

CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT.



To his Honor the Mayor, and Board of Aldermen of the City of Concord

THE undersigned, Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, asks leave to report, that the present fire department of the City consists of six regular and two volunteer Engine Companies, together with a Hook and Ladder Company, numbered and located as follows :

- No. 1, volunteer at North End Main-st.,
- No. 2, at North End State-st.,
- No. 3, at South End Main-st.,
- No. 4, on Warren-st.,
- No. 5, Volunteer, near Freight Depot,
- No. 6, at West Village,
- No. 7, at East Village,
- No. 8, at Fisherville,
- No. 1, Hook and Ladder Company, on Warren-st.

The Engines, Hose, Hose Carriages, Hook and Ladder Carriage, including other apparatus and buildings, are all in good repair, and has been so kept by those to whose care the property have been entrusted. A small amount of new hose, however, is wanted in place of that which time and service has rendered unreliable.

Since the first of August last, owing in part to the unusual dryness of a portion of the season, the services of the Fire Department have been required more frequently than usual, and it gives me pleasure to state that every member has promptly responded to the various calls, and has performed his duty in a way and manner, and with a faithfulness which gives an assurance of the future stability and usefulness of the department.

The department has been called out, since the first of August, as follows :

- August 9—Fire at R. Bradley's.
- August 17—Fire on the Plains.
- August 17 & 18—Fire at H. Fessenden's.
- August 22—Fire at Soucook Mills.
- August 31—Fire at Suncook Village.
- October 17—Fire at Brown & Morgan's.
- November 2—Fire at Unitarian Meeting House.
- December 16—Fire at Dea. Willey place.
- December 23—Fire at Porter Blanchard's.
- January 3—False alarm.
- Company No. 7, on Plains.
- Company No. 8, an alarm at Fisherville.

The Public Reservoirs are as follows :

One at South End Main street, opposite Abbot's Carriage Manufactory.

One opposite the Thompsonian building, Main street.

One near South Church, at intersection of Main and Pleasant streets.

Four in front of State House.

One at intersection of Centre and Main Streets.

One opposite Merrimack County Bank, Main street.

One in front of house of John H. George, Main street.

One on State street, near Sewell Hoyt's house, at head of Winter street.

One on State street, near the dwelling house of Mr. Rolfe.

One on South street, near N. B. Baker's house, opp head of Wall street.

One on Prince street, near Carpenter's Shop.

One on School street, near Unitarian Church, located easterly from School House and opposite James R. Hill's premises.

One on State street, near A. B. Currier's house.

One on corner of West and State streets, near School house in District No. 9.

One on Pleasant street, near R. H. Shurburne's house, nearly opposite George H. H. Silsby's house.

One on Main street, near F. N. Fisk's house.

One on State street, near James Tallant's house.

Besides these are several others, not strictly public reservoirs, as follows:—Three near Warren street, between Main and Green streets; one in rear of Call's Block; one at the intersection of State and Washington streets; one at the intersection of Main and Franklin streets, and various others of small capacities.

At Fisherville, about 1000 feet from the canal, are three reservoirs.

Officers and Members of Engine Company No. 2.

H. H. HOLT, *Foreman.*

L. ROBY, Jr., *Second Foreman.*

L. A. WALKER, *Third Foreman.*

HORACE EATON, *Clerk.*

R. F. FOSTER, *Treasurer.*

L. A. WALKER, }

R. M. ORDWAY, } *Leading Hosemen.*

GEO. BRACKETT, }

J. D. A. WEST, } *Suction Hosemen.*

J. J. WYMAN, }

H. H. HOLT, *Steward.*

William T. Lock,

George Dame,

Joseph Brown,

M. D. Drew,

A. L. Barnard,

F. La Bonta,

Samuel Wallace,

James Morrill,

E. S. Towle,

C. H. Herbert,

W. Odlin,

Sewall Hoit,

C. C. Hartford,

S. M. Griffin,

C. R. Cass,

Wm. Wallace,

A. A. Moore,

Samuel B. Marston,

Geo. W. Emerton,

John S. Blodgett,

E. A. Moulton,

George H. Marston,

C. H. Burr,

J. B. Walker,

Wm. Roby,

Charles Barker,

Calvin Smart,

Thomas B. Sargent,

H. P. Sweetser,

L. D. Shurburn,

John H. George,

S. Seavey,

G. H. Seavey,

William Ballard,

M. A. Holt,

W. S. Davis,

Isaac Elwell,

D. Kennedy,

John Richardson,

M. H. Bradley,

A. H. Moores.

Officers and Members of Engine Company No. 3.

L. P. FULLER, *Foreman.*
 CALEB PARKER, *Assist. Foreman.*
 DANIEL WINDMER, *Clerk.*
 D. S. WEBSTER, *Treasurer.*
 J. H. ABBOT, *Foreman of Hose.*
 JOSIAH COOPER,
 CHARLES C. THOMPSON, } *Standing Committee.*
 SAMUEL SHUTE,

J. Stephens Abbot,
 J. M. Cook,
 Joseph O. Trask,
 W. E. Morton,
 M. H. Head,
 Joel Howe,
 J. S. Black,
 Daniel H. Stokes,
 Charles Butters,
 B. Cook,
 Abel Lamper,
 Chandler Stephens,
 J. K. Stokes,
 S. Gage,
 James Thompson,
 J. S. Davis,
 Moses Bodwell,
 Joseph G. Wyatt,
 Luther Lucas,
 John M. Chase,
 Jeremiah Smith,
 Berry Curtis,
 Josiah Bachelder,
 Andrew J. Tilton,

C. H. Abbot,
 William Stevenson,
 J. J. Pillsbury,
 Charles D. Cate,
 Joseph Meyers,
 E. Sanborn,
 Joseph Lamper,
 Asa Parker,
 Amos Lock,
 Freeman Sanborn,
 Charles Bradley,
 William Spaulding,
 Oliver Turner,
 O. F. Harris,
 A. B. Chase,
 B. F. Kimball,
 William H. Beard,
 J. C. Eaton,
 L. C. Lull,
 C. S. Colby,
 William Cloud,
 James H. Stephens,
 John H. Collis.

Officers and Members of Engine Company No. 4.

CHAS. I. ELLIOTT, *Foreman.*
 L. P. CHENEY, *Assistant Foreman.*
 JOSEPH C. OSGOOD, *Foreman of Hose.*
 W. McMURPHY, *Clerk.*
 RUFUS CLEMENT, *Treasurer.*
 A. B. HOLT,
 B. F. GALE, } *Standing Committee.*
 J. C. DUNCLEE,

J. D. Cooper,	J. G. Lincoln,
Jonathan Sanborn,	John W. Dodge,
Jonathan Sargent,	Richard Hoit,
William B. Hoit,	Abial Smart,
Joseph C. Osgood,	Jeremiah Brown,
Joseph Keysar,	Joshua Heath,
Joseph G. Alexander,	Wm. W. Taylor,
Frank V. Osgood,	Henry A. Mann,
Calvin Goodspeed,	Ira F. Morse,
Patrick Morrison,	William Carr,
Perkins Gale,	John D. Teel,
William H. Page,	B. F. Watson,
J. F. Hoit,	Samuel Edmonds,
Perkins Kimball,	John H. Nichols,
Andrew H. Foss,	Joseph W. Prescott,
James Davis,	Charles E. Mead,
Wm. P. Foster,	M. J. Mead,
C. C. Webster,	Nelson Tenney,
A. B. Currier,	W. H. Buntin,
L. D. Boynton,	W. G. Shaw.

