

The income of this fund for 1850 was as follows :

Dividends from stock in Mechanicks Bank,	\$32 00
Interest on note of R. E. Pecker and others,	54 00
Interest on loan to town,	179 34
Cash on hand not distributed last year,	12 00

Amounting to \$277 34

This sum was appropriated by the selectmen and paid to the several religious societies as follows :

North Society,	\$38 60	Universalist Society,	24 70
South “	36 99	West Cong. “	16 05
Unitarian “	33 68	Fisherville Cong. “	7 15
Baptist “	29 55	West Baptist “	11 99
Methodist “	17 64	West Methodist “	2 85
Episcopa “	19 17	W. Universalist “	2 63
Christian “	11 89	East Cong. “	18 75
Freewill “	5 70		
		Total,	<u>\$277 34</u>

School Fund.

The available School Fund, reported March, 1850, was	\$6875 31
Interest the past year, about	412 51

Making a present school fund of \$7287 82

This fund is invested as follows :

10 shares in Concord Bank, cost	1020 25
Note, R. H. Ayer and A. G. Gale, Sept. 25, 1848,	884 70
Cash on hand, balance Ex'on, Isaac Hill, & als., April 6, 1849,	33 00
Loaned town on certificates of select- men,	4357 14
Interest due on note of R. H. Ayer & als., about	111 03
Interest on balance of Ex'on vs. Isaac Hill & als., about	1 00

Interest on loan to town, about	1900 95
Making in all	<u>\$8298 07</u>
From which deduct worthless Concord Bank stock,	1020 55
And there remains an available school fund of	<u>\$7287 82</u>

Surplus Revenue Fund.

This fund is invested as follows:

Balance due on Ex'on vs. Concord Bank,	\$1202 70
Loaned town on certificates of selectmen,	5647 44
Interest on loan to town, about Note, H. M. Robinson, April 25, 1848, secured by mort. and collateral, balance	1490 87
Interest on same from April 1, 1848, about	450 00
	145 00
Making an aggregate of about	<u>\$8736 01</u>
Deducting as worthless Concord Bank Ex'on,	1202 70
There remains an available surplus revenue fund of	<u>\$7533 31</u>

Recapitulation.

Available Parsonage Fund,	\$4296 76
Available School Fund,	7287 82
Available Surplus Revenue Fund,	7533 31
Total available funds of the town,	<u>\$19117 89</u>
Of this aggregate there is due from the town to the several funds as follows:	
To the Parsonage Fund,	\$3231 99
To the School Fund, principal \$4357.14, interest \$1900.95,	6258 09

To the Surplus Revenue Fund, principal \$5647.44, interest \$1490.87, 7138 31

Whole amount due from town to Funds,	\$16628 39
Amount due from individuals to Fund,	2489 50

Available Fund due from town and individuals,	\$19117 89
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All which is respectfully submitted,
ASA FOWLER, *for the Committee.*

Concord, March 12, 1851.

Chief Engineer's Report.

The undersigned has received from the selectmen the past year, \$250 53

Which has been expended as follows :

Paid for curb-stone, reservoir near J. H. George's,	3 00
“ for stone covering, for reservoir corner of Franklin and Main street,	5 00
“ Cap and iron work for do.	1 50
“ P. Carry, jr., Wm. Roby, jr., J. D. A. West's bill for oil, oiling hose, &c., Engine No. 2,	12 00
“ Wm. Carr for patterns,	5 00
“ J. D. Cooper for casting,	4 89
“ Concord Railroad for repairs,	16 63
“ F. N. Fisk & Son's bill, sundries,	99
“ Wm. Smith's bill,	3 00
“ H. Fessenden's bill, repairing hose,	5 19
“ Concord Railroad for freight of engine No. 3, and hose,	5 07
“ Sundry bills for repairs, engine No. 4,	22 31
“ H. Fessenden's bill, repairs hose No. 4,	1 00
“ Charles Barker's bill, repairs No. 6,	2 00
“ David A. Brown's bill, repairs No. 8,	15 37
“ Samuel Eastman's bill, repairs No. 7,	2 50
“ Morrill & Silsby's bill, printing,	6 00
“ Postage,	40

Cheney & Co.'s Express, freight on hose for No. 6,	37
“ Expense to Boston and back to purchase engine No. 3,	3 50
“ Skelton & Cheever, for two joints suction hose for No. 6,	27 50
“ services of chief engineer for one year,	10 00
“ for constructing reservoir, on south street,	97 31

\$250 53

LUTHER ROBY.

Concord, March 11, 1851.

The undersigned, having in charge the rebuilding of Free Bridge, ask leave to make the following

REPORT.

