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P68

*Duplicate*

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

FINANCES

OF THE

TOWN OF PITTSFIELD,

FROM MARCH 1, 1877, TO MARCH 1, 1878:

WITH THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

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PITTSFIELD, N. H.:

PRINTED BY JOHN C. CASHMAN.  
1878.

GEO. GOSSMAN,

Dealer in

FOREIGN, DOMESTIC,  
Dry and Fancy Goods,  
SILKS, SHAWLS AND TRIM-  
MINGS of all kinds.

CORSETS AND GLOVES.

Under Washington Hotel, PITTSFIELD, N. H.

**THE STANDARD BROILER.**

PATENTED APRIL 10, 1877.



**T**HE simplest and best arti-  
cle for **Cooking Beef-  
steak** ever invented.

Can be used over either a  
Coal or Wood fire.

Cooks Steak so **quickly**  
that all the **juices and flavor**  
are retained.

**D**OES not get ashes or  
coal on the meat  
DOES not let smoke and gas  
out of the stove.  
DOES not pu<sup>t</sup> out the fire.

Ask your Dealer for the  
**STANDARD BROILER,**  
*it is just what you want.*

The Trade supplied by  
FULLER, DANA & FITZ, 110  
North St., Boston, and WIL-  
LIAMS & Co., Nashua, N. H.

MANUFACTURED BY

D. ARTHUR BROWN & CO., - Fisherville, N. H.

For sale by CHAS. M. BAILEY,

Pittsfield, N. H.

Go to **LAWRENCE & CO'S**

**NEW DINING SALOON,**

MAIN STREET, PITTSFIELD,

To get a good square meal at all times.

ALSO

**OYSTERS, CLAMS,**

**CIGARS,**

Confectionery, Jellies, Canned Goods and To-  
bacco—all of the best kind.

H. A. TUTTLE & CO.,

DEALERS IN

**Ready-Made Clothing,**

CLOTHS, TRIMMINGS,

Hats, Caps, Furs, and Gent's Furnishing Goods.

GARMENTS MADE TO ORDER.

Tuttle's Building,

Main Street.

PITTSFIELD, N. H.

BUY THE

'WHITE'

A NEW

Sewing  
Machine

100 sold  
at a  
discount



to introduce them. The best in the world. Write  
for circulars. Warranted for three years. We  
risk our reputation upon their merits. Needles  
for all Machines, 50 cents a dozen by mail.

All kinds of Machines on hand.

GEORGE W. DREW'S AGENCY,

CONCORD, N. H.

H. W. OSGOOD.

**FURNITURE !**

CHAMBER SETS,

BED LOUNGES,

EXTENSION TABLES,

PARLOR SUITS,

MIRRORS, &c.

**FURNITURE REPAIRED.**

PITTSFIELD.

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# REPORT.

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In compliance with the law, the following Report of the Treasurer of the Town of Pittsfield, for the fiscal year ending March 1, 1878, is respectfully submitted.

## RECEIPTS.

Balance from town treasurer of 1876.....	\$1,674 75
From Samuel Brooks, to restore right of suffrage...	4 00
Francis Peaslee, collector for year 1875.....	615 78
“ “ “ “ 1876 .....	4,742 82
David L. Green, “ “ 1877 .....	19,231 94
Francis W. Blake, “ “ 1878 .....	29 43
James M. Drew and others, for use of town hall	101 95
Arthur Deering, on execution .....	33 00
Merrimack county, for support of poor .....	1,150 66
State treasurer, savings bank tax.....	1,643 10
“ “ literary fund .....	139 75
“ “ railroad tax.....	1 02
“ “ insurance tax.....	7 50
B. G. Carsons, guardian for L. J. Munsey ...	20 67
Circus for license .....	5 00
Sale of town of Pittsfield bonds and accrued interest on same .....	41,602 16
Various persons on town notes .....	16,993 00
	\$87,976 53

## EXPENDITURES.

Paid notes, interest and endorsements.....	\$64,110 78
Interest on town of Pittsfield bonds... ..	1,987 50
State Treasurer, state tax .....	2,088 00
County Treasurer, county tax .....	1,982 56
	\$70,168 84

