

1874

Annual Report of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Trustees of Greely Institute, and Supervisor of Schools, of the Town of Cumberland, for the Year Ending March 1874

Cumberland (Me.).

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER,
Trustees of Greely Institute,
AND
SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS,
OF THE
TOWN OF CUMBERLAND,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1874.



PORTLAND, ME. :
DAILY PRESS PRINTING HOUSE, WM. M. MARKS, MANAGER.
1874.

REPORT.

MONEY RAISED MARCH, 1873.

For Schools,	\$1,300 80
“ Poor,	900 00
“ Highway,	2,000 00
“ Notes and Interest,	2,000 00
“ Contingent Bills,	1,200 00
	<hr/>
	\$7,400 80
State tax,	2,563 59
County tax,	723 79
Overlayings,	292 21
	<hr/>
Total,	\$10,980 39

Total valuation, \$544,855.00.

No. of polls, 391.

Rate, \$1.80 per \$100.00.

EXPENDITURES ON HIGHWAYS.

Paid A. M. Small,	\$ 61 50
O. D. Dike, surveying road,	16 00
John Wilson, labor on highway,	8 75
Isaiah Elder, Island road,	1,350 33
C. E. Herrick, labor on highway,	67 25
Chas. H. Merrill, “ “	80 88
A. M. Small, “ “	5 50
Josiah Harris, “ “	14 00
Samuel Skillings, “ “	22 00
Asa Merrill, “ “	25 97

Paid John Blanchard, labor on highway,	\$	60	93
John N. Farwell, “ “		24	00
Nelson M. Shaw, “ “		83	25
F. P. Blanchard, “ “		30	00
Moses Haskell, “ “		22	00
C. H. Blanchard, “ “		20	95
Asa Merrill, “ “		31	40
Peter Merrill, “ “		58	90
Eben Merrill, “ “		4	80
Moses Haskell, “ “		53	10
S. M. Loring, “ “		53	85
I. O. Pearson, “ “		2	50
M. W. Pearson, “ “		30	00
John Blanchard, “ “		87	25
Joseph Sawyer, “ “		8	40
N. M. Shaw, “ “		29	05
Asa Sawyer, “ “		16	80
I. W. Morrison, “ “		23	20
I. W. Morrison, “ “		9	50
A. M. Small, “ “		12	65
Samuel Skillings, “ “		29	35
John Hamilton, “ “		27	17
Daniel Stowell, “ “		48	21
Jeriah Harris, “ “		19	95
J. N. Farwell, “ “		39	55
Charles Wyman, “ “		35	65
M. Morton, “ “		2	00
J. T. Skillin, “ “		4	50
Dana Tuttle, “ “		1	20
Asa Sawyer, “ “		3	00
S. T. Merrill, “ “		66	73
W. H. Wilson, “ “		2	00
C. E. Herrick, “ “		36	10
		<hr/>	
	\$	2,630	12
Sum raised by town,		2,000	00
		<hr/>	
Balance against town,	\$	630	12