Officers and Members of Engine Company No. 6.

————— Foreman.

ANDREW JACKSON, *Second Foreman.*

STILMAN HUMPHREYS, *Clerk.*

A. W. CLOUGH, *Treasurer.*

JEREMIAH UPTON, } *Directors.*
 B. F. HOLDEN, }
 M. F. CLOUGH, }

John Abbott,	Moses H. Farnum,
B. F. Dow,	Hiram Farnum,
Joseph Eastman,	George W. Brown,
Charles R. Brown,	Asa P. Tenney, Jr.
William T. Clough,	Freeman Ferrin,
John Quinn,	E. C. Ferrin,
James H. Emerson,	Moses Humphrey,
William H. Brown,	Daniel Marden,
Robert L. Hall,	Jackson Crosby,
Charles H. Clough,	Chandler Eastman,
A. W. Clough,	Elisha Thomas,
Albert H. Baker,	George G. Jones,
Stephen W. Kellom,	Charles Upton,

Cyrus F. Fletcher,
 Henry M. Goodrich,
 Lyman Sawyer,
 Rufus Abbott,
 Milo Bedell,
 Amos S. Abbott,
 Michael Huben,
 John Thornton,
 Virgil M. Hall,

Otis A. Williams,
 Augustus Williams,
 Thomas Igo,
 Samuel Ames,
 Lucius Tenney,
 George E. Holden,
 John O. Harrington,
 John H. Kellom.

Officers and Members of Engine Company No. 7.

EPHRAIM S. COLLEY, *Foreman.*
 CHARLES E. ROBINSON, *Clerk.*
 JAMES M. CARLETON, *Treasurer.*
 EBENEZER EASTMAN,
 CHARLES P. ADAMS, } *Trustees.*
 THOMAS CARLETON, }

Cyrus Robinson,
 Isaac Eastman,
 Heman Sanborn,
 William Page,
 A. B. Seavy,
 Charles H. Sanborn,
 Winthrop St. Clair,
 Smith Bean,
 Jeremiah Sullivan,
 Levi Bean,
 James Frye,
 Gardner Tenney,
 Jonathan Kimball,
 James Sanborn,

Mellen C. Eastman,
 Washington Hill,
 Theodore S. Clark,
 Mark Floyd,
 Jonathan Stimpson,
 Abraham B. Sanborn,
 Jonathan E. Pecker,
 J. H. Carleton,
 John T. Bachelder,
 William L. Bachelder,
 Cyrus R. Robinson,
 William Smith,
 George W. Moody,
 Silas T. Bean.

Officers and Members of Engine Company No. 8.

ALBERT H. DROWN, *Foreman.*
 JACOB B. RAND, *Assistant Foreman.*
 SAMUEL MERRIAM, *Clerk.*
 JACOB B. RAND, *Treasurer.*

David A. Brown,
 John A. Coburn,
 Samuel R. Flanders,
 Charles W. Hadley,

Isaac G. Howe,
 Benjamin Morrill,
 Jared Sparks,
 Samuel Hoit,

William H. Allen,
 Nathaniel Rolfe,
 Hazen Knowlton,
 John G. Warren,
 Samuel C. Pickard,
 Abiel Rolfe,
 Charles L. Bachelder,
 Timothy C. Rolfe,
 Sylvester G. Long,
 Charles Abbott,
 Nathan Emerson,
 Jedediah S. Shepard,
 George B. Elliot,
 Daniel J. Pickard,
 Freeman Elliot,
 Jonathan C. Shepard,
 Jeremiah S. Durgin,
 Josiah W. Jameson,

Daniel Cutting,
 Sherman S. Briggs,
 Albert L. Smith,
 Amos S. Alexander,
 Edmund Worth, 3d,
 Daniel W. Martin,
 Henry F. Brown,
 Benjamin F. Caldwell,
 Edward McArdle,
 John W. Eaton,
 F. A. Abbott,
 E. H. Abbott,
 Joseph Morrill,
 Isaac F. Vesper,
 James V. Smith,
 George F. Elkins,
 Charles W. Chase,
 Moses H. Bean.

Members of Hook and Ladder Company No. 1.

Gustavus Walker,
 Charles K. West,
 Robert Cromett,
 John C. Pillsbury,
 J. L. Cilley,
 E. C. Eastman,
 Walter Abbott,

H. A. Fay,
 John C. Hall,
 Dexter W. Smith,
 Lucius Baker,
 Leander King,
 B. F. Wolcott,
 James F. Lund.

Before I close this report, a sense of justice compels me to acknowledge the important and valuable aid, advice, and assistance, rendered the department on some trying occasions, by his Honor, the Mayor, with the Municipal Officers generally, together with a portion of the citizens. They have contributed largely to the usefulness and success of the department, and their acts have carried with them convincing evidence that they have no separate interests from that of the Fire Department, but have cordially and freely rendered their valuable services, in unison with the department, for the mutual protection of the property belonging to the inhabitants of this city.

LUTHER ROBY, *Chief Engineer.*

LIST OF TAXES, WHICH FOR VARIOUS CAUSES ARE

RECOMMENDED FOR ABATEMENT,

ON THE TAX BOOK COMMITTED TO J. L. CILLEY FOR 1854-5.



WARD I.

	Tax.	S. H.	Tax.
Aiken, Samuel, Jr.,.....	1	40	53
Allen, Ebenezer,.....	1	40	53
Blackmer, John,.....	1	40	53
Copp, Charles,.....	1	40	53
Edgerly, Lewis E.,.....	1	40	53
Elkins, John,.....	1	40	53
Ellsworth, William G., dead,.....	1	40	53
Gahagan, Samuel, not to be found,.....	1	40	53
Gamey, Luke,.....	1	40	53
Hoit, Amos E.,.....	1	40	53
Knowlton, Charles,.....	1	40	53
McNeil, William,.....	1	40	53
Ordway, Jacob, gone,.....	1	40	53
Robbins, Collins C., not of age,.....	1	40	53
Smith, Joseph, gone,.....	1	40	53
Wallace, Charles B.,.....	1	40	53

WARD II.

Clough, John, Jr.,.....	1	52
Donavan, John & Mary, not to be found,....	4	18
Clark, James M., gone to Loudon, poor,....	1	40
Jeness Samuel, Jr., gone to California,.....	1	40
Sargent, Moses, 3d, poor,.....	1	49

WARD III.

Farnum, Joseph F.,.....	1	40
Emerson, James H., gone,.....	1	40
Puffer, Jacob,.....	1	40

WARD IV.

