

PROCEEDINGS
 OF THE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
 IN CONCORD,
 March 12, 13, 14 and 15,
1844.

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At a legal town meeting, duly notified and holden at Concord, in the county of Merrimack, on the second Tuesday of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-four, the following votes were given in.

FOR MODERATOR.

<i>First Ballot.</i> Whole number of votes cast,		882
Necessary to a choice,		442
Samuel A. Kimball	had	1 vote.
Samuel Dobie	“	1
Lewis Downing	“	1
Augustus Cæsar Blodgett,	“	2
Joel C. Danforth	“	3
Cyrus Robinson	“	74
William Walker, Jr.	“	146
Joseph Low	“	296
Charles H. Peaslee	“	358

(No choice.)

Second balloting for Moderator.

Whole number of votes cast,		894
Necessary to choice,		448
Joel C. Danforth	had	1 vote.
Augustus Cæsar Blodgett	“	3
Cyrus Robinson	“	65

William Walker, Jr.	had	128
Joseph Low	"	298
Charles H. Peaslee	"	399

(No choice.)

Third balloting for Moderator.

Whole number of votes cast,		748
Necessary to a choice,		375
Moses Marshall	had	1 vote.
Cyrus Robinson	"	49
William Walker, Jr.	"	128
Joseph Low	"	221
Charles H. Peaslee	"	349

(No choice.)

Voted, to adjourn till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 1844.

Met according to adjournment.

Fourth balloting for Moderator.

Whole number of votes cast,		822
Necessary to a choice,		412
Cyrus Robinson	had	75 votes.
William Walker, Jr.	"	108
Richard Bradley	"	300
Charles H. Peaslee	"	339

(No choice.)

Fifth balloting for Moderator.

Whole number of votes cast,		805
Necessary to a choice,		403
William Walker	had	1 vote.
Cyrus Robinson	"	78
William Walker, Jr.	"	83
Richard Bradley	"	301
Charles H. Peaslee	"	342

(No choice.)

Sixth balloting for Moderator.

Whole number of votes cast,		854
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Necessary to a choice,		428
William Walker, Jr.	had	76 votes.
Cyrus Robinson	"	80
Richard Bradley	"	321
Charles H. Peaslee	"	377
(No choice.)		

Seventh balloting for Moderator.

Whole number of votes cast,		769
Necessary to a choice,		385
William Walker, Jr.	had	63 votes.
Cyrus Robinson	"	80
Richard Bradley	"	287
Charles H. Peaslee	"	339
(No choice.)		

Voted, to adjourn till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1844.

Met according to adjournment.

Eighth balloting for Moderator.

Whole number of votes cast,		937
Necessary to a choice,		469
Uncle Tibbets	had	2 votes.
True Osgood	"	3
Richard Bradley	"	3
Cyrus Robinson	"	14
Charles H. Peaslee	"	400
Ezra Carter	"	515

Ezra Carter, having a majority of all the votes given in, was declared duly elected, and took the oath by law prescribed.

Ballot for Town-Clerk.

Whole number of votes cast,		633
Necessary to a choice,		317
John P. Johnson	had	342 votes.
Jacob C. Carter	"	277
George H. H. Silsby	"	8
George Hutchins	"	1

John D. Norton	had	2
Charles H. Peaslee	"	1
Charles C. Hodgdon	"	1
Scattering,		1

And John P. Johnson, having a majority of all the votes given in, was declared by the moderator duly elected, and took the oath by law prescribed.

First ballot for Selectmen.

Whole number of votes cast,		2790
Necessary to a choice,		476
Nathan Stickney	had	488 votes.
Jeremiah Fowler	"	481
William M. Carter	"	429
John L. Tallant	"	410
Jeremiah S. Noyes	"	394
Joseph P. Stickney	"	286
Joseph Eastman, Jr.	"	123
Joseph Graham	"	113
Shadrach Seavey	"	17
John Whipple	"	15
Cyrus Robinson	"	9
Asa Fowler	"	9
Joel C. Danforth	"	8
Nathan Moore	"	3
Cooper Hoit	"	3
Ezra Hoit	"	1
Samuel Morrill	"	1

And Nathan Stickney and Jeremiah Fowler, having a majority of all the votes given in, were declared by the moderator duly elected, and took the oath by law prescribed.

Second ballot for Selectmen.

