



REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN

AND

Superintending School

COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF BRISTOL, N. H.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1st. 1868.

— I. B. Gordon, Printer, Bristol, N. H. —





SELECTMENS REPORT.

The Selectmen credit the town for the year ending March 1. 1868. as follows;—

By list of taxes assessed April 1. 1867.	12427 18
Balance of taxes 1866,	140 57
State aid for 1866,	356 53
Savings Bank tax dividend for 1867,	24 65
Railroad tax for 1867,	509 22
Literary fund tax "	40 05
United States Bounty for 1867,	480 00
Received of the town of Sanbornton for Mrs. Kimball,	29 50
Use of Town Hall,	4 00
From Goffstown for Miss Hardy,	25 40
Collector 1865,	52 10
In Treasurers hands 1867,	1582 51
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	15671 71

1867, MONEY HIRED OF—

April 1.	Alonzo Cheeney,	350 00
" 1,	E. Darling,	125 00
" 3,	Wm. J. Muzzey,	60 00
" 9,	Doreas W. Heath,	125 00
" 10,	Lydia Davis,	414 00
" 11,	Nancy Lancy,	160 00
" 16,	Samuel Dustin,	500 00
" 27,	Alonzo Cheeney,	700 00
"	Alexander Curtice,	700 00
" 9,	Hannah S. Smith,	3000 00
May 15.	R. W. Haley,	1097 00
" "	W. A. Berry,	250 00
June 29,	W. J. Muzzey,	40 00

July 27,	M. C. Mudgett,	267 22
" "	Charles R. Currier,	1004 00
Sept. 14,	C. S. Brown.	200 00
" 28,	John D. Kirk,	100 00
Oct. 4	C. D. Cass,	500 00
" 11,	Angusta A. Ingalls,	120 00
" 21,	Simeon H. Cross,	620 00
" 31,	Samuel Brown,	60 00
Nov: 23,	Clark Merrill,	125 00
Dec. 3,	W. A. Berry,	100 00
" 7,	J. R. Hayward,	250 00
" "	Mary W. Hayward,	400 00
" 20,	Charles L. Dalton,	300 00
" 23,	Levi Carter.	200 00
" 24,	S. S. Soutlard,	1050 00
" 28,	Jonathan Merrill,	100 00
"	John Atwood.	826 50

1868.

Jan. 3,	Alexander Curtice,	150 00
" 8,	Calvin D Sanborn,	350 00
" 8,	Lucy Fifield,	150 00
" 11,	J. F. Cass,	150 00
" 16,	Willard Heath,	600 00
" 29.	Levi Carter,	400 00
" "	Alexander Curtice,	100 00

 15643 72

Whole amount received, 31315 43

DISBURSEMENTS OF THE SELECTMEN.

Paid State tax,	1606 25
" County,	716 94

 2323 19

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Ed. Mardin,	1861 & 2: —	4 91	
Elic Rowe,	"	2 49	
F. H. Bartlett,	1867,	35 67	*
G. D. Laney,	"	1 00	
Gardner Bowers,	"	3 18	*
J. N. Brown,	"	5 87	
J. F. Chase,	"	5 87	*
F. P. Heath,	"	5 87	*
John Leslie,	"	5 87	
G. F. Holt,	"	5 87	*
D. S. Kidder over taxed,		4 00	
B. E. Rogers,	1867,	5 87	*
J. C. Sullivan,	"	5 87	
Wm. Sullivan,	"	5 87	*
Wm. J. Muzzey,	"	7 99	*
Andrew Smith,	"	4 92	
J. Bowen.	"	4 92	
S. H. Tirrill,	"	4 92	
W. Ballou,	"	5 91	*
John Mason,	"	5 91	
Joseph Simons,	"	5 91	
W. Small,	"	5 91	*
E. Blake,	"	4 92	
E. S. Foster,	"	6 02	*
Hiram Heath, over taxed,		8 20	
D. S. Chase	" "	24 62	

 188 34

Those with stars taxed out of town.

PAID FOR THE SUPPORT OF POOR.