The whole amount expended by them is	\$14532 63
Paid for lumber of all kinds,	3031 54
“ for stone including rubble,	3196 54
“ for cutting stone for piers, laying the same and all the expense,	4100 16
“ for framing and raising bridge, board of men, &c.	2190 06
“ iron, casting, nails, &c.	538 93
“ use and damage of land,	107 00
“ grading,	313 00
“ engineers and other labor and materials not included in the above,	1055 40
	14532 63
Add amount paid for stone and labor in 1849, 1995	55
	16528 18
Deduct for lumber and other materials sold,	206 80
Lumber now on hand,	100 00
	306 80

Whole cost, \$16221 38

JOSEPH ROBINSON, *for the Selectmen.*

The committee to whom was referred the subject embraced in the 22d article of the warrant for the last annual town meeting, present the following

Report.

Having examined that part of the Town Farm lying east of the Northern Railroad, they are of opinion that from two to three acres of the most valuable intervale land have been washed away by the action of waters of Merrimack river, that this extraordinary loss is in consequence of turning the whole current of the river to the east side of Sewall's Island, by the Northern Railroad Corporation, that in justice to itself the town ought to take immediate measures to recover compensation for said loss, and to secure the farm against further damage.

Signed,

JOSEPH P. STICKNEY,
SETH EASTMAN,
IRA ROWELL.

March 13, 1851.

ANNUAL REPORT

**Of the Superintending School Committee for
the year ending March 11, 1851.**

The committee, to whom the charge of the public schools of the town was entrusted for the past year, respectfully submit the following report:

District No. 1.

This school was instructed in the summer, by Miss Eliza Diamond. This lady possesses the highest qualifications for the office of teaching. Mild, but firm and decided, in her government, she maintained excellent order in her school. Well taught herself in the branches studied, and accurate and clear in the communication of ideas to the minds of her pupils, and possessing the tact to stimulate investigation on their part, she succeeded in keeping a school which might serve for a model.

The winter term of this school was kept by Mr. Wm.

F. Harvey. A good degree of proficiency was manifested throughout the whole school. A few of the scholars were as well advanced as any in the town. The teacher was evidently faithful and diligent in the discharge of his duties. A somewhat stricter discipline, however, would have improved the school. The friends of education in this district should hereafter attend more carefully to the morals and maners of some of the older scholars. The school-house is in a wretched condition.

District No. 2.

The school-house in this district has been repaired. It is, however, a small, uncomfortable building—one of those school-houses which, we hope, will speedily be numbered among “the things that were.”

The summer school was taught by Miss Eliza Diamond, who fully sustained the high reputation which she had acquired elsewhere. Mr. George T. Sanborn was the teacher in the winter, and acquitted himself creditably. He says, in his report, that “the scholars were very punctual in their attendance,” (a rare virtue in our school,) and that “most of them made good improvement.”

District No. 3.

[This district, having adopted the “Somersworth Act,” did not come under the supervision of the town committee.]

The Superintending Committee for the third school district in Concord, make the following report :

Agreeable to the Somersworth Act, two divisions were made in the district, with reference to locality, giving to each an equal number of scholars. The summer schools were kept 17 weeks. Branches taught were Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, English Grammar and Geography, with the addition of Algebra and Watts on the Mind, in the first division, and History and Physiology in the second. Commendable progress was made in each of the schools. Morals and general deportment of the scholars were good. In the second division the method of giving instruction by hearing recitations in concert was successfully practiced in some branches. It is thought great advantage is gained by this course when skillfully followed.

In both schools the variety of books on the same branches was a source of perplexity and loss of time.

The instructresses, Miss Anna S. Wingate and Miss Marion R. Robinson, were experienced in their profession, and well sustained the reputation of successful teachers.

The winter schools were kept nine weeks. Branches taught in the summer were taught in the winter, with the addition of Philosophy. The school in first division was visited by the committee three times. At the first visit the classes and exercises were well arranged and the order good. A manifest deficiency in the order afterwards prevailed, but was to some extent restored before the close of the school. The following general remarks were submitted by the teacher, Mr. Luke B. Tower: "The number of scholars that have attended this school is sixty-one. Average number, forty-six. The branches taught, Arithmetic, Adams' old and new edition, Colburn's, and North American Arithmetic. In this branch, especially Colburn's, there has been five classes, and they have made remarkable proficiency. In Geography there have been five classes, in all of whom there has been good proficiency. But there should be less kinds of Geographies used and the scholars should be properly classified. The Grammars used are Smith's and Weld's. In this branch also the scholars have advanced with credit to themselves. In composition there has been some improvement. But spelling; in many of the scholars, has been sadly neglected. In some of the scholars there has been exhibited a disposition to be restless under those restraints calculated to secure good order. In some instances it has so developed itself as to give evidence that family government has failed to be properly sustained. When this barrier is neglected, good order is next to impossible to be secured. Then I would say to parents, learn your children to be obedient to your requirements; as you value their happiness and the well-being of society, neglect not this important duty, if you do you peril the well-being of your children and through them that of society. In the family is to be planted and fostered the germ of obedience. The times show a sad deficiency in this respect. But if the time should ever come when family government is universally

neglected, farewell to our liberties. High authority has declared that it is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth." The committee acquiesce in remarks relative to improvement and sincerely hope the suggestions may have their due effect.

