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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
SELECTMEN, TREASURER,  
AND  
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
TOWN OF DERRY,  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1877.

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LAWRENCE, MASS.:  
HAMMON REED, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,  
EAGLE OFFICE,  
1877.

NEW HAMPSHIRE  
STATE LIBRARY



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THE AMOUNT OF TAXES ASSESSED FOR THE YEAR  
1876 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

State Tax,	\$1,988 00
County Tax,	2,020 25
Town Tax,	2,000 00
Town Tax, special, by vote of the Town,	577 64
School Tax, by law required,	1,739 50
Special Tax in No. 3 School District,	26 44
“ “ “ “ 8 “ “	41 00
“ “ “ “ 11 “ “	175 00
Non-Resident Highway Tax,	157 26
Amount of Tax on Dogs,	130 00
Amount per cent. by law allowed,	<del>298 47</del>
	<u>306.74</u>
	<del>\$9,353 56</del>
	9,161.88

RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR 1876.

Cash in Treasury March 1st, 1876,	\$3,041 36
Rec'd balance of Collector's List for 1875,	1,617 00
“ Mrs. Pamela Nowell's Legacy,	2,000 00
“ Mrs. Pamela Nowell's Legacy, in- terest to be used for improving grave yard	500 00

Rec'd from State Treasurer, Savings Bank Tax,	1,896 62
“ from State Treasurer, Railroad Tax,	469 05
“ from State Treasurer, Literary Fund,	140 40
“ From County Treasurer, on Pauper Claims,	344 73
“ from G. C. Bartlett, interest on Dr. Brown's Legacy.	30 00
“ from Interest on Taxes,	15 52
“ from W. W. Poor and Mr. Webster, use of derrick,	16 00
“ from Wm. Palmer, for sieve,	2 00
“ from H. E. Eastman, wood used by Grangers, Oct. 25, 1876,	1 50
“ from James Taylor, for old Plank,	50
Dr. Brown's note in Treasury,	500 00
On Tax List of 1876,	7,475 83
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	\$18,050 51

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### EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR 1876.

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#### SCHOOLS.

Paid George W. Batchelder, Dist. No. 1,	305 98
James P. Palmer, “ “ 2,	370 22
Enoch Parshley, “ “ 3,	224 30
Joseph R. Clark, special tax, District No. 3,	26 44

Paid Albert H. Lowe,	Dist- No. 4,	146 98
John Scott,	" " 5,	94 14
M. C. Bartlett,	" " 6,	96 64
Wm. Merrifield,	" " 7,	172 47
James E. Morrill,	" " 8,	205 69
N. H. Brown, special tax,	" " 8,	41 00
John E. Webster,	" " 9,	129 88
C. P. Thibbetts,	" " 10,	48 09
George C. Currier,	" " 11,	155 18
James Priest, special tax,	" " 11,	175 00
Joshua Morse,	" " 12,	119 17
Jacob A. Townsend, Hampstead, Dist.		
No. 4,		11 80
Richard Taylor, Salem, Dist. No. 4,		11 39
Edwin Hazletine, Chester, Dist. No. 7,		7 97
		<hr/>
		\$2342 34

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### TOWN HOUSE.

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Paid bills of J. W. Greely, J. Montgomery,		
R. Fellows, George Moore, Law-		
rence Lumber Co., Pike & Heald, as		
by vote of town,		\$577 64
N. H. Brown, 7 cords hard wood at		
\$4.75 per cord,		33 25
R. H. Clark, 2 cords pine at \$3.00 per		
cord,		6 00

Paid Pike & Heald, stove and other fixtures,	17 75
Fred. J. Shepard, grading and other work,	17 50
F. W. Parker for fence and painting,	35 69
F. W. Parker, for oil, chimnies, &c.,	6 56
R. H. Clark for work about chimney,	2 80
J. B. Varick for door stops, window rings, &c.,	1 15
E. P. Upton for large oil can,	2 50
George W. Weston, recording 2 deeds,	1 46
Henry E. Eastman, bill paid and care of Town House,	4 00
Fred. J. Shepard, care of Town House,	3 55
	<hr/>
	\$709 85

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### ABATEMENTS.

Paid G. O. Reynolds on Taxes,	\$139 60
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### NOTES AND INTEREST.