## FIRE DISTRICT.

Paid W. H. Berry, treasurer .. .. .	\$215 67
N. S. Drake, " .. .. .	2,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$2,215 67

## SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

District No. 1, Russell A. Hodgdon .. .. .	\$143 55
2, Charles B. Prescott .. .. .	85 35
3, Dudley B. S. Adams .. .. .	223 22
4, Charles H. Weston .. .. .	276 70
5, Edgar L. Carr .. .. .	868 03
6, Joseph Harvey .. .. .	77 38
7, Jonathan P. Jones .. .. .	125 89
8, Reuben T. Leavitt, jr .. .. .	131 74
9, Joseph G. Morrill .. .. .	115 95
10, John P. Watson .. .. .	92 28
Charles Roberts, Barnstead .. .. .	6 13
J. P. Brown, Chichester .. .. .	50
	<hr/>
	\$2,146 72

## ABATEMENTS.

Paid abatements on Francis W. Blake's list, 1873 .. .. .	\$12 60
Francis Peaslee's list, 1875 .. .. .	99 46
" " " 1876 .. .. .	134 29
David L. Green's " 1877 .. .. .	400 63
	<hr/>
	\$646 98

## CURRENT EXPENSES.

Paid S. H. French, services issuing bonds .. .. .	\$6 00
" " use of scraper .. .. .	1 00
D. K. Foster, school books .. .. .	16 94
John C. Cashman, printing .. .. .	60 00
G. F. Green, damage to sleigh .. .. .	5 00
G. W. Roby, per bill .. .. .	2 50
D. S. Green, wood for office .. .. .	2 50



Paid Temple & Farrington, books .....	\$18 86
E. Jenkins, stamps .....	2 00
H. A. Tuttle, Marland safe .....	92 50
D. T. Neal & Co., printing .....	2 00
F. B. Berry, as per bill .....	10 00
“ “ use of watering tub .....	3 00
J. A. Walker, wood for hall .....	13 25
William S. Jones, watching at fire .....	3 00
Moses Brown, use of watering tub .....	2 00
C. M. Bailey, as per bill .....	4 20
Asa Fowler, legal advice .....	3 00
B. W. Sanborn, blank book .....	4 50
A. Whittemore, jr., execution .....	33 00
Geo. E. Mathews, bricking in safe .....	10 50
J. W. Paige, bounty on hawk .....	20
C. C. Pearson & Co., school reports .....	7 50
R. T. Leavitt, jr., damage to wagon .....	5 00
Solomon Clark, bounty on foxes and hawks .....	1 40
D. K. Foster, school books .....	6 00
J. M. Perry and others, bounty on foxes and hawks	19 80
Lydia Brock, damage to wagon .....	7 00
C. W. Green, damage to wagon .....	4 00
F. W. Blake, school house tax district No. 1 .....	30 00
A. Whittemore, jr., expense of commissioners, &c., laying out new highway .....	157 51
A. G. H. Ring, setting glass in town hall .....	2 50
D. B. S. Adams, school house tax district No. 3...	15 00
H. L. Robinson, as per bills .....	1 25
D. Marden, use of watering tub .....	3 00
J. T. Hill, as per bills .....	12 85
B. W. Sanborn, check list .....	1 00
C. C. Lund, surveying for bridge and plan .....	38 00
J. Harvey, use of watering tub .....	5 00
C. W. Dinsmore, as per bill .....	2 10
D. L. Green, school house tax in district No. 2 ...	36 46
O. J. Carson, damage to sleigh .....	6 00
J. C. Foss, use of watering tub .....	3 00
James M. Drew, janitor of town hall .....	25 00
E. C. Sanderson, damage to carriage .....	5 20
A. J. Pillsbury, use of watering tub .....	3 00

Paid N. S. Drake, land damage .....	\$10 00
John Berry, " " .....	9 00
J. T. Pride, on bridge abutment .....	25 00
D. W. C. Scates, sorting and filing papers .....	10 00
S. H. Sargent, as per bill .....	4 22
F. B. Berry, use of watering tub .....	3 00
L. W. Clark, as per bill .....	62 00
S. A. Hill, land damage .....	35 00
T. B. Tucker, Salamanda safe .....	25 00
John P. Watson, horse hire .....	3 00
Estate of Moses Brown, use of watering tub..	2 00
D. K. Foster, as per bill .....	9 50
" " school books .....	7 78
Isaiah Berry, as per bill .....	7 80
Daniel T. Neal & Co., printing .....	1 75
J. E. Shaw, horse hire .....	26 00
John A. Walker, use of watering tub .....	3 00
	<hr/>
	\$937 57