School in second division was visited at commencement and close of the term. Morals and general deportment of scholars were good. Whole number of scholars, 63. Average number, 50.

The committee at their closing visit were agreeably entertained with fine specimens of reading and recitations in all the branches taught, and were of opinion that much improvement had been made by the school. Miss Clara A. Brown, the teacher of this school deservedly sustains the confidence of the committee and all interested in the success of our schools. The committee believe that much advantage may be derived by frequent visitations, not only from the committee, but by all who would promote the education of our youth.

SIMEON ABBOTT, *for the Committee.*

March 6th, 1851.

District No. 4.

Miss Ruth P. Sargent was the teacher of this school in the summer. It was her first attempt at teaching, and proved that she possesses qualifications of no ordinary character for that vocation. Good order was maintained in the school without the bustle and parade which teachers sometimes practice. The progress of the scholars in their studies was commendable.

In the winter the school was instructed by Mr. Albert Abbot. This gentleman kept an excellent school. Under his effective discipline and thorough instruction, the scholars made good improvement.

District No. 5.

No school was kept in this district in the summer. Mr. N. C. Kempton was the teacher in the winter. The scholars acquitted themselves remarkably well at the closing examination, and their deportment reflected great credit upon both teacher and pupils. It would be a happy

thing, if all our teachers could bear such testimony concerning their schools as this teacher. To use his own language,—“not a word of complaint has reached my ears, from either parent or pupil, and I have not heard an indecent or profane word from any member of the school during the term.”

District No. 6.

Miss Sophronia A. Seaver was engaged to teach the summer term of this school, and at the first visit of the committee, was apparently succeeding very well. But subsequently dissatisfaction arose in the district, and the teacher left the school. Mrs. Elizabeth Hoyt was employed to finish the summer term, and the same lady also taught the school during the winter. There was not so good order in school as was desirable, and the instruction was not sufficiently accurate and effective.

The teacher, however, labored with diligence, the scholars made considerable progress, and the people of the district, generally, were satisfied with the school.

District No. 7.

Miss Mary J. Morse taught the summer school in this district. Her school at the first visit of the committee was somewhat deficient in order; but at the second and third visit, it appeared to be under good discipline.

The smaller scholars, in particular, made great proficiency in their studies. The teacher labored with diligence, and the condition of the school was satisfactory.

In the winter, Mr. B. F. Quimby was the instructor of this school. Mr. Q. was patient and industrious in teaching his pupils, and there were some good scholars in the school, who made commendable progress in their studies. But the discipline of the school was very deficient. The teacher manifested very little capacity for this department of his duty, which was peculiarly unfortunate from the circumstance that the school required an effective disciplinarian. The behavior of some of the scholars in this school was extremely reprehensible. We believe that the most part of the people in the district are impressed with the importance of taking effective measures for the improve-

ment of the school. Great care should be used in selecting teachers.

District No. 8.

This school was taught, in the summer, by Miss Adelaide M. Shute. It was her first effort at teaching, and her scholars made good progress, though more energy, on the part of the teacher, and more effective instruction, would have added to the value of the school. In her report the teacher says,—“The deportment of the scholars has been very good with one exception. The progress of the school was impeded by frequent absences.”

In the winter this school was taught by Mr. Charles Pike, who exercised, in the discharge of his duties, commendable energy and decision. But, unfortunately, his efforts were, for the most part, rendered unavailing by the unruly temper of several of his pupils.

The school money in this district will continue to be wasted, until an energetic and faithful teacher is sustained in maintaining discipline in the school. The practice of compromise, with insubordinate scholars, must be discontinued, and the supremacy of law established. Unruly boys, who do not submit to authority elsewhere, must be compelled to do so in the school-room.

District No. 9.—Merrimack School.

This is a very large school with insufficient accommodations. The school-house has seats for about two hundred and twenty-five scholars, and there are about three hundred and eighty scholars in the district. The committee are happy to report that the district is taking efficient measures to secure the erection, immediately, of another school-house, north of the present one, by means of which ample accommodations will be furnished for all the children who ought to attend school. The first of the primary schools has been under the tuition, during the past year, of Miss Martha E. Pettingill, who has spared no pains to advance her scholars in their studies, and render her school useful to all who attended. Her industry and devotion to her work, are worthy of high commendation.

The school has been large enough to occupy the whole time of two teachers. It is evident therefore, that how-

ever competent and laborious the teacher might be, the pupils could not be thoroughly instructed.

The teacher says in her report,—“The school has been too large to enable me to devote that time and attention to each scholar that should have been given.

The irregularity of the attendance will be noticed from the fact, that the average attendance has been but little more than half the number of scholars.”

Under these great disadvantages, Miss Pettingill has achieved a good measure of success.

The second of the primary schools has been taught, the past year, by Miss Hannah E. Bell. This was an admirable school. The teacher is well qualified, both by nature and education, for her vocation. The happy effects of the union of mildness and decision in government were very manifest in this school.

The pupils made very satisfactory advancement in their studies. The committee particularly noticed the great proficiency in reading.