Susan Hardy,	14 88
C. B. Emmons and family,	86 50

Wm. Flanders,	113 31
Mary Swett,	169 50
Hannah Kimball,	29 50
Clark Fuller,	6 68
Clarisa Brown,	76 00
Nat. Pages family,	48 50
Wm. Sanborn,	96 64
Paid I. S. Chase for services,	23 25

 663 50

SCHOOL MONEY.

District, No. 1	20 19
" 2	438 83
" 3	23 21
" 4	20 73
" 5	24 62
" 6	25 51
" 7	12 40
" 8	53 03
" 9	37 21

 655 73

TOWN OFFICERS BILLS.

D. S. Mason,	}	Selectmen.	101 29
J. F. Cass,			74 50
C. H. Mudgett,	}	Sup. School Committee,	78 50
J. M. Bishop,			35 00
J. M. Bishop, Treasurer,			40 00
J. P. Taylor, Town Clerk,			25 00
J. P. Taylor, Collector,			128 35
Calvin Cass, care of Town Clock,			16 00

 198 64

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES, 1867.

D. M. Chase, breaking roads,	4 34
P. S. Drake, " "	12 24
Samuel Page, labor,	24 28
Shem Gray, "	13 86
C. L. Clay, "	13 70
Levi Bartlett, lumber,	22 44
R. Eaton, labor,	1 75
C. D. Cass, lumber,	11 15
R. B. Rollins, "	34 04
P. E. Heath, labor & lumber,	9 70
D. Tirrell, labor,	3 50
N. T. Chase, "	20 25
S. Page, labor on bridge, 1865.	25 00
Lake Co. lumber,	15 37
G. W. Ordway, lumber,	6 25
G. W. Ordway, labor,	44 75
R. H. Jaqueth, damage crossing land,	5 00
Shem Gray, labor,	11 93
G. W. Sumner, "	12 00
B. E. Blackstone,	30 88
Sam Hiland,	5 00
Samuel Muzzey,	9 00
Samuel Page, labor on bridge in 1865,	25 00
Clark Merrill,	2 25
Calvin Cass,	2 00
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	366 28
Outstanding orders and claims,	110 13
Errors in taxes,	22 31
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	132 44

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Mistake on E. W. Cheney's note,	19 87
A. Burpee, for damage,	47 50
W. P. Gilman, "	20 00
S. W. Heath, land damage,	35 00
A. F. Pike, services in Musgrove case,	32 00
L. W. Fling, services,	10 00
On Armory Hall,	203 97
Books & Stationery,	15 93
C. Cass, for Collecting in 1866,	1 40
S. S. Southard, expenses,	13 00
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	398 67

SCHOOL HOUSE MONEY.

Paid District No. 2	2875 00
" " " 6	60 00
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	2935 00

EXPENSES IN BRIDGE CASE.

M. W. Tappan for services,	100 00
Kelley Brothers board &c.	18 40
Witnesses,	17 00
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	135 40

PAID DEBTS OF THE TOWN.

M. G. Dustin,	339 20
John Atwood,	713 05
Moses W. Merrill,	347 75
Mary A. Heath,	68 00

J. M. R. Emmons,	48 00
Henry Morrill,	109 15
Martin Davis,	214 58
Mrs. F. A. Calley,	111 83
Mrs. M. C. Mudgett,	267 22
Mrs. R. W. Haley,	1098 81
John Hastings,	4 3 12
J. C. Draper,	1205 62
N. Bachelder,	238 30
O. P. Hall,	252 08
Mrs. A. J. Rollins,	1022 52
Moses W. Merrill,	367 49
G. W. Berry,	25 00
B. F. Robinson,	316 00
T. G. Currier,	1042 57
Herrick Aiken,	4271 18
Darias Babb,	742 45
Directors Baptist Society,	120 85
J. W. Sanborn,	229 28
Albert Merrill,	54 51
J. A. Haynes,	213 31
Henry Morrill,	164 52
G. H. Simons,	109 25
Hannah Woolson,	6 00
Lilla Long,	262 05
Albert S. Merrill,	160 22
M. H. Page,	8 65
Mrs. M. W. Hayward,	484 63
Jane Bartlett,	390 00
Clark Merrill,	53 82
O. S. Hall,	247 42
John Atwood,	113 45
Clark Merrill,	118 09
E. Darling,	129 25
Samuel Dustin,	521 00
C. D. Cass,	598 16

