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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

TREASURER, AUDITORS,

AND OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

OF THE

TOWN OF HENNIKER,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY,

1855.

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ANNALS OF THE

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# REPORT.

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*Horace Gibson in account with the town of Henniker, as Treasurer,  
for A. D. 1854.*

	DR.
To cash remaining in the hands of the Treasurer for A. D. 1853,	\$542 15
To cash received of Selectmen,	255 00
To cash received of Selectmen, it being the amount paid by Worcester Goss for not serving as Highway Surveyor,	5 00
To cash received by the hand of O. C. Fisher, it being the Literary Fund Money,	76 73
To cash received of the town of Dorchester by the hand of O. C. Fisher, for the relief of Dolly Goodwin and family,	150 42
To cash received of County for County paupers,	105 00
To cash received of H. M. Davis, Collector at sundry times,	5 863 03
To cash received of John M. Page, by the hands of Eri Colby,	1 25
To cash received from State, the amount of Railroad tax,	71 65
	\$7 070 23

Audited by the undersigned, this 3d day of March, A. D. 1855.

JACOB STRAW, HIRAM M. DAVIS, HIRAM RICE,	}	Auditing Committee.
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*Horace Gibson, aforesaid, in account with the town of Henniker,  
for 1854.*

	CR.
Paid Walter Harriman, State Treasurer, the State tax,	\$389 90
Seth K. Jones, County Treasurer, the County tax.	518 55
New Hampshire Asylum for the support of Jane Whitney, County pauper,	23 25
do do do do do	20 61
do do do do do	23 44
do do do do do	26 72
do do do do Paul C. Abbott,	8 45

Paid Stephen Kimball for care of Nancy D. Searl, County pauper, from Oct. 10, 1853 to April 17, 1854,	52 00
Stephen Kimball for care of Nancy D. Searl, from April 10, to Oct. 2, 1854,	50 00
Dr. Nathan Sanborn for doctoring Nancy D. Searl,	5 50
do do do medicine do	9 75
do do do doctoring do	6 70
do do two visits and medicine for Thadeus Goodwin's family,	2 00
Dr. Nathan Sanborn for professional services rendered the inmates of the town farm,	3 80
James Caldwell for recording valuation book,	3 50
do do services as Town Clerk,	17 00
do do paying Wm. H. Fisk for one record book,	7 00
do do cash advanced,	2 88
do do recording births and deaths,	3 66
Moses Colby's note and interest,	434 67
Nathaniel Patch, interest on note,	30 00
Dr. Jacob Straw for doctoring John M. Page's wife and children from March 20th to July 14th, 1854,	28 95
Dr. Jacob Straw for doctoring Mrs. Putney from August 22 to Sept. 3, 1854.	10 45
Dr. Jacob Straw for doctoring Hannah Connor from Sept. 18th to Sept. 27th inclusive,	8 56
do do do for doctoring Ann Goodwin from Feb. 22, to March 11th, 1854.	8 00
Campbell & Gilmore, for printing town report,	16 00
Hiram Bell, Selectmen's expenses for 1853 and for use of horse and sleigh to Canaan,	24 13
The town of Salisbury for assistance rendered Moses Dolby,	12 25
The town of Hill for assistance rendered Joel Connor,	23 17
Merrimack Co. Fire Insurance Company,	3 82
Geo. G. Fogg & Co. for advertising,	1 00
Oliver Pillsbury Jr. for fare to Concord to procure stationery,	1 50
do do drawing 326 ft. bridge stringers,	2 00
do do cash paid to assist a stranger,	3 00
do do moving pauper from Hopkinton,	2 00
do do fare, time and expenses two days at Court,	5 12
do do note,	160 63
Alfred Winship for damage done horse and sleigh by reason of obstructions in highway,	35 00
Imri Woods for writing affidavits and administering oaths,	1 00

