

EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

OF THE

TOWN OF EXETER, N. H.,

FOR THE

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1873,

WITH THE

REPORTS OF THE TREASURER OF THE ROBINSON
FEMALE SEMINARY, THE TOWN LIBRARY
COMMITTEE AND THE SUPERINTEND-
ING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

EXETER:

PRINTED AT THE NEWS-LETTER OFFICE, WATER STREET.
1873.

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EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS
BY THE SELECTMEN
 FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1873.

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Paid State tax, | \$3,618 00 |
| County tax, | 5,978 07 |
| Bonds and coupons, | 6,539 00 |
| Notes and interest, | 3,306 48 |
| Town Library, | 500 00 |
| Exeter Gas Light Co., to March 1873, | 650 00 |
| Discount on taxes paid prior to Sept. 1, 1872, | 572 80 |
| Balance due Selectmen last year, | 266 22 |
| Salary of Collector, | 350 00 |
| No.-Resident taxes, 1872, worked out, | 3 27 |
| W. K. Stratton & Co., Balance, 1871, | 400 00 |
| W. K. Stratton & Co., Concrete Walks, | 200 00 |
| | \$22,184 23 |

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Paid Prudential Committee, District No. 1, | \$7,273 54 |
| " " " No. 3, | 278 78 |
| " " " No. 4, | 236 75 |
| " " " No. 5, | 307 33 |
| " " " No. 6, | 240 95 |
| | \$8,332 15 |

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Paid Engineers, | 45 00 |
| Fountain No. 1, | 908 00 |
| Union No. 2, | 641 00 |
| Piscataqua, No. 3, | 465 00 |
| Hook & Ladder, | 276 00 |
| Josiah Gates & Sons, | 629 45 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Paid Brown & Warren, | 587 29 |
| N. T. Bachelder, Balance, 1871. | 200 00 |
| Allen Supply Co., | 160 00 |
| Exeter Iron Foundry, | 108 95 |
| Thayer, Babson & Co. | 77 48 |
| Exeter Manufacturing Co. | 60 00 |
| Joshua Getchell, | 78 18 |
| Jeremiah Carter. | 57 00 |
| E. O. Lovering. | 52 48 |
| B. M. Tilton & Co. | 40 10 |
| George Carter, | 20 00 |
| J. L. Barbadoes, | 17 50 |
| J. W. Tilton, | 14 00 |
| Henry A. Hall, | 28 25 |
| Jeremiah Carter, | 42 00 |
| F. Mullen, | 30 50 |
| W. B. Greenleaf, | 24 50 |
| Orville R. Drew, | 28 50 |
| Orville R. Drew, | 36 00 |
| C. F. Folsom, | 10 00 |
| I. T. Purinton, | 16 00 |
| J. N. B. Crummett, | 10 50 |
| James Manix, | 10 00 |
| Elliot & Dudley, | 8 70 |
| C. K. Fifield, | 4 00 |
| John Kelly, | 2 00 |
| J. W. Colbath, | 4 00 |
| Chas. E. Davis, | 2 00 |
| J. W. Colbath, | 1 00 |
| Thomas Scheniek, | 4 00 |
| Patrick Heaphy, | 2 00 |
| Samuel B. Dyer, | 2 00 |
| David N. Glover, | 2 00 |
| D. W. York, | 4 00 |
| C. K. Fifield, | 3 00 |
| George Carter, | 25 00 |
| George W. Wiggin, | 10 00 |
| B. G. Kelly, | 6 00 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Paid J. W. Tilton & als. | 6 00 |
| B. G. Kelly, | 3 00 |
| Wiggin & Conner, | 95 90 |
| Andrew J. Fogg, | 90 39 |
| Hanneman & Co. | 4 50 |
| George W. Greene, | 1 50 |
| A. P. Blake, | 30 00 |
| Charles Lane, | 27 85 |
| N. T. Batchelder, Reservoirs, | 528 75 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$5,541 27 |