Cate, H. J. M., gone,.....	1 40	24
Cate, Jonathan, gone,.....	1 40	24
Cheney, W. C.,.....	1 40	
Crowley, James,.....	1 40	24
Drew, Oliver,.....	1 40	
Emerson, John N., not to be found,.....	1 40	24
Fisk, Henry,.....	1 40	
George, W. A. George,.....	1 40	
Hanson, Caleb, gone,.....	1 40	
Kelley, Richard P., gone,.....	1 40	
Kirby, James,.....	1 40	24
Lancaster, John,.....	1 40	24
Loud, H. M., not found,.....	1 40	
Morrill, James H.,.....		
Phelps, Henry W.,.....	1 40	24
Pillsbury, Amos,.....	3 14	52
Rowe, Daniel,.....	1 40	24
Tandy, Calvin L., request,.....	1 40	24
Seavey, David, taxed in Hopkinton,.....	1 40	
Thompson, Noble, not found,.....	1 40	
Taggart, Israel, not found,.....		
Tallant, James, 2d, taxed in two wards,.....	1 40	
Willis, Timothy, not found,.....	1 40	

WARD V.

Boyden, George, not of age,.....	1 40	24
Burnham, David,.....	1 40	24
Brown, Walter, not of age,.....	1 40	24
Cate, Peter S., gone,.....	1 40	24
Chase, David A., not in the city.....	1 40	24
Colby, Charles E., not found,.....	1 40	24
Craig, Samuel, over 70 years of age,.....	1 40	24
Coile, John, not found,.....	1 40	24
Colby, Isaac S.,.....	1 40	24
Dow, Lorenzo, 2d,.....	1 40	24
Dorr, Joseph, poor Frenchman,.....	1 40	24
Evans, Henry, poor, and gone,.....	1 40	24
Ela, George, not of age,.....	1 40	24
Flanders, William S. not found,.....	1 40	24
Gillingham, Daniel, over 70 years of age,...	1 40	24
Ganty, John, taxed in two wards,.....	1 40	24
Gibson, Charles, not found,.....	1 40	24

Hayes, John M., left town in April,.....	1 40	24
Humphreys, T. R. W., gone,.....	1 40	24
Hagar, John C., taxed in Wards 5 & 6,.....	1 40	24
Holton, Henry C., not of age,.....	1 40	24
Ingalls, Nathaniel P.,.....	1 40	24
Robbins, Benjamin F., no such name,.....	1 40	24
Kimball, Benjamin, not of age,.....	1 40	24
Lake, Wingate N., not in the city,.....	1 40	24
Morrison, John, over 70 years of age,.....	1 40	24
Moulton, William H., not in the city,.....	1 40	24
McCarthy, Daniel, not found,.....	1 40	24
Perkins, William H., no such person,.....	1 40	24
Sanborn, Charles H., taxed in two wards,....	1 40	24
Smith, Ezra D., taxed in two wards,.....	1 40	24
Smith F. A., gone,.....	1 40	24
Sanborn, John, no such person in the city,..	1 40	24
Thomas, John B., not in the city,.....	1 40	24
Wheeler, A. B., not in the city,.....	1 40	24
Woodward, Ephraim W., taxed in two wards,	1 40	
Walker, William B., not in the city,.....	1 40	24

WARD VI.

Blanchard, Eben M., not found,.....	1 40	38
Cole, A. B., not found,.....	1 40	38
Corliss, Mathew H., not found,.....	1 40	38
Dodge, George P., no such person,.....	1 40	38
Donahue, Patrick, poor Irish,.....	1 40	38
Dwyer, David, gone,.....	1 40	38
Edmunds, Charles G., taxed in Chichester,..	1 40	38
Daniels, David, not found,.....	1 40	
Jackson, Wm., property taxed to two persons,	1 84	
Langley, Andrew J. not found,.....	1 40	38
Lufkin, Benjamin B., gone,.....	1 40	38
Linch, John, poor Irish,.....	1 40	38
Lee, John, poor Irish,.....	1 40	38
Lee, William, poor Irish,.....	1 40	38
Lufkin, Hiram B., gone,.....	4 30	1 15
McCauley, John, gone,.....	1 40	38
Morisett, Eli, poor Frenchman,.....	1 40	38
Palmer, Levi, dead, and poor,.....	1 40	38
Page, Isaac, left in April,.....	1 40	24
Prindible, James, sick and poor,.....	1 52	41
Robbins, John, not found,.....	1 40	38

Smith, John, 2d, dead,.....	1 40	38
Stanley, Samuel, belonged to Epsom,.....	1 40	38
Weeks, John T., not here,.....	1 40	38
Wheeler, John C., taxed in two wards,.....	1 40	38
Hoit, Samuel P., gone,.....	1 40	38

WARD VII.

Barter, David; not found,.....	1 40	
Burkley, Charles, not found,.....	1 40	38
Badger, Jacob, over 70 years old, no property,	1 75	47
Currier, Cyrus, taxed in two wards,.....	1 40	
Clasey, Patrick, not of age,.....	1 40	38
Colby, Israel, not in the city,.....	1 40	38
Hardy, Wyman E., gone to the West,.....	1 40	70
McCurdy, John, not found,.....	1 40	38
Pillsbury, Nathan S., sick, poor, left the city,.	1 40	
Shute, Aaron, sick and poor,.....	2 32	
Currier, Jedediah, sick and poor, per request,.	3 08	
Smart, Moses, not of age,.....	1 40	38
Woodbury, William, gone to Bow, poor,....	1 49	
Hurd, William, run away, poor,.....	1 60	
Charles Smith, school house tax on property in District No. 13,.....	1 56	
Dudley Ladd, non-resident, did not own the property, and it was taxed to another person,	2 88	
John Q. Adams, property taxed twice, non- resident,.....	2 88	

\$189 55 \$31,41

The Committee on Accounts herewith report the foregoing list of abatements on the list committed to J. L. Cilley, for 1854, and recommend the abatement of the same.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
OF CONCORD,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH, 1855.

In presenting to the City of Concord their Annual Report, the Committee would say, that they have endeavored faithfully to discharge the duties imposed upon them.

In the *examination of teachers*, they have aimed to be critical and thorough; this part of their duty they have regarded as of the utmost importance. In most cases they have found that those who presented themselves were qualified for the work in which they would engage. In almost every instance, teachers have come well recommended by others; but these endorsements have at no time exempted the bearer of them from a rigid trial by the Committee.

With but few exceptions, the schools have made most commendable improvement; for application, order, and progress, some of them have attained a high degree of merit; yet, with this recommendation, so deservedly due, our schools are not what they ought to be, nor what they should be. During the past year, the Committee have given due importance to the duty of *visiting* the schools. They have, either in their collective or individual capacity, frequently entered the school-room, not so much to be entertained, as to inspect department, examine progress, and impart advice.

The experience of the Committee, during their brief term of office, has furnished them a few suggestions, which they would offer at this stage of their report.

The practice of *singing*, which is observed in some of our schools, we wish might become general in all. Its effects, social and moral, upon the scholar are happy. It goes far to make all who engage in it "love one another." Some of our happiest moments in the school-room, during the year, have been passed in listening to the melody and harmony of these hearts and voices. We would suggest to teachers the importance of qualifying themselves in this branch of music sufficiently to teach the art of singing to their scholars while in the school-room.

