

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

IN CONCORD,

MARCH 9, 10, and 11.

1847.

At a legal Town Meeting, duly notified and held in the Town Hall 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-seven, NATHAN STICKNEY, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, called the meeting to order, read the warrant and the certificate of the posting thereof as required by law, and then filed with the town clerk the following appointment of moderator in writing, which was also read, to wit :

“ Whereas, the town of Concord, at a legal town meeting held on the fifth day of September, 1846, called for that purpose, adopted the law approved July 10, 1846, empowering Selectmen of such towns to choose and appoint a moderator, we therefore do choose and appoint ASA FOWLER, as moderator of this meeting.

NATHAN STICKNEY, } *Selectmen of*
JOSEPH EASTMAN, Jr., } *Concord.*

Concord, March 9, 1847.”

Asa Fowler, duly chosen and appointed moderator by a majority of the Selectmen, by a writing by them signed,

filed with the Town Clerk and by him recorded, as aforesaid, having been sworn as the law requires to the faithful and impartial discharge of the duties of that office, entered upon the same.

The following votes were given in for

GOVERNOR.

Whole number of tickets cast,		1515
Jared W. Williams	had	710
Anthony Colby	"	592
Nathaniel S. Berry	"	206
John H. White	"	3
Jared Williams	"	2
Isaac Boots Williams	"	1
Jonathan A. Snow	"	1

FOR REPRESENTATIVE TO CONGRESS.

Whole number of tickets cast,		1514
Charles H. Peaslee	had	711
Joel Eastman	"	591
George W. Stevens	"	208
Jacob Carter	"	1
James Clark	"	1
Gen. Low	"	1
William B. Collier	"	1

FOR COUNSELLOR.

Whole number of tickets cast,		1515
Benjamin Jenness	had	716
John Kelley	"	797
Abraham Prescott	"	1
Eliphalet C. Gale	"	1

FOR SENATOR.

Whole number of tickets cast,		1515
William H. Gage	had	714
Andrew Taylor	"	797
Wm. H. Gage	"	1
James U. Parker	"	2
Daniel E. Gale	"	1

FOR REGISTER OF DEEDS.

Whole number of tickets cast,	1517
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George Jones	had	715
George H. H. Silsby	"	596
Reuben Porter	"	205
John M. Hill	"	1

FOR COUNTY TREASURER.

Whole number of tickets cast,		1515
Charles Rowell	had	716
Moses Colby	"	588
Moses Martin	"	206
George Minot	"	2
N. Stickney	"	1
Nat. Weeks	"	1
William E. Gilman	"	1

FOR ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

Whole number of tickets cast,		1517
Benjamin E. Harriman	had	716
John Woodbury, Jr.	"	717
William R. Parker	"	717
Simeon B. Little	"	593
Cyrus Tucker	"	592
Benjamin Whipple	"	592
Moody A. Pillsbury	"	207
John D. Wadleigh	"	205
Nathaniel Seavey	"	207
Moody Pillsbury	"	1
Sirus Hill	"	1
B. E. Harriman	"	1
John Wadleigh	"	2
W. R. Parker	"	1
John Leighton	"	1
John Woodbury	"	1

FIRST BALLOT FOR REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GENERAL COURT.

Whole number of tickets cast,		1520
Necessary to a choice,		761
Nathaniel Rolfe	had	712
William Page	"	712
Nathaniel B. Baker	"	715
Cyrus Hill	"	712

Charles H. Norton	had	723
Benjamin H. Weeks	"	708
James Moulton, Jr.	"	584
Joel C. Danforth	"	594
Edmund Worth	"	800
Simeon Abbot	"	584
Reuben Goodwin, Jr.	"	573
Laban Page	"	798
Chase Hill	"	193
Cyrus Robinson	"	238
Asa Fowler	"	232
William Walker, Jr.	"	189
N. B. Baker	"	3
B. H. Weeks	"	3
C. H. Norton	"	3
James Moulton	"	2
Cruill	"	1
C. P. Crockett	"	1
David Winckley	"	1
David M. Dearborn	"	1
James Straw	"	1
Nathan Chandler	"	1
Joel Danforth	"	1
Nath'l B. Baker	"	1
A. Fowler	"	1
Dr. Goodrich	"	1
H. H. Brown	"	1
Benj. H. Weeks	"	1
B. F. Larkin	"	1
Reubin Goodwin	"	1
James H. Powell	"	1
T. A. Gilmore	"	1
Henry George	"	1
Zebulon J. Willey	"	1
Harry Clark	"	1
Alpheus W. Warren	"	1
Jonathan J. Sargent	"	1
Nathaniel Baker	"	1
Moses K. Judkins	"	1

And EDMUND WORTH and LABAN PAGE having a

majority of all the votes given in, were declared by the moderator, duly elected.

