

1870

# Annual Reports of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Auditor, and Superintending School Committee, of the Town of Litchfield

Litchfield (Me.)

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**ANNUAL REPORTS**

OF THE

**SELECTMEN, TREASURER,**

**AUDITOR,**

AND

**SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE,**

OF THE

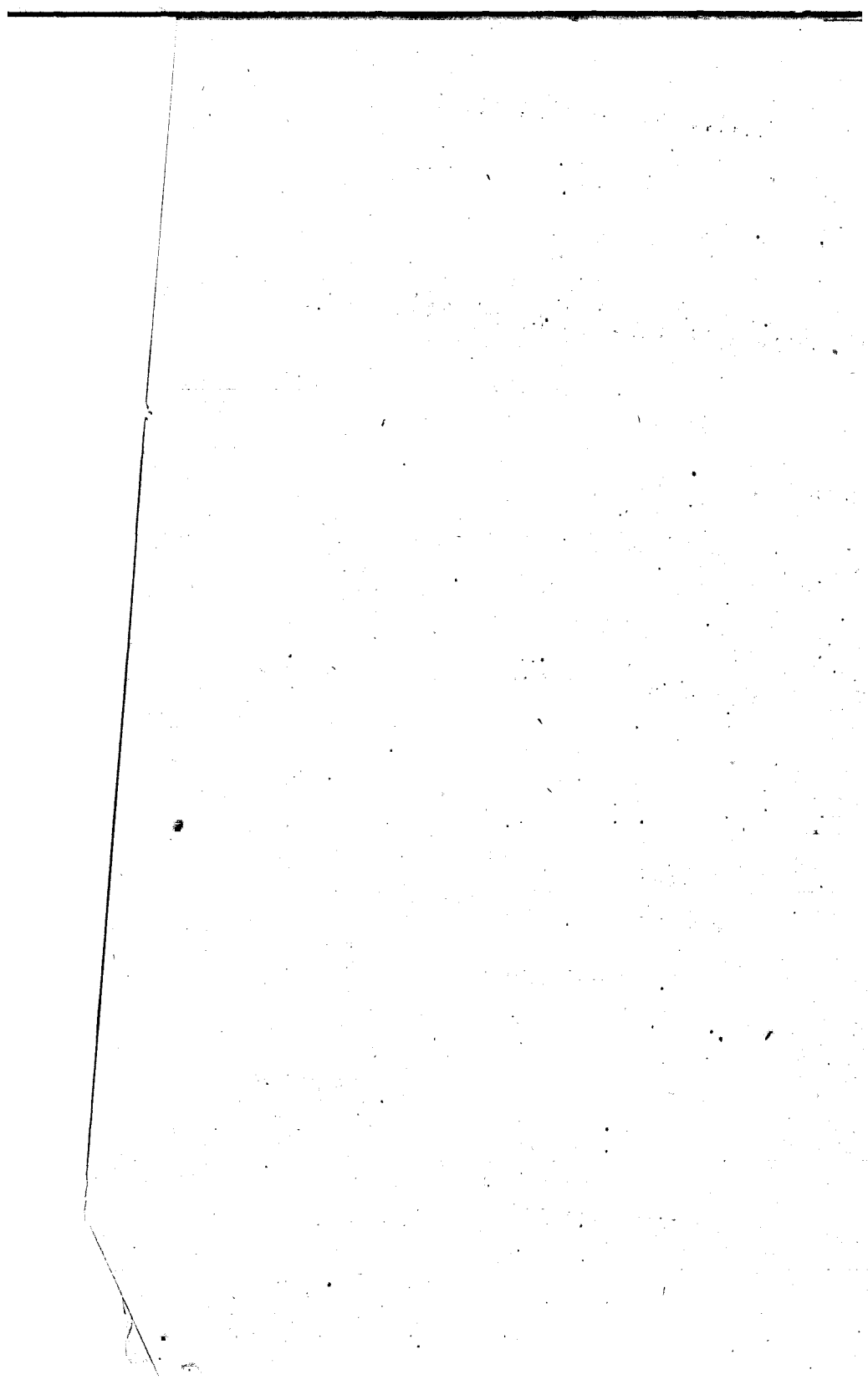
**TOWN OF LITCHFIELD.**

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**GARDINER;**

**H. K. MORRELL, PRINTER, HOME JOURNAL PRESS,**

**1870.**



## SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

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*To the Inhabitants of the Town of Litchfield:*

Your Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor, for the municipal year ending March 1, 1870, present the following Report, giving the sums received, and from what sources, to meet and pay the payments by the town; also showing for what purposes, and to whom payments have been made.

