ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
TREASURER, AUDITORS,
AND OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
OF THE
TOWN OF HENNIKER,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING
FEB., 1856.

CONCORD:
JONES & COGSWELL, PRINTERS
1856.
REPORT.

Horace Gibson in account with the Town of Henniker, as Treasurer, for A. D. 1855:

Dr.

To cash remaining in the hands of the Treasurer for A. D. 1854, ........................................ $394.50
To cash received of Selectmen, it being the amount paid by James Straw as fine for not serving as Highway Surveyor, ........................................... 5.00
To cash received of Selectmen, to pay bills, ................. 100.00
To cash received of the Administrator of estate of Sally Hoyt, ........................................... 18.00
To cash received of the County, for the support and funeral charges of County paupers, .............. 162.12
To cash received of C. S. Dodge, for timber from Town's farm, ........................................... 38.00
To cash received from State, the amount of Railroad tax, 97.01
To cash received of O. C. Fisher, the Literary fund money, 101.91
To cash received of Town Agent, for the sale of liquors, 100.00
To cash received of Hiram Rice, on Highway warrant for 1854, ........................................... 6.42
To cash received of Hiram M. Davis, Collector, at sundry times, ........................................ 6,384.33

$7,407.20

Audited by the undersigned, this 26th day of Feb., A. D. 1856.

DAVID L. COGSWELL, DAVID PLUMER, CYRUS GOSS, 
\{ Auditing Committee.\}
Horace Gibson, aforesaid, in account with the Town of Henniker,
for A. D. 1855:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid William Berry, State Treasurer, the State tax</td>
<td>$389.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John H. Bowell, County Treasurer, the County tax, New Hampshire Asylum,</td>
<td>$777.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for the support of Jane Whitney, County pauper</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$24.28</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$23.61</td>
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<td>$24.23</td>
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<td>$24.11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$25.90</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Stephen Kimball, for boarding and nursing N. D. Searl, from Oct. 2,</td>
<td>$52.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1854 to April 2, 1855</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Stephen Kimball, for boarding and nursing Nancy D. Searl, from Oct.</td>
<td>$52.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, 1855 to Oct. 2, 1855</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$6.43</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$16.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Moses J. Mirick, for boarding and nursing Sally Hoyt</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>in her last sickness</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paid Wallace &amp; Wyman, for goods delivered to James Buckley</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Wm. F. Cressay, copy and serving notice on Edmund Wood</td>
<td>$1.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid David Stevens, for boarding and nursing Anna Chase, from April 1,</td>
<td>$19.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1855 to Oct. 1, 1855</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Morrill &amp; Silsby, for book and stationery</td>
<td>$1.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Campbell &amp; Gilmore, for advertising Town's farm, M. W. Tappan, for</td>
<td>$22.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cash advanced and services in the action Henniker vs. Contoocook Valley</td>
<td>$2.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroad, Jeremiah Foster, for cash advanced for stationery,</td>
<td>$1.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremiah Foster, fare and expense to Concord to procure stationery</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremiah Foster, for assisting the family of James Buckley</td>
<td>$3.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Oliver Pillsbury, Jr., for wood delivered Mrs. Flinn</td>
<td>$2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imrii Woods, for doctoring Thomas Livingston and taking affidavit</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Samuel Page, for professional services rendered to Nancy D. Searl,</td>
<td>$10.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County pauper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid Dr. Nathan Sanborn, for professional services rendered to</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy D. Searl, County pauper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Paid John G. Flanders, for 356 feet bridge plank and re-
paring highway: ........................................ $6 26
C. S. Dodge, for bridge plank: ......................... 1 32
Nathaniel Patch, bridge plank and stringers: ....... 2 50
Wm. H. Connor, for 522 feet bridge plank and draw-
ing to bridge near R. King's: ......................... 5 82
Joshua H. Colby, for lumber and repairing bridge: . 4 30
Samuel Folsom, for 250 feet plank for bridge: ....... 2 00
Jonathan Dow, for work on road: ..................... 1 75
John K. Connor, ........................................ 1 25
Blaisdell Clark, ......................................... 2 05
David L. Cogswell, for work and blasting stone: .....
Wm. H. Connor, for repairing bridge and breaking
roads: .................................................. 5 95
John K. Connor, for breaking roads: ................... 2 40
Parker Smith, ............................................. 6 45
Winthrop Dow, ........................................... 13 50
George W. Hoyt, ........................................ 10 97
Cyrus Carpenter, for snowing bridge: ................. 2 00
Hiram M. Davis, for snowing bridge and furnishing
2 cords slabs for Thomas Livingston: ................. 3 75
Gibson & Cogswell, for 3 yds. cloth for Thomas Liv-
ingston: ............................................. 2 25
Gibson & Cogswell, for stationery: ...................... 1 29
Hiram M. Davis, for notifying town officers, horse
and wagon hire, and police business: ................. 9 40
David Clark, for assisting stranger: .................... 2 00
Josephus Smith, for furnishing wood, repairing
windows and care of town house: ..................... 7 00
David Stevens, for boarding and nursing Anna Chase,
from Oct. 1, 1855 to March 2, 1856: ................. 27 50
Moses Brown, for cash paid Asa Fowler in suit Titus
V. Wadsworth vs. Town: ................................ 6 00
James French, for clothing furnished Thomas Liv-
ingston: ............................................. 1 40
Augustus Wadsworth, for tolling the bell for two par-
ents: .................................................. 5 00
Winthrop Dow, for abatement in tax: ................. 1 00
Parker Smith, note and interest: ....................... 107 41
Zadok Dustin, ........................................... 12 36
John F. Peters, ......................................... 181 40
John Chase, ............................................. 484 00
Jonathan Chase, ....................................... 81 75
Oliver Pillsbury, ....................................... 107 50
“ .................................................. 208 53
Frederick Whitney, ..................................... 247 07
Mrs. Eliza Smith, ....................................... 152 99