HIGHWAY AND BRIDGES.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Paid Dennis Shea & Co. | \$805 00 |
| N. K. Thurston, | 303 22 |
| Jeremiah Johnson, | 200 00 |
| James W. Brown, | 179 24 |
| S. C. Lawrence, Gravel pit, | 173 88 |
| John Flood, | 255 50 |
| N. K. Leavitt, | 125 00 |
| Joshua Getchell, | 98 50 |
| I. S. & S. A. Frown, | 58 00 |
| Lorenzo Nealey, | 50 00 |
| John S. Hayes, | 28 87 |
| Brown & Warren, | 26 20 |
| John S. Pike, | 16 53 |
| John Flanagan, | 15 50 |
| B. J. Perkins, | 21 50 |
| John Tilton, | 9 75 |
| A. P. Wingate, | 4 50 |
| Nicholas Rollins, | 4 00 |
| Mrs. C. H. Bell, | 5 50 |
| W. S. Brown, | 3 00 |
| Ira Burnham, | 1 77 |
| Joseph Cate, | 1 00 |
| George W. Greene, | 3 63 |
| William H. Harris, | 6 00 |
| Wm. P. Moulton, | 3 00 |

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| ✓ Paid C. W. Trickey, | 2 00 |
| S. A. Clough, | 7 20 |
| Josiah Batchelder, | 10 00 |
| Alvin Wiggin, | 15 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$2,433 29 |

SHEEP BILLS.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Paid Joseph Haley, | 10 00 |
| Gilman Barker, | 15 00 |
| A. W. Dudley, | 22 00 |
| Nath'l Swasey, | 25 00 |
| Lewis L. Lamprey, | 12 50 |
| Joshua Wiggin, | 12 50 |
| A. C. Haley, | 14 00 |
| Hezekiah Scammon, | 5 00 |
| James W. Moulton, | 5 00 |
| Samuel Peavey, | 5 00 |
| Stephen Dolloff, | 32 50 |
| John H. Kimball, | 5 00 |
| Daniel Sanborn, | 4 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$167 50 |

POLICE AND CONSTABLES.

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Paid John P. Adams, | 20 00 |
| Horace B. Cobbs, | 8 00 |
| Jeremiah Carter, | 8 00 |
| Charles E. Davis, | 8 00 |
| D. M. Quimby, Badges, | 9 50 |
| Woodbury Berry, | 4 00 |
| N. G. Giddings, | 2 00 |
| E. S. Durgin, | 11 00 |
| Andrew J. Brown, | 44 30 |
| John W. Hall, | 44 00 |
| John Conner, | 29 00 |
| Frederick Palmer, | 17 00 |
| Irvin M. Watson, | 13 00 |

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Paul Madison Sleeper, | 10 00 |
| Stephen C. Gray, | 8 00 |
| Wyatt B. Tasker, | 8 00 |
| William P. Moulton, | 3 50 |
| B. Marvin Fernald, | 24 19 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$271 52 |

MISCELLANEOUS.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Paul Insurance, | 118 75 |
| Joshua Getchell, | 484 32 |
| E. O. Lovering, | 117 26 |
| Wm. W. West, | 27 50 |
| Horticultural Society, | 25 00 |
| Chas. E. Adams, | 24 58 |
| Geo. N. Kimball, | 7 20 |
| Auditors, 1872, | 8 00 |
| A. W. Dudley, | 12 00 |
| B. Marston, | 8 00 |
| W. H. Belknap, | 6 00 |
| John Flanagan, | 2 75 |
| W. W. Stickney, | 1 50 |
| Geo. W. Weston, | 70 |
| C. H. Roberts, | 6 00 |
| Charles Marseilles, | 204 77 |
| Charles W. Young, | 110 69 |
| George E. Lane, | 108 10 |
| D. M. Quimby, | 25 00 |
| A. R. Wiggin, | 12 00 |
| Wm. G. Perry, Reporting Births and Deaths, | 11 75 |
| John W. Hall, | 8 00 |
| Kelly & Gardner, | 10 |
| E. S. Durgin, | 6 00 |
| Superintending School Committee, | 80 00 |
| John Johnston, ringing Bell, | 50 00 |
| C. W. Trickey, | 50 |
| W. B. Morrill, | 20 00 |
| John Flanagan, | 12 80 |

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Paid N. T. Batchelder, | 71 25 |
| C. G. Conner, | 15 00 |
| Selectmen, | 300 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1,885 52 |

SUPPORT OF THE POOR.