### *Schools.*

Sum voted by the Town,.....	\$1,704 00
Balance on Selectmen's Book, March 1, 1869,.....	585 71
	\$2,289 71
Paid to S. S. Com. and others for support of Schools,	1,986 08
	\$303 63
Leaving School Fund undrawn,.....	\$303 63

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## **INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.**

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### *Roads and Bridges.*

Sum voted by Town.....	\$800 00
Overlayings.....	264 41
Delinquent Highway Tax from 1868.....	102 61
	\$1,167 02

*Paid out as follows:*

Abated in James Bartlett's Tax bills, '67.....	\$22 72
"    James Chase's    "    '68.....	39 91
"    D. W. Perry    "    '69.....	4 33
Services of Town officers allowed by Committee on Accounts.....	289 38

Clapp & North, Stationery.....	11 30	
John Woodbury, Plank for Colby str'm bridge.	10 46	
Eli Merriman, Plank and Stringers,.....	17 12	
G. C. Waterman, Services as Town Clerk fr		
Mar. 1 to Sept. 23, '69.....	19 25	
Luther Hall, Plank for road, Dis. No. 32.....	3 88	
C. H. True and others, Highway labor performed		
not accounted for by surveyors.....	26 69	
S. H. Hutchinson, Stone for road, Dist. No. 16	4 14	
James Chase, Commissions in full for Col. '68.	83 26	
"    col. delinquent Highway Tax....	13 58	
G. W. Gillett, Plank and Lumber for cause-		
way in Dist. No. 11.....	4 39	
N. Dennis and others, Labor and Stone for		
causeway and Horse Shoe Pond Bridge,....	15 13	
Isaac Smith, Plank, Patten and Waire Bridges,	26 55	
N. Dennis, Plank and Stringers for Districts		
No. 5, 13 and 27,.....	15 17	
H. S. Paine, Repairs on Patten Mill Bridge,..	28 87	
I. W. Springer, Recording Inventory and As-		
sessment, 1869,.....	5 50	
H. W. Jewett, Plank for road, District No. 20,	7 03	
Enoch Adams, for Injury received to his horse		
on Lunt's Hill Road,.....	25 00	
W. T. Buker, Stone furnished in 1868, on Pat-		
ten Mill Bridge,.....	8 00	
H. W. Jewett, Plank for District No. 20,.....	4 28	
N. Dennis, Stationery, Postage, and Expenses		
as Selectman,.....	11 60	
D. S. Springer, Expense and Money paid out		
as Selectman,.....	3 70	
N. Dennis, Expense, and Money paid out as		
Treasurer,.....	7 48	
		708 72
		<hr/> \$458 30

Balance in favor of the Town,..... \$458 30

**SUPPORT OF POOR.**

Sum voted for Support of Poor,..... \$1,000

**Town Farm.**

Paid for Supplies over receipts for four quarters end-		
ing Jan. 1, 1870,.....	893 62	
Services of Wm. H. Dustin and wife for last		
quarter on Farm, ending April 1, 1869,.....	58 00	
Wm. C. Williams, Services 3 quarters, ending		
Jan. 1, 1870,.....	157 50	
		<hr/> \$909 12

**Pauper Bills off the Farm.**

Paid for Support of Hannah Higgins,.....	\$40 00
“ Mrs. Kendall and Child,.....	40 00
“ Asa Spear and wife,.....	52 00
“ Lydia Hanscomb,.....	39 75
“ Rebecca Hutchinson,.....	52 00
“ Richard Adams,.....	41 25
	<hr/>
	265 00
Oliver Waterman, Support of Mrs. M. Brown,.	36 00
Town of Richmond,.....	20 00
M. F. Marble, Medical Aid to Hannah Adams;	16 50
C. W. Whitmore, “ A.Spear's family	15 00
	<hr/>
Total Cost off Farm,.....	352 50
Total Cost on Farm,.....	309 12
	<hr/>
Total cost on and off Farm,.....	661 62

