

R BV
352.0742b
K25
c.1

Solon A. Carter
March 13. 1866-

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY

KEENE, N. H.

ALSO THE

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN,

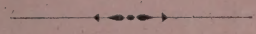
REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR,

AND THE

REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER,

FOR THE YEAR

ENDING MARCH 13, 1866.



KEENE:

PRINTED AT THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE SENTINEL OFFICE.

1866.



352.0742 b
K25
1866

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF

KEENE, N. H.

ALSO THE

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN,

REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR,

AND THE

REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER,

FOR THE YEAR

ENDING MARCH 13, 1866.



KEENE:

PRINTED AT THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE SENTINEL OFFICE.

1866.

REPORT
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
ALLEN N. H.
1850

“ It shall be the duty of all persons entrusted with, or engaged in, the instruction of the young, diligently to impress upon their minds the principles of piety and justice ; a sacred regard to truth, love of country, and benevolence ; sobriety, industry, and frugality ; chastity, moderation, and temperance ; and all other virtues which are the ornament and support of human society ; and to endeavor to lead them into a particular understanding of the tendency of all virtues to preserve and perfect a republican form of government, to secure the blessings of liberty, and to promote their future happiness, and the tendency of the opposite vices to degradation, ruin and slavery.”—*Laws of New-Hampshire,*

PRINTED BY
JAMES W. BROWN
1850

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF UNION DISTRICT.

In this, the first annual report of the Union District, we might perhaps be excusable, if we were led into a somewhat lengthened detail. But in reviewing the events of the past school year, there appear to be but few points of general interest, few subjects requiring explanation or comment. True, we have had frequent meetings of the committee, vexatious questions to be settled, delays in opening and organizing the Grammar School, delay in repairing the Main street school house and the loss of the Fall term, and the unavoidable troubles of reconstruction. But the present gradation, according to age and qualification, is essentially the natural and simple plan adopted in all large towns; and, although the change produced some confusion in the first weeks of the term in which it was made, yet the teachers soon fell into the usual routine, and scholars soon got used to unaccustomed places. The chief trouble has been in transferring children from the full schools to the less crowded rooms; yet in these cases, with rare exceptions, we have had the willing assent of parents. The fact that we annually, almost with one accord, vote to tax ourselves for the support of schools, more than the laws require, more than we do for any other institution, gives assurance that we are in earnest in the matter of education; and that no opposition, to what is generally judged to be an improvement, will be very unreasonable, or long continued.

THE CHANGES WE HAVE MADE.

Heretofore, when the Intermediates of the four districts competed directly for the High School, there was often inequality in the benefits derived from it, sometimes manifest injustice, the causes of which could only be removed by the present arrangement. The schools as now constituted consist of four Primaries of the first grade; four of the second grade; one Intermediate of the next grade; one Grammar School, and the High School. Thus it will be seen, that we have five different grades, in the lowest of which the ambitious juvenile attacks the alphabet, and fighting his way through the successive grades, mounts at last the rostrum of the High School, more or less a linguist, critic, and orator. It will be found apparent that nearly all pupils of an ungovernable age will be found in the higher grades; leaving the eight primaries comparatively easy to discipline. Those who are aware that most of our failures are failures in government, and that many otherwise excellent teachers are more or less wanting in this qualification, will appreciate an advantage which gives us larger range in our selection.

That every pupil is in his proper place, or that our work is finished, we do not pretend. It would seem desirable that each grade should have a certain amount of study assigned to it, that a course should be prescribed for each term. But with our limited knowledge of the working capacity of each, we can barely state the present advancement of the different departments.

HIGH SCHOOL.

The general management and methods of this department continue to merit the same approval as on former occasions. The method is particularly objective; everything that can be seen is pointed out; everything that can be pictured, is drawn on the board, and to be practical seems to be the aim of every new device.

Of the larger classes in this school three are in Arithmetic, two in Geography, two in Grammar,—smaller classes, one each in Drawing, Book-Keeping, Physiology, Chemistry, Geometry, Algebra and Greek,—ten pupils in Latin. There has always been a great amount of cyphering here, which we hope hereafter will be principally done in the Grammar School. A Worcester committee say, "The average time given to Arithmetic by each pupil before entering the High School, is a daily recitation for eight years; twice as much as is given to Grammar; eight times as much as is given to History or Physiology; and four times as much as is given to writing." This they consider a defect which is justly chargeable to the prolixity of their text books. We have reason to hope hereafter as the grade of schools is raised classes in the higher branches will be larger.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

We have here a fine class of twenty-two in elementary Grammar. This usually dry and difficult study has been made interesting and attractive, by the simple style and arrangement of the book, and appropriate method of the teacher. In the short time since the school began, nothing has been done in Arithmetic beyond fractions, but in the future a class coming in from the Intermediate, may begin the year where we now leave off. In Geography, as in Grammar, the method of teaching has been conversational, and without books, with much use of the black-board and of outline maps.