MONEY PAID FOR SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid Dr. W. Osgood for visits to J. Doughty,	\$10 00
J. W. Hanscom, board of R. Titcomb,	25 00
Town of Yarmouth, board of S. Simmons,	87 17
J. Stubbs, board of P. Sweetsir,	27 00
J. Stubbs, board of Mrs. P. Sweetsir,	4 08
Hollis St. Clair, wood for R. Titcomb,	8 19
Insane hospital, as per bill,	66 83
Samuel Clough for digging grave,	3 00
John Hanscom, board and funeral expenses R. Titcomb,	47 00
City of Saco for Mary Blanchard,	122 58
H. Eaton for going to depot for remains of Mary Blanchard,	3 00
W. S. Blanchard, for going after remains of Mrs. Blanchard to Saco,	4 53
City of Saco for C. Blanchard,	10 00
C. E. Herrick, taking Mrs. Hamilton to Augusta,	13 60
Mary Rideout, board of Mrs. Sweetsir,	15 00
Leighton and Wilson for J. Doughty,	5 00
Mary Rideout, board of Mrs. Sweetsir,	27 50
Dr. Bates, one visit John Jones,	3 00
C. E. Herrick, taking J. Jones to Augusta,	14 20
C. H. Blanchard, board of F. Blanchard,	35 50
Insane hospital for Mitchell, Eaton, and Mrs. Hamilton,	71 02
Insane hospital for Mitchell, Eaton, and Mrs. Hamilton,	103 28
Mary Rideout, board Mrs. Sweetsir,	30 00
Town of Yarmouth, board of Mrs. Simmons,	63 29
C. H. Blanchard, board of F. Blanchard,	25 00
Enos Blanchard, keeping transient panpers,	2 25
Hamilton & Co. for support poor on Island,	56 15
Mary Rideout, board of Mrs. Sweetsir,	30 00
Insane hospital for Mitchell, Eaton and Jones,	73 83
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	\$1,087 00
Sum raised by town,	900 00
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Balance against town,	\$187 00

NOTES AND INTEREST PAID.

Paid interest on \$250 note,	\$15 00
“ \$1,000 note,	75 00
“ note,	4 87
“ Greely Institute note,	180 00
“ Greely Institute \$12,000 note,	360 00
“ Greely Institute \$6,000 note,	120 00
“ Greely Institute \$318 note,	19 08
“ \$250 note,	15 00
“ Greely Institute \$12,000 & \$6,000 note,	540 00
“ Cumberland school fund,	52 62
“ \$3,325 note,	281 49
Paid interest to Isaiah Elder,	13 32
	\$1,676 38
Amount raised,	2,000 00
	\$323 62

CONTINGENCIES.

Paid A. S. Sweetsir, services as town clerk,	\$3 00
Asa Greely, moderator,	3 00
Joab Black, superintending burying grounds,	3 00
C. Wyman, witness fees,	2 50
C. Wyman, auditing accounts,	1 00
C. Wyman for stringers for bridge,	5 00
William M. Marks for printing reports,	19 00
S. B. Clough, superintending grave yard,	2 50
O. S. Collins, hauling bridge plank,	2 00
Asa Greely, surveying Island road,	11 50
Asa Sawyer for advertising real estate,	3 50
Asa Sawyer “ “	3 00
R. T. Rideout , labor on highway,	1 50
Hoyt, Fogg & Breed, stationery,	96
D. L. Blanchard, recording assessments,	6 00
Dresser, McLellan & Co., stationery,	13 16
Hoyt & Fogg, “	13 31

Paid Benjamin Merrill, witness fees,	\$5 70
C. Wyman, “	4 44
John Wilson, “	5 94
Joseph Sawyer, “	4 50
Levi Lufkin, “	5 94
W. C. Rideout, photographs,	5 00
J. Merrill, labor on highways,	3 40
W. L. Prince, witness fees,	5 94
Reuben Hill, services as selectman,	24 65
C. M. Farwell, collector, tax on A. H. Buxton's real estate,	5 81
C. M. Farwell, collector, tax on Joseph Starling's farm bid in by town,	15 70
Treasurer cost and tax on non-res. lands bid in by town,	6 42
W. S. Blanchard, witness fees,	4 96
W. S. Blanchard, bridge plank,	9 39
Treasurer tax and cost on real estate bid in by town,	36 15
Treasurer “ “ “ “ “	67 35
Treasurer “ “ “ “ “	56 62
Treasurer “ “ “ “ “	9 87
Dresser, McLellan & Co., paper,	75
W. K. Neal, making petition,	2 D0
Asa Sawyer, traveling expenses,	6 50
C. E. Herrick, traveling and other expenses,	40 39
C. M. Farwell, commissions for 1872,	60 65
C. M. Farwell, “ “ 1873,	120 00
W. S. Blanchard, traveling expenses,	12 69
Rev. G. B. Richardson, services as school supervisor,	60 00
Rev. G. B. Richardson, traveling expenses,	31 25
C. E. Herrick, services as selectman,	127 25
W. S. Blsnchard, “ “	81 25
A. S. Sweetsir, “ town clerk,	10 00
Asa Sawyer, “ treasurer,	40 00
John Sawyer, work on highway,	80
Jacob Merrill, as per bill,	3 00
Am't of snow bills for the winters of 1872 & 1873,	405 95
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	\$1,367 19
Sum raised,	1,200 00
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Balance against town,	\$167 19