Paid Estate Mary J. Whidden, bond and interest,	\$160 35
M. R. Adams, note and interest,	315 62
James Nowell, " " "	515 63



Paid Samuel Nowell,	interest,	55 00
James Nowell,	"	360 00
M. G. Sleeper,	"	60 00
George Warner,	"	50 00
S. Reynolds & S. E. Whidden,	"	20 00
		<hr/>
		\$1,536 60

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### BOOKS AND STATIONARY.

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Paid Hammon Reed, printing Town Re- ports and 2 large Record Books,	\$86 00
Bartlett Brothers, printing Tax and other bills	5 20
G. O. Reynolds, postage stamps, pa- per, &c.,	1 20
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	\$92 40

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### GRAVE YARD.

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Paid George Richards, services as sexton,	\$57 50
F. W. Parker, for one steel shovel,	1 20
	<hr/>
	\$58 70

## NON-RESIDENT HIGHWAY TAX RECEIPTS.

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Paid G. O. Reynolds, \$163 82

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## COUNTY TAX.

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Paid George E. Lane, \$2,020 25

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## STATE TAX.

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Paid Solon A. Carter, \$1,988 00

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## MISCELLANEOUS.

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Paid George W. Weston, for recording deed,  
 land for pound, \$ 73  
 H. E. Eastman & J. C. Taylor, \$25.00  
 each, ringing bell, 50 00  
 R. H. Clark, cash paid for sheep killed  
 by dogs, 26 00

Paid C. K. Walker, for derrick,	125 00
W. Poor, for repairs on hearse	78 50
H. E. Eastman, tolling bell,	4 00
W. P. Clark, tolling bell,	2 50
C. G. Connor, for statement of court,	50
G. O. Reynolds, time and expenses to Concord, to settle State Tax,	4 00
G. O. Reynolds, time and expenses to Franklin, for Mrs. Nowell's legacy,	5 00
G. O. Reynolds, time and expenses to Exeter, to settle pauper bills,	5 00
Henry B. Gilkey, statement in Town case,	1 00
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	\$302 23

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SNOW PATHS.

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Paid James H. Eaton,	\$11 55
R. R. Rand,	24 65
M. F. Miltemore,	10 00
C. M. Clyde,	9 00
H. A. Hill,	25 05
George Taylor,	6 70
Sewell Floyd,	4 45
John Jackson,	3 30
A. Morrison,	11 03

Paid Ezra Rogers,	6 80
Charles Rand,	4 00
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	\$116 53

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 POOR.
 

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Paid Mary A. Bean,	\$5 00
James H. Eaton, for N. S. Sheldon,	59 00
Dr. James H. Crombie, for A. O. Ryan,	60 00
F. W. Parker, for J. W. Towns,	43 73
N. H. Brown, wood for J. W. Towns,	12 00
Joseph Klein, wood for Mrs. M. Hum- phrey,	8 00
J. D. Ordway, supplies for Lydia Mills,	2 00
Dr. David S. Clark, attendance on E. A. Sturtevant,	54 00
Mrs. A. Smith, board, E. A. Sturtevant,	33 00
G. O. Reynolds, supplies for George Alexander,	53 00
C. H. Day, \$10.00 for wood for A. O. Ryan, and J. G. Hubbard \$5.00 for taking Carr child to County Farm,	15 00
	<hr/>
	\$344 73

## NEW ROAD FROM DEPOT TO J. FOLSOM'S.

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Paid J. R. Clark, County Commissioner's bill,	\$90 65
Mrs. Emma C. Boyd, land damages,	407 00
Horne Brothers, land damages	3 00
Henry D. Karr, land damages,	471 00
Gardner & Sawyer, for building road and culverts,	593 20
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	\$1,564 85

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## ROADS AND BRIDGES.