Whole number of votes cast,		748
Necessary to a choice,		375
Jeremiah S. Noyes	had	434 votes.
William M. Carter	"	279
Joseph Graham	"	16
John L. Tallant	"	8
Joseph P. Stickney	"	2
Joseph Eastman, Jr.	"	2
Ezekiel Dow	"	2

Abraham Bean	had	1
John Whipple	“	1
Scattering		3

And Jeremiah S. Noyes, having a majority of all the votes given in, was declared by the moderator duly elected, and took the oath by law prescribed.

Voted, to adjourn till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 1844.

Met according to adjournment.

For Highway Surveyors.

Chose Benjamin Rolfe, John C. Ordway, Oliver Hoit, George W. Moulton, Thomas Potter, Isaac Virgin, William Page, Ephraim C. Elliot, George F. Sanborn, Henry Rolfe, Jr., Heman Sanborn, Stephen Carleton, Hazen Abbot, Ezra Ballard, Benjamin Abbot, Benjamin Wheeler, Jr., William Thompson, John Lock, Joseph Eastman, who being present took the oath by law prescribed.

Also, chose Charles Moody, James Lock, Isaac Runnels, Alfred C. Abbot, Benjamin Farnum, Levi Abbot, Jere Abbot, Joshua Berry, Alpheus Goodwin, John Hall.

For Firewards.

Chose Isaac Eastman, Harry Houston, Samuel Coffin, Luther Roby, James Woolson, Benjamin Parker, William Restieaux, Seth Eastman, Joseph P. Stickney, Ephraim Hutchins, Jonathan Sanborn, John McDaniel, Moses Shute, Jacob Carter, George W. Brown, Nathaniel B. Baker, George H. H. Silsby, Frederick W. Urann, Philip B. Grant, John M. Hill, John Abbot, T. T. Abbot, who being present took the oath by law prescribed.

Also, chose Cyrus Robinson, Daniel Davis, Jr., David Allison, Enos Blake, Charles Hutchins, William M. Carter, Horatio G. Belknap, Robert Eastman, Oren Foster, Daniel A. Hill, John Sawyer.

For Constables.

Chose Isaac Eastman, Abraham Bean, John Abbot, Harry Houston, Abel Baker, Richard Bradley, Nathaniel Rolfe, who being present took the oath by law prescribed.

Also, chose Charles Smart, Nathan Call, Rufus D. Scales, William Walker, Jr.

For Fence-Viewers.

Chose Moses Shute, Isaac Farnum, Abiel Walker.

For Auditors of Accounts.

Chose Samuel Coffin, George Minot, John Whipple.

For Cullers of Staves.

Chose William Hayward, Gilbert Perkins, Samuel Curtis, Joseph M. Bradley, Leonard Bell, Ezra Hoit.

For Surveyors of Lumber.

Chose David Abbot, Samuel Shute, Philip Sargent, Henry M. Moore, Shadrach Seavey, Abel Baker, Timothy Colby, Perley Ayer, Philip Watson, Nathaniel Rolfe, Hall Burgin, John Eastman—who being present took the oath by law prescribed.

Also, Joseph Eastman, jr., Charles Graham, Ebenezer Eastman, Eben F. Elliot, Daniel Dunlap, John Putney, Asa H. Morrill, George Wilkins, John Abbot, David Farnum, John Titcomb, Sewell Hoit, Aaron Morse, Nicholas Fowler, Daniel Rand, Russell Hills, Nathl. C. Elliot, Perley Cleaves, Charles P. Crockett, Hazen Walker, Reuben Goodwin, jr., Elbridge Dimond.

For Corders of Wood.

Chose Philip Sargent, Jeremiah Pecker, James H. Powell, William Gault, George F. Sanborn—who being present took the oath by law prescribed.

Also, chose Cyrus Hill, David Allison, Elliot Chickering, Daniel N. Hoit, Albert Herbert, Albert Webster, Nathl. H. Sanborn, Rodney G. Cutting, Cyrus Robinson, Reuben D. Mooers, Joel C. Danforth, John Goss, Jonathan E. Lang, Joseph D. Godfrey.

Weighers of Hay.

Chose John Pettengill, Jeremiah P. Whipple, James Moore, John P. Johnson, Isaac Eastman, George W. Brown—who being present took the oath by law prescribed.

Also, Francis A. Fisk, Nathl. H. Sanborn, Daniel N. Hoit, Mical Tubbs, Robert N. Corning, Cyrus Robinson, Ara Morrill.

Sealers of Leather.

Chose Cyrus Robinson, Benjamin Parker, Chase Hill,
Enos Blake.

Sealers of Weights and Measures.

Chose Seth Eastman—who being present took the oath
by law prescribed.

Also, chose Jacob Carter, Ivory Hall.

Pound Keepers.