Balance in favor of Town,..... \$338 38

*Stock and Property on Town Poor Farm, as estimated by the Overseers of Poor, Feb. 24, 1870.*

Stock on Farm, valued at.....	\$478 00
15 tons Hay,.....	210 00
Provisions,.....	154 26
	<hr/>
	\$842 26

**Names and Ages of Paupers on the Farm.**

Joseph Clifford, 78 years; Sally Weymouth, 80; Christana Meader, 64; Mary Nevins, 67; Anna Dunlap, 58; Julia Tibbetts, 48; Hannah Berry, from Jan. 1 to Nov. 11, 1869, 84.

William C. Williams and wife were hired to take charge of the farm and the poor on it for one year, at \$210.00. The year expires April 1, 1870.

We were fortunate in securing the services of Mr. and Mrs. Williams, and much credit is due them for the faithful manner in which they have discharged their duties. The inmates have been well cared for and kindly treated. The farm is in good condition, fences in good repair, wood up, &c.

**Town Debt Bearing Interest.**

Paid on Principal of Town Debt,.....	\$1,350 00
Interest,.....	1,032 88
	<hr/>
	2,382 88
Voted to pay interest and Principal,.....	1,500 00
	<hr/>
Balance over appropriation,.....	882 88

**RESOURCES.**

To make the various payments for the town the resources have been the following :

Balance on Selectmen's book in favor of the town,	
March 1, 1869,.....	\$2,379 52
Assessed and committed to Collector and Treasurer, ..	3,564 41
Delinquent Highway Tax, committed to Collector,...	102 61
	<hr/>
Total, .....	\$6,046 54

*Paid Out—*

Abatements, Roads, Bridges & Incidentals,	\$708 72
Support of the Poor,.....	661 62
Principal and Interest on Town Debt,...	2,382 88
	<hr/>
	3,753 22

Balance of Cr. on Selectmen's Book, Mar. 1, '70, \$2,293 32

***Town Officers' Bills of the Past Year--Unpaid.***

Nath'l Dennis, Selectman, Assessor and Overseer Poor,	\$86 50
D. S. Springer, " " "	69 25
B. W. Berry, " " "	54 00
Nath'l Dennis, Treasurer,.....	34 50
G. C. Waterman, Clerk, Paid,.....	19 25
I. W. Springer, Town Clerk,.....	2 94
J. E. Chase, Constable,.....	10 00
D. L. Smith, Superintending School Committee,.....	21 00
" Expenses,.....	9 08
A. C. True, Superintending School Committee,.....	14 25
" Expenses,.....	2 00
Ora Smith, Superintending School Committee,.....	27 00
True Woodbury, Auditor,.....	1 50

NATH'L DENNIS, } *Selectmen*  
 D. S. SPRINGER, } *of*  
 B. W. BERRY, } *Litchfield.*

### *Treasurer's Report.*

The following report of the Treasurer of Litchfield shows the amount of debts which were due the town March 1, 1869, together with what has since has been paid :

There was cash in the Treasury, March 1, 1869, \$895.41. Received from the Collector for 1868, \$111.21, it being the non-resident tax returned Feb. 5, 1870. Received from the State Treasurer Bonds on Equalization of Municipal War Debt, to the amount of \$9,100; cash \$58.33. Due from J. Chase, Collector for 1865, \$9.00. There was due from Benj. W. Berry, Collector for 1866, March 1, 1869, \$88.14; received since that time, \$42.81; now due, \$45.33. There was due from James Bartlett, Collector for 1867, March 1, 1869, \$309.35; received, \$213.72; now due, \$95.63. Due from the same, \$100.89, it being a delinquent highway tax from 1866. There was due from James Chase, Collector for 1868, \$1,797.34; received since then, \$1,783.75; now due, \$13.59. Due from the same, \$32.28, it being a balance on delinquent highway taxes from 1867. Committed to D. W. Perry, for collection June 18, 1869, the sum of \$5,268.41; received since then, \$3,033.00; now due, \$2,235.41. Committed to the same Aug. 11, 1869, \$102.61, being a delinquent highway tax from 1868; the same remains unpaid.