The higher department of this school was under the instruction of Mr. Carlos J. Hawthorne during the past year.

The condition of this school for the first term, was not in all respects satisfactory. The teacher labored hard, and proved himself competent for his office. But the irregularity of the attendance presented a very serious obstacle to the improvement of the school. Twelve hundred and twenty-seven absences were reported in sixty days. In the last six months, there was a decided improvement throughout the school.

Mr. Hawthorne concurred fully with the committee in the great importance of more thorough instruction in the elementary studies, and most effectively carried out this view. His classes in arithmetic sustained a rigid examination in the fundamental rules in the most satisfactory manner; and the good results of this method of teaching were also very perceptible in the examination on other branches. The classes all appeared well, and answered with promptness and accuracy. The judicious and energetic labors of the teacher, in classifying and instructing his school, were rewarded with success. Mr. Charles K.

West, Chairman of the Prudential Committee, has devoted himself to the interests of this school with commendable zeal.

District No. 10.

This district, having adopted the "Somersworth Act," did not come under the supervision of the Town Committee.

District No. 11.

The primary department of the school was under the charge of Miss Ann Roby in the summer term. Miss Roby was succeeded by Miss Maria Chandler in the autumn.

Both of these teachers discharged the arduous duties of this school faithfully and successfully. This department is greatly indebted to Miss Roby, who was connected with it for several terms. It would be difficult to name a school which requires more patience and hard labor on the part of the teacher. Miss Susan R. Moulton was the teacher of the middle department, during two terms of the past year. Her school was orderly and well instructed. The advancement of the pupils was creditable to the ability and diligence of the teacher. Miss Eliza J. Knox had charge of this department during the winter. This was Miss K.'s first experience as a teacher. At the commencement of the term, the school was somewhat disorderly; but by the teacher's superior skill in government, it became, in the latter half of the term, a model of good order and quietness. The teacher was quiet in her manner and spoke in a low voice in addressing her scholars, which we believe has a tendency to promote good order. The pupils advanced well in their studies, and the school received the decided approval of the committee.

The higher department was instructed, during the first and the second term of the past year, by Miss G. H. Wadleigh. The success of this teacher in previous terms was characteristic of her labors during the past year. The discipline of her school was excellent. The method of instruction clear and effective, and the improvement of the scholars as great as the ability of the teacher led us to anticipate. This department, in the winter, was under

the charge of Mr. T. W. Bruce. This gentleman is a skillful and effective teacher. By the union of mildness with decision, and fertility in the invention of expedients with wisdom in their application, Mr. Bruce succeeded in establishing and maintaining excellent discipline in his school.

All the classes appeared to have been thoroughly instructed, and made good progress in the various branches studied. Nothing appeared to be done for display.

The advancement of the school, in the opinion of the committee, was really as great as appearances indicated. We were gratified with meeting several parents and other citizens at the final examination. This school was more frequently visited, during the term, by persons residing in the district than were most of our schools, and we are convinced that the influence of these visits was most beneficial. We were happy to hear the emphatic testimony of a gentleman, residing near the school-house, to the good behavior, out of doors, of the pupils in all the schools. It is a testimony highly creditable to the teachers and the scholars. May this school long enjoy this enviable reputation. Too often our large schools are justly regarded as nuisances in the neighborhood where they are kept.

District No. 12.

The school in this district has acquired a new, and greatly improved character, during the past year, and now ranks among the best schools in the town. At the opening of the summer term, the disorder was so great that we feared the school would prove a failure, and the school money be wasted.

But fortunately, the district had secured, in Miss Mary J. Clifford, a teacher who was adequate to the task of restoring order and securing obedience. Through her energetic and well judged efforts, good discipline was enforced, and by her tact in teaching she soon succeeded in interesting the pupils in their studies. The committee have never witnessed more improvement in one term, than was exhibited by this school in every respect, and great praise is due to the teacher for her efforts, and also to the more part of the scholars for their diligence and good behavior.

The final examination afforded great pleasure to the committee, and elicited high commendation.

In the winter term, this school was taught by Mr. J. S. Chamberlain, who was very successful. The quiet energy of the teacher exerted a very favorable influence, and there was abundant evidence of judicious and thorough instruction. There was not however quite so much attention to good order among the smaller scholars as was desirable.

The teacher in his report says,—“the school, I think, has resulted in benefit to all the scholars. But owing to its short duration, I have been unable to do all which the good of the school demands. The improvement made by the scholars generally is worthy of praise. But there was a little lack of interest on the part of a few scholars, which I think, is to be attributed more to the want of interest on the part of the parents, than to any fault of the scholars themselves.”

District No. 13.

The school in this district was taught in the summer by Miss Frances White. Her school was decidedly successful. All the classes appeared well. There was evidence of thorough teaching of the elementary branches. Miss White is a good disciplinarian, and preserved excellent order in her school. Some trouble occurred with reference to discipline, but the fault was evidently on the part of the parents, as it always is, nine cases out of ten.

