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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

AUDITORS, OVERSEER OF THE POOR,

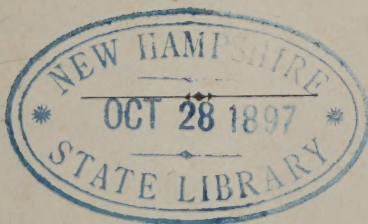
AND SUPERINTENDING

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF HAMPSTEAD,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1862.



BOSTON:

J. E. FARWELL & COMPANY, PRINTERS TO THE CITY,

NO. 32 CONGRESS STREET.

1862.

REPORT.

Rec'd literary fund for 1861	\$ 73 80
“ railroad tax for 1861	55 49
“ of county for support of paupers	162 40
“ of the town of Somersworth for supplies furnished Joseph C. Watson	66 99
“ town of Kingston for supplies furnished Jeremiah Johnson	9 63
“ of Amos Buck, outsta'ding taxes for 1860,	114 68
“ of Amos Buck, outstanding school-house tax in Dist. No. 1, for 1860	65 21
“ of C. H. Shannon, outstanding taxes for 1859	28 74
“ of Ebenezer Hoyt, outstanding taxes for 1858	78 86
“ execution against Kingston <i>vs.</i> Hampstead for costs	84 07
“ Amos Buck for grass in burying ground,	10 00
“ for use of the Town Hall	8 00
Hired money for use of the town	1,207 00
Assessed, state, county, town, and school taxes,	2,555 16
“ non-resident highway tax	47 39
“ school-house tax for Dist. No. 1	261 37
“ “ “ “ “ 2	417 67
Due from C. H. Shannon, outstanding taxes for 1859	432 90
Due from Ebenezer Hoyt and Bruce Moulton, note for taxes for 1858	89 50
Outstanding order on the Treasurer	64 44
	\$ 5,833 30

EXPENDITURES.

Paid State tax	\$ 186 20
“ county tax	469 35
“ non-resident highway tax	36 21

Paid Teachers Institute for 1860	10 64	
“ school-house tax, Dist. No. 1, for 1860	55 40	
“ “ “ “ 1, for 1861	186 75	
“ discount on school-house tax No. 1	9 40	
“ school-house tax, Dist. No. 2	330 00	
“ discount on school-house tax, Dist. No. 2,	9 19	
“ discount on state, county, town, and school taxes	80 11	
	<hr/>	\$ 1,373 25

School Money.

Paid School Dist. No. 1	\$ 144 01	
“ “ “ 2	212 03	
“ “ “ 3	101 51	
“ “ “ 4	146 57	
“ “ “ 5	59 36	
“ “ “ 6	82 10	
“ “ “ 7	72 07	
“ “ “ 8	21 50	
	<hr/>	\$ 839 15

Notes.

Paid on H. Putnam's note	\$ 57 34	
“ on A. W. Perley's note	25 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 82 34

Undertakers.

Paid S. S. Shannon	\$ 6 00	
“ Chellis Ray	1 50	
“ Moses H. Johnson, 2d	1 50	
	<hr/>	\$ 9 00

Snow Bills.

Paid Dist. No. 1 for 1860-61,	\$ 12 06	
“ “ 1 “ 1861-62,	6 45—18 51	
“ “ 2 “ 1860-61,	31 74	
“ “ 2 “ 1861-62,	10 80—42 54	
“ “ 3 “ 1860-61,	10 50	
“ “ 3 “ 1861-62,	3 40—13 90	
“ “ 4 “ 1860-61,	12 47	
“ “ 4 “ 1861-62,	2 45—14 92	
“ “ 5 “ 1860-61,	14 42	
“ “ 5 “ 1861-62,	10 40—24 82	
“ “ 6 “ 1850-61,	16 67	

Paid Dist. No.	6	"	1861-62,	7 55—24 22	
"	"	7	" 1860-61,	11 87	
"	"	7	" 1861-62,	4 20—16 07	
"	"	8	" 1860-61,	7 24	
"	"	8	" 1861-62,	3 90—11 14	
"	"	9	" 1860-61,	24 35	
"	"	9	" 1861-62,	17 20—41 55	
"	"	10	" 1860-61,	13 56	
"	"	10	" 1861-62,	7 85—21 41	
"	"	11	" 1860-61,	3 17	
"	"	11	" 1861-62,	30— 3 47	
				—	\$ 232 55

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Abated on Amos Buck's Book for 1861.

