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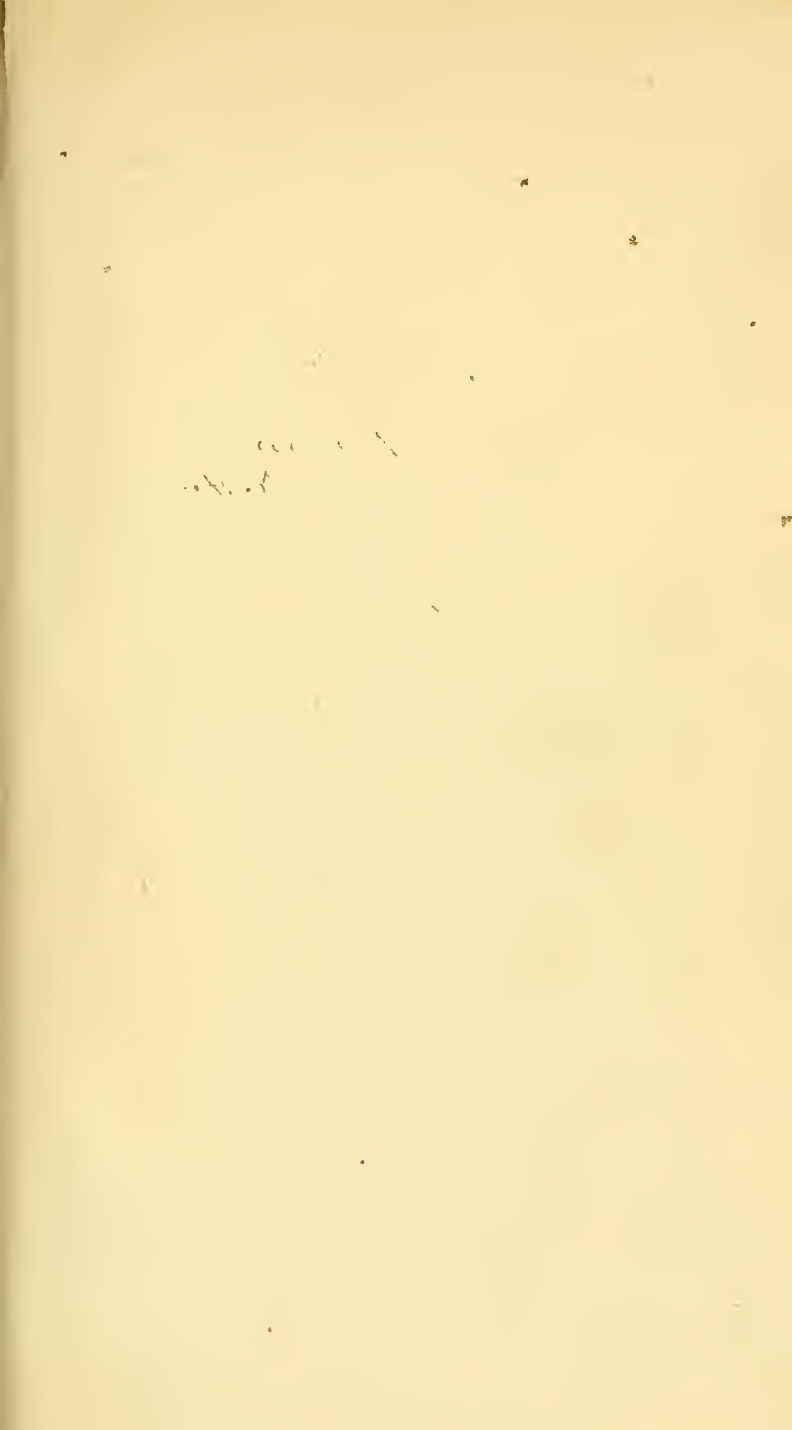
Volume 1