## DAMAGE BY DOGS.

Paid S. J. Clark .....	\$4 00
J. A. Walker, year 1876 .....	14 00
Isaac S. Carr .....	5 00
D. L. Green .....	3 00
H. G. Willey .....	8 00
D. Watson.. .....	3 00
F. B. Berry .....	20 00
J. A. Walker .....	7 50
	<hr/>
	\$64 50

## REPAIRING HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

District No. 1, paid A. J. Young .....	\$132 50
2, Charles Sanborn .....	70 00
3, S. F. Ring .....	44 52
4, J. B. Ring .....	21 00
5, Russell Hodgdon .....	42 00



District No. 6, John Smith.....	\$50 00
7, Curtis W. Bennett.....	36 00
8, William G. Rollins.....	44 00
9, William Sanders.....	30 00
10, Joseph Marston.....	24 90
11, Frank E. Cram.....	80 00
12, John P. Lang.....	115 00
13, Charles French.....	67 50
14, Charles Morrill.....	36 60
15, Brackett W. Norris.....	60 75
16 and 17, J. P. Watson.....	138 90
18, J. G. Morrill.....	87 50
19, Charles D. Berry.....	18 25
20, R. T. Leavitt, jr.,.....	51 90
21, Elbridge A. Twombly.....	46 28
22, Joseph Parks.....	76 00
23, W. B. Drake.....	55 00
24, S. G. Marston.....	57 85
25, Charles Sargent, 2d.....	35 00
26, E. W. French.....	39 75
27, E. B. Ring.....	40 00
28, W. S. Jones.....	139 16
29, A. J. Young, 2d.....	337 42
30, A. R. Green.....	90 00
Paid Wentworth & Smith, as per bill.....	2 00
J. G. Morrill, " ".....	11 60
A. R. Green, " ".....	32 00
Lane, Adams & Co. " ".....	11 44
J. Smith, " ".....	10 00
A. J. Young, " ".....	50 00
F. E. Cram, " ".....	22 00
E. B. Ring, " ".....	19 50
W. B. Hartwell, " ".....	11 87
D. W. Brown, " ".....	10 77
R. L. French, " ".....	6 43
J. E. Shaw " ".....	6 50
	<hr/>
	\$2,261 89

PAUPER EXPENSES.

Paid John M. Tucker, overseer of poor.....\$1,491 37

## BREAKING ROADS.

District No. 1, paid A. J. Young .....	\$47 72
2, O. L. Perkins .....	32 73
3, S. F. Ring .....	36 62
4, D. L. Green .....	27 55
5, Russell Hodgdon .....	75 12
6, F. E. Randall .....	26 86
7, I. N. Carr .....	72 60
8, Trueworthy Norris .....	90 15
9, William Sanders.. ..	31 35
10, Worthen Perkins.....	40 67
11, Jonathan Cram .....	23 60
12, Samuel D. Davis .....	23 38
13, James H. Thompson .....	39 46
14, Cushing R. Lang .....	35 33
15, John S. Gilman.....	86 50
16 and 17, John P. Watson.....	166 05
18, Joseph G. Morrill .....	84 36
19, Charles D. Berry .....	27 26
20, E. K. Stockman .....	75 41
21, E. A. Twombly .....	27 00
22, John Doe .....	65 78
23, Francis Peaslee.....	93 28
24, Josiah A. Barton .....	69 63
25, Samuel J. Clark .....	93 30
26, E. W. French.....	55 01
27, John A. Walker .....	18 53
29, Sewall N. Lougee.....	125 06
30, A. R. Green .....	12 90
	<hr/>
	\$1,603 21

## TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Auditors, year 1876.....	\$18 00
Mrs. A. G. Eaton, administratrix, A. G. Eaton's services as policeman, 1876.....	15 00
A. B. Clifford, police services, 1876.....	12 00
John D. Sherburne, " " .....	5 50

