Annual Reports of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Auditor, and Supervisor of Schools of the Town of Litchfield for the Year Ending March 1, 1879

Litchfield (Me.)

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Selectmen's Report.

Amount of Money Tax assessed for 1878, $6,544 92
Amount assessed for repairs of Highways, 4,000 00

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1878.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Tax</td>
<td>$1,991 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Tax</td>
<td>948 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support of Schools</td>
<td>1,305 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidental Town Expenses</td>
<td>1,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support of Poor</td>
<td>700 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To pay on Town Debt</td>
<td>500 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fractional Overlay</td>
<td>200 06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$6,544 92</td>
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RESOURCES OF THE TOWN.

Balance on Selectmen's Book, March 1st, 1878, $2,617 47
Assessed and committed to Collector and Treasurer, 2,400 06
Balance on Selectmen's Book March 1, 1878, $196 98

RESOURCES FOR STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.

Assessed and committed to Collector and State Treasurer, $1,991 46
"  "  "  "  County Treasurer, 948 40
Balance on Selectmen's Book March 1, 1878, $196 98
Sum raised by Town for 1878, 1,205 00
School Mill Tax for 1878, 461 94
State School Fund for 1878, 245 83
Received from Town to pay for Reports, 16 27
Unappropriated from 1877, 79
Total, $2,126 81

RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS.

Received from Town to pay for Reports, 16 27
Unappropriated from 1877, 79
Total, $2,126 81

Paid out for support of Schools, 1,690 69
School Fund undrawn March 1, 1879, $436 12
**INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.**

Sum raised by Town for 1878, $1,000 00
Overlayings, 200 00

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Services of Town Officers for 1877, as allowed by Auditor</td>
<td>293 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Smith, as Selectman, from Mar. 1 to Mar. 11, 1878</td>
<td>6 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melvin Tibbetts, &quot; &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
<td>4 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Holmes, &quot; &quot; &quot; &quot;</td>
<td>1 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. K. Morrill, Printing Selectmen's Reports</td>
<td>10 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palmer &amp; Co., for Stationery, etc.,</td>
<td>7 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. A. Hutchinson, damages on Highway, December, 1877</td>
<td>8 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Ricker, building Sand Hill Bridge and Bank Wall</td>
<td>80 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>E. Baker, for services as S. S. Com, from Mar. 1 to Mar. 7, 1878</td>
<td>4 75</td>
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<tr>
<td>H. Earl, Lumber and Labor on Road in District No. 2</td>
<td>19 88</td>
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<tr>
<td>F. T. Harriman, Labor on Road in District No. 18</td>
<td>1 75</td>
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<tr>
<td>N. H. Marston, caring for Town House</td>
<td>2 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Godfrey, Labor on Road in District No. 38</td>
<td>16 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Taylor, services as S. S. Committee, 1877</td>
<td>18 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Fund, for money paid for printing Reports for 1877</td>
<td>16 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. C. Smith, Labor on Road in District No. 24</td>
<td>3 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Buker and others, Labor on Road in Districts No. 31 and 32</td>
<td>11 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. T. Hall, Labor on Road in District No. 32</td>
<td>2 56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dingley and others, for Inventory, Collector's Books, etc.,</td>
<td>4 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. B. Stevens, Labor and hauling Lumber for Buffie Landing Bridge</td>
<td>16 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. T. Murphy, printing Blank Orders</td>
<td>2 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>G. N. Thurlow, building Thurlow Bridge in Road Dist. No. 36</td>
<td>40 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>S. H. Glass, Labor on Plimpton Bridge</td>
<td>18 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. W. Libby, Lumber for Patten Mill Bridge</td>
<td>6 48</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Ricker, Stone furnished Road in District No. 1</td>
<td>2 50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Holmes, Stationery, Postage, etc.,</td>
<td>10 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. S. H. Rogers, Labor on Road in District No. 24</td>
<td>3 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. R. Godfrey, Labor and Lumber on Road in Dist. No. 33, on Bridge</td>
<td>14 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. R. Godfrey and others, Labor on Road, Dist. No. 38 and 39</td>
<td>18 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. L. Perry, Plank furnished Road, District No. 14</td>
<td>1 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Gray &amp; Son, Lumber furnished Road in Districts No. 17, 26, 21 and 24</td>
<td>44 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. H. Buker, Labor on Road in District No. 32</td>
<td>1 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M. True, Lumber and Labor on Road in District No. 5</td>
<td>8 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T. Holmes, recording Inventory and Assessment</td>
<td>6 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. T. Day, Labor on Road in Dist. No. 32</td>
<td>8 55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Credit account carried forward, $1,200 06
Brought forward,