The art of *writing*, the Committee are apprehensive, is becoming too much of secondary importance in our schools. They have inferred this from the careless condition in which they have frequently found the writing-books. Teachers should look to this.

In some of the schools, we have observed, not unfrequently, a mispronunciation of words among the teachers. It is often the case that the teacher is in doubt as to the exact pronunciation of some words in the exercise of spelling. This being true, the Committee would recommend that each school be provided with some *standard dictionary*.

They would further recommend, that, in all our schools where geography is taught, *outline maps* be provided. But as a distinct and correct impression of the configuration of the earth cannot be easily made upon the mind of a scholar by studying a flat surface, a *terrestrial globe* should be placed in every high and intermediate school.

Another thing which, in some districts, the Committee thought most desirable was commodious and pleasant school-houses. The unhealthy appearance and feeble constitutions of not a few children in our districts are attributable to the small and wretchedly ventilated rooms of some of our school-houses — they are entailing disease upon generations of children. The evil calls for a sanitary committee of inspection. Horace Mann has well said—"People who shudder at a flesh wound and a trickle of blood, will confine their children like convicts, and compel them, month after month, to breathe quantities of poison. It would less impair the mental and physical constitutions of children, gradually to draw an ounce of blood from their veins, during the same length of time, than to send them to breathe, for six hours in a day, the lifeless and poisonous air of some of our school-rooms. Let any man who votes for confining children in small rooms, and keeping them on

stagnant air, try the experiment of breathing his own breath only four times over, and if medical aid be not on hand, the children will never be endangered by his vote afterward."

The Committee would urge upon parents the importance of *co-operating with teachers* in maintaining proper discipline in the schools, and in securing constant and punctual attendance. In the accusations which scholars are apt to bring against their teachers, parents should be careful how they take up controversy against the teacher. It is sometimes the case that the teacher may be cruelly severe in his discipline, but in most cases, where stringent measures are resorted to, the bad conduct of the disciplined warrants the application.

Another suggestion which the Committee would offer is that committees, both superintending and prudential, ascertain, to the full extent, the scope of their duties, at the time they enter upon them. Let the sphere of action be known to each, and each keep within its proper circle of service.

One more thought which they will present, and which they can with all modesty, as this is, in all probability, their last administration—the importance of making to the Superintending Committee a more generous remuneration for their services, in many instances arduous and perplexing.

In closing this report, the Committee would recommend to the City of Concord that some steps be taken toward engaging a suitable person for the office of general Superintendent, who shall have the oversight of all the schools, and for whose service a proper compensation shall be given. A more important movement, as connected with the cause of education among us, we think cannot be made. The present system of school supervision is defective. Our committees, chosen as they are, cannot do what is required of them; and of our committees, chosen as they sometimes are, it cannot justly be *expected* that they will do what is required of them. With all due respect for the qualifications of men generally selected for the important duty of examining teachers and their schools in all the varied branches of education, we speak our honest convictions when we say that it is not always the case that all those selected are qualified for the position, and those who are qualified are so closely confined to their callings as not to be able to give proper time to this. Few men are prepared to go from their several daily professions to the examination of a class of teachers, and into our

of modern style, the house is high posted and well ventilated, and is not surpassed in neatness and convenience by any school-room in the city; and it is worthy of note, that the scholars have kept their desks remarkably neat and free from cuts and scratches.

The Summer term was taught by Miss S. Lizzie Ellsworth, who succeeded very well.

Mr. Charles J. Parker taught the winter term. The school appeared well, and the closing examination showed that the scholars had studied and made good progress. The Committee regret to state that several scholars absented themselves from the final examinations, which is by no means commendable.

EDMUND WORTH, JR., *Supt. School Committee, Ward 1.*

WARD II.

DISTRICT No. 12. The summer school, of twelve and one-half weeks, was kept by Mrs. E. D. Norris, under whose faithful labor and kind yet efficient discipline, the pupils made good progress in study and correct deportment.

The winter school, of nine weeks, came to an abrupt termination without an examination at the close. For some reason, the school was not what it should be. The teacher, Mr. W. Irving Pond, failed to secure the confidence and co-operation of his scholars generally; disorder was the result, and difficulties arose which defeated the object of the school. If it shall in future correspond to the good character it has at times sustained, it must be by the united effort of all who are responsible for its prosperity.

DISTRICT No. 13. The summer school, taught by Miss M. G. Burleigh, contained thirty-seven scholars under fourteen years of age. It could not be expected that so many small children would make a still school in a poor school-house. The tact, strength and patience of the instructress were tested. The school made considerable improvement.

The winter term was kept by Mr. Charles Smith, under circumstances which entirely precluded all hope of success. The school-house had been made better by alterations and repairs, but disunion and discord in the district prevented an united effort to make the school profitable. It is hoped that a different spirit will prevail among the inhabitants of the district, and among the large scholars in time to come.

DISTRICT No. 14. Both the summer and winter terms were kept by Miss Clara F. Potter. The summer school, in the *old* house, was pleasant and profitable; the winter school, in the *new* house, was what it ought to be. Nothing but order, and kindness, and right progress, was found there. The former high character of the school was fully sustained. The course of things in this district proves that a good school costs less time and money than a poor one.

DISTRICT No. 15. * The summer term closed without examination. Notice of the close was not given. The instructress, Miss R. M. Allen reports good order, and a ready compliance with the rules of the school, and good progress in study.

The winter term, taught by Miss M. E. L. Potter, was preceded by a select school in the autumn. A great change has been effected in this school since the school-house was made convenient and comfortable. This was the first impulse to good progress. The co-operation of parents with good teachers has brought the school at length to rank among the best in the city. The examination of Miss Potter's school at the close was very satisfactory to all concerned. Thorough instruction resulted in good attainments. It was pleasing to witness the reciprocal kindness of the instructress and her pupils.

DISTRICT No. 19. Summer school. This school has the advantage of an ample, well-ventilated, and convenient school-house, and can be made comfortable either in a very hot or cold day. Miss Mary E. Emery taught the school, in which there was good progress in study on the part of the scholars generally. There was not throughout all that kindly feeling which makes a school pleasant both to the teacher and the pupils. Prejudice and a want of mutual accommodation were manifest in the progress of the school; consequently, some of the more important objects of the common school were not secured.

The winter school, of fifty-three scholars, was kept by Mr. Wm. H. Smart. The register shows a good attendance, and punctuality. The "task of the teacher was made pleasant and comparatively easy," by the co-operation of parents and others in the district. The school progressed and closed with quietness, and a general feeling of satisfaction. The closing examination witnessed the diligence of the instructor and his pupils. Mr. S. says in his report—

“I am happy to remark, that I have found in this district the greatest degree of interest manifested by the parents of the youth and children committed to my care.”

This interest is needed in an effort to suppress the use of profane and vulgar language by those who attend school. Parents and guardians can abate this evil.

DISTRICT No 21. Miss L. M. Mason taught both the summer and winter schools. The summer school so far satisfied all concerned that the same teacher was employed to keep the winter school. She was well qualified to instruct, and faithful in her work. But the winter school was of little use because of the interference of some parents, and the neglect of some scholars to comply with the regulations of the school. Better counsels are needed among the citizens of this district in order to have a good school. The school closed abruptly without examination; no notice was given of its close.