Paid Thomas Sargent, police services, 1877.....	\$26 50
Joseph A. Jacobs, " " .....	38 00
John C. Kaime, " " .....	30 00
Orrin S. Nutter, special policeman, 1877.....	7 00
A. L. Nutter, " " .....	7 00
John D. Sherburne, police services, " .....	22 00
John M. Tucker, overseer of poor.....	40 25
Charles E. Tucker, town clerk.....	60 00
George R. Drake, superintendent of schools..	100 00
Dr. E. L. Carr, record of births and deaths.....	5 75
John A. Walker, balance services as selectman for year 1876 .....	14 00
John P. Watson, balance services as selectman for year 1876 ....	10 00
John E. Shaw, balance services as selectman for year 1876 .....	14 00
John E. Shaw, services as town treasurer .....	100 00
" " " changing town's indebted- ness from notes to bonds.....	40 00
John E. Shaw, services as selectman.....	128 25
John P. Watson, " " .....	108 00
John A. Walker, " " .....	108 70
David L. Green, collector for year 1877 .....	250 00
Francis Peaslee, " " " 1876 .....	100 00
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	\$1,259 95

*Report of the Overseer of the Poor of the Town of Pittsfield,  
for the fiscal year ending March 1, 1878.*

In compliance with the law, I herewith submit the following report. I have lodged during the year seventy tramps, and have assisted forty-nine county paupers and six town paupers.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in my hands March 1, 1877... ..	\$67 75
Received of Samuel Brooks, to restore him to the right of suffrage .....	5 00
Received of Joseph Stiles, to restore him to the right of suffrage.....	13 00
Received of John E. Shaw, town treasurer.....	1,494 37
	<hr/>
Total Receipts .....	\$1,580 12



## EXPENDITURES.

## PAID FOR RELIEF OF COUNTY PAUPERS :

Sally Chase .....	\$65 00
C. W. and L. W. Munsey .....	19 00
Woodbury Pettengill .....	28 40
Mrs. John Brock and family .....	154 43
J. M. Jones           “ .....	121 30
Chas. E. Moody       “ .....	68 59
O. F. Hill             “ .....	154 29
Henry S. Pickering.....	57 50
David H. Combs .....	61 15
C. W. Reynolds and family.....	33 50
B. R. Munsey         “ .....	22 25
R. E. Cram.....	96 17
Mary Mathews .....	65 31
J. C. Hildreth .....	5 04
C. W. Brown .....	79 60
O. E. Drake and family .....	26 63
Mrs. A. F. Lake and family.....	60 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,150 66

## EXPENDITURES FOR TOWN PAUPERS.

Paid for relief of Charles Brooks... ..	\$5 75
Mrs. C. W. Munsey.....	50 77
Lucina Brock.....	83 25
Henry J. Brock.....	178 52
Mrs. J. F. Locke.....	46 00
Samuel Brooks .....	14 00
Tramps and transient persons.....	23 55

## MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

Paid Wm. Gould for tombage.....	\$2 00
T. B. Tucker, horse hire .....	1 50
B. M. Tilton,         “ .....	3 50

Paid J. M. Tucker, horse hire, postage, stationery and certificates from town clerk.....	\$5 71
Total expenditure.....	\$414 55
Total expenditure for county paupers .....	1,150 66
Total expenditure for paupers.....	\$1,565 21
Amount of receipts.....	\$1,580 12
Balance in my hands March 1, 1878 .....	\$14 91

JOHN M. TUCKER,

*Overseer of Poor.*

## SUMMARY.

RECEIPTS.....	\$87,976 53
EXPENDITURES.	
Paid notes, interest and endorsements .....	\$64,110 78
Interest on town of Pittsfield bonds.....	1,987 50
State Treasurer, state tax .....	2,088 00
County Treasurer, county tax .....	1,982 56
Fire district.....	2,215 67
For support of schools.....	2,146 72
Abatements in favor of F. W. Blake, 1873...	12 60
“ “ Francis Peaslee, 1875	99 46
“ “ “ “ 1876	134 29
“ “ D. L. Green, 1877.....	400 63
Repairing highways .....	2,261 89
Breaking roads .....	1,603 21
John M. Tucker, overseer of poor, support of paupers .....	1,491 37
Town Officers .....	1,259 95
Damage by dogs.....	64 50
Current expenses.....	937 57
Cash in hands of treasurer.....	5,179 83
Total amount.....	\$87,976 53

