

HAMPTON REPORTS
OF
SELECTMEN,
OF
TREASURER,
AND OF
Superintending School Committee,
FOR THE
Year ending March 1, 1879,
AND
STATEMENT OF TOWN DEBT.

EXETER, N. H. :
GAZETTE STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
1879.

TOWN OFFICERS--1878.

Moderator,

SEWEL W. DOW.

Town Clerk,

JOHN M. AKERMAN.

Representative,

JOHN H. FOGG.

Selectmen and Assessors,

JACOB T. BROWN,

CHRISTOPHER G. TOPPAN,

HENRY J. PERKINS.

Treasurer,

JACOB T. BROWN.

Overseers of Poor,

CHRISTOPHER G. TOPPAN,

HENRY J. PERKINS.

Supt. School Committee,

LUCY E. DOW.

Collector of Taxes,

WILLIAM G. COLE.

Janitor,

IRA E. LANE.

Auditors,

URI LAMPREY,

MORRIS HOBBS,

JOSEPH JOHNSON.

Introductory and Valedictory.

Fellow Citizens and Voters :

With this Report please accept the grateful acknowledgements of the Chairman of Selectmen for the many favors he has received at your hands. Be assured your kindness is remembered and appreciated. In reviewing my official work, while I have to lament many mistakes and short-comings, I am cheered with the reflection that it has been my purpose to perform the duties of the office faithfully and well. Having served on the Board of Selectmen "lo, these many years," my *thirst for the office* is fully satisfied, and my relish for the *honor* all gone. I now "step down and out." Trusting that an efficient and faithful man will fill the vacant office,

I am, Yours most Respectfully,

JACOB T. BROWN.

REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

INVOICE APRIL 1, 1878.

Residents' Invoice and polls	\$605,066 00	
Non-Residents' Invoice	62,190 00	
	<hr/>	
Total invoice, April 1, 1878,		\$667,256 00

TAXES.

State Tax	\$1480 00	
County Tax	2025 72	
Town Tax	1500 00	
School Tax	1295 00	
Percentage added	238 16	
Dog Tax	51 00	
	<hr/>	
Total Money Taxes		\$6589 88
Resident Highway Taxes	\$1388 15	
Non-Resident "	140 92	
	<hr/>	
Total Highway Taxes		\$1529 07
Money Taxes	\$6589 88	
Highway Taxes	1529 07	
	<hr/>	
Total Taxes on Collector's book Of said Taxes the Collector has paid the Treasurer	\$6489 44	\$8118 95
The Selectmen have discharged the Highway Taxes paid in labor	1449 81	
Leaving balance due by Collector	179 70	
	<hr/>	
		\$8118 95
Money tax, .98 on \$100.	Highway tax, .23 on \$100.	

The Selectmen have widened, straightened and laid out roads as follows :

The "Towle Road" on petition of Aiken		
S. Coffin and others, damages	\$393	50
The "Watson Lane" petition of Moses		
Towle and others, damages	42	50
The "Little River" petition of N. S.		
Locke and others, damages	30	00

The Selectmen, agreeably to a vote of the town, have, as agents for the town, bought the Perkins tide mill at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars, and the property is deeded to the town by a warranty deed duly executed.

TOWN NOTES.

Date.	Payable to.	Amt.	Endorsed. Int. pd. to.	Rate of Int.
Aug. 22, 1876.	Abbie B. Rollins.	\$973 66	\$ 600 00	.05
" " "	Fabyan P. Drake.	569 76		.05
" " "	Wm. T. Lamprey.	2,582 16		.05
" " "	Jos. T. Sanborn,	622 00		.05
" " "	Baptist Society.	1,103 00	Feb. 22, 1879.	.05
" " "	Cong. Society.	2,492 00	Aug. 22, 1878.	.05
Feb. 28, 1879.	James Perkins.	400 00		.05
Accrued interest.		500 00 (nearly.)		
		<u>\$9,242 58</u>		
	(Less endorsement.)	600 00		

Town Debt, \$8,642 58

JACOB T. BROWN.	}	Selectmen of Hampton.
CHRISTOPHER G. TOPPAN,		
HENRY J. PERKINS,		