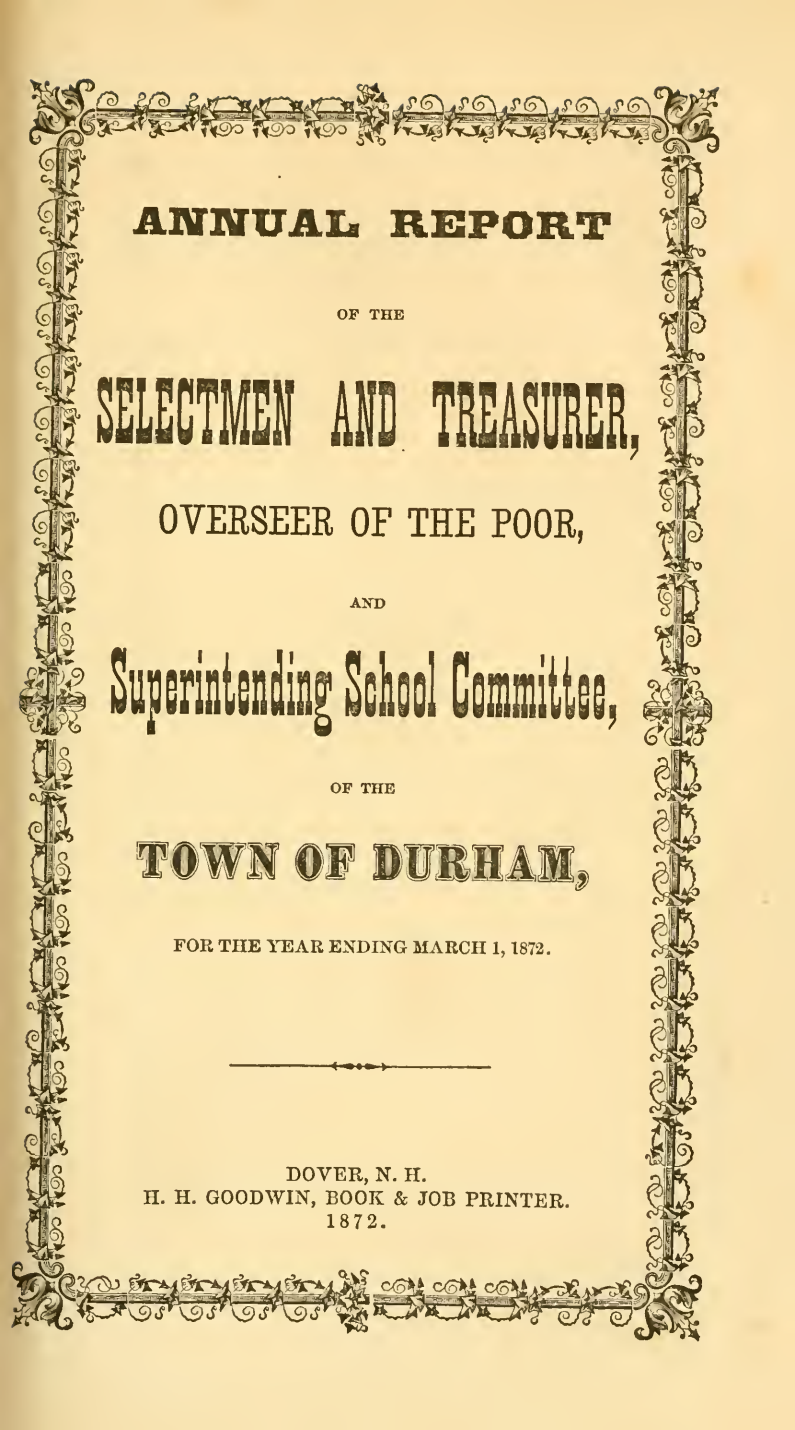
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN AND TREASURER,

OVERSEER OF THE POOR,

AND

Superintending School Committee,

OF THE

TOWN OF DURHAM,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1872.

DOVER, N. H.
H. H. GOODWIN, BOOK & JOB PRINTER.
1872.

Report of Selectmen and Treasurer.

Outstanding Bills.

Paid H. H. Goodwin for printing Town Accounts for 1870,	\$32 00
Auditors for 1870,	4 00
Mark Willey for damage done wheel in 1870,	3 00
A. S. Reynolds for blasting rocks in 1870,	3 50
Mark Willey for work on Jones Bridge in 1870,	1 50
	<hr/>
	\$44 00

Snow Bills.

