Ira Osgood for attendance, 2,00; C. H. Norton for going for Osgood, 3,75; J. C. Pillsbury for notice to R. R. Co., 1,28; N. P. Baker for entry, 50; L. Smith for services, 2,00; Carrier &amp; Hall for blanks and stationery, 1,67; fare, 1,00; expenses, 1,75; time 3 days, 5,00; amounting to</td>
<td>32 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ira Osgood and True George, Road Commissioners, for travel and attendance in discharge of their duties on the application of the Selectmen of Henniker in regard to certain crossings of the Contoosuck Valley Railroad with the highways in said town, Ira Osgood, travel, 3,70; attendance one day, 7,00; True George, travel, 2,00; attendance, 7,00; report and notices, 3,00.</td>
<td>11 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Straw vs. John Marsch principal and town of Henniker trustee. The trustee was found chargeable for</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Johnson for 74 days work, 7,75, and 128 feet bridge plank, 1,00; 4 bridge hammer, 2,25.</td>
<td>11 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Plummer, for provisions and clothing furnished to John Bushier and family Co. paupers.</td>
<td>29 34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The items of these bills were handed to the Judges of the Court and are not returned.

By paying David Plummer, for his services and cash advanced in relation to the Railroad crossings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Moses Brown, executor of the last will of Betsey Emery, deceased, it being due her for support of Betsey Wyman, County pauper, (Bill of items in the hands of the Judge and has not been returned,)</td>
<td>19 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Straw, for creating Nancy D. Searle, Co. pauper, (Bill of items in the hands of Judges and has not been returned,)</td>
<td>17 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew McFarland, for board and other expenses of Jane Whitney at the N. H. Asylum for the Insane to March 1, 1850,</td>
<td>22 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew McFarland, for support of Jane Whitney from March 1st to June 1, 1850,</td>
<td>23 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew McFarland, for support of Jane Whitney from June 1st to Sept. 1, 1850,</td>
<td>20 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Colby, for error in tax since 1840,</td>
<td>18 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Kimball, for boarding and nursing N. D. Searle for 3 7 weeks.</td>
<td>11 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ira Osgood, True George and John S. Craig, Road Commissioners, for travel and attendance in discharge of the duties on the application of the Selectmen of Henniker for their opinion upon certain requisitions made by said Selectmen upon the New Hampshire Central Railroad: Ira Osgood, travel, 2,70; attendance, 2,00; notices and reports, 1,00—5,70.</td>
<td>12 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George W. Cogswell, for journey to the town of Lyndeborough to search records, 2,65, and cash advanced to assist stranger, 1,85.</td>
<td>4 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. B. Burnham, for deeding Timothy Driscoll, County pauper, (Bill of items in the hands of the Judges,)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm. K. Plummer, for horse and wagon for use of County paupers.</td>
<td>7 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Pingree, for 33 cords of wood delivered to David Plummer, Dec. 28, 1850.</td>
<td>7 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Straw, for preparing manuscript and going to Concord and paying for printing 400 copies of town reports.</td>
<td>12 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter Whitney, for one day beating rock.</td>
<td>1 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elijah R. Huntington, for breaking road near Zebrulon Foster’s.</td>
<td>1 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edded Harriman, Jr., for damage of plough and clearing highway.</td>
<td>1 25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
By paying Moses P. Billings, for hauling bridge planks and repairing bridge near James Connor's, $2.00; Isaiah White, for 13 days settling with Zadok Dustin, Jr., Collector for A.D. 1846, $1.50; Worchester Hartnett, for a 25 foot stringer and work on bridge near his house, $2.50; Ezra Yorke, for assisting stranger, $1.00; Nathan Sanborn, for a 25 foot stringer, $2.50; Hiram Holden, for assisting stranger, $1.00; Charles A. Chapman's, journey to Francestown to examine records, $2.25; Jacob Straw, for 3 visits and medicine for Nancy D., $1.00; James Straw, for 9 yrs. drilling, $9.00; Mrs. Flynn and family, $5.25; James Reed, $1.50; By paying Thadeus Goodwin's family, 1850.