M. S. H. Rogers, Team and expenses, on Town business, $1,200 06
W. G. Webber, " " " $4 65
N. Dennis, money paid out as Treasurer, 8 15
W. M. Hattin, Commission in full for Collecting for 1873, 5 25
G. W. Earl, Taxes paid and expense on Fisk lot, 85 72
G. W. Earl, Plank furnished Road in Districts No. 38 and 31, 30 00
T. Holmes, for Team and Postage, 3 39
Abated in Wm. S. Snow's Tax Bill for 1877, 1 44
" Delinquent Highway Tax for 1877, 20 65
" Tax Bills for 1878, 1 80
" W. M. Hattin's " " 1872, 17 50
" " " " 1873, 16 82
" " Delinquent Highway Tax Bills, 51 41
" " " " for 1873, 990 23
Balance in favor of town, 17 98

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Sum raised by town for Support of Poor, $700 00
Supplies over receipts on Poor Farm for year ending
Jan. 1, 1879, 298 70
Paid Superintendent for services for year ending
Jan. 1, 1879, 161 25

PAUPER BILLS OFF THE FARM.

Paid for support of Mrs. Kendall, $30 00
" Sylvia Getchell, 37 62
" Frank Lord, 20 97
" Charles Waire's children, 48 50
Insane Hospital bill, Francis F. Powers, 12 72
Supplies furnished Jas. Ridley's family to Mar. 1, 1878, 38 27
" " Jan. 1, 1879, 42 38
Medical attendance, James and Charles Ridley, 5 18
Paid for grave-clothes for Hannah Higgins, 2 27
Total cost of Poor, 697 96
Balance unexpended, 2 14
VALUE OF TOWN POOR FARM, STOCK AND PROPERTY THEREON, MARCH 1, 1879.

Value of Farm and Tools, $1,900 00
Stock on Poor Farm, 236 00
Seven tons of Hay, at $10 per ton, 70 00
Provisions, etc., 41 64

$2,247 64

NAMES AND AGES OF PAUPERS ON POOR FARM.

William Johnson, Aged 89 years.
Caroline Howard, " 76 "
Mary Nevens, " 76 "
William Jewell, " 74 "
Julia Tibbetts, " 57 "
Sanford Goodwin, " 54 "
William Danforth, " 56 "
Orin Danforth, " 54 "
Sylvia Getchell, " 38 "
Alonzo Getchell, " 12 "
Lulie Getchell, Infant.

Thomas Webber and wife were hired to superintend the Poor Farm for the year ending April 1st, 1879, at $165.00 per year.

TOWN DEBT BEARING INTEREST.

Money loaned to pay Town Debt, $700 00
Sum raised by Town to pay on Town Debt, 500 00 $1200 00
Paid on Principal of Town Debt, $805 00
Paid Interest on same, 217 57 $1022 57
Balance in favor of Town, $417 43

RECAPITULATION.

Paid for support of Schools, $1600 69
Incidental Town Expenses, 990 23
Support of Poor, 657 86
Town Debt and Interest, 1022 57 $4461 35
Whole amount of resources, 10784 20
Paid, 4461 35 $6322 85
Deduct State and County Taxes, 2938 86 $3442 99
Deduct School Fund undrawn, 456 12 3986 87
Balance on Selectmen’s Books, March 1st, 1879, $3,086 87

THOMAS HOLMES, Selectmen
M. S. H. ROGERS, of
W. G. WEBBER, Litchfield.
The following report shows the amount of money received and paid out during the municipal year ending March 1st, 1879; also a statement of the town debt, and the amount due the town from the several collectors, etc.

Balance in the Treasury March 1, 1878, $437.71
Received from W. M. Hattin, collector for 1873, 150.19
" " " on delinquent highway tax, 38.80
" " Wm. S. Snow, Collector for 1877, 1,925.66
" " " on delinquent highway tax, 20.00
" " Wm. S. Snow, Collector for 1878, 800.00
Loaned to pay a demand against the Town, 700.00
Received on Sloman’s Note, 25.00
Received by commitments from the Selectmen, money drawn from the Incidents to be paid to the School Fund, for money paid out of School Fund for printing reports in the year 1877, 16.27
Received from State Treasurer, School Fund, 300.00
" " " Mill Tax, 479.38

Paid out as follows:
For Support of Schools, $1,766.69
Incidentals, 990.23
Support of Poor, 637.86
Town Debt, 1,022.57
Cash in Treasury March 1, 1879, 415.65

STATEDMENT OF TOWN DEBT.