Paid John Mathes,	\$2 00
H. F. Fogg,	90
N. Drew,	2 80
A. Demeritt,	1 00
W. S. Meserve,	2 00
Wm. Tuttle,	5 70
T. Bunker,	1 40
	<hr/>
	\$15 80

School Money.

Paid District No. 1, David Stevens,	\$294 53
“ 2, Daniel Chesley,	127 53
“ 3, Joseph Smith and J. S. Chesley,	106 12
“ 4, Tobias Bunker,	211 92
Asa Young,	2 12
“ 5, William Woodman,	179 08
Geo. A. Bennett,	2 58
“ 6, J. F. Drew,	41 62
“ 7, Wm. B. Langmaid,	187 43
“ 8, Joseph Bunker,	158 16
“ 9, Ai T. Gilman,	50 91
“ 10, Thomas H. Wiswall,	134 16
	<hr/>
	\$1498 16

Roads and Bridges.

Paid W. S. Meserve, hauling plank to Packer's Falls and Wiswall's Mill bridges,	\$9 00
labor and tools on Buzzell's Hill,	16 00
1 day on Falls bridge,	1 50
labor and tools on hill near No. 2 school house,	20 00
Joseph G Huchinson, work on Packer's Falls bridge,	1 75
Frank Moring, 1 day on Steel's bridge,	1 80
“ “ meeting house lane,	1 80
David Stevens, labor on Jones' and Bunker's bridges,	6 92
A. D. Moring, to work on bridges,	14 05
Wm. Tuttle, to work on Laskey's bridge,	5 50
Hannah Peavey, for oxen on Steel's bridge and meeting house lane,	3 50
A. S. Reynolds, work on Buzzell's Hill,	1 80
Nicholas Drew, railing Kent's mill bridge,	11 00
John C. Wiggin, work on Packer's Falls and Wiswall's mill bridge,	8 18
William Woodman, railing and lumber for Packer's Falls and Wiswall's mill bridges,	9 15
labor on same,	3 50
Meserve & Demeritt, 8126 ft. plank,	147 32
360 ft. stringers,	5 40
railing for bridges,	15 00
Job K. Giles, iron work for bridges,	10 50
John E. Buzzell, “ “	75
F. B. Stevens, work on meeting house lane,	4 50
1 day on Falls bridge,	2 00
J. Smith, work on road,	1 00
E. Jenkins, work and stringer on Steel's bridge,	5 60
other work on bridges,	8 00
for team to carry men,	1 00
for nails and iron work,	68
meeting house road,	2 00
for work and stone for do,	7 70
J. S. Burnham, 2867 ft. plank,	51 60
stringer for Falls bridge,	8 82
	<hr/>
	\$386 32

Interest Account.

Paid interest on town notes,	\$1164 08
Town notes,	6225 00

General Expenses.

aid John E. Buzzell, repairs on hearse,	\$1 75
" " " ox scraper,	25
V. Mathes, Jr., services as police,	10 00
Robert Burnham, services as S. S. Committee,	40 00
printing and posting bills, school	
books, &c.,	19 56
surveying town lines,	7 00
E. J. Lane, blank books and stationery,	5 72
J. L. Laskey & Son, stationery,	93
W. S. Meserve, services as Selectman,	30 00
on reimbursement,	6 75
on new line,	8 25
perambulating town line,	6 00
H. A. Mathes, services as Selectman,	30 00
on new line,	3 00
E. Jenkins, services as Selectman,	30 00
Treasurer,	25 00
1-2 day on new line,	1 25
perambulating town lines,	7 50
1 day to Dover and expenses,	2 87
time and expenses to Pittsfield and Dover to	
settle S. A. Woodman's notes.	5 00
1 day to Newmarket and expenses,	3 00
3 days on reimbursement,	6 00
3 days to Concord and expenses,	14 00
1 day to Barrington wood lot running lines,	2 50
James Twombly, work on hearse,	50
John McDaniels, wood for Selectman's office,	3 50
Samuel Runlett, services as Town Clerk,	29 23
Barrington tax,	2 12
T. B. Robinson, surveying line,	1 00
John Smart, care of hearse,	3 00
Insurance on Town Hall,	10 00
John Follett, cutting wood for office,	1 00
John B. Griffiths, Collector,	85 00
Tax bills,	2 00
	<hr/>
	\$403 68

State Tax,	\$2394 00
County Tax,	1459 25
Paid school house tax for District No. 4,	10 30
School money, " 7,	30 68
Paid W. S. Meserve for services as Overseer of Poor,	34 65
for support of poor,	183 51

Abatements.