Total amount rec'd by Treasurer since March 1, 1869, \$6,106 70

Paid out as follows :

For Support of Schools,.....	\$1,986 08	
Incidental Expenses,.....	708 72	
Support of Poor,.....	661 62	
Town Debt,.....	2,382 88	
	5,739 30	

Leaving a balance in Treasury,..... \$367 40

State Bonds,..... \$9,100 00

#### *Interest-Bearing Debt of the Town.*

Town Debt, with its accrued Interest, March 1, 1870, \$16,106 04

The whole of this debt is in notes against the town, given as authorized by vote of the town, which notes, or the major part of them, are on demand.

Respectfully submitted,

NATHANIEL DENNIS, *Treasurer.*

LITCHFIELD, March, 1870.

Agreeably to the duties assigned, I have examined the books and accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer for the current year, and find them properly cast and vouched, and that they agree.

TRUE WOODBURY, *Auditor.*

LITCHFIELD, March 1, 1870.



## SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

*To the Citizens of Litchfield:*

The Committee to whom you have intrusted for the past year, the supervision of the schools of this town, have endeavored, according to their ability, to perform their duty, and they hope to receive the approval of their fellow citizens, to whom is submitted the following report for the year ending March, 1, 1870.

### Condition of the Schools.

#### DISTRICT NO. 1.—ISAAC BAKER, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 65.

*Summer Term*.—Miss L. P. WEDGWOOD, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 36; average, 31. Term, 55 days.

Order, good. Teaching, about an average. Progress in geography and spelling, good. Other branches, fair. Total result, rather above medium.

*Winter Term*.—NEWTON J. WEDGWOOD, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 38; average, 36. Term, 58 days.

Method of teaching, generally good. Discipline, fair. Small scholars were well taught from charts. Classes in geography did well, being taught map-drawing with good results. General interest, fair. Improvement, fair. Classification, good.

#### DISTRICT NO. 2.—GEORGE MITCHELL, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 39. Litchfield, 22; Wales, 17.

*Summer Term*.—Miss AUGUSTA A. PARTRIDGE, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 32; average, 26. Term, 40 days.

The teacher labored hard and faithfully, adhering to the Normal method; but with partial success. Scholars not very enthusiastic. Classes appeared favorable. Order, not very good.

*Winter Term*.—E. BAKER, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 20; average, 16½. Term, 45 days.

General interest in the school, poor. Classes in reading, arith-

metic and geography, made fair progress; spelling, not so good. One little boy, eight years old, recites well in geography. Order, fair.

DISTRICT NO. 3.—OLIVER WATERMAN, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 40. *Summer Term*.—Miss FANNIE SPRAGUE, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 24; average, 16. Term, 60 days.

Teacher, young and inexperienced. Scholars, small and backward. Order, not good. Classification, bad. Teaching, hardly an average. Results not quite satisfactory.

*Winter Term*.—Miss JENNIE R. SMITH, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 25; average, 19. Term, 60 days.

The teacher was thorough and practical; and the scholars well interested. We were much pleased with a class of beginners in Written Arithmetic, who were taught with but little reference to a text-book. The scholars were well drilled in the sounds of the letters, marks, pauses &c., as well as in everything else. The manner of calling and dismissing classes was good. Miss S. is one of our best teachers. The committee would feel perfectly safe in having their *own* children under her charge.

DISTRICT NO. 4.—GEO. W. TRUE, *Agent*.

*Summer Term*.—Miss CLARA A. GATCHELL, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 16; average, 14. Term, 38 days.

This was Miss GATCHELL'S second summer in this school, where she taught to the general satisfaction of the district. Methods of discipline and instruction, good. General improvement good. Order good, and the school-room clean and neat.

*Winter Term*.—CURTIS WEDGWOOD, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 23; average, 21. Term, 38 days.

