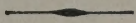


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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TREASURER, AUDITORS,
AND
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
OF THE
TOWN OF SALISBURY,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1st, 1873.



MANCHESTER, N. H. :
WILLIAM H. FISK, JOB PRINTER AND BOOKBINDER.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
STATE LIBRARY

R E P O R T .

The selectmen charge themselves as follows :

April, 1872. Taxes assessed and committed to John
B. Dunlap for collection :

Resident,	\$7,023 24
Non-resident,	705 50
	\$7,728 74

R E C E I P T S .

1872. March 16.

Received of treasurer for last year,	\$562 00
“ collector of taxes for 1870,	38 40
“ “ 1871,	1,126 62
“ for bonds sold,	2,475 00
“ for coupons sold,	444 00
“ Mrs. Scribner for wood,	8 00
“ State Treas'r, savings bank tax,	624 45
“ “ railroad tax,	58 05
“ “ literary fund,	78 05
“ County for support of paupers,	424 35
“ J. B. Dunlap, int. on taxes, 1871,	46 25
“ “ “ 1872,	13 85

1873. February 28.

Received of D. C. Stevens for 900 ft. lumber,	\$13 50
“ rent of Stevens place,	10 00
“ cash and articles sold, Stevens est.,	12 00

	\$5,934 52
Received for town notes,	8,513 78

\$22,177 04

E X P E N D I T U R E S .

1872.

Paid on town notes,	\$12,809 20
State tax,	963 00
County tax,	1,123 78

\$2,086 78

BILLS FOR SHEEP KILLED BY DOGS.

Paid J. C. Smith, 5 sheep,	\$10 00
Isaac S. Blaisdell, 3 sheep,	10 00
J. F. Huntoon, 1 sheep,	1 50
O. B. Stevens, 4 sheep,	7 00
Isaac Sanborn, 4 sheep,	8 00
A. K. Whitmore, 1 sheep,	3 00
C. C. Rogers, 5 sheep,	8 00
J. W. Sanborn, 2 sheep,	3 50
F. B. Calef, 1 sheep,	3 00
E. M. Heath, 5 sheep,	10 00
J. B. Colby, 1 sheep,	3 00
A. P. Dunlap, 1 sheep,	1 00
Robert Smith, jr., 3 sheep,	5 00
	<hr/>
	\$73 00

SCHOOL MONEY.

Paid J. C. Smith, District No 1,	\$250 78
B. F. Scribner, " 2,	218 92
S. B. Greeley, " 3,	96 21
R. F. Batchelder, " 4,	83 43
J. W. Fifield, " 5,	96 81
T. H. Whitaker, " 6,	99 98
Silas Elkins, " 7,	83 97
Ira Oliver, " 8,	62 73
I. N. Sawyer, " 9,	62 98
A. F. Watson, " 10,	57 23
H. P. Shaw, " 11,	79 94
A. C. Thompson, No. 9, in Andover,	4 20
B. F. Stone, 4, in Webster,	7 27
True Flanders, 7, in Warner,	2 25
H. R. Sargent, 12, "	13 97
	<hr/>
	\$1,220 67

SUPPORT OF COUNTY PAUPERS.

Paid Adeline Munroe, board and clothing of	
James Munroe,	\$75 00
Gookin & Dunlap, goods fur. Enoch Davis,	52 00

Paid S. P. Scribner, rent of house for E. Davis,	\$12 00
Evan M. Heath, 1 cord wood,	3 50
M. J. Stevens, 2 1-2 c'ds, wood	7 50
Gookin & Dunlap, goods fur. E. D. Glines,	20 60
D. R. Everett, goods fur.	1 60
W. W. Sleeper, med. att. E. D. Glines' family,	4 00
J. S. Shaw & Bro., flour & meal for E. D. Glines,	3 80
D. C. Stevens, potatoes for E. D. Glines,	42
C. C. Rogers, provisions,	10 12
W. W. Sleeper, med. att. trans't pauper,	16 00
“ “ J. Thurlow,	4 00
Geo. Shaw, board & care of	12 00
D. C. Stevens, board and lodging transient paupers,	1 50
C. C. Rogers, board and lodging transient paupers, and money paid out,	4 00
Polly Fellows, b'd of Emma Heath's child,	15 00

1872.