Chose Hiram Farnum, Simeon Abbot.

Clerk of the Market.

Chose Seth Eastman.

Haywards.

Chose Samuel Coffin.

Hogreeves.

Chose Timothy Dow, Simeon Russell, Elbridge Dimond,
Reuben Martin, William T. Emery, Nathaniel B. Baker,
Harrison Griffin, Henry P. Sweetser, Ebenezer Fellows,
jr., James B. Fellows, William Hart, John McDaniel, Chs.
Williams, John Wallace, jr., Richard Y. Davis, George
W. Greeley, Josiah Fernald, Windsor Fairbanks, William
P. Smith, Frederick P. Hill, George G. Estabrook, Alphe-
us H. Goodwin, Henry Rolfe, jr., T. Augustus Harraden,
Reuben F. Foster, John H. Elliot, William P. Hill, Abner
H. Lougee, Hosea B. Barton, John Alfred Farley, John M.
Hill, Andrew J. Glover, Lyman A. Walker, Seth Hopkins,
Amos Frye, Lorenzo Butterfield, Charles E. Clark, Austin
G. Saltmarsh, John G. Proctor, Charles Henry Reed, Jas.
Straw, Samuel M. Currier, James C. Currier, Timothy
Davis, James Moore, Plummer Ordway, William F. Davis,
John K. Cilley, George H. Batchelder, John Sawyer, jr.,
John E. Proctor, Samuel K. Blanchard, Lorenzo Dow,
Hosea B. Cross, William H. Ryder, Joseph P. Stickney,
Cosmer Lund, John B. Chandler.

Auditors' Report.

The undersigned, Auditors of Accounts for the year 1843,
have attended to the duty assigned us, and have found

the accounts of the Selectmen and acting Treasurer well vouched and correctly cast, and present the following as a true statement of the finances of the town.

1843. March 9. Cash on hand,	\$1458·75
Taxes assessed, and committed to A. Bean, collector,	9275·62
Cash of committee having in charge the funds of the town,	660·00
Cash received of conditional exempts,	2·00
Cash borrowed of Merrimack County Bank,	989·50
Cash of State Treasurer, for Literary Fund,	191·16
Cash of county, for support of paupers,	127·14
Cash for Licenses,	30·00
Cash of Abiel Walker, for interest,	1·20
Cash of town of Chichester, for support of pauper,	6·67
Cash of State Treasurer, rail-road tax,	809·76
Cash of town of Northfield, for pauper,	22·83
Cash of J. C. Wilson, rent of Green house,	20·00
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Making the sum of	\$13·594·63

Which is accounted for as follows :

Paid State Treasurer,	\$1200·00
“ County Treasurer,	642·57
“ School Orders,	2190·63
“ Nonresident receipts,	74·95
“ repairs of roads and bridges, and compensation for land,	2891·12
“ superintending school committee,	75·00
“ rations for the militia,	208·00
“ services of the militia for 1843,	307·50
“ services of the militia previous to 1843,	23·00
“ printing and stationery,	78·21
“ bills of cost and professional services,	168·87
“ burying ground and fence,	155·00
“ ringing and tolling bells,	98·25
“ repair of town hall,	45·43
“ office rent and fuel,	14·02
“ borrowed money and interest,	2373·21
“ tax in school district No. 3,	392·00
“ appropriation to school dist. No. 3,	15·00

Paid school district No. 20, sum due on assessment in 1842,	20-02
“ repairing engine,	20-60
“ damages for defect of road,	145-50
“ repairs at farm—outstanding claim,	2-79
“ on account of B. Green,	107-00
“ repair of pump,	1-25
“ R. Davis and Joseph Low, for servi- ces taking charge of town funds 12 years,	165-00
“ support of paupers,	1158-79
“ post-guides,	16-00
“ commission to A. Bean, for collection of taxes,	115-19
“ selectmen and town-clerk, for servi- ces and expenses,	528-23
“ auditors and expenses,	5-63
“ abatement of taxes,	206-02
	<u>13444-78</u>

Leaving a balance unexpended of \$149-85

There is due from A. Bean, collector, the sum of 184-87

It therefore appears that the acting treasurer has paid out the sum of \$35-02 more than he has received.