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| †Paid Insane Asylum, | \$348 42 |
| Joshua Getchell, | 137 42 |
| Porter & Thyng, | 67 50 |
| S. W. Leavitt, | 62 25 |
| Nicholas Rollins, | 49 00 |
| Andrew Boardman, | 34 50 |
| Mary Carter, | 26 00 |
| Charlotte Wiggin, | 27 00 |
| Samuel Perham, | 25 50 |
| Porter & Thyng, | 21 65 |
| Sally Bennett, | 24 00 |
| Dr. E. Bartlett, | 17 85 |
| E. S. Durgin, | 16 80 |
| George C. Eaton, | 17 00 |
| Mace & Scammon, | 13 33 |
| Dr. A. Carroll, | 6 65 |
| D. W. Ranlet, | 7 00 |
| Eunice Bickford, | 6 00 |
| W. H. Robinson, | 6 00 |
| John Gilman, | 4 50 |
| J. L. White, | 4 00 |
| N. M. Barker, | 3 00 |
| Geo. G. Smith, | 1 85 |
| Elliot & Dudley, | 39 00 |
| D. W. Ranlet & Co. | 52 50 |
| Chas. C. Odlin, | 9 60 |
| Levi G. Towle, | 5 00 |
| Dr. Ezra Bartlett, | 16 45 |
| A. R. Wiggin, | 13 00 |
| Charlotte Wiggin, | 78 00 |
| John Macdonald, | 35 00 |

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Paid Levi G. Towle, | 131 25 |
| A. P. Blake, | 25 75 |
| Earle & Cutts, | 18 15 |
| Henry Rochester, | 13 00 |
| Crockett & Downing, | 12 00 |
| Kelly & Gardner, | 13 90 |
| John Johnston, | 4 50 |
| Samuel Perham, | 10 50 |
| John Flanagan, | 7 50 |
| Overseers, | 100 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1,512 32 |

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Taxes assessed for 1872, including non-resident, highway, and dog taxes, | \$29,210 37 |
| Borrowed Money, | 4,500 00 |
| Railroad Tax, | 3,679 33 |
| Savings Bank Tax, | 1,953 43 |
| Literary Fund, | 311 15 |
| State Bonds and Interest, | 4,231 00 |
| County of Rockingham, | 631 35 |
| Heirs of Orford Tash for C. G. Tash Property, | 400 00 |
| Jacob Carlisle, payment on Note with interest, | 234 50 |
| United States, rent of Court House, | 200 00 |
| Rent of Old Town Hall, | 70 00 |
| “ New Town Hall, | 155 83 |
| “ School District No. 1, | 30 00 |
| “ Samuel Mason House, | 14 00 |
| Circus License, | 20 00 |
| Interest collected on Taxes prior to 1869, | 18 44 |
| Outstanding Taxes, | 4,721 08 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$50,360 48 |

RECAPITULATION OF EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| State Tax, | 3,618 00 |
| County Tax, | 5,978 67 |
| Bonds and Coupons, | 6,339 00 |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Notes and Interest, | 3,306 18 |
| Town Library, | 500 00 |
| Exeter Gas Light Co., | 650 00 |
| Discount on Taxes, | 572 89 |
| Balance due last year, | 266 22 |
| Salary of Collector, | 350 00 |
| Non-resident Highway Taxes worked out, | 3 27 |
| W. K. Stratton & Co., | 400 00 |
| W. K. Stratton & Co., | 200 00 |
| Support of Schools, | 8,332 15 |
| Fire Department, | 5,541 27 |
| Highways and Bridges, | 2,433 29 |
| Sheep Bills, | 167 50 |
| Police and Constables, | 271 52 |
| Miscellaneous, | 1,885 52 |
| Support of the Poor, | 1,512 32 |
| Abatement of Taxes, 1871, | 143 24 |
| Outstanding " 1869 & '70, | 664 34 |
| " " 1871, | 1,204 95 |
| " " 1872, | 4,160 40 |
| Cash on hand, | 1,858 75 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$50,360 48 |

EXETER, MARCH 5, 1873.