Paid Eliza Tucker, care of A. W. Glines's wife,	9 00
Gookin & Dunlap, goods for A. W. Glines,	5 05
T. Foote, coffin and shroud for L. Cilley,	11 00
G. P. Titcomb, med. att. in G. W. Ladd's family,	58 75
Gookin & Dunlap, goods for G. W. Ladd,	6 21
D. C. Stevens, “ “	15 27
Aseneth H. Colby, work at G. W. Ladd's	8 00
D. R. Everett, goods fur. Maria Penneman,	56 00
G. P. Titcomb, med. att. M. Penneman,	3 00
W. H. Moulton, wood for “	4 00
Gookin & Dunlap, g'ds fur. Jas. C. Rowe,	4 00
G. P. Titcomb, med att. J. C. Rowe,	2 25

 \$425 57

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

1872. March 7,

Paid T. W. Royleigh, drawing lumber for bridge,	
1870,	\$1 50

November.

Paid John S. Loverin, work on highway near T. Eastman's,	\$3 00
D. W. Roberts, 2 1-2 days on highway, near T. Eastman's,	3 75
Timothy Eastman, one day and use of cart,	2 00
B. F. Shaw, work on highway near do.,	3 59
Levi W. Tucker, highway surveyor, railing bridge and work on road in 1871,	10 25
Dennis Laedin, work on road near T. Eastman's,	3 00
Alexander McAllister, work on road,	1 50
Moses Colby, surveyor, 1871,	7 80
C. A. J. Shaw, for building stone culvert on Franklin new road,	25 00
C.A.J. Shaw, repairing Franklin new road,	17 50
Jonathan French, repairing road,	10 00
Jesse Stevens, drawing stone to centre bd'ge,	1 50
L. B. Shaw, repairing roads,	2 00
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	\$92 30

BILLS FOR BREAKING ROADS.

J. C. Smith, breaking roads,	\$9 75
N. A. Hodge, " "	3 75
S. N. Colby, " "	7 40
Benjamin Buzzell, surv'or, breaking roads,	14 85
Moses Colby, breaking roads,	1 75
Charles Morrill, " "	5 75
Denis Lardin, " "	2 16
John Calef, surveyor, breaking roads,	3 50
T. W. Royleigh, breaking roads,	2 54
W. H. Moulton, " "	6 00
Timothy Eastman, " "	2 35
S. B. Greeley, surveyor, breaking roads,	29 00
A. B. Huntoon, " "	22 10
B. F. Sanborn, " "	6 10
M. P. Thompson, " "	24 40
C. F. Green, " "	10 75
Moody A. Kilborn, " "	13 97

Paid A. C. Pettengill, surveyor, breaking roads,	\$39	80
H. C. Couch, " "	1	20
Evan M. Heath, " "	34	57
W. M. Stevens, " "	28	30
C. A. J. Shaw, " "	14	14
" " " 1871,	4	00
Samuel Emerson, " "	4	55
" " " "	1	60
W. K. Clifford, " "	1	90
E. B. Scribner, " "	12	90
Jesse Stevens, " "	10	40
Moses J. Stevens, " "	8	90
F. C. Shaw, surveyor, " "	24	90
George F. Whitmore, surveyor, " "	2	00
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	\$355	28

ABATEMENTS.

1873.

Paid D. R. McAllister, abatements, 1871,	\$4	45
Lewis Judkins, " "	2	09
Susan H. Eaton, " "	4	18
G. W. Howe, " "	3	92
several abatements, tax book, 1871,	55	29
		<hr/>
	\$69	93
Nathan Kilborn, abatement, 1872,	14	51
Samuel Morse, " "	2	21
Jonathan French, " "	22	44
Francis Shaw, " "	3	27
George F. Searl, " "	2	18
Congregational Society,	10	00
several abatements on tax book, 1872,	57	87
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	\$112	48

1872. Oct. 3

Received of the State Treasurer, bonds to the amount of	\$7,975	00
Cash for bonds as selected from the foregoing receipts,	2,475	00
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Leaving a balance of bonds in the treasury,	\$5,500	00

CLAIMS FOR SHEEP KILLED BY DOGS.

	Claims.	Per cent. allowed.
Benjamin Pettengill, 2nd., unpaid,	\$12 00	\$7 32
S. B. Greeley,	4 00	2 44
Nathaniel Sawyer,	14 00	8 54
Dennis, Lardin,	3 00	1 83
Hale P. Shaw,	4 00	2 44
Benjamin Buzzell,	3 00	1 83
Timothy Eastman	5 00	3 50
L. B. Shaw,	7 00	4 27
D. C. Rolfe,	7 00	4 27
L. W. Tucker,	9 00	5 49
Joseph Smith,	24 00	14 64
John W. Fifield,	15 00	9 15
Buna Sanborn,	3 00	1 83
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		\$67 10

RECAPITULATION.