There is due from the town—

To Timothy Walker, note May 31, 1842,	\$1000-00
Maria Ridgeway, note July 7, 1842,	2000-00
F. N. Fisk, note October 5, 1842,	1000-00
Town committee,	4431-00
Merrimack County Bank,	500-00
Jos. B. Walker, February 1, 1840,	800-00
Jos. B. Walker, April 19, 1841,	1000-00
	<u>\$10-731-00</u>

The selectmen have an order on the county
for \$468-25

Due from the county, for the support
of paupers, 203-66 \$671-91

The auditors would further state, that the whole expense of supporting the poor at the farm the past year amounts to the following sums :

Amount of property on hand March 1, 1843, \$1372-88

Cash of selectmen,	220-00
Cash on hand, and due from sundry individuals, March 1, 1843,	45-11
Salary of physician,	20-40
Salary of overseer,	250-00
Interest on farm,	240-00

\$2148-39

Amount of property on hand March 1, 1844,	1446-57
Cash due from the county, for the support of paupers,	619-00

Leaving a balance of 82-82

which is the expense of supporting the poor at the farm, as appears from the foregoing statement.

The average number of paupers at the farm for the past year has been twenty-four.

The whole amount paid for the support of paupers for the past year is 1158-79

Due from the county and received from other towns, for the support of paupers, 700-50

Leaving the sum of \$458-29

which is the actual expense for the support of the poor for the past year.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

March 9, 1844.

SAM'L COFFIN,
JOHN WHIPPLE.

Report of the Committee on Town Funds.

The committee having in charge the various funds of the town of Concord ask leave to make the following statement in relation thereto :

PARSONAGE FUND.

The original amount of which was \$5335-51
and is now invested as follows, to wit. :

13 shares in Concord Bank, cost	\$1326-25
10 shares in Merrimack Co. Bank, cost	1050-00
4 shares in Mechanicks Bank, cost	400-00

Note, March 3, 1843. R. E. Pecker, Jona. E. Lang, Wm. Pecker,	964·77
Note, June 18, 1840. Abraham Prescott, A. J. Prescott, Benj. Eastman,	273·74
Loaned to the town on certificate of selectmen,	1320·75 \$5335·51

The income arising from this fund to January 1, 1843, was as follows, to wit.:

Dividend from Mechanicks Bank for 1842,	\$24·00
“ “ Merrimack Co. Bank, “	60·00
Interest from Pecker & Lang's note,	57·89
“ “ N. Chandler's,	3·44
“ “ A. Prescott's,	28·42
“ “ Town,	33·62
“ “ Rail-road stock,	90·00
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	\$297·37

which sum was appropriated by the selectmen, and has been paid by the committee to the several religious societies, agreeable to a vote of the town, as follows:

East Society,	\$34·41	West Society,	33·32
North “	58·82	South “	51·49
Unitarian Society,	40·27	Methodist Society,	16·48
Christian Baptist,	7·73	Baptist “	27·05
Freewill Baptist,	1·00	Episcopal “	11·77
Universalist,	15·03		
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			\$297·37

The income of the same fund to January 1, 1844, was as follows, to wit.:

Dividend from Mechanicks Bank,	\$24·00
“ “ Merrimack County Bank,	70·00
Interest on loan to town,	75·45
“ from Pecker & Lang's note,	58·25
“ “ A. Prescott's note,	16·53
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	\$244·23

which sum was appropriated by the selectmen, and has been paid by the committee to the several religious societies, agreeable to a vote of the town, as follows:

North Society,	\$47·86	South Society,	37·74
West “	28·79	East “	21·29
Unitarian “	32·05	Baptist “	24·02
Methodist,	14·08	Episcopal,	8·44
Freewill Baptist,	1·33	Universalist,	19·28
Christian Baptist,	9·35		
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			\$244·23

SCHOOL FUND.

The amount of this fund, as reported last March, was \$5457·05

and is now invested as follows :

10 shares in Concord Bank, cost	1020·25
3 shares in Mechanicks Bank, cost	300·00
Note, March 3, 1843, R. H. Ayer, Amos G. Gale, Isaac Hill,	711·87
Interest to March 3, 1844,	42·71
Note, March 3, 1843, Isaac Hill, R. H. Ayer, Amos G. Gale,	738·51
Interest to March 3, 1844,	44·31
Note, June 6, 1839, Geo. W. Moulton, Joseph Eastman, jr., Alpheus W. Clough,	200·00
Loaned to town, July 5, 1842,	1994·96
Loaned to town, March 28, 1843,	460·00
Rec'd int. on note G. W. Moulton,	12·00
Dividend Mechanicks Bank,	18·00
Cash in hands of committee,	333·18
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	\$5875·79

SURPLUS REVENUE FUND.