S. S. Clayton,	poll tax	.	.	.	\$ 1 80
C. W. Clow,	"	.	.	.	1 80
John S. McLaughlin,	"	.	.	.	1 80
Charles M. Newbegin,	"	.	.	.	2 89
John H. Pingree,	"	.	.	.	2 89
				—	\$ 11 08

The above abatements were made by a vote of the town
in favor of volunteers.

Abated on Amos Buck's Book for 1861.

James Burrill, tax	.	.	.	.	\$ 2 37
George W. Flanders, poll tax	.	.	.	.	2 89
Moses George, part	"	"	.	.	1 24
Jeremiah Johnson,	"	.	.	.	1 91
James McLauren, poll	"	.	.	.	1 80
Nathaniel Merrick,	"	.	.	.	92
Stephen L. Merrick, poll	"	.	.	.	1 80
James M. Smith,	"	"	.	.	1 80
Joseph C. Watson,	"	.	.	.	3 11
					\$ 17 48

Abated on Amos Buck's Book for 1860.

C. A. Adams, poll tax	.	.	.	.	\$ 4 63
N. C. Brown, " "	.	.	.	.	1 60
Moses George, " "	.	.	.	.	1 60

Jeremiah Johnson, tax,	14	
Nathaniel Merrick "	51	
C. H. Swett poll "	4 63	
James M. Smith " "	1 60	
Heirs of Jacob Davis, tax	43	
D. C. Girdler, "	2 47	
T. W. Morse, poll "	1 60	
A. C. Austin "	3 75	
James Whittier, Jr. "	60	
	<hr/>	\$ 23 56

Abated on Charles H. Shannon's Book, for 1859.

S. N. Shannon, poll tax	\$ 1 80
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Abated on E. Hoyt's Book for 1858.

M. J. Brewster, tax	1 44	
George Clayton, "	79	
Daniel Gile, "	20	
John Johnson, "	1 44	
Eliza J. Nichols, "	3 99	
Land and buildings occupied by J. M. Wicom,	83	
Daniel Osgood, tax	80	
	<hr/>	\$ 7 06

Burying Ground.

Paid Committee on Burying Ground in School District, No. 6	\$ 35 25
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Paupers.

Paid Overseer of Poor for support of paupers,	\$ 582 90
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Lawsuit, Kingston vs. Hampstead.

Paid W. W. Stickney for conducting suit	\$ 95 50	
" F. V. Dow for getting certificates of wit- nesses	2 75	
" B. A. Moody, 1 day to Kingston, &c.	1 70	
" W. H. Hills, for taking John Page's dep.	3 00	
" Caleb Moulton, summoning witnesses	7 13	
" Nelson Ordway, time, expenses, and horse- hire	6 70	
	<hr/>	\$ 116 78

HOUSE OF REFORMATION.

Paid Trustees for board of F. P. Shannon	\$ 60 71
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Volunteers.

Paid Charles E. Frost	\$ 33 00	
“ Henry A. Noyes	33 00	
“ John H. Pingree	31 20	
“ Charles M. Newbegin	31 20	
“ Daniel L. Sawyer	31 20	
“ George W. Keezer	33 60	
“ Charles W. Clow	27 00	
“ Charles W. Clow's family	42 00	
“ Simeon S. Clayton	27 00	
“ Simeon S. Clayton's family	36 00	
“ William H. Clayton	27 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 352 20

Agreeably to vote of the Town, May 14, 1861.

Aid for Volunteers' Families.