Voted to adjourn, till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

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*Wednesday, March 10, 1847.*

Met according to adjournment, and proceeded to a

SECOND BALLOT FOR REPRESENTATIVES.

|                               |     |      |
|-------------------------------|-----|------|
| Whole number of ballots cast, |     | 1457 |
| Necessary to a choice,        |     | 729  |
| William Page                  | had | 660  |
| Nathaniel B. Baker            | "   | 662  |
| Cyrus Hill                    | "   | 659  |
| Charles H. Norton             | "   | 665  |
| Asa Fowler                    | "   | 795  |
| Cyrus Robinson                | "   | 783  |
| Joel C. Danforth              | "   | 784  |
| Simeon Abbot                  | "   | 788  |
| Laban Page                    | "   | 3    |
| Chase Hill                    | "   | 2    |
| Edmund Worth                  | "   | 3    |
| William Walker, Jr.           | "   | 2    |
| James Moulton, Jr.            | "   | 2    |
| Reuben Goodwin, Jr.           | "   | 1    |
| Charles Norton                | "   | 1    |
| C. H. Norton                  | "   | 1    |
| W. Walker, Jr.                | "   | 2    |
| S. C. Hill                    | "   | 1    |
| James H. Powell               | "   | 1    |

And ASA FOWLER, CYRUS ROBINSON, JOEL C. DANFORTH and SIMEON ABBOT having a majority of all the votes given in, were declared by the moderator, duly elected.

BALLOT FOR TOWN CLERK.

|                               |     |      |
|-------------------------------|-----|------|
| Whole number of ballots cast, |     | 1168 |
| Necessary to a choice,        |     | 585  |
| George H. H. Silsby           | had | 661  |
| John P. Johnson               | "   | 506  |
| Par Been Brackett             | "   | 1    |
| 1*                            |     |      |

And GEORGE H. H. SILSBY 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 to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

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Thursday, March 11, 1847.

Met according to adjournment, and proceeded to

BALLOT FOR SELECTMEN.

Whole number of ballots cast,		1091
Necessary to a choice,		546
Nathan Stickney	had	727
Joseph Eastman, Jr.	"	725
John Whipple	"	667
Josiah Stevens	"	361
Heman Sanborn	"	353
Moses H. Farnum	"	358
J. Stephens	"	1
N. Evans	"	1
James Woolson	"	1
R. Goodwin, Jr.	"	1
James Hoit	"	1
Joseph Graham	"	1
James H. Powell	"	1
Boots Williams	"	1
Jeremiah S. Noyes	"	1
James Morrill	"	1
Abraham Prescott	"	1
Abram Prescott	"	1
Joseph A. Gilmore	"	1
M. H. Farnum	"	1
Sylvester H. Dana	"	1
J. H. Ela	"	1
John Abbot	"	1
Robert Davis	"	1
David M. Dearborn	"	1
N. B. Baker	"	1
Cyrus Barton	"	1
Old Cat Head Shute	"	2

Land Shark Blanchard	had	2
Cephas Cherry Pecker	"	2

And NATHAN STICKNEY, JOSEPH EASTMAN, Jr. and JOHN WHIPPLE having a majority of all the votes given in, were declared by the moderator, duly elected, and took the oath by law prescribed.

Voted, That a Committee consisting of one from each highway district be appointed to nominate Constables, Highway Surveyors and Auditors.

The following persons were appointed said Committee, viz :

Lewis Downing, Reuben Goodwin, jr., Joseph Moody, George G. Virgin, Thomas D. Potter, John L. Tallant, Eliphaz W. Upham, John Locke, Samuel Clifford, Shadrach Seavey, John Abbot, David Abbot, jr., Henry Rolfe, jr., Rufus D. Scales, Amos Hoit, Marshall B. Colby, Enoch Hoit, Enoch H. Dow, Geo. W. Dow, Nathan K. Abbot, Jacob Flanders, John Ballard, Charles Hall, Daniel Knowlton, Charles Smart, Richard Worthen, Joseph L. Jackson, Ephraim Hutchins, Edward Gould, Abiel C. Carter.

Voted, That the Committee be instructed not to report any person for surveyor in district No. 27; and that the selectmen be authorised to divide said district No. 27, into two or more and appoint suitable surveyors, &c.

The Committee appointed to report a list of Highway Surveyors, Constables and Auditors, reported the following persons for those offices respectively, which report was accepted, and the persons therein named duly elected, as follows :

HIGHWAY SURVEYORS.

Benjamin Rolfe, Simeon Farnum, Joseph Graham, Herman Sanborn, Thomas D. Potter, Nathaniel Mann, John Jarvis, John Locke, Samuel Clifford, James Buswell, Hiram Farnum, Samuel B. Knowles, Nathan Chandler, Samuel E. Scales, Amos Hoit, Robert Knowlton, John Sawyer, 2d, John Fisk, George W. Dow, Jeremiah S. Abbot, Daniel Flanders, Charles Fisk, Simeon Carter, Moses Fifield, Alpheus Goodwin, Robert Speed, Joseph L. Jackson, Goin Thompson, John Carter, jr.

And Benjamin Rolfe, Simeon Farnum, Joseph Graham, John Jarvis, Samuel Clifford, Hiram Farnum, Samuel B. Knowles, Nathan Chandler, Amos Hoit, Robert Knowlton, John Sawyer, 2d, John Fisk, Jeremiah S. Abbot, Joseph L. Jackson and John Carter, jr., being present, took the oath by law prescribed.