This fund is invested as follows :

Note, Lewis Downing, Theodore French, George Kent, Josiah Rogers, Josiah Rogers, jr., John Brown, on which there is supposed to be due the sum of	2000·00
with interest from March 10, 1840,	480·00
Note, July 10, 1837, Hall Burgin, William Kent, George Kent, Wm. A. Kent,	2000·00
Interest to March 1, 1844,	152·86
Three notes of Samuel Tallant, of March 13, 1843, for \$250 each, secured by mortgage of real estate,	750·00

Interest to March 13, 1844,	45-00
Land set off on execution against George Kent, and unsold, as appraised,	570-00
Loaned to the town, on certificate of selectmen, Respectfully submitted, by	655-29
SAML. COFFIN, for the Committee.	

School Report.

The superintending School Committee, having attended to the duties assigned them, respectfully present to the town the following Report.

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

Districts.	Teachers.	Weeks kept.	No. scholars.
1.	Hannah Danforth,	6	10
2.	Sally Flint,	12	35
3.	Mary Brown,	15	68
4.	Hannah Buswell,	10	30
5.	Miss Colby,	10	12
7.	Alzira Allen.		
8.	Lucretia Shute,		21
9.	{ Miss Arey,	12	55
	{ Emily J. Burnham,	12	67
10.	{ George W. Shackford,	7½	
	{ A. D. Allen,	8	
	{ Nancy W. Arey,	19	
	{ Phebe M. Farnum,	12	80
	{ Louisa J. McAllaster,	12	58
11.	{ Betsey M. Kelley,	7	
	{ Louisa L. Kelley,	20	75
12.	{ Maria Chandler,	20	60
	{ Ann Moulton,		
19.	{ Union School. }	20	70
13.	Elizabeth W. Dow,	9	43
14.	Caroline E. D. Virgin,	10	15
15.	Miss Wheeler,	12	32
16.	Eliza Robertson,	10	17
18.	Miss Wilson.		
21.	Ruth E. Hoit,	8	20
23.	Hannah S. Danforth,	8	30
24.	Ann M. Elliot,	12	18
Total,		263½	

With a few exceptions, the summer schools were under the care of EFFICIENT and well qualified teachers. And consequently the scholars were kept in good order, and made commendable progress in their studies. By referring to the above schedule it will be seen that no summer schools were kept in Districts No. 6, 20, 22 and 25.

WINTER SCHOOLS.

DIST.	NAMES OF TEACHERS.	Weeks kept.	Number of scholars.	Readers in lower class.	Readers in higher class.	Writers.	Mental Arithmetic.	Written Arithmetic.	Grammar.	Geography.	History.	Higher branches.
No.												
1	Marshall Colby	3	11	5	6	8		3	4	4	2	1
2	William P. Chandler	4	35	10	18			4	9	6	6	2
3	John Jarvis	15	82	39	43	45	27	26	19	19	8	10
4	William P. Chandler	10	37	23	14	23	11	16	10	6	6	6
5	Cyrus A. Eastman	10	25	9	16	10	8	15	9	9	2	2
6	David L. Morrill	10	13									
7	Jonathan Dodge	10	25	15	10	17	10	9	6	8	1	
8	D. C. Allen	9	28	12	16		5	12	8	11		
9	{ Emily J. Burnham	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	60									
	{ Edward B. West	14	98	11					10			
	{ Josiah Stevens, Jr.	21	118			73	24	70	50	40		51
10	{ Nancy W. Arey	21	60									
	{ Betsey M. Kelly	12	58									
11	{ Joseph Richardson	15	78	38	41	63	45	44	28	61	6	12
	{ Louisa L. Kelly	15	70	54			27			15		
12	James Moulton, Jr.	9	59	21	38	35	14	32	12	22	2	4
13	Sylvester D. Huntoon	5	35	14	12		9	11	6	4		
14	John Kelly	8	16	10	6		2	3		1		
15	Jeremiah T. Clough	10	45	15	21	12	8	14	15	16		7
18	Nathan K. Abbot		43	23	20	22	9	11	6	10	3	
19	{ John M. Pitman											
	{ Chandler E. Potter	9	41	21	20	20	18	20	11	38	3	
20	Henry Rolfe, Jr.	5	15	7	8	10	4	8	7	5		1
21	Jeremiah T. Clough	8	31	6	12		3	9	6	8		
23	John Jarvis	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	21	10	11	13	5	9	2	5		
25	George Abbot	12	15	3	12	11	4	11	4	1		
		* 238	1051									

* Average to each district about 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ weeks.