Paid J. M. R. Eaton for service as Superintending School Committee for 1853,	16 00
John C. Campbell, do do do	15 50
John Gould, do do do	1 00
G. S. Barnes, School Commissioner,	25 12
Dea. O. Pillsbury, interest on note,	26 70
Titus V. Wadsworth on the execution Moses Brown and others vs. T. V. Wadsworth,	145 02
T. V. Wadsworth for service in said case,	17 35
Abraham Chase, interest on note,	12 00
Wm. D. Eastman for cow,	26 00
Wm. D. Eastman for lumber to repair town's buildings,	4 53
Wm. D. Eastman for service on town farm for the year ending Nov. 24, 1854,	215 00
Josephus Smith for repairing and care of town house,	6 00
Morrill & Silsby for book and stationery,	2 18
James Caldwell for Record Book,	3 00
Edmund Mirick for cleaning and removing State arms,	5 00
James French for damage done by cattle from town farm,	1 50
Jeremiah Foster for cash advanced,	3 00
Clerk of Court for printing case, Town of Henniker vs. C. V. R. Road,	10 00
M. W. Tappan,	10 00
Fowler & Mugridge for advice in relation to two claims of damages for defective highways and insane pauper case,	2 00
Burton Wadsworth for services as committee to examine town's farm,	2 00
Frederick Whitney, do do do	2 00
Squire M. Patten for services as Selectman and time and expenses to Deering on pauper case,	3 50
Frederick Whitney for support of Alice Whitney and nursing in her last sickness,	27 00
Gilman Moores for assistance rendered Moses Dolby,	4 67
Charles Barker, for assisting and shaving Thomas Livingston,	10 22
Miss L. B. How for grave clothes for Mrs. Hannah Connor,	1 10
Samuel M. Currier for flour delivered to Thomas Livingston,	2 00
Eri Colby for money advanced and time spent in pauper case in 1853,	13 74
Samuel Gordon for boarding and nursing Hannah Connor,	10 25

Paid E. W. Barnes for assisting and moving Mrs. Hurd,	2 00
Wallace & Wyman for one pair boots for Hurd boy,	2 75
Calvin Hathorn for boarding and nursing Isaac N. Jackman five weeks,	3 75
S. L. F. Simpson for medical aid rendered Mrs. Tewksbury in her last sickness,	8 25
Wm. How for boarding, nursing, and funeral expenses of Mrs. Tewksbury,	34 48
B. F. Noyes for relief of Dolly Goodwin and children,	12 19
Isaac Brooks for shaving Thomas Livingston 11 months,	5 00
T. V. Wadsworth for boarding Alice Whitney six weeks,	4 50
Mrs. Kezer for nursing Mrs. John M. Page 11½ weeks,	20 00
Moses J. Mirick for boarding Sarah Buckley and child,	9 00
Lot Wiggin for nursing and clothing Betsey Putney,	18 66
Mrs. Hurd for watching with pauper,	1 00
Wallace & Wyman for goods furnished Thadeus Goodwin,	73
Wm. K. Plumer for digging grave for Geo. Goodwin,	2 00
do do do Isaac Goodwin, furnishing gate and repairing hinges and stone wall for grave yard,	6 00
Geo. W. Johnson for work on bridge,	1 00
Joseph G. Wadsworth for repairing water course,	3 00
Wm. Smith for work on Centre bridge,	2 50
Samuel Folsom for repairing road,	75
Stephen Sanborn for work and plank for bridge,	4 40
Chas. A. Bean for 1130 ft. lumber, and work on bridge,	11 92
Ezra Chase for work on road,	1 50
John Whitecomb for repairing bridge,	2 00
Isaac Morse for repairing road and bridge,	1 38
Samuel Morrison for 124 feet bridge plank,	1 11
H. M. Davis for snowing lower bridge,	75
S. M. Patten for powder and tools to blast stone,	1 50
Abel Connor for moving wall to widen road,	5 00
Wm. L. Danforth for drawing lumber,	2 00
do do work on bridge,	1 50
Hiram G. Patten for blasting stone in road,	1 00
Hazen K. Plumer for repairing highway,	4 75
A. D. L. F. Connor for two bridge stringers,	2 00
do do do 2½ days work on road,	2 50
Dea. O. Pillsbury for 26 feet bridge stringers,	2 25