ABATEMENTS.

Abated as per vote of town, all taxes previous to 1871, \$1,313 27	
" on Asa Sawyer's bills for 1871, as per vote of town,	87 48
Abated on C. M. Farwell's bills for 1872, as per vote of town,	85 12
Abated by selectmen for 1872,	42 95
" " 1873,	121 47
" " 1872,	2 36

Total,	\$1,652 63

SUMMARY.

Amount raised for poor,	\$900 00 ;	expended,	\$1,087 00
" " highway,	2,000 00 ;	" "	2,630 12
" " notes & int.,	2,000 00 ;	" "	1,676 38
" " contingen's,	1,200 00 ;	" "	1,367 19
	_____		_____
Total,	\$6,100 00		\$6,760 69
			6,100 00

Balance against town,			\$660 69
Amount of abatements,			1,652 63

Total balance,			\$2,313 32

TOWN LIABILITIES.

Notes due sundry individuals,	\$4,825 00
" " Greely Institute,	20,818 00
" " Cumberland School Fund,	877 00
Interest due on foregoing notes,	300 00
Balance due school districts,	653 49
Outstanding bills estimated at,	450 00

Total liabilities,	\$27,923 49

AVAILABILITIES.

Balance due from Treasurer,	\$4,168 28
Due from individuals, tax bid in by town,	185 34
Notes and interest secured by mortgage deed,	900 00
	<hr/>
Total availabilities,	\$5,243 62
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Balance against town,	\$22,679 87
CHARLES E. HERRICK,) WM. S. BLANCHARD,) REUBEN HILL,)	Selectmen of Cumberland.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Balance in Treasury, March 5th, 1873,	\$5,555 33
Cash received of Joseph Harris,	2 90
“ “ “ C. E. Herrick,	3 00
“ “ “ J. B. Mansfield,	60. 76
Received from Cumberland School fund,	102 62
Taxes committed for the year 1873,	7,811 00
Received from State Mill tax,	575 56
“ “ “ School fund and savings bank tax,	386 29
“ “ “ W. S. Elanchard,	4 00
“ “ “ Greely Institute,	500 00
“ “ “ Selectmen,	40 00
	<hr/>
Total,	\$15,041 45
Paid out Tom Orders,	10,873 17
	<hr/>
Balance due Town,	\$4,168 28
Amount due from collector, 1871,	\$28 55
“ “ “ “ 1872,	38 86
“ “ “ “ 1873,	3,619 07
	<hr/>
Total amount due from collectors,	\$3,686 48
Cash on hand to balance,	481 80
	<hr/>
	\$4,168 28

ASA SAWYER, Town Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE
TRUSTEES OF GREELY INSTITUTE.

In compliance with a vote of the town, the Trustees of the Greeley Institute ask leave to submit the following report :

The school commenced its spring term with Mr. G. M. Seiders, Principal, and Miss Maggie Blanchard, Assistant. Whole number of scholars, fifty-nine, of which ten were from out of town.

Fall term, Mr. G. M. Seiders, Principal, Miss Maggie Blanchard and Mr. Geo. W. Lufkin, Assistants. Unfortunately for the school Miss Blanchard's services closed with this term. It was a great loss to the school, she being a very superior teacher. Whole number of scholars, seventy-nine, of which eighteen were from out of town.