On Cyrus G. Smith's List for 1869.

Albert Merrill, on poll,	2 25	Geo. W. Doeg, on poll,	2 25
John Doe, " "	2 25		<u>2 25</u>
			\$6 75

On C. G. Smith's List for 1870.

Alfred S. Doe, on poll,	2 51	Chas. H. Corson, poll & cow,	2 81
Geo. Bunker,	5 42	J. Butler, \$500 exemption,	8 35
Robert Bickford,	10		<u>21 70</u>
Albert Merrill, poll,	2 51	Total,	\$21 70

On J. B. Griffith's List for 1871.

John P. Jackson, left town,	2 80	Jas. Butler, \$500 exemption,	9 35
George Merrill, " "	2 80	William R. Chesley, poll,	2 80
Albert Merrill, " "	2 80	Sarah B. Drew,	90
Wm. R. Spindler, " "	3 93	Sarah Drew,	1 87
James H. Walker, poll,	2 83	Jas. D. Meader, under age,	2 88
Jedediah Langley,	3 65	Luke Long, pd. in Lee,	2 80
John B. Chesley,	2 80	William C. Twombly,	90
Geo. E. Dame, pd. in Boston,	2 80	Rufus Willey, on shop,	1 50
Chas. Stevens, overtaxed,	3 74	D. Chesley, \$500 exemption,	9 35
Josh. T. Emerson, " "	3 74		<u>68 71</u>
Henry Willey,	1 87	Total,	\$68 71
David O. Davis, poll,	2 80		

Dog Tax.

Paid several School Districts,	\$30 00
A. D. McDaniels, damages,	28 33
William Tuttle, " "	5 33
Geo. J. Wiggin, " "	5 33
Moses G. Woodman, " "	9 33
Joseph Smith, " "	1 68
	<u>\$80 00</u>

Report of Overseer of Poor.

TOWN OF DURHAM, DR.

Paid County of Strafford for board and funeral expenses of Sarah A. Porter,	\$32 00
Dr. Elkins, medical attendance on same,	9 75
Uriah Caswell, for board of do,	7 00
Insane Asylum for board of Wm. K. Chesley,	42 55
Fare to Boston for " "	1 85
J. W. E. Thompson, transportation for travellers,	15 55
W. S. Meserve, for keeping travellers,	33 05
Depositions,	2 50
Dr. Sylvester, attendance on Charlotte Prescott,	12 00
" " Nat Foss and family,	11 00
Postage,	50
County of Strafford for board of Nat Demeritt,	1 50
John C. Demeritt " "	62 86
	<hr/>
	\$232 11

CR.

By Cash of County of Strafford,	\$48 60
" E. Jenkins, Treasurer,	183 51
	<hr/>
	\$232 11

W. S. MESERVE, *Overseer of Poor.*

Treasurer's Report.

TOWN OF DURHAM, DR.

Paid outstanding bills,	\$44 00
Snow bills,	15 80
School money,	1498 16
School house tax District No. 4,	10 30
School money " 7,	30 68
Roads and Bridges,	386 32
Interest money,	1163 99
Town notes,	6225 00
General expenses,	403 68
State tax,	2374 00
County Tax,	1459 25
Paupers' expenses,	266 76
Dog tax,	80 00
Cash in Treasury,	232 31
	<hr/>
	\$14,210 25

CR.