Ira Plumer, for 400 feet pine bridge plank, $4.00; 4 days work on bridge across Lancaster brook, $3.50; Dutton Wood's note, dated March 29th, 1850, and settled Feb'y 22, 1851, $105.40; Wm. F. Crossy, for an assessment of David Clark's taxes for A.D. 1846, $1.43; Frederick Whitney, for attending railroad hearing before the county road commissioners, $1.58; Wm. P. Crossy, for serving notice on the Consecoc Valley Railroad Co., $1.28; Zebulon Foster, for attending railroad hearing before the county road commissioners, $1.55; Wm. K. Plumer, Prudential Committee, Dis. No. 1, $79.83; John Pope, $2.51; Trueman Parker, $3.46; Eri Colby, $4.62; Barak Colby, $5.99; Isaac C. Connor, $6.70; Jeremiah Foster, $7.10; Harris Campbell, $8.11; Benjamin Colby, $8.9.23; Stephen Newhall, $10.48; James Caldwell, $11.132; Cyrus Carter, $12.47; Israel P. Dodge, $12.42; Windsor Ward, his property of school money, $3.74; Annie Campbell, $5.91; Hosea K. Plumer for use of the town's barns, $117.69; Warren Wood's furnished to Rearden family, 924 sq. mil., lots, 1.00; 2 barrels of potatoes, 30 cts., 1.00; James Caldwell, for services as town clerk, $16.50; For distributing pamphlets containing the proposed amendments of the Constitution, $2.00; George W. Cogswell, for journey to Francestown, to search records, $2.50; Going to Warner after paupers, 1.50; Jacob Straw, for 3 visits and medicine for Nancy D. Sears, up to Feb'y 27, 1851, $6.93; B. F. Nyea, for sawing lower covered bridge, $1.09; Josephus Smith, for taking care of the town's house and keeping windows, $415; James Straw, for postage for A.D. 1850, $95; James Straw, for 9 yrs. drilling, 9 cts., $81.
8 lbs. powder, 15 cts., 1 20
Stationery, 52
Paid express for paying bill at the Asylum, 25

2 75

By paying Gibson & Straw for stationery,

James P. Baker, for his services as collector, 40 00
Abatement of William Adams' tax, 1 35
Asa Kimball's tax, 1 35
Joseph P. Morse's tax, 1 35
John Scannel's tax, 1 35
Edward Smith, 1 35
Imri N. Woods' tax, 1 35
George B. Ward's tax, 5 20

Oliver Pillsbury, for 2 bushels potatoes, 1 50
1 bushel corn meal for Irish paupers, 9 00
For nursing an Irishman found on road, 2 00
Stationery, 65 for 19 lots, 2 30
One day on railroad business at Contoocookville, 1 50
1 day and expenses to Concord to draw railroad tax and get advice, 2 58
Paid Asa Fowler for advice, 1 00
For time, fare and expenses to Hollis to get aid in suit of Fletcher and Emerson vs. the town, 6 22
Time, fare and expenses to Concord to draw railroad tax and get advice, 1 00
Time, fare and expenses to court at Manchester in suit of Fletcher and Emerson, 2 57
Time, fare and expenses to Concord on county pauper business, 1 50
For copying valuation book into town book, 3 30
For fare and expenses to Concord to draw soldiers pay and pay bill for support of Jane Whitney, 2 57

7 15
1 10
1 40

14 00

By paying seven soldiers for doing military duty in 1849, 7 00
74 soldiers, $3 each, for doing military duty, 1850, 2 22 00
Iml Woods, for taking 4 affidavits at the pauper farm, 1 00
making copy and administering 7 oaths, 7 75
Alanson Wood, for 1 hbl. flour delivered to M.
Rearden family, 6 25
David L. Cogswell, for 3/ day work on road and
snowing lower bridge in 1849, 1 06
Samuel fossilin, for 1 cord wood, delivered to David
Purington, Dec. 7, 1850, 1 00
George W. Cogswell, for cash advanced, 1 50 00
Interest from Mar. 29, 1850, to Feb. 23, 1851, 8 25

138 25

Nathan Sanborn, for visits of consultation in the case
of Nancy D. Searle, 1 00
James Straw, for his services as town treasurer, 8 00
and for services as agent to take care of the surplus revenue money, 2 00

10 00

Frederick Whitney's note dated March 4, 1850, and
interest to Feb'y 23, 1851, 3 17 80
James H. Wood, for 4 hbs. sugar, 34; 54 dozen
crackers, 62; 4 lb. tea, 27; 2 lbs. rice, 10; 1 qt.
oil, 22; 9 yrds. calico and trimmer, 1 26,
Hiram Bell, for expenses of town officers for the
year ending March, 1854, 1 50
Frederick Whitney for his services as auditing
committee, 1 00
Robert Wallace for his services on auditing
committee, 1 00
John R. Urie, for his services on auditing committee, 1 00
Amount of non-resident highway receipts, 44 18

