BV ANNUAL REPORT

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# TOWN TREASURER, SELECTMEN,

AND

SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

# TOWN OF LACONIA,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1874.

LACONIA, N. H .:

PRINTED AT THE DEMOCRAT OFFICE.

1874.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE LIBRARY



# TREASURER'S REPORT

### RECEIPTS FOR 1873.

Cash of B. M. Sanborn, former treasurer,	\$ 7	79
	9,300	00
Cash of M. H. Johnson, account of note		
for liquors,	• 83	75
	2,031	65
Railroad tax,	653	21
Insurance tax,	13	50
Literary fund,	168	92
Rejected U. S. Bounty Claims,	96	00
Interest from Co. Treasurer,	10	20
Licenses, &c.,	41	75
Interest on state bonds,	528	00
Cash on account of errors of B M. Sanborn	,543	60
	5,971	
" S. C. Robinson, coll., 1872,	550	00
" I G Morgan " 1873 15	3,702	12
	53	54
" Chas. F. Sanborn." 1872.	86	39
" Meredith Bridge Village Precinc	et	
rent of land,	22	50
TO STANKE THE PARTY OF THE PART	10 15 10 18	
\$34	4,864	55
EXPENDITURES.		
State tax,	3.420	00
	3,574	
	,,,,,,	12
PAUPERS.		
Paid Selectmen as Overseers of Poor,	\$560	58
SCHOOL ORDERS.		
District No. 1, Perley Putnam, \$	1,565	80

District No	2, Oliver Goss,	\$703	52
	3, John C. Folsom,	185	06
(1) (1)	4, Charles H. True,	63	89
	5, John Batchelder,	83	14
88 88 .			1000
		\$2,601	41

# NOTES AND INTEREST.

		-
Noah Robinson,	\$ 398	83
Arthur S. Ladd,	279	04
Clarissa L. Sanborn,	978	97
James N. Hall,	101	78
Arthur S. Ladd,	130	72
Alvah T. Swain,	302	15
B. T. Sanborn, endorsed,	100	00
F. H. Evans, "	70	00
Irene Smith, "	30	00
Charles Smith, interest,	72	00
Hiram Cross, "	66	50
J. P. Atkinson, "	90	00
Belknap savings bank,	1,012	67
James N. Hall,	112	
Fred H Evans,	1,559	94
Laconia savings bank,	1,007	
Betsey Bean,	123	60
David Sanborn,	100	00
Rufus Smith,	572	94
Belknap savings bank,	634	53
S. C. Robinson, interest,	98	88
Jos. G. Folsom, "		00
		4
	\$7,848	64
	Annah market for	

# BREAKING ROADS.

J. B. Robinson, District No. 6,	\$67	05
John Batchelder, "10,	18	00
L. C. Cawley, "9,	13	55
John Garland,	14	20
James Filgate,	15	80
C. W. Pickering, "3,	2	00
Jacob Sanborn, "5,	30	20
J. B. Robinson, 6,	12	20
H. H. Eastman, "7,	25	86
M. B. Gordon, "13,	13	27
Elihu Davis, 1872 & 73,	8	00
John Smith, " "	5	00
S. C. Robinson, District No. 2,	7	40
J. C. Folsom, 6,	34	50
Eben Pitman, "8,	8	60
James Filgate, "11,	52	40
Charles F. Sanborn, "5,	68	40
John Garland, "6,	18	60
Josiah Moulton, "13,	42	40
Ezra Maxfield, "3,	23	90
County farm, "2,	10	40
John Watson, "12,	29	25
S. F. Noble, "7,	96	00
M. Scott, "2,	29	20
John Blaisdell, 9,	37	77
John Pickering, cutting ice, dis. 1,	2	00
John H. Smith, District No. 12,	11	80
John L. M .Swain	15	05
J. G. Webster,	49	40
Ebenezer Pitman, "8,	21	80
John H. Robinson, 8,	20	80

	00 65
\$847	55
HIGHWAYS AND BRIEGES.	
E. Maxfield, work on highway, Dis. 3, Jacob G. Webster, do., 4, 24 Chas. F. Sanborn, do., 5, 14 S. F. Noble, do., 17 Lewis F. Perley, surveying highway, 2 John L. Perley, land damage, Water st., Plummer Davis, stone, Dis. 3, 12 E. Maxfield, covering stone, Dis. 3, John Gray. watering trough, "3	80 45 00 20 50 33 00 00 30
\$1,011	57
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.	
W. A. Goulding, bounty allowed by law, State bond, and interest, State	