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Paid James H. Eaton \$9.00, and R. H. Clark \$14.30,	\$23 30
R. R. Rand,	132 72
G. O. Reynolds, for work done at wash out, Pond Bridges,	18 00
G. O. Reynolds, for work at Ellison's Hill,	13 20
J. G. Hubbard, overwork,	112 78
John Webster, John Rowell and others on Holmes Bridge,	108 25
J. L. Cunningham \$5.00, M. F. Hill \$7.00,	12 00

Paid M. E. Hamilton, for land damage, Ellison Hill,	30 00
S. D. Jones, R. R. Rand, Ira Reynolds and others, moving wall, Ellison Hill,	27 00
Horne Brothers, for lumber for Horn's Bridge, No. 1,	114 57
C. & C. M. Clyde, for land taken and work done,	18 50
Jonas Herrick, for moving small stones,	2 00
M. F. Miltemore, for overwork,	23 99
John E. Webster, John Rowell & Son, J. Dana and others, Horn's Bridge,	251 55
Wm. Merrifield, railing, Gulf Bridge, and overwork,	91 40
H. A. Hills, overwork on roads,	131 98
J. P. Whidden \$28.55, and Charles P. Taylor \$1.25,	29 80
H. S. Wheeler \$10.12, and Alonzo Kimball \$18.95,	29 07
George Taylor \$3.70, G. Hill \$4.50, overwork on roads,	8 20
Edward L. Jones,	129 89
Joshua Morse \$39.00, W. J. Drew \$38 24, overwork,	98 24
Horne Brothers, for stringers and plank for bridge No. 2 at Horns,	45 15
Horne Brothers, for stringers and plank for bridge at Holmes'	82 67
Horne Bros., for plank, Pond Bridge, Taylor & Drews,	31 12

Paid George K. Whitney, \$6.66, John C. Murdock \$9.00,	15 66
John Scott \$29.71, C. H. Sargent, \$15.95,	45 66
Hiram Sargent \$17.50, Wm. D. White, \$25.00,	42 50
Edmund Adams, for lumber and work near mill,	33 18
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	\$1,702 38

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TOWN OFFICERS.

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Paid I. H. Jones, Constable,	\$7 00
I. H. Jones, Supt. School Committee,	45 00
C. C. Johnson, Auditor,	2 00
F. W. Parker, Town Clerk,	20 00
R. H. Clark, Town Treasurer,	25 00
G. O. Reynolds, balance due collecting list of 1875,	25 00
G. O. Reynolds, balance due collecting list of 1876,	125 00
J. G. Hubbard, services as Selectman,	45 60
John E. Webster, " " "	69 25
John E. Webster, " " "	
balance to 1876,	9 00

Paid Joshua Morse, services as Selectman, balance to 1876,	13 00
G. O. Reynolds, services as Selectman, balance to 1876,	17 00
G. O. Reynolds, services as Selectman, balance to Feb. 24th, 1877,	106 00
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	\$508 85

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LOCKUP.

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Paid J. G. Hubbard, for bricks, iron door, iron bedsteads, &c.,	\$96 05
Wm. Palmer, H. Johnson and others, work,	61 17
for 4 mattresses, pillows, blankets, sheets, &c.,	39 25
Mr. Richard's bill for iron work,	8 76
Pike & Heald, for stove, sheathing &c.,	25 17
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	\$230 40

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TRAMPS.

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Paid J. G. Hubbard, J. E. Webster, A. B. Smith, J. C. Sanders, from Sept. 13th to Dec. 13th, 28 tramps, at 75 cents each,	21 00
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Paid George Richards, from Dec. 13th to March 1st, 33 at $37\frac{1}{2}$ cents each,	12 37
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	\$33 37

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SUMMARY.

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Schools,	\$2,342 34
Town House,	709 85
Abatements,	139 60
Notes and Interest Paid,	1,536 60
Books and Stationery,	92 40
Grave Yard,	58 70
Non-Resident Highway Tax, Receipts,	163 82
County Tax,	2,020 25
State Tax,	1,988 00
Miscellaneous,	302 23
Snow Paths,	116 53
Town's Poor,	344 73
New Road,	1,564 85
Roads and Bridges,	1,702 38
Town Officers,	508 85
Lockup,	230 40
Tramps,	33 37
Cash in Treasury and Dr. Brown's Note,	4,195 61
	<hr/>
	\$18,050 51

## BALANCE SHEET.

## TOWN OF DERRY DR.

Amount of funded debt,	2,000 00
Notes payable,	9,200 00
Interest due March 1st, 1877,	180 00
	<hr/>
	\$11,380 00

## CR.

By amount of uncollected taxes,	1,686 00
cash in treasury and Dr. Brown's note,	4,195 61
	<hr/>
	5,881 61
Amount of town debt,	5,498 39
	<hr/>
	\$11,380 00

Respectfully submitted,

GAYTON O. REYNOLDS,

JOHN E. WEBSTER,

JOSHUA G. HUBBARD,

} *Selectmen  
of  
Derry.*

DERRY, Feb. 28th, 1877.