By cash in Treasury of 1870,	\$241 06
Bank tax,	926 97
Railroad tax,	590 20
Literary fund,	101 70
Town of Newmarket,	300 00
Money borrowed,	3167 34
Store rent of G. & W. P. Frost,	115 00
Butler and Chesley, on note,	500 00
Samuel Runlett, wharf rent,	1 75
W. S. Meserve, " "	3 75
John Drew, " "	3 00
E. Jenkins, plank,	10 07
C. G. Smith, tax of 1869,	3 00
" " 1870,	162 00
J. B. Griffiths, " 1871,	8084 46
	<hr/>
	\$14,210 25
Outstanding notes against the town,	\$16,628 34

Debts Due the Town.

Due on Cyrus G. Smith's list for 1870,	\$13 22
" John B. Griffith's " 1871,	199 85
Bank tax due 1868,	100 43
Butler and Chesley,	1335 96
Cash in Treasury,	232 31
	<hr/>
	1881 77
Present indebtedness of town,	\$14,746 57
Indebtedness by report of 1870,	17,278 07
Reduction of debt in 1871,	2531 50
The amount of Reimbursement due from State by report of Commissioners, is	\$9983 73
which will reduce the town debt to	4862 84

E. JENKINS, } *Selectmen*
 W. S. MESERVE, } *of*
 H. A. MATHES, } *Durham.*

E. JENKINS, *Treasurer.*

Durham, March 1, 1872.

We have examined the foregoing accounts and find the same duly vouched and correctly cast.

SAMUEL RUNLETT, } *Auditors.*
 V. MATHES, JR., }

Durham, March 1, 1872.

REPORT

OF THE

Superintending School Committee.

In accordance with the laws of the State, we respectfully submit the following report of the Schools, for the year ending March 1, 1872.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Miss NELLIE J. DECATUR, *Teacher.*

This school should be of the first class, and there is no reason why it can not. It has not been, and the reason is very plainly seen by anyone who will give the subject a moment's notice. It is because the people are not united in their efforts. But the past three terms are exceptions. For it is not certain that the oldest inhabitant can remember a teacher who gave good satisfaction; and in this case, as in most others, the dissatisfaction arises from mere personal matters of very little importance, so small that comments here would be out of place. It is but justice to the teacher to say, she has done her part well. The school shows a fair record for her, and considering the circumstances, we think no one could well expect more. She has labored faithfully and it is not her fault that the school has not been as successful as we might expect.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Summer Term, Miss ELLEN F. JENNESS, *Teacher.*

This may well be called a model school. The District was very fortunate in securing the services of an excellent teacher. She had the faculty of gaining the love and respect of her pupils, and regarding order as the secret of success, she ruled her school with a mild and gentle hand, making order of first importance. Order and harmony prevailed throughout the term, and although a teacher of experience, she says "it has never been her lot to teach a pleasanter school."

Winter Term, Miss LIZZIE A. CHASE, *Teacher.*

This school is now in session, and like the summer term, has been a fine school. We find the scholars obedient and studious. They seem to have a respect for their teacher, and strive to make everything pleasant for her. Miss Chase's reputation as a teacher is so well established, she having taught many terms in town, we have no fears that the school will not be as successful in the end as it has been thus far.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Miss ELLEN A. JENKINS, *Teacher.*

In this District the same teacher has taught both terms. We visited the school at the commencement of the summer term and found it doing very well. We were not informed of it close, and as no register has been returned, it is impossible to make a full report. But, as Miss Jenkins' reputation is so well established as a teacher, it may be supposed that the school was a profitable one.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Summer Term, Miss MYRA HALL, *Teacher.*

This school, under the instruction of Miss Hall, has been very successful. It being small, each scholar had more attention from the teacher than is possible in larger schools, and she labored faithfully to advance its interests. We are pleased to say, her labors were very well appreciated by both scholars and parents, who aided her in many ways to render the school successful.

Winter Term, Miss MARIANNA WEBSTER, *Teacher.*

This term we think a decided success. It has been quite small, but the teacher could not have been more untiring in her efforts or labors, more faithful for the advancement of her scholars, if she had had a larger school. And we think every citizen of the district is perfectly satisfied with the school. For deportment and industry, it is all that we could wish.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

Summer Term, Miss MARTHA E. TUTTLE, *Teacher.*

This school shows a good degree of improvement, and the teacher is worthy of much praise for the efficient manner in which she governed

it, and for her energy in the discharge of her duties in the school-room. Some trouble arose near the close of the term and it was necessary to expel one scholar, after which, all was pleasant as any one could wish. The examination was very satisfactory, and a large number of parents and friends were present.