S. E. Young & Co., safe for town clerk's		
office,	175	00
E. A. Hibbard, legal services 1871 & 72.	42	75
S. S. Ayer, services as Commissioner on		
O. G. Smith case,	3	75
Alpheus Dolloff, witnes T. L. Grant's case,	2	00
E. P. Jewell, cost of laying out extension		
of Water st.,	71	88
Morrill & Silsby, blank books and stationery	30	20
J. W. Wells, examining Co. Records,	3	00
A. J. Farrar, for Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1	, 15	00
W. A. Constantine, for Torrent No. 2,	45	00
J. D. Sanborn, for Niagara No. 1,	39	00
B. P. Gale, book,	1	75
D. L. Gale, painting bridge L. V.	5	50
	450	00
	450	00
T. J. Whipple, services B. M. Sanborn's case,	250	00
Andrew Pickering, setting lamp post,	3	50
George A. Wilder, nails,	1	07
T. E. Ladd, horse hire and keeping,	22	54
J. S. Howe, "	34	00
O. A. J. Vaughan, printing check-list, &c.,	17	50
Leavitt & Woodus, wood for office,	5	40
John Smith damage to sheep by dogs,	12	00
Perley Putnam, assignee, lumber,	9	55
A. J. Hart, police service, 1872 & 73,	50	
Thos. Ham, Fire Dis. tax, Lake Village,		74
Laconia Gas Co., gas for streets,	118	
Henry Barrett, lighting street lamps,	30	00
S. W. Sanders, box for treasurer,	1	00
Geo. W. Stevens and J. L. Perley, auditors		
1873,	4	00

B. M. Sanborn, services as treasurer,	\$ 3	00
" overseer of poor,	. 1	
Geo. H. Moulton, police services,	15	00
A. G. Folsom, use of hall.	35	00
Geo. W. Woodus, services health officer,	14	52
Laconia Gas Co., gas,	99	90
Henry Barrett, lighting street lamps,	15	00
" " " " "	15	00
Sleeper & Smart, 1 bbl. naptha, Lake Vill.		00
street lights,	8	97
J. T. Wentworth, damage to sheep by dogs,	100	00
John Smith, ""	6	00
John C Folsom, " "	6	00
Belknap Sav. Bank, rent of rooms,		67
S. W. Sanders, street lights L. V.	103	28
O. A. J. Vaughan, printing,	55	50
Eben Pitman, damage to sheep by dogs,	6	00
Jonathan C. French, services as health officer		00
J. R. Champlin, board of selectmen,	57	20
Jewell & Smith, professional services,	156	54
J. B. Pulcifer, services as selectman,	150	00
" cash paid out,	33	
S. M. Doe, services as selectman,	271	
" cash paid out,	30	
L. G. Morgan, services as selectman,	190	
" " collector,	200	1112
" cash paid out,	10	
Selectmen services as overseers of poor.	60	00
Geo. L. Mead, services as town clerk,	50	00
Geo. H. Moulton, " as police,	17	75
King S. Hall, " as school committee		00
" horse hire and books for indigent		
children,	. 13	03

	The state of the s
A. G. Folsom, use of hall,	\$25 00
John Edwards, moving safe,	5 00
D. S. Dinsmoor, services as treasur	rer, 50 00
	\$4,399 79
RECAPITULATO	N.
Total Receipts,	\$34,864 55
TOTAL DISBURSEMENT	s:
State tax, \$3,4	20 00
County tax, 3,5	74 12

Schools, 2,601 41 Notes and interest, 7,848 64 Breaking roads, 847 55 Highways and bridges, 1,011 57 Paupers, 560 58 Miscellaneous expenses, 4,399 79 N. H. Bonds on hand, 8,000 00 Cash on hand, 2,600 89

\$34,864 55

D. S. DINSMOOR, Treasurer.

Laconia, March 1, 1874.