Outstanding Notes and Interest on same, $3,945.98
Due from W. M. Hattin, Collector for 1873, on delinquent Highway Tax, $11.37
Due from W. S. Snow, Collector for 1876, 174.00
" " " 1877, 183.11
" " " 1878, 2,806.06
Cash in Treasury, 415.66
Balance against the Town, 356.78

All of which is respectfully submitted,

Litchfield, March 1, 1879,

NATHANIEL DENNIS, Treasurer.
Auditor's Report.

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

The Treasurer's accounts show he had
Cash on hand March 1, 1878, $437 71
Received during the year, 4,455 30
$4,893 01
He has paid out during the same time, 4,477 86
Leaving a balance in his hands of $415 15

Your Auditor has examined the accounts of the Town Officers for the expiring year, and has passed upon the same and allowed them as follows:

Thomas Holmes, in full for services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor, $70 25
M. S. H. Rogers, for same services, 58 50
W. G. Webber, " " 54 00
Nathaniel Dennis, Treasurer, 27 00
Elisha Baker, Supervisor of Schools, 56 75
Charles A. Metcalf, Town Clerk, 11 80
Wm. S. Snow, Constable, 4 00
D. S. Springer, Town Agent, 2 00
D. S. Springer, Auditor, 2 00

Litchfield, March 1, 1879.

D. S. SPRINGER, Auditor.
School Report.

To the Town of Litchfield:—

Your Supervisor having discharged the duties devolving on him in this office, submits his annual report for the year ending March 1, 1879.

Amount of money raised by the Town, $1,205 00
Amount of State School Fund, 245 88
Amount of State Mill Tax, 461 94
Received from Town to pay for reports, 16 27

Whole amount of School Money, $1,929 04

DISTRICT NO. 1.—William Snow, Agent.

Money apportioned, $196.00.

Summer term—Miss Annie E. Ham, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 27; average number, 21; length of term, 60 days; wages of teacher, $8.50 per week.

The scholars of this school are nearly all young, requiring on the part of teacher patience and perseverance. Miss H. is an experienced teacher. Being a good disciplinarian, she readily adapts herself to the wants of her charge. We have seldom seen classes in reading make better progress than did hers.

Winter term—Mr. F. A. Rogers, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 40; average number, 23; length of term, 55 days; wages of teacher, including board, $35.00 per month.

Mr. R. has had experience both in our mixed and high schools. We were pleased to see the school-room filled with scholars who were well classed and orderly. We felt that these scholars, especially the larger class, had a rare chance for improvement. At the close but fourteen were present. The proficiency made by these was good, especially in geography, which was extra.

DISTRICT NO. 2.—S. F. Marston, Agent.

Money apportioned, $87.02.

Summer term—Miss Lizzie C. Ashford, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 13; average number, 11; length of term, 35 days; wages of teacher, $2.50 per week.

This teacher is ready and willing to work for those under her charge, and we are confident that the result will be such as will give satisfaction to all concerned. At the close our expectations were fully realized. The school is quite small, yet the interest continued to the close.
Winter term—Allie Buker, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 17; average number, 13; wages of teacher, including board, $20.00 per month.

The agent was fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Buker, whose natural and acquired abilities well fit him for a teacher of youth in our country schools. With a strong effort he succeeded in arousing these scholars to take an active interest in their work. The school was small, yet he employed his spare time in teaching orally many useful things with good success.

DISTRICT NO. 3.—HOWARD ROBINSON, Agent.

Money apportioned, $133.56.

Summer term—Miss Alice C. Cotton, teacher. Whole number attending school, 13; average number, 11; length of term, 45 days; wages of teacher, $3.50 per week.

Miss Cotton is a teacher of experience, one on whose brow rests that pleasant yet firm expression which commands respect and obedience at the same time. She has a good faculty of imparting instruction. We felt sure, at our first visit, that a profitable term would ensue, but owing to a misunderstanding no second visit was made. We are informed that all interested were well pleased with the result.

Winter term—C. F. Smith, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 16; average number, 16; length of term, 40 days; wages of teacher, excluding board, $38.00 per month.

Mr. Smith has had considerable experience at the business, having taught sixteen terms. In this school we find some of our best scholars, who found in their teacher one fully competent to make plain each principle in the various branches pursued. The classes did themselves credit in their recitations. The exercise on the sounds of letters reflected credit on both teacher and scholars.