Ebenezer Hemphill for $4\frac{1}{2}$ days work and use of tools in repairing highway,	4 87
Cyrus Carpenter for snowing bridge,	1 50
John K. Connor for repairing highway and bridges and breaking roads,	15 79
Nathan Carter for windows furnished and work done on pauper farm buildings,	6 12
Alfred Winship for use of carriage to move I. N. Jackman,	75
Nathan Sawyer for land damage awarded him by Road Commissioners in laying out a road around "Sawyer's Hill,"	256 00
Amos and Edmund Wood for land damage of said road,	95 00
Moses Brown for 91 8-10 rods of new road,	150 40
Nathan Sawyer for building 102 64-100 rods new road,	227 29
B. P. Burpee and Daniel Osgood for attending Oct. term of Court to amend report made by them as Road Commissioners in regard to land damage of Edmund Wood,	13 00
Eldad Marsh for building road around "Rockey Hill,"	30 50
Wm. Cheney for breaking roads last winter,	5 20
Burton Wadsworth, do do do do	4 20
John Favor, do do do do	5 66
David Osborn, do do do do	2 31
Wyer Gove, do do do do	5 50
Hiram G. Patten, do do do do	13 20
John Pope, do do do do	4 00
John K. Connor, do do do do	3 67
Thomas Dustin, do do do do	4 33
John Peaslee, do do do do	4 00
Lyman Harriman, do do do do	90
Alpheus Pollard, do do do do	1 00
Nathaniel Chase, do do do do	12 56
Geo. W. Hoyt, do do do do	11 88
James H. Ray, do do do do	2 16
Jacob Rice for repairing and breaking roads do	3 50
Calvin Smith, do \$1, do do \$11 75 do	12 75
	96 82
Joseph G. Wadsworth for breaking roads this winter,	9 53
Daniel Rice, do do do do	1 00
Cyrus Carter, do do do do	5 00
Squire M. Patten, do do do do	27 08
Charles H. Chase, do do do do	16 48
David Osborn, do do do do	10 64
Alonzo Patterson, do do do do	19 24
Walter Felch, do do do do	5 60

Paid Thomas W. Sargent, breaking roads this winter	10 80
Asa Whitcomb, do do do do	18 49
Eldad Marsh, do do do do	23 24
Isaac Morse, do do do do	3 89
Joshua H. Colby, do do do do	7 79
Ezra Chase, do do do do	8 64
D.D. Davis, do do do do	11 64
Wm. D. Eastman, do do do do	5 29
Ezra Eastman, do do do do	9 42
Samuel Morrison, do do do do	13 56
John Favor, do do do do	13 96
Horace Tucker, do do do do	2 80
Wm. K. Plumer, do do do do	20 80
Nathan P. Buxton, do do do do	10 60
Warren Gove, do do do do	8 04
John C. Smith, do do do do	16 56
Geo. W. Chase, do do do do	15 64
Alfred Winship, do do do do	9 36
Moses Dustin, do do do do	14 48
Gilbert Gordon, do do do do	27 60
Imri Wood, do do do do	16 24
A. D. L. F. Connor, do do do do	5 96
Alexander W. Connor, do do do do	8 64
David L. Cogswell, do do do do	3 97
William Cheney, do do do do	1 00
Oramel Pope, do do do do	25 76
Nathaniel Noyes, do do do do	12 32
Horace Tucker, do do do do	2 32
David D. Perry, do do do do	14 97
	— 438 35
Silas Colby for expenses of town officers,	14 75
Eri Colby for two days work,	2 00
do do two dollars advanced on highway,	2 00
	— 4 00
Oliver Pillsbury Jr. for time, fare, and expenses to Concord to draw Railroad tax, settle bills at Asylum and procure stationery,	2 75
H. M. Davis for collecting taxes in 1854,	45 00
Jeremiah Foster for time, fare and expenses four times to Hopkinton on pauper business,	4 00
For time, fare and expenses to Concord for counsel	2 75
Two days time, fare and expenses to Oct. term of Court,	4 75
Time and expenses twice to Bradford for coun- sel,	4 50
One day repairing bridge,	1 00
Making and putting up guide post,	75