## ASSETS.

Balance in hands of Treasurer .....	\$5179 83
Due from Frank E. Cram, collector, 1871 .....	\$63 63
Francis Peaslee " 1875 .....	602 05
" " " 1876 .....	2,582 85
Davie L. Green " 1877 .....	763 41
John M. Tucker, overseer of poor .....	14 91
C. R. R. Corporation .....	12 00
	<hr/>
	\$9,218 68

## DEBT.

Notes outstanding and interest ....	\$25,565 80
Town of Pittsfield bonds and interest .....	50,416 66
	<hr/>
Total indebtedness .....	\$75,982 46
Less assets .....	9,218 68
	<hr/>
Indetedness of town March, 1, 1878 .....	\$66,763 78
" " " " 1877 .....	68,267 46
	<hr/>
Reduction of debt .....	\$1,503 68

The undersigned, having examined the books of the town treasurer for the year ending March, 1, 1878, certify that they find them correctly kept and all expenditures supported by proper vouchers,

DAVID W. C. SCATES,  
N. W. DRAKE,  
FRANK E. RANDALL,

*Auditors.*



REPORT  
OF THE  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,  
OF THE  
Town of Pittsfield, for the Year ending March 1, 1878.

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In making this Report, we have deviated from the provisions of the statutes and the opinions of many leading educators, believing that brief reports of progress, discipline, and methods of instruction in the several schools, will best subserve the interests of education, particularly in those districts where the unprofitable practice of frequent changes of teachers is pursued and they are made an element in the future selections of teachers.

If the citizens took the interest in the schools that their importance demands and were familiar with their working and proficiency, then the requirements of the statutes would cover the ground of a Report.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Progress and discipline good, and methods of instruction satisfactory. Commendable progress was made in reading.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

The school was very quiet, attentive to study and progress good.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

During the first part of the school year there seemed to be evidence that at some time there had been lax discipline in this school, and al-

though there were noticeable exceptions, the majority of its members appeared as though they were not backed by encouraging parents. There was good discipline; and excellent progress was made, particularly in reading, in the last part of the year.

#### DISTRICT NO. 4.

Superior methods of explanations and instruction resulted in a good degree of advancement.

#### DISTRICT NO. 5.

##### HIGH GRAMMAR OR ACADEMY-SCHOOL.

No reports or registers have been received from the teacher.

##### GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.

Before the commencement of the first term, the prudential committee decided to make promotions of classes from the primary school to this, and from this, to the higher one. The teacher was laboring under disadvantages at the time of our first visit and was dissatisfied with the progress the school was making. In consequence, a rather rigid examination was made; and a new arrangement of classes effected. Since that time a highly commendable progress has been made under the excellent methods of instruction; and the order of the school has continued good.

##### PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

This interesting school has always been found very quiet and orderly, yet full of life and enthusiasm. Reading and spelling are the principal studies pursued and with very flattering results.

#### DISTRICT NO. 6.

Order and progress excellent.

#### DISTRICT NO. 7.

The normal school methods of instruction and discipline so faithfully introduced and so zealously adhered to during the first and second terms, gave the most excellent results. The advance of the classes during the third term was seriously interfered with by sickness, but the order was good.

## DISTRICT NO. 8.

The scholars are young in years and not old in understanding, but the discipline, progress and attention to study were commendable.

## DISTRICT NO. 9.

The discipline, the methods of teaching and the earnestness and proficiency of the school were praiseworthy.

## DISTRICT NO. 10.

The regulations, studiousness and progress were creditable to the school.

## A RETROSPECT.

A review of the work performed in the school during the past year entitles us to the belief that although the amount of money appropriated to their support was less than that of former years and not sufficient to make them what they should be, they have not deteriorated in comparative standing with those in surrounding towns.

Subsequently we will allude to some of their defects, but will now call attention to some of the changes effected.

Written spelling has been practiced by all of the advanced pupils; and its adoption and our experience in the school-room have strengthened belief in the opinion that it is the best method of teaching spelling to scholars possessing legible penmanship, accomplishing the twofold result of practice in penmanship and instruction in spelling as it is used in business.