In the winter this school was taught by Mr. Joseph Clough, jr. Mr. C. kept an excellent school. The important branches of reading and spelling received in this school, the attention which they deserve. The discipline was very good, and all the classes appeared to have been well instructed.

District No. 14.

The summer school was taught by Miss Mary E. Emery. There was not the energy and devotedness to her duties on the part of the teacher, which the best interests of the school demanded. Several of the scholars however made very good proficiency, and the school upon the whole, appeared tolerably well.

Mr. Russel Hodgdon was the instructor of this school in the winter. Mr. H.'s labors were crowned with eminent success. The discipline of his school was effective, and enforced with discretion and kindness. Thorough instruction, in the elementary branches, was a feature of this school, which deserves the highest praise. All the classes appeared remarkably well. The district was highly favored in securing the services of this accomplished teacher. This is one of the few districts in which the parents visited the school, and manifested an interest in its improvement.

Measures are taking for the erection of a new school-house in this district.

District No. 15.

This school was instructed in the summer by Miss Dorothy A. Shepard. Good order was maintained, and the pupils made praiseworthy proficiency in their studies.

Mr. Charles Stanyan taught the school in the winter. This teacher kept one of the best schools in the town. He devoted himself heartily to his work, and evinced that highest of qualifications for teaching, the ability to awaken the dormant faculties of pupils, and create in their minds a thirst for knowledge. To use the language of their parents,—“the scholars, in this district, were entirely given up to their studies.” The instruction was accurate and thorough, and the discipline effective.

It is understood that this district is about to erect a new school-house, and that efforts have been made to secure the best model. May success crown this undertaking.

District No. 16.

This is the smallest school in the town. Miss Hannah E. Chase was the teacher, for the summer term, and Miss Ann C. Watson for the winter. These teachers were diligent and faithful in the discharge of their duties, and the scholars made good progress in their studies. But the school is too small to develop the capabilities of the teacher, or to awaken a healthful emulation in the minds of the pupils.

District No. 17.

This district is composed of inhabitants of Concord and Hopkinton. The school-house is inconvenient and dilapidated.

Miss Harriet C. Smith was the teacher in the summer. This lady has had considerable experience in teaching, and labored in this school with fidelity and a good degree of success. Mr. Luther J. Fitch taught the school in the winter. This veteran teacher fully sustained his well earned reputation.

The perfect order and quietness, which reigned in the school, was highly creditable to the teacher and scholars.

District No. 18.

Miss Ruth F. Seavey taught the summer school in this district. Miss Seavey has had considerable successful experience as a teacher, and appeared to succeed very well in this school. But for reasons not apparent, her labors were not appreciated by some persons in the district. She says in her report,—“my scholars have manifested a deep interest in their lessons and have made rapid improvement.”

Mr. Nathaniel M. Cook was the instructor in the winter. This gentleman possesses some excellent qualifications for the office of teaching. The scholars were studious, and a spirit of docility and kindness seemed to pervade the school.

The improvement, in most of the branches of study, merited the commendation of the committee. The school-house is too small, and out of repair.

District No. 19.

Miss B. C. Tallant instructed the school in this district in the summer. She labored hard in the discharge of her duties, but failed to secure that degree of order which is desirable. A listlessness and uneasiness were manifest throughout the school. This seemed not to be owing however, to any want of care or effort on the part of the teacher; and some improvement was apparent in the order of the school before its close.

The advancement of the scholars in their studies was as great as could be expected under the circumstances.

In the winter, this school was taught by Mr. S. B. Moore. A good degree of energy and decision, clear and accurate statements of the principles of knowledge, and the ability to interest his pupils in their studies, were particularly noticeable as qualifications of this teacher.

There were some excellent scholars in this school. The recitations in arithmetic and grammar evinced good proficiency in these studies. All the classes appeared well. The discipline of the school was good. The district has been highly favored the past winter in the privilege of this excellent school. The school-house ought to be demolished and a building erected suitable for the objects of education.

District No. 20.

The condition of this important school has improved during the past year; and it is desirable that the improvement begun should continue until the school attains the high rank which will enable it to meet fully the wants of this populous district.

In the summer the primary department was instructed by Miss Elizabeth K. Brown. This teacher is well qualified to secure the attention of young children and interest them in the duties of the school. She was faithful and systematic in her endeavors for the improvement of her pupils, and kept a highly useful school.

The higher department was under the charge of Miss Malvina Brown during the summer. This teacher succeeded in winning the affections of her pupils, and maintaining good order in the school.

Irregularity in the attendance of the scholars was a serious obstacle to their improvement in their studies.

The designed absence of several pupils at the final examination was much to their discredit. Some diligent and attentive scholars made improvement which reflected credit upon themselves and their teacher.

In the winter term, the primary department was taught by Mr. J. C. Stone, who discharged his duties with promptness and success. The teacher in his report mentions, as the great obstacle he had to contend with, the want of punctuality in attendance; an obstacle to the good

order and success of the school, which it is believed a very little effort on the part of the parents might have removed.