THE INTERMEDIATE.

The thoroughness and experience of the teacher enable us to give a definite idea of what this grade can annually accomplish in Arithmetic. Although but ten have gone through fractions at this time, the teacher says, that a class coming in here from the Primaries, thoroughly trained in the multiplication table, will in a year's time, easily master all the rules of Adams' Arithmetic to the end of common fractions. But to know the table, as she understands it, is to be ready and prompt in all the examples in Colburn designed to familiarize the table. This must be one of the special requirements of the Primary schools.

In Geography, the practice of sending classes to the black-board, to write the names of countries, states and towns, as they occur in the lesson, seems worthy of mention and imitation.

OUR PRIMARIES.

Our eight Primaries contain more than four hundred children; the pride of nearly as many different homes. Measured by numbers, they are more important than all the others. Careless observers may look in at their doors and pronounce them prosperous and effective. But to judge justly, we must judge of a school, as we judge of anything else, by comparing it with others of the same kind, and we must advance by imitation and emulation. If we are to profit by comparison and imitation, if we would make the least as good as the greatest, the first and most obvious step will be, to place all the schools of one grade in the charge of one member of the committee, that he may the better discover what is necessary to secure progress and uniformity. But if we go farther and look beyond ourselves, and enlarge our range of vision and comparison, we may then find methods worthy of imitation; and among these no one looks more promising than that known as the object method. We are convinced that the practice of giving object lessons is the best possible training for a teacher. We attribute some of

the great successes of the High School to early practice in this method. We believe it is the spirit of this method that has made the Church street Primary the delight of its pupils and the admiration of visitors; and we think that all our teachers who have interested themselves in this method, have found themselves better able to question and interest their classes, and inspired with new interest in their pupils. The Superintendent of the schools of Connecticut says:—"Pupils trained under this system evince more quickness, and accuracy of perception, careful observation, and correctness, which results from accurate and proper comparison." Another of a committee appointed to examine this method, says:—"The plan renders school life to little children far less irksome than before." But let us take a look for a moment into one of the Oswego Primaries. "A large class in the alphabet comes out—all with slates and pencils, which they have been taught to use. The teacher utters the sound of t. The class utters it. They repeat it till the sound becomes a distinct object. She prints upon the board the letter t. It is an object for the eye. They copy it upon their slates and practice until the next lesson. Perhaps next, they all go to the black-board at the side of the room. The board has a wide ledge at the bottom which answers for a table. Underneath are places for beans. They count with beans, they write one bean and two,—one and three. They take away one bean from two beans,—one from three. They arrange them in sets of two,—in sets of three. They now return to their seats and make marks upon their slates, to take the place of beans. They next, perhaps, go through a series of physical exercises. In short, this primary room is a busy work-shop—not one idle moment."

We prefer to leave details to our teachers, and do not propose these for imitation; we give them merely as hints of a method evidently not in harmony with that which compels a child to look on his books until he has learned to recite a paragraph he cannot understand.

In approving a form of report which does not admit of comments upon the individual merits of teachers, we do not the less appreciate conscientious fidelity, enthusiasm and zeal, intelligent management, ready adoption of approved methods, and practical skill. On the contrary, we think our schools were never in a more prosperous state, or more deserving of popular favor. Most of our teachers have given attention to physical training; and such as appreciate the value of this, also give proper attention to the ventilation of their rooms. Object lessons have also been a prominent feature in the Primaries on School street, on Church street, and Washington street.

We subjoin a list of books as approved the past year. In the Primary Schools—Hillard's 1st, 2d and 3d Primary Reader; Adams' Primary Arithmetic; Allen's Primary Geography. In the Upper Primaries—Hillard's 3d Primary Reader, 2d and 3d Class Reader; Adams' Primary, and Colburn's Mental Arithmetic; Adams' Improved; Allen's Primary Geography, finished; Cornell's, finished. In the Intermediate and Grammar School—Hillard's 3d Class Reader; Adams' and Colburn's Arithmetic; Cornell's Grammar School Geography; and Quackenbos' Elementary Grammar for the Grammar School.—For the High School—Sargent's 5th Reader; Adams' and Colburn's Arithmetic; Quackenbos' Grammar, and Philosophy; Shaw and Allen's Geography; Davies' Algebra and Geometry; Comings' Physiology; Porter's Chemistry; Dana's Geology; Mayhew's Book Keeping; Harkness' Latin Grammar and Reader; Crosby's Greek, and Arnould's French Grammar.

