REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN
AND
Superintending School Committee
OF THE
TOWN OF BRISTOL,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1871.

BRISTOL:
PRINTED BY R. W. MUSGROVE.
1871.
KENT & BERRY,
MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALE DEALERS IN THE
gENUINE
Plymouth Buck Gloves,
—also—
Buckskin, Fleshier, Kid, Calf & Dogsksin Gloves & Mittens.
BRISTOL, N. H.
SALES ROOM, 49 Summer and 1 & 3 Chauncy Streets,
BOSTON.

M. A. Kent, Boston. W. A. Berry, Bristol,

THE BEST WATCHES IN THE WORLD!

THE ELGIN AND WALTHAM WATCHES,
FOR SALE AT LOWER PRICES THAN EVER, BY,

M. W. WHITE,
DEALER IN
WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELRY. ROGERS' PLAITED WARE AND FANCY GOODS: DRUGS, MEDICINES, PERFUMERY AND PATENT MEDICINES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION. TERMS: CASH ON DELIVERY.

JOB PRINTING OFFICE!
The subscriber is now prepared to do All Kinds of
PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL JOB PRINTING,
usually done at a First Class Office, including Books and
Pamphlets. He has

NEW PRESSES AND NEW TYPE.
All work done promptly and at fair rates. Envelopes and
Stationery of all kinds constantly on hand for sale.

R. W. Musgrove,
White's Block, --- --- --- --- Bristol, N. H.

F. W. BALLOU,
DEALER IN
WATCHES, CLOCKS & JEWELRY.
WATCHES AND CLOCKS REPAIRED.
ALL WORK WARRANTED.
BROWN'S BLOCK, BRISTOL, N. H.
REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

The selectmen credit the town for the year ending March 1, 1871 as follows:

By list of taxes assessed April 1, 1870, $13,674.23
  Savings bank tax, 216.15
  Railroad, 509.37
  Literary fund, 88.16
  Use of town hall, 8.50
  License for circus, 10.00
  Sale of liquors, 445.75
  Cash in Treasury, March 1, 1870, 65.65
  " " Collector's hands, March 1, 1870, 2,995.32

Received of B. F. Perkins, for lumber, 5.50
  " County of Grafton, support of poor, 46.50
  " town of Hill on Smith's river bridge, 159.56
  " " " New Hampton on bridges, 17.21
  " D. S. Mason, for hay, 11.30
  " B. E. Gordon, drain pipe, 30.00
  " Miss Green, on highway, 5.00
  " Seth Cass, for interest on taxes, for 1869, 125.00
  " Cong. Society, for lumber, 2.40
  " A. Dolloff, for oxen, 240.00

Borrowed, 10,744.60

$29,400.20

Disbursements.

Paid State tax, $1,830.00
  County tax, 1,165.01

$2,995.01
School Money.

District No. 1.

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$38.91
766.98
30.13
33.82
45.59
93.89
85.16
53.47

$1,088.25

School House Tax.

District No. 2.

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$712.90
28.30

$740.90

Paid outstanding orders of 1869.

$321.73

Panper Bills.

Clark Fuller and family, $73.12
Abigail Darling, for Clarissa Brown, 110.46
Shem Gray, for William Sanborn, 109.16
Ira S. Chase, for Mary Swett, 13.25
Mary Swett, 5.00
T. H. Wicomb, 170.05
S. D. Huse, for John Huse, 25.32
H. B. Fowler, for D. C. Willey, 54.47
O. K. Bucklin, for transient panpers, 15.59
for Ben Evans, 6.00
O. Wallace, 10.00
Enoch Gray, for Oliver Holt, 10.00

$602.53
### Abatement of Taxes, 1868

<table>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>A. A. Jewell</td>
<td>$4.22</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. C. Willey</td>
<td>4.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. S. Stewart</td>
<td>10.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>L. R. Robinson</td>
<td>4.43</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>$23.22</td>
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### 1869

<table>
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<td>John H. Colby</td>
<td>$4.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles Emery</td>
<td>4.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles French</td>
<td>4.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alvah Gray</td>
<td>5.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. H. Horn</td>
<td>9.07</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. G. Stevens</td>
<td>4.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>James M. Simons</td>
<td>4.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winthrop Small</td>
<td>4.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. E. Thompson</td>
<td>4.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. J. Sanborn</td>
<td>3.51</td>
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<tr>
<td>N. S. Page</td>
<td>3.38</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>$49.28</td>
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### 1870