Winter term, Mr. G. M. Seiders, Principal, Mr. G. W. Lufkin and Miss L. Blanchard, Assistants. Whole number of scholars sixty-seven, of which fourteen were from out of town. The school is in a very flourishing condition, and it owes its high reputation to the efficient and capable management of the principal. Owing to the large number of classes it requires two assistants, therefore one is obliged to take the laboratory for a recitation room which is in no way suitable, therefore the trustees most earnestly recommend the town to finish the upper story.

PERMANENT FUND.

For town of Cumberland, note,	\$12,000 00
“ “ “ “	6,000 00
“ “ “ “	2,000 00
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Total,	\$20,000 00

PHILOSOPHICAL FUND.

For amount in Portland Savings Bank,	\$410 58
May and November dividends,	24 33
	<hr/>
	\$434 91
Cash drawn as per bill,	28 74
	<hr/>
Balance in bank,	\$406 17

LIBRARY FUND.

For amount in Portland Savings Bank,	\$486 33
May and November dividends,	29 40
	<hr/>
	\$515 73
Cash drawn as per bill,	8 25
	<hr/>
Balance in Bank,	\$507 48

DR. *Income of Permanent Fund in account*

Paid W. F. Phillips & Co., as per bill,	\$ 47
Samuel Rounds for coal,	3 43
Paul Prince & Son for coal,	30 00
W. D. Little & Co., insurance,	45 75
O. S. Thorns, as per receipt for organ,	15 00
S. M. Rideout, repairs,	16 44
D. L. Blanchard, 15 writing lessons,	8 00
Miss M. J. Blanchard, assistant,	121 00
G. M. Seiders, as per bill,	354 08
Geo. Sweetsir, care of Institute,	15 00
D. M. Lawrence for coal,	80 20
E. G. Prince, hauling coal,	15 50
J. S. Staples, printing catalogues,	37 35
S. M. Rideout, repairs,	5 14
C. E. Herrick, as per bill,	2 50
G. M. Seiders, principal,	366 66
M. J. Blanchard, assistant,	132 00
Dresser & Co., tuition book,	2 75
W. S. Blanchard for wood,	5 62
Geo. Sweetsir, care of Institute,	18 00
G. M. Seiders, as per bill,	16 15
Nutter Bros. & Co., stove, &c.,	7 82
Sprinkler, collars and work,	3 25
Geo. W. Lufkin,	6 00
T. B. Reed, attorney,	21 15
G. M. Seiders, principal,	366 66
Geo. W. Lufkin, assistant,	96 00
Fred W. Sturdivant, care of Institute,	19 80
Miss Louise D. Blanchard,	12 00
J. N. Farwell, repairs,	2 00
C. E. Herrick, services as trustee,	25 00
Town of Cumberland for note,	500 00
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	\$2,350 72
Cash to balance,	101 67
	<hr/>
	\$2,452 39

with Trustees of Greeley Institute.

	CR.
By Cash balance from 1872,	\$ 245 31
Cash received from Savings bank,	335 00
Interest on town note,	180 00
Tuition of Dr. C. Lord,	2 50
Cash for catalogues,	9 00
Interest on town note,	360 00
" "	120 00
" "	19 08
Cash for tuition spring term,	50 00
" " fall term,	83 50
" " T. D. Pettie for 1872,	8 00
Cash from State,	500 00
Interest on town notes,	540 00
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	\$2,452 39

ACCUMULATED FUND.

For amount in Portland Savings Bank,	\$835 58
May dividend,	25 05
	<hr/>
	\$860 57
For cash drawn for deficiency, spring term,	335 00
	<hr/>
	\$525 57
For November dividend,	15 75
	<hr/>
Balance in Bank,	\$541 32
For town of Cumberland, note,	318 00
“ “ “ “	500 00
For tuition due,	84 00
For cash balance on accounts,	101 67
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Total,	\$1,544 99

CHARLES E. HERRICK, } Trustees
 WM. S. BLANCHARD, } of Greely
 REUBEN HILL, } Institute.