Paid Oliver Pillsbury, Jr., interest on cash advanced:....... $4 07
Jeremiah Foster, interest on cash advanced: .......... 3 67
Samuel W. Morrison, to pay bills on town's farm: .... 175 00
J. C. & A. Winship, for pump pipe and work at town
farm: ................................................ 12 00
Joseph Moira, for damage done to himself, horse
and carriage, near the Alley bridge: ................. 107 00
Quin M. Patten, balance of interest on note: ........ 37 00
Eli Chase, error in tax: ................................ 2 31
Oliver Pillsbury, Jr., for journey to Bradford
to settle with Tappan & Bailey: ................. $2 00
for journey to Derry to see Selectmen: ............... 2 00
for journey to Weare on pauper business: .......... 2 00
for assisting stranger: ................................ 1 00
for copying valuation book: ......................... 4 00
Horace Gibson, for preparing town reports for print-
ing last year: ........................................ 8 00
Horace Gibson, services as Treasurer this year: ..... 8 00
Hiram M. Davis, for abatement of Hiram Simons' tax
in part: ............................................ 2 27
Hiram M. Davis, the amount of non-resident highway
tax: ................................................ 38 94
Tappan & Bailey, for costs at Concord in getting the
mistake rectified in the record of award of Road
Commissioners to Edmund and Ames Wood, and
advice in several cases: ............................... 10 00
Seth A. Morse, for damage done oxen in John Pope's
district last winter: ................................ 10 00
Joseph Felch, for error in tax: ......................... 1 11
E. Worth, School Commissioner for Merrimack Co.: ... 29 24
Wm. L. Danforth, for breaking roads last year: ..... 50 00
James Wilkins, for making coffin for Mrs. Connor: .... 4 00
Dr. Jacob Straw, Town Agent to purchase liquors: ... 105 38
Horace Gibson, for recording Births and Deaths: ..... 4 04
Horace Gibson, services as Town Clerk: ............... 15 00
Silas Colby, for expenses of Town Officers: ........... 18 75
Jeremiah Foster, for services as Selectman for 1855,
Oliver Pillsbury, Jr., ................................ 36 50
Eli Colby, ............................................ 40 50
Eri Colby, ............................................ 23 25
Eldred Marsh, for detention and breaking roads: .... 4 00
Eri Colby, for wood for Thomas Livingston and work: 4 00
Harrison Colby, for wood for Thomas Livingston: ... 3 00
Jonathan Flanders, for repairing and breaking roads: 2 75
Hiram M. Davis, for services as Collector for 1855, ... 45 00
Asa Gordon, for breaking roads: ....................... 2 72
George W. Rice, ........................................ 3 00
Paid Hiram Rice, for services as Sup. School Committee. $17 75
Rev. J. M. R. Eaton, for time, fare and expenses twice to Manchester on pauper case, $7 00
Jeremiah Foster, for service as Sup. School Committee, $24.00
Cash paid L. T. Flint in two cases for advice, $2.00
Jeremiah Foster, for time, fare and expenses twice to Manchester on pauper case, $7 00
Cash advanced, .......................................................... 33
Oliver Pillsbury, Jr., for breaking roads in Dist. No. 3, $0.00
Hiram M. Davis, for abatement of taxes in 1854, as follows:
  Charles Barker ................................................. $5 00
  Mitchell Gilmore ............................................. 2 22
  James Childs ................................................... 2 22
  James Buckley ................................................. 2 40
  Cyrus Carpenter ................................................ 1 50
  Jonathan Cheney ............................................... 50
  William C. Wood ............................................... 2 40
  Ira Plumer ....................................................... 1 25
  George W. Berry ............................................... 2 40
Cash remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, .............................................. $7,407 29
Audited by the undersigned, this 26th day of Feb., A. D. 1856.
DAVID L. COGSWELL, ........................................
DAVID PLUMER, ................................................
CYRUS GOSS, ................................................