<table>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C. H. Horn</td>
<td>4.16</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Brown</td>
<td>4.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Holmes</td>
<td>4.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>George W. Heath</td>
<td>4.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Haynes</td>
<td>4.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moses Kimball</td>
<td>2.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin Perkins</td>
<td>4.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. F. Pray</td>
<td>4.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander Rowe</td>
<td>4.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gustavus Randlett</td>
<td>4.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>D. C. Willey</td>
<td>5.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warren Brown</td>
<td>7.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frank Willard</td>
<td>4.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Levi Nelson, Jr.</td>
<td>9.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dexter Phillips</td>
<td>2.21</td>
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</table>
Henry Griffith,                     2.33
T. G. Currier,                      4.66
Charles Chase, (1863),              2.25
Daniel Smith,                      2.50

$85.24

$157.74

Highways and Bridges.

Noah W. Spiller, for breaking roads, $26.11
Samuel Muzzey, " " " 25.63
J. W. Burley, " " " 12.68
M. H. Merrow, " " " (in 1869.) 13.25
Jona. Emmons, " " " 5.00
J. Martin Sleeper, " " " 27.00
M. S. Peters, " " " 21.49
O. P. Hall, " " " 34.60
J. P. Gordon, " " " 13.02
B. E. Blackstone, " " " 8.67
Wm. Rankin, " " " 5.69
Benj. Gray, " " " 5.69
Laura Fogg, " " " 7.82
P. C. Bean, " " " 8.00
Blake Fowler, " " " 8.92

$223.57

Building bridge near G. M. Wooster's, $487.54
Repairing Smith's bridge,              261.13
" Central "                          284.72
J. B. French, lumber, (1869)          79.52
J. S. Piper, " " " 28.13
Albert Blake, land damage,             100.00
Rufus Eaton, " " " 40.00
C. H. Woodward, land damage,           50.00
B. Q. Fellows, " " " 115.72
Levi Locke, " " " 60.00
Building culvert near Noah Horn's. 52.00
G. W. Ordway, repairing old turnpike. 25.00
Building and repairing bridges, iron work, lumber.
spikes &c., in various parts of the town 2,677.67
G. M. Wooster, repairing roads & bridges, 25.57
W. W. Wilbur, snowing bridge, 1.00
D. S. Mason work, 75.00
A. H. George, for lumber, 3.59
J. H. Martin, for work, 5.00
C. N. Drake, for snowing bridge, 4.00
Jonathan Emmons, for work, 3.72
Noah Horn, 26.60
C. N. Drake, 25.00
Weedbury Sleeper, 44.50
John Peaslee, 46.80
M. S. Peters, 2.52
Beniah Danforth, 2.62
E. B. Ferrin, 19.91
J. M. R. Emmons, (and others) 26.93
B. F. Samborn, 6.41
G. M. Wooster, 6.50
Stephen Nelson, 15.49
Levi Roby, 20.47
Samuel Mussey, 2.78
William Rankins, 8.10
Jonathan Emmons, 6.00
Edgery & Hammond, 40.37
S. S. Fellows, 5.00
R. B. Rollins, 5.09
H. D. Cheney, 3.85
C. N. Drake, 17.53
Woodbury Sleeper, 4.84
C. H. Mudgett, 4.51

\[\sum 83,124.44\]

*Highway taxes worked out under direction of*

John Peaslee, \$71.62
D. Y. Emmons,    $24.54
Woodbury Sleeper,  85.34
J. M. R. Emmons,   57.88
B. F. Sanborn,    24.50
Stephen Nelson,    33.07
C. A. Gale,        25.43
John Roby,         41.53
Jonathan Emmons,  30.53
T. H. Wicom,       9.04
C. N. Drake,       69.38
A. J. Ferrin,      8.62
G. T. Crawford,   (village,) 1,652.96

________

$2,139.44

Paid on Notes.