DISTRICT NO. 4.—WALTER KNIGHT, Agent.

Money apportioned, $181.16.

Summer term—Miss Cora Gilman, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 20; average number, 16; length of term, 44 days; wages of teacher, $2.75 per week.

We found Miss Gilman working hard to interest and instruct those under her charge. While speaking to her with regard to the school, we intimated that good order is the stepping stone to success. The scholars at the close were uneasy and not willing to obey readily when spoken to. Classes were questioned, but were unable to give evidence of even fair progress.

Winter term—Emlen P. Springer, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 19; average number 17; wages of teacher, including board, $30.00 per month.

Mr. Springer entered upon his duties with the firm determination to make this term satisfactory to all. The classes in reading made
good progress; other classes received good instruction and made fair improvement.

**DISTRICT NO. 5.—ARTHUR NEAL, Agent.**

Money apportioned, $139.56.

Summer term—Miss O. A. Witham, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 18; average number, 15; length of term, 50 days; wages of teacher, $3.00 per week.

The scholars in this school are well advanced in their studies considering their age. Both teacher and scholars evinced a good degree of interest. At the close we were glad to meet some of the parents, and we think all were convinced that this had been a profitable term.

Winter term—Same teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 23; average number, 17; wages of teacher, $4.50 per week.

Miss Witham was engaged to take charge of this school during the fall term, and she fully sustained her former reputation of being an industrious, energetic and faithful teacher.

**DISTRICT NO. 6.—JESSE TRUE, Agent.**

Money apportioned, $131.56.

Summer term—Miss Della J. Pinkham, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 15; average number, 14; length of term, 40 days; wages of teacher, $3.00 per week.

This is her first attempt at teaching. She enters upon her duties as one who would easily accustom herself to the work. Her manner of asking questions serves to make thinkers and reasoners of her pupils. We are satisfied that the scholars have made good improvement, and we hope Miss Pinkham will again be employed to instruct our youth.

Winter term—J. M. Bartlett, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 20; average number, 18; wages of teacher, $40.00 per month.

Mr. Bartlett entered upon his duties as teacher knowing that nothing but thorough instruction would be acceptable in this school. He proved himself fully competent to fill the position. His classes all did well, the class in geography deserving special notice as second to none in town.

**DISTRICT NO. 7.—J. W. ROBINSON, Agent.**

Money apportioned, $125.12.

Summer term—Miss Adelia I. Weymouth, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 18; average number, 14; length of term, 39 days; wages of teacher, $2.25 per week.

Miss Weymouth's knowledge of the various branches pursued was good. Had she at the opening asserted her right to govern, and secured good order, the result might have been different; failing in this, a corresponding lack of interest in the several classes was noticed. The improvement was below an average.
Winter term—C. M. Tibbetts, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 21; average number, 15; wages of teacher, $29.33 per month.

Mr. Tibbets entered upon his work well prepared, bringing with him a good education. He makes his explanations so concise and clear that scholars can but understand. The school has been somewhat broken by sickness, yet it is plain to be seen that these scholars have received good and thorough instruction. Some of the friends of education were present at the final examination, who were acquainted with the condition of the school at the opening; all agree that good improvement has been made.

DISTRICT NO. 8.—CHARLES JACK, Agent.

Money apportioned, $47.52.

Fall term—Miss Emily Smiley, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 25; average number, 19; length of term, 50 days; wages of teacher, $3.50 per week.

Miss Smiley was engaged to take charge of this school, which has but one term during the year. As in the school in District No. 14, her instructions were thorough and well received.

DISTRICT NO. 9.—JOSEPH B. STEVENS, Agent.

Money apportioned, $146.28.

Summer term—Miss Clara J. Robinson, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 25; average number, 20; length of term, 40 days; wages of teacher, $3.00 per week.

Miss Robinson was engaged to take charge of the summer term. Learning that this was her first school, we felt that it would be a severe task for one so young. Being informed that it was the wish of those interested for her to make the attempt, also that the school would be small, we gave such advice as we thought proper, and waited the result. That she put forth her best effort and labored hard, we have no doubt; part of the scholars made fair improvement, yet as a whole it was not a profitable term.

Winter term—D. W. Robinson, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 22; average number, 21; length of term, 50 days; wages of teacher, $32.00 per month.

The parents of this district have not all been satisfied with the effort made in behalf of their scholars for the past few terms. At our first visit we felt assured that Mr. Robinson was the man competent to fill the position. A part of the parents were present at the closing examination, from whom we learn that all are satisfied with the method pursued, both in governing and instructing. One class in grammar, taught orally, did extra well. Writing was attended to each day, with good improvement. All classes have been faithfully taught.
DISTRICT NO. 10.—THOMAS GRAVES, Agent.