Winter Term, Miss EMILY R. BENNETT, *Teacher*.

This like the summer term was a very profitable one. During the term some trouble arose that perhaps had a damaging effect upon the school; and as a review of the subject would not be particularly creditable to either teacher or scholars, we will omit it, as it would be of no particular interest to the public. This trouble being settled to the satisfaction of all concerned, the school was very quiet and orderly, and at its close the scholars showed that they had paid good attention to their studies, by their promptness in recitations.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Summer Term, Miss OLIVE S. HOITT, *Teacher*.

This was Miss Hoitt's first attempt at teaching. She labored very faithfully to advance the scholars under her care, and the success with which she met is manifest by the general satisfaction of the people of the district. Some trouble arose in the latter part of the term, but it was of personal nature and unworthy of a moment's consideration, and she may well be proud of the success she had in her first school. It was a school that told its own story. The scholars were obedient, thorough, and prompt in their recitations.

Winter Term, Mrs. KATE R. DAVIS, *Teacher*.

This term has been a success, being taught by a teacher of experience. The pupils have made fine progress in their studies, and the large number of parents present at examination showed that they had taken an interest in the school. The scholars showed by their perfect recitations the thoroughness of their instruction, and the good deportment of the school spoke more in praise of the teacher than words can do. The exercises showed plainly that the lessons for the occasion were very carefully learned.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Miss MARY L. THOMPSON, *Teacher*.

Miss Thompson is a teacher of some experience, and in the beginning gained the confidence and respect of her pupils. By strict discipline,

united with patience and forbearance, she has been enabled to raise the standing of the school, as even an occasional visitor might easily perceive. She discharged her duties in a most impartial manner, and if she had any favorites, all were favorites. The winter term was equally successful, being taught by the same teacher, with the exception of the last four weeks, which was taught by Miss Emma Elliott of Concord, whose services were well appreciated by the people of the district.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

Miss EMILY R. BENNETT, *Teacher.*

This school has had two summer terms, and, we think, all will agree with us in saying it was a most profitable school. Great credit is due the citizens of the district for their united efforts to enhance the value of the school, and also for supporting the teacher in the discharge of her duties. At the close of the school a large number of parents and friends were present, and all seemed well pleased with the exercises and deportment of the school.

After having given an account of the schools of the past year, it is with pleasure we can say, we think, their general standing is as good as that of former years. The teachers have, with one exception, been teachers of experience, and *all have labored faithfully and well* for the advancement of their pupils. In every instance they have been successful; too much credit cannot be given for the promptness with which they have discharged their duties in the school-room. And the scholars, too, are worthy of much praise for good deportment. We have, with very few exceptions, found them orderly in the school-room, respectful and obedient to their teachers, studious and prompt in their recitations.

TEXT BOOKS.

In all the schools we find as many text books and in many cases more than we do scholars, and for many years we have been reminded of this fact. Each year adds new books to the list, for the reason we have no prescribed course of study, and in nearly every school we find two and in many cases three or more classes where there need be but one. In one school we have three Arithmetics adapted to one class of scholars, thus making three recitations where there need be but one; in which case each scholar would have three times the attention from the teacher that he does now. In the same school we find four other

classes that might be united in one, and this school is no exception ; others are in the same condition. And time does not improve the matter, for each new teacher has some favorite book to recommend, and thus one more is added to the list. We would advise that some action be taken to correct this fault in our school system, and would recommend that a committee be instructed to prepare a list of books to be used in all our schools. Then all will be on an equal footing, and can be in this way made much more profitable than they can possibly be in their present condition, for it will enable teachers to make recitations more interesting, and the scholars will receive many explanations and illustrations which they cannot now receive, for the simple reason that no teacher can explain as much to three classes as she could to one in the same time ; and it must be remembered that as the variety of books increase, the benefit to each individual scholar will decrease. This is a matter that interests every person that has the slightest interest in the schools, and we hope the men of Durham will take hold of it in earnest and take measures to remedy this defect in our otherwise good school system.