H. M. Emmons.     $500.00
S. D. Johnson,     18.00
Calvin Cass,       150.00
Hattie E. Day,     218.53
R. C. Patten,      98.00
Aaron Sleeper,    1,560.35
Hannah Woolson,    6.00
Hannah E. Tebbets, 100.00
Aaron Kidder,     300.00
Stephen Nelson,   79.50
John W. & Alexander Curtice,  1,082.15
C. R. Currier,     1,097.66
David Haynes,      24.72
S. M. Currier,      2,828.64
L. T. Dearborn,   106.90
W. J. Muzzey,       258.74
D. M. & G. E. L. Chase, 254.96
Walter Sleeper,   20.00
Abby P. Worthen,  12.00
Alonzo Cheney,    50.00
Calvin Swett,     213.66
Sarah E. Heath. (J. M. R. Emmons, Guar.) $80.00
Stephen N. Heath, 40.00
E. R. Crawford, 804.86
Mrs. L. C. Whittemore, 25.00
F. B. Shaw, 634.38
Augusta Fowler, 132.75
John T. Whittemore, 766.90
Amos Brown, 999.87
Levi Carter, 636.60
Mrs. L. C. Brown, 251.30
James H. Brown, 168.22
Stephen Brock, 208.63
Sarah Emmons, 183.38
John Brock, 272.48

$13,616.48

Town Officer’s Bills.

D. S. Mason, Selectman, $100.00
Geo. T. Crawford, 100.00
C. N. Drake, 75.60
J. P. Taylor, Town Clerk, 25.00
Wm. L. Chase, Treasurer, 40.00
S. Ketchum, Supt. School Committee, 23.25
C. C. Odlin, 27.00
Seth Cass, Collector, 1869, 25.00
" " 1870, 100.00

$515.25

Miscellaneous Items.

McFarland & Jenks, printing reports, $40.00
Vogler & Clough, office chairs, 10.26
Milo Fellows, liquor agent, 100.00
J. M. Bishop, recording births and deaths, 2.50
M. W. White, stationery, 1.00
George M. Cavis, .90
I. B. Gordon, printing check-list, 6.50
Tax Book, 1.00
Expense paid out, 1.00
Sanborn & Forrest, book-case for clerk, 26.42
Noah Horn, dogs killing sheep, 4.00
Horace Brown, damage to oxen, 25.00
Orrin Nelson, dogs killing sheep, 12.00
Levi Locke, use of water tub, 3.00
W. E. Simons, damage on wagon, 5.00
M. W. White, police badges, 6.75
on cemetery, .80
L. A. Ballou, use of water tub, 3.00
Calvin Cass, care of town clock, 5.00
Herbert & George, rent of lobby, 18.00
E. Follansbee, damage to sleigh, 3.00
S. Ketchum, for books for E. Follansbee, .40
Mrs. John Gale, .45
P. G. Carleton, painting town house &c., 180.06
W. C. Lovejoy, repairing hearse, 50.00
Silas Ketchum, care of library, 14.00
Jonathan D. Kelley, damage to sled, 2.30
Sanborn & Forrest, making lobby, 44.79
S. K. Mason, insurance on town house, 8.00
making deeds on cemetery acct., 4.50
E. S. Foster, school books, 6.55

Recapitulation.

Paid out:
State and County tax, $2,995.01
School money, 1,088.25
School-house tax, 740.90
Support of poor, 602.53
Outstanding orders, (1869) 321.73
On notes, 13,616.48
Town officers bills 515.25

$535.18
Highways and bridges. 5,491.45
Abatement of taxes, 157.74
Miscellaneous items, 535.18
In Treasury, 614.80
In Collector's hands, 2,721.88

$29,400.20

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<th>Amount Received</th>
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Debts due from the Town.