Report cards have been used, with few exceptions, in the schools, with beneficial results. The adoption of them has stimulated the efforts of the scholars and monthly acquainted their parents with their punctuality and regularity of attendance, deportment and rank in each study. Tardiness and irregularity of attendance have been so continually referred to in the last annual Reports, that we simply recall the attention of parents to the enormity of these evils to the school, and express the hope that the successive use of the report cards will, to a good degree, remedy them.

It has been our desire that the most advanced scholars should be subjected to written examinations in each study once a month at least, if not once a week, but it is regretted that our suggestions have not



been adopted to that extent from which the greatest profit might have been derived.

Whispering, although not tolerated to its former extent, is much too prevalent in many schools.

The text-books in use are not of so high an order, nor so well adapted to the wants of the schools as we desire, but frequent changes of school books are heavy burdens to some parents and not always beneficial to the schools. Therefore in these straitened times, we have not deemed it advisable to make sweeping changes.

### DEFECTS OF OUR SCHOOLS.

Many of the defects in the schools can be remedied if not obliterated, by an increase of interest in educational matters on the part of our citizens. When they realize the importance and value of an education to their children and act on the assurance that the greatest benefit can be had only when school officers, teachers, citizens and scholars are in unison working for the greatest success, then our schools will rapidly improve.

A failure of parents to co-operate with teachers is a barrier to good discipline; and their readiness to accept the colored statements frequently made by children concerning the teacher's inefficiency or partiality, creates discord in the school.

The practice of teachers assisting the scholars at recitations by prompting and nods, and then giving them credit for perfect recitations, does great injustice to the best scholars, thereby discouraging the ambitious student and encouraging the indolent one in his idleness. Your committee is of the opinion from examinations of the school registers and report cards, that most teachers, and particularly those having the least experience, give rank higher than recitations deserve. It was his design in adopting the present system of ranking, that only those scholars who could give comprehensive answers to questions and understood the signification of the terms used, should be credited with perfection in rank, but it is feared that too much reliance has been put on mere memorization of words, without any conception of their meaning.

Much time is wasted by teachers in assembling the school, calling and dismissing classes. System in the school room economizes time and promotes harmony.

### TEACHERS.

Many entertain the opinion that knowledge of books is the only qualification necessary for a successful teacher, but greater delusions are

seldom fostered. Although one of the essentials, a quick perception of scholars' natures and the capability of exciting their interest are necessary gifts for a successful educator.

He who believes the functions of a teacher to be six hours work in the school room, "doing sums," reading questions and "hearing scholars 'say' answers" will be quite as successful in some other occupation.

The teacher is the motive power and the guiding spirit of the school; and unless he is active the best results will not be attained. No school, however well disposed the members of it may be, will regulate itself.

Those desirous of success in teaching should avail themselves of the benefits of a normal school education whenever practicable, for it will enable them to command an increase of salary and more speedily acquire a good reputation, but it is within the reach of all to examine those schools in their own and surrounding towns and cities, which are taught by the most zealous and experienced teachers. A close inspection of the modes of discipline and methods of instruction there pursued cannot fail to give new ideas. We know of no other means whereby with so small expenditure of time and money, the average teacher can acquire improved methods of instruction.

#### IMPROVEMENTS.

That our schools are susceptible of great improvement is a fact so patent to the minds of all close observing people who are familiar with their working, that it here requires no argument. It is not possible to instantaneously elevate them to the standard of the city schools, but patient and persevering efforts, a judicious selection of teachers, an increase of interest in school affairs and a co-operation with the efforts of the teachers will prove to be some of the stepping stones.

Frequent examinations by the parents stimulate the scholars and encourage the teacher: and it is with considerable feeling of pride that we have been able to compile so large a number of visits from the school registers. It is necessary here to state that these numbers include only residents of the respective districts, and, with few exceptions, are a fair criterion from which to estimate the general prosperity of the schools.

We believe it of no advantage and frequently an injury to attend school at the early age the average child does. We are also of the firm belief that he should not attempt the study of anything aside from

reading, spelling and perhaps elementary penmanship, until he can intelligently and fluently read common selections.