### PAUPER ACCOUNT.

Cash received of Belknap County, \$764 28

#### Which is accounted for as follows:

Paid Reform School,	\$464	85
Paid for Transient Paupers,	5	85
"J. T. Oakley,	3	50

Paid for Amelia Leffler,  "Garrant child, "B. Lombert, "LaPlant family, "P. Laundra, "County paupers, "Adams family,	7	00 85 75 25 25
" Mrs. M. Dunn,	41	
" W. F. Baker,	11	00
" Coleman Shean,		92
" Marchant family,	76	35
It (19.4)	\$764	
Cash received from Town Treasurer,	\$560	28
Which is accounted for as follows:		
Paid Town of Loudon for R. Drew & child	, 24	40
J. O. Merrill for board of Drew child.	18	
W. F. Knight, for H. B. Plummer,	2	00
G. L. Mead, " "	7	00
Mrs. R Fernald for Etta Hill,	- 28	00
For medicine " "	4	65
Dr. O. Goss, contract 1 year,	10	00
" aid to S. D. Davis.	6	00
For supplies to Rowan family,	45	11
D S. Prescott, contract 1 year,	10	00
S. B. Maloon, for boarding Hannah		
Gilman 1 year to March 1, 1874,	75	00
D. Batchelder, for board of H. B. Plu	m- 20	00
mer to Feb. 26, 1874.		-
Blaisdell & Osgood aid to Pat Rowen		
Paid Orphan's Home for Drew child,	80 25	

Paid Mrs. Huckins nu	rsing	Mary A	. Johnson	\$ 7 0	0
A. Barron,	66	46	. 66	57 0	0
Abbie Glidden,				3 0	
M. J. Vittum,	64	66		8 0	0
M. J. Oakley,	€6 - C	66 - 21-	66	6 0	0
Geo. Brawn, wo	od for	Pat R	owen,	7 0	0
Geo. S. Young,	board	of C. I	L. Young,	117 3	1
			-		

\$560 58

S. M. DOE, L. G. MORGAN, J. B. PULCIFER,

Laconia, March 5, 1874. We have examined the foregoing accounts and find them correctly east and properly vouched.

GEO. L. MEAD, F. W. REEVES, Auditors.

#### FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE TOWN.

Amount due the town March 1, 18	74.	
Otis G. Smith, Collector, 1869 & 70, as p	er	
report of Committee,		20
Taylor L. Grant. Collector 1870, do.,	565	<b>63</b>
Frank M. Rollins, " 1872,	822	90
S. C. Robinson, " " "	7	81
L. G. Morgan, "1873,	3,635	19
Note of M. H. Johnson,	80	80
Note of E. B. Prescott, T. J. Plummer,		
J. F. Prescott and S. W. Prescott,		
endorsed by B. M. Sanborn,	2,522	68
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and different factors and the second		2 1
State Bonds,	- 8,000	(10
Government Assignments,	3,824	00
Cash in the Treasury,		
Cash in hands of selectmen, paid by F		
Rollins, on his collector's list of 187		50
	\$23,126	60
Liabilities of Town March 1, 1874,	21,297	
The state of the s	<b>*1.000</b>	
Balance in favor of town,	\$1,829	31
Deducting amount of government assignments which are of little or no value from total assets, the indebtdedness of	e, ef	
the town is seen to be	% I 444	by

# Statement of the Settlement with Benjamin M. Sanborn.

The town of Laconia claimed of B. M. Sanborn, as treasurer, for the year ending March 1, 1865, the sum of two hundred dollars received by him on the E. K. Cook note and not accounted for, and annual interest thereon, from date of said note, July 12, 1864.

They also claimed that on the settlement of his Treasurer's account on the first day of March 1866 he charged the town for money paid out the sum of \$26,969.69 and was allowed that amount, whereas, he did not pay out said sum, but did pay out \$26,848.48, as appears by the vouchers on file, and by the amount charged as paid out on his private book, which has been compared, and agree precisely with said vouchers, which leaves a balance due

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the town of one hundred twenty-one dollars and twenty-one cents, which they claimed with annual interest thereon, from March 1, 1866.

They also claimed as follows: that on settlement of his Treasurer's account March 1, 1867, for cash paid on notes from March 1, 1866, to March 1, 1867, he charged and was allowed the sum of \$18,163.89 to make up this sum he charged the town with the payment of a note dated Jan. 25, 1864, payable to Jane F. Lee, or order, on demand, with interest annually, for the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars. He charged that he paid in full, of this note, May 22, 1866, the sum of \$286.23 which was allowed him, but in the settlement of his Treasurer's account March 1, 1865, (two years before) he had charged the town with having paid in full, of the same note, \$258.08 which was allowed him, so that the town appeared to have been charged with the payment of the same note twice. The town therefore claimed to recover back the amount of the second payment of \$286.23, and annual interest thereon from May 22, 1866. Absented and gare of a days