Town of Henniker to Oliver Pillsbury, Jr., Dr.
For services as Selectman,
To moving Irishman to pauper farm,

appointing Treasurer and Collector taking bonds of same, and
constables,

go to farm to take affidavits, and to J. Foster for surveyor,

S. Kimball's and J. Batcher's to take affidavits,

making surveys on railroad crossing,

2 days preparing and arranging county pauper papers,

1 day preparing inventory books,

4 days taking inventory,

$1 00
1 00
1 00
1 00
1 00
1 00
1 00
1 00
1 00
4 00
To 9 days making taxes, valuation book, &c., 9.00
  1 day writing and delivering appointments to school committee, 1.00
  4 day petitioning county Road Commissioners, 1.00
  1 day on road petition, dividing highway district, &c., 2.00
  2 days with Road Commissioners, 50
  1 day examining bridge and highway, 50
  1 day settling accounts and giving orders, 1.00
  1 day moving Ishamman to farm, 50
  1 day preparing affidavits and writing to Francetown and Lyndeborough, 1.00
  1 day paying soldiers muster day, 50
  1 day viewing highway, 50
  1 day attending to pauper at Dea. Morrison's, 50
  1 day making out warrant and check-list, 50
  1 day laying out road, and giving orders, 50
  1 day to let out farm, 50
  1 day settling with agent on farm, 50
  1 day settling with collectors, 50
  1 day to let out farm, 50
  1 day appointing Collector and Treasurer, and taking bonds of same and Constables, 1.00
  1 day examining railroad crossings, 50
  1 day making out railroad requisitions, 50
  1 day making out county pauper papers, 50
  1 day preparing inventory books, 50
  4 days taking inventory, 20
  9 days making taxes and valuation book, 50
  1 day on road petition and dividing district, 50
  14 days with Road Commissioners, 50
  1 day on road with J. Barnard, 50
  1 day giving orders, 50
  1 day making out check-list and warrant, 50
  1 day paying soldiers muster day, 50
  1 day attendance drawing paupers, 50
  1 day correcting check-list and giving orders, 50
  1 day receiving proposals for carrying on poor farm, 50
  1 day giving orders, 50
  1 day arranging names in jury box, 50
  1 day making out county pauper papers, 50
  1 day laying out road, 50
  1 day giving out orders, 50
  1 day arranging names to take charge of paupers, 50
  1 day correcting check-list, 1.00
  1 day making out warrant, 1.00
  1 day at poor farm settling with agent, 1.00
  1 day arranging papers for settlement, 1.00
  1 day settling with collector, 1.00
  1 day auditing with committee, 1.00
  1 day correcting check-list, 1.00

$17.50

Town of Henniker to George W. Cogswell,

For services as Selectman,

To 1 day taking bond, 1.00
  1 day examining railroad crossings, 50
  1 day attending to county pauper business, 1.00
  1 day preparing inventory books, 50
  4 days taking inventory, 20
  9 days making taxes, 50
  1 day appointing superintending school committee, 1.00
  1 day on highway, 50
  1 day with Road Commissioners, 1.00
  1 day on highway, 50
  1 day viewing roads and bridges, 50
  1 day giving out orders, 50
  1 day making out warrant, 1.00

$1.00

Town of Henniker to Lyman Harriman,

For services as Collector.

To 1 day receiving proposals for carrying on poor farm, 50
  1 day giving orders, 50
  1 day settling with agent on poor farm, 1.00
  1 day arranging the same for printing and giving out orders, 50
  1 day settling with collectors for 1816 and 1820, 1.00
  1 day with auditing committee, 1.00
  1 day correcting check-list, 1.00

$31.50
Treasurer's receipt to the Selectmen, it being the amount on hand, $489.14.

Whole amount brought forward, $4589 14 A. D. 1851.

To three instalments of James Straw in account with the Town of Henniker.

The town has drawn from the surplus revenue to defray expenses as follows:

James Straw in account with the town of Henniker, as agent to take charge of the surplus revenue deposited with said town for A. D. 1850.

To amount of debt as above, $131 15.