CONSTABLES.

Isaac Eastman, John Abbot, Richard Bradley, Nathaniel Rolfe, Charles Smart, Abraham Bean, Nathan Call, Rufus D. Scales, Wm. Walker, jr., Heman Sanborn, Asaph Abbot, Abel Baker, Benaiah Colby, Harry Houston, Enoch H. Dow and Alfred Stevens.

And Benaiah Colby being present, took the oath by law prescribed.

FOR AUDITORS OF ACCOUNTS.

Samuel Coffin, Mitchel Gilmore, jr. and Charles Smart.

FOR FENCE VIEWERS.

Chose Moses Shute, Isaac Farnum, Benjamin Parker.

FOR CULLERS OF STAVES.

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

FOR SURVEYORS OF LUMBER.

Chose Samuel Shute, Philip Sargent, Henry M. Moore, Shadrach Seavey, Nathaniel Rolfe, Ebenezer Eastman, Eben F. Elliott, George Wilkins, John Abbot, Nathaniel C. Elliott, Jeremiah S. Noyes, David Abbot, Timothy Colby, Philip Watson, John Eastman, Joseph Eastman, jr., Daniel Dunlap, Asa H. Morrill, David H. Farnum, John Titcomb, Sewell Hoit, Aaron Morse, Daniel Rand, Russell Hills, Charles P. Crockett, Hazen Walker, Reuben Goodwin, jr., Elbridge Dimond, Aaron Carter, Abel B. Holt, Joseph Moody, Lowell Eastman, Atkinson Webster, Asa Parker, Enoch H. Dow, Joseph L. Jackson, John Haines, George Frye, Henry Rolfe, jr., Nathaniel Moody, Jonathan Sanborn, Abel Baker, Seth Eastman, Rodney G. Cutting, Ebenezer Eastman and Isaac Emery, jr.

CORDERS OF WOOD.

Chose Philip Sargent, James H. Powell, William Gault, Cyrus Robinson, Seth Eastman, Enos Blake, Heman Sanborn, Jeremiah Pecker, George F. Sanborn, Cyrus Hill, Elliot Chickering, Albert Herbert, Albert Webster, Nathaniel H. Sanborn, Rodney G. Cutting, Joel C. Danforth, John Goss, Jonathan E. Lang, Ezra Ballard, M. C. Cutchins, Elijah Mansur, Timothy C. Rolfe, and Greenough McQuestion. And Enos Blake being present, took the oath by law prescribed.

WEIGHERS OF HAY.

Chose Isaac Eastman, Cyrus Robinson, John Pettingill, Jeremiah P. Whipple, James Moore, John P. Johnson, George W. Brown, Francis A. Fisk, Nathaniel H. Sanborn, Robert N. Corning, Ara Morrill, R. G. Cutting, M. C. Cutchins, Elijah Mansur, John L. Nevins and George Dame.

SEALERS OF LEATHER.

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

SEALERS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Chose Seth Eastman, Jacob Carter, Ivory Hall, Oscar Knox and A. B. Currier.

POUND KEEPERS.

Chose Hiram Farnum and Simeon Abbot.

CLERK OF THE MARKET.

Chose Seth Eastman.

HAYWARD.

Chose Samuel Coffin.

Voted, That the appointment of Hog-reeves be referred to the Selectmen, with instructions to appoint a requisite number.

The Auditors of Accounts made the following report, which was accepted :

Auditors' Report.

The undersigned, Auditors of Accounts for the year 1846, have attended to the duty assigned them, and find

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 :

March 5, 1846.

Cash in the hands of Treasurer,	\$1223·10
Taxes assessed and committed to A. Bean, Collector—viz :	
Resident taxes,	9778·06
Non-resident taxes,	255·23
Non-resident highway tax,	107·15
School-house tax in District No. 9,	341·24
Cash of committee having charge of town funds,	1206·00
Cash of Abiel Walker and others, for land and stone sold from the farm,	138·00
Cash from conditional exempts,	8·00
“ of Sarah W. Ferrin on note and interest,	20·70
“ of John Eastman on note and interest,	180·00
“ of showmen for licenses,	60·00
“ of State Treasurer for literary fund,	174·68
“ of State Treasurer for rail-road tax,	1015·55
“ of Leonard Bell in part for Green farm,	152·50
“ of County for support of paupers,	613·94
“ borrowed of Abel Baker,	400·00
“ of J. Quimby for old lumber sold at free bridge,	2·50
“ Asa Fowler for cost vs. Lund & Smith,	35·32
Making in the whole,	<u>\$15,711·97</u>

Which is accounted for in the following manner :

Paid State Treasurer,	\$1320·00
“ County Treasurer,	2082·67
“ School orders,	2370·60
“ repairs of roads, bridges, and com- pensation for land,	761·02
“ repairs on free bridge,	1551·43
“ Superintending School Committee,	75·00
“ School-house tax in District No. 9,	325·00
“ Militia prior to 1846 for services,	14·00