Money apportioned, $122.18.

Summer term—Miss Emily A. Buker, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 17; average number, 14; length of term, 54 days; wages of teacher, $3.00 per week.

Miss Buker entered upon her duties without experience as a teacher. At our first visit we felt assured that she would, through her good feeling which existed between teacher and scholars, easily predict the result. We were sorry to learn that this was not the case. A part of the scholars made fair progress, while others were uninterested and were unable to give evidence of fair improvement.

Winter term—C. D. Newell, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 17; average number, 16; length of term, 50 days; wages of teacher, $26.00 per month.

Mr. Newell is well calculated to govern in our mixed schools, securing and retaining good order, in a quiet and pleasant way. We were pleased at the close to note the progress made in reading and spelling, and that classes in mathematics had been well drilled in analysis.

DISTRICT NO. 11.—E. MERRIMAN, Agent.

Money apportioned, $188.24.

Summer term—Miss C. A. Maxwell, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 34; average number, 29; length of term, 55 days; wages of teacher, $4.00 per week.

This is one of our largest schools, and one in which we need a teacher fully competent to govern as well as instruct. The agent made a good selection when he chose Miss Maxwell. The scholars at both visits were orderly and well interested. Some of the parents showed their interest by being present at the closing examination, which reflected credit upon both teacher and scholars.

Winter term—S. Powers, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 32; average number, 22; length of term, 50 days; wages of teacher, $27.00 per month.

We are aware that Mr. Powers is one of our most thorough scholars, yet at his age teachers find it much harder to secure and retain good order than when younger—without which, teaching, although it be of a superior grade, would not be appreciated. The exercises at the close were rendered more interesting by the presence of several parents. But few scholars were present, each of whom did very well.

DISTRICT NO. 12.—WM. F. MERRIMAN, Agent.

Money apportioned, $101.96.

Summer term—Miss Josie H. Verney, teacher. Whole number of scholars attending, 7; average number, 6; length of term, 90 days; wages of teacher, $2.25 per week.

Although this teacher had no experience in teaching, she succeeded well in this school. She gained the confidence of her pupils and gave
them good instruction. The interest at first secured continued until
the close, with corresponding improvement.

Winter term—Henry Taylor, teacher. Whole number of scholars
attending, 11; average number, 11; length of term, 45 days; wages of
teacher, $30.00 per month.

This is not his first term in this district. Good work was done
during the first, and parents had confidence in his ability to render a
second term equally profitable. His class in Elementary Algebra com­
pleted the book, also the class in Practical Arithmetic, in which they
passed a good examination.

DISTRICT NO. 18.—HENRY DUSTIN, Agent.

Money apportioned, $102.44.

Summer term—Miss Cretia K. Stover, teacher. Whole number of
scholars attending, 18; average number, 10; length of term, 40 days;
wages of teacher, $2.25 per week.

We find this little school as usual quiet and industrious. These
scholars having been taught orally, look for this kind of instruction,
and are not satisfied unless their teachers continue this course. The
scholars all made fair improvement, some of the younger ones doing
extra well.

Winter term—J. D. Buker, teacher. Whole number of scholars at­
tending, 15; average number, 15; length of term, 56 days; wages of
teacher, $28.00 per month.

This is his third term in his own district; it is seldom that the like
occurs with the same result. During the first the interest and im­
provement were satisfactory; the second was fully equal if not supe­
rior, while the third was not inferior to either.

DISTRICT NO. 14.—B. C. DAVIS, Agent.

Money apportioned, $132.54.

Summer term—Miss Emily W. Smiley, teacher. Whole number of
scholars attending, 18; average number, 15; length of term, 40 days;
wages of teacher, $6.00 per week.

Miss Smiley gives good analysis, and labors hard to instruct and
interest scholars under her charge; classes were better interested than
usual, and order was good. We have never seen these scholars appear
better in their several studies than at the close of this term.

Winter term—Henry Taylor, teacher. Whole number of scholars
attending, 22; average number, 20; length of term, 45 days; wages of
teacher, $36.00 per month.

Mr. Taylor is well known among us as a teacher of experience. The
parents in this district have felt that their scholars for several winters
past have not made that improvement that they have a right to expect.
The agent, knowing of Mr. Taylor's success, felt that he would be the
right man for the school. The confidence reposed in him was not mis-