Paid C. W. Clow	\$ 77 60	
“ S. S. Clayton	77 60	
“ W. R. Cowell	60 00	
“ G. Clayton	66 43	
“ S. D. Hinds	33 58	
“ D. B. Hinds	53 57	
“ Samuel Morse	52 20	
“ T. W. Morse	22 43	
“ E. J. Collins	37 15	
“ M. J. Brewster	39 43	
“ L. Harris	71 60	
“ J. T. Hall	43 60	
“ Horace Barney	18 57	
“ N. H. Bushbey	20 29	
“ John West	58 00	
“ G. W. Conner	39 15	
	<hr/>	\$ 771 20

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid Insurance on Town House	8 00
“ William Sanborn for repairing ironwork,	25
“ C. A. Blake, for making bar irons for door,	62
“ D. H. Emerson, for sawing wood, &c.,	1 50
“ D. H. Emerson, for repairing Town House,	3 00
“ Daniel Emerson, for ringing bell	35 00
“ Daniel Emerson, for sawing wood	40

Paid J. D. Ordway, for door lock and zinc	1 66
“ William Jones, for repairing bell rope	1 00
“ B. A. Moody, for going to Haverhill to examine Report for 1861	2 50
“ Joseph Morse, for keeping public watering-place	1 50
“ I. H. Marshall, for keeping public watering-place	1 50
“ T. R. Wheeler, for keeping public watering-place	3 00
“ B. D. Johnson, for repairing highway, Dist. No. 7	1 20
“ L. L. C. Little, for repairing highway, Dist. No. 6	2 25
“ H. Nichols, for perambulating town line,	1 00
“ Money refunded to Moses H. Johnson and others, agreeably to a vote passed March, 1861	19 50
“ A. B. Martyn, for books furnished indigent children	1 66
“ Wm. W. Stickney, for advice	1 00
“ L. Harris, for blanks, postage, &c.	2 10
“ Moses Hoyt, for wood for Town House,	5 42
“ Wm. Griffin, for horse-hire, &c., on pauper business	12 02
“ for recording deed from J. Hadley to town	42
“ Nelson Ordway, for stationery and postage	91
“ Nelson Ordway, for horse-hire, &c.	3 66
“ Woodward & Palmer, for printing soldiers' receipts	1 50
“ F. V. Dow, for taking depositions in pauper cases	1 00
“ W. W. Stickney, for advice in relation to payment to volunteers and families	5 00
“ Nelson Ordway, to time, horse-hire, and expenses relating to volunteers and families	9 00
“ A. B. Martyn, do. do.	9 12

Paid Moses Hoyt, twice to Exeter and labor on Page road	10 60	
“ A. B. Martyn, horse-hire, stationery, &c.,	4 00	
		151 29

Town Officers.

Paid Luther Webber, for notifying town officers,	3 00	
“ J. C. Eastman, for services Superintending School Committee	10 00	
“ Caleb Moulton, do. do.	12 00	
“ Leander Harris, for services as Town Clerk	10 00	
“ Wm. Griffin, for services as Overseer of the Poor	11 36	
“ Nelson Ordway, services as Selectman .	41 25	
“ Moses Hoyt, “ “	37 50	
“ A. B. Martyn, “ “	35 25	
“ Amos Buck, “ Treasurer,	8 00	
“ “ “ collecting taxes	40 45	
“ “ “ settling with Selectmen	1 00	
“ Auditors, for auditing accounts	3 00	
“ “ “ expenses	1 50	
		214 31

Due on Ebenezer Hoyt and Bruce Moulton's note, for outstanding taxes, 1858	89 50	
“ from C. H. Shannon, for outstanding tax- es for 1859	432 90	
“ from Amos Buck, for outstanding taxes for 1861, as follows:—		
On state, county, town and school taxes,	287 19	
on school-house tax in Dist. No. 1	65 22	
“ “ “ “ 2	73 69	
		948 50

RECAPITULATION.