Paid Militia for 1846,	\$223·00
“ for printing and stationery,	94·35
“ for office rent and fuel,	14·00
“ for hose, reservoirs and repairs of engines,	248·93
“ ground rent for engine houses,	17·00
“ Committee to sell land and stone at farm,	13·50
“ Jona. Eastman and Jos. Robinson for services on school districting committee,	1·00
“ bills of cost and professional services,	169·98
“ damages for defect in highways,	9·00
“ ringing and tolling bells,	95·00
“ for support of paupers,	988·43
“ Committee having charge of town funds,	5·00
“ Town Clerk for services,	68·79
“ Selectmen for services and expenses,	465·35
“ Maria Ridgeway's note and interest,	1585·14
“ town fund to Asa Fowler,	423·57
“ for repairing town house to A. Fowler,	400·00
“ interest on parsonage fund to Asa Fowler,	149·92
“ Concord Female Charitable Society interest on money loaned to town,	50·00
“ interest on Timothy Walker's note,	123·39
“ note and interest to Abel Baker,	409·66
“ Lewis Downing for engine No. 3,	200·00
“ abatement of taxes,	110·47
“ non-resident highway tax,	64·51
“ commission to A. Bean, Collector,	137·50
“ N. H. Mutual Fire Ins. Company,	·15
“ Auditors and expenses,	7·75

\$14,575·11

Leaving a balance unexpended in the
hands of the Treasurer and Col-
lector, of

\$1136·86

\$15,711·97

There is due from the town, according to the statement of the Selectmen,

To Timothy Walker, principal,	\$5000-00
“ Jos. B. Walker, note and interest,	1060-00
“ Concord Female Charitable Society,	833-34
“ Committee having in charge town funds,	7415-20

\$14,308-54

There is due the town, note of H. Houston and Joseph Eastman, jr., Oct. 22, 1846,	\$125-00
Note of Leonard Bell, Sept. 21, 1846,	457-50

\$582-50

The whole expenditure for the support of the poor the past year, including the interest on farm and the overseer's salary, over and above what has been received for that purpose, as appears by the foregoing statement, amounts to \$374-49. The Auditors are perfectly satisfied, that the affairs of the poor farm, under the direction of the present overseer, Mr. HIRAM FARNUM, have been well and skilfully managed. The average number of paupers at the farm the past year has been $22\frac{2}{3}$, and the income has been sufficient to support them.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

SAMUEL COFFIN,
JNO. WHIPPLE,
SETH EASTMAN.

Concord, March 4, 1847.

Voted, To raise \$3600 to defray the ordinary expenses of the town the current year.

Voted, That the Selectmen be authorised to expend the above sum as the interests of the town shall seem to require.

Voted, To raise \$3000 for the support of schools the ensuing year, and that the same be divided among the several school districts, according to the valuation of all the taxable property within the limits of said districts.

Voted, To raise \$4000 for the building and repairing highways and bridges, to be laid out in labor at ten cents per hour.

Voted, That the Selectmen be instructed to make such compensation in all time to come, to school district No. 3, as will be equivalent to what would be the tax upon the town farm situated in that district.

Voted, That the Selectmen be instructed to require the Highway Surveyors of 1846, to make settlement on or before the first day of May next, and that the Auditors for the current year be instructed to incorporate a statement of the same in their report.

Voted, Unanimously, that it is inexpedient to purchase a farm for the support of county paupers.

Voted, That our Representatives to the General Court be instructed to oppose any measure which shall subject the town to the expense of purchasing a county farm.

The Committee having in charge the various funds of the town made the following report, which was accepted :

Report of the Committee on Town Funds.

The Committee having in charge the various funds of the town of Concord, ask leave to present the following statement in relation thereto :

PARSONAGE FUND.

The original amount of this fund was	\$5,335·51
Land since sold,	237·50

Amounting in all to	-	\$5,573·01
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Which is now invested as follows :

13 shares in Concord Bank, cost	\$1,326·25
4 shares in the Mechanicks Bank, cost	400·00
Note, March 3, 1843, R. E. Pecker, J. E. Lang and Wm. Pecker,	964·77
Loaned to town on certificate of Select- men,	2,931·99

Making in all	\$5,623·01
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And showing an apparent increase of the

fund during the year of \$50, which is a part of the increased value of ten shares in the Merrimack County Bank above their cost. Seventy dollars were received for such increased value, but as in consequence of the expiration of the charter regular dividends had not been received for a portion of the year, it was believed just that twenty dollars thereof, a sum equal to the deficiency of regular dividends, should be added to the annual income of the fund, for distribution, and it was so done.

From the apparent present amount of the fund, \$5,623·01
Deduct as worthless, the Concord Bank stock, 1,326·25

And there remains an available Parsonage Fund, of \$4,296·76

The income arising from this fund for 1846, was as follows :

Dividends from Mechanics Bank,	\$24·00
Interest on note, R. E. Pecker and others,	57·89
Interest on loan to town,	149·92
Part of surplus dividend on stock in Merrimack County Bank,	20·00

Making \$251·81

This sum was appropriated by the Selectmen and has been paid the several religious societies as follows :

East Society,	\$24·58	Episcopal Society,	\$12·06
West “	28·46	Christian Baptist “	6·61
North “	44·15	Freewill “ “	5·82
South “	33·69	Fishersville “ “	4·34
Baptist “	24·02	Universalist “	25·77
Unitarian “	26·69		
Methodist “	15·62		

\$251·81

SCHOOL FUND.