ATTENDANCE.

We think the irregular attendance of many scholars in a majority of cases is wholly uncalled for and needless, and in every case detrimental to the school. We care not what the cause may be, the effect is always the same. It takes valuable time from the school, for the teacher must in every case explain again that which was explained the day before. It is not only robbing the one who is absent, but it is defrauding the whole school of valuable time. Time once lost can never be recalled. Think of this, parents. Think of the golden opportunities *you* have lost.—Think of your own school days, and see that your children do as you wish you had done. We have never had the pleasure of meeting a person who did not regret the unimproved hours of his school days. It is well said, we learn more by our failures than by our successes. Look ! see what you have lost, and see to it that when your children come to years of maturity they shall not blame you for that which they have failed to learn in our common schools.

STUDIES.

As always was and ever will be, scholars are ever anxious to make great progress in their studies, and teachers are ever ready to encourage this desire. This is very commendable in both teacher and scholar ; but we must remember that we often carry things to extremes, and as extremes are the order of the day, we must expect to find them in our schools, and so we do. It is often remarked how seldom do we find a good reader or writer, and we must acknowledge the fact that good readers are rarely met with even in the professional world, and perhaps many professional men are not very proud their autograph. And why is it ? It is because they go along with a rush, they are in too great a hurry to enter more advanced schools. Thus we see the most important studies, Reading, Spelling and writing neglected to make room for other studies which the scholar is too anxious to take up, and the teacher has many reasons for not opposing such a course the most im-

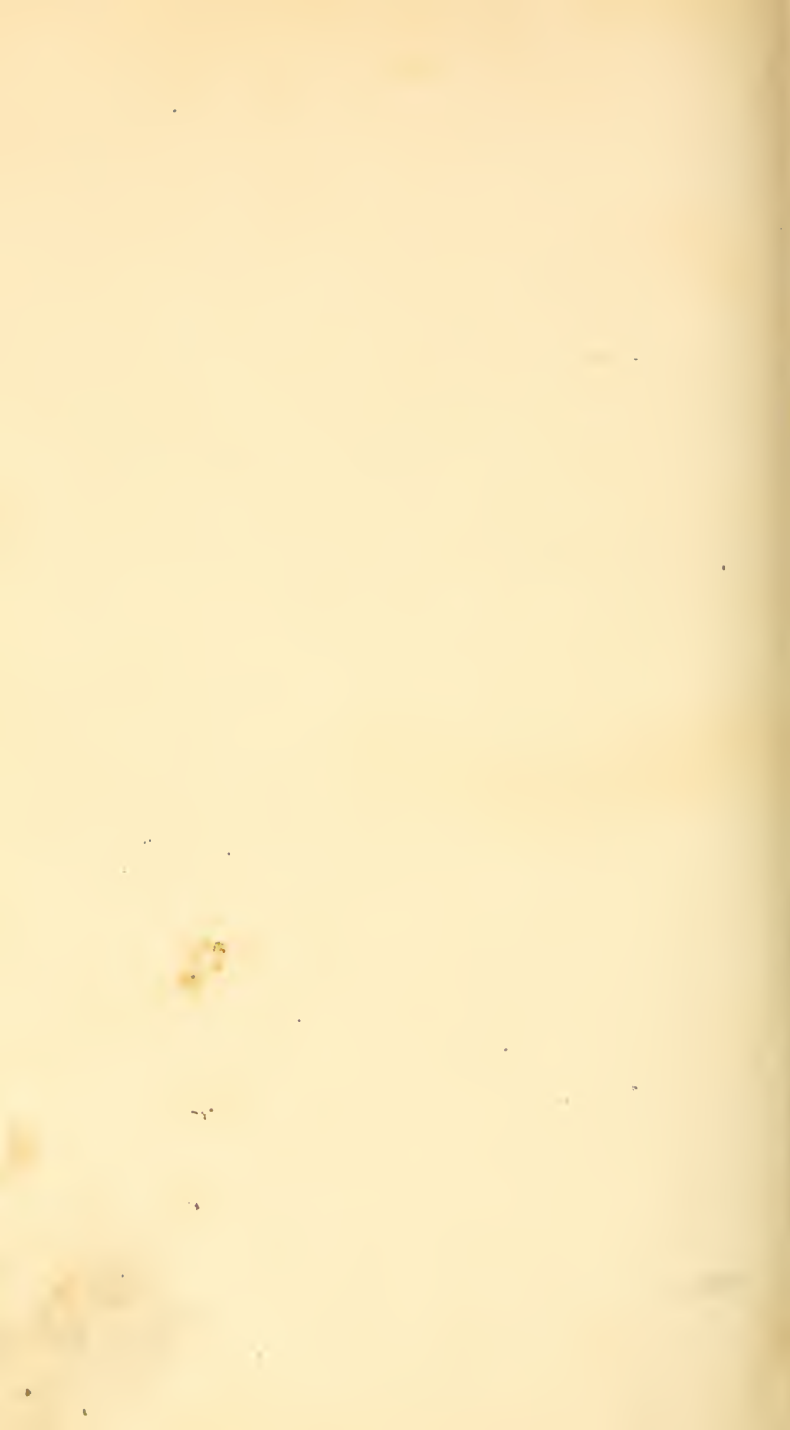
portant of which is that it is a fearful thing to disregard the wishes of scholars as all will testify. It has been truly encouraging to see our efforts to awaken an interest in these branches, meet with some degree of success, and we trust this interest may increase and if we must neglect any thing, let it be those branches that properly have no place in our common schools. The common schools *belong* to the *people*,—private schools and seminaries, to those who can defray the expenses of attending them. Their doors are not always open to the poor man's child, but always to the rich man's. A large majority of the children complete their education in the common schools, why not, then, give them an education that will enable them to be respected? Their education may not be as comprehensive as that of those who have graduated from higher schools, but let them be masters of what they have learned. There is no reason why the scholars may not be fitted for all the duties of a business life, and the people should demand this. They should demand a practical education for their children, and see that they have it.