House, clean and neat. Order, perfect. Method of teaching, fair. Manners of the teacher in the school-room, stern. The teacher meeting with an accident, and being obliged to give up the school one week before the term was to close, prevented a second visit from the committee.

DISTRICT NO. 5.—GEORGE GILLET, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 33.

No summer Term.

*Winter Term*.—Miss SUSIE B. STANTIAL, *teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 11; average, 9. Term, 66 days.

Classes in geography made fair progress. A class in grammar,

taught orally, did well. Reading, poor. Order, good. The teacher labored under difficulties, being in a house not adapted to her business. The district are to have a good house for the next term.

DISTRICT NO. 6.—JESSIE TRUE, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 27.

*Summer Term*.—Miss SUSIE B. STANTIAL, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 19; average, 15. Term 29 days.

Classes in reading did well; one class of little ones did very well. Other classes made fair progress. Not quite as much enthusiasm in the school as we would like to see.

*Winter Term*.—THOMAS L. PALMER, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 24; average, 22. Term, 40 days.

In our last visit, we found the teacher *alive*, and the scholars interested in their work. General improvement, good. A class in geography, taught from out-line maps, procured by the teacher, made *very good* progress. Order, good, and the school profitable.

DISTRICT NO. 7.—MELVIN TIBBETTS, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 29.

*Summer Term*.—Miss A. E. RIDLEY, *Teacher*. No register returned.

At our first visit, we found the school lively and interesting, though small in numbers. Order, good. At our last visit, found it dwindled in numbers and dull in recitations. Order and instruction, poor. More life and enthusiasm on the part of the teacher would have kept up a better interest in the school. The term, not a profitable one.

*Winter Term*.—ALPHEUS SPEAR, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 18; average, 12. Term, 49 days, lengthened to 69 days, by private subscription.

The teacher, by his pleasant and lively appearance in the school-room infused life and interest into the school. The classes all did well. A class in geography did *very well*. Order, good. At our last visit we met quite a number of the parents and friends of the district, who all spoke in high terms of their school:

DISTRICT NO. 8.—JOHN L. ALLEN, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 5.

No school since our last report was made.

DISTRICT NO. 9.—SAMUEL WILLIAMS, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 62.

*Summer Term*.—Miss JENNIE R. SMITH, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 27; average, 24. Term, 40 days.

We found the small scholars somewhat backward, but Miss SMITH brought them *up*, as she is in the habit of doing in all her schools. She has a good tact at interesting children, by teaching them many little things not in their books, that are interesting and useful. Order in every respect, good. Analysis received its proper attention, as it should in every school. All the classes made good progress.

*Winter Term*.—B. P. ROBINSON, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 38; average, 33. Term, 38 days.

Mr. R., though a good scholar, did not meet our expectations of him. There was not that interest and enthusiasm on the part of the scholars, that we usually see in this school. Order, poor. Scholars inattentive and uneasy. As the teacher resigned his charge of the school before the set time for it to close, no closing or examination visit was made.

DISTRICT NO. 10.—E. BAKER, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 20.

*Fall Term*.—Miss FANNIE J. LIBBY, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 13; average, 11. Term, 40 days.

On account of receiving no notice of the commencement or close of the school, but one visit was made, and that at the first of the term. Miss LIBBY is a good scholar, and made a fair beginning for so small a school. We presume the progress was good. This was the only term during the year.

DISTRICT NO. 11.—S. GLASS and GEO. PLIMPTON, *Agents*.

Number of scholars in the District, 68.

*Summer Term*.—Miss FANNIE R. CUNNINGHAM, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 43; average, 39. Term, 50 days.

Miss C. seemed to work earnestly for the interest of her pupils, who themselves seemed interested. The classes appeared well, especially the first class in reading, and a class in arithmetic. The order was good. Scholars too much confined to the text-book.

*Winter Term*.—A. L. HOUGHTON, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 49; average, 43. Term, 45 days.

The classes generally, except the first class in reading, showed a good degree of progress. One class in geography were able to

draw maps on the blackboard without the aid of a book. Order, not quite as good as we like to see. Mr. H. is a good scholar, and a man of considerable ability.