For Cash advanced,					1 40	
						19 15
Paid Jeremiah Foster for services as Selectman for year 1854 and 1855,						34 50
Oliver Pillsbury, Jr., do do do do						41 00
Eri Colby, do do do do						30 35
Jonathan Dow, Prudential Com. in Dis. No. 1,						70 35
Jonathan Chase, do do do do 2,						50 96
Geo. W. Berry, do do do do 3,						58 89
Nahum Colby, do do do do 4,						72 11
Oliver Pillsbury Jr., do do do do 5,						80 9
Titus H. Wadsworth, do do do do 6,						71 2
Zadok Duston Jr., do do do do 7,						95 0
Ebenezer Hemphill, do do do do 8,						87 98
James H. Ray, do do do do 9,						19 25
Benjamin Colby, do do do do "						28 18
Elijah B. Huntington, do do do do 10,						48 31
Hiram Rice, do do do do 11,						111 11
Thomas B. Adams, do do do do 12,						51 84
Lewis Tuttle, do do do do 13,						54 53
Geo. W. Hoyt his share of school money,						4 36
Joel M. How, Annis Campbell, and K. G. Morrill's share of school money,					91225	7 28
Squire M. Patten's note and interest,						483 30
Frederick Whitney for money due on note against the town,						351 69
Abraham Chase's note and interest,						216 27
Nathaniel Patch's note and interest,						258 78
Horace Gibson for goods, stationery and postage,						23 89
Morrill & Silsby for stationery,						35
David L. Cogswell for digging grave for Hannah Connor,						1 50
Hiram Rice for services as Superintending School Committee,						12 00
John Gould, do do do do do						13 00
J. M. R. Eaton do do do do do						14 75
Cyrus Carpenter for snowing bridge,						1 50
Abijah Hildreth for an abatement in tax,						2 27
Thomas Dustin, do do do						1 64
Abel Connor, do do do						1 64
Josiah Whitcomb, do do do						45
Sam'l M. Currier, do do do						1 38
John S. Craig for services as Committee to examine town's farm,						2 00
Oramel Pope for work on road,						90
Horace Gibson for preparing town reports for printing last year,					8 00	
For services as Treasurer this year,					8 00	
						16 00

Paid H. M. Davis for the abatement of taxes as follows :

Ichabod F. Connor,	4 07
Isaac N. Jackman,	2 22
Jesse W. Mudgett,	2 31
Laughlin Brown,	4 37
	<hr/> 12 97
H. M. Davis for the amount of non-resident highway taxes,	23 77
Jacob Straw for services as Auditing Committee,	1 00
Hiram M. Davis do do do	1 00
Hiram Rice do do do	1 00
Cash remaining in the hands of the Treasurer,	394 50
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	\$7 070 23
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### CONDITION OF THE FINANCES OF THE TOWN.

Amount of bills outstanding,	\$75 00
Notes,	2 309 26
Due agent on town farm,	300 00
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	\$2 684 26
Cash in the hands of the Treasurer,	394 50
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Balance against the town,	\$2 289 76
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Audited by the undersigned this third day of March A. D. 1855.