They also claimed as follows: that on the settlement of March 1, 1868, the Treasurer credited the town with having received on notes \$9,727,00 which was allowed, but in addition to the above sum the Treasurer received April 1, 1867, the sum of \$100,00 upon a note of the town to Betsey L. Woodman, and May 25, 1867, he received another sum of \$100,00 upon a note of the town to Wm. F. Somes which sums amount to two hundred dollars in all. The Treasurer had paid both of the above notes and charged the town with the amount, which had been allowed him on settlement, but he had not credited the town with the amount received on them, they therefore claimed said sum of \$200 and annual interest from the date of each of said notes.

They also claimed that on the settlement of March 1. 1869, he, the Treasurer, credited the town as having received on notes \$12,955.00 which was allowed, whereas. it appears that he received \$13,238.39 being \$283.39 more than he had given the town credit for, therefore they claimed said sum of \$283.39 and annual interest thereon from March 1, 1869. They also claimed \$52.00 which was charged and allowed to B. M. Sanborn, as overseer of the poor, for cash paid to J. S. Roberts for support of Hannah Gilman from March 1, 1868, to March 1, 1869. It appeared that Samuel M. S. Moulton, who was overseer of the poor the following year charged the payment of the same bill to the town and was allowed it, so that the town had paid the same bill twice, and upon examination of the vouchers they claimed said sum of \$52.00 of said Sanborn, and interest annually from March 1, 1869.

They claimed that as overseer of the poor from March 1, 1871 to March 1, 1872, he had charged the town with having paid to E. Ingham, Superintendant of the Reform School, at two different times the sum of \$304.86 for the support of Copp and Swain, both of which had been allowed him by the town on settlement, amounting to \$609.72 in all, of this, the town claimed to recover back one-half, being \$304.86 and annual interests.

They claimed \$11.00 received from the county and not credited to the town for county paupers.

They claimed that as overseer of the poor from March 1, 1872 to March 1, 1873, he received from the County of Belknap \$493.63 which belonged to the town for the support of county paupers, but did not credit the town for the amount, which was claimed with interest annually from March 1, 1873.

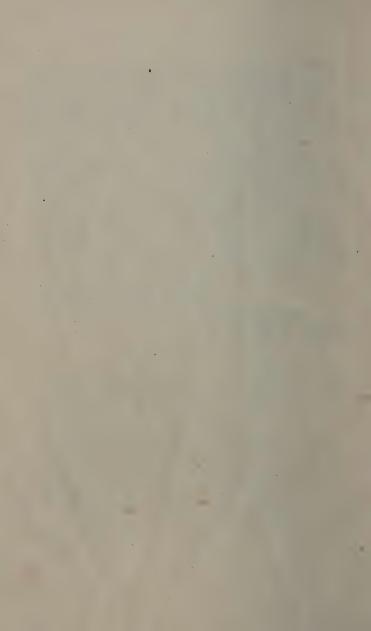
They claimed for costs and charges incurred by the town in the foregoing investigation the sum of \$437.00.

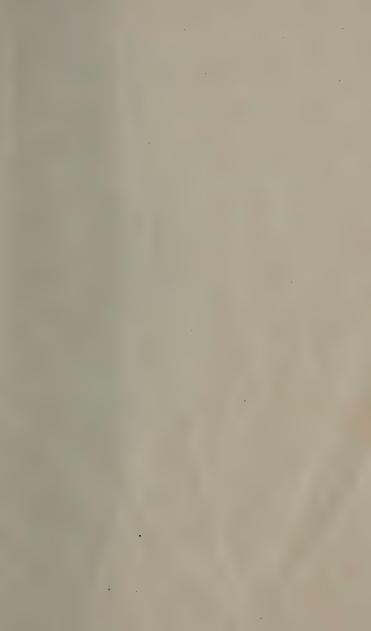
All of which said several sums with annual interest added, amount to three thousand and sixty-six dollars and twenty-eight cents, which was paid and satisfied as per certificate annexed.