SCHOOL REPORT.

During the past year, there has been fair progress in some of the schools. In others, far less has been accomplished than ought to have been. But if the children have not learned all they might have learned, your committee feels that he has gained more knowledge of schools, during the last twelve months, than in any previous year. If the people will receive and act upon the suggestions which may be made as the result of that knowledge, the year may not prove unprofitable. Never before have I been so thoroughly impressed with the importance of our common schools, or seen so clearly the defects of our system. It is a vital question, how can these schools become more efficient? Until the citizens are convinced of the *necessity* and *possibility* of improvement, they will not put forth those efforts or adopt those means which will ensure the greatest success.

As the laws now are, the *source* of *power*, and the place to begin reform, are in the districts themselves. The people should have a settled policy, that they will employ the best teachers that can be obtained. Perhaps all will say, that this is now the determination. It may be the intention, but it is most meagrely carried out. The best cannot be secured without the utmost care. I do not say that the first class should be sought in every case, but those adapted to the special work to be done. The idea seems to be deeply imbedded in the minds of many, that almost any body can teach our backward schools. There never was a more absurd or ruinous notion. It is true that these schools do not need teachers so far advanced in study, but they *do* demand the greatest tact, energy and enthusiasm. If the children are dull, all the more they should have instructors who can inspire and stimulate

them. They must awaken in them a love of study, and teach them to apply themselves. Mere learning, or we might say, mere knowledge of books, is a very small part of the qualifications needed for the business of teaching. Some who have made high attainments in science and literature, make the poorest teachers. Hence we should seek for those who have some natural ability for the profession—those who have character, and are "born to command."

It is the greatest folly to hire any, because they are cheap—they are the dearest in the end. Neither is it wisdom to increase the wages, unless the work is better. Notwithstanding what was said last year in regard to raising wages, I must say that enough and more than enough is now paid in many cases. What we want is better teachers than we now have; then we can afford to pay them. We have a few that are all that could be desired. Many commence teaching while too young. Let us insist upon the best talent. It is easy enough for people to see that one man, on the farm or in the shop, is better worth two dollars per day, than another is one dollar, but they do not think the same holds true in regard to teaching. As long as we pay the same price for inferior work in the school-room, that we do for the best, we cannot elevate our schools.

Just here great responsibility rests upon the agents in the several districts. Then let every district elect the best man as agent. If you select one who has some favorite to employ as teacher, or who will take no interest, but will hire the first person that applies, and at the cheapest rate, you can blame none but yourselves, if the school is a failure. Every person, whether he has children or not, has a deep and vital interest in this choice, and should by all means attend the district school meeting. There is no meeting held, more important to the interests of education than this; yet it is often considered by many, of the least importance. Choose the right man, and you may leave the business to his care for that year. I would most earnestly beg of the citizens to notice *this one* thing; if you do, this report will be well worth all its cost.

And here let me say that unless the districts do perform their

duty in the selection of the agent, the superintendent can accomplish little—his hands are often completely tied—his best efforts utterly futile. But you will say, that he has the power of rejecting a teacher, if he is not suitable. This is true, and yet it will do little good, unless the people are bound to have the best teachers, and the agent secures the right one, in the first place. The agent has the advantage. He can enquire into the past record of the applicant, and can *know* whether he is fit for the place. The superintendent has no such opportunity ; he must judge by the literary qualifications of the candidate, and by his general knowledge of human nature. We are sometimes almost obliged to give certificates in cases where we should by no means hire the persons. They may be fine scholars, but we can know nothing of their past success—we have no means of knowing ; recommendations are of no account, we lost all confidence in them long ago. We must have actual knowledge of what the person has done. Therefore, there should be the closest sympathy between the superintending committee and the agents, for it is only by working *together*, that the best results can be reached. If the committee have been in office a year or more, they know who of the teachers have succeeded in town, and they may also know of others whom they can endorse. It is then the part of the commonest prudence, that the agents consult with the superintending committee before they engage, unless they can secure one who has already given satisfaction in the district. This year I have come to the full conviction that the wisest way, would be to put the hiring of teachers into the hands of the superintendent, *if* you can find the right man—one of sound judgment, of broad views, and wholly unselfish. The objection to the "centralization of power," cannot be sustained. The thing is, to have the work done in the best manner. It would not do to commit this power to every body, but to one, who would be a *servant* to the people, and would carry out their will.