DISTRICT No. 22. This school was taught in the summer by Miss Martha J. Richardson. The school appeared well at the closing examination. The register shows a good attendance and good deportment. Good order was secured by mild means. This school district has a poor school-house, a scattered population, and a small amount of school-money. For these reasons, the inhabitants should take more interest in their school. No winter school has been kept, the past winter, in this district.

HENRY A. KENDALL, *Supt. School Committee, Ward 2.*

WARD III.

DISTRICT No. 4. Summer term, Miss Alma J. Teacher, teacher. In this school, good improvement was made. Although the teacher entered the school without experience, good order and a commendable interest were evidently maintained through the term, by her diligence and perseverance. The attendance and moral deportment of the scholars are favorably reported in the teacher's remarks.

The winter school, taught by Mr. Cyrus Runnels, was neither profitable nor useful. Prejudice, at the commencement of the term, against the teacher, rather than his qualifications, proved disastrous to the school. Had the teacher been unanimously sustained by the parents, and assisted in the government of the school by the larger

scholars, as he had a right to expect, the result would have been more creditable to the district. This school has generally sustained a good reputation, and it is hoped that those interested will unite in their efforts to restore and maintain its former character, and thus secure to their children the advantages of a good school.

DISTRICT No. 5. In this small school, the teacher, Miss Eliza Ránd, manifested much zeal and perseverance in this new field of her experience, creditable to the profession, and worthy to be imitated. The order was very good, and the improvement in the several branches taught, worthy of note.

Sarah P. Carter was the teacher in the winter term. Nothing seemed to be wrong or out of place in this school. Miss Carter has the faculty of securing obedience and a cheerful compliance with her wishes by persuasive measures, and justly merits the reputation of a successful teacher.

SIMEON ABBOTT, *Supt. School Committee, Ward 3.*

WARD IV.

DISTRICT No. 6. The summer term was taught by Miss Louisa C. Weeks, an experienced and able teacher. She gave good satisfaction, and the school made good progress.

The winter term was under the tuition of Mr. J. B. Lake, who kept a good school, until, by reason of the prevalence of the whooping-cough, a large part of the scholars were kept out; and at the end of nine weeks the school closed.

DISTRICT No. 11. The primary department was taught through the year by Miss Lucia Chandler, who has succeeded admirably in preserving order, and winning the love of the children. The school has made good proficiency, and will compare favorably with the best of this class of schools.

The middle department was taught during the summer and fall terms by Miss L. C. Tucker, who fully sustained her former reputation. The school was a good one, and gave good satisfaction to all concerned.

The winter term was taught by Miss Sophronia Billings, who has succeeded well. Miss B. is a young teacher of considerable promise, and should be encouraged to make a permanent business of school teaching.

The highest department was taught during the summer and fall by Miss Sarah W. Stanton, a teacher of established reputation. She well and faithfully discharged her duty, and with very considerable success.

The winter term was under the tuition of Mr. S. P. Jennison, well known in our city as a thorough and experienced teacher. Mr. J. very justly complains that, from the commencement of the term, there was, with a large part of the scholars, but a very irregular attendance, and toward the close of the term, the matter was made worse by a fear of the small-pox. The progress of the school was much retarded; and the parents of this district should bear in mind that, without a regular attendance and convenient school-rooms, experienced teachers cannot make good scholars.

ELEAZER SMITH, *Supt. School Committee, Ward 4.*

WARD VI.

DISTRICT No. 6. In preparing the report of schools in this district, the Committee would commence by saying, that they shall give as correct a statement of the character of these schools as possible, nothing withholding where praise is due, nothing adding where merit is wanting.

There have been kept five schools in this district during the past year—one high, two intermediate, and two primary schools, divided into two terms, summer and winter.

The summer term of the high school was kept by Miss Josephine Pickering. During this time the *order* of the school has been excellent. Order is what we first look for when we enter a school-room. A school well disciplined is generally a school well instructed, and a school well disciplined and well instructed is generally a school which makes encouraging progress. In our visits to this teacher's department, we have inferred that, in our higher class of schools, order is not necessarily confined to male teachers, but that among female teachers may be found some of our most effective disciplinarians.

The *reading* was unusually good. It was marked by fullness of intonation, distinctness of enunciation, and animation of manner. Commendable proficiency has been made by all the classes in *grammar*; the parsing of the first class was especially gratifying. Equal praise is due to the department in *arithmetic*. Here the scholars not only recited correctly and expeditiously, but applied

rules understandingly. The recitations at the black-board evinced a clear perception of what should be done, and of the best method of doing it. In other studies, commendable progress was made. The examination at the close of the term deserves special commendation. For propriety of deportment, and readiness of recitation in all the branches of study, we have not seen the occasion surpassed; in the dramatic representation, however, some of the pieces might have been dispensed with. For the teacher, who to our regret, has left this district, we have no words of extravagant praise. Her best recommendation is to be found in the marked improvement of the school which has, during the past months, been favored with her services.

The winter term of this school, kept by Mr. William K. Rowell, retained, in a commendable degree, the reputation of its previous session. In its order, there was room for improvement. As order is of so much importance in the school-room, teachers should study *how* to preserve it; when order is attained, the point of serious difficulty is passed, and from that point both teachers and scholars may go on unto perfection.

In marking the several recitations of this term, we would say, that the reading was good — rather defective, however, in the low intonation of voice, a defect observable in other schools, and one which every teacher should strive to remedy. The recitations in arithmetic, grammar, and geography, were uncommonly good. The recitations in all the studies have been very creditable. Mr. Rowell has been very much beloved by his scholars.

In passing to the intermediate school, kept by Miss H. E. Fry, the Committee are not overrating its merits when they say that its discipline was well-nigh perfect; whispering, so exceedingly annoying and injurious to a school, has been, for the last year, entirely banished. Its exercises in reading, spelling, geography, &c., have been of a highly creditable and interesting character. Of our intermediate schools, we regard this as one of the best. There is one feature in the conducting of this school which commends itself for, what we believe to be, its good moral effect—the custom of throwing the scholars upon their own truthfulness, in deciding the merit or demerit of some particular recitation. During the few weeks' absence of Miss Fry, the school, under the efficient teaching of Miss Susan Dunklee, made its accustomed progress.

The primary school, in this building, was ~~under~~ the supervision of Miss Mary N. Blaisdell, at the commencement of the year, and under that of Miss A. C. West, during the remainder of the year. Considering the age of the scholars, this school has made very good progress. For such a large collection of children, the order has been more than ordinarily good. This class of schools is of more importance than some are wont to suppose, inasmuch as it is the porch into the great building — the *preparatory* course for higher orders of instruction. Here first habits are formed — good or bad; they ascend with the scholar into the higher departments, which they affect for good or evil, and are to the teachers a source of pleasure or pain. Hence, teachers in the primary schools should prepare their scholars to graduate for the intermediate schools with the highest possible honors. As, in the primary school, education *commences*, it is of special importance that *here* the twig should be inclined in the right direction.