TREASURER'S REPORT IN DETAIL.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in treasury March 1, 1873		\$371 99
Outstanding taxes of 1877		474 49
Collector Cole on taxes of 1878		6489 44
Railroad tax of State	\$208 65	
Savings Bank tax of State	222 59	
Literary fund of State	76 59	
		<hr/>
Amount received from State		507 83
County for support of Eliza Green	52 00	
Sally Sanborn	52 00	
Mrs. Philpot	52 00	
Sam'l & B. Dearborn	87 50	
		<hr/>
Amount received from County		243 50
Income of Town Farm		73 42
Income of Town Hall		29 75
Samuel Meserve for Cemetery lot	16 00	
Joseph R. Sanborn	" 14 00	
Miss E. H. Towle	" 16 00	
Jesse Knowles	" 10 00	
		<hr/>
Amount received from sales		56 00
James Perkins on town's note		400 00
		<hr/>
Total receipts		\$8646 42

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid State tax		1480 00
County tax		2025 73
School District No. 1	425 00	
" No. 2	380 50	
" No. 3	171 50	
" No. 4	145 00	
" No. 5	169 25	
" No. 6	157 00	
For maps for the several districts	30 00	
		<hr/>
		1478 25
Cong. Society town note in full		126 25
Cong. Society interest on town note	124 61	
Baptist Society " "	55 15	
		<hr/>
		179 76
J. Marston, care of tramps	14 00	
Geo. W. Lane & Co. feed for tramps	2 50	
A. D. Brown goods to S. & B. Dear-		
horn	113 00	
D. O. Leavitt " "	39 31	
Ira E. Lane " "	5 00	
Mrs. Albert Godfrey labor "	2 00	
Ann Godfrey labor "	8 00	
Stacy W. Brown journey to Brentwood	3 00	
Christopher G. Toppan journey to		
Brentwood	3 00	
D. S. Brown, board of Sally Sanborn	52 00	
Simeon Shaw, board of Eliza Green	52 00	
Overseers of poor for Mrs. B.		
Philpot	52 00	
		<hr/>
		345 81

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Dorothy Ward, land and damages, in widening Towle road,	\$55 75
Moses Towle, do., widening Watson lane	22 50
J. Westerly Towle, do., widening Wat- son lane	20 00
J. T. Brown 2085 feet planks for turn- pike bridge at \$15 per M.	31 27
“ “ 568 feet for turnpike fence at \$12 per M.	6 81
“ “ 240 feet timber for posts for do., at \$10	2 40
“ “ 70 pounds nails and spikes at 3 cents	2 10
“ “ 128 feet plank new road bridge at \$18	2 30
“ “ 370 feet of lumber for sev- eral railings at \$16	5 92
“ “ 1625 feet timber for land- ing bridge at \$12	19 50
“ “ 930 feet plank for landing bridge at \$18	16 74
“ “ five days' labor on bridges and fence	8 75
Morris Hobbs one day on landing bridge	2 00
J. F. Marston labor on highway	4 00
John Brown, Jr., two and one-half days on landing bridge	3 75
R. T. Lamprey five and one-half days on north road	6 87
Stacy W. Brown bridge stone and labor	3 44
P. Yeaton & Co., 100 loads gravel	10 00
James Lane 100 “ “	10 00

Paid J. T. Brown 85	loads gravel	8 50
J. A. James 67	" "	6 70
Nath. Batchelder 146	" "	14 60
Heirs J. Elkins 117	" "	11 70
Elias H. Perkins 12	" "	1 20
Benj. H. Blake 8	" "	80
Daniel Weare 50	" "	5 00

\$282 60

CEMETERIES.