This certifies that I have examined the foregoing accounts, as presented by the Selectmen, and find them correctly cast, and satisfactory vouchers corresponding thereto.

I. A. DUSTIN, *Auditor.*

## G. O. REYNOLDS, COLLECTOR.

## DR.

To balance of uncollected on list of 1875,	\$1,617 00
list of taxes for 1876,	9,161 83
	<hr/>
	\$10,778 83

## CR.

By paid Town Treasurer, list of 1875,	\$1,617 00
paid Town Treasurer, list of 1876,	7,475 83
balance of uncollected, list of 1876,	1686 00
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	\$10,778 83

ROBERT H. CLARKE, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH  
THE TOWN OF DERRY.

## DEBTOR.

March, 1876, Cash in Treasury,	\$3041 36
Dr. Brown note,	500 00
To cash from State Treasurer, Savings Bank tax, 1896	62
“ “ “ Railroad tax,	469 05
Literary fund,	140 40

From County Treasurer,	344 73
Received of Selectmen, legacy of Mrs. Parmelia Nowell,	2000 00
Received of Selectmen, legacy of Mrs. Parmelia Nowell, (the interest to be expended for im- provement and adorning the town burying ground,)	500 00
Interest on Dr. Brown's legacy,	30 00
Received of William Palmer for sieve,	2 00
Received of W. W. Poor, use of derrick,	16 00
Received of James Taylor, for old plank,	50
Received of H. E. Eastman, for wood,	1 50
Interest on taxes,	15 52
Balance of Collector's list for 1875,	1617 00
Received on Collector's list for 1876,	7475 83
	<hr/>
	\$18,050 51

## CREDIT.

By paid orders of Selectmen,	\$13,854 90
Dr. Brown note,	500 00
Cash in Treasury,	3,695 61
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	\$18,050 51

ROBERT H. CLARKE, TREASURER.

I have examined the Treasurer's account and find the same correctly cast, and satisfactory vouchers corresponding thereto.

I. A. DUSTIN, AUDITOR.

February 28th, 1877.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT AND TOWN SYSTEMS.

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The Committee appointed at the last annual Town Meeting to consider the question, "Is it expedient to make any change in the school system of this town," have given the subject their careful attention, and a majority recommend the abolition of the district system, and the substitution of the town system.

The latter system places the whole control and management of the schools, in the hands of one board; they hire and fix the wages of the teachers, look after the school houses and see to their repairs, and aim to secure thorough teaching and good discipline.

It equalizes the school advantages in the various sections of the town, as the tax that supports the schools is levied equally upon all parts of the town, and as the object contemplated, which alone justifies such taxation, is the education of all the children of the town without distinction, it is both just and expedient that there should be an equal provision for all. Our former Superintendent of public instruction, Mr. J. W. Simonds, says in his report to the General Court in 1875, "the optional law does not intend or permit a consolidation of schools," meaning thereby that all the scholars of the several schools in town shall attend school at the business centre of the town. Its grand principle is, that it equalizes the advantages of the schools in all parts of the town.

The leading features of the act are :

1. It abolishes the subdivision of towns into school districts.

2. It makes of the entire town one school district. The town thus becomes a unit for school purposes; the school buildings are owned by the town; the town repairs and builds all school houses.

3. It establishes and maintains in the different neighborhoods so many schools and of such grade as the good of the neighborhood requires.

4. It simplifies the management of the schools, and places them under the control of one set of officers. Thus it tends to secure that system and uniformity of instruction and management so much desired.

5. It enables the board of education to establish a town high school, free to all scholars prepared to enter it.

6. It secures a more economical and judicious expenditure of the public school fund.

This act has been adopted in several towns of the state, and been in operation three and four years, where the people are satisfied with its working. In answer to a circular of inquiry addressed to the superintending school committee of the several towns in the state, in 1873, eighty per cent. of the answers approved of the provisions of the act, and advised its adoption.

We are confident that if, with the approval of a majority of the citizens, the schools in all the towns of our state were placed under the town system of school government, the greater number of defects and obstacles that now weigh down the work of our public schools would be removed. The public schools of the state were governed by the town system from their earliest establishment in the several towns until within the last fifty years. During that period these schools were of the greatest service to the state.