Mrs. M. W. Hayward,	405 00
Jonathan Merrill,	100 90
A. D. Lock,	250 00
E. Kendall,	50 00
Dorcas W. Heath,	25 00
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	18435 63
Money in hands of Collector,	1463 54
" " Treasury,	3119 07
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	4582 61

RECAPITULATION. PAID OUT.

State and County Taxes,	2323 19
Abatement of Taxes,	188 34
Support of Poor,	663 50
School money,	655 73
Town Officers bills,	498 64
Highways and Bridges,	366 28
Outstanding orders and claims,	110 13
Errors in the School House tax,	22 31
Miscellaneous Expenses,	398 67
Expenses in Bridge case,	135 40
School House money,	2935 00
Paid debts of the town,	18435 63
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	26732 82
In Collector's hands,	1463 54
In Treasurers hands,	3119 07
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Whole amount paid out and on hand,	31315 43
Whole amount received,	31315 43

DEBTS OF THE TOWN, MARCH 5th. 1868.

Calvin D. Sanborn,	1010 02
Harriet Darling,	118 03
Stephen Nelson,	162 00
S. A. Fowler,	116 09
J. M. Emmons.	471 77
Wm. J. Muzzey,	115 77
Mary Mudgett,	113 48
Sarah Cheeney,	68 08
Wm. Mudgett,	153 17
Hannah E. Tibbets,	680 70
Frederick Kidder,	113 38
Mrs. L. B. Whittemore,	135 98
Frederick Bartlett,	211 04
Miss Crawford,	688 63
David Mason,	3397 76
Peter Whittemore,	257 76
John T. Whittemore,	127 28
H. B. Fowler,	243 92
Aaron Sleeper,	1354 09
G. W. Berry,	47 13
Calvin Cass,	275 59
Harrit Whittemore,	155 34
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	10017 35
Calvin Swett,	398 30
A. D. Lock,	725 77
H. M. Emmons,	1136 01
A. D. Lock,	1308 88
H. A. Fellows,	129 70
David Haynes,	216 04
Samuel Smith,	61 22
Allen Bingham,	110 03
John Brock,	54 94
A. D. Lock,	82 21

Geo. F. Sanborn,	136 73
B. F. Shaw,	547 32
Hannah Woolson,	103 37
J. W. Curtice,	218 15
Sammel D. Gray,	136 34
Dorcas W. Heath,	420 00
Mrs. H. E. Whittemore,	617 00
M. H. Page,	100 25
Carrol Sanborn,	108 65
Aaron Kidder,	1304 48

 7798 92

R. F. Eastman,	1304 48
J. F. Eastman,	1087 06
Frank W. Robinson,	322 00
Dorcas W. Heath,	478 00
A. D. Lock,	124 80
Ebenezzer Kendall,	163 90
Lydia A. Brown,	128 27
J. W. Curtice,	213 00
Dorcas W. Heath,	81 00
Emma Heath,	275 34
H. M. Emmons,	423 60
C. W. Colby,	529 50

 23947 22

NOTES GIVEN SINCE APRIL 1st. 1867.