This fund is invested as follows :

Ten shares in Concord Bank, cost	\$1,020·25
Note, R. H. Ayer, A. G. Gale, Isaac Hill, March 3, 1843,	\$711·87
Note, Isaac Hill, R. H. Ayer, A. G. Gale, March 3, 1843,	738·51
Loaned town on certificate of Selectmen,	3,157·14
Interest due on note, R. H. Ayer and others,	186·83
“ “ “ “ Isaac Hill and others,	193·99
“ “ “ loan to town,	784·32
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Amounting in all to	\$6,792·91
Deducting as entirely worthless, unavailable Concord Bank stock,	\$1,020·25
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There remains an available School Fund of	\$5,772·66

SURPLUS REVENUE FUND.

This fund is invested as follows :

Note, Hall Burgin, Wm. Kent and Wm. A. Kent, July 10, 1837, with mortgage,	\$2,000·00
Note, Aaron Shute, Dec. 10, 1844, and interest from Dec. 10, 1846, with mortgage,	40·60
Note, Hall Burgin, April 29, 1840, to adm'r of B. Stevens originally, with mortgage,	2,135·14
Land on State Street, purchased of J. Minot, adm'r of Hall Burgin,	415·63
Land purchased of Widow Burgin, dower in house lot and land on Thompson Street,	1,000·00
Balance due on Execution Concord vs. Concord Bank,	1,202·70
Loan to town on certificate of Selectmen and interest thereon, about	1,617·77
Cash on hand,	6·14
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Amounting in all to	\$8,417·98
Amount carried over.	

Amount brought over,	\$8,417·98
From this sum deduct, as entirely worthless, the balance due on Execution vs. Concord Bank,	\$1,202·70
And add to it sum due Mrs. Burgin for land, about	946·00
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	\$2,148·70

And there remains a nominally available fund of \$6,269·28

To which should be added interest upon the several sums invested in the lands of the late Hall Burgin.

Of the whole sum thus apparently available, all but some seven hundred and twenty dollars is now invested in the real estate formerly belonging to the late Hall Burgin, comprising his entire homestead, extending from Main to State streets, subject only as to a small lot on the corner of State and Fayette streets to the widow's right of dower, and about two acres of valuable land on the south side of Thompson street.

During the past year, in obedience to the instructions, and in accordance with what they believed to be the best interests of the town, the Committee have sold the land set off on the Execution against the Concord Bank, and collected the notes of E. Symmes and others and Samuel Tallant, and applied the proceeds thereof, with a portion of the fund that had been loaned to the town, to the purchase of the note and mortgage from H. Burgin to the adm'r of B. Stevens, and the purchase of the land on State street immediately in the rear of Mr. Burgin's late residence and constituting part of the garden. They have also purchased Mrs. Burgin's right of dower in the lot on Main street and the land on Thompson street, which had been mortgaged to the town by her late husband. One half the house and lot on Main street and two of the six lots on Thompson street had been assigned as her dower to Mrs. Burgin by a committee of the Probate Court. The committee believed the purchase of the land on State street likely to enhance the value of the homestead establishment by much more than its cost.

On the first day of April next, the two acres of land on Thompson street and the entire homestead of the late Judge Burgin, saving Mrs. Burgin's life estate in a small lot at the corner of State and Fayette streets, will be the unencumbered property of the town.

The committee have attempted in vain to effect a satisfactory sale of this property, or any part of it, during the past year. They intend to dispose of it whenever a purchaser shall be found willing to pay, what they believe the interests of the town authorize them to accept for it.

Respectfully submitted by

ASA FOWLER, for the Committee.

Concord, March 6, 1847.

Voted, That Asa Fowler, Francis N. Fisk and Seth Eastman, the Committee having in charge the various funds of the town, be authorised to dispose of and convey in the name of the town, the real estate belonging to the town, formerly owned by the late Hall Burgin, Esq., together or in parcels, as they may deem most advantageous.

Voted, That the income of the Parsonage Fund be disposed of as heretofore.

Voted, That the share of the Literary Fund received by this town, be divided equally among the several school districts in town.

The Committee having the subject in charge, made the following report, which was accepted :

Report of Committee on School Districts.