We, the undersigned, have this day examined the accounts of the town exhibited to us by the Selectmen, and find them well vouched and correctly cast, and find eighteen hundred and fifty-eight dollars and seventy-five cents in the hands of the Selectmen.

A. H. WEEKS, }
J. T. PORTER, } AUDITORS.

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE TOWN.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Town House Bonds, | \$3,000 00 |
| New Loan Bonds, | 39,400 00 |
| Notes Payable, | 11,480 00 |
| Coupons overdue, | 438 00 |
| Interest overdue, | 520 82 |
| George J. Abbott, Land damage, | 150 00 |
| Heirs of James J. Wiggin, Land damage, | 75 00 |
| Heirs of Zadock Robinson, “ | 50 00 |
| N. T. Batchelder, “ | 15 00 |
| Ann M. Porter, “ | 5 00 |
| Thomas Schenick, “ | 5 00 |
| Sundry Individuals, “ | 16 00 |
| W. K. Stratton & Co., Concrete Walk, estimated, | 600 00 |
| N. T. Batchelder, Reservoirs, estimated, | 700 00 |
| Breaking Roads, estimated, | 350 00 |
| School District No. 1, Tax, | 1,000 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$57,804 82 |

ASSETS OF THE TOWN.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Taxes due 1869 and 1870, | \$664 34 |
| Taxes due 1871, | 1,204 95 |
| Taxes due 1872, | 4,160 40 |
| Amount due from N. B. Collins, | 1,267 21 |
| Balance due on Note for Town Farm, | 397 50 |
| State of New Hampshire Bonds, | 16,900 00 |
| Cash, | 1,858 75 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$26,453 15 |

WILLIAM B. MORRILL, } Selectmen
 JOSHUA GETCHELL, } of
 LYFORD CONNER, } Exeter.

REPORT OF THE TOWN LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1873.

The Committee submit the following account of receipts and expenditures for the past year :

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| From Committee of 1871-2, | \$ 2 25 |
| Appropriation voted by the Town, | 500 00 |
| Sale of Catalogues, | 9 50 |
| Fines, | 2 12 |
| Old paper, | 3 69 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$517 56 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Paid Librarian's Salary, | \$125 00 |
| Printing Catalogues and Supplement, | 63 00 |
| Insurance, | 18 75 |
| Wood and Gas, | 19 38 |
| Cleaning room, | 5 00 |
| Books of record, | 8 00 |
| Stationery, | 8 25 |
| Binding old books, | 25 55 |
| Books, | 244 63 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$517 56 |

There are in the Library 3,500 volumes. 521 persons have taken books during the year. We respectfully recommend that \$500 be raised for the support of the Library for the coming year.

B. L. CILLEY, }
 JOSEPH F. WIGGIN. } Committee.

ROBINSON FEMALE SEMINARY.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

TO THE SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF EXETER:

The undersigned, Treasurer of the Robinson Female Seminary, begs leave to make the following report of receipts and expenditures for the year ending February 28, 1873.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Balance on hand, Feb. 29, 1872, | \$2,133 42 |
| Received from Dividends, | 14,120 00 |
| Tuition, | 1,090 00 |
| Sale of Carts and Harness, | 112 50 |
| " Grass, &c., | 134 50 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$17,590 42 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Salaries of Teachers, | \$9,028 87 |
| School Books, | 181 89 |
| Interest Account, | 961 75 |
| Loan Account, Paid note in favor of M. A. Getchell, | 1,700 00 |

GENERAL EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Salary of Treasurer, | 480 00 |
| " Secretary, | 47 50 |
| Sundries, | 10 25 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$537 75 |

SEMINARY BUILDING EXPENSES.

| | | |
|--|---|----------|
| W. K. Stratton's bill, steam pipes, fixtures and labor in 1871, | } | 243 45 |
| " " Radiators, " " | | |
| Repair of Roof, | | 37 62 |
| Materials and labor for improvements and repairs, | | 181 11 |
| Insurance for 3 years, | | 450 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$976 18 |

SCHOOL EXPENSES.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Janitress, | \$366 00 |
| Engineer, | 627 40 |
| Fuel, | 834 44 |
| Exeter Gas Co., | 41 96 |
| Expenses of Commencement day, | 100 15 |
| Printing Catalogues, etc., | 136 50 |
| Advertising, | 13 75 |
| Travelling Expenses, | 4 00 |
| Stationery, | 54 85 |
| | <hr/> \$2,179 05 |

SCHOOL FURNITURE.