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<td>Stephen Nelson</td>
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<td>405.07</td>
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<td>Mary Mudgett</td>
<td>134.94</td>
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<td>Sarah Cheney</td>
<td>81.00</td>
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<td>William Mudgett</td>
<td>182.28</td>
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<td>Hannah Tebbetts</td>
<td>709.08</td>
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<td>Fred. Kidder</td>
<td>134.93</td>
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<td>L. B. Whittemore</td>
<td>159.71</td>
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<td>Frederick Bartlett</td>
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<td>Samuel Smith</td>
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<td>H. A. Fellows</td>
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<td>Aaron Kidder</td>
<td>1,246.65</td>
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<td>R. F. Eastman</td>
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<td>J. F. Eastman</td>
<td>1,293.68</td>
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<td>Dorcas W. Heath</td>
<td>502.02</td>
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<td>Sarah E. Heath</td>
<td>327.68</td>
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<td>C. W. Colby</td>
<td>630.04</td>
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Alonzo Cheney, 277.54
Dorcas W. Heath, 156.64
Nancy Long, 200.80
Alonzo Cheney, 875.54
Alonzo Cheney, 1368.59
R. W. Healey, 34.00
Walter Sleeper, 311.89
Wm. A. Berry, 434.83
Mary Mudgett, 151.28
Clark Merrill, 120.72
Wm. A. Berry 719.76
Willard Heath, 248.91
Betsey Ordway, 196.96
S. N. Heath, 700.58
B. V. Southmayd, 58.10
Samuel Smith, 57.54
Rosanna Chase, 114.85
John M. R. Enmons, 657.34
S. H. Cross, 486.54
D. S. Mason, 217.25
Milo Fellows, 107.59
J. A. Cross, 215.18
W. H. Danforth, 429.22
Franklin Fogg, 536.36
Seth Glover, 303.28
Peter Whittemore, 195.07
Susan A. Kendall, 53.22
E. S. Smith, 56.32
J. F. Brock, 53.00
Clarence Horn, 211.55
Franklin Fogg, 105.60
Sarah A. Dearborn, 10.55
Charles E. Mason, 395.62
Laurette Leavitt, 158.25
Amanda M. Whittemore, 105.60
Alexander Curtice, 104.21
Favor Locke,
Rebecca Cheney, 828.00
Aaron Sleeper, 1,607.16
John F. Brock, 182.58
Belinda K. Gordon, 42.78
B. S. Gordon, 206.00
Clarence N. Merrill, 132.87
Seth Glover, 1,025.00
C. N. Proctor, 279.12
Eliza R. Crawford, 819.34
Josephine Moore, 152.00
L. S. Gordon, 355.73
Franklin Fogg, 506.00
Betsey Ordway, 607.20
Mary M. Chadwick, 25.30
Levi Carter, 706.30
Luther Robinson, 271.80
Rubia R. Sanborn, 100.45
E. H. Smith, 25.26
James H. Brown, 919.78
George H. Robinson, 75.67
Lydia Cheney, 436.39
Abby P. Worthen, 61.57
Henry Griffith, 113.58
David Haynes, 203.91
Clark Merrill, 59.59
David Mason, 4,011.36
Charlotte Hibbard, 1,006.57
Ellen Griffith, 106.60
Samuel Smith, 87.23
Woodbury Sleeper, 111.46
Daniel Kelley, 111.45
Rosanna Chase, 55.70
David Mason, 60.63
J. S. Kelley, 357.59
Mary Chadwick, 98.26
S. C. Bean, 164.72
J. A. Patten, 307.24
J. A. Cross, 81.25
School district No. 2 287.10
... 4 29.54

Due the town:
From D. R. Smith, on cemetery, $60.00
  Head Rifles, for rent of hall, 50.00
  Collector, 2,721.88
In Treasury, 614.80

$3,446.68

Amount the town owes, $37,542.32
Amount due the town, 3,446.68

Actual debt, $34,095.64

In showing the actual debt, as above, we have left out the following sums, which have heretofore been reported as due the town; but which we consider of so doubtful a character, as not worthy to be reckoned in the assets:
United States, for bounty money, $1,766.00
State aid, 275.33
D. L. & C. M. Bennett's note, 31.80

$2,073.13

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL S. MASON, Selectmen
GEORGE T. CRAWFORD, of
CHARLES N. DRAKE, Bristol.

Bristol, March 1, 1871.
REPORT
OF THE
Superintending School Committee
OF THE
TOWN OF BRISTOL,
FOR THE
Year Ending March 14, 1871.

To Daniel S. Mason, George T. Crawford, and Charles N. Drake, Esquires, Selectmen of Bristol:

The Committee appointed by you to superintend the public schools of this town, beg leave to make the following Report:

There has been apparently more interest in the schools, on the part of parents, during this than during the last year. The teachers' registers record one hundred and twenty-one visits of citizens, exclusive of the visits of the Superintending Committee; and in this statement three districts are not included, their Registers not being yet returned.

The introduction of Wilson's Readers and French's Arithmetics, commenced last year, has now been completed through the town, including the Graded School. In addition to the reasons stated in last year's Report, namely, the great diversity of Readers and Arithmetics in use in town, there is another and important reason why Walton's Arithmetics were taken out and French's put in: There has scarcely been a teacher in the Graded School since
Walton's were introduced that has not disliked the books, and declared her inability to teach scholars from them. After allowing them to run their course of three years, according to law, they were removed. The fact that French's Arithmetics give satisfaction to the teachers, so far as the Committee are aware, and especially to those who seem best qualified by long experience to judge of their merits, leads to the hope that the choice has been judicious.