GEO. B. TWITCHELL, }
 G. A. WHEELOCK, } Superintending
 S. WOODWARD, } Committee.
 R. H. PORTER, }

Keene, March 13, 1866.

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF KEENE.

In compliance with the Laws of the State, the Superintending School Committee of Keene submit the following Report of the Schools for the year ending March 13, 1866:—

The sum raised by the Town for the support of Schools at its last annual meeting was \$4192; the amount of Literary Fund received by the Town was \$279.72; the amount raised in Union District to pay in part the salaries of the teachers of the High School was \$1000; the amount raised to pay the rent of the school rooms was \$600; amounting in all to the sum of \$6071.72. In addition to this there has been paid for instruction in private schools the sum of \$283.00; making the amount expended in town for the purpose of education \$6354.72.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Mr. WHEELLOCK visited Nos. 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11.

Mr. WOODWARD visited Nos. 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10.

No. 2. The summer and fall terms of this school were taught by Miss EMMA D. LEONARD. Length of terms 9 weeks each. No. of pupils—summer term 45; fall term 59. The number of classes necessary in an ungraded school of this size, together with the great variety of text books used, rendered it next to impossible for the teacher to give due attention to all. But Miss Leonard's assiduity and perseverance were equal to the task before her, and both terms were very successfully taught. The good order maintained in the school room merited the approval of the committee.

The winter term of 5 weeks was taught by Mr. S. N. McDUFFEE.—Number of pupils 32. Mr. D. did not appear to want in ability to govern, nor in zeal for the work in which he was engaged, still the progress made by the pupils in most of the branches taught was less than desirable. The shortness of the term was a bar to great improvement, and but little was made in reading. Every pupil who is capa-

ble, should be compelled to read intelligibly or not read at all. Boys whose voices in their play rival the steam whistle, should not be allowed to read in the school room in a low, guttural tone, so indistinct that the nicest ear cannot distinguish the different words uttered. The books used in this school are not all, such as the committee would recommend. And we may add that the school room is not such an one as the wealthy and enterprising citizens of the district should be proud of. If the ascent of the Hill of Science is represented as difficult, we see no good reason why access to the entrance of this humble temple of science should not be improved by a little grading.

No. 3. This school had two terms, one of 9 and one of 7 weeks—teachers, Miss SARAH E. NIMS, Miss L. J. KEMP—pupils 16. Since our acquaintance with this district, committees have been very successful in the choice of their teachers, and the present year has been no exception to the rule. The pupils manifested great interest in their studies in both the summer and winter term.

No. 4. Miss EMMA H. FREEMAN had charge of this school during the summer term of 8 weeks. Number of pupils 12; average attendance 11. Miss Freeman fully sustained the high reputation she acquired in this school during preceding terms. We were much pleased at the examination with the excellent deportment of the pupils, as well as with the promptness and accuracy of their recitations.

The winter term of 10 weeks was under the care of Miss NELLIE L. RICHARDSON. Number of pupils 16; average attendance 15. Miss Richardson was successful in maintaining the excellent order established by her energetic predecessor, and at the closing examination we were satisfied that fair progress had been made in all the branches taught.

No. 5. There were two terms of 10 and 13 weeks. Miss ESTHER M. GURLER, favorably known as a teacher in former years, taught a successful school in the summer. In the winter term Miss M. LIZZIE WILSON was teacher. The classes in Grammar and Geography appeared particularly well. In other branches, perhaps, the school might not compare favorably with some former years.

No. 6. The summer term of 6 weeks was taught by Miss ANNA M. ELLIS. No. of pupils 6; average attendance 6. Miss Ellis was mild in her discipline, and assiduous in her efforts to advance her pupils, and her success was all that could be expected with the attendant circumstances.