Alonzo Cheeney,	369 60
Wm. J. Muzzey,	63 30
Dorcas W. Heath,	131 62
Lydia Davis,	436 77
Nancy Lancy,	168 80
Alonzo Cheeney,	735 70
Alexander Curtice,	735 70

Hannah S. Smith,	3147 00
R. W. Haley,	1150 00
Wm. A. Berry,	262 00
Wm. J. Muzzey,	41 64
Mary C. Mudgett,	276 93
C. R. Currier,	1040 48
C. S. Brown,	205 70
John D. Kirk,	102 60
A. A. Ingalls,	122 68
S. H. Cross,	633 85,
Samuel Brown,	61 20
Clark Merrill,	127 12
W. A. Berry,	101 50
J. R. Hayward,	253 75
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	10137 80
Charles L. Dalton,	303 70
Levi Carter,	202 40
S. S. Southard,	1062 60
John Atwood,	835 50
Alexander Curtice,	151 50
Calvin D. Sanborn,	353 32
Lucy Fifield,	151 42
John F. Cass,	151 40
Willard Heath,	604 08
Levi Carter,	402 00
Alexander Curtice,	100 63
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	4319 32
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	38404 43

DUE THE TOWN.

From United States,	1766 00
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" State aid,	275 33
" Collector,	1463 54
" Treasurer,	3119 07
" D. L. & C. M. Bennett, note,	28 50
" Joseph Kidder, note.	23 00
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	6675 44
	<hr/>
	31728 99
Estimated debts not reported,	1200,00
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Actual debt March 5th. 1868,	32928 99
Debt reported March 11th. 1867,	35076 14
Decrease of debt March 5th. 1868,	2147 15

D. S. Mason,	}	Selectmen of Bristol.
John F. Cass,		
C. H. Mudgett,		
Bristol, March 5th. 1868,		

Errata. On page 5, Samuel Page credited twice for the same labor, \$25, 00.

REPORT OF THE GRADED SCHOOL.

FALL AND WINTER TERM, 1867—8.

The Committee appointed by the Selectmen to Superintend the Graded School in the Union School District in Bristol Village, in accordance with the provisions of the Somersworth Act, adopted by the District, have attended to their duties and report as follows:—

The session opened on the 7th of October. This being the first school of the kind in the district, the first step to be taken was to distribute the pupils among the several departments of the school, according to the proficiency which had been made by each in the various branches to be pursued. This was obliged to be to a considerable extent discretionary and experimental. Three teachers had already been provided by the Prudential Committee, and approved by the Superintending Committee, all of whom had formerly taught in the place, and were to some extent conversant with the acquirements, abilities and wants of the several pupils.

These Teachers the Committee called to their assistance, and with their advice and concurrence proceeded to make the necessary examination as to the acquirements of the pupils, and to distribute them to the several departments, without regard to age or any other circumstances except their proficiency.

The number of pupils being found too large to be comfortably accommodated by any three rooms of the Schoolhouse, it was thought the highest interests of the school would be best promoted by instituting four departments instead of three, and a request for another teacher was preferred to the Prudential Committee, which was immediately complied with, and the organization of the four departments was completed on the following day. The Primary Department was placed under the instruction of Miss Sarah L. Day. Miss Addie H. Emons, was placed in charge of the Intermediate Department; Miss A. Melissa Gordon, of the Grammar School, and Miss Ellen H. Fisher was placed in charge of the High School, with

instructions to exercise a supervising care over the whole School, according to the design and custom of other schools of this kind.

As no regular system of instruction had heretofore prevailed in the schools of the several districts which united to form the Union District, considerable difficulty was experienced in effecting the division of the pupils for the various departments of the school; for while some were sufficiently advanced in one study to take a place in the higher classes of that branch, in others they were so far deficient as to require their continuance for a time in the classes of the lower departments. Nor could the precise status of every scholar be at first determined, and the several Teachers were instructed, that where they discovered any pupil had been assigned to any department and properly belonged to any other, to report such cases back to the Committee. Accordingly some further changes were made as the nature of the cases seemed to demand, and the graduation of the school made as just and equal as possible according to the discretion of the Committee. The difficulty of this division was also farther enhanced by an apparent previous tendency to an injudicious advancement of the pupils. For example, some had been reading in the Fifth Reader, who could not read well in the Third; and others were figuring in the advanced lessons of the Practical Arithmetic, who could not get correctly through the Multiplication table. It seemed to the Committee that the interests of these pupils, and of the School generally, demanded that they should be placed in those departments where they would be required to master the more elementary portions, and it was done accordingly.