The testimony of Teachers, and the better classes of scholars in favor of the Wilson Readers has been uniform, so far as it has been expressed to the Committee.

These books have been supplied at a mere nominal price to the scholars, and in no case has any scholar been charged one cent more than the books cost in New York, not even the express charges being added.

The introduction being now completed, and made uniform, if future Superintendents see to it that the use of books is kept uniform, no further change need be made in Readers and Arithmetics for a number of years. There ought however to be a change in Geographies, those now in use being far behind the present state of geographical knowledge, and the maps not corresponding with present facts. Your Committee would recommend however that they be not changed, until the reconstruction of the Map of Europe, after the present wars, has been definitely completed.

In another part of this Report the condition of school-houses has been commented upon. Your Committee are of opinion however, that it would not be wise for any district to rebuild or extensively repair its school-house, until the matter has been further considered by the citizens of the town, whether it would not be well to re-district the whole town, in accordance with the advice given by the State Superintendent, on the occasion of his annual visit, on the 21st of December, 1870. It does seem to your Committee, that the vastly different position of the population of the town now, from what it was when the present bound-
aries of districts were located, calls for a new construction of districts. Schools that were once among the largest in town, now have but two or three scholars. Numbers 1, 5 and 7, are of this class. By reducing the number of schools, much longer terms and much better teachers could be obtained, which would be more profitable to the scholars. The school-houses out of the village, except in No. 4, are much in need of being remodelled and repaired. But in several of these, the number of scholars is so small, it does not seem expedient to do it.

Your Committee therefore recommend that the town take advantage of the enabling act of our last Legislature, to remodel its school system. It is their opinion that, by adding No. 1 to No. 2, (unless No. 1 would unite with the adjoining District in Hill, which would be better for the schools :) No. 5 to No. 4; and No. 7 to No. 8, the education of the children might be improved. The whole town being made One District, and the school-houses located so as to accommodate the several localities somewhat after the plan indicated above, all would have the same length of school in weeks, and enjoy substantially the same advantages, with no additional expense to the town. In other words, by laying out the same amount of money on half the number of schools, the schools would be lengthened, and better opportunities of instruction afforded.

District No. 1.

This District has but one term of eight weeks. This was kept by Miss Nellie Day, and was her first attempt. In it she developed some qualities of character very essential to success in teaching, namely, gentleness, quiet decision, industry and patience. The District has but a very few scholars. The number was augmented, by the adjoining District in Hill, to fifteen. The progress in reading was, in some cases, quite remarkable. The classes in Geography and some of the smaller classes in Arithmetic made considerable advancement. More attention should however be
paid to Arithmetic. The school was very orderly during both visits of the Committee. The term commenced on the 9th of May, and closed on the 2d of July. George Wooster, Prudential Committee.

It is no slight testimony to Miss Day's success that she taught the same pupils during the Fall Term, in the neighboring District in Hill.

**District No. 3.**

Summer Term commenced on the 23d of May and closed on the 2d of July. Clara M. Damon, Teacher. The school was smaller than usual, having only ten pupils. It maintained however its former reputation. All the scholars but two are marked as having habits of study above the ordinary and none below. It is a pleasure to visit this school, because it can stand an examination and do itself credit. Nor has any one branch of study been suffered to usurp the place, or diminish the importance, of others. In Arithmetic, Geography and Grammar, nearly all the scholars are sharp, quick and very thorough; while in reading, their fault is not mispronunciation and general blundering, but, in many cases, in reading too rapidly. There was a class in Algebra.

The fall term, commencing Oct. 31st and ending Dec. 19th, was commenced by Miss Abbie L. Prescott, and continued under her instruction one week. For the remainder of the term the school was taught by Miss Ella M. Ray. The number of scholars was still smaller than in the summer term, being only seven. Owing to the non-reception of a notification of the time of closing, the committee did not visit the school at the end of the term, but at the time when it was visited, it was found to be very orderly indeed. The lessons were well learned and well recited. The teacher seemed to have a quiet, decisive way about her, which inspired the scholars with respect and led them to obedience and the committee felt that the school, commenced under rather unfavorable auspices, had fair to be a pleasant and profitable one and this opinion is corroborated by the teacher's
register as we find a majority of the scholars marked as more than ordinary both in moral deportment and habits of study. O. Nelson, Pruential Committee.

