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# REPORT

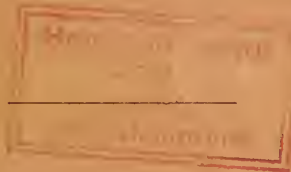
— OF THE —

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

— OF —

# LEE, N. H.,

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 2, 1864.**



DOVER:  
PRESS OF G. H. & S. E. TWOMBLY.

1864.



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## REPORT.

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The town is well aware that your present Superintending School Committee was appointed to take the place of our honored and respected friend Moses A. Cartland, whose fame as an Educator is a "nation's boast, and his glory as the ethereal fire."

I cannot let the present pass without one word of tribute to him who has spent his whole life in the cause of education and the good of mankind, and in his death the family not only sustains an irreparable loss, but our social greetings, neighborhood and town. Oh, Death, thou hast all seasons for thy coming, whether in the days of youth or old age, and all people bow with obedience from the monarch seated upon his lofty throne, to the poor and humble peasant. Thou art like a bee that goes from flower to flower, gathering its sweets, and departs, leaving them to decay.

I have attended to the duties assigned me as Superintending School Committee, and submit to the town of Lee the following Report of the condition of our Schools during the past year, and in so doing I state what I believe to be their real condition. The different districts, in the main, have been very fortunate in securing good and competent teachers to take charge of their Schools. It is not every one that has an education that is fit for a teacher; we want those who are "apt to teach," that have an ability to awaken an interest in the pupils, and stimulate them to a greater effort for improvement.

## DISTRICT No. 1.

Charles H. Layn, Committee. Amount of School money, \$100,51. Summer Term—Miss KATE HAMILTON of Lee, Teacher. Although this was her first experience at "School keeping" she proved herself a good disciplinarian. Sickness has been a great hindrance to the progress of the School, and with so many absent, and six weeks vacation, they did not exhibit as great proficiency as they otherwise would. But the teacher labored hard and earnestly for the welfare of her pupils, and is entitled to much credit. With more experience and a better house she undoubtedly will make an excellent teacher. Success to her in future. The teacher reports but one case of whispering during the term.

Length of School in weeks, 12.6-

Whole number of Scholars, 14.

Average attendance, 11.

The Winter Term was taught by Mr. DAVID H. WRIGHT of Westminster, Vermont. Your Committee regards Mr. Wright (who passed a good examination) as a teacher whose amiable and kind demeanor would generally acquire the regards of his pupils. He seemed ambitious to discharge his duty faithfully, and the School appeared very well under his charge. Yet a little more rigor in discipline would have been better. If the conduct of some of the scholars at the closing examination be taken as an example of their general deportment in School, the proficiency attained on their part must be small.

Length of School in weeks, 7 1-5.

Whole number of Scholars, 26.

Average attendance, 21.

## DISTRICT No. 2.

Joseph Jones, Prudential Committee. Amount of School money, \$125,76. Miss FRANCENA J. SAWYER of Lee had the care of the Summer Term. Miss Sawyer

enters upon her work with a whole heart, earnest and "wide awake." The pupils endeavored with their teacher to make this an interesting School. In her report she says, "I am happy to say that this term has been an exceeding pleasant one, the scholars have been very studious and have tried to gain a thorough knowledge of the various branches pursued, as far as the shortness of the term would permit." Several in this district are reported as not having whispered during the term.

Length of School in weeks, 10.

Whole number of Scholars, 19.

Average attendance, 11.

The Winter term is being taught by Mr. EDWIN J. ROBERTS of Barnstead, N. H. The term will be about sixteen weeks. Mr. Roberts labors industriously and earnestly for the advancement of his pupils, and I think his efforts have been very successful. The improvement made in the various branches pursued has been very good.

Whole number of Scholars 33.

#### DISTRICT No. 3.

Thomas J. Otis, Prudential Committee. Amount of money, \$44,88. But one term during the year. This was taught by Mr. WARREN G. SANBORN of New Market, with good success. The improvement in the various branches taught was very satisfactory, and the interest manifested really encouraging. The order was very commendable.

Length of School in weeks, 6 1-2.

Whole number of Scholars, 15.

Average attendance, 13.