Cash received for which town notes have been given,	\$8,513 78
Cash from other sources,	13,663 26
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	\$22,177 04
Cash paid on town notes,	\$12,809 20
“ State tax,	963 00
“ county tax,	1,123 78
“ for sheep killed by dogs, 1871,	73 00
“ for schools,	1,220 67
“ county pauper bills,	425 57
“ town pauper bills,	483 00
“ current expenses,	663 15
“ highway and bridges,	92 30
“ breaking roads,	355 28
“ non-resident highway taxes,	88 88
“ damages on highways, 1871,	33 00
“ abatements, on taxes, 1871,	69 93
“ “ “ 1872,	112 48
Due on collector's book, 1872,	1,846 45
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	\$20,359 69

Balance in the hand of treasurer,	\$1,817 35
Amount of notes against the town, with interest added to the first of March, 1873,	\$22,542 35
Due for sheep killed, 1872,	67 10
Total indebtedness of the town,	\$22,609 45

ASSETTS.

Due from collector, 1871,	\$146 85	
“ “ 1872,	1,846 45	
Due from R. B. Kelly's note,	325 00	
“ State bonds,	5,500 00	
Balance in hands of treasurer,	1,817 35	9,635 65
Balance against the town,		\$12,973 80
Respectfully submitted,		

C. C. Rogers,	} Selectmen and Overseers of the poor of Salisbury.
M. C. Webster,	
D. C. Stevens,	

Salisbury, March 3, 1873.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

The undersigned, Auditors of accounts for the year ending March 1, 1873, for the town of Salisbury, have attended to the duty assigned them, and have found the accounts of the Selectmen properly vouched and correctly cast, and the indebtedness of the town is correct, as found in the foregoing statement of the account.

THOMAS H. WHITAKER,	} Auditors.
THOMAS D. LITTLE,	

SUPPORT OF TOWN PAUPERS.

1872.

Paid Z. C. Scribner, board of Edwin Scribner, due March 1, 1872,	\$56 00
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Paid Enoch A. Eastman, board and care of Sally Stevens,	\$18 00
E. A. Eastman, cleansing clothes and assistance at funeral of Sally Stevens,	5 00
Lucy A. Bagley, board of Mrs. Stevens,	16 50
Thos. Foote, coffin and shroud for Sally Stevens,	11 25
John B. Colby, board of James Dunlap for one year,	114 00
Z. C. Scribner, board Edwin Scribner for one year,	156 00
C. C. Rogers, services,	33 50
D. R. Everett, g'ds fur. Harriet Scribner,	52 00
J. C. Smith, moving S. Stevens,	1 50
W. W. Sleeper, catheter, Har't Scribner,	5 00
G. P. Titcomb, med. att. Sally Stevens,	11 25
Sam'l Whittemore, digging grave for S. Stevens,	3 00
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	\$483 00

CURRENT EXPENSES.

Paid T. D. Little, services, board, use of room, horse-keeping,	\$26 00
T. D. Little, error in account,	12 35
Nathan Kilborn, services,	5 40
Moses C. Webster, services,	7 00
C. C. Rogers & Wm. Dunlap, auditors, 71,	6 00
Rep. Press Ass. for printing reports,	32 00
Morrill & Silsby, for note blanks,	80
B. W. Sanborn & Co., books & stationery,	8 13
J. W. Kenneston, certificate,	50
C. C. Rogers, stage fare and expenses to Concord, three times,	7 80
C. C. Rogers, as per bill,	14 00
“ bill paper, pens, & postage,	1 50

1872. October 3.

Paid Mary E. Cogswell, land damage by Franklin new road,	10 00
Morrill and Silsby, checklists & warrants,	1 45