PAUPER ESTABLISHMENT.

Samuel W. Morrison in account with the Town of Henniker, Dr.
To amount of Real and Personal Property, as per inventory taken by Selectmen, Feb. 22, 1856. $3,671.65
Interest on same .................................................. 220.29
Agent's compensation ............................................ 250.00
Other bills as follows:
Paid for bed cord .33; knives .25; axe and helve 1.20; 4 butter tubs 1.38; seypho 1.00; barrels 1.07; wood 1.25; 19 lbs. butter 4.75; honey .25; cats .31; 6 in were 2.13; buffalo robe 7.00; vest 1.75; bar 1.70; 50 lbs. pork 6.25; hoe .50; veal .95; rope paper 2.25; promontraire 2.62; bags .50; doctoring 1.00; butchering .50; wheat 2.25; use of mill .70; mop handles .20; use of plow 1.25; vinegar .30; digging 3 Graves 5.00; blacksmithing 9.15; apple-pearer 1.25; yarn 1.25; use of wagon .50; sleigh 12.00; coffin 3.50; threshing 3.70; paid pull harness 1.75; repairing harness 2.00; stove back 7.50; damage by oxen 7.50; saw hill 0.50; goods of O. C. Fisher 13.68; cloth 1.85; salt 4.24; shoemaking 5.30; oil 1.25; medicine 4.69; snuff .23; spices .74; crackers 1.43; lemons .50; seed 4.26; nails .88; flour 47.50; 2½ lbs. tea 8.06; 16 lbs. tobacco 2.24; 76 lbs. sugar 5.38; 27½ Gall. molasses 7.94; 19 lbs. coffee 2.37; 12 lbs. salmum 68.

CONDITION OF THE FINANCES OF THE TOWN.
Cash remaining in the hands of the Treasurer .............................................. $398.32
Amount of bills outstanding .................................................. $145.00
Due agent on town farm .............................................. 250.00
Balance in favor of the town ............................................. $503.32
Audited by the undersigned, this 26th day of Feb., A. D. 1856.
DAVID L. COGSWELL, ........................................
DAVID PLUMER, ................................................
CYRUS GOSS, ................................................

Audited by the undersigned, this 26th day of Feb., A. D. 1856.

DAVID L. COGSWELL, ........................................
DAVID PLUMER, ................................................
CYRUS GOSS, ................................................
3½ lbs. cream tarter 1.40; 137 lbs. fish 6.98; 253 lbs. plaster 1.15; miscellaneous 4.09; 6 bush. rye 9.19; 25½ bush. potatoes 17.87; ox work 1.42; labor 45.40; amounting to 526.25

Total debtor, .......................... $4,668.19

Credit.

By Real Estate, .................. $2,600.00
By Personal Property, as per Inventory of Selectmen, taken Feb. 26, 1856, as follows:

10 tons hay 150.00; straw and coarse fodder 15.00; 25 bush. oats 3.48; 13 bush. wheat 29.25; 2 hogs 32.00; neat stock and horse 370.00; 3 bush. beans 7.50; 160 lbs. dried apple 8.00; 51 lbs. lard 7.65; 20 lbs. tallow 2.80; 220 lbs. beef 17.60; 170 lbs. pork 23.80; 1½ bbl. soap 6.00; 160 lbs. cheese 17.60; 2 bbls. cider 5.00; 80 bush. potatoes 27.00; 45 lbs. butter 10.35; 40 bush. apples 12.00; 100 lbs. bacon 14.00; farming tools and furniture 572.00; amounting to 1,113.25

Also by articles sold:

106 lbs. butter 21.10; 6 bbls. 93; peg timber 8.00; labor 11.75; beef 8.55; neat stock 240.33; knitting 13.65; bedding 2.13; dried apple .65; lard 1.40; 4 calves 18.04; 2 pigs 2.00; pears 6.00; plums 2.00; hides 7.38; cider 1.00; oats .20; apples 3.43; rake .50; poultry 2.00; slabs 1.00; amounting to ........... 352.10

Whole amount of credit, ................... $4,065.38

Balance against the farm, .......... $692.81

The Selectmen deem the work done on the farms more than equal to the extra work hired.