DISTRICT NO. 12.—A. L. ASHFORD, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 25.

*Summer Term*.—MISS SARAH B. LORD, *teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 14; average, 12. Term, 40 days.

At our first visit, the scholars appeared somewhat backward in recitations. At our last visit they were more lively and interested, and showed a good degree of improvement. One scholar in algebra and a class in grammar did very well. The order, of course could not be poor in so small a school.

*Winter Term*.—C. S. AYER, *teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 21; average, 16. Term, 50 days.

The parents and scholars of this district, seem to be well satisfied with Mr. AYER, this being his fifth winter in succession in this school. It may be enough for the committee to say that *they* are satisfied. General improvement, good. Order, good. House, clean and neat, and free from marks and scratches.

DISTRICT NO. 13.—E. HASKELL, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 26. Number in Litchfield, 18; Monmouth, 8.

No school in summer.

*Winter Term*. GEORGE C. SMITH, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 15; average, 12. Term, 53 days.

The classes, generally, seemed to make good progress. The teacher, though young, managed well, and to the entire satisfaction of the District. Order good. Scholars obedient, orderly and respectful. House clean and neat.

DISTRICT NO. 14.—IVORY G. SMITH, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 43.

*Summer Term*.—MISS EMILY W. SMILEY, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 20; average, 12. Term, 55 days.

The scholars, who attended regularly made good progress. The order was good, the teacher's method of discipline being decided and firm, such as is needed in this school. A case of discipline, which was thought by some to be very severe, caused considerable excitement in the school and District, thus reducing the average attendance. The Committee was called to investigate charges, and afterwards suit was brought against the teacher; but she was sustained by both Court and Committee.

*Winter term.*—MISS SARAH B. LORD, *Teacher*. Number of scholars, attending, 28; average, 20. Term, 65 days.

Methods of teaching generally good, especially in arithmetic, which was, we think, thoroughly taught. Analysis in arithmetic was good. Reading and spelling, fair. Order, not quite so good as we like to see. Scholars were too much inclined to whisper and move about the room. This is a hard school for a woman in the winter.

DISTRICT NO. 15.—EBEN TOOTHAKER, *Agent*.

Number of scholars in the District, 37.

*Summer term.*—MISS FRANCES DAVIS, *Teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 22; average, 18. Term, 45 days.

School appeared well. Order good. Teaching, a little old-style; though some classes made good progress, especially the ones in spelling. General progress of the school, fair.

*Winter term.*—ALBERT G. SMITH, *teacher*. Number of scholars attending, 25; average, 19. Term, 35 days. First visit—school, uneasy, dull and uninterested. Teaching, good but slow. Last visit—some scholars had made good progress; some had not. Order fair. Our expectations of the school not quite realized.

*General Remarks.*

In reporting the individual schools, we have endeavored to give the bare facts, without a superfluity of language. It is, however, almost impossible to have a uniformity in the reports of the different schools, when different members of the committee visit them, as they may not all judge from the same standpoint. On this account, it would be better for one person to do *all* the visiting and reporting.

We think our schools for the past year have met with fair success, and will compare favorably with those of other towns, though *some* have been unsatisfactory. Our teachers have generally acquitted themselves with fidelity, and a fair degree of success has crowned their efforts; yet, we believe there is room for improvement.

In our report of the teachers, we have tried to find something in them to commend rather than to condemn, reserving the faults which we may have noticed, for general remarks. If a young and inexperienced teacher, who acquits himself with fidelity, according to the best of his ability, meets with reverses, we think he is entitled to our sympathy.

Scholars should be taught to bestow study and thought upon their lessons, so that they may be able, in recitations, to present the subject matter of what they have studied in a clear and logical manner, and without questions from the teacher. In this way, the child is being educated, and to some purpose. We like to see a pupil, when he is called upon to recite, rise to his feet and recite his lesson in his own, but *correct*, language. Then we know that in the preparation of his lesson, he has been exercising his mind, and not merely his memory. Memorizing, or the mere acceptance of truth, is no more education, than the mere reception of food into the stomach, without being digested, is a promotion of life and health to the body.