Receipts, sums total		5,833 30
Expenditures:—		
State tax	186 20	
County tax	469 35	
Non-resident highway receipts	36 21	
Teachers' Institute	10 64	

School-house tax, Dist. No. 1, 1860	55 40
“ “ “ “ 1861	186 75
Discount on school-house tax, Dist. No. 1	9 40
School-house tax, Dist. No. 2	330 00
Discount on school-house tax, Dist. No. 2	9 19
“ “ state, county, town, and school tax,	80 11
Support of schools	839 15
On notes	82 34
Undertakers	9 00
Snow bills	232 55
Abatement on taxes	63 87
Burying-ground	35 25
Support of paupers	582 90
On lawsuit	116 78
House of Reformation	60 71
On volunteers	1,123 40
Miscellaneous	151 29
Town officers	214 31
Outstanding taxes	948 50

5,833 30

Notes Payable.

Joseph Chase, note and interest	\$ 324 79
A. W. Perley, “ “	258 56
Sophia Moulton, “ “	100 99
Samuel Eaton, “ “	189 37
G. W. Eastman, “ “	238 20
Joseph Noyes, “ “	238 20
A. G. Merrill, “ “	582 02
Mary Putnam, “ “	119 10
Henry Putnam, “ “	41 29
John Ordway, “ “	239 56
J. E. Eastman, “ “	54 21
George Moor, “ “	257 50
George Moor, “ “	153 45
E. R. Noyes, “ “	101 93
James Noyes, “ “	101 68
Mary Putnam, “ “	55 71
Horace Bailey, “ “	202 16
John Ordway, “ “	201 00
Horace Bailey, “ “	100 00

 \$ 3,559 72

Due the Town.

From County, for support of paupers . . .	\$ 17 50	
“ the town of Somersworth	6 01	
Outstanding taxes	948 50	
Balance, being the amount of town debt . .	2,587 71	
	<hr/>	\$ 3,559 72

NELSON ORDWAY, }
 MOSES HOYT, } *Selectmen.*
 A. B. MARTYN, }

Upon examination of the foregoing accounts, as presented to us by the Selectmen, we find them correctly cast, and satisfactory vouchers corresponding with the same.

AMOS BUCK, }
 J. D. ORDWAY, } *Auditors.*
 BRUCE MOULTON, }

REPORT OF WM. GRIFFIN, OVERSEER OF THE POOR.

Received of the Town Treasurer, \$ 582 90

*Paid out as follows, for the support of
Joseph H. Chellis.*

Paid T. S. Carter, for supplies	13 79	
“ John C. Bradley, for supplies	1 40	
	<hr/>	15 19

Jonathan S. Kimball.

Paid T. S. Carter, for supplies	4 52	
“ I. & R. C. Smith, for supplies	30 30	
“ J. D. Ordway, for supplies	1 50	
“ John C. Bradley, for supplies	10 46	
“ John Collins, for wood	7 00	
“ Joseph Collins, for wood	2 50	
“ Nelson Ordway, for clothing	6 58	
“ Samuel Morse, for plowing	2 50	
	<hr/>	65 36

Joseph C. Watson.

Paid Daniel Emerson, for wood	1 50	
“ Wm. Griffin, for wood	3 77	
“ Moses Hoyt, for wood	3 18	
“ John & Nelson Ordway, for house rent	21 19	
“ I. & R. C. Smith, for supplies	43 36	
	<hr/>	73 00

James Smith, 3d.

Paid L. L. C. Little, for board, one year ending March 15, 1862,	91 10	
“ For making and mending clothes	1 50	
	<hr/>	92 50

James Whittier.

Paid O. R. Braggs, for board, one year ending March 16, 1862,	73 84	
“ O. R. Braggs, for making shirts	50	
“ I. & R. C. Smith, for clothing supplies	8 40	
	<hr/>	82 74

Lois Keezer.