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Music Charts, | 51 25 |
| Books, | 14 10 |
| Philosophical Apparatus, | 62 01 |
| Repairs, | 8 29 |
| | <hr/> \$135 65 |

PRINCIPAL'S HOUSE.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Repairs of furnace, pump, &c., in 1871 & '72, | 20 65 |
| | <hr/> |

SEMINARY GROUNDS.

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Team work in 1871, | \$81 00 |
| Iron Posts, Gate fixtures, &c., | 68 23 |
| Lumber for Walks, Fence, &c., | 38 45 |
| Drain Tile and labor, | 13 13 |
| Labor on Grounds, | 67 00 |
| Grass Seed, | 22 54 |
| | <hr/> \$290 35 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| | \$16,012 14 |
| Balance in Cash on hand, | 1,578 28 |
| | <hr/> |

\$17,590 42

No change in the investments has been deemed necessary during the year past.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES BURLEY, TREASURER.

TO THE TOWN OF EXETER:—

The Trustees of the Robinson Seminary, in submitting their annual report in accordance with the instructions of the Town, see no occasion for making any especial, new recommendations. Although some of the most experienced and valued teachers have left the institution within the past year, yet by the promotion of others and the fortunate engagement of new instructors, their departure has been productive of no serious injury. The school, during the year, has quietly and faithfully performed its part in fitting our daughters for filling with usefulness and credit any stations in life to which they may be called, and thereby has well accomplished the purpose which its founder had in view in its establishment.

MR. STEARNS, the Principal of the Seminary, has striven diligently to make the changes of teachers as little prejudicial as possible to the school; and by his rare ability and tact in the management of an institution of such extent and varied character, has entitled himself to the confidence and high approbation of our people. And we can justly award equal commendation to the entire corps of instructors, who have, without exception, labored diligently and successfully to impart knowledge to their pupils, and to give a high tone and repute to the Seminary.

There have been connected with the institution during the year, 252 students, of whom 71 were in the academic-preparatory, 136 in the academic and 45 in the collegiate department. Of this number all but 39 were residents of Exeter. To the lowest grade 24 were admitted, their average age being about $11\frac{1}{2}$ years. The tuition of three students from other towns has been remitted on account of their limited means.

The Robinson Seminary is a boon to Exeter, which it behoves us all to value highly and to cherish with solicitude. It gives to our town a standing abroad which it could not otherwise have gained. It relieves our citizens from an increase of taxation for school purposes that would be seriously burdensome. It furnishes to a great portion of our population educational advantages which they could in no other way expect to enjoy. Let our people constantly bear these things in mind, and contribute their united good-will, good words and good deeds to promote its prosperity and usefulness.

| | | |
|--------------------|---|-----------|
| ABNER MERRILL, | } | TRUSTEES. |
| JOSHUA GETCHELL, | | |
| NOAH HOOPER, | | |
| SAMUEL W. LEAVITT, | | |
| WM. P. MOULTON, | | |
| JOHN E. GARDNER, | | |
| CHARLES H. BELL, | } | |

March 6, 1873.

REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Our schools are as a whole fairly good and ought to be made excellent. This is a duty we owe our children and society, State and common country. Phillips Exeter Academy and Robinson Female Seminary receive scarce a tithe of the gifts and attention they richly deserve, yet perhaps receive more in proportion to their importance than do those schools in which the boys, who are so soon to be the men of Exeter, are forming their characters, fixing their habits and developing their minds. Would you see and know the Exeter of twenty-five years hence, go to the High and Grammar schools; for there more emphatically than in any other place is the coming Exeter. There they are making men and our town of the next generation. Could daily meetings be more important? Were higher responsibilities ever committed to man? Well might Jesus, Son of God, and Socrates, "wisest of men," deign to teach. Our High School might quote and to itself apply the words of Charles Wesley:

"Lo! on a narrow neck of land

'Twixt two unbounded seas I stand;"

for on the one hand the Seminary at one fell swoop sweeps away more than half of its legitimate scholars, while on the

other the Academy takes of those who would otherwise be among its brightest ornaments. The great difficulty in maintaining our High School is lack of advanced scholars, and we think the same is true of the Seminary. Without advanced students enough for one superior school we commit the folly of trying to make two. This lack of scholars, in the higher grades sadly injures High schools in towns much larger than ours, and where there are neither separate schools for girls or Academies to deplete them. Verily the harvest is plenty, the gleaners many, the real harvesters few. "O wad the power some giftie gie us," we would say to the Seminary, "lift up thy gates and be exalted" by admitting all upon the simple tests of scholarship and character, regardless of sex. Thus dispensing with the High School we would devote the energies of the common schools to amply preparing scholars for the Seminary, and thus make these schools so good that the parents would want their children to remain in them till amply qualified to go higher. Beneficent Robinson nobly provided for the girls; now let the town provide for their brothers. Where is the command for the separation which in so small a village injures both schools? Is the present faulty system, Mede and Persian like, unchangeable? If the town could dispense with its depleted High School and pay for the privilege of greatly benefiting the Seminary by the presence of the best scholars among its sons, and if the standard of admission for the daughters could be correspondingly raised, would it not be as much in accordance with the spirit of Robinson's will as some things already done? Intention is alike the soul of crime and virtue, and in this case would be nobly good. Depleted by its two great rivals and not so *high* as we could wish, yet the High School has a very fine lot of boys, and their manly deportment and rapid progress in their studies is very pleasing and satisfactory. Their penmanship has improved under the volunteer instruction of Mr. Carney.

Messrs. Burbank and Chase are entitled to much credit.

Many thanks to the parents whose children attended at the "Plains" school. Dispensing with this school proved an un-mixed good. The few pupils there lost nothing—each one at the High School gained much—the district saved rent, the parents doctor's bills and health of children, while a school of little ones were released from a room so small that the presence of so many made it a kind of "Black Hole," and were given a large and well lighted room in which they much improved. Passing to Mr. French's school, we remark that we know of no naughty actions by a portion of our boys and little girls for which they should be penned in the confined and cheerless back yard of the old County building upon a few rods of dead dirt, with two vile sources from which constantly exhale poisonous odors in close proximity. Looking from this speck of turfless desert to the seventeen acres of lawn devoted to their older sisters the contrast is striking. Kindly we quote: "Let that spot be purified or let it cease to be" of Ex-eter. "It is not fit that the land of the 'munificent educational gifts of others' should longer bear the shame." We sincerely hope that the town is not soon to lose the long enjoyed services of Mr. French. No matter what their pretensions or position, few men ever do or have it in their power to render the public so much good as such a teacher. We respectfully suggest that as now situated the boys at the High and Grammar schools need one, centrally located, convenient house with a first-class man for principal, aided by two assistants. By this means the grading could be perfected, more system established and general improvements made with present or perhaps less expenditure. As the schools are not closed and consequently the reports of the teachers not in, we particularize no further. Some of the schools we can very fairly commend. To maintain good schools requires the perpetual vigilance of all interested. Superior

teachers are rare productions. Their qualifications should be tested before they are hired; their duties are trying and laborious; their position in society and their pay too low. To them we say, qualify yourselves and insist on better pay and position. To the people we say demand better qualifications of the teachers. Book learning is among the lowest qualifications for a teacher, and we grieve to think that some of our instructors are hardly competent in that. A Primary teacher not familiar with the "sounds of the letters" is much like a music teacher whose Yankee Doodle and Old Hundred are alike. Could some of our teachers have one month's drill on first principles and the art of teaching at a good normal school or Teachers' Institute they and the town would be great gainers. We heartily commend physical training, but by statute would make it criminal to keep a little child still and idle six hours a day in the seat. Bergh is gloriously fighting against cruelty to animals, which is mercy compared to this "slaughter of the innocents," yet the child must not be noisy and troublesome. Smile often and frown seldom upon the fond mother's love and father's pride and hope. Love the child, and its care and instruction changes from a burden to a pleasure. Give pen and pencil, slate and paper, pictures and drawings, and it will soon be learning to write and draw, and obtaining ideas of the things represented. The loving soul who is apt to teach (and no other should attempt it) can have writing, drawing, botany, geology and natural history classes taught on the object lesson plan, ere great progress is made in the marvelous task of learning to read. Each desk can be a little museum. Singing is a pleasure and benefit. How easy now to imprint upon the heart and memory noble precepts and fine snatches of poetry which shall influence for good to the very gates of the future.