JACOB STRAW,	} Auditing Committee.
HIRAM M. DAVIS,	
HIRAM RICE,	

*William D. Eastman in account with the Town of Henniker, Dr.*

To amount of Real and Personal Property, as per inventory taken by Selectmen, Feb. 22, 1854,	\$3 806 70
Interest on the same one year,	228 40
Agent's compensation,	300 00

### OTHER BILLS AS FOLLOWS:

Paid for cheese press, \$1 50; peas, 13; repairing saws, 67; pigs, 2 50; labor, 6 50; pork, 154 lbs., 18 48; doctoring, 8 31; vinegar, 33; repairing stove, 2 81; threshing, 3 29; repairing clock, 67; seed, 75; blacksmithing 8 19; fastenings, 13; scythe, 84; rakes, 50; mothkiller, 25; nails, 22; ox bows, 1 00; ink, 8; grass seed, 5 56; cream tartar, 40; comb, 6; putty, 14; twine, 6; batting, 25; needles, 8; Atwoods' Bitters, 25; raisins, 13; anguemtum, 12; pasturing, 10; shoemaking, 1 93; stocking yarn, 8 $\frac{1}{4}$  lbs., 7 59; thread, 24; tin ware,

1 55; fish, 4 69; axes, 2 33; salt, 4 77; cloth, 252 $\frac{1}{4}$  yards, 25 90; wicking, 26; sawing, 2 25; grain, 22 bushels, 22 24; matches, 28; tea, 20 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., 9 26. sugar, 77 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., 5 76; molasses, 45 gallons, 13 85; salaratus, 16 lbs., 83; oil, 31; tobacco, 17 lbs., 2 87; flour, 4 bbls., 41 62; snuff, 30; brooms, 75; spices, 82; pepper, 19; ginger, 29; rice, 33; crackers, 2 16; crockery, 1 49; neat stock, 126.

Amounting to the sum of

354 96

Whole amount of debtor,

\$4,690 06

### CREDIT.

By Real Estate, 2,600 00

By personal property, as per inventory of the Selectmen, taken Feb. 22d, 1855, as follows:

Neat stock and horse, 450; swine, 25; 8 tons hay, 120; grain 11 60; lard, 52 lbs., 6 50; tallow, 30 lbs., 3 75; pork, 300 lbs., 37 50; beef, 200 lbs., 14; cheese, 150 lbs., 18 75; soap, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  bbls., 6 00; potatoes, 40 bushels, 20 00; butter, 40 lbs., 10 00; bacon, 144 lbs., 18 00; dried apples, 71 lbs., 3 55; beans, 2 00; farming tools, 75 00; furniture, 250.

Amounting to,

1,071 65

### ALSO BY ARTICLES SOLD.

Butter 56 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., 12 86; cheese 186 1-4 lbs., 21 95; lard, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. 3 55; neat stock, 2 46; feetings, 28 pairs, 10 87; joist, 22; pears, 2; eggs, 417, 5 25; veal, 171 1-2 lbs, 9 70; labor of self and team, 3 50; slabs, 33; cowhide, 4 05; ap-pletree wood, 1; calves, 8 66; calf skins, 3 05; drag plank, 1 75; knitting 123 pair feeting, 23 50; amounting to

358 24

Whole amount of credit,

\$4 089 79

Balance against the farm,

\$660 17

### RECORD OF PAUPERS.

Names.	Ages.	Names.	Ages.
Aaron Eastman,	73	Dorcas Stone,	81
Alvin Whitman,	68	Betsey Joslyn,	79
David Purington,	78	Mehitable Kezer,	78
Nancy Gould,	90	Betsey Purington,	70
Salome Leslie,	37		
Hannah Connor on farm until Sept. 27th,			75
Alice Whitney on farm three weeks,			39
Betsey Putney on farm since Oct. 19,			66
Isaac N. Jackman on farm since Sept. 22,			51
Hiram Colby on farm three weeks,			35

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

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DISTRICT No. 1 Summer — SARAH J. DAVIS, teacher. This teacher did not appear to be adapted to the latitude of this school district—not possessing the requisite energy and decision of character to control a school of thirty scholars, somewhat inclined to be unruly. Want of order was a prominent fault, and the consequences of that fault were very apparent throughout all the exercises of the school.