Paid Insurance Co. for town house,	\$8 04
" ins. on S. Stevens house,	1 51
D. S. Prince & Co., saw bill,	20 36
T. D. Little, surveying line between Salisbury and Warner,	4 50
F. P. Bean, board, horse-keeping, and use of room,	7 00
C. E. Smith, care of town house,	2 00
T. H. Whitaker, services town clerk,	25 00
C. C. Rogers, town treasurer,	25 00
Several abatements on book, 1870,	7 55
J. B. Dunlap, services as collector, 1870,	39
" " " 1871,	17 27
" " " 1872,	88 23
J. B. Dunlap, journey to Concord to pay County tax,	3 50
A. B. Thompson, copying non-resident tax,	3 50
A. H. Martin, services as S. S. Com.,	49 75
D. C. Stevens, as per bill,	20 00
" services as selectman,	54 37
C. C. Rogers, board, use of room, and horse-keeping,	27 50
C. C. Rogers, services as selectman,	86 00
M. C. Webster, " "	71 75
Daniel Barnard, for council,	7 00
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	\$663 15
Bills for damages which were due in 1871.	
Paid Geo. M. Smith, damage to horse & sleigh,	\$10 00
Sanborn & Clark, att'ys for C. H. Chase, damage to sleigh,	7 00
C. W. Cole, damage to sleigh & overcoat,	11 00
E. G. Chase, damage to sleigh,	5 00
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	\$33 00
Non-resident highway taxes in labor, 1870,	90
" " 1871,	11 33
" " 1872,	76 65
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	\$88 88
Due from J. B. Dunlap, collector, 1872,	\$1,846 45

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The Superintending School Committee of Salisbury, asks leave to present to the town his annual report.

The public schools of the town have done well as a whole, considering the many disadvantages under which they have labored. It has been a year of fair prosperity for our schools. In country schools there are many obstacles to combat, and if possible, surmount. The whole number of scholars who have attended school in the eleven districts of the town, summer and winter, is about 350; perhaps a little above that amount. Average attendance near 250. Amount paid for instruction and board, some \$850. Over \$1,200 raised by the town for school purposes. Where the balance?

I offer the following detailed account of the schools as kept in the different districts.

DISTRICT No. 1. (South Road.)

Miss Mary E. Smith, teacher of summer term of 18 weeks, with vacation of three or four weeks, dividing the term into 8 and 10 weeks. Number of scholars in attendance, first part, 27, last half 25; average attendance 24 and 21. Miss Smith conducted her charge with her characteristic energy and skill. She had under her care a very interesting infant class of 6 or 8 pupils in whom she seemed to take a deep interest, and they appeared delighted with their teacher. The school was orderly; instruction thorough, and was a profitable term. I award to the teacher the meed of approbation.

Wages per month, including board, \$28.

Winter term taught by Mr. E. C. Foster. Whole number of scholars in attendance, 29; average attendance 27; 29 attended to reading; 29 to spelling; penmanship 7; arithmetic, 22; grammar 10; geography, 13; history 6;

composition 23; algebra 2; analysis 2. Length of term 7 weeks. An experience of about 8 years' teaching makes Mr. Foster appear much at ease in the school room. He both *governs* and *teaches* scholars, a faculty all teachers do not highly possess. In the successful teacher both faculties are combined. This school was short but successful. Not having been informed of the day of its close, I was not present, but hear that the exercises were highly interesting to all. A profitable school. Wages per month, including board, \$40.

DISTRICT No. 2. (Centre Road.)

Miss Nettie A. Martin, teacher of both summer and winter terms. Length of summer term 16 weeks; of winter term 14 weeks. Wages per month, including board, summer \$24; winter, including board, \$28. Whole number in attendance, summer term 27; winter 26. Average attendance, summer 21; winter 17. All the scholars attended to reading and spelling; in summer 9 attended to penmanship; arithmetic 23; grammar 1; geography 16; in winter 27 attended to reading and spelling; 23 to penmanship; arithmetic 24; grammar, 2; geography 16.

Miss Martin has labored hard to conduct her charge to a successful termination. In some matters she has, undoubtedly, misjudged, but she has governed the school with characteristic energy and apparently deep interest. Her influence has been felt out of the school-room as well as in it. The teacher should be independent, self-possessed, and teach more for the sake of the scholars than their own reputation.

DISTRICT No. 3. (Greeley.)