Winter schools have been taught in 22 of the 25 districts in town, and have been attended by more than 1000 scholars. The whole number of weeks kept is 258—average 11 $\frac{1}{2}$. Your committee think that as a whole the schools will bear a favorable comparison with those of former years, both in respect to order and progress. A few of the teachers failed greatly in the energy, firmness and wisdom

indispensable to the successful management of a school. As an instance of incompetency and gross neglect of duty, we notice Mr. J. M. Pitman, who kept 4 weeks in No. 19, and was dismissed on application of a majority of the district, and the remaining 5 weeks of the term kept by Mr. Chandler E. Potter. We were also under the painful necessity of dismissing one of the older scholars of the school in No. 13, whose conduct had not only tried the patience of the master, but had evidently been sadly subversive of good order and success in the school.

The school in No. 3 commenced in a new and commodious house, completed last autumn, which does honor to the liberality of the inhabitants. Under the care of Mr. J. Jarvis, one of our oldest and most successful teachers, the school was at one time entirely suspended by almost universal sickness among the scholars, and greatly diminished through most of the term: still the closing examination was well sustained.

The other schools deserving a particularly favorable notice, are Nos. 2 and 4, kept by William P. Chandler; No. 12, by Dea. Moulton; Nos. 15 and 21, by Jeremiah T. Clough; No. 19, by Chandler E. Potter, and No. 20, kept by Henry Rolfe, jr.; No. 18, by Mr. N. K. Abbot, and the female department in No. 11, kept by Miss Louisa L. Kelly. In both the schools taught in district No. 10, the teachers were themselves deeply interested in their work, and they had the happy faculty of imparting the same interest to their scholars. The committee can hardly conceive how Miss Arey's school could have appeared better than it did at its last examination. All the scholars were prompt and animated in their different recitations.

It may be well to speak more particularly of the department taught by Col. Stevens, comprising the older scholars in the district. This school has heretofore sustained a bad character. It has been found difficult to govern, and almost impossible to interest in study. Term after term has passed away, with little if any visible improvement in the scholars. But such has not been the case during the past winter. The government of the school has been excellent—it could not, apparently, have been more perfect. This has been secured without resorting in a single instance to the rod. Corporal punishment has in no case been found necessary. Appeals have always been made to higher and

nobler motives, and with entire success. The good behavior of the scholars has not been confined to the school room, but has been so marked in the streets and elsewhere as to attract notice and occasion remark. Time will not allow us to speak particularly of the improvement made in all the different branches taught in the school; but we can not refrain from alluding to the marked progress of the school in reading—a most important branch of instruction, and one not sufficiently regarded in our schools. Special attention was given to this. Prizes were proposed to the best readers, to be awarded by a committee appointed for the purpose. They were given to eight scholars—who, with difficulty, on account of the many good readers, were selected from the rest of the school. The school closed with an exhibition highly creditable to the instructors and scholars.

There are two or three points to which we would direct your particular notice. One of them is the want of accommodation in the school houses in the main village of the town. The difficulty is bad enough in No. 11, but much worse in Nos. 9 and 10. Whether the evil shall be remedied by a division of the districts, or additional school houses, may be best judged by the inhabitants concerned. But we think it must be evident to all acquainted with the deleterious influence of school houses not only crowded but crammed, that the health, happiness, and educational advantages of the scholars demand more ample accommodations.

Another point to which we would refer, is the shortness of the terms of some of the schools. While the average, for the town, of the terms is nearly equal to former years, the terms in several of the districts are so short as to render it certain that the scholars in those districts who depend solely on the district school, will have but a very insufficient education. No. 1 had only 3 weeks school; No. 2, four weeks; No. 6, ten weeks, but no summer school; No. 13, five weeks; No. 20, twenty-eight days, with no school in the summer; No. 23, fifteen days. We are not to conclude that this is so because the inhabitants of these districts are less solicitous, or do less in proportion to educate their children, than others. They pay their school tax, of course; and some of them, who have the ability, will undoubtedly educate their children at private expense.

But others, who have equally the will, have not the ability to do it. The consequence will be, that many of the children of these districts will grow up with a very limited education, unless some arrangement can be made to increase their amount of schooling. And this cannot reasonably be expected to be done by the distribution of money raised in the larger districts among the smaller, as has been generously done to a considerable amount, for several past years. Nor can it be done by an increase of the school tax; for a large majority of the districts now raise as much as is on the whole best for this purpose. The only alternative left is for the smaller districts to unite where practicable, either as a permanent arrangement; or, what will amount to the same thing, let these districts agree to send to each other's schools, and so arrange their schools that the terms shall succeed each other; and thus, while all the scholars can enjoy the benefit of their own school, at least, all, except it may be a very few in the extremes, can enjoy the benefit of two schools instead of one. Such an arrangement as we here recommend was entered into last summer between Nos. 12 and 19, and, so far as we know, to the full satisfaction of all concerned.