Paid T. S. Carter, for supplies	2 34	
“ M. H. Johnson, 2d, for notifying overseer of sickness	50	
“ M. H. Johnson, 2d, for extra nursing	2 00	
“ “ “ “ “ “ support from March 18, to July 6, 1861,	45 50	
“ M. M. Johnson, 2d, for funeral expenses	2 00	
“ James Peterson, for coffin	7 50	
“ Josiah C. Eastman, for medicine and at- tendance	13 25	
	<hr/>	73 09

Jeremiah Johnson.

Paid Gideon Webster, for supplies	5 75	
“ T. S. Carter, “ “	2 50	
“ John C. Bradley, “ “	40	
“ William Griffin, “ “	98	
	<hr/>	9 63

Stephen L. Merrick.

Paid T. S. Carter, for supplies	21 81	
“ I. & R. C. Smith, for supplies	40 20	
“ Hannah P. Clark, for house rent to March 12, 1862	8 75	
	<hr/>	70 76

Widow William T. Heath.

Paid I. & R. C. Smith, for supplies	15 92	
“ William Griffin, “ “	25	
	<hr/>	16 17

Rhoda Hoyt.

Paid Sophia Moulton, for board 29 weeks, ending March 15, 1862	36 25
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Children of William Keezer.

Paid M. H. Johnson, 2d, for support from Dec. 21, 1861, to March 15, 1862	24 00
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William R. Cowell.

Paid J. P. & P. C. Hunkins, for supplies	15 59
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James McLaren.

Paid J. P. & P. C. Hunkins, for supplies	4 00
Paid for support of transient paupers	4 62

RECAPITULATION.

Received		\$ 582 90
Expended for support of Joseph H. Chellis,	\$15 19	
“ “ “ “ J. S. Kimball,	65 36	
“ “ “ “ Joseph C. Watson,	73 00	
“ “ “ “ James Smith, 3d,	92 50	
“ “ “ “ James Whittier,	82 74	
“ “ “ “ Lois Keezer,	73 09	
“ “ “ “ Jeremiah Johnson,	9 63	
“ “ “ “ Stephen L. Merrick,	70 76	
“ “ “ “ Widow Wm. T. Heath,	16 17	
“ “ “ “ Rhoda Hoyt,	36 25	
“ “ “ “ Child'n of Wm. Keezer,	24 00	
“ “ “ “ William R. Cowell,	15 59	
“ “ “ “ James McLaren,	4 00	
“ “ “ “ Transient Paupers	4 62	
	<hr/>	\$ 582 90

REPORT
OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF HAMPSTEAD, MARCH, 1862.

YOUR Committee would most respectfully submit the following Report:—

Having been appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of Superintending School Committee, occasioned by the resignation of Dr. J. C. Eastman, and several terms of school having closed previous to our appointment, a full report of all of our schools in town cannot now be given by your Committee; but such information in regard to such schools as has been received by way of the teachers' registers, together with our personal observations, will be cheerfully communicated.

DISTRICT No. 1.

EDWARD R. NOYES, *Prudential Committee.*

The summer term of this school was taught by Miss ALN W. Heath, of Warner, N. H. Her school, we are informed, was well attended, and the parents in the district were generally well satisfied. Her register not being returned to us, we can report nothing further concerning her school.

The winter term commenced November 11th, and closed February 20th, Charles C. Hunkins, Esq., teacher. Whole number of scholars, 34. Average attendance, 29. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$ 27.

The teacher entered upon his duties with energy, and was untiring in his exertions to the close of the term. He succeeded in securing the good-will of all his scholars, who cannot soon forget his kindness to them. All of his classes appeared well. More than common progress had been made in the important branches of reading and spelling. Considerable attention was given to writing, and Colburn's Arithmetic was well studied.

The teacher cheerfully gave a week's time for the benefit of his scholars, after the school-money was expended, and closed his labors in the district with an exhibition, highly creditable to himself and scholars. He remarks in his report: "I would say that this term of school has been a pleasant one to me, and I hope it has been equally pleasant and not wholly unprofitable to my scholars. Punctuality and regularity of attendance have been characteristic of this term. Many of my scholars deserve much praise."