A term of 8 weeks, taught by Miss Frances T. Greeley. Wages per month, including board, \$20; whole number of scholars 4; average attendance 2; 4 attended to reading; 4 to spelling; penmanship 3; geography 3; grammar 1. This was Miss Greeley's first attempt at teaching, consequently lacked experience, an important requisite in the teacher, besides, and which was unfortunate for her, she undertook in her own district, and with her

mates and equals, or nearly so, in education, It was understood by your Committee that the school would be small in numbers, and not far advanced in studies, that the more advanced scholars of the district would not attend. Having that impression permission to commence the school was given with the understanding, as with *all* beginners, that if she could not teach, somebody must take the place who could go on with the school. On visiting the school I found present larger and more advanced scholars than I expected. The school made a fair appearance, and I hoped for success. The day following my first visit several of the larger scholars left, offering as an excuse the *incompetency* of the teacher to instruct. When that had appeared to the Committee the evil would have been remedied. It seems to me the better way would have been for all to have remained till a fair trial was made, then if there was found incompetency, correct the evil. Fair progress was made in study by those who remained. I have no doubt Miss Greeley will succeed better in her next attempt. The state of affairs as connected with that school is to be regretted. Winter term of 7 2-5 weeks, was taught by Mr. Ernest C. Currier. Wages per month, including board, \$26; number of scholars 22. All attended to reading and spelling; penmanship 14; arithmetic 16; grammar 6; geography 9; composition 5; history 2; book-keeping 1; physical geography 1; analysis and parsing 8. Mr. Currier never taught before. He governed his school well; seemed to be thorough in instruction, gentlemanly in demeanor, and sought to improve his pupils in their studies. My impression of the school was better at the close than at the beginning. The teacher seemed as cool and collected on examination day, though in the presence of a large number of visitors, and among them old teachers, as a general of a hundred battles. That *boy* was a *man* in his work. Give him age and experience, and he "will show you how it is done." One of the best school buildings in town.

DISTRICT No. 4. (Scribner's Corner.)

Summer term of 11 weeks was taught by Miss L. Jennie Emery; wages per month, board given, \$10; num-

ber of scholars 12; average attendance 10; three in the district between the age of 4 and 14 not attending school. All were instructed in reading and spelling; penmanship 8; arithmetic 10; grammar 2; geography 8. \$2.30 expended on the scholar. Not much enthusiasm in the school. Miss Emery is kind, gentle in manners and would be respected by all, but from her temperament, is not calculated to infuse so much life and real earnestness into the school as some others would do, yet a good teacher, and her school, in some branches of study, made good progress. Her work is approved.

Winter term of twelve weeks taught by Miss S. A. Sargent. Wages per month, not including board, \$15. Whole number of scholars 18; average attendance 14 1-2. The entire school attended reading and spelling; penmanship 15; arithmetic 17; grammar 3; geography 10. The teacher says in her report: "I had a very pleasant school. The scholars have been orderly and obedient. I have failed to awaken such an interest in the studies as should be felt by all scholars in order that the school may be profitable. The fault may be mine but I have tried my best." The responsibility of a successful school is not wholly on the teacher. There must be capacity to acquire on the part of the pupil, a united district, a pleasant school-room, and the teacher must have the hearty support and co-operation of all in the district. Teachers must be sustained, and by every means encouraged in their work. The school appeared very well at its close.

DISTRICT No. 5. (North Road.)

. Summer and winter terms taught by Miss Ella S. Thompson. Summer term 6 weeks; winter 11 weeks. Wages per month, including board, summer \$19.20; winter \$20.50. Whole number of scholars, summer 16; winter 15. Average attendance, summer term 12 3-4; winter average not given. All attended to reading and spelling both summer and winter. Penmanship 11; arithmetic 14; grammar 4; geography 19; composition 2.

The school was quiet and orderly at the first visit of the Committee and I think so continued to its close. The

teacher was mild, very dignified, and strict in enforcing discipline. She says in her report: "This to me was a pleasant term, all tried to do their best."

The winter term was not quite so successfully conducted. There were more turbulent spirits present. They needed to be held in check by the teacher. A little resistance was offered to the enforcement of discipline, but victory resulted with the teacher. Parents siding with their children and against the teachers in the enforcement of discipline, has been a fruitful source of evil to our schools. There will be "confusion and every evil work" with the schools till this wrong practice stops. As a general thing we must stand by the teachers, even though it be against the natural sympathy and impulses of our nature. If a child be disobedient in school, and persists in his disobedience, he must be brought to terms. If necessary, apply the rod. That is *law* and *religion*. Smart scholars in that district. The teachers work is approved.

DISTRICT No. 6. (Mills.)