The summer term of the intermediate school, in the North school house, was kept by its former efficient teacher, Miss S. L. Pickering. This school, under her closing supervision in teaching, sustained its previous excellent reputation. Its order was good, and recitations in all branches worthy of praise. It was with sincere regret that the Committee were no longer able to retain Miss Pickering in this department of instruction.

For the winter term, the Prudential Committee were so fortunate as to obtain Miss P. J. A. Pitman. The discipline of this school has been judicious and decided, and the order resulting therefrom has been admirable. There was a quiet movement among all the scholars in taking their stand upon the floor, their place at the blackboard, and their going and returning from recess, which most favorably impressed us. All the recitations of this school were listened to with much interest by the Committee. Several examples in arithmetic, proposed by them, were readily and correctly performed. Some specimens of map-drawing, with chalk, upon the black-board, were finely executed. The whole appearance of this school evinced what may be done when both teacher and scholars are intent on excelling.

As we have spoken in terms so justly commendatory of this school, so may we as justly and as highly speak of the primary school in the adjoining department, kept by Miss M. J. Corning. In all of the branches taught, this school has made excellent

progress. Restless as children of this age generally are, yet the order observed among them was far superior to what we have sometimes seen in schools much more advanced. We think that Miss C., who has so long and so successfully taught this school, should at once be promoted to an intermediate school, when a proper opportunity presents itself.

In closing this part of the report, the Committee would acknowledge the essential aid which has been afforded them by Mr. C. K. West, of the Prudential Committee.

CHAS. W. FLANDERS, *Supt. School Committee, Ward 6.*

WARD VII.

Six School districts, together with three of the schools of District No. 9, whose condition will be reported by the Committee of Ward 6, are located within the boundaries of Ward 7.

DISTRICT No. 7. The summer school was taught by Miss Ann Fletcher. This was Miss Fletcher's first attempt at teaching, and it is but just to say that she discharged the duties of teacher creditably to herself and satisfactorily to the district.

The winter school was under the charge of Mr. Heber Chase, of Claremont. The teacher manifested much anxiety for the welfare of his scholars, and those who applied themselves to study made commendable progress.

DISTRICT No. 8. Miss Susan E. Dunklee taught the summer term. Few young, inexperienced teachers succeed better in government and instruction than did Miss Dunklee.

The winter school was taught by Miss Mary E. Rogers. Miss Rogers is an experienced and successful teacher, having acquired a reputation as such. In imparting instruction she was thorough—requiring the *why* and the *wherefore* of pupils. Her labors were crowned with success, giving entire satisfaction to Committee and parents.

DISTRICT No. 16. The summer and winter schools in this district were taught by Miss Mary Kimball. This school is small in point of numbers; but, in justice to Miss Kimball, it may be truly said that she succeeded far better than the Committee had reason to expect.

DISTRICT No. 17. The summer school was taught by Miss Annie B. Smith. This was Miss Smith's second season in this district, and in point of order, arrangement and instruction, she has few superiors.

The winter school was under the charge of Mr. Robert E. Hayward. His school, for order, industry and improvement, would rank above mediocrity.

DISTRICT No. 18. The summer term was taught by Miss Melvina Green. The teacher sustained the reputation of last year, in this district, giving general satisfaction to parents and Committee.

The winter school for the second season was taught by Mr. Wm. Lougee. In this school may be found scholars well advanced; and at the final examination, it was evident that Mr. Lougee had been thorough in his instruction, sparing no pains on his part to advance the improvement of his scholars.

DISTRICT No. 23. This is a district classed with Bow.

The summer school was taught by Miss Sarah A. Healey. The order and general appearance of the school was commendable, and it is believed that the method, and manner of instruction, was judicious.

The winter school was taught by Mr. Gilman W. Abbott. The school closed unexpectedly, and prior to the second visit by the Committee, and, therefore, we are unable to express an opinion as to the improvement of the school.

We are fully impressed with the belief that our smaller districts suffer great loss in the employment of inexperienced young men in their winter schools, in preference to well-qualified, experienced teachers of the other sex.

JOSIAH STEVENS, *Supt. School Committee Ward 7.*

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE DISTRICTS
UNDER THE SOMERSWORTH ACT.

The Superintending School Committee of District No. 20, in Concord, present the following Report of the Schools in said District, for the year ending March, 1855 :

Very few persons fully realize the difficult task of teachers, or the perplexities often experienced by Prudential and Superintending Committees in the discharge of their duties. One of the most fruitful sources of trouble in all our common schools is a lack in family government. When parents and guardians are prompt in the discharge of their duty in sustaining a proper discipline, one great source of difficulty will have been removed.

The Committee would congratulate the District in the general good condition and progress of the schools the past year. The exceptions are, the improper conduct of a few of the larger boys, in and out of school, tardiness and absences. The conduct, the language and the intercourse with other scholars on the part of a few, have been improper, vulgar and indecent ; and some measures should be adopted to effect a thorough change, and preserve the schools from all unnecessary demoralizing influences. The teachers complain—and the Registers show that they have just cause—of the tardiness of the scholars. From the known circumstances of very many of the scholars, it would seem they have no good excuse for so many marks of tardiness as are found set against their names. Whether it is their fault or their parents', or partly both, the committee are not prepared to say. The evil consequences to the scholars and to the school are many and serious—parents are not sensible of its magnitude. The Registers denote absences to be more frequent, than can possibly be supposed to be necessary.—Could these evils be arrested and the attendance be made punctual

and instant, teachers would be greatly relieved and the whole school very much benefitted. These are matters which deserve serious attention.

The Summer Term of the primary department was taught by Miss Myra C. McQuesten. The large number of little ones entrusted to her care, were kept in good order, and made good improvement. She complains of a neglect of parents—only five having visited the school during the term.

The higher school, Summer term, was taught Miss Florilla M. Morrill. The order was good, and the progress of the scholars was satisfactory, especially in reading; in which there were some fine specimens. Three of the scholars were neither tardy nor absent during the long term of four months; which shows what others might probably have done with a little effort.

The primary department of the Winter School was taught by Miss Florilla M. Morrill. Although the number of scholars was quite too large for one teacher, the order and proficiency were good. In their recitations, the scholars were prompt; they articulated distinctly, and with that power of voice which is so rarely exercised inside the school room.

The Winter term of the higher school, was taught by Mr. John A. Putney, whose instructions were thorough, and imparted in an easy and successful manner. The scholars made an evident improvement in their order and application in the school room, during the last part of the term. They exhibited an unusual promptness in all their recitations and illustrations on the blackboard and outline maps, during the closing examination. The classes in Arithmetic, Algebra and Grammar, could not only give answers to questions, but were able to give the reasons upon which their answers were based; indicating that they had been well drilled in the first principles. The same was true of reading, in which there were some fine examples.

The Committee consider the examination of the Summer and Winter Schools as being unusually good, alike creditable to the teachers and scholars. And, in their opinion the District are indebted to the Prudential Committee, Mr. Asa Morrill, who has devoted an unusual amount of time in behalf of the schools and in the care of the house, and whose labors have contributed to the welfare of each.