RECORD OF PAUPERS.

Alvin Whitman, 69  Betsy Joslyn 80
David Purington, 79  Mehitable Kezer, 79
Nancy Gould, 97  Betsy Purington, 71
Salome Leeb, 39  Betsy Putney, 67
Dorcas Stone, 82
Joshua Delby, from Dec. 22, 1855, 44
Aaron Eastman, to April 13, 52
I. N. Jackman, to Jan. 8, 1856, 73
John Kezer, from July 2, to Aug. 13, 1856, 54

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

DISTRICT No. 1. Summer and Winter School under the instruction of ELIZA A. HARDY. This is one of the largest schools in town, and the teacher, being inexperienced, did not succeed as well as could have been desired. Disorder and confusion prevailed in the schoolroom, to the exclusion, in a great measure, of study and attention; consequently the improvement was limited. The scholars in this district are very irregular in attendance; so much so, that for the Winter term of 14 weeks there was a loss to the school on account of absence equal to 12 scholars for the whole term. No teacher can make any school, under such circumstances, what it should be.

DISTRICT No. 2. Summer Term—Amy A. WHITAKER, Teacher. This school was small—only five scholars. The instruction was thorough and the scholars made good progress in their studies.

Winter Term just commenced in charge of FRANCIS A. GORDON. This school appears extremely well under its present instructor. The scholars are very orderly and attentive, and the teacher appears to be perfectly at home in the school-room.

DISTRICT No. 3. Summer Term—Sarah P. COGSWELL, Teacher. Most of the pupils have made commendable progress in their studies. This school, in common with some others, labors under the disadvantage of not having an advanced class of scholars, who might, by their influence, excite a general interest in the school. The teacher is very much at home in her work, is not confined to text books, has labored faithfully and with success.

Winter Term—Robert D. Rice, Teacher. The committee noticed with pleasure great promptness and accuracy in the recitations. Efforts on the part of the teacher to advance the several classes in their respective studies have been rewarded with success. Principles have been so illustrated that the pupil could hardly fail not only to receive, but to retain the idea.
DISTRICT No. 4. *Summer School*—Emeline M. Colby, Teacher.

Miss C. succeeded very well with this school. Good order and diligence prevailed, and the scholars made commendable improvement. Miss Colby also had charge of the *Winter School*. The school appeared well at the close, but its condition hardly met the expectations of the Committee. Circumstances for which the teacher is not responsible contributed to impair the usefulness of this term of the school. This school ranks with the most advanced in town. The scholars excel in reading and grammar.

DISTRICT No. 5. *Summer Term*—Anstee S. Kimball, Teacher.

We have seldom visited a school where everything was carried forward with such perfect order. Great pains were taken in the rhetorical exercises to secure accuracy in the enunciation of letters and words. Every element of sound was brought distinctly out. The teacher who labors successfully at this point, as has been done in the present instance, is worthy of much commendation. Great interest has been added to the school by daily exercises in singing. We also noticed with much pleasure that the pupils had committed, among other important moral lessons, the Ten Commandments.

*Winter Term*—Edmund S. Hoyt, Teacher. The school has been thoroughly drilled on the elements of language. We see not what more could have been done for the class in grammar than has been done. The same is true of the several classes in reading, and in short of all the branches to which the school have given their attention.

DISTRICT No. 6. *One Term*—Francis A. Gordon, Teacher. A good school and well taught. The teacher spared no pains to interest his pupils and make them thorough in all their studies.

DISTRICT No. 7. *Summer Term*—Sarah C. Eastman, Teacher.

The pupils generally were interested in their studies. Circumstances beyond the teacher's control interfered somewhat with the highest interests of the school, yet her patient and persevering efforts secured very satisfactory results.

*Winter Term*—Charles H. Darling, Teacher. An unusually large number of advanced scholars in this school have added much to its interest. The teacher, from a previous acquaintance with his pupils, could enter at once upon the work of giving instruction; this he did with very happy success. Most of the recitations gave evidence of patient and persevering study. The school was under good discipline. Whispering was nearly banished from the school-room, except among the very small children.