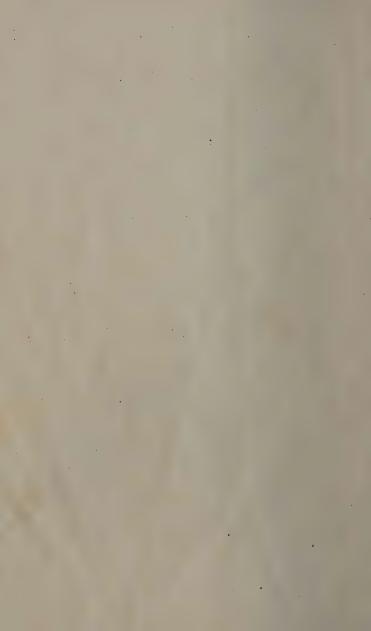
The undersigned, hereby certify that they have fully and thoroughly examined the accounts of B. M. Sanborn, as treasurer, and overseer of the poor, of the town of Laconia from March 1, 1864 to the present time being the whole period during which he held either of said offices, and that we are perfectly satisfied that there are no other, or farther, deficiencies in his accounts than such as we have discovered, reported and included in this instrument and that all of said claims are paid and satisfied.

S. M. DOE, L. G. MORGAN, J. B. PULCIFER, Selectmen of J. ACONIA,

THOMAS J. WHIPPLE, Counsel for the Town. February 14, 1874.







#### REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The following report, upon the condition of the schools of Laconia for the past year, is respectfully presented to the citizens of the town.

The attention of your committee was called last year to the Reading books used in our schools; complaints were made of their want of adaptation, and the wish expressed by some of the parents and friends for a change that should supersede the old by a better series. As it was near the close of the school year, it was not deemed expedient at that time to make any recommendation on the subject. But early in the spring, measures were taken to secure the best results in this direction, by the careful examination of books presented for that purpose by the publishers, together with others procured by one of the prudential committees. After patiently and thoroughly examining five different series, your committee, while awarding to each its due share of merit, selected the one now in use, as possessing, on the whole, more excellencies, with fewer defects, than any of the others. Accordingly, the Analytical series was introduced into all our schools, at the commencement of the year, on the same terms as those now adopted by all publishers of school books.

For the result of this change, attended as it has been with expense to the parents, trouble and inconvenience to the teachers and superintendent, you are referred to the apparent interest and improvement in reading, in all the schools. In no single year in which the schools have come under his official supervision, has there been so great and manifest advancement in this branch of learning. This improvement is more marked in the younger classes, whose wants seem to have been especially regarded in the preparation of these Readers.

Another subject, requiring attention, was the great diversity of Arithmetics in the schools, causing much trouble and annovance to some of our teachers. A slight examination showed Greenleaf's to be more generally owned by the scholars than any others. Accordingly, to save the expense of a complete change, the teachers were requested to advise their pupils to purchase these, and only these, where new books were wanted, with the exception of Colburn's mental, already in use. Later in the season, a revised edition of Greenleaf's series was brought to the notice of your committee, which he would be glad to see replace, if practicable, the heterogeneous collection now to be found. Most of these others are really good books, and could be studied to advantage, were it not that such diversity, by multiplying classes, creates not only confusion, but a great waste of the time, of both pupils and teachers.

During the year just closed, there have been maintained three departments, of three terms each, in the schools in both of the villages, one ungraded school of two terms in districts No. 3 and 5, and another of a single term only in No. 4; requiring forty-six official visits from the committee, for their legal supervision. These schools have all been taught by ladies, a greater portion of whom are experienced teachers, and in a majority of instances have retained their situations during the year. In the main they have been laborious and painstaking and their success has been very commendable. In some few instances, greater thoroughness and the maintenance of a sterner discipline would have added to their efficiency. But, while none have reached the standard of perfection, it is a gratifying fact that the instances of failures have been so few.

A praiseworthy interest has been manifested by prudential committees and various citizens to render our schools prosperous and successful.

At the request of the committee in Laconia village, the superiotendent procured a set of outline maps for each of the departments of that district; namely, Mitchell's large outline maps for the grammar school and Warren's charts for the intermediate and primary schools. These beautiful maps have not only adorned the walls of the rooms where they have been suspended, but by rendering the study of geography attractive, they have proved very useful auxiliaries to teachers and pupils. Districts No. 3, 4 and 5 are destitute of wall maps; it is believed it would be greatly to their advantage to purchase either Warren's charts, or Mitchell's smaller maps, such as are used in district No. 2. Every school desk should also be furnished with a globe and dictionary, where these are wanting, as they are in several of our school rooms.