It was thought best by the Committee, before the opening of the School, that if any considerable degree of uniformity was found in the text books which had been previously used, not to make any material changes in the same for the present. At the opening of the term however, no such uniformity was found; but on the contrary a great diversity in everything except the Reading Books, of which all concerned seemed to be heartily tired and desired something which could secure a

fresher interest. Wherefore, as so large a change would have to be made, if any of the text books before used were adopted by the Committee, it seemed to them on the whole better to adopt an entire new series, and thus secure that complete uniformity most conducive to the interest of a Graded School.

After examining the great number of all kinds submitted to their inspection, and maturely deliberating on their fitness to the wants and capacities of the School, they formally adopted the following list:

- Worcester's Primary and Comprehensive Spellers;
- Hillard's Readers;
- Cornell's Geographies;
- Walton's Arithmetics;
- Quaekenboss' Grammars, Histories and Rhetoric;
- Coingm's Physiology; and Potter and Hammond's System of Penmanship.

In regard to some of the higher branches pursued in the High School, such as Algebra, Geometry, Moral and Intellectual Philosophy, Latin and French, no adoption of text books has been made, but the matter left to the choice and convenience of the pupils, and the discretion of the Teacher. Of the substantial and commodious school building itself, so generously provided by the District, so elegantly and appropriately finished and furnished by the Builder, the Committee, the Citizens, the Pupils, and all who had an interest in it seemed to be justly proud. To preserve it from that desecration and abuse to which school structures are so often subjected seemed to be an imperative duty. It was therefore made known to the school that the occupant of each seat would be held responsible for its good-keeping, and that no marking or defacing of the building, outside or inside, could in any case be allowed to pass unnoticed.

The difficulties encountered by the Teachers of the several departments in the commencement of the term were considerable. The somewhat confused condition of the affairs of the district during the time occupied in effecting the legal union of the several districts of which it is composed, and by the

construction of the School-building, obliging the District to be irregular in its terms of school, and to hold them in places ill adapted to the purpose, had, as might have been expected, wrought a corresponding confusion in the habits of study and discipline of the pupils, and sown the seeds considerable evils. Added to this was the fact, that none of the pupils were acquainted with the requirements, or methods of conducting, a Graded School, and were entering upon a system, to them entirely new, where some old customs and prejudices must be given up, and new habits and modes of action formed. Much disorder had previously existed in the classification of the school, arising from having so large a number of pupils, of all grades of advancement and ability, with a great variety of text books, grouped together in a single school under but one teacher.

All these difficulties the large experience and acknowledged ability of the Teachers, enabled them to meet and overcome, in a manner highly gratifying to the Committee. Discipline, the first essential and prime advantage of any school, and indispensable in a Graded School, was established and maintained in a remarkable degree. In the systems of calisthenic exercises introduced into the two lower departments, in the methods of entering and leaving the rooms, of departing from and returning to their seats, introduced into all the departments, a precision was required, and a proficiency attained, which was somewhat akin to the precision of military evolutions, and did much credit to the diligence both of Teachers and pupils.

This system of discipline the Committee consider the ground-work of success that is to be obtained. At the close of the term its beneficial effects were largely observable in the orderly condition of the school, and the considerable advancement made in the various branches of study pursued; which was even greater than the Committee anticipated, or had, all the circumstances considered, reason to expect.

Of the attainments or condition of any particular department of the School, in distinction from any other, the Commit-

tee do not purpose to speak, believing that in each and all of them, they were such as should give a generous satisfaction to all the citizens of the district.

They would not, however, close this report without stating their conviction, that the interests of the school can be best advanced by retaining as long as convenient one uniform board of Teachers, who shall, by their successive experience, become acquainted with the necessities of the pupils, and the best methods of procedure, and be able to administer its affairs with increasing discretion and thus secure a still larger success.

Respectfully submitted.

Silas Ketchum,
James Thurston,
David Calley,
L. W. Fling,
S. K. Mason.