Summer term taught by Miss Sarah A. Pettengill. Length of term 16 weeks; wages per month, including board, \$22. Whole number of scholars, first half term 13; last half term 23. Average first half term 13; last half term 23. Three in the district between the age of 4 and 14 not attending school. All the scholars attended to reading and spelling; penmanship 6 and 12; arithmetic 12 and 20; geography 8 and 14; grammar 5 and 5. The school made commendable progress. Reading too dull and monotonous; arithmetic exercises quite good; many of the scholars too low spoken; teacher respected by all; government not quite up to the mark; on the whole a prosperous term. That school needs a Napoleon of a teacher to rouse them to a high pitch of enthusiasm.

Winter term of 7 weeks was taught by Miss Lottie A. Eastman. Wages per month, including board,, \$24. Whole number of scholars 20; average attendance 18. 23 attended to reading and spelling; penmanship 3; arithmetic 21; grammar 9; geography 12; book-keeping 1. The school labored under disadvantages, such as a cold school-house, poor black-boards, and judging from what I

saw at the close, poor wood. At the first visit, on rather a cold morning, on entering the room, I found the seats arranged in a semi-circle about the stove, in as close approximation as circumstances would allow, and there the scholars were assembled for the first morning exercises. An interesting group—fit for an artist to sketch. As the house warmed, back went one seat after another, till all had finally reached their original positions in the room. At my last visit the scene changed a little. I should judge the scholars had practiced gymnastics on a lively scale. It would appear that in some of their physical evolutions some one had come in too close contact with the stove for its safety, for there might have been seen a large boulder on the hearth, holding the door and end re front of the stove in their proper place, which had been broken and disjointed in some, I should believe, of these gymnastic exercises. Indeed, the teacher says they were in constant practice to keep the blood in circulation. Miss Eastman acquitted herself in a most satisfactory and commendable manner. A profitable school.

DISTRICT No. 7. (Smith's Corner.)

Summer and winter terms taught by Miss Dora A. Elkins. Length of summer term 8 weeks; of winter term 12 weeks. Wages per month, summer, board given, \$10; winter term \$15,50. Whole number in attendance summer term 8; average attendance 6; winter 9; average attendance 7. Eight attended to reading and spelling in summer, 9 in winter; 8 attended to penmanship; 9 to grammar; 4 to geography. Winter about the same as summer. Irregularity of attendance at these schools operated as an impediment to their advancement. Do parents fully understand this? I fear not. Miss Elkins is a kind, faithful teacher, and labors hard to improve her charge. She was measurably rewarded for her industry and faithfulness.

DISTRICT No. 8. (Thompson's Corner.)

One term of 12 weeks for the year, fall, Miss Nellie S. Oliver, teacher. Wages, including board, \$20. Whole number of scholars in attendance 7; average attendance

5 1-2. Number of scholars in the district between the ages of 4 and 14 not attending school, 1. Seven attended to reading and spelling; 3 to grammar; arithmetic 7; penmanship 7; composition 3; history 1; book-keeping 1. The school was well governed and well taught. A modest, unassuming, faithful teacher, and obedient scholars—some excellent scholars.

DISTRICT No. 9. (Loverin Hill.)

The schools for the year can be reported only from memory, registers not returned. The summer term was taught by Miss Lizzie G. Clark, an intellectual, cultivated young lady, full of kindness and good-will towards all. I think Miss Clark relied too much on the better nature of the scholars for obedience to her authority in the school-room. A heart that thinks and knows no evil in its itself is ready to trust where it sometimes should be suspicious and distrustful. The teacher appeared faithful, and *taught* her school, but failed to keep turbulent spirits in complete subjection. The scholars learned finely.

Fall term was taught by Miss Smith. This school appeared well at its close. The house was cold, the wood poor, the fire more reluctant to burn the wood than the scholars to obey the teacher. This was Miss Smith's first effort at teaching, but she did well.

DISTRICT No. 10. (Mountain.)

One term of 9 weeks, taught by Carrie P. Watson. Wages per month, including board, \$23. Whole number of scholars attending 4; average attendance 3. At the first visit (and only visit) of the committee only two scholars were present. These were advanced scholars. Two more came in afternoon. The teacher said she found enough to do to keep her employed. Miss Watson had taught 133 months previous to this term; had attended 20 teachers' institutes. Well fitted to teach. In her report she informed me that she had a pleasant term, scholars advanced; school profitable.

DISTRICT No. 11. (Shaw's Hill.)