DISTRICT No. 8. *Summer and Winter School* in charge of P. C. Scott. Miss Scott possesses in a high degree the qualifications desirable in school teachers, all of which were successfully applied in the management of this school. She seems to have been most faithful and assiduous in the discharge of her duties, sparing neither labor nor pains for the benefit of her school. Her instruction was thorough, and the improvement of the scholars in the various branches was very satisfactory.

DISTRICT No. 9. *Summer and Winter Terms*—Lyvonia Smith, Teacher. This school has enjoyed the labors of a teacher of much experience, and under her judicious and well directed efforts the pupils have received much valuable instruction. During the winter term of two and one third weeks, there was but one pupil. The question is one of some interest to the town what they will do with District No. 9.

DISTRICT No. 10. *Summer Term*—Jennifer Clark, Teacher. The Committee were highly pleased with the appearance of this school. The school-room was kept very neat and studious, and order and method were apparent in every arrangement of the school.

*Winter Term*—Also taught by Jennifer Clark. What is said above is eminently true of this teacher. Miss C. is a successful teacher.

DISTRICT No. 11. *Summer Term*—Eunice Pollard, Teacher. Miss P. is young and without experience. In this, her first attempt, she succeeded very well. To an unusual degree she exercised an interest in the younger children, and taught them with happy success. She has the elements of a good teacher.

*Winter Term*—Hiram Rice, Teacher. Mr. Rice has fully sustained all his reputation as a teacher, in this school. He wins the respect of all, and his pupils cheerfully follow. They enjoy a degree of freedom in expressing their views, really combined with such perfect subordination. The textbooks have been thoroughly studied. We might specify Arithmetic, written and mental, Reading, also, to which much attention has been given and with happy success; distinctness of pronunciation was particularly noticeable. A class of nine have studied Book Keeping with a great degree of interest and profit. The rest of the several classes in spelling have been unparalleled.

DISTRICT No. 12. *Summer Term*—P. C. Scott, Teacher. This term has been a fortunate one to this school district, and the labors of the teacher have been crowned with the most abundant success. The examination at the close shewed conclusively not only that the pupils had been thoroughly and systematically drilled, but that the teacher had been cheerfully seconded in her efforts in the improvement of her pupils. Unusual advancement was manifest, by all the scholars instructed with the school.

DISTRICT No. 13. *Summer and Winter Terms*—Hiram C. Wexler, Teacher. Miss W. enjoyed the utmost confidence of her pupils, and succeeded them with but little supervision. The school appeared unusually well at the close of the Winter term.
The Committee are happy to report that most of the schools have enjoyed unusual prosperity during the year. It has given them great satisfaction as they have visited the schools from time to time, to witness so much deference shown the teachers by their pupils.

It would afford us pleasure to refer particularly, to some branches of study in which an unusual interest has been excited. We will specify but two, and these among the most important, we refer to Reading and Spelling. The chairman of our committee may be permitted to refer to the school in district No. 11, where the interest in spelling has excelled anything he ever before witnessed; and we would earnestly recommend that the same system of spelling be thoroughly adopted in all the schools. We believe it to be entirely impossible to teach orthography so successfully in the ordinary way.

In regard to reading, that the interest which now exists may not be lost but rather deepened, we would earnestly recommend to parents and guardians, that they place interesting and useful books in the hands of their children. We believe this to be the most effectual way of securing to them the art of reading well; and this will at the same time give them much valuable instruction.

The brief visit of our County Commissioner, added much to the interest of our schools the past winter. These visits, though short, could not well be dispensed with. It will be perceived by the preceding report that most of our schools, the past year, have been taught by Females. We consider it a wise measure to employ Female Teachers so far as it can be done without sacrificing the best interests of the latter, then, to tease the teacher in a thousand ways, to make her life a burden and her labors productive of very little good. It is weakened the power of the teacher, and marred the happiness of the scholars.

We deem it incumbent on those districts which employ Females to teach their winter schools, to see that the larger scholars in these schools, cheerfully submit to all the reasonable requirements of the teacher. It is hardly to be expected that a young lady will measure her strength with that of a full grown youth. It is in the power of the latter, then, to tease the teacher in a thousand ways, to make her life a burden and her labors productive of very little good. It is hardly proper to require a female teacher to take care of young men, but if they are found in her school, her province is to teach them. We think that if females are employed to teach our largest winter schools, special pains should be taken to secure the services of such as have all the requisite qualifications.

The foregoing Report is respectfully submitted,

J. M. R. Eaton, 
Superintending

Hiram High School. 

School Com.