REPORT OF
THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The Superintending School Committee submit the following Report.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Summer term, taught by Miss Sarah L. Plummer of Alexandria. This was a quiet school, and under the good management, and faithful instruction of Miss Plummer, it accomplished all we could reasonably expect in so short a time.

DISTRICT No. 3.

The first term — taught by Miss Laura A. Crockett of Sanbornton. Miss Crockett commenced this term with some previous experience as a teacher. The school was orderly, and the improvement creditable, considering the shortness of the term.

The second term was taught by Miss Addie A. Butrick. She faithfully devoted her time and energies to the school, and the result was industry, good order and gratifying improvement.

DISTRICT No. 4.

The first term was taught by Miss Addie C. Leavitt of New Hampton. The committee was well pleased with the appearance of this school. It ranks in scholarship with the best schools in town. The classes in Arithmetic, Geography, Grammar and History are deserving of much merit.

This was the third term which Miss Leavitt has taught in this district.

The second term was taught by Miss Abbie A. R. Hayes of New Hampton. Under whose instruction, we think the interest and good reputation of the school, was fully sustained.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Summer term — taught by Miss R. Anna Tilton of New Hampton. This was Miss Tilton's first experience in teaching. We are informed that some of the scholars left before the close of the school, but from what cause we have not learned. Miss Tilton remarks in her register, that those who attended until the close of the term, made good progress.

The committee visited this school at the commencement but, being incorrectly informed of the time, did not at the close.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Had two terms of school both taught by Miss Addie A. Butrick. We fully agree with the remarks made by the teacher "that this is a good school." The recitations were conducted in a dignified and spirited manner, and the whole appearance of the school was gratifying.

DISTRICT No. 7.

Winter term taught by Miss Dorcas D. Calley. She succeeded well. The deportment was good, and commendable interest was manifested by the scholars and teacher. We are glad to see that by the generosity of the parents, the term was lengthened several weeks.

DISTRICT No. 8.

Summer term taught by Miss A. Melissa Gordon of New Hampton. A teacher of much experience and high reputation.

Under her judicious management, the general department was very much improved. At the close of the term the different classes gave evidence of skill and faithfulness on the part of the teacher, and diligence on the part of the scholars.

It was a very profitable term, and highly satisfactory to the district.

The Winter term was taught by Miss L. H. Watson. I visited the school at the commencement. The general appearance was good, and the prospects favorable for a pleasant term. It closed sooner than it was expected and the committee was not notified in season to visit it, therefore, cannot report its progress.

DISTRICT No. 9.

Winter term taught by Miss Laura Ellsworth. This was a very pleasant and quiet school. The scholars were unusually punctual in their attendance; a good index of the interest which they had in their studies. Its general appearance was satisfactory. Miss Ellsworth was faithful in her efforts to promote the best interest and prosperity of her scholars.

In taking a careful review of our schools, the past year, we think, on the whole, that a considerable improvement has been manifested. But there may be additional improvements; much more may be done to elevate, and render them abundantly useful. We will briefly notice some things, which give character and efficiency to the district school.

A good school house is of paramount importance. It should be made as convenient and inviting as circumstances will admit. Some of the school houses very much need remodelling and repairing.

A good teacher is indispensable to a good school. The services of the best and most experienced should be secured.

Parents should do all they can to interest their children in the school and say nothing to prejudice their minds against the teacher. They should frequently visit the school-room, and by their sympathy and cooperation sustain the teacher in her arduous and responsible duties.

And in conclusion I would say in the language of an other, if we would sustain law and order; if we would preserve inviolate our glorious Constitution; if we would be kept from physical and spiritual despotism—in a word, if we would live free-men and hand down to future generations, the blessings of civilization and free government, we must educate, socially, intellectually and religiously, educate the entire mass of youth.

We must let learning's fame shine uneclipsed over society—we must cause the rays of intelligence and virtue to penetrate every mind with effective power elevating the soul above petty feuds, and leading all to think, to know and act for themselves. Here is our security, here is our only hope for unborn millions.

James M. Bishop, S. S. Committee

Bristol, March, 6th 1868.