We have been particular on this point, because we deem it matter of first importance that *all* our population be well educated, (understanding the term education to apply to the spiritual and moral man, as well as to the intellectual;) and we are persuaded that the enjoyments and usefulness of life depend more upon a proper education, than upon any thing else. Ignorance and vice are our worst enemies; while on the other hand the intelligence and virtue which the laws of this state absolutely require teachers in our common schools to inculcate, are adapted to form such characters both of the rich and poor as will seek affinity and fellowship. No merely factitious distinctions shall keep them asunder. No intrigues shall alienate them; and our social institutions, resting upon such a basis, shall remain sacred and enduring.

In conclusion your committee would respectfully suggest the inquiry, whether the educational interests of the town would not be promoted by the adoption of the law of the state in regard to schools in Portsmouth (Revised Statutes, ch. 74) as shall secure the establishment and maintenance of one or more High Schools? For the reasons for estab-

lishing one or more such schools, we would refer you to the School Report of last year, only adding, that the measure would unquestionably exert a most favorable effect on the district schools, by awakening a laudable ambition among the scholars for those intellectual attainments which should be the price of their admission to the High School. Such a measure, in our judgment, is also due to the present attainments and promise of many of our youth. In No. 3, interrupted as the winter term has been by sickness, we found two females, aged about 12 and 15 years, who have thoroughly mastered all the sums in Adams' New Arithmetic, and put them all down from their slates in a blank book, and in a hand writing neat and legible. Several scholars of a similar age are found in most of the other districts, equally advanced in Arithmetic, with a corresponding knowledge in other branches of an English education. We cannot but think that such early attainments in our common schools ought to meet with liberal encouragement from the town, and such facilities furnished by public benefaction, as will render a first rate education attainable by all.

N. BOUTON,	}	Superintending
A. P. TENNEY,		School
D. J. NOYES,		Committee.

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Voted, To raise \$3·500 to defray the ordinary expenses of the town the current year.

Voted, To raise \$2·000 for the support of schools the ensuing year.

Voted, To raise \$4·000 for the building and repairing of highways and bridges, to be laid out in labor at 10 cents per hour.

Voted, To adopt the same provisions of the police law as was adopted March, 1843.

Voted, That the regulations adopted last year to prevent horses, cattle, sheep and swine from going at large, be adopted this year.

Voted, To adopt Chapter·111 of Title xiv. of the Revised Statutes of this state, relating to the extinguishment of fires, and that the inhabitants of this town living more than half a mile in any direction from a line beginning at the old North Meeting-House, and running southerly thro'

Main street to Concord Bridge ; and the inhabitants living more than half a mile in any direction from Brown's tavern, in the West Village ; and the inhabitants living more than three quarters of a mile from Clough's store, in the East Village ; and the inhabitants living more than half a mile from the village at Millville, be exempted from the operation of the eleventh section of said Chapter 111.

Voted, That the income of the Parsonage Fund be distributed as heretofore ; and such portion of said fund as shall have no direction given as to its distribution, be equally divided among the several religious societies in town.

Voted, That the income arising from the Literary Fund be equally distributed among the several schools in town.

Voted, To adopt the law of the Revised Statutes, securing to mechanics and others a lien on buildings and vessels.

Voted, That Franklin Pierce, Benjamin Parker, Richard Bradley, Luther Roby, William Restieaux and Joseph Low, be a committee to report upon the expediency of granting to individuals plots of land in the cemetery near the old North Meeting-House, to be held by such individuals exclusively as family burying ground—which committee reported the following resolutions, which were accepted and adopted.

Resolved, That the plan of the new part of the cemetery in the north part of the village, drawn by Benjamin Parker, under the direction of Luther Roby, William Restieaux, and others, committee of the town having that subject in charge, be adopted.

Resolved, That a committee of three, consisting of Luther Roby, William Restieaux and Samuel Coffin, be appointed, with discretionary power to grant to individuals who may apply for plots in said cemetery, the exclusive right and title to the same, at such price as said committee may, under all the circumstances, deem proper ; in no case exceeding the sum of ten dollars for a plot ; and in case of present sad necessity to take up a lot, the committee may, in their discretion, grant the lot without compensation.