W. Girton, for bbl. flour, 50,00; bbl. pork, 14,35; 18 lbs. molasses, 5,04; 38 bush. corn, 5,15; 93 bush. rye, 9,30; 12 lbs. clover seed, 1,32; 3 pecks guns seed, 3,00; 3 lbs. tea, 3,20; 4 lbs. coffee, 22; 2 1-4 lbs. snuff, 63; 19 lbs. tobacco, 3,15; 5 clysters, 1,92; 2 rears, 50; box, 75; plow point, 51; tab., 25; axe and halves, 1,53; lb. powder, 16; 24 lbs. nails, 1,20; file, 10; spines, 20; 8 lbs. saltpetre, 64; crackers, 10; 1 lb. fish, 1,51; beans, 17; ears tartar, sulphate, starch, matches, soap, comb, and pan, 49; indigo, 59; paper, 20; clothing, 1,04; 2 wagon shoes, 40; amount, $376 41.

Paid James Straw, for bbl. flour, 6,75; snuff, 18; matches, 05; amount, 6 33.

Paid Gibson & Straw, for snuff and file, 22; 10 1-4 lbs. fish, 26; axe helve, 15; amount, 73.

Paid S. M. Fatten, for bbl. flour, 4,37; bag salt, 1,67; 111 lbs. pork, 10,00; butter bill, 1,00; blacksmithing, 25; amount, 19 29.

Paid Alanson Wood, for 53 bush. corn, 5,83; 2 bush. rye, 2,00; sawing, 7,23; amount, 15 15.

Paid N. Sanborn, 14,00; J. Woods, for dressing cloth, 50; carding wool, 1,14; H. Campbell, for blacksmithing, 5,00; C. Barker, for de., 1,00; J. Schubert, 61; Eldad Mous, for threshing, 2,28; A. Pollard, for 2 bush. corn meal, 1,00; T. Parker, for 4 bush. wheat, 6,00; L. Herriman, for 2 days haying, 2,00; lead pumpkins, 1,00; pasturing 6 sheep, 5,50; 1 1/2 bush. oats, 50; making cider, 16; H. Petersen, for work, 23; W. W. Witter, for 20 days haying, 31 00; F. Salsom, for pair oxen, 68 00; A. C. Nutting, for timber, 47; A. Bickford, for do., 1,80; M. Parker, for do., 2,23; H. Campbell, for blacksmithing, 5,50; C. Barker, for do., 1,80; J. M. Hriston, for blacksmithing, 5,50; amount, 57 13.

Paid Allan Straw, for 3 bush. corn, 1,00; 2 bush. rye, 50; amount, 1 50.

Paid James Straw, on S. K. Gorve's account, for 5 galls. molasses, 6,40; 2 lbs. tea, 50; 4-3-4 lbs. tobacco, 52; thread, 10; 10 lbs. sugar, 1,26; 2 lbs. saltpetre, 15; bag salt, 25; bush. rye, 1,00; 1 lb. shells, 13; 55 lbs. flour, 2,00; amount, 7 25.

Paid James Straw, for 3 bbl. flour, 50,63; bbl. pork, 14,35; 18 galls. molasses, 5,04; 38 bush. corn, 5,15; 93 bush. rye, 9,30; 12 lbs. clover seed, 1,32; 3 pecks guns seed, 3,00; 3 lbs. tea, 3,20; 4 lbs. coffee, 22; 2 1-4 lbs. snuff, 63; 19 lbs. tobacco, 3,15; 5 clysters, 1,92; 2 rears, 50; box, 75; plow point, 51; tab., 25; axe and halves, 1,53; lb. powder, 16; 24 lbs. nails, 1,20; file, 10; spines, 20; 8 lbs. saltpetre, 64; crackers, 10; 1 lb. fish, 1,51; beans, 17; ears tartar, sulphate, starch, matches, soap, comb, and pan, 49; indigo, 59; paper, 20; clothing, 1,04; 2 wagon shoes, 40; amount, $376 41.
Sold to L. Harriman, pig, 1-25 ; W. Berry, 5 sheep, 7-50 ; J. Emerson, 42 lbs. cheese, 3-45 ; E. Mirick, 50 lbs. cheese, 4-60 ; pair shoes, .65 ; A. Caldwell, 100 lbs. dried apples, 4-00 ; B. Burns, socks, 63 ; P. Morrill, 90 lbs. hide, 4-05 ; 3 lambs, 7-50 ; heifer, 20-00 ; calf, 3-55 ; G. D. Geod, calf skin, 6-54 ; J. Banner, 2 pigs, 2-00 ; C. C. Gibson, pig, 1-25 ; 6 lbs. butter, .35 ; H. K. Plumer, calf, 1-25 ; N. Morgan, pig, 1-25 ; Geo. Arnold, 24 dozen eggs, 2-40 ; B. F. Woods, 69 lbs. butter, 9-06 ; L. Tuttle, pair steers, 9-00 ; J. Whitman, 64 lbs. cheese, 1-95 ; Mary Bowman, (8 weeks) 73.