The suggestions of the last report, upon creating a new division in the crowded schools of Lake Village, and repairing the house in the district next above, have been successfully carried out. The smaller children in the former have been comfortably accommodated in the old house, which has been suitably repaired at a small outlay. The dilapidated "old red school house" in the latter has changed front, enlarged its grounds and added new seats and desks to its accommodations. In its improved form, it is to be hoped it will afford such attractions to the pupils of the district as shall act as a strong incentive to their individual advancement.

It is a matter of congratulation, that we have not now a poor school house in town; and it is to be hoped that no future emergencies will arise, which shall render it necessary, or no indifference, which shall render it agreeable to allow any of these to go out of repair and become unfit for their appropriate use.

One evil, in connection with our schools, has been brought to the notice of the committee, and where prac-

ticable, a remedy has been applied. But in some instances, he has only been informed after the close of a term, that the teacher objected to learning the pupils to write. Such a course cannot be justified by any worthy consideration. It is no part of the teacher's office to decide in this matter; the statute has already done this. Nearly all the educational advantages, enjoyed by many, if not the majority of children and youth, must be afforded by the district school. To be unable to read and write is a positive disgrace to any child reared in New England, or any other part of America, where public schools are maintained. Many a poor child, whose parents have no money to spare for the tuition of a private writing school, needs and should demand to be taught this indispensable art in the public school. Parents should provide the necessary copy books, and teachers should devote a portion of time regularly to this important branch of education; at which time everything else should be laid aside, and the exclusive attention given to writing. Any neglect, or refusal, on the part of the teachers or pupils should be reported in the proper quarter, at the beginning, not at the close, of school.

The inequality of school privileges in the different sections of the town, is a serious evil, apparent to the attentive observer. We have but to contrast the comfortable, but not very attractive school house at the Weirs, with its single term of school for the year, with the commodious house at Laconia, which throws open its doors for three terms in each year to every child of school age, in order to be strikingly impressed with this inequality. It is for the interest of the town that all her children should be well educated; for the letter the education the better the citizen, other things being equal. Under the present system of dividing the school money, this inequality must continue. The only remedy is to abolish the district system, and throw the whole school interests of the town

under the care of one committee. Would it not be well for the voters of the town to gravely consider this subject? In order to act intelligently and wisely in the matter, careful inquiry and observation should be made of the workings of our common schools, in those localities where the old system has been abandoned and the town system substituted in its stead. We submit this for your consideration, hoping your decision may be wisely and carefully reached.

It is a cause of much regret to your committee that sickness rendered it impossible for him to be present at the closing examinations in Nos. 1 and 3. Of the condition of the schools in the former he is fully apprised, there having been no change of teachers during the year, and his opportunities for visiting them having been frequent, until quite recently. For the future interest and prosperity of all he would express his earnest wishes

The accompanying table will give some additional particulars, not embraced in this report.

K. S. HALL, SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

#### STATISTICAL TABLE.

#### Summer Schools.

Grade of School. Names of	1 tachers	Wages per Month. Length of School in Weeks.	Whole No. of Pupils.	Average Attendance,	the	Arithmetic, lighted selps	ling lowi	to	
Grammar. Nellie A. I			39	28	39	34	20	34	
Intermed'i Lizzie Hill Primary Martia E.			48	32 45	64	144	10		
Grammar. Lizzie G.			1 10	'RU	U.Z	10	10	1	
2 Eliza A D				30	41	39	28	17	
Intermed'i Laura A. I Primary. Mary A. I			40	29	36	33	22		
3 Ungraded. Hivena D.			17	32	47	13	1 7	1 2	
4 " Myra E. I			10	10	10	8	6	1	
Dora P. Y		55 9	6	5	6	4	4	2	
Winter Schools.									
Grammar. Nellie A. I	Peabody.   48		40	32	40	37	13	34	
Intermed'i Lizzie Hill Primary. Martha E.		00 11	37	28	37	37	37	37	
Grammar   cliza A. I		00 64	34	28	34	34	19	14	
2 Intermed' i Laura A. I		00 6	30	27	30	30	21		
Primary. Mary A. D			31	28	31	10			
3 Ungraded Annie A. 6		00   11	20	15	19	18	12	5	
No winter Dora P. Yo		00 9	13	10	13	11	06	3	

In the above table, wherever three terms have been held during the year, the first two have been reckoned as one summer term. The Grammar school in No. 2 was commenced by Miss Maxfield, who was compelled by sickness, after the close of seven and one-half weeks, to relinquish her charge.