The Committee on School Districts, to whom was re-committed a portion of their Report of March last, have directed me to report the following, to wit : That the following described territory now included in school district No. 23, viz.—commencing at the south-west corner of Solon Sanborn's land, by Contoocook river ; thence running northerly by the west line of said Sanborn's land and land of Robert Hardy to the Rangeway ; thence easterly by the Rangeway to the south-west corner of Isaac Colby's land ; thence northerly by the westerly line of said Colby's

land and the easterly line of Thomas Eastman's land, to Boscawen line; thence easterly by said Boscawen line to Contoocook river to the place begun at, be disannexed from said district and united to district No. 20, and that the remainder of said district No. 23, together with all the territory now included in district No. 1 and 25, embracing all the land in said town north of Contoocook river, except what is hereby annexed to No. 20, be united and constitute school district No. 1. That school district No. 22 be annulled, and that all the territory now known as district No. 22 be annexed to district No. 4, except the farm of John Alexander, which by an act of the Selectmen has been assigned to a school district in Hopkinton.

All of which is respectfully submitted by

JOSIAH STEVENS,

for the Committee.

Voted, That the further consideration of so much of the foregoing report as relates to school districts No. 1, 20, 23 and 25, be postponed to the next annual town meeting.

Voted, That all the territory now embraced in school district No. 22, excepting the farm of John Alexander, be annexed to school district No. 4.

Voted, That Article IX. of the warrant relating to repairs of Town House, be indefinitely postponed.

Voted, That Article X., in relation to the discontinuing "that part of the old main road (so called) running from Boscawen line to the road that runs from Rolfe's Eddy to G. F. Sanborn's," be referred to the Selectmen, and that they be instructed to report upon the same at some future meeting.

Voted, That Article XI., "To see if the town will accept the bridge across the canal at Fishersville (so called) as a part of the highway," be referred to the Selectmen, with instructions to report at some future meeting.

Voted, That Article XII., in relation to ringing bells, be referred to the Selectmen, with instructions to make such appropriation as they may deem proper.

Voted, That the Selectmen be instructed to renew any notes that are, or otherwise would be, barred by the statute of limitation, within one year from date of warrant.

Voted, To annex all of school district No. 22, excepting the farm of John Alexander and his taxable property, to school district No. 4.

Upon the question, "Is it expedient to revise the Constitution?" the vote was taken by counting—94 voting in favor of a revision and 148 against it.

Voted, That Article XVI., in relation to the Militia, be referred to the Representatives to the General Court elect.

Voted, That a sum, not exceeding \$400, be appropriated for the purpose of purchasing land for a burying ground at the East Village, and for fencing the same, and that the same be expended under the direction of the Selectmen.

Voted, That the Selectmen be authorised to purchase of Levi Hutchins, an Alleviator, if they think proper, at an expense not exceeding \$30.

Voted, That the Selectmen be instructed to use all legal measures to have protection secured to the public, at the several rail-road crossings of public highways, within the town of Concord.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted, under Article XIX :

Resolved, That the Selectmen of this town be directed forthwith to remove all nuisances called Bowling Saloons, which now exist in town against the law of the State in that particular, which law was adopted by this town at a legal meeting held in September, 1845.

The Superintending School Committee made the following report, which was accepted :

Report of the Superintending School Committee.

The Superintending School Committee having attended to their duties, respectfully report—

That with few exceptions, the Summer and Winter Schools have been faithfully instructed by teachers possessing generally the requisite literary qualifications, though

in some instances wanting address and tact in maintaining proper order and discipline.

Your Committee have not had occasion to expel any scholar, nor has their assistance except in rare instances been required to aid and advise in bringing the refractory to submission. From all they could learn by observation and inquiry, your committee came reluctantly to the conclusion that there was too generally a want of interest on the part of parents in the character of their district schools—a lack of sympathy with and encouragement to their teachers, and of efficiency in securing the punctual attendance of their children. A visit from the parents near the commencement and close of each school, with occasional visits by some of them during the term, it is thought would be attended with a happy influence on teachers and scholars, and would tend in no small degree to elevate the condition of their schools. It is a subject of regret and of wonder, that this good old practice of parents' visiting the schools, should have been so generally relinquished; and it is earnestly hoped, for the improvement and respectability of the schools, that this excellent custom will be revived.

Former Committees have, almost without exception, had occasion to call the attention of their fellow-citizens to the insufficiency and bad condition of many of the school houses in town. The rusty and slovenly appearance of several of these houses and the grounds about them, furnishes but too much evidence of indifference and inattention to the district schools, and deserves still to be kept before the people, until the evil be removed.

An unsuccessful attempt has been made to unite two or more of the districts in the village, for the purpose of maintaining a high school, agreeably to the provisions of a late excellent law authorizing a union of districts for such purposes.

District No. 10, in the centre of the village, however, nothing daunted by the refusal of its neighbors to enter into such an alliance, has, single-handed, erected by far the largest and most commodious school house in town, convenient for a proper classification of scholars and the main-

tenance of a high school, which is expected to furnish to the more advanced scholars, all the advantages of ordinary academies, in pursuing the higher branches of an English education, and in studying the languages preparatory to entering college. Such a school, it is understood, is in contemplation, and indeed has already been commenced, but as yet can scarcely be considered as fully organized.

Within the past year some important legal enactments relating to Common Schools have been made, which it is hoped will tend greatly to their elevation and improvement. Among these enactments the most important is, the provision for the appointment of a Commissioner of Common Schools, whose duty it is to spend, each year, twenty weeks in the different counties, laboring, by public addresses and in other ways, to promote the cause of general education.