List of persons who have been supported on the farm the past year:

S. Nalnes. ages. dollars and cents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark Dodge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Kirk</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thaddeus Redding</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Farley</td>
<td>73</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas O'Brien</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Maloney</td>
<td>70</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Present number</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cash received for County paupers, $19877.

Whole amount of credit, $4157.66.

Balance against the pauper farm, 404 80.

Name of person who has been supported on the farm the past year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Durac Stone</td>
<td>77</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahitable Kezer</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty Jocelyn</td>
<td>79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Bowman</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sally Wislin</td>
<td>86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Gould</td>
<td>73</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. M. Finander</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sally Withington</td>
<td>86</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saconie Leslie</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total number</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Present number</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Condition of the Finances of the Town.

Cash in hands of the Treasurer as per receipt to Selectmen, $376 41.

Amount against the county, $541.77.

Amount of outstanding orders and demands against the town, as estimated by the Selectmen, amounting to $343.00.

Leaving a balance in favor of the town of one hundred ninety-eight dollars and seventy-seven cents.

FRIDERIC WHITNEY, JOHN S. CRAIG, ROBERT WALLACE, Auditing Committee.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The undersigned, in presenting the annual report of the Superintending School Committee, would beg leave to suggest a few topics for the consideration of the public.

Condition of Schools.—Several of our schools the past year have been taught by experienced teachers, possessing eminent qualifications as such. The advantages of experience, and a fidelity for governing and teaching, have been very apparent in all these schools. At the same time, many of our teachers of less experience have been abundantly successful, their schools competing favorably with those of our teachers of the highest reputation. Your committee are of opinion that our schools for the past year, taken as a whole, exhibit some improvement over previous years, yet they fail far short of that degree of perfection of which they are susceptible. Our primary schools should furnish facilities to every child and youth for attaining all the elementary principles of English education, and might, in charge of teachers possessing proper qualifications, with a corresponding interest on the part of parents. Instead of this, we see a large share of our youth squandering their time in our district schools, as though neither the time nor school was of any consequence, and depending upon high schools and academies for a knowledge even of the rudiments of our language.

Discipline.—Although our schools for the past year have been comparatively speaking, rather quiet, yet the want of a proper and efficient system of discipline has been constantly felt in many neighborhoods. Your committee are of opinion that at least one half of all our school money is lost annually, either through the unfaithfulness of teachers, or the indifference of scholars. We annually contribute more money for whispering, playing, and misbehaved school, than for "obedience, industry, and proper improvement of time." This fact is equally galling and mortifying, and deserves the serious consideration of every parent of our school education.

Improvement of the condition of our schools.—The first thing requisite to this end, is the employment of faithful and efficient teachers of moral as well as mental qualifications. A teacher should be possessed of something more than merely a knowledge of the branches he designs to teach. His duties should not be circumscribed to the mere teaching of lessons and setting of copies. The children and youth of our schools are more potently in fixing the character and in forming the habits and dispositions than of that of school. How important that our teachers should be models of excellence!
Let our teachers be possessed of unblemished characters, and free from all pernicious habits, that their example may be worthy the imitation of their pupils. Let them manifest an interest in their vocation, an aptness to teach, and a faculty of so interesting their pupils that books, and study and school shall be to them a recreation, and let parents cooperate with and sustain and encourage the teacher in his efforts, and our primary schools will soon assume that position to which they are entitled by their importance, and parents will be no longer compelled to send their children to high schools, to obtain a passable knowledge of arithmetic, grammar, geography, &c., and possibly they may save themselves many a pang in consequence of the disobedience, the waywardness or dissoluteness of their offspring.