The Committee are of the opinion that the increasing number

of scholars requires an additional teacher; that from twenty to thirty of the youngest scholars should form a distinct department, by which the others, if properly arranged, might be greatly benefitted—and though the length of the terms would be a little shorter, yet their value would not be lessened, but materially increased. By a trifling expense, a convenient room might be furnished by uniting the two recitation rooms.

In closing this report, the Committee would express the hope that a deeper interest will be felt in this District in the cause of education. It is not enough to provide houses and pay money. Teachers must receive the co-operation and support of parents, and schools should be visited and looked after. The subject is one, in which every one is really interested, and let all be enlisted and come up to the work, and prove faithful in the work committed to our hands.

BOOKS USED.

The Bible, Town's Series of Reading Books, Town's Speller and Definer; Colburn's, Adams', and Greenleaf's Arithmetic; Weld's Grammar; Smith's Geography; Willard's History; Comstock's Philosophy; Davies' Algebra; Cutter's Physiology; Botany; Chemistry and Rhetoric.

EDMUND WORTH, Jr.,	} <i>Superintending School Committee of District No. 20.</i>
GEO. W. WADLEIGH,	
JOHN SAWYER,	
SAMPL. F. BROWN,	

The Superintending Committee for the 3d School District in Concord, under the "Somersworth Act," make the following Report, viz :

The Summer and Winter terms in the first division were taught by Miss Martha Farnum. Miss Farnum is a thorough systematic teacher, and good improvement was made in the several branches taught. Especially, the reading classes, in the Winter term, showed a marked improvement, also the several classes in spelling appeared well instructed in the rules, sounds and elements of the letters. In Arithmetic, several of the class went through Adams' Revised Edition, others were well advanced and the exercises, on the black-board, were creditable to the class. The classes in Geography and English Grammar were much interested in those studies. Whole number of scholars in Summer term, 43; average attendance, 34. Winter term, whole No., 53; average, 47.

The Summer term in the second division was taught by Miss Augusta M. Cooper. Order and arrangement were peculiar qualifications of the teacher; exact in every duty, commending the respect and attention of the scholars. The affections of her scholars were easily won by her mild and affable manner. Reading, Spelling, Arithmetic, Geography and English Grammar were zealously and successfully studied and rudimental instruction given in those branches. The committee were pleased with the appearance of the school at the examination and the improvement made. This will also apply to the school in the first division. The exercise in repeating moral sentiments, and the singing, we commend as having a salutary influence. No exercise is more enjoyed than good singing, and we think that teachers should better qualify themselves in this pleasing and useful art, which seems to exert so strong an influence over the minds and hearts of the young. Whole number of scholars, 41; average attendance, 34.

The Winter Term in the second division was taught by Miss H. Matilda Brooks. The teacher at the commencement of the term secured the confidence, co-operation and the hearts of those committed to her care. This is the great work to be done by the teacher—success is sure to follow. There was a harmonious feeling manifested by the teacher, scholars and parents throughout the entire term, which may be owing, perhaps, to the fact that the teacher visited every family in the division. In Reading, Spelling and other exercises, the scholars appeared to have advanced and made good improvement. Three of the class in Arithmetic, went through Adams' Revised Edition; five to Percentage, and all were well instructed in the rudiments and rules. The black-boards were constantly and usefully used not only by scholars in Arithmetic, but by those in English Grammar in forming sentences, which is a good exercise. The orderly conduct and moral deportment of the scholars were favorably reported by the teacher. This is also true of all our schools the past year. Whole number of scholars, 50; average attendance, 47.

IRA ROWELL, M. H. FARNUM, SIMEON ABBOTT, HENRY FARNUM, B. F. HOLDEN.	}	<i>Superintending School Committee of District No. 3.</i>
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WARD V. DISTRICT No. 10.

The Superintending School Committee of District No. 10 submit the following report of the schools in said District for the year ending March, 1855 :

There are five Primary and three Intermediate schools — one Grammar and one High school — ten in all — in this district.

Primary Schools. Two of these schools are kept in the school-house in Spring street, and two in that in Union street. The other Primary school is in the brick school-house, in which the High, Grammar and Intermediate schools are also kept.

One of the schools in Spring street was taught by Miss Lucretia F. Shute. This was decidedly a good school. Miss Shute possesses aptness for teaching, and succeeds in securing the love of her pupils. The district could not well dispense with Miss Shute's services.

The other school, in the Spring street school-house, was kept, the first two terms, by Miss Martha A. Stickney, and the last term by Miss Myra T. Elliott.

Miss Stickney was inexperienced in school keeping when she entered upon the discharge of her duties, but it soon became evident that she possessed the elements of a good teacher. Her pupils made satisfactory improvement.

Miss Elliott ranks among the best of our primary school teachers. Her scholars manifested a deep interest in their studies, and in all the exercises of the school. The government of the school was excellent.

One of the schools in Union street was instructed the first two terms by Miss Sophronia S. Billings. The charge of this school is not a very desirable office, except, as there is more to be done than in some others, it furnishes a wider field for doing good. Miss Billings had considerable success in her patient efforts to improve her pupils.

Miss Sarah S. Davis taught this school the last term. In the earlier part of the term, the prospects of the school were dark and discouraging, but Miss Davis succeeded, before the close, in improving the state of affairs. It was sufficiently evident to the Committee, at the examination, that the labors of the teacher were rewarded with some progress by the very backward pupils.

The other school in this building was in charge of Miss A. K. Straw, who is an excellent teacher, capable of interesting her scholars and exciting in them a love of study; consequently, this school has made very decided improvement during the past year.

Miss H. Adelade Munroe has had charge of the Primary school in the brick school-house. It seemed doubtful at first what would be the issue of Miss Munroe's labors, but her inherent energy succeeded at last in educing order out of chaos, and in making her school tolerably quiet and interesting. The multitude of little ones made all the improvement that could reasonably be expected, and Miss Munroe has earned for herself the reputation of an efficient and promising teacher.

Intermediate Schools. Miss Mary J. Wilson has been employed as the teacher in one of the Intermediate schools. She was unsparing in her efforts to promote the welfare of her pupils, and the Committee were pleased to observe evidences of improvement in her school. Some of the classes in reading and arithmetic furnished indications of faithful and successful instruction. Good order was maintained.

Miss Eliza Grover taught an Intermediate school two terms. Miss Grover is an active and efficient teacher — very prompt and decided in enforcing the laws of the school-room. The school made commendable improvement under her tuition. Miss Grover having resigned, Miss Susan K. Moulton was appointed to succeed her. Miss Moulton is emphatically an educator. She teaches her pupils to think. The Committee were highly gratified with the abundant evidence, furnished in her school, that the work of education was really going on, that the minds of the children were actually in process of training. The exercises in reading and arithmetic were highly satisfactory; indeed, everything connected with the school indicated the presence of an accurate and thorough teacher.