Summer term taught by Miss Annie C. Shaw. Length of term 8 weeks. Wages per month, including board, \$10. Number of scholars in attendance 10 ; average attendance 8. All attended to reading and spelling ; penmanship 5 ; arithmetic 7 ; grammar 2 ; geography 5 ; history 2. Miss Shaw made her first effort at teaching in her own district, which is of doubtful expediency, unless it is the expressed choice of the district in general. She succeeded in preserving good order, and carrying her pupils forward in their studies. A little more experience and acquired ability will place her in the foremost rank as a teacher.

Winter term of 10 weeks, taught by Miss Sarah A. Pettengill. Wages per month, including board, \$24. Whole number of scholars 13 ; average attendance 10. All attended to reading and spelling ; penmanship 8 ; arithmetic 9 ; grammar 2 ; geography 6 ; history 2. Miss Pettengill is recognized in this section as a kind and successful teacher, who wins the affections of all, and though not ruling with a rod of iron, will better succeed, even with a difficult school, than many who apply the rod for every offence.

GENERAL REMARKS.

There are several improvements needed to make our schools what they should be, but I mention only one or two.

1. *We need better school houses.* The school-houses should be both convenient and attractive. In its situation and surroundings, as well as in its construction and furniture, it should be cheerful and pleasant. The house should not be located in or near a quagmire, nor in the woods among mosquitos, because, forsooth, it is "jest the center of the district." Lay aside selfishness, and locate the house in the best place and near the center as a *good site* will admit. Let the scenes associated with childhood's early school-days be a thing of beauty, which is a "joy forever." Do not repel, but attract. Do not lay burdens, but add as much as possible to the pleasure of learning. This is the verdict of common sense in the

matter. Does our common practice tally with our common sense? Do not some of our school-houses look more like sheep-barns and pig-pens than places where the "young idea is taught how to shoot?" We do not want school-houses for our children that a stranger would take for pens for pigs, or hovels for cattle! Some of the school-houses of the town are no longer *fit for school purposes*, and ought to be repaired at once. The very lives of our children are jeopardized in them in winter. The blood is chilled, and disease engendered. In my rounds among the schools the past winter, I have observed the suffering of the scholars. Blame the teachers for not learning the child more when half the time, when at school, he is actually suffering with cold. Be charitable towards teachers and scholars till we have suitable places for them.

Nothing has so much retarded the progress of some of our schools the past winter as our shaky, dilapidated old "knowledge boxes." I know what the suffering has been in the schools, from observation and *experience*. Then think, oh! think, parents, of your little ones in these shaky houses, with thermometer at 10 or 20 below, shivering with the cold, with flesh blue as a Black Spanish fowl's, then to be reprimanded by a thoughtless teacher for restlessness, and you have before you a scene in the school-room not pleasant to contemplate. Are not the school-houses of our State a blot to our fair history and character. I hope the day is not far distant when New Hampshire will awake to a profound sense of her obligations in respect to this important matter. Build more and *better school-houses*, and we shall need fewer jails and penitentiaries.

2. We need better teachers generally. Throw away the old hypothesis that most anything will *do* for our common schools, especially for the smaller schools. Our primary schools need the *best teachers*. Start the training right, and the children can better take care of themselves; better resist the influence of wrong instruction. But start them wrong, and how much waste of time and strength there must be in overcoming false notions of study, in correcting errors and unlearning what has been incorrectly taught. Look at the system of early training among the Roman Jesuits. The wheels of the Great Reformation were almost

stopped by these cunning Jesuits. Everywhere they founded schools, and to this rule was to be ascribed their wonderful success. According as one was found fit for his position, and proved it by the rapid progress of his pupils, he was *promoted* in the school, by being placed over the class junior to his own, until the ablest teacher was found, and he was set to teach the rudiments only on the sound principle that after the desired ideas have once been deeply planted in the mind and heart the pupil may now safely be left to other influences. The cheapest teacher is the costliest. Get the best teachers for the youngest scholars. And if the district is so poor that they cannot pay half as much to educate the immortal minds of their children as they do for the "filthy weed," let them have a good teacher for one month in the year, if the money won't go further, rather than have a poor school and a poor teacher the year round. Teaching must become a profession, and teachers must teach, not because they can get a few dollars more easily so than by chopping wood and sweeping the house, but because it is their profession.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

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Superintending School Committee.

Salisbury, March 1, 1873.