Something has been done, to secure uniformity of school books in town. The geographies are now alike, with a small exception, and the grammars nearly so. This has been done at a very small

expense—not more than thirty dollars. I would recommend that **Eaton's** Arithmetic be thrown out. Two-thirds or three-quarters of the pupils now have Greenleaf's, which are much to be preferred. I thought it best to make only a partial change last year. No new books have been introduced, with the exception of eight—taken on trial.

One word as to the value of a printed report. It is easy to see, that it would render the teachers more careful, and one hint to a district would be worth sometimes, more than fifty dollars, or it might save the wages of a whole term.

RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS.

Money raised by the Town,	\$1,300 80
Town Fund,	102 62
Mill Tax,	575 56
Bank Tax and State Fund,	386 29
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Whole amount,	\$2,365 27

Distributed as follows :

No. schol's. 10 pr ct.				No. schol's. 10 pr ct.			
No. 1.	48.	23.00.	\$200.60.	No. 7.	50.	————	\$185.00
“ 2.	69.	————	255.30.	“ 8.	98.	————	362.60
“ 3.	79.	————	292.30.	“ 9.	109.	————	403.30
“ 4.	30.	59.00.	170.00.	“ 11.	14.	30.00	81.80
“ 5.	41.	37.00.	188.70.	“ 12.	1.	————	3.70
“ 6.	4.	31.00.	45.80.	“ 13.	33.	56.00	174.40

DISTRICT No. 1.

Agent, Greenleaf Bibber. Summer Term. Teacher, D. G. Sturdivant.

At the first visit the school appeared well, and it was hoped that it would be a success. Such suggestions were made as were deemed necessary. The closing examination showed defective order and carelessness in the recitations. The reading was too fast. More energy and decision would have secured better results. Still I am inclined to believe that Miss S. has the power in her if she will develop it.

Winter Term. Teacher, Ellen Blanchard.

At the commencement of the term the order was far from what it should be. The teacher was urged to improve it. At the close I found the order all that could be desired. The scholars are bright and by no means bashful. The reading in the two higher classes was not up to what we have heard in some past terms. There was a "tone" which greatly marred the exercise. The other classes read remarkably well. The recitations in arithmetic and geography showed careful drill and close application.

This district needs most sadly a new school house.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Agent, John Sawyer. Summer Term. Teacher, Florence Hill.

Miss H. passed a very creditable examination, and is a very worthy lady. But after visiting her school three times within four weeks, I most reluctantly advised her to resign. The order was exceedingly deficient, and the teaching more unsatisfactory. But the district called a meeting and voted to retain Miss H., and she therefore kept the school eight weeks longer. Your committee did not consider it wise to interfere, and did not visit the school at its close, as it was then in the hands of the district. The people now are probably satisfied that the first decision was right.

Winter Term. Teacher, Charles W. Jordan.

When I first visited this school this term, I thought it never appeared better. The teacher seemed to have the respect of his pupils; and if he had believed that whispering should be entirely forbidden, and none allowed to leave their seats except when absolutely necessary, the order would doubtless have been perfect. But it was not up to the standard. Still the pupils made good recitations, and showed careful drill, and that they had improved their time. The first class in reading had too high ideas as to their acquirements in this essential branch of study. On the whole the school was a fair success.

DISTRICT No. 3.

Agent, John Wilson. Summer Term. Teacher, Mary S. Rideout.