The scholars who have not been absent one half day during the term are, M. J. Little, M. E. Noyes, E. E. McNeil, E. F. McDuffie, M. J. Hazeltine, and E. H. Hazeltine.

DISTRICT No. 2.

MOSES H. JOHNSON, *Prudential Committee.*

Teacher of summer and autumn terms, Miss M. H. Hazelton, of Chester. Her register shows that 53 scholars attended during the summer term. Average attendance, 38. Abby Johnson and George Sargent were not absent one half day.

The autumn term commenced August 26th, and closed October 11th. Whole number of scholars, 54. Average attendance, 46. This number was present at the examination. The smaller scholars appeared to have made considerable progress, but too many of the larger ones were idle, and listless, and showed a want of interest. Writing was greatly neglected. Although the school was pretty well attended, there were too many instances of tardiness. Scholars not absent one half day, — Annie B. Heath, Carrie Bartlett, Roslea Jones, Henry A. Buck, and John H. Heath.

The winter term commenced November 4th, and continued fifteen weeks, under the charge of Moses H. Johnson, Esq. Whole number of scholars, 60. Average attendance, 44. Wages of teacher per month, including board, \$ 32. Order, good. Recitations generally very good. The arithmetic classes, especially the first class, sustained a very good examination. A large number of writing books were shown, which had been neatly kept, and bore marks of decided improvement. The school paper was publicly read, which contained many well written compositions of the scholars. Good progress was noticed in nearly all the studies pursued.

Although Mr. Johnson ranks with our best teachers, there was a

falling off near the close of the term, occasioned, perhaps, by the great length of the term, or the "tender mercies" of parents who might have been shocked at the idea of their children being required to behave themselves in school.

Moral deportment, habits of study, and rank as scholars, not reported. Not absent one half day, Mary F. Johnson, Roslea Jones, Anna B. Heath, and M. Edwina Eaton.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

STEPHEN S. SHANNON, *Prudential Committee*.

Teacher, summer and autumn, Miss Harriet A. Woodbury, of Salem. Her report of the summer term gives the whole number of scholars, 34. Average attendance, 29. Length of school, 8 weeks. Wages per month, including board, \$ 19. Instances of tardiness, 271. Only one parent in the district visited the school during the term. Mary E. Nichols was not absent one half day.

The autumn term commenced, August 19, and continued 12 weeks and 3 days. The whole and average number was about the same as during the summer term. There were 30 scholars present at the examination. The school appeared to have been well taught and governed. Nearly all the exercises were characterized with a good degree of promptness and accuracy. There was a little want of loudness of voice on the part of some scholars. Some interest was manifested by the parents, but the schools in this district will not be likely to suffer, at present, by too frequent visits from them.

Not absent one half day, Charles E. Hoyt. Number of tardy marks, 406. Who was in fault?

DISTRICT NO. 4.

JOSEPH CHASE, *Prudential Committee*.

There were three terms of school in this district, taught by Miss Abby S. Hall, of Chester. Length of terms, 9, 10, and 13 weeks. Wages of teacher, including board, \$ 16.83 per month. The average attendance reported during the first and second terms, 23, — only two less than the whole number. It also appears that the scholars were very punctual — but few instances of tardiness or dismissal are noted.

The whole number attending in the winter was 31. Average attendance, 24.

The teacher was aided by frequent visits of the citizens. No less than 40 such visits were made during the term.

Your Committee made two visits, but was unable to be present at the last examination. On both occasions, when present, a good degree of interest was manifested in all of the exercises. Questions were answered with great promptness, fulness, and correctness. A commendable proficiency, we think, must have been made in every branch of study. Moral deportment and habits of study, well reported.

Not absent one half day during the first term, Juliet B. Bachelder, Anna H. Bachelder, Ann L. George, Clara A. Irving, Ella F. Johnson, Ellen A. Smith, John K. Ordway, Daniel F. Ordway, and Henry C. Ordway. Not absent the second term, Ann L. George, and Ella F. Johnson. Last term, John K. Ordway, Daniel F. Ordway, Henry C. Ordway, and Ella F. Johnson who, it appears, was not absent during the whole 32 weeks of school.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

ITHAMAR EMERSON, *Prudential Committee.*

Teacher, Miss Sophia A. Greenleaf.