Winter—GEORGE W. PIERCE, teacher. The school is backward. The order was good and some progress has been made in study; but it is evident to the committee, that the Common School does not hold that place in the minds of the Parents of this district which its importance demands. Mr. Pierce gave evidence in school of more than ordinary capacity as a teacher.

No. 2. One Term. Winter — FRANK A. GORDON, teacher.—The school is still in progress, and promises much good. Mr. G. interests himself much in his employment, and has secured the confidence of both pupils and parents. We doubt not the school will exhibit a happy degree of improvement at its close.

No. 3. Summer — MARIA L. BUTLER, teacher.—The Committee were well pleased with the appearance of this school. In system and discipline it ranks with the best in town. With the exception of reading, the general improvement of the scholars in the various branches was highly satisfactory.

Winter — MARK MANAHAN, teacher.—Mr. Manahan is an excellent scholar, and does not appear to be wanting in a faculty to instruct his pupils, but he was too indulgent in this school to secure the greatest amount of good. Want of good order was the great fault of the school.

No. 4. Summer — SUSAN C. EASTMAN, teacher. — This school was under the care of a good scholar and faithful teacher, and made decided improvement in all the branches of study to which their attention was directed. We were also highly gratified with the general appearance of the school-room. Original exercises suggested by a teacher, gives a healthful excitement to the minds of children, which is indispensable to successful study.

Winter — FRANK A. GORDON, teacher.— The Committee were in at the opening of the school, and were much pleased with the appearance of things. Frequent inquiries were made into the progress of the school, as to its prosperity, to which the answer was uniform: "we have a good teacher, and the school is doing well." The roads being utterly impassable, the term closed without an examination.

No. 5. Summer and Winter — ELIZA L. SAWYER, teacher.— Miss Sawyer has taught this school several terms, and the Committee are happy to say that she fully sustains her reputation, as one of our *best* teachers.

No. 6. Summer — MARY L. WADSWORTH, teacher.— From various causes, the number of scholars was diminished so that only three small children were in attendance when the committee visited the school, near the close of the term. The school was nearly a failure. A want of efficient government may have contributed to this result. Those present showed some progress.

Winter — EDMUND S. HOYT, teacher.— Mr. Hoyt has eminent qualifications for a teacher, and has succeeded admirably. In the examination it appeared that good progress had been made in the various branches taught, and some of the larger scholars exhibited a shade of intellectual cultivation which was very gratifying.

No. 7. Summer — LIVONA WOOD, teacher.— The school did not meet the expectation of the Committee. The noise and disorder in the school-room, accounted for limited progress. A more energetic government would probably have secured a more favorable result.

Winter — CHARLES H. DARLING, teacher.— The school was very prosperous. It was apparent in the examination that Mr. Darling is a successful teacher. The class in Colburn's Arithmetic gave good satisfaction to the Committee. The reading was of a high order, and showed a thorough training in that branch. The government was good, and whispering was nearly excluded from the school. The examination was very creditable both to teacher and pupils.

No. 8 Summer — MARY M. PATTERSON, teacher.— The progress in this school was tolerably good, but did not fully come up to the expectation of the Committee.

Winter — JAMES L. SMITH, teacher.— There was some progress in the school, but far too limited. A want of an ability on the part of the teacher to communicate with clearness what he knew, a want of government, and a want of application on the part of the pupils, probably contributed to this result.

No. 9. Summer and Winter — LIZZIE H. FARRAR, teacher.— In the Summer the school numbered but four pupils, and in the Winter only five. We deem it next to an impossibility for a teacher to

labor as successively, or satisfactorily, with so few scholars, as under more favorable circumstances. In the present case, we judge that the teacher has been faithful, and as successful as could be expected. Pupils generally require the stimulous of *numbers* to excite enthusiasm in study. If the evil of so many small schools could be remedied, an exceedingly desirable end would be attained.