Mr. Pailbrick, a native of New Hampshire, who has

made education his life work, and who for the last twenty years has been superintendent of the Boston schools, writes in 1866, he being a member of the State Board of Education: "In the General Statutes it is made the duty of every town divided into districts to vote at the next annual town meeting upon the question of abolishing such districts. It is earnestly hoped that when this vote comes to be taken, it will result in the total abolition of the district system. Reason and fact alike condemn it as a fruitful source of inconveniences and evils. It perpetuates poor school-houses, inefficient teachers, and neighborhood feuds and jealousies. It prevents the equalization of school advantages and stands in the way of a proper classification of pupils. As compared with the town system, it is at once expensive and inefficient. For these and other reasons, the highest authorities in educational economy agree in pronouncing an emphatic verdict against it." Horace Mann, at the close of his long term of service as secretary, said of it: "I consider the law of 1789, authorizing towns to divide themselves into districts, the most unfortunate law, on the subject of common schools, ever enacted in the State." Barnas Sears, who devoted the greater part of an able report to the exposition of its evils, said: "The division of a town into independent districts is a great sacrifice of economy for which no equivalent is received." Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell, with great earnestness, on all proper occasions, urged its discontinuance, and in his last report said: "I trust that the day will again and speedily be seen when every town will, in its municipal capacity, manage its schools and equalize the expenses of education."

Hon. Joseph White, Mr. Boutwell's successor, said of the district system: "Defiant and frowning, it stands

square in the path. It cannot be avoided ; a ' flank movement ' will not turn it, and there is no room for compromise. Then, and then only, will further advance be possible, when the people, in the exercise of that power which is their right, and of that wisdom which an unfortunate experience has given, shall remove the obstruction from the way."

In a report written by W. D. Henkle, Commissioner of Common Schools of Ohio for 1870, addressed to his Excellency, Rutherford B. Hayes, then Governor of Ohio, we find the following: " It is believed that the present mongrel system should give place to the purely township system, in which all the schools of a township should be under the exclusive control of a board of education, chosen by the electors of the township. In this case, the system would conform to that which has been adopted in most of the towns of the State with such satisfactory results. The experience of other States, in which the purely township system has been tried, demonstrates its superiority to the district system."

Mr. Henkle's successor, Thomas W. Harvey, a native of New Hampshire, author of a series of school books, and one of the most prominent educators in the West, says in his report in 1873: " There is, in reality, no good reason why the conduct of school affairs in country and village districts should essentially differ. A radical change in the organization of township boards, involving the abandonment of sub-district boundaries, is therefore advocated by the most thoughtful observers of the operation of our school system. The township or single district system has been tested in Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and several other states, and its merits fully established. The opposition it meets with comes principally



from localities in which there is comparatively little or no interest taken in educational matters.”

We have referred largely in this report to authorities from Massachusetts and Ohio, and as an excuse for such repeated reference (if excuse be needed) let it be remembered that in our Educational Exhibit at the late Centennial these two States stood side by side in acknowledged advance of all the others.

Citizens of Derry, the report and recommendation of your Committee is before you. It is to be hoped that all will give the subject careful and unbiased thought, and then we are sure the result will be schools of which our town may justly be proud, and which will help to keep Derry where it has long stood, foremost in the intelligence of its inhabitants.

NATHAN B. PRESCOTT,  
 JOSEPH MONTGOMERY,  
 E. S. HUNTRESS,  
 MISS E. L. TAYLOR,  
 MISS JULIA J. UNDERHILL,  
 MISS EMMA SHUTE,  
 MISS JULIA M. CURRIER,  
 JOSEPH W. BEAN,  
 JOHN M. PALMER,  
 GEORGE K. WHITNEY,  
 J. G. HUBBARD,  
 GEORGE TAYLOR,  
 HORACE A. HILL,  
 JAMES PRIEST,  
 JOSHUA MORSE.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL DISTRICT AND TOWN SYSTEMS.

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### MINORITY REPORT.

#### TO THE SELECTMEN OF DERRY:

At the annual town meeting, holden in March, 1876, the town raised a committee of two persons from each school district, numbering twenty-four persons in all, to take into consideration the following question:

“Is it expedient to make any change in the school district system of the town?” and report at the next annual meeting, said committee to serve without pay.