The instructor's first great duty is to teach the scholars to "do right because it is right;" his next, to instruct them to

think and reason correctly, and thirdly comes the acquisition of useful knowledge and such arts as penmanship, drawing and music. The acquisition of knowledge necessarily occupies so much time many seem to think that schools are established for that sole purpose. Such education would as nearly represent the true, as Nast's monstrous-headed and pigmy-bodied caricatures represent their subjects. Away with such ideas and their monstrosities. Goethe's Mephistopheles, Milton's Satan, New York's "ring," as well as Exeter and Washington furnish illustrations of intellect minus morals. Horace Mann says that he has known nine to fail from lack of moral culture where he has one from lack of intellectual. This "with every day's report of wrong and outrage" enforces the parents' and teacher's duty. Noblest is boy or girl who will do right, next comes the thinker and correct reasoner, and then the youth of learning. When in an eminent degree these powers combine in one person, there is the more than king or queen of the school, there is the glory of the human family. "Every Englishman's house is his castle," exclaimed the eloquent Chatham. This is true in our blessed land. She who can in such a castle, however humble, as wife and mother well preside, making that home pleasant, its daily food reliable and wholesome, and train her children in the happy ways of virtue, industry and intelligence is a lady that any school of however high pretensions may be proud of having educated. Reading books are deficient in lessons inculcating truthfulness and honor, while certain Primary Readers make no distinction between *a* in water and in wafer. We presume the intention is to scratch the eyes out in the first "bramble bush" and then scratch them in with some other. Believing that children partially learning one author and then taking another upon the same subject are apt to find themselves in the condition of Major Jack Downing's teacher who had his French and Indian languages

mixed, we have resisted all efforts of publishers for changes of books. In closing we refer the teachers for great masters and models, in the three departments of education mentioned, reverently to Jesus Christ for morals, to Socrates as a mental disciplinarian and to Dr. Arnold and Pestalozzi as great exemplars of the art of modern teaching, and entreat them to study. To the parents we say it is your duty to educate your children—the teacher is your aid, you should work together.

To the youth surrounded by varied circumstances and possessing minds widely differing we say that centuries show that the academic curriculum affords excellent mental discipline. Let those, who can pursue this grand old route and rejoice; for poems, orations, general literature and the magnetic telegraph, with many of the noblest in the professions, live its way. But never let those who cannot pursue the collegiate course despair, but study and work on, for Great Easterns and iron clad navies, railroads, manufactories, pictures, statues, science and fine farms and even Columbus and Shakespeare shine along your path. The colleges gave our country its Jefferson and Webster, common education and studious industry its Washington and Franklin.

It is study—it is thinking that informs and disciplines the mind. Schools only give opportunity and aid. Studies are designed to make you more of a man, more capable, more happy and more useful. Aside from this they are of little worth. He who builds good dwelling houses is a public benefactor and a better man than the closeted student, whose sole claim to notice is that he never trips amid the intricacies of the Greek syntax. He who improves ships, roads or machinery, who lifts burdens from human shoulders, or in any way gives man more control over the accidents of this life or over the laws and powers of nature is much more of a man for these times, than is he who partially knows a dead language

or two, and having waded through or over the intricacies of the higher mathematics wraps himself in his sheepskin and rests upon his academic honors. Study and labor, think and do right, always remembering that "no life is pleasing to God which is not useful to man."

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| J. D. LYMAN, | } | Superintending School Committee. |
| S. E. QUIMBY, | | |
| B. MARVIN FERNALD. | | |