This school closed so early in the season that we had no authority to visit it as Committee. By the teacher's register it appears there were two terms of school, — the first, 8 weeks, and the last 6½ weeks in length. Whole number of scholars, 14. Average attendance, 13. Wages of teacher, \$ 16 per month. Both terms were well attended. Harrison B. Emerson and Alvin E. Emerson were not absent one half day the first term; and Johnnie W. Adams and Nancy A. Anderson were not absent during the whole school.

The teacher remarks: "The kindness of my pupils to each other, and the respect they have manifested towards their teacher, together with their diligent efforts to improve, is worthy of commendation. The parents, too, in general, have co-operated with us, cheering us by their presence and greatly encouraging us by their sympathy."

DISTRICT NO. 6.

BRUCE MOULTON, *Prudential Committee.*

Teacher, in the summer, Miss E. T. Greenough, of Atkinson. Whole number of scholars, 25. Average attendance, 22. Length of school,

8 weeks. Wages of teacher, per month, including board, \$ 16. The term commenced May 6, and closed June 29. Instances of tardiness noted, 97. Not absent one half day, Mary E. Arnold, Mary A. Braggs, Harriet Tabor, John M. Arnold, and Isaac W. Hoyt.

This school was, of course, not visited by your Committee during this term.

The autumn term was taught by Miss Sophia Moulton. Whole number of scholars, 28. Average attendance, 23. Length of school, 11 weeks. Wages of teacher, per month, including board, \$ 17.

During the examination, at the close of the term, every scholar appeared quiet and orderly. A class of 8 in the Introductory Geography had been through the book thoroughly.

A large class in the Primer had learned to read and spell extremely well, for children of their age. Class of 12, in Sargent's Third Reader, read remarkably well. And a newly-formed arithmetic class, in Greenleaf's Introduction, deserve great praise. Not absent one half day during the term, Grace H. Moulton, Marilla Moulton, Sarah J. Heath, John M. Arnold, Alonzo H. Arnold, Everett Moulton, and Charles B. Moulton.

It is sufficient to say that Miss Moulton has taught the school eight years in all, in this her own district, and has rarely met with better success.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

SAMUEL MORSE, *Prudential Committee.*

Teacher, Miss Sophia Moulton. Whole number of scholars, 29. Length of school, 17 weeks. Wages of teacher, per month, including board, \$ 17. This school closed the last of August, and, it appears by the teacher's register, was very well attended. Clarence B. Morse was not absent one half day.

The parents and citizens made 76 visits to the school, which must have been cheering to both teacher and scholar. The teacher makes the following remarks: "This is one of the most pleasant schools with which I am acquainted. *The parents are all interested.* The children are punctual and obedient and earnest in their efforts to gain knowledge, and, as the result, the progress made has been very great."

Parents have here set an example worthy of being followed in other districts. Will not the parents in some of our larger districts consider this matter? "A word to the wise" should be sufficient.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

The money in this district was laid out under the direction of the Selectmen. Teacher, Miss Abbie H. Dow. Whole number of scholars, 17. Average attendance, 13. Wages of teacher, \$ 12 per month. The school commenced June 3, and closed July 20. Henry L. Morgan, N. H. Morgan, and E. J. Morgan were not absent one half day.

The teacher informed us that the scholars were attentive to their studies, and fair progress was made, considering the shortness of the term. This was Miss Dow's first school, but we have good reason to believe she *gave entire satisfaction* to the district.

We will here mention that since the close of the district schools, a school has been opened in District No. 2 by Miss Hellen M. Putnam, which is sustained by voluntary subscriptions. Number of scholars, 26. This school is to continue 10 weeks from its commencement. Also, Miss Abbie L. Nichols has commenced a school in No. 1, with a respectable number of scholars, and fair prospects of success.