The committee met five different times, there being no quorum present until the last meeting.

After full discussion of the subject, the following resolution was passed, 10 in the affirmative and 5 in the negative, 15 being the whole number present:

“*Resolved*, That the district system is cumbersome and unwieldy, and a clog to the educational progress of the town, and ought to be abolished at once.”

Immediately upon the passage of the resolution, one of the minority moved that the chairman (Mr. Prescott), report to the town agreeably to our instructions the foregoing resolution, which motion was put, and passed unanimously.

A motion was at once made to adjourn the committee indefinitely, which also passed without dissent; of course there was no further duty for the committee nor any member of the committee to perform, except the chairman's duty of reporting to the town, as above instructed.

It has accidentally come to our knowledge that you intend to incorporate into the printed town report about to be published, what purports to have been the action of the full committee, setting forth some eight or ten pages of closely written matter, as being passed upon by a majority of the same; but as a matter of fact only ten of the committee in open meeting ever assented even to the adoption of the resolution heretofore cited, and that there never was any action taken in open committee upon what has been presented to you for publication.

Therefore the undersigned, the minority, voting on all matters coming before the committee in open meeting protest that you have no moral or legal right to publish any action taken in full committee; much less to insert in your report any matter that is altogether unauthorized, for the whole transaction would be contrary to the spirit and letter of the vote raising the committee.

But if you persist in so doing, we respectfully ask you to insert this our most earnest protest.

Derry, March 2, 1877

JOSEPH R. CLARK,  
GEO. W. PINKERTON,  
JOHN NICHOLS,  
N. H. BROWN.



## SCHOOL REPORT.

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The date of the fourth annual report made by your committee shows the schools, with one exception, finished for the year. We look back upon a season perhaps exceeding the average in some respects.

With the awakened interest in matters pertaining to education, the increased facilities for preparation furnished to those desiring to teach, and the consciousness on the part of teachers that their proceedings are likely to be carefully inspected, it is reasonable to suppose that they should exert themselves wisely and shrewdly, to meet the wishes and expectations of the public, whose servants they are.

A brief report of the year's doing in the several districts is appended.

### DISTRICT No. 1.

The teacher during the summer and fall terms was Miss Hattie F. Ring, who entered upon her work with a thorough interest in it.

She was highly esteemed by her pupils, held them kindly under good control, and aided them in making fair progress in their various studies.

During the winter the district has been favored with the energetic and successful labors of Mr. Joseph W. Bean.

Order reigned and good advancement was made.

Special praise should be given to the classes in reading and arithmetic.

### DISTRICT No. 2.

The first and second terms of this large and somewhat difficult school were taught by Miss Abbie F. Palmer. It was her first work in the schoolroom, and the result was highly creditable to her.

The work of the school was conducted in a quiet and orderly manner, the instructions correct, and the general improvement in scholarship was highly satisfactory.

The winter term, taught by J. H. Jones, will close March 9th.

### DISTRICT No. 3.

Miss Lizzie Montgomery was engaged by the Prudential Committee to continue her acceptable services in this district, and taught through the summer and fall terms successfully.

The school, though small, is noticeable for its good order and the attention to, and interest in, their studies, manifested by the scholars.

The winter school was taught by Mr. John A. Ela.

Teacher and scholars worked together for their mutual benefit. Quietness and good progress were noticeable.

#### DISTRICT No. 4.

The first term of eight weeks was taught by Miss Olive S. Horne.

The school seemed to be flourishing at an early visit, and was well reported by citizens of the district.

A misunderstanding as to the time, prevented a visit at the close of the term.

The winter term commenced with good prospects, under the care of Miss Ella J. Burns, but dissatisfaction was soon manifested by some of the inhabitants of the district.

A somewhat careful examination and inquiry showed the principal cause to be the desire of the teacher that her scholars should make earnest efforts to help themselves, before receiving her aid in their studies.

We believe the term to have been a profitable one to the school.

#### DISTRICT No. 5.

Miss L. J. Wadsworth, the teacher in number 5, is a lady of large experience, who is perfectly at home in the school-room and familiar with all the

details of teaching. We can only say that to the observance of your committee from first to last, everything was correctly managed, and the pupils profited well by their instruction.