We already perceive the advantage of such an appointment in the increasing interest manifest in the subject of popular education, in consequence of the labors of the present excellent incumbent in that office.

In addition to their former duties, the Superintending School Committees are required before the first of April annually to furnish the Secretary of State with a copy of their report of the schools to the town meeting, and a neglect of this provision of the law subjects the town to a forfeiture of its right to a portion of the literary fund.

Another change in the law requires Prudential Committees to furnish the Selectmen the proper certificates of qualifications of teachers employed by them, before they are entitled to receive the school money from the Selectmen. And the same law requires teachers at the close of their schools to make a report to the Superintending Committee of the number of scholars, male and female, branches taught, &c.; and teachers are not entitled to their pay until such returns are made.

Nearly all the schools have been visited twice, some but once. One of the Committee, the Rev. Mr. Freeman, having removed from town, his absence increased the labors of the other two, and rendered it impracticable for them to make as many visits to all the schools as they had intended.

In No. 9, the teacher, Mr. Chase, voluntarily withdrew, after keeping a few weeks, being satisfied that his labors had better be discontinued then, on account of some irregularities of certain scholars. This school, however, was successfully taught the remainder of his term, by Mr. Stevens, with no further complaints of insubordination.

The Committee find so many excellent suggestions in the reports of their predecessors in office, still unadopted, that they feel justified in urging upon their fellow-citizens further attention to those suggestions, and that they will thus be doing the town better service than by further extending this report.

The schools having generally appeared well, though some much better than others, the Committee would gladly excuse themselves from making invidious comparisons between them.

In consequence of different blanks for reports being used by different teachers, the returns cannot be made with as much uniformity as usual; and it is to be regretted that from a few schools, no reports have been made, so far as can be learned, while from others the reports have been made and lodged with the Prudential Committee, but have never reached the Superintending Committee.

With a view to introduce as much uniformity of school books throughout the town as is practicable, and at the same time, to secure the use of the best and most approved books in all the schools, the Committee have recommended the following list; and it is hoped that reference will be had to it, whenever new books are to be procured:

The Bible; Wilmsen's Reader, or Children's Friend; Swan's series of reading books; Fowle's Common School Speller; Root's writing books; Wells' Grammar; Greenleaf's Arithmetic; Mitchell's or Smith's Geographies; Goodrich's Pictorial Histories of the United States, England and France; Willson's History of the United States; Pinnock's Goldsmith's Greece and Rome; Shurtleff's Governmental Instructor; Farmer's New Hampshire Book; Wedgwood's Revised Statutes of New Hampshire; Wayland's Moral Science; Abbot's Abercrombie; Olmstead's Rudiments of Natural Philosophy and Astronomy; Ham-

ilton's Rudiments of Physiology, edited by Dr. Reese.

The following table presents some general facts in relation to the schools, and is as full and comprehensive as we could well make from the reports furnished.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ASA FOWLER,
ARTHUR FLETCHER, } *Superintending
School
Committee.*

March, 1847.

WINTER SCHOOLS.

		Names of Teachers.	
		No. of the District.	No. of weeks.
		1	9½
		2	5½
		3	11
		4	8½
		5	9
		6	8
		7	8
		8	7
		9	4
		12	12
Whole number of scholars.		20	911
Males.		39	231616
Females.		90	504024
No. above 14 years.		25	181511
No. under 4 years.		5	12
No. between 4 and 14 years.		11	4
No. between 4 and 14 who do not attend.		2	4
Average attendance.		16½	12
Reading and Spelling.		20	17
Writing.		9	17
Arithmetic.		15	17
Geography.		7	7
Grammar.		6	6
History.		4	5
Philosophy.			2
Astronomy.			2
Higher branches.			1
Wages per month.		\$7-00 & board.	1
		15-00 & "	1
		20-00 & "	1
		14-00 & "	1
		15-00 & "	1
		6-00 & "	1
		13 00 & "	1
		30-00 with t.B.	1
		35-00 "	1
		12-00 "	1

10	Jefferson Noyes	101	178	23	119	60	101	83	63	42	7	6	26-00 with't B.
11	Martha J. Page	13	122	62	60	3	61½						13-00 "
12	Frances R. French	10	61	40	21	2	44	20	23	16	4	4	13-00 "
13	Mary Ann Allison	20	82	51	31	2	55	45	20	18	6	6	23-40-00 "
14	Hall Roberts	5	76	44	32	40	66	30	76	60	19	19	12-00 "
15	Sarah P. White	10	65	39	26	19	45	65	34	21	2	2	24-00 & board.
16	Davis Foster	12	70	39	31	33	52						7-00 & "
17	Anna Roby	7	80	45	35	5	67	67					14-00 & "
18	B. F. Tallant	9½	56	34	22	15	41	45					13-00 & "
19	John Q. A. Bachelder	11	37	20	19	10	30	37	14	6	10	2	12-00 & "
20	G. O. Taylor	8	22	13	9	5	15	15					12-00 & "
21	H. M. Shepard	12	40	25	15	1	8	8	20	15	8	2	12-00 & "
22	Edward Gould	9	8	5	3	1	7	8	3	4			15-00 & "
23	(Report not received.)												14-00 & "
24	Elisha A. Spalding	9	24	14	10	12	20	20					14-00 & "
25	E. L. Sargent	11	54	28	26	14	42						17-00 & "
26	Abiel Rolfe	8½	35	29	7	15	30	14					12-00 & "
27	Wm. H. Foster	9½	20	14	6	9	19						10-00 & "
28	W. F. Harvey	9	9	4	5	6	6						16-00 & "
29	Jos. Clough, Jr.	7	27	10	17	9	23						
30	John Jarvis	5	24	15	9	8	22						
31	Hannah S. Danforth	10	11	4	7				12	4	3	2	
									9	5	2		