This District is further favored by a private term, kept in the house of Mr. Solon Dolloff, by Miss Ray, the Teacher of the Winter Term.

District No. 4.

This school is still in session, under the instruction of Mr. Marcus Emmons, a gentleman of experience in the work, and of rare qualifications as a teacher, and we feel confident from the manner in which the school has commenced, that, at its close, the District will feel, that, under the instruction of Mr. Emmons, their children have not spent their time in vain. S. W. Heath, Prudential Committee,

District No. 5.

Summer Term commenced on the 1st of May and closed on the 10th of June, Miss Kate S. Roby, Teacher. The District has but two scholars. Two also attended from elsewhere. Miss Roby taught the school last year, and well understands the wants of the pupils and has admirable tact in keeping them interested and busy. With so few scholars it is a question of some importance how to fill up the time and not let the scholars get weary and dull. This the teacher succeeded in doing. The advancement was rapid; and much of it was due to the judicious oral instruction, imparted by the teacher.

The fall term commencing Aug. 22d and ending Sep. 30th was also taught by Miss Roby. We think our report of the school for this term may be best made in the words of the teacher, "The scholars in this district are faithful and diligent and it is from no lack of energy on their part, if the advancement is not thorough and rapid, making the school both profitable for themselves and pleasant for their teacher." A. G. Ferrin, Prudential Committee,
Summer Term commenced on the 1st of July. Number of scholars, 18. Miss Mattie S. Nelson, Teacher. The school seemed orderly when visited by the committee. There are some fine scholars in this District, who are diligent, and make progress every term. But the fact that the Teacher reports in her Register five who, in Moral Deportment, Habits of study, and Rank as Scholars, are below the average, ought to be a matter of serious consideration to the parents. They are the parties to correct such faults. Miss Nelson labored industriously for the advancement of her pupils, and the term was profitable to such as were themselves industrious and obedient. There were seventeen visitors during the term, nine of which were citizens of the District.

The fall term in this district commenced Oct. 17th, and ended Dec. 3rd. The school was taught by Miss Emma M. Flanders and has been a pleasant and profitable school, in spite of some disadvantages. It was a pleasure to visit this school for your committee always found lessons well learned and well recited. The order of the school was not in every respect what it should be. The school-house itself resting among the hills is the only blot upon the fair creation round. A school-house, the place where considerable part of our youthful lives is passed should be, emphatically, a pleasant place. As the child enters the doors he ought to receive an agreeable impression and the internal arrangement of the building should be such that this impression may be continued throughout the day. We are too apt to forget this. We shut them up in a seven by nine box, seat them on a hard board, so high that their feet fail to touch the floor by some six inches, nail on another hard board to support their backs, then expect their minds to expand and blossom, like the bud which enjoys the boundlessness of space, expect them to go with gladness to school in spite of backache and shoulder ache and headache. These remarks are made not for the benefit of this
district alone but for many other districts, to whose places of instruction they are applicable.

Our common schools are indeed the pride of our country, as our common school houses are. in far too many instances, it's disgrace. We would suggest to every District to supply the school house with a globe, a proper black-board and such maps and charts as are needed for assistance to the teacher in imparting knowledge. During the term Cora Kidder, Dana Kidder, Albert Worthen, George Dow and Alfred Heath have not missed once. Dana Kidder, Ida Heath, Naomia Heath, Nellie Heath and Hattie Kidder have not whispered at all during the term. Samuel K. Worthen, Prudential Committee.

District No. 7.

The school in this district commenced Sept. 5th and closed Nov. 16th. It was kept by Miss Lovertia E. Emmons, a young lady who has been able to bring to her assistance a large experience in the work of teaching. Her heart has been in her work and she has seemed to possess the happy faculty of making her scholars so interested in their studies that they have, to use her own words "learned for the love of it and it seldom became necessary to urge them to be more industrious." With a teacher thus earnest and scholars so faithful in their efforts, improvement must follow as a matter of course. The improvement in the reading of some of the younger scholars was particularly marked. The parents of the scholars have also seemed to be interested in the welfare of their children and have encouraged the teacher by their occasional presence in the school-room. It would be well for the parents to remember that effort, in the acquisition of knowledge, to be successful, must be continuous, that an absence from school for one half day even, detracts much from the benefit which would otherwise be derived from the week's attendance. We are sorry to learn that absences have been very common, not one of the scholars but have been absent more or less; but are pleased to have the assurance of the teacher, that these absences were not the fault of the pupils. This school-house is very pleasantly sit-
tinted indeed. All its surroundings are such as to exert an elevating and refining influence upon the mind; and the school-house itself, by necessary repairs, such as the replacing of broken window panes &c., should be made to harmonize more nearly with the beauties of its location. B. E. Blackstone, Prudential Committee.