The other Intermediate school was, for two terms and a half, under the instruction of Miss A. M. French, who is a lady having many excellent qualifications for teaching. To say that her pupils all love her is high praise. Her government is mild, but firm enough to secure good order. This school is particularly distinguished for correct spelling. Miss French has been a faithful teacher in the district, and the Committee deeply sympathise with

her in that, in consequence of severe illness, she is debarred from exercising her favorite vocation, and they ardently hope that she may be speedily restored, by Divine goodness, to her former health and usefulness. Miss Elizabeth S. Goodwin taught this school the last six weeks of the concluding term. Though the period of her teaching was limited, yet Miss Goodwin sufficiently demonstrated that she possesses the elements of an efficient and successful educator.

Grammar School. Miss Sarah S. Sanborn presided over this school the two first terms, with all the efficiency and success which have hitherto distinguished her efforts as a teacher. Miss Sanborn is thoroughly educated for her vocation, and possesses also those peculiar natural qualifications, that prepare one to govern a school successfully. Under her instruction, the children of the Grammar school advanced, not rapidly, as they never do under a good teacher, but thoroughly and permanently. The recitations of her classes in grammar, arithmetic and reading, were highly satisfactory. Much to the regret of the Committee, Miss Sanborn resigned at the close of the second term. They were, however, so fortunate as to secure the services of Miss Josephine Pickering, a lady who had already earned a high reputation as a teacher. The perfect order and system, which had characterized Miss Pickering's efforts in other schools, were fully manifested in our Grammar school. In our view, Miss Pickering cannot be excelled as a disciplinarian. It seems almost a magical power that produces the wonderful results that were apparent in the discipline and order of her school.

The Grammar school has enjoyed, during the past year, high privileges, and the several examinations evinced that the more part of the pupils rightfully improved them. The department of the children in this school has generally been such as to merit the highest approbation of the Committee.

High School. Mr. William W. Bailey was the teacher of this school the first two terms. Mr. Bailey is a conscientious and laborious teacher, sparing no pains to promote the best interests of his pupils, and to discharge all his duties faithfully. But owing to a condition of the school, for which Mr. Bailey was in no ways responsible, it was not in so prosperous a state under his administration as was desirable. Mr. Bailey resigned, unexpectedly to the Committee, at the close of the second term. Mr. N. F.

Carter was elected to succeed him. Of Mr. Carter's qualifications as a teacher the Committee are prepared to speak in the highest terms. He is a thorough and accurate scholar, having clear and definite ideas of whatever he attempts to communicate; and, being well trained in all the elements of knowledge, he has a perfect command of his resources, so that, in giving instruction, he is never confused or bungling. The High school has enjoyed a great privilege in having Mr. Carter for an instructor during the last term. At the final examination, several of the classes appeared remarkably well. The Committee were pleased to observe evidence of thorough elemental instruction. The classes in French, Latin, Greek, arithmetic and algebra, would do credit to any school. There were, also, several translations and compositions read of a high order. The essays read by the class in Ancient history are worthy of the highest commendation. Most of the articles in the young ladies' paper evinced a good taste and a happy talent for composition.

Mr. Carter was assisted, during the last nine weeks of the term, by Miss Louisa C. Weeks, of whose labors the Committee are happy to speak in terms of high commendation. They regret that the limited time, at the final examination, excluded so many of her classes which would have abundantly testified to the ability and faithfulness of their teacher.

It is to be regretted that all the scholars in the High school did not appreciate and improve their privileges. This school contains many well-behaved and studious scholars, whose respectful deportment and ready obedience are worthy of all commendation. But it also contains a few scholars as bad as ever disgraced any school, who, by petty annoyances, open defiance of authority, insulting and profane language addressed to their teachers, and mean and contemptible falsehoods, have affixed a stigma to their own characters, which it will require a long course of virtuous conduct to wipe off. It would be no more than justice to make a public record of the names of these boys in this report, but, for the sake of their friends, we refrain — though it must be confessed that, in some instances, the names of the parents might very properly appear by the side of those of their ill-behaved children. The Committee have the pleasure to report that, in two instances at least, the use of the rod verified the wisdom of Solomon respecting the reformatory virtue of that renowned instrument of correction; and they have no doubt that, if it had been vigorously and perseveringly

applied in other cases, the like happy results would have been obtained.

Upon the whole, our schools, during the past year, have been successfully conducted, The teachers, as a class, possessed more than the average qualifications, and, generally, faithfully discharged their responsible duties. The pupils, with the exceptions that have been referred to, have, for the most part, been obedient and studious. The great evil of irregularity in attendance, the remedy of which lies wholly with parents, has seriously affected the schools during the past year, exerting its discouraging influence upon the teachers, and interrupting the pupils in their studies.

Our schools ought to be better furnished with school apparatus. Globes, especially, are required in all the schools where geography is taught. A child can obtain no adequate conception of the form of the earth, or of the geographical circles, without the aid of a globe. And why should we pay teachers to instruct in geography and withhold from them the means of rendering their instructions useful and effectual? Every school should also be furnished with a dictionary. The barbarity with which the English language is treated, both as it regards spelling and pronunciation, is a disgrace to the age. In the school room, the dictionary ought to stand next to the Bible in estimation, and teachers and pupils ought to be required to refer to it continually; and, perhaps, it might advance the interests of education if the Superintending Committee were occasionally to consult its pages.

Some of our teachers are deficient in a knowledge of the school regulations established by the district which has, in some instances, led to an unconscious violation of them. Our teachers should be required thoroughly to study these regulations before entering upon the discharge of their duties.

We have received but in a few instances that gratuitous assistance in managing the schools, which is sometimes so freely and generously proffered, both to school committees and teachers, from which we infer that the peculiar wisdom which such unselfish assistance implies does not abound in our district. We should have been glad, however, of more assistance from parents in the position of co-workers with us and the teachers in advancing the best interests of the schools.

It is very desirable that our schools should attain a higher standard of excellence. Though, in many respects, we have done

very well, still, upon the whole, we are behind the times. The subject of popular education is one of immense importance. Our free school system, in its general features, is admirably adapted to secure its purposes, but its capabilities ought to be better understood by the mass of our people. It ought to be clearly seen how completely it puts the power into the hands of all our people to secure the best possible education for their children. It ought to be understood that the rich and the poor, the childless and those who have families of children, all have one interest, and a deep interest, in raising the standard of popular education as high as possible. If this were the case, the suicidal policy of crippling our schools, by withdrawing the necessary funds, would be laid aside; at least, we should never witness the strange spectacle of a man of moderate means, and having a large family, voting against raising school money, at the suggestion of some childless, wealthy man, who has not wisdom enough to discover that the advancement of the public schools in his neighborhood advances the value of his property, and the comfort and security of his life.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES W. FLANDERS,	} <i>Superintending School Committee of District No. 10.</i>
NEWTON E. MARBLE,	
PALTIAH BROWN,	
RUFUS CLEMENT,	

BOOKS USED.

Reading — Tower's Series and N. A. Reader. Spelling — N. A. Spelling Book. Arithmetic — Davies', Holbrook's Primary, Adam's Revised and Emerson's Second Part. Geography — Mitchel's. Grammar — Weld's. Also, Crosby's Greek Grammar, Andrew's and Stoddard's Latin Grammar, Cooper's Virgil, Folsom's Cicero, Jewett's Ollendorff, LeBrun's Telemaque, Davies' Algebra, Cutter's Physiology and Johnston's Philosophy.