The question may arise in the minds of some, how shall the services of suitable teachers be secured? We would say, employ none but persons of known qualifications, and offer them an adequate compensation for their services. It will be said of small districts that their means will not admit of their hiring an experienced teacher, his reputation commanding a higher price elsewhere, and that they are compelled to content themselves with the inexperienced. We would say to such districts, elect to the office of prudential committee none but such men as take a deep interest in schools, and who are as skilful in judging of the character and qualifications of men, as of the disposition and qualities of a horse, and who will be as cautious and as judicious in selecting a teacher for his school, as in selecting a horse to convey his children safely thither, and you will seldom have occasion to complain of incompetent teachers. Some of our winter schools have been taught by females, and with a degree of success fully equal to that of our male teachers. We would recommend to small districts to employ female teachers for their winter schools, where the circumstances of the case will admit,

Condition of School Houses.—The farmer, the mechanic, or the man of any profession, cannot prosecute his work to advantage without a suitable place to carry forward his operations, and a proper supply of tools with which to labor. It is emphatically so with the teacher. Unless he can have a suitable room, with an abundant supply of comfortable seats, properly arranged, and suitable books in the hands of his pupils, he must labor to a very great disadvantage. The arrangement of the interior of most of our school houses is neither so convenient nor comfortable as could be desired. The school rooms are nearly all too small, with an inadequate supply of seats, low posted, and without proper means of ventilation. The atmosphere in such rooms soon becomes vitiated, jeopardizing the health and lives of all its occupants. A school room should be large, with a high ceiling, and suitable means for ventilation, and seats and desks should be so arranged as to accommodate each one pupil, with sufficient pathway between each row of seats. None but teachers can fully appreciate the advantages of such an arrangement. Your committee are fully of the opinion that our school houses could be remodelled on a plan similar to the above, that the public would in a short time be fully remunerated in the improved condition of their schools, to say nothing of the health and comfort of scholars.

Your committee would enumerate as a prominent hindrance to the usefulness of our schools, the disposition on the part of many parents to interfere in the internal regulations of the school. Parents should exercise extreme caution in this respect, and should never let parental fondness bias the judgment as to condemn a teacher merely on the representation of their children. If they are wronged at school, parents are bound to protect them. A teacher is not irresponsible. He is not placed in school as a sort of threshing machine, neither should he exercise the attributes of a tyrant. If complaints arise, the teacher should...
DISTRICT NO. 1. SUMMER SCHOOL.
The Summer Term of this school was taught by Miss Sarah C. Weeks, and the Winter Term by D. P. Woodbury, both with a commendable degree of success. The parents would find it a great advantage to their children in this School to furnish them with more suitable reading books.

DISTRICT NO. 2.
This School, taught in the Summer by Miss Mary J. Sawyer, and in the Winter by Miss Eliza L. Sawyer, reflects much credit upon these faithful and competent teachers. They evinced much interest and love for their work, and their labors were crowned with a good degree of success. The parents would find it a great advantage to their children in this School to furnish them with more suitable reading books.

DISTRICTS NO. 3, 4, 5 & 9. SUMMER SCHOOLS.
These Schools were visited at their commencement; but having had no notice of their close, we can report nothing of their progress. So far as could be discovered at the outset, they bid fair to "answer in some degree the expectation of those most interested, particularly the parents who would find it a great advantage to their children in this School to furnish them with more suitable reading books."

DISTRICT NO. 3. WINTER SCHOOL.
HIRAM G. PATTEN, INSTRUCTOR.
Order in this School was good. The labors of Mr. Patten were attended with commendable success. We are sorry to say this School was of short duration.

DISTRICT NO. 4. WINTER SCHOOL.
JAMES M. CAMPBELL, INSTRUCTOR.
This School was visited but once; therefore of its advancement we can say nothing. The character Mr. C. has sustained heretofore as a teacher will be a sufficient guarantee in saying that his efforts were highly appreciated by the District. We are sorry to say Mr. C. was obliged, on account of other business, to leave before the expiration of the Term.

DISTRICT NO. 5. SUMMER SCHOOL.
MARY L. CHILDS, INSTRUCTOR.
This School commenced with encouraging prospects, having the advantage of a teacher of much experience and high reputation. The general progress of the pupils was commendable; of some individual scholars, marked. A strong and mutual attachment between teacher and pupil, the high moral influence apparently exerted by the teacher, and the unexceptionable deportment of the scholars were the distinguishing features of this School.