Paid S. Fogg 51 stone posts at 90 cts.,	\$45 90
J. T. Brown 920 feet 6x6 timber at \$16.	14 72
" 784 ft 1 1-4 inch lumber 16.	12 54
" 83 oak posts, 30 cts.	24 90
" 600 ft 2x4 rails planed, 20c.	12 00
" 920 pickets planed 2c.	18 40
T. S. Blake 16 1-2 days labor,	24 75
Geo. T. Blake 13 1-2 "	20 25
Jeremiah Locke 18 "	27 00
George E. Blake 4 1-2 "	6 75
E. P. Young, Smith bill,	21 47
Simon Brown labor,	3 00
George W. Lane & Co., paint &c.	11 09

\$242 77

SALARIES.

Paid John M. Akerman Town Clerk,	30 00
Jacob T. Brown, Treasurer,	25 00
Jacob T. Brown Selectman,	65 00
Christopher G. Toppan Selectman,	45 00
Henry J. Perkins Selectman,	45 00

Paid Lucy E. Dow, Supt. School com.,	25 00	
Christopher G. Toppan Overseer of poor,	5 00	
Henry J. Perkins Overseer of poor,	5 00	
Uri Lamprey police service,	12 00	
Ira E. Lane police service,	2 00	
Ira E. Lane Town farm agt.	6 00	
S. M. Lamprey ringing bell.	10 00	
William G. Cole Collector,	75 00	
		350 00

DISCOUNT ON TAXES.

Paid Collector Cole the discount on taxes		
paid Aug. 1, 1878,		179 45

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Paid Collector Cole several abatements of taxes		
of 1876 & 1877 amounting to	11 65	
Richard Taylor on marsh not owned,	56	
David Brown jr. overvalued in 1877,	3 00	
D. A. Philbrick error in School house tax,	3 04	
J. C. Marston errors in School house taxes,	15 04	
Heirs J. D. Neal, " " "	3 14	
Mary J. Dunbar, " " "	1 25	
Levi Marston, Marsh not owned,	1 21	
Lewis P. Nudd error in valuation,	2 42	
J. C. Dunbar, poll tax of 1877,	1 10	
S. P. Towle, stock lost in fire,	1 41	
R. F. Williams, 2 horses, 1 cow,	1 10	
R. A. De Lancey horses not owned,	1 86	
		46 78

BOUNTIES ON FOXES AND HAWKS.

Paid Albert L. Coffin, champion fox hunter, 1 fox, .50	
J. W. Blake, boss gunner 32 hawks	
G. E. Elkins second boss gunner 31 hawks,	
W. S. Batchelder 3. Geo. E. Blake 1	
John Blake 9, J. Parker Blake 5	
Nelson Blake 1, another Blake 1	
John Davis 1 C. B. Johnson 5	
E. E. Johnson 7, G. Lamprey 3	
H. M. Lamprey 9, I. Lamprey 6	
H. Lamprey 4, H. N. Mace 2	
Norris 2 M. P. Nudd 2	
P. Nudd 2, C. Page 1	
W. Palmer 6, J. Perkins 2	
M. Perkins 1, J. A. Philbrick 1	
J. H. Philbrick 8, J. Taylor 3	
S. Taylor 1, Somebody else 1	
C. G. Toppan 12 (second hand ones)	
Truesdale 3, S. A. Towle 1 (big one)	
166 hawks of all kinds—hen hawks, bird hawks, fish hawks, night hawks, some young and some owl(d)	33 20

 33 70

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid A. R. Hatch in case Dumas vs. Hampton, 104	78
Marston & Eastman writs in liquor cases,	6 00
Dr. W. T. Merrill record of births and deaths,	8 25
Dr. C. H. Sanborn record of births and deaths	75
Carl Nelson damage to team by insufficient bridge,	32 50

Paid Geo. E. Lane blank books &c.	14 56	
Printing reports of 1877,	25 00	
Auditors of accounts 1877,	6 00	
North Hampton tax,	75	
J. R. Sanborn's school tax 1877,	4 67	
Geo. F. Nudd labor on tramp house,	1 00	
J. W. Brown labor on Farm mansion,	2 00	
J. W. Dearborn " "	1 25	
Collector for blank book	1 00	
C. T. Brown expense to Concord to settle accts.	5 20	
Postage and expense,	2 23	
Ira E. Lane expense of town hall,	8 71	
Ira E. Lane expense of lower hall,	3