The recital of arithmetical tables and columns from geographical pages by the child of six or seven years, should receive the reproof of supervisors and the quiet reprehension of parents.

Undue importance should not be given merely to obtaining knowledge but discipline of the mind should receive equal attention.

The labors of the teacher can be greatly alleviated and the understanding of the learner more readily reached by object teaching aids. Yet, with a single exception, our school-rooms are, in this respect, scantily furnished, and few of them have a proper supply of blackboards, charts, globes and wall-maps. A small sum annually expended for illustrative apparatus will be a judicious use of the money.

In the minds of most scholars there is a dread of writing compositions. We are no advocate of composition writing when sublime or unfamiliar subjects are chosen. But common-place topics, business and friendly letters when selected for advanced class writings, remove the main objections and are the means of creating and developing a desire for the possession of a free and easy style of readily expressing one's thoughts in written words—an attainment of service to all and of moment to many.

GEO. R. DRAKE,  
*School Committee.*

PITTSFIELD, N. H., March 1, 1878.



TABLE.

No. of District.	TERM.	TEACHER.											
			No. weeks of school.	No. scholars.	Average attendance.	No. bet. 5 and 15 not attending school.	No. in arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	Reading and spelling.	Pennanship.	Other studies.	No. visits by citizens of district.
1	Spring.	Annie B. Whittemore..	7	20	19	*	16	8	6	20†	13	3	14
	Winter.	E. C. Goodwin.....	12	25	24	0	16	10	8	25	11	0	3
2	Spring.	Lenora J. Watson.....	6	3	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	1	1
	Winter.	Russell Hodgdon.....	11	5	4	0	4	4	4	5	4	0	1
3	Spring.	E. C. Goodwin.....	8	35	34	*	23	9	2	35	13	0	4
	Fall.	D. W. C. Scates.....	10	33	27	0	37	12	5	33	33	0	8
4	Spring.	Frank E. Randall.....	7	43	37	0	32	16	14	43	25	10	5
	Fall.	Frank E. Randall.....	7	43	41	0	35	19	14	43	29	13	9
5	Winter.	Frank E. Randall.....	9	44	40	0	34	19	12	44	28	10	5
	Spring.	Ella F. Dow.....	8	46	39	*	18	0	0	46	18	0	15
6	Fall.	Ella F. Dow.....	8	60	55	*	18	0	0	60	18	0	29
	Winter.	Ella F. Dow.....	11	46	42	*	18	0	0	46	18	46	189†
7	Spring.	Myra L. Foss.....	8	43	41	*	43	43	43	43	43	43	41
	Fall.	Myra L. Foss.....	8	42	40	*	42	42	20	42	42	42	46
8	Winter.	Myra L. Foss.....	11	42	38	0	42	42	20	42	42	42	220†
	Spring.	D. K. Foster.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
9	Winter.	D. K. Foster.....	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
	Spring.	M. Annie Sleeper.....	6	7	6	0	4	4	2	7	4	2	3
10	Fall.	M. Annie Sleeper.....	7	7	6	0	4	4	2	7	4	2	4
	Spring.	Sarah E. Clarke.....	8	37	33	5	22	13	6	37	21	31	13
11	Fall.	Sarah E. Clarke.....	8	37	30	5	22	12	4	37	23	15	24
	Winter.	A. P. Chesley.....	10	39	30	12	36	22	12	39	8	0	12
12	Spring.	Nellie J. Towle.....	8	15	14	2	9	7	0	15	6	0	6
	Fall.	Nellie J. Towle.....	14	15	12	5	12	8	0	15	12	0	3
13	Spring.	Mrs. John D. Stevens...	8	5	4	0	5	3	2	5	5	6	2
	Fall.	Cora A. Emerson.....	7	6	5	0	5	1	3	6	2	6	3
14	Winter.	Cora A. Emerson.....	6	7	6	0	6	2	4	7	5	6	5
	Spring.	S. Elsie Cofran.....	7	10	8	1	6	3	1	10	6	0	5
15	Fall.	Estelle R. Heath.....	15	16	11	0	12	10	4	16	8	0	10

\*Not reported by teacher.

†19 scholars attending spelling.

‡Including 170 visitors at exhibition.

Fractions omitted.

The number of boys returned by the selectmen was 363—girls 167.

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