The winter term of 12 weeks was under the charge of Miss LUCELIA HUNT. No. of pupils 12; average attendance 10. Miss Hunt was firm in her discipline and thorough in her instruction; and the progress made by the pupils in their several studies was commendable. We were particularly pleased with the accuracy of the recitations in Arith-

netic. Time is said to be the great leveller of all things. But such has not been its effect upon the floor of the school house in this district; and unless its undulations are attended to, the good citizens of the district cannot possibly stand upon an equality in their school room. And the romantic site of the house, with the picturesque scenery in the back ground, are not without a drawback. At our visit in June we were more annoyed than amused by the numberless mosquitoes that pervaded every part of the school room. Their presence was more a preventive of idleness than incentive to literary attainments.

No. 7. Two terms—Miss L. J. SHELLEY and Miss E. A. WOODWARD, teachers. These were small schools but of superior merit. The attainments of some of the pupils have made it desirable to employ teachers of superior qualifications, which Miss Woodward undoubtedly has.

No. 8. There were two terms of 6 and 10 weeks. No. of pupils 15; average attendance 10, 12. Both terms were under the charge of Miss EMMA J. CRAIG. This school is small, but having more than the usual proportion of fine scholars, it ranks with our first class schools. Miss Craig succeeded well as a disciplinarian and apt teacher. The school house has been repaired since our last annual report.

No. 9. Summer term 10 weeks, and 25 pupils. Miss R. J. WILDER had a very prosperous and successful school. But in the winter Mr. JAMES M. PRESBY was not so fortunate. We were not surprised that the school closed prematurely. We believe in parents strengthening the authority of the teacher by all practicable means, but there are some qualities which parents cannot aid or supply.

No. 10. The summer term of 15 weeks was under the care of Miss EMMA E. BROWN. No. of pupils 26; average attendance 20. The progress made by the pupils was such as to merit the approbation of all who visited the school. The law of kindness secured good order. And the faithful labor of the teacher was reciprocated by the assiduous attention of the pupils; and the school was a success.

The winter term of 10 weeks was taught by Mr. J. A. SHERMAN.—No. of pupils 29; average attendance 26. Mr. Sherman is an efficient teacher and a thorough disciplinarian. Progress and thoroughness were the watchwords through the term, and the school appeared in fair condition at the closing examination.

No. 11. There was but one term of 11 weeks, and 14 pupils. This district seems to have drawn a smaller portion of money than in former years. Miss MARTHA S. HUTCHINS, the teacher, was very successful, and seemed to have accomplished all that any one could in a school of this character.

In addition to the foregoing statement of the condition of our schools,

the committee submit a few suggestions which they consider essential to their continued prosperity and the consummation of the noble purpose for which they were established. Philanthropist, statesman, and politicians agree that the only sure basis upon which to found Free Institutions, is the virtue and intelligence of the people. Hence it is the imperative duty of a people enjoying a free government to give a fair literary education to all the children in such community, and imbue in their minds the principles of virtuous thought and action. The man of wealth must furnish the means to educate the children of his poorer neighbor if he desires security for his accumulations. Some writer has called the common school "the poor man's College." It certainly is the place where a large portion of the citizens of our republic have and must still receive their literary education. This fact shows the importance of these institutions, and what the spirit of the age requires they should be. The dark and bloody history of the past few years has taught a lesson that should be heeded by the present and future generations. In that part of our glorious republic dotted over with school houses, men have been found ready to offer their lives and suffer all the horrors of the battle-field in defence of their government and the rights of man,—while in the more fertile parts of our domain, where the school house is ignored, men were found ready to follow bloody-handed traitors to the field of carnage, and with the malignity of demons and ferocity of tigers, to fight for the overthrow of the best government ever instituted by man, and crushing out the last hope of the oppressed millions of the earth. It is in our common schools that the seeds of patriotism must be sown, and the embryo man prepared to discharge all the duties of a loyal citizen. And the family circle and school room must be bound together by the tripple cord of love, virtue, and truth. We do not fully subscribe to the adage, "As is the teacher so is the school." There cannot be a good school without a good teacher. But with the best of teachers, a divided district, with the disposition on the part of a few to encourage querulous pupils in rebellion or idleness, will make a school anything but a success. Were we to describe a model school, we would have a good teacher,—a commodious, attractive, and well furnished school room,—an intelligent and faithful committee,—sympathizing and earnest parents,—and wide-awake yet docile pupils,—these combined would produce a school as near perfection as juvenile humanity will permit. But what are the necessary qualifications of a good or successful teacher? A good teacher should be thoroughly acquainted with, and master of, whatever he attempts to teach. Is it impossible for one to impart knowledge to others that he does not himself possess. The successful teacher should also "be apt to teach," or in other words, should have the ability to secure the attention and