Mr. Charles J. F. Stone was the instructor of the higher department, in the winter. In his school the committee particularly noticed a wise classification of the scholars, a sprightliness and readiness in the manner of recitation, and evidence of thorough instruction in the elements of learning. Mr. Stone accomplished the heavy task undertaken in this large school, at an unusual expense of time and effort, and deserved high commendation.

District No. 21.

The school in this district was taught, in the summer, by Miss Clara F. Potter.

Her school was well governed and instructed. The moral education of the pupils was carefully attended to. A good degree of improvement was manifested from the commencement to the close of the school. Mr. N. C. Kempton taught this school in the winter. The teacher labored diligently, and with a good measure of success. Good order was maintained, and most of the classes appeared well at the final examination.

District No. 22.

The school in this district was taught by Miss Mary A. Richardson, in the summer.

This teacher is wanting in energy and in tact in teaching. She however maintained very good order, and there was evidence of improvement by some of the scholars, especially in reading and spelling.

No teacher presented himself to the committee for examination to teach the school in the winter; and the Prudential Committee did not give the notice of the commencement of a school, required by law.

District No. 23.

This is a small district composed of inhabitants of Concord and Bow. The Concord part of the district was set off from No. 18, in 1849. The school-house is a small, but comfortable building in good repair. The school has

not been very successful the past year. Miss Nancy A. Smart was the teacher in the summer. It was her first experience in teaching. She complained that the interference of some of the parents with the government of the school, impeded the success of her efforts.

In the winter Miss Annis E. Gage was the teacher. She is well qualified for the vocation of teaching, and was diligent and prompt in the discharge of her duties. But she was not very successful in government.

She says in her report,—“The greater part of the scholars are boys, and seem to require a male teacher.”

It will doubtless be better for the district to employ a male teacher hereafter, in the winter.

We have spared neither time nor efforts in the discharge of our responsible duties.

Being aware that well qualified teachers are indispensable to the improvement of our schools, and that examinations by committees are too often regarded as a form merely, we have discharged this part of our duty to the letter and spirit of the law. In no case has a certificate been granted to a teacher, who has not passed a rigid examination by a majority of the committee. And in connection with the examinations we have endeavored to furnish useful suggestions to the teachers, in reference to the government and instruction of their schools. And we think that much benefit to the schools has resulted from this action of the committee.

We have insisted upon an exact and thorough teaching of the elementary branches. It is time that the inaccurate and slovenly mode of teaching, which so extensively prevails, should be expelled from our schools; and a class of teachers encouraged who have been trained to habits of accuracy and precision in knowledge, and to the careful investigation of principles. If committees, who engage teachers, are indifferent to this matter, and committees who examine them suffer them to pass with merely a formal examination, or permit their continuance in the schools when they prove incompetent to teach accurately, or to govern effectively, our schools can never be raised above their present level.

Many of the school-houses are in a wretched condition. Some are falling to pieces, and the sooner they are down the better. In most of the school-houses there is no provision for ventilation. In several the pupils are more indebted to the tooth of time, than the hand of art, for this blessing. Some of the school-houses are too small, and the children are crowded together in the most uncomfortable manner, so that good order cannot be maintained, or the exercises of the school carried on successfully.

The committee recommend that no attempts be made to repair or reform these ill-constructed buildings, but that new houses, with the modern improvements, be erected.

We are confident that this course will be less expensive for the districts in the end, and add greatly to the comfort, health and usefulness of the schools. We recommend, also, that all the schools be furnished with globes, blackboards and suitable maps. A teacher cannot give such instruction without this apparatus as the improved methods of education demand.

A dictionary also, either Webster's or Worcester's, should be placed on the desk of every teacher, for the use of the school.

Measures should be taken to raise more school money, especially for the smaller districts. In some of these districts, excellent schools have been kept the past winter. But it is a matter for deep regret, that almost as soon as these schools were fully in operation, and the teachers had succeeded in awakening an interest in study in the minds of their pupils, so that every additional day of schooling was becoming more valuable, the mandate has been issued for the school to close, because the money was expended.

The committee would also call attention to the great importance of encouraging a more thorough and systematic teaching of the common branches of learning. There is too much disposition to introduce higher studies into the schools. And, as a consequence, we find scholars studying physiology and chemistry, &c., who can neither read nor spell correctly, or analyze properly, the simplest sentences of the English language, or describe accurately the geography of their own State. Parents should discountenance this practice, for it is highly detrimental to

the educational interests of their children. A smattering of higher studies is a poor substitute for a deficient education in the common branches of learning.

A manifestation of more interest in the school, by parents and others, in visiting them, is indispensable to their improvement. The committee have been gratified in meeting, in some cases, with parents and other citizens in the schools, but in most of the districts this duty is wholly omitted.

We would also most emphatically call attention to the great importance of sustaining teachers and committees in their efforts to maintain order and discipline. A disorderly, turbulent school is a curse to any district, and every man who lifts his hand to break down the authority of law and order in the school-room, is an enemy to the best interests of his children and of the community at large.