DISTRICT NO. 5. WINTER SCHOOL.
CHAS. H. DARLING, INSTRUCTOR.
This School was visited, in company with the School Commissioner of the County; and it is sufficient to say of it, the Commissioner represented that as all the characteristics of a good school, it was inferior to no other one visited by him in the county.

DISTRICT NO. 6. SUMMER SCHOOL.
HANNAH G. CLARK, INSTRUCTOR.
Considerable proficiency was manifest among the larger scholars, particularly in reading and spelling. The teacher did not succeed so well with the smaller scholars. Discipline perhaps a little to mild for the best.

WINTER SCHOOL NOT VISITED.

DISTRICT NO. 7. SUMMER SCHOOL.
EMERINE COLBY, INSTRUCTOR.
The Teacher of this School appeared to labor zealously and faithfully between teacher and pupil, was very evident. The improvement of the scholars was highly satisfactory. If the older scholars did not make such progress as could have been desired, the fault rests somewhere else.

WINTER SCHOOL.

DISTRICT NO. 8. SUMMER SCHOOL.
JOHN SMITH, INSTRUCTOR.
This School was visited only at the close. The examination of the several classes so far as entered into clearly indicated that the teacher had been fortunate in his plans of operation and faithful in their execution. The general appearance of this school was highly satisfactory.

DISTRICT NO. 9. WINTER SCHOOL.
FRED. H. BAILEY, INSTRUCTOR.
We are happy to say that we can speak in terms of high praise of this school. There was a systematic order and arrangement in everything pertaining to the school, that reflected much credit on the teacher. The examination of the close was listened to with much interest and satisfaction by the committee. The scholars appeared to be well acquainted with the ground they had gone over, and their promptness and distinctness in all their remarks were worthy of all praise.

DISTRICT NO. 10. SUMMER SCHOOL.
ANN M. JOHNSON, INSTRUCTOR.
Mr. G. is young and ambitious and by the aid of experience will make such progress as could have been desired, the fault rests somewhere else.

DISTRICT NO. 11. SUMMER SCHOOL.

WINTER SCHOOL.

DISTRICT NO. 12. SUMMER SCHOOL.

WINTER SCHOOL.
volumes in commendation of the untiring efforts of the teacher and assiduity of the scholar. Elementary principles seemed to be within the grasp of almost every pupil. The compositions were certainly praiseworthy. They stand in advance of many that are the product of years of "Academic drill." We would bid Miss J. God speed in her efforts in assisting the young mind exploring the boundless fields of science.

DISTRICT NO. 11. SUMMER SCHOOL.

SARAH WILKINS, INSTRUCTRESS.

The appearance and progress of this school were satisfactory. The teacher exhibited much firmness and energy in government, and an aptness to teach, and the improvement on the part of many of the scholars was very commendable.

WINTER SCHOOL.

HIRAM MARSH, INSTRUCTOR.

We are sorry to say that Mr. M. was not so successful in exciting an interest in this school as could have been desired. There was a lack of system and order which are ever necessary to make a school pleasant and profitable. There is evidently, in this district, a great want of interest on the part of parents, without which, especially in a school like this, it is impossible for any teacher to succeed well.

The small scholars under the instruction of Angeline E. Caldwell, made very commendable progress. Miss C. has a very happy talent for teaching, and parents who have their children under her instruction are peculiarly fortunate.

DISTRICT NO. 12. NO SUMMER SCHOOL.

WINTER SCHOOL.

JOHN F. CHASE, INSTRUCTOR.

Mr. C. was particularly successful in exciting an interest in this school, consequently it was profitable to the district. Discipline of a high order—during two visits of a half day each, scarcely a lisp of whispering, loud study, or any kind of confusion was discoverable. Mutual confidence between teacher and pupil very apparent. This school excelled in the correctness and promptness with which the several exercises were disposed of.

DISTRICT NO. 13.

Owing to the neglect of the prudential committee in giving proper information the summer school was not visited. At the commencement of the winter term the school appeared very well in charge of Sophronia Smith. But for some reason better known to the district than to the committee, there was an exchange of teachers. Anstriss Kimball, successor to Miss. Smith, appeared to be successful, and well adapted to her employment, and the scholars made good progress.

HIRAM RICE, WARREN S. CHILDs, CHARLES H. DARLING. {Superintending School Committee.