#### DISTRICT No. 6.

Miss Amanda B. Nichols was re-engaged for the past school season and discharged her duties well. The pupils respected their teacher, attended to business, and the various classes appeared well.

#### DISTRICT No. 7.

Here again the teacher of 1875, Miss Emma J. Adams, was retained for another term of profitable service. She labored faithfully and her school was always in good working order when visited.

#### DISTRICT No. 8.

The committee of this district wisely engaged the services of an experienced and successful teacher, Miss Mary Coolidge, and the school, though interrupted somewhat by the illness of the teacher, was prosperous. The examinations were well conducted, answers generally prompt, and showed steady and commendable progress in all the studies pursued.



## DISTRICT No. 9.

This school was always in order, always at work, in charge of Miss Fanny M. Webster, who had spent years of her valuable time in this school-room. Scholars were thoroughly instructed in the matters most needful to them. Natural history, music and the fine arts were not neglected, and much progress was made in the acquirement of a sound and thorough education.

## DISTRICT No. 11.

The young teacher in this district, Miss Emma F. Allbee, had spent much time and labor in thoroughly qualifying herself for the discharge of her duties, and evidently commenced her work with no doubts as to the proper course to be pursued. She succeeded admirably, and the testimony of those who visited the school authorizes a high commendation.

## DISTRICT No. 12.

Again we find the teacher of the previous year in the school-room, and listen to recitations in algebra, geometry and latin; notice that every member of the school is present, and that all are earnest in study and are going forward rapidly. The district was fortunate in securing the services of Miss Mary A. Morse. The pupils still stand ahead of other districts in constant attendance, exceeding even their former record.

Dist. No.	Term.	Teachers.	Wages per mo.	Length of term.	No. of scholars	Average attendance.	Amount of school money.	Prudential Committee.
1	Summer	Hattie F. Ring	\$29 00	16	31	24	\$305 98	George W. Batchelder.
1	Winter	Joseph W. Bean	45 00	14	25	22		George W. Batchelder.
2	Summer	Abbie F. Palmer	40 00	19	53	42	370 22	James P. Palmer.
2	Winter	J. H. Jones	45 00	12	43	35		James P. Palmer.
3	Summer	Lizzie Montgomery	30 00	18	16	12	224 30	Enoch Parshley.
3	Winter	John A. Ela	32 00	12	14	11		Enoch Parshley.
4	Summer	Olive S. Horne	32 00	8	28	25	146 98	Albert H. Lowe.
4	Winter	Ella J. Burns	32 00	8	28	23		Albert H. Lowe.
5	Summer	Lois J. Wadsworth	32 00	5	33	28	94 14	John Scott.
5	Fall	Lois J. Wadsworth	32 00	7	32	24		{ John C. Palmer, Geo. K. Whitney.
6	Summer	Amanda B. Nichols	22 00	7	26	20	96 64	Morrill Bartlett.
6	Fall	Amanda B. Nichols	22 00	11	30	23		Morrill Bartlett.
7	Summer.	Emma J. Adams	24 00	8	34	28	172 47	William Merrifield.
7	Fall	Emma J. Adams	24 00	11	33	27		William Merrifield.
8	Summer	Mary Coolidge	31 00	6	22	19	205 69	James E. Morrill.
8	Fall	Mary Coolidge	32 00	18	22	17		James E. Morrill.
9	Summer	Fannie M. Webster	28 00	8	14	13	129 88	John E. Webster.
9	Fall	Fannie M. Webster	28 00	11	15	11		John E. Webster.
11	Summer	Emma F. Albee	24 00	9	19	18	155 18	George C. Currier.
11	Fall	Emma F. Albee	24 00	14	21	19		George C. Currier.
12	Summer	Mary A. Morse	20 00	10	12	11 1-2	119 17	Joshua Morse.
12	Fall	Mary A. Morse	20 00	16	12	11 1-2		Joshua Morse.

The questions respecting changes and improvement which were last year referred to a committee, have within the last few weeks been carefully examined and the opinions of the committee will be laid before you at the annual meeting.

It is to be hoped that prejudice, passion and self-interest will be laid aside in coming to a righteous conclusion upon matters which so deeply concern those who have no voice in their settlement.

Respectfully Submitted,

ISAAC H. JONES, *School Committee.*

MARCH 3, 1877.

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Lawrence, Mass., March 8, 1877.