The committee are happy to be able, in concluding their report, to express their conviction that a decided advance has been made in the schools during the past year; but they ought also to state, that, in their view, a great work remains to be done, before our schools can be elevated to that rank which the educational interests of the town demand.

Tabular Report of the Schools.

In compliance with the provisions of the act, entitled "An act in addition to chapter seventy-three of the Revised Statutes," approved July 10, 1846, the Superintending School Committee of the town of Concord, county of Merrimack, submit the following report of the condition, &c., of the Schools in said town the past year:

NO. OF DISTRICTS.	Number of Scholars above 4 yrs. of age attending school 2 wks.†		No. of scholars in all the schools.		Average attendance		No. of persons between 4 and 16 years of age in the town.		No. under 16 years attending school.		No. over 16 yrs. attending school		No. of persons between 4 and 16 not attending school anywhere.		Aggregate length of schools, in weeks.		Number of teachers in Winter.		Number of teachers in Summer.		Average wages paid per month, exclusive of board.		Amount of money raised by taxes for the schools.
	WINTER.	SUMMER.	WINTER.	SUMMER.	WINTER.	SUMMER.	No.	Under 16	No. over 16	No. of persons between 4 and 16 not attending school anywhere.	WINTER.	SUMMER.	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	
1	40	40	25	38	23	26	28	12	13	9	10	1				1	16	00	8	00	70	06	
2	30	30	24	25	24	20	21	11		7	6	1				1	20	00	8	00	54	72	
3																					168	35	
4	32	32	28	24	20	32	22	12		6	10	1				1	16	00	4	00	52	45	
5	20	20	18	18	11	11	11	9		9	9	1				1	15	00			52	84	
6	16	16	12	14	10	8	10	6		8	6	1	1			1			5	00	35	78	
7	25	25	13	21	8	16	18	7		10	12	1				1	13	00	5	67	64	78	
8	25	19	25	12	16	17	24	5	5	5	12	1				1	14	00	3	00	70	41	
9	265	265	246	211	166	254	256	30		11	16	1	2	1	2	2	30	00	8	00	536	83	
10																					1730	54	
11	163	181	158	144	112	170	170	30		14	24	1	2			3	30	00	14	00	530	08	
12	60	60	53	46	48	48	51	11	8	10	8	1				1	18	06	6	00	82	44	
13	41	39	41	34	25	31	34	5	3	5	9	1				1	20	00	5	00	66	57	
14	25	25	19	19	20	20	20	5	3	8	1	1				1	14	50			46	44	
15	30	30	23	20	14	22	23			11	11	1				1	14	00	5	00	43	83	
16	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	1		6	8	1				1			5	50	37	15	
17	11	12	8	7	7	7	8	4		4	4	1				1			6	00	29	50	
18	38	35	42	28	34	33	34	11	3	10	16	1				1	22	00	7	33	64	64	
19	62	62	46	50	25	50	53	12	5	8	10	1				1	20	00	6	00	81	87	
20	155	155	137	137	110	129	133	27		10	12	2				2	19	00	9	00	269	86	
21	17	18	17	16	12	14	16	5	3	7	9	1				1	17	00	5	00	64	74	
22	32	32	38	4	22	29	33	14	5	5	8	1				1	16	00	4	00	39	79	
23	4	4	4	4	4	4				12	8		1			1			7	68	25	65	
	1097	1106	946	867	784	974	970	217	50	171	199	19	7	1	24	18	50	6	53	4219	32		

BOOKS USED.—Town's Series of Reading Books; Town's Speller and Definer; Webster, or Worcester's Dictionary; Weld's Grammar; Smith's Geography; Adams' New Arithmetic.

N. E. MARBLE,
HALL ROBERTS,
T. BARRON,
ELEAZER SMITH,

} *Superintending
School
Committee.*

Report of School District No. 10.

The First Annual Report of the Superintending School Committee of District No. 10 in Concord, for the year ending March, 1851.

The Committee, chosen by said district, to take charge of their schools for the year under the "Somersworth Act," (which had previously been adopted,) respectfully submit the following report :

This is the first year under the act referred to, and we have labored under all the disadvantages which naturally grow out of an imperfect organization ; as is always more or less the case in beginning a reform.

It has required time and much labor to arrange the schools and perfect the classification, as must necessarily be expected in a district like ours, containing several hundred scholars.

We have endeavored to arrange and class the scholars according to merit, so as to secure the privileges guaranteed to them by the act relating to high schools ; and yet we make no claim to exemption from error, but rather freely admit there is a wide margin left for improvement.

The school year, now past, has been divided into three terms, making in all thirty-five weeks. The district has employed ten teachers, who occupied nine rooms, and have had under their tuition more than five hundred scholars.

The four primary schools were under the care of Ann E. Page, Mary W. Chickering, Pamelia A. Chapman and Lucretia F. Shute, all of whom have had more or less experience as primary school teachers, and are entitled to much respect for the care and sympathy manifested, for the comfort as well as improvement of the little ones entrusted to their keeping. Their government was mild and the order as good as could be expected, or, perhaps, even desired.