gain access to the minds of the pupils; and then to impart the facts of the subject matter in hand in the plainest language possible to make it distinctly understood. He should also have a large soul filled with human kindness and love for his God and country. Can small districts afford to employ good teachers, and can such readily be found? The best article is always the cheapest; and a demand for a good article will invariably furnish a supply. But those teachers who demand the highest wages are not always the best. The price set upon an article is not always the true test of its value. The young teacher formed in nature's finest mould and prepared by a right education, may make her first school a complete success. Some prudential committees seek for no higher qualifications in a teacher than "to know how to read, write and cipher," because there will be no scholars in the summer term that will advance beyond these primary studies. Committees and districts are too often satisfied with teachers who cannot read with intelligent accuracy, and whose knowledge of Arithmetic and Geography is limited to the answers to a few of the simplest questions in primary text books. And superintending committees not unfrequently indulge them in their cheap desires. No teacher is capable of teaching even the alphabet who cannot accurately enunciate every elementary sound of the vowels and consonants, singly and combined, and who is not a correct and intelligent reader.

S. WOODWARD,
GEO. A. WHEELOCK,
Superintending School Committee.

TABLE I.—SUMMER TERM.

Districts.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Length of school in weeks,...	18	9	8	10	6	8	6	10	15		
Whole No. of pupils,.....	726	61	16	12	18	10	7	15	25	26	
Boys,.....	347	34	4	5	6	4	2	12	10	13	
Girls,.....	379	27	12	7	12	6	5	3	15	13	
Average Attendance,.....	643	45	14	11	15	6	6	14	22	20	
No. of pupils over 16 years,	8	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	
No. of pupils under 16 years,	68	16	11	18	9	6	15	24	26		
No. of tardy marks,.....	96	60	0	4	4	12	0	3	8	183	
No. not tardy,.....	694	20	16	9	15	4	7	11	19	1	
No. not absent 1-2 day,.....	9	3	6	3	1	1	9	4	2		
Whole No. of visits,.....	551	37	31	23	32	12	17	23	30	50	
Visits by S. S. Com,.....	30	5	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2	
Visits by Prud. Com.,.....	10	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Wages of teacher per m'th. including board,.....	27	18	20	16	16	6	17	19	16		

TABLE II.—WINTER TERM.

Districts,.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Length of school, in weeks,.	5	7	10	13	12	8	10	8	10	11	
Whole number of pupils,....	608	32	16	16	19	13	15	37	29	14	
Boys,.....	324	20	8	8	10	9	7	10	24	16	7
Girls,.....	284	12	8	8	9	3	6	5	13	13	7
Average attendance,.....	531		14	15	17	10	11	12	30	26	12
No. of pupils over 16 years,			0	2	2	2	4	2	9	4	2
No. of pupils under 16 years,			16	14	17	10	9	13	23	25	12
No. of tardy marks,.....	28		0	19	14	9	2	3	15	45	10
No. not tardy,.....	583		16	10	11	5	12	13	28	13	9
No. not absent one-half day,			3	3	3	2	5	3	2	6	8
Whole number of visits,....	1055	9	21	46	20	24	19	26	17	28	18
Visits by S. S. Committee,...	54	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	2
Visits by Prud. Committee,.	21	0	1	2	1	2	2	0	1	1	1
Wages of teacher per month, including board,.....	46	22	24	48	19	24	24	20	44	44	26

NOTE.—In the above Table the Fall Terms have been considered a part of the Summer Schools, and an approximate average made of the attendance of the two Terms.

TABLE III.

	No. of Schol- ars in each District.	Proportion to each District.	Proportion to each Scholar.	Amount of Money raised.
1,.....	846	3101.82	3.66	Raised by the Town, \$4,192.00
2,.....	67	247.92	3.70	Literary Fund, 279.72
3,.....	14	79.49	5.67	\$4,471.72
4,.....	23	108.09	4.70	Paid S. S. Com., 100.00
5,.....	30	130.34	4.34	
6,.....	21	101.73	4.84	For schools, \$4571.72
7,.....	14	79.49	5.67	Raised by Union Dist. for the High School, 1000.00
8,.....	15	82.67	5.51	Kent of Buildings for School Rooms, 600.00
9,.....	45	178.01	3.95	
10,.....	42	168.47	4.01	
11,.....	16	85.84	5.36	\$5971.72

TABLE IV.