**District No. 8.**

Summer Term commenced on the 2d of May and closed on the 17th of June. Miss Nellie A. Wallace, Teacher. Whole number of scholars, 21. Average attendance, 17. Miss Wallace brought to her work the benefits of long experience, and the rare ability to govern a school without noise. The school seemed to catch the Teacher's spirit of quiet order, and attention to business. In attainment the school was not where the previous fall term left it. The benefits of a private term, kept by Miss Clara M. Damon the previous winter were clearly discernible in those scholars who attended it. Under Miss W's instruction a large part of the scholars did themselves and her much credit. It was a profitable term.

The fall term commencing Sept. 16th and ending Nov. 23d was also taught by Miss Wallace. Whole number of scholars 25. Average attendance 20. To the work of this term Miss Wallace brought the same energy which characterized her labors during the first term and its results were apparent in the improvement of the scholars. We are sorry to be obliged to report that towards the close of the term, marked insubordination, on the part of some of the scholars, occurred, which threatened to destroy the whole good which had been accomplished, but the firmness and decision of the teacher, with the unhesitating support of the Committee, soon subdued the mutinous spirits and reduced the impending chaotic condition to one of quiet and order. We would suggest to the District, that the efforts of a teacher, for the welfare of the children intrusted to her care, must be in some degree useless unless she can have the hearty support and cooperation of the parents at home. Levi Roby, Prudential Committee.
DISTRICT NO. 9.

This school commenced Oct. 10th, and ended Jan. 8th. Whole number of scholars 20; average attendance 17. It was kept by Miss Addie A. Bullock, whose management of scholars was so good that we were greatly pleased with the condition of the school which was always quiet and orderly. To be a good teacher requires, on the part of the person who has given herself to the work, rather a remarkable character. She ought to have an intuitive knowledge of human nature, to possess good judgment, firmness and discretion. and added to these, she must be able to present knowledge to her pupils in such a manner that it may look attractive to them. She must make them feel as Milton says:

"How charming is divine philosophy!  
Not harsh and crabbed as dull fools suppose;  
But musical as Apollo's lute,  
And a perpetual feast of nectared sweets,  
Where no crude surfeit reigns."

Some of these characteristics, Miss Bullock possesses and under her care the school has prospered.

We are very glad to find, by an examination of the register, that the residents of the district have, by their occasional presence in the school-room, given the teacher that encouragement which every teacher needs. Woodbury Sleeper, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

The Summer Term commenced on the 2d of May, and closed on the 22d of June. Whole number of scholars, 67; average attendance, 50. The Winter Term commenced on the 12th of September, and closed on the 9th of December. Whole number of scholars, 59; average attendance, 47. The school was continued through the year under the instruction of Miss Kate F. George, who taught the same last year. Much advantage was gained to
the school from this fact. Miss George seems to have a peculiar adaptation to the wants of the little folks. She loves them, and they love her; which is a great point to be gained in any school, and especially in a Primary school. The school was too full for profit or convenience at the commencement of the Summer Term, and certain scholars were transferred to the next department higher.

At the close of the Winter Term the classes passed a very satisfactory examination, and nearly the whole first class was promoted. The class in Geography did itself much credit.

**Intermediate Department.**

**Summer Term** commenced on the 2nd of May, and closed on the 24th of June. Whole number of scholars, 34; average attendance, 25. Winter Term commenced and closed at the same time as the Primary. Whole number of scholars, 46; average attendance, 33. Both terms were taught by Miss Sarah E. Coffin, of Webster, who labored faithfully and wisely for the good of her pupils. At every visit the school inspired the Committee with new confidence in the ability of the teacher, and at the close of the year the pupils gave evidence of their ability to learn. Marked progress was made in Reading and in Geography; and more was done with Arithmetic than was expected by the Committee. At the close of the Winter Term, when the first class was promoted, French's Mental Arithmetic was adopted for the school, in place of Walton's Intellectual.