The three intermediate schools were under the instruction of Mary A. Allison, Elizabeth K. Brown and Clara E. Palmer. These schools were conducted systematically, and the regulations of the Committee and Teachers en-

forced with energy and decision. Their government was mild, but uniform and effectual; the order good, and with few exceptions might be said to be very good.

The interest manifested in these schools, and the progress made by the scholars in their various studies are both creditable to themselves and complimentary to their teachers.

The grammar school was taught by Sarah J. Sanborn. This apartment having been but recently established, was, from certain unavoidable circumstances, at the commencement of the last term, in a most admirable state of confusion. The Committee had but little knowledge of the teacher as a disciplinarian, and the prospect of a school, such as we desired, was anything but flattering. We gave such directions and promised such assistance as the difficulties to be overcome seemed to require, and under the teacher's judicious management, the disorder gradually subsided, but not entirely till after one or two official visits from the Committee, affecting the interests of certain large boys, who were more ambitious to evade, than to obey, the regulations of the school. During the latter part of the term the order was good, the scholars seemed to be interested in their studies, and their general appearance was conclusive evidence of a remarkable change for the better.

The high school was under the charge of William F. Goodwin, assisted by Elizabeth H. Allison.

In this school, the order was very good, the instructions thorough, and the progress made in the various classes evinced at once the faithfulness of the teachers, and close application on the part of the scholars.

The harmony and quiet of the room, the orderly arrangement of the classes, the promptitude with which scholars recited, and their ready compliance to the regulations of the school, were evident manifestations of regard for their teachers, and respect for themselves.

In brief, this school is an ornament, not only to our district, but to the town; and we believe would not suffer in comparison with the best regulated schools in New-England.

What is here said of our schools, taken together, is applicable more particularly to the last term, the other terms

being more or less interrupted, in the early part of the season, for the want of room, and later, by the process of classification.

Tabular Report of School District No. 10.

In compliance with the provisions of the act, entitled "An act in addition to chapter seventy-three of the Revised Statutes," approved July 10, 1846, the Superintending School Committee of the town of Concord, county of Merrimack, submit the following report of the condition, &c., of the Schools in said town the past year:

DISTRICT NO. 10.		Number of Scholars above 4 yrs. of age attending school 2 wks.		No. of scholars in all the schools.		Average attendance		No. of persons between 4 and 16 years of age in the town.		No. under 14 years attending school.		No. over 14 yrs. attending school		No. of persons between 4 and 16 not attending school anywhere.		Aggregate length of schools, in weeks.		Number of teachers in Winter.		Number of teachers in Summer.		Average wages paid per month, exclusive of board.		Amount of money raised by taxes for the schools.		
WINTER.	SUMMER.	WINTER.	SUMMER.	WINTER.	SUMMER.	WINTER.	SUMMER.	WINTER.	SUMMER.	WINTER.	SUMMER.	WINTER.	SUMMER.	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	MALES.	FEMALES.	
527	529	531	432	429		453	76		12	23	1	9	1	8	40	00	8	25	1730	54						

BOOKS USED.

Andrews and Stoddard's Latin Grammar and Reader; Cooper's Virgil; Leverett's Lexicon; Legendre's Geometry; Day's Algebra; Cutter's Physiology; Burritt's Geography of the Heavens; Johnston's Nat. Philosophy; Preston's Book-Keeping; Goodrich's History; Adam's, Davies', and Emerson's Arithmetics; Weld's Grammar; Welds' Parsing Book; Mitchell's Geography; Russell's Am. Reader; Town's Series Readers; Webster's High School Dictionary; Town's Speller and Definer.

REMARKS.—Our school is divided into terms and continued mostly through the year, so that it is difficult to determine just what number of scholars attend in summer, and what number attend in winter; or, to determine precisely how many weeks may be called winter school and how many summer.

M. T. WILLARD,
GEO. G. FOGG,
EDWARD H. PARKER,
CHARLES P. GAGE,

} Superintending School
} Committee for District
} No. 10, for the year
} ending March, 1851.

Concord, March 10, 1851.

Appointments by Selectmen, March, 1851.

Superintending School Committee.

Newton E. Marble, Asa P. Tenney and Nathaniel Bouton.

Police Officers.

Isaac Eastman,
Harry Houston,
Jason D. Watkins,
John K. Cate,

David S. Page,
Moses Cass,
Simon G. Davis.

Overseer of Town Farm and Keeper of House of Correction,
MOSES GILL.

Physician,

Dr. EDWARD H. PARKER.

Chief Engineer,
LUTHER ROBY.

Assistant Engineers.

True Osgood,
James L. Mason,
N. H. Sanborn,
A. H. Drown,
D. A. Brown,
N. B. Baker,
Geo. H. H. Silsby,
George F. Hill,

Joseph W. Prescott,
James Sanborn,
Isaac Eastman,
Stephen Brown,
Henry M. Moore,
John Abbott,
Benjamin Grover.