#### DISCIPLINE.

As to the legal right of the teacher to control his pupils, we believe that he has precisely the same authority over his pupils at school that the parent has over his child at home; and when the parent sends his child to the public school, he surrenders to the teacher, for the time being, his own authority over the child, and all control of him whatever; so that he has no more right to demand even his person, than a stranger would have, were the child at home. The question has frequently been asked, "Has the teacher a right to keep the pupils after school?" We answer, Yes. It is well settled that the teacher has the right to detain pupils for cause, for a reasonable time after the close of the usual school hours.

The law expressly provides that (Revised Statutes, Chap. 11, Sec. 71.) "If any person, whether he is a scholar or not, enters any school-house or any other place of instruction during or out of school hours, while the teacher or any pupil is there, and wilfully interrupts or disturbs the teacher or pupils, by loud speaking, rude or indecent behavior, signs or gestures; or wilfully interrupts a school by prowling about the building, making noises, throwing missiles at the school-house, or in any way disturbing the school, he shall forfeit not less than two, nor more than twenty dollars, to be recovered as aforesaid, or by complaint before a justice of the peace." "Sec. 72. If a minor injures or aids in injuring any school-house, out-buildings, utensils or appurtenances belonging thereto; defaces the walls, benches, seats, or other parts of said buildings, by marks, cuts, or otherwise, or injures or destroys any property belonging to a school district, such district, by its agent or committee, may recover of its parent or guardian,

in an action of debt, double the amount of damages occasioned thereby."

Attention has been called to the bad condition of some of our school-houses, in former reports. We would now call attention to the importance of furnishing them with maps, globes, charts, &c. Let each district spend one-tenth of its money in apparatus, as the law provides, and we have no doubt that it would greatly increase the value of our schools. In some of the school-houses, we find very little if any blackboard, no chair for the teacher or his company, if he has any; and in fact, nothing to make the schoolroom attractive and comfortable. A word to the wise is sufficient. We hope to see our school houses better furnished next year.

One of the greatest drawbacks in most of our schools is that they are so small that it is hard awakening much interest in them, either on the part of the teacher or scholars. In a school of forty scholars, there is much more life and interest than there is in one of eight or ten. A teacher can teach a school of forty scholars with better results to each scholar, than he can one of ten scholars. Our schools as they are, are expensive, the average cost of tuition being considerably higher than at the academies. Last year it was \$2.55 per term of ten weeks in the summer, and \$5.95 per term of ten weeks in the winter; and we presume it is as high if not higher this year. Now how shall this be remedied? Let there be less districts. Put two districts into one. It would be better for a scholar to go one and a half miles six months in the year, than to go a half mile only six weeks in the year.

#### AGENTS.

But few of the agents have complied with the law, in notifying the committee of the commencement and close of the schools, and quite a number of them might be made to forfeit the the "one dollar per day" for the whole term their schools have been in session. We have sometimes thought we would enter complaint against such agents; but we have kept forbearing, hoping they would come up to their duty better in the future.

We again call attention to the importance of employing the best of teachers. We most earnestly plead that the agents must be careful in their selection of teachers, that they employ only those whom they know to be efficient. We, as a committee have tried to be more careful during the past year, in granting certificates. Agents sometimes send us teachers, who, we have good



reasons to suppose, will not be successful in the schools for which they are employed ; but they come to us with the required certificates of moral character, and pass the required examinations according to law, and we are compelled to grant them certificates of qualification ; and thus allow them to experiment upon imperishable minds of the young.

In conclusion, allow us to express the wish that the time may soon come, when each district in town will be supplied with a good, comfortable school-house, well furnished with school apparatus, and filled with eager scholars, trained by a skillful hand, and encouraged by the frequent visits of loving fathers and mothers.

With these suggestions, we lay before you our imperfect report for your consideration.

D. L. SMITH, }  
A. C. TRUE, } *Committee.*  
ORA SMITH, }

LITCHFIELD, March 1, 1870.

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#### NOTICE TO AGENTS AND TEACHERS.

The Committee will be in session for the examination of teachers in one of the rooms of Litchfield Academy, on the *first* and *fourth* Saturdays of *May* and *November*, 1870, at 1 o'clock P. M. of each day.