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

No. of District.	Teachers.	No. of weeks.	No. of scholars.	Average attendance.	No. of Males.	No. of Females.
1						
2	Betsey D. Hoyt.....	6	30	23	12	18
3	Catherine W. Arey.....	14	78	62		
4	Hannah S. Danforth.....	10	25	21		
5	(No summer school.)					
6	Elisabeth R. Bouton.....	9	10	10		
7	Harriet Sargent.....	10	15	12		
8	Lovina D. Smith.....	10	30	20		
9	{ Laura A. L. Osgood.....	11½	71	50	36	35
	{ Frances R. French.....	12	57	42	35	22
	{ Martha J. Page.....	28	108	37½	56	52
	{ Mary F. Russell.....	18	93	44	47	46
10	{ Miss Allison.....	18	100	60	62	38
	{ Miss White.....	18	72	40	43	29
	{ Frances R. French.....	10	62	49	32	30
11	{ Sarah C. French.....	15	47	34	22	25
	{ Anna Roby.....	16	66	58		
12	R. Elizabeth Hoyt.....	12	35	30	17	18
13	P. M. Farnum.....	13	30			
14	Mary E. Robinson.....	10	16	10	7	9
15	Nancy A. Brown.....	10	21		10	11
16	Frances Leavitt.....	12	7	6	4	3
17						
18						
19	Caroline W. Morrill.....	10	12	10	7	5
20	Eliza C. Holmes.....	9½	21	19	9	11
21						
22						
23						
24	Mary A. Rolfe.....	9	18	14	7	11
25						

Voted, That the Selectmen be instructed to make such compensation to the Superintending School Committee, for their services, as they may deem proper.

Voted, That the Selectmen be instructed to cause the blacksmith shop, stone shop and all other incumbrances, now on the highway and common near the Old North Church, to be removed.

Voted, That Article XXI., in relation to the appointment of Moderator, be indefinitely postponed.

Voted, That Article XXII., in relation to a petition for a new highway, be referred to the Selectmen.

Voted, To dissolve.

GEO. H. H. SILSBY, *Town Clerk.*

Report of the Chief Engineer.

The undersigned asks leave to report that he has received from the Selectmen the past year, \$308.33
 Unexpended at the close of past year, 166.90

Making \$475.23

Which has been expended as follows :

Paid Lewis Downing for the purchase of Engine No. 3, &c.,	\$200.00	
Paid N. P. Fogg for stone masonry in constructing Reservoir near the south end of Main street,	112.72	
Paid John Lamprey's bill for digging the same,	50.00	
Paid George Frye's bill for chestnut plank to cover Reservoir on State street,	9.40	
Paid for joiner work on the same,	1.25	
Paid Shelton & Cheever for one Elastic Pipe,	12.00	
Paid Asa J. Hook for one night's service as watchman at the Dr. Green house,	1.00	
Paid sundry bills for oil, leather preservative, repairs and taking care of engines, hose, &c.,	81.93	
Paid one year's services as Chief Engineer,	5.00	
	\$473.30	
Leaving unexpended,	1.93	
	\$475.23	

The undersigned would further report, that the members of the several Engine Companies have discharged their duty with a promptness and energy highly creditable to themselves. That when visiting the several engine houses, or when the Companies have been called out by the alarm of fire, he has always found the Engines and apparatus in good order and condition. It is, however, with regret, that he feels it his duty to state, that Engine Company No. 4, which is located in the most thickly settled part of the town, and where the largest amount of property is exposed to fire, is reduced to some fifteen or sixteen members, a number inadequate to work the engine for any length of time, in case of fire.

LUTHER ROBY.

Concord, March 10, 1847.

The following appointments were made by the Selectmen, March 13, 1847 :

Superintending School Committee.

Asa Fowler, Winthrop Fifield, Arthur Fletcher.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Engineers.

LUTHER ROBY, Chief Engineer.

Assistant Engineers.—Stephen Brown, James Frye, Lewis Downing, Lowell Eastman, Nathaniel Rolfe, Harvey Rice, John T. Ross, George H. H. Silsby, Caleb Parker, Eliphalet Gale, John Haines, John Abbot, James Moore.

Police Officers.—Isaac Eastman, N. B. Baker, Stephen Brown, Harry Houston, James Hoit.

Physician.—Thomas Chadbourne.