Districts.	SUMMER SCHOOLS.		WINTER SCHOOLS.	
	Prudential Com- mittees.	Teachers.	Residences.	Teachers. Residences.
No. 2.	Samuel Heaton.	Miss Emma D. Leonard,	Royalston, Vt.	Mr. S. N. McDuffee,
No. 3.	J. Warren Nye.	Miss Sarah E. Nims,	Keene.	Miss L. Jennie Kemp,
No. 4.	Charles Eveleth.	Miss Emma H. Freeman,	Keene.	Miss Alice L. Richardson,
No. 5.	Albert E. Pond.	Miss Esther M. Gurler,	Keene.	Miss M. Lizzie Willson,
No. 6.	Daniel Darling.	Miss Anna M. Ellis,	Westmorel'd.	Miss Lucelia L. Hunt,
No. 7.	Chas. K. Colony.	Miss S. Josephine Shelley,	Keene.	Miss Elsie A. Woodward,
No. 8.	S. B. Aldrich.	Miss Emma J. Craig,	Keene.	Miss Emma J. Craig,
No. 9.	Harvey Hurd.	Miss Rhoda J. Wilder,	Keene.	Mr. James M. Presby,
No. 10.	Dexter Gilbert	Miss Emma E. Brown,	Keene.	Mr. J. A. Sherman,
No. 11.	Benj. F. Wheeler.	Miss Martha S. Hutchins,	Keene.	Miss Martha S. Hutchins,

THE CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT.

To the Board of Selectmen :

GENTLEMEN :—I respectfully submit the following report:—
At the close of another year I am happy to report that the Department is in good condition, all Engines, Carriages and Apparatus in good order and repair, with the exception of a portion of the Hose, which is old and much worn. I would recommend the purchasing of 1000 feet of new hose. A general good feeling prevails throughout the whole Department. During the past year I report the following fires, viz :

August 30, 1865.—The Fire Department called out at 3 o'clock, P. M., caused by the burning of a dry-house in Swanzey Factory Village. The Department all out, but owing to the high wind and dry weather it was not considered prudent for the Department to go outside the limits of the Town.

October 19, 1865.—The Fire Department called out at 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ o'clock, P. M., caused by fire in Block owned by G. H. Richards, which was consumed, together with the Blocks owned by T. Colony and H. & A. Colony. The estimated loss on buildings and contents, \$46,500. Insurance, \$25,510. The above fire proved the most disastrous of any fire our citizens had ever been called to witness in the town. The fire would have been confined to Richards's Block, as it was at one time wholly under the control of the Department, had it not been for the failure of water.

November 12, 1865.—The Department called out at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock, A. M., caused by fire in the Dwelling House of W. D. Ballou, on Church street. The Department promptly out, but their services were not required. Damage \$100. Insured.

The Department has not been called out as often the past year as in former years, but owing to the destructive fire of October 19, the loss has been far greater than in any former year. The Town will readily see that it is discouraging to the Department to be defeated where success is apparent—*wholly for the want of water.* The past season has been an unusu-

ally dry one, and for the past six months there has been little or no water in our reservoirs. With the exception of the Cummings reservoir, which is of little use to the business part of the Town, there is not one other reservoir that will supply our engines thirty minutes.

In closing my report I tender my sincere thanks to the Assistant Engineers, and to the officers and members of the different fire companies, for the prompt and efficient manner in which they have performed their duties; also to those citizens who have often rendered us valuable services, and have so ably assisted in sustaining the Fire Department.

H. P. MUCHMORE,

Chief Engineer of Keene Fire Department.

Keene, March 1, 1866.

WOODLAND CEMETERY.

REPORT.

March 1, 1866.

Balance unexpended as per last year's Report,	\$719.21
Received during the year,	177.00
	<hr/>
	\$896.91

EXPENSES.

L. Joslin,	1.50
E. G. Pierce, labor,	46.00
I. F. Nourse, stone seats,	65.00
G. A. Wheelock,	8.00
	<hr/>
	\$120.50
Deducting Expenses,	120.50
	<hr/>
Leaving unexpended,	\$775.71

G. A. WHEELOCK, *Sup't.*

REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 17, 1866.