It is seldom that a district is so well satisfied with a teacher, as this is with Miss Rideout. She has been employed here for several years. The children like their teacher, and we can see a steady progress from term to term. Your committee feels that more should be required of the scholars, but it is not certain that the district demands a stricter discipline. The children here are farther advanced, according to their age, than any in town.

Fall and Winter Terms.

At the last examination there was a decided improvement. The order was better than we have ever seen it. The reading was good, and the other classes very satisfactory. One boy, eleven years old, Arnie Chase, performed a long and difficult problem in "Partial Payments," in a most creditable manner. Many of the other pupils did well. There were one or two declamations that added to the interest.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Agent, Cyrus Sham. Summer Term. Teacher, Sophronia Leighton.

This was Miss Leighton's first attempt at teaching. The order was good, as it has always been when I have visited this school. The children in this district are well disposed, but we must say, too modest, too afraid to tell what they have learned. Miss L. was not energetic enough. The recitations did not show that care which is so desirable. Accuracy and decision are essential to good scholarship. This district should employ the best talent that can be found; they need a teacher of great energy and power of inspiration.

Winter Term. Teacher, Helen M. Lawrence.

Miss Lawrence always succeeds in securing the confidence and love of her pupils. The children in this district were delighted with their teacher. Her gentle and quiet ways perfectly coincide with the genius of the school. We could wish that to her excellent qualities, Miss L. could add a little more enthusiasm. These

children especially need it. They evidently had been well taught and had applied themselves to their studies, but they did not dare to let their voices out. I could not hear more than half of what they said. We gave them credit of knowing well their lessons. Let them cultivate the power of expression.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Agent, Enos Leighton. Summer Term. Teacher, Helen M. Lawrence.

At the commencement of this term, the full attendance was very noticeable. The order was fair, and the school appeared well. There was not quite animation enough, and the reading **was** too hurried. The recitations in arithmetic were good. There **was** creditable improvement in all the studies. The appreciation of the teacher was shown by a **valuable** and appropriate gift from the pupils.

Winter Term. Teacher, Ida M. Stiles.

This teacher entered upon her work with a good degree of interest and determination. She found the school well disposed and easily governed. The older pupils did themselves special credit by their correct deportment. The classes in reading made a great degree of improvement. The first class in arithmetic evinced that they understood the ground gone over, the others did well. The second in grammar had made commendable progress. We should say that this school lacks enthusiasm, the pupils need to engage in their studies with more zeal.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Agent, Frank Blanchard. Summer Term. Teacher, Miss Mary Goodwin.

But one visit was made to this school, as it is more especially under the care of Yarmouth. I found the teacher happy among her children, and well qualified for her work. Although there are few in this school, yet the pupils are bright and the recitations compared well with those in the other part of the town. We were very much pleased, and predicted a successful term. Miss G. has been employed here for three seasons, and is a favorite in the district,

DISTRICT No. 7.

Agent, Adams Merrill. **Summer Term.** Teacher, Maria G. Buxton.

The first thing that would strike a visitor to this school would be the perfect understanding between teacher and pupils, and consequently the excellent order. Miss B. is at home in the school-room and knows how to encourage and stimulate the dullest child.

At the closing examination there was marked improvement in every branch of study. The pupils know what they have learned, and were ready to tell it. There was some fine reading, and a very excellent class in grammar. All the recitations were highly satisfactory.

Fall Term. Teacher, M. G. Buxton.

This district was so fortunate as to retain the same teacher through the year. This is great advantage to any school where the teacher is well qualified for her work.

I need not say that I found everything in perfect order. There are some excellent readers here. I was much pleased with the correct answers to historical questions. This is a study that is too much neglected. There was a thoroughness in all the studies that was exceedingly gratifying. This school was a decided success.

DISTRICT No. 8.

Agent, Wm. V. Littlefield. **Summer Term.** Teacher, A. M. Stover.