No 10. Summer—**ABBY A. WHITTAKER**, teacher. This was a very prosperous school. The examination gave entire satisfaction to the Committee.

Winter—**R. D. RICE**, teacher. Mr. Rice has had good success, and has given very general satisfaction. At the examination the school was in a good and prosperous condition.

No. 11. Summer—**ANNA M. JOHNSON**, teacher. It seems almost superfluous to say that the school was in its best trim. Miss J. has stored her mind with principles and illustrations, and is eminently happy in the use of them while engaged in that work in which she seems perfectly at home—educating the youthful mind. The common sense view of science inspires the school room with an interest not found there under parrot-like instruction. We take pleasure in reporting the school as having made great progress.

Winter—**HIRAM RICE**, teacher. The school has not fallen from the interest excited the previous term. It has been under the best discipline—mild but firm. Much has been done to improve the morals of the school, and not without success. Whispering, in a good degree, has been banished from the school room. Mr. Rice has interested himself in his pupils at other times besides during the regular session of the day, and has seen happy results from these extra labors. This district has been peculiarly happy in securing the services of those whose qualifications as disciplinarians and instructors, are of a high order.

No. 12. One term. **LOIS A. WHITCOMB**, teacher. This school is very small, but has evidently enjoyed the labors of a faithful teacher. While the pupils, as a whole, have advanced well in their studies, the little ones have done admirably. The order of the school room was highly gratifying.

No. 13. Summer and Winter—**JUDITH M. PUTNEY**, teacher.—The school appeared tolerably well. The teacher confined her pupils too exclusively to the text books. Considering the amount of schooling in this district, and the number of scholars in attendance, the improvement was not such as might have been expected.

Your Committee are happy to report that universal peace, so far as they know, has reigned in our schools through the year. With but few exceptions, we have had a noble band of teachers. In no instance have the Committee been called upon to settle difficulties.

Nearly all the schools have made commendable progress in their studies.

It has been gratifying to see so many of the parents and friends of the pupils in the school room. We consider it an omen of good. Their presence carries with it a magic power. We wish especially to call the attention of fathers and mothers, elder brothers and sisters, and friends *throughout the town*, to this point. Visit the schools, not as *critics*, but as *friends*—those who are interested in the welfare of the young. Surely no visit to a neighbor's could be half so interesting or profitable; and more than all, how happy its influence upon the school.

In quite a number of our schools the past year, much attention has been given to the *morals* of the pupils. The effort has been made to create a healthful atmosphere not only in, but around the school house; and the effects of such efforts have been quite visible. It is a lamentable truth that many children, when not under the anxious eye of parents, often revel in vice to such a degree that parents would be altogether incredulous if a true report were carried them. We deem it to be absolutely essential, to secure children against the formation of bad habits when they come together in their schools, that at *home*, from the earliest dawn of intellect, there should be continually given "precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line: here a little, and there a little." Should this be done by all who have little children under their moulding influence, we might at least hope that profaneness and vulgarity would disappear from our nurseries of learning.

In looking over the Registers, we find that many scholars have been exceedingly irregular in their attendance upon school. Much time has been lost by absences and tardinesses. We would call the attention of parents to this subject, and urge upon all, both parents and pupils, the great importance of promptness and punctuality if they would reap the greatest benefit from our system of education.

In May last, the Merrimack County Teachers' Institute met in this place, which, under the judicious management of Mr. Commissioner Roberts, assisted by an able band of Teachers, exerted a happy influence upon our community. We think the money expended in this way, profitably invested; and that could the sum be greatly increased, we should see a corresponding increase of good resulting from it. It is impossible that gentlemen employed to give instruction on such occasions, should spend one or two weeks with the teachers of our district schools, and not communicate much that is new and valuable, and thus put in motion a wave of influence which will break in blessings on the rising generation.