Report as follows :		RECEIPTS.
Town orders,		\$4875.00
From other sources,		238.43
		<hr/>
		\$5113.43
EXPENDITURES.		
For support of County paupers,		\$2437.34
For support of Town paupers,		2612.84
Cash in my hands,		63.25
		<hr/>
		\$5113.43
Cash received of County, April Term,	\$1685.71	
“ “ “ “ Oct. “	1355.68	
	<hr/>	
	\$3041.39	

Paid bills due previous to 1865,	\$122.08
There will be due Charles B. Fish, April 1st,	\$255.80

There has been supported at the Farm seven persons the whole year, and fifteen part of the year. Away from the Farm, chargeable to the Town, ten families, all of whom are provided for at a less expense than at the Farm. The family of Mrs. Wetherbee at Claremont, Miss Baker at Sullivan, are all the persons provided for out of Town. There have been helped 23 families, with 59 children, away from the Farm, chargeable to the County—all of foreign birth, with the exception of four. There are now at the Farm 15 persons. There have been two deaths during the year, that of Miss Billings and Mrs. Fifield. The property at the Town Farm remains about the same as of former years. In consequence of the failure of water last summer at the house, it became necessary to look for a supply in some other direction. I was fortunate in finding a spring a short distance from the old Pond, where I laid down lead pipe, at a cost of fifty dollars, from which there has been a supply to the house and barn of running water.

All of which is respectfully submitted,
SHUBAEL WHITE, *Overseer of the Poor.*

Having examined the foregoing statements we find them correctly cast. We have also compared the Treasurer's accounts with the same and find them to agree, and we believe the accounts are well and truly kept.

A. T. WILDER,
CHESTER NIMS,
T. C. RAND,

Selectmen of Keene.

REPORT OF THE AGENT OF TOWN HALL BUILDING.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Keene :

The undersigned respectfully submits the following statement of receipts and expenditures by him as Agent in charge of the Town Hall Building, from March 1, 1865, to March 1, 1866:—

RECEIPTS.

Received from Singing School, as reported last year,	\$98 00
" For Rent of Stores and use of Hall for	
" Concerts, Lectures, &c., to March 1, 1866,	895 58
	\$993 58
Paid by order,	138 93
	\$1132 51

EXPENDITURES.

Awning, Gas, Wood, Brooms, Repairs of Building, care of Stores, cleaning, lighting and care of Hall,	\$1132 51
There is due the Town the following sums for use of the Hall:—	
From Universalist Society,	\$27 00
From Rent of Stores, April 1, 1866,	190 00
	\$217 00

KINDALL CROSSFIELD, Agent.

The undersigned have examined the foregoing statements, and accounts, find them correct, and we believe the accounts are well and truly kept.

A. T. WILDER,
CHESTER NIMS,
T. C. RAND,
Selectmen of Keene.

Amount raised by the Town,	4184 15
“ “ Union District,	1600 00
“ “ District No. 2,	37 85
“ “ District No. 11,	100 00
Literary Fund,	279 72

\$6201 72

The Town voted to divide the school money as follows, viz: To give each school in each district the sum of thirty-five dollars, and the remainder of the money to be divided by the number of scholars.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Paid Engine, Hose and Ladder men for services,	\$760 50
“ Engineers for services,	125 02
“ Stewards “	98 25
“ T. Hale & Co. for printing,	44 25
“ T. C. Rand & Co. for printing,	10 75
“ C. R. Road Comp. for three years rent of land,	45 00
“ Kindall Crossfield for work last year,	6 00
“ A. T. Wilder, sundry bills,	21 50
“ M. T. Tottingham, work, &c.,	16 82
“ For Refreshments at fires,	38 80
“ D. M. Wilder, Adm'r, for rent of land, 1864 & 65,	37 50
“ O. G. Dort for alcohol, oil, and for ringing fire alarm,	28 45
“ T. C. Rand, bill,	2 00
“ Daniel W. Brooks for ringing fire alarm,	6 50
“ O. H. Gillett for work on Engine, &c.,	14 52
“ Keene Gas Light Co. for piping Engine Houses and Fixtures,	114 00
“ Wells & Weeks for Stove, work, &c.,	42 24
“ Wm. Dort for varnishing Engine,	10 00
“ Geo. A. Balch for examining Fire Districts,	3 00
“ John A. Drummer for work,	5 00
“ Orlando Seward for trucking,	1 98
“ S. S. Wilkinson for repairing Hose, &c.,	18 75
“ A. T. Wilder, bills for cleaning reservoirs,	59 60
“ F. R. Sparks for trucking, &c.	5 25
“ H. L. Kiblin for work, fluid, oil, &c.	18 20
“ W. S. Briggs for Settees and Table,	30 00
“ Gas Company for Gas,	16 00
“ For Wood,	30 49
“ H. P. Muchmore for Work, Lumber, &c.,	127 51
“ Geo. Holmes & Bro. for Iron Work,	14 25
“ C. F. Holton for Belts,	8 85
“ Spencer & Co., bill,	4 68
“ Spaulding & Dean for horse hire,	19 75