Parents should be familiar with the school-room, and should know what progress their children are making. Nothing adds more to the interest of a school than the co-operation of parents. It prevents much gossip that often times is very injurious to the interests of the school. Scholars always tell their *own* story, and are not always generous to a fault, and parents should sometimes think how it was with them when scholars.

ROBERT BURNHAM, *S. S. Committee.*

No. District.	SUMMER SCHOOLS.	No. Weeks.	Monthly		Average Attendance.
			Wages.	No. Scholars.	
1	Miss Nellie J. Decatur, of Barrington,	9	\$36	52	44*
†	“ “ “ “	8	36	42	32*
2	“ Ellen F. Jenness, of Rochester,	18	30	15	11
3	“ Ellen A. Jenkins, of Madbury,	†	†	†	†
4	“ Myra Hall, of Denis, Mass.,	9	26	11	8*
5	“ Martha E. Tuttle, of Barrington,	11	26	32	24
7	“ Olive S. Hoitt, of Newington,	9	24	16	13
8	“ Mary L. Thompson, of Concord,	6	28	21	17*
10	“ Emily R. Bennett, of Northwood,	10	28	21	19*
†	“ “ “ “	7	28	22	17
WINTER SCHOOLS.					
1	Miss Nellie J. Decatur, of Barrington,	§	§	§	§
2	“ Lizzie A. Chase, of Sanbornton Bridge	§	§	§	§
3	“ Ellen A. Jenkins, of Madbury,	†	†	†	†
4	“ Marianna Webster, of Dover,	§	§	§	§
5	“ Emily R. Bennett, of Northwood,	15	\$34	35	28
7	Mrs. Kate R. Davis, of Lee,	14 2-5	34	22	19
8	Miss Mary L. Thompson, of Concord,	9	32	23	19
“	“ Emma Elliott, of Concord,	5 3-5	28	20	15*

*Fraction. †Second term. ‡Register not returned. §In session.



Co. B. Philadelphia
No. 3. 5000

437