#### DISTRICT No. 4.

Reuben M. Osborne, Prudential Committee. Amount of School money, \$95,84. The Summer term was under the instruction of Miss ANNIE M. PLUMER, who we think worked hard for the good of her pupils. The examination



showed a good degree of progress and gained much credit to teacher and scholars. The general deportment was such as to merit approbation.

Length of School in weeks, 12.

Whole number of Scholars, 35.

Average attendance, 31 1-2.

The Winter term was taught by Miss ANNIE L. THOMPSON of Candia. The examination of the teacher, although there was a lack in promptness in some of the branches required, was generally satisfactory. This term for the district has not been a very profitable one, though the teacher at the different visits of your Committee seemed disposed to do her duty. This school was not the place for her. She had taught here before and, knowing something of what she had to contend with, should not have engaged it a second time. Several scholars left before the school closed; consequently the closing examination was not as praiseworthy as it might otherwise have been, though some of the classes showed a good degree of improvement.

Length of School in weeks, 12.

Whole number of Scholars, 34.

Average attendance, 25.

#### DISTRICT No. 5.

David S. Jenkins, Prudential Committee. Amount of School money, \$75, 05. But one term in this district.—The services of Miss BELINDA S. BUNKER of Rye were secured for this term, who is an able and experienced teacher. She labored hard for the good of her pupils and with great success. In her report she says:—"This school has been a very pleasant one, and I can say it has been a pleasure instead of a task while teaching it."

The closing examination passed off very pleasantly, the order good and progress made highly satisfactory.

Length of School in weeks, 15 1-2.

Whole number of Scholars, 20.

Average attendance, 15.



## DISTRICT No. 6.

B. Dow Mathes, Prudential Committee. Amount of School money, \$114,76. The Summer term was taught by Miss ANNA TUTTLE of Nottingham. This School with some of the rest was not visited by your Committee at the commencement. The scholars were mostly small, but at the closing examination gave evidence of their having made good progress under Miss Tuttle's instruction. The order was very good, scholars obedient and studious.

Length of School in weeks, 11.

Whole number of Scholars, 22.

For the Winter term this district was very fortunate in securing the services of Miss LAURA A. NORRIS of Nottingham, by whose arduous labors the school made rapid progress. She spared no pains to make the school-room a delightful place,—was very zealous in her vocation, and seemed to impart life to all around her. The scholars were orderly and attentive to their studies. The various exercises on the board were quite interesting and highly commendable. Several of the parents were present at the examination which indicates that they have an interest in the welfare of the school.

Length of School in weeks, 10 1-2.

Whole number of Scholars, 20.

Average attendance, 15 1-2.

## DISTRICT No. 7.

Benjamin Y. Piper, Prudential Committee. Amount of School money, \$95,90. SARAH O. HALEY Teacher. This School appeared very pleasant and happy. The scholars seemed interested and desirous of improvement. Miss Haley is very devoted to her task and appears perfectly at home,—commands respect and maintains good order by the "cords of love," instead "of the rod of correction," which is preferable by far. With a little more experience

she will rank among our first teachers. The examination was quite satisfactory.

Length of School in weeks, 11.

• Whole number of Scholars, 23.

Average attendance, 15 6-10.

The Winter term was under the instruction of Mr. B. VAN DAME, whose reputation as a competent teacher has been favorably known in former years. The teacher remarks that "the general deportment of this school is above the average of such schools—that the scholars have been very respectful and obedient." Mr. Van Dame labored hard to do his duty faithfully and the examination showed that his "labor has not been in vain."

Length of School in weeks, 10.

Whole number of scholars, 25.

Average attendance, 18 31-50.

I wish that parents would bear in mind that the appropriation for the support of our Schools is for the good of their children, and they should not be allowed to be absent one day if it can well be avoided. Irregular attendance has been a great hindrance to the progress of our Schools in years past, and during the past year they have suffered a great deal from this cause. They should also consider that our Schools are, in a great measure, what they make them, and the labor of teachers will be in vain unless they can have their co-operation.

Too many scholars go to school expecting the teacher to do all the work,—then if they do not make as great proficiency as is desirable, the teacher is found fault with, does not do his duty, &c. This is very much like the course of some persons, who, because they pay the minister, expect him to do all the praying.

GEORGE E. DURGIN, Sup'g School Com.

LEE, March 2, 1864.