**Grammar-School Department.**

The Summer and Winter Terms commenced and closed at the same time as the Intermediate. Whole number of scholars, first term, 47; average attendance, 39. Whole number of scholars, second term, 48; average attendance, 39. Both were taught by Miss Nancy A. Durgin, of Manchester. At the close of the Summer school the Teacher reported in her Register as follows: "As is usually the case in all village schools of this grade, I found
quite a spirit of insubordination and disorder, which has been quelled to a great extent. The moral deportment and habits of study are both greatly improved. I regret to be obliged to say, that the parents manifest no interest in the schools by visiting them, and only judge of the proficiency of their children—their conduct, or the efforts of the teachers—by the reports of the children themselves. A fine colt or a few young cattle turned out to pasture, would be carefully watched, and most assiduously attended to. But the children can be committed to the care of a person, with whom the parents are wholly unacquainted, week after week, necessarily surrounded with all kinds of influences, by associating with so many others, and not one parent come near, unless on some public show-off day, and then, oftentimes, the more humbuggery displayed, the more favorable is the general judgment. Verily ‘these things ought not to be;’ but where they do exist in any community, the teachers can only be expected to merit that very worthy encomium, ‘It’s only the money they are after,’—like all other hirelings who simply work to please their employers.”

At the close of the second term Miss Durgin reports a more favorable and encouraging state of affairs.—The study of Grammar which is commenced in this Department, has, heretofore, given but very poor results. To increase the interest, and improve the pupils, the Committee, after advising with the Teacher, introduced March’s Analyzer and Parser. By the help of this the Teacher was able to present the class for examination at the close of the year better fitted in Grammar for advancement than any class we have before obtained in this school. But even these can learn a good deal more about Grammar. Notwithstanding there are some confirmed truants and idle scholars in this Department, yet it will be observed that the “average” in proportion to the “whole” attendance is very large. Miss Durgin has done well in the school. The whole of the First Class was promoted.

This Department needs as much more black-board as it has,
High-School Department.

The Summer and Winter terms commenced and closed on the same days as the Grammar-School. Miss Josephine Moor, Teacher. The frequent change of instructors last year, together with other disadvantageous conditions of the past, made the task of getting this Department into working order more difficult. The method of government pursued by Miss Moor, was eminently sensible: Kindness and firmness, and both "without variableness or shadow of turning." The school seemed to become obedient, and generally industrious, at once. The course of study presented in this Department not extending beyond the Common English branches, it occurs that there are, at the commencement of each term, certain scholars wanting a new study. To let each scholar select his or her own, without any reference to the others, would soon so multiply the classes as to destroy the usefulness of the school. The Committee have therefore, after consulting with those wanting a new study, endeavored to group them into about two such classes as would best accommodate the wants and preferences of the largest number of them. It has probably occurred that some scholars have been obliged to yield their personal preference of a study to the convenience of the majority. The new studies taken up this term are: In Latin, Caesar's Commentaries, for which purpose Chase & Stuart's Edition was adopted, as being the most clear, concise, accurate and attractive of any published, while at the same time less in price. In the Sciences, Quackenbos' Natural Philosophy, (in which are found some errors that ought to be corrected;) and Gray's smaller Botany.

The whole number of scholars in this Department was, in the Summer Term, 35; in the Winter Term, 38. The average attendance of each term was 30.

In addition to the public schools, this District has enjoyed the privilege of a private term of four weeks by Miss George, (unfortunately terminated by her illness,) and private terms of ten weeks each by Miss Durgin and Miss Moor. Of these opportunities some seventy-five scholars have availed themselves.

Prudential Committee of the Graded Schools, W. A. Berry, George T. Crawford and L. W. Fling.
In closing this report, your committee wish to reiterate the fact and impress it firmly upon the mind of every man and woman residing in the school district, that the teacher cannot make a school what it should be without the earnest co-operation of the parent. Let it then be your endeavor, by your presence in the school room, by your kindly, encouraging words, by your hearty support of the discipline which it may be found necessary to enforce, to give the teacher all the assistance and encouragement in the noble and responsible work in which she is engaged; and your reward will be obtained in the increased improvement and advancement of your children, in the attainment of that knowledge, which will make them respected and honored among men.

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