Miss Putnam and Miss Nichols both possess education and refinement, and they will, without doubt, do something towards establishing their reputation as teachers.

GENERAL REMARKS.

As all of us are more or less interested in *money* matters, it may be well, in the first place, to state that the whole amount of money appropriated for District Schools, in town, the past year, was \$ 845.28. Amount assigned to District No. 1, \$ 144.01; No. 2, \$ 212.03; No. 3, \$ 101.51; No. 4, \$ 146.57; No. 5, \$ 59.36; No. 6, \$ 82.10; No. 7, \$ 72.83; No. 8, \$ 26.87. This amount of money we have no reason to doubt has been judiciously expended. If the inhabitants in any district have any cause of complaint, they can, perhaps, hereafter find a remedy in electing their best men for Prudential Committees, and using their whole influence to sustain their school teachers.

The *school-house* question is still being agitated among us by the friends of education and public improvements. District No. 1 has recently erected a spacious house, pleasantly located, with ample playground, which is worthy of imitation. The result is an increased interest in their schools, on the part of pupils and parents.

District No. 2 has resolved not to be far behind No. 1 in this good cause. Here a half-acre lot has already been purchased, and such a house as the district has some time needed is under contract.

The next in order is No. 3, where a new house seems to be indispensable. A proposition having been made to unite Districts No. 3, 4, and 5, so as to form but two districts, — No. 5, which has the next thing to no school-house at all, properly comes in, in some way or other for a new house. It is hoped the town will readily grant leave for these districts to so unite when the inhabitants of the districts shall deem it expedient. If they could so unite that one new school-house would meet their wants, it would seem to be a mutual benefit. We trust, not only the town, but the inhabitants in these districts will seriously consider this question, and act accordingly. We hope No. 6 will not be the last to build a new house.

Good teachers are as essential as good school-houses, or liberal appropriations of school money. In selecting teachers, we should always employ the *best*. *Cheap* teachers are often worthless. *Morality* and *common sense* are very important as well as *literary* attainments. And we should always be sure that a teacher can *read* and *spell*, if nothing more. Those who begin at the *wrong end* to acquire an education, and never get as far back as the *rudiments* should never be employed to teach in our *district* schools, for their aspirations are altogether too exalted. They belong to a different *class* of teachers. To be serious, we want such teachers, and such only as are capable of laying a sure foundation for an education.

The work of the teacher is arduous, and sometimes difficult. A great responsibility rests upon him. He is expected to succeed under any and all circumstances. But this is expecting too much. We should consider the obstacles which are more or less in the way of every teacher's success. Among these are tardiness and irregular attendance to dishearten the teacher, and the carelessness of children, and fault-finding of parents, which serve to embarrass and discourage him. And there is the pernicious practice of *whispering* in the school-room. This should be entirely suppressed. Every teacher should take a decided stand against it. This would do more towards preserving good order in the school-room than anything else; and if parents and all concerned would sustain the teacher in this respect, we should have more orderly schools and much less complaint against teachers.

We would say to parents, our teachers are in great need of your sympathy and hearty co-operation. Your assurance that they have your sympathy is not sufficient. You should make it practically evident to them. You should visit the school, and see for yourselves that all is

right. Your personal presence in the the school-room will show the sincerity of your pretensions, and, perhaps, materially aid the teacher. And the interest which you thus manifest, will tend to stimulate our children to renewed exertions, and we should soon see a marked change in the interest they would take in their studies. We wish to say to every parent, it is your duty to visit your schools.

In conclusion, we would recommend to all of our citizens, to cherish the institution of common schools. Believing our school system to be one of the "strongest fortifications and most essential safeguards of American liberty," let us make every reasonable sacrifice to sustain it. And in this time of our country's peril, and *for all time*, may "all persons entrusted with or engaged in the instruction of the young, diligently impress upon their minds the principles of piety and justice, a sacred regard to truth, love of country, humanity, 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 such 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."

CALEB MOULTON,

Superintending School Committee.

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