Paid Green & Colony for Refreshments,	15 00
Amount expended,	\$1800 21
Money voted,	\$1500 00
BUILDING HOSE HOUSE.	
Paid for Hose House,	\$524 34
Money voted,	\$500 00
HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.	
Paid for repairing Highways and Bridges, 1864,	\$372 64
" For repairing Highways and Bridges, 1865, to March 1, 1866, including Land Dam- ages and New Roads,	\$6009 45
	\$6382 09
Money voted,	\$5000 00
ORDINARY TOWN CHARGES.	
Amount paid out,	\$2344 15
Money voted,	\$1500 00
BOUNTIES TO SOLDIERS.	
Amount paid,	\$4100 00
SOLDIER'S RELIEF FUND.	
Paid to Soldiers' Families,	\$4242 00
Amount raised by the Town,	\$3000 00
Received of the State,	\$12,164 73
OVERSEER OF THE POOR.	
Paid Overseer of the Poor,	\$4875 00
JAIL FEES AND BOARD OF POLICE PRISONERS.	
Paid for Jail Fees and Board,	\$24 00

RECAPITULATION.

RECEIPTS.	
Balance in Treasury March 1, 1865,	\$6015 50
Received of Overseer of the Poor,	3041 39
State Tax,	15,720 00
County Tax,	4246 35
Showmen's Licenses,	90 00
Literary Fund,	96 60
Soldiers' Aid from State,	12,164 73
Money borrowed,	20,919 45
Joseph Jolly's tax,	3 46
Received of Eben Clark,	71 42
Railroad Tax, 1864,	1794 00
" " 1865,	2401 35
Savings Bank Tax,	1516 40

Received of Collector,	\$2,658 00
Town Order No. 109, unpaid,	38 00
Received of Town of Surry,	300 00

\$101,076 65

EXPENDITURES.

For Town Officers,	\$1646 25
“ Schools, including Sup. Com. and Tax assessed,	6201 72
“ Fire Department,	1800 21
“ Niagara Hose House,	524 34
“ Repairs of Highways, Land Damages and building New Roads,	6382 09
“ Ordinary Town charges,	2344 15
“ Bounties to Soldiers,	4100 00
“ Relief of Soldiers’ Families,	4242 00
“ Support of Paupers,	4875 00
“ Jail Fees and Board,	24 00
“ Gas and Lighting Street Lamps,	908 00
“ Board of Boys at House of Reformation,	175 98
“ Notes and Interest paid, including Ministerial and Simmons’ Funds,	40,723 96
“ Night Watch,	1,653 25
“ State Tax,	15,720 00
“ County Tax,	4246 35
“ Last year’s order paid,	150 00
“ Damage by Dogs,	36 00
Balance in Treasury,	5323 35

\$101,076 65

LIABILITIES.

Notes against the Town,	\$121,670 00
-------------------------	--------------

ASSETS.

Due from United States for Bounties,	\$10,975.00
Estimated amount due from State for aid of Soldiers’ Families,	4000 00
Balance in hands of Treasurer,	5323 35
Due from the Collector,	503 15
Balance of indebtedness,	100,868 50

\$121,670 00

The undersigned, appointed a committee to examine the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer of the Town of Keene, hereby certify that they have attended to the duty assigned to them, and find them well vouched and correctly cast.

S. WOODWARD,	} Auditors.
F. A. FAULKNER,	
R. H. PORTER,	

ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR 1866.

Town Officers and ordinary Town charges,	\$3000 00
Highways and Bridges,	4000 00
Support of Paupers,	2000 00
Fire Department,	1500 00
Night Watch,	1600 00
Gas and lighting Street Lamps,	900 00
For Schools, the amount required by Law,	4182 00
Interest on Town Debt,	7300 00

WAR EXPENSES, &c.

The Town furnished 584 men for the army during the war, of whom 48 residents of Keene died in the service. The whole amount of bounties paid by the Town was \$110,984. Aid to the families of Soldiers has been furnished to the amount of \$40,515.86, of which sum \$34,637.83 has been reimbursed by the State, and it is estimated that \$4000 more will be paid by the State on that account. The recruiting and other incidental military expenses were about \$1000, making the total cost to the town about \$113,000.

A. T. WILDER,
CHESTER NIMS,
THOS. C. RAND,

Keene, March 13, 1866.

Selectmen of Keene.