The order in this school was good, which is always the first requisite. The teacher was faithful in her round of duties. The children all loved her and hence her task was easy. We should have been glad to have seen more variety, and more drill—there was too much routine. Still the school made fair progress.

The great difficulty in this school is the small number that attend and the irregularity of these. Out of 98 children in the district only **33** were registered, just about one-third. In No. 4, out of **30**, **28** attended school.

In this district **70** should be found in the school every term.

Pall Term. Teacher, Etta A. Littlefield.

It was a trying position for Miss L. to be a teacher in her own district. Still we believe that she gave general satisfaction. She is a good scholar and only needs more energy to make a successful teacher. The order was good and the improvement fair.

Winter Term. Teacher, Lyman Sturdivant.

It will be sufficient to say that Mr. S. more than maintained the reputation of last winter. He was more at home and had more thorough drill. At my first visit I was especially pleased with the order and the number of large scholars. If these had all continued to the end of the term, a fine show might have been made. As it was, we pronounce it a profitable school.

DISTRICT No. 9.

Agent, Edward Ross. Summer Term. Teacher, Abbie F. Parvis.

Miss P. brought to this school much experience, and a well earned reputation. Seldom do we see such enthusiasm in a teacher as she manifests, or a more thorough drill. She teaches her pupils to think for themselves.

The closing examination was especially satisfactory. There was self possession on the part of the children that was delightful. Could Miss P. have been retained for the three terms of the year, great benefit would have been secured. The people of the district fully appreciated her, and would have been glad to employ her longer, but she would not consent to remain.

Fall Term. Teacher, Sarah P. Lunt.

Miss L. is a lady of great worth of character, and has had a long experience in teaching. We think under other circumstances she would have secured more decided results than she did in this school. Her quiet and methodical ways were such a contrast to the stir and drive of the last teacher, that she was hardly appreciated by her pupils. As I did not visit her school at its close, I cannot report the improvement made.

Winter Term. Teacher, Maria G. Buxton.

This district is to be congratulated that it could secure the services of this teacher. The children were delighted to welcome her again. This was the first experiment in this district, of employing a lady teacher in the winter. All acknowledge that it was a complete success. Miss B. found the order very deficient, but she brought it up to its former high standard.

At my last visit, the school showed that an experienced hand had managed it. Many of the recitations were excellent. The teacher had done every thing that was possible to be done, but we fear that the pupils have not applied themselves as they ought. Thorough application alone will make scholars.

DISTRICT No. 11. (Crotch Island.)

Agent, Moses Pettengill. Winter Term. Teacher, Miss Pratt.

This Island was visited twice. The school is small, we found 15 pupils. It is to be feared that the people in this district do not take sufficient interest. There ought to be a school here in the summer or fall. Money enough is appropriated to have eighteen or twenty weeks of school, if it is wisely expended.

I would earnestly recommend that they henceforth employ an experienced teacher. The young lady here, appeared well, but is too young to teach. The children are remarkably bright, and should not be neglected.

DISTRICT No. 12.

There is but one scholar in this to go to school, therefore this district should be merged into some other. The child can still be allowed to go out of town, as it is more convenient.

DISTRICT No. 13.

Agent, Daniel S. Merrill. Summer Term. Teacher, Olive H. Merrill.

This was Miss Merrill's second term in this district. The order was excellent. The school was small, but a good degree of interest was excited. The teacher secured the love of her pupils.

I was obliged to visit the school the second term several days before the close, so there was little or no opportunity for review. My impressions were very favorable, and it was evident that teacher and scholars had been diligent. It was a profitable term.

Winter Term. Teacher, Pomeroy Wells.

Mr. Wells commenced this school on trial. He succeeded in gaining the good will of the pupils, and pleased the district.

The reading was prompt and loud. But the other recitations were very unsatisfactory to your committee. There was an entire want of drill, a carelessness that was inexcusable. Still the school was of some value.

Respectfully submitted,

G. B. RICHARDSON, Supervisor of Schools.