Resolved, That when the selection of a lot shall be made, it shall be the duty of the committee, upon payment thereof of the price by them fixed, to enter the name of the individual making the selection upon the number selected on the above named plan, and also give to the person a

certificate, by them signed, that he has complied with the conditions of the foregoing resolutions ; and whenever such person shall cause such certificate to be entered and recorded by the town-clerk, in a book of records to be kept for that specific purpose, in which the aforesaid plan shall first be recorded, his title to such lot shall be absolute and exclusive.

Voted, That Article 12, relating to the school districts originally contained in District No. 1, be indefinitely postponed.

Voted, That the subject of discontinuing the highway extending from Carter's tavern (so called) to the ferry-way over Merrimack river, be referred to the selectmen, with instructions to report at the next town meeting.

Voted, That the subject of the 14th article, in relation to the claim upon the town of Boscawen, for the repairs of the bridge over Contoocook river, near John Sawyer's, be referred to the selectmen, together with Franklin Pierce and Richard Bradley.

Voted, That article 15, in relation to fast riding over bridges, &c., be indefinitely postponed.

Voted, That the sum of \$100 be appropriated for the purpose of building one or more reservoirs on Main street, between Francis N. Fisk and Porter Blanchard's.

Voted, That article 17, relating to damages claimed by Joshua Sanborn and Mrs. Susan Webster, be indefinitely postponed.

Voted, That article 18, relating to the granting of licenses for the sale of ardent spirits, be indefinitely postponed.

Voted, That a sum not exceeding \$100 be appropriated to build a house and purchase hose for Engine No. 5.

Voted, That article 20, upon the subject of raising money to purchase an engine to be located near John Sawyer's, be indefinitely postponed.

Voted, That the sum of \$129.10, being the amount paid out by Engine Company No. 4, for hose, hose carriage, bell and torches, be paid to said company.

Voted, That the sum of \$61 be paid to Engine Company No. 2, that being the amount expended by said company for the purchase of a hose carriage, torches and buckets— Also, that a further sum, not exceeding \$200, be appropriated for the purpose of erecting a new engine house for said company, the location of said house and the amount expended to be under the direction of the firewards.

Resolved, As a new proportion of public taxes will be made by the Legislature of this State the present year; and as the town of Concord will be without a representative in that body—That Franklin Pierce, Richard Bradley and William Low, Esquires, be appointed a committee, with instructions to apply for leave to be heard, in behalf of said town, before the Legislature, or their committee, upon that subject.

Upon considering the 23d article in the warrant, which was in these words—“To see if the town will take measures expressive of disapprobation towards the course pursued by John R. Reding, Edmund Burke and Moses Norris, Jr., members of Congress, in denying to the people the free enjoyment of the inalienable right of petition”—the following resolutions were introduced by S. Dana, Jr., Esq.

1. *Resolved*, That the right of the people to respectfully petition their Representatives for the redress of whatever they may consider grievances, is a right absolutely inalienable in its character, and can suffer no abridgement by the people’s Representatives without a sacrifice of those principles of justice and that regard for liberty which ought ever to characterize our republican institutions.

2. *Resolved*, That the course recently pursued by John R. Reding, Edmund Burke and Moses Norris, Jr., members of Congress from New-Hampshire, in favor of the Rule of the House of Representatives, which provides that “no petition, memorial, resolution, or other paper, praying for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, or any State or Territory, or the slave-trade between the States or Territories of the United States in which it now exists, shall be received by this House, OR ENTERTAINED IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER,” meets with our decided disapprobation.

3. *Resolved*, That, as a portion of the constituents of the above Representatives, we hereby enjoin upon them to coöperate with their colleague, the Hon. John P. Hale, in manfully sustaining the sacred RIGHT OF PETITION, by urging the rescision of the said Rule, and the rejection of every proposition denying to the people the free enjoyment of that inestimable RIGHT.

The above resolutions having been read, it was

Voted, That the same be acted upon separately, whereupon the first and second were adopted. Motion was then

made, that the third resolution be amended by adding the following words, viz : " And by doing all they can to prevent the election of Henry Clay, as President, because Henry Clay in the United States Senate voted to reject abolition petitions" — which amendment prevailed ; and while said resolution as amended was pending, the meeting voted to adjourn without day.

JOHN P. JOHNSON, *Town-Clerk.*

Appointments made by the Selectmen, March 16, 1844.

Overseer of the Town Farm and Keeper of the House of Correction—Hiram Farnum.

Physician—Dr. Ezra Carter.

Police Officers—Isaac Eastman, Harry Houston, Rufus D. Scales, James Woolson, Nathan Call, Moses Ordway, Samuel Shute.

Superintending School Committee—Rev. Daniel J. Noyes, Rev. Edmund Worth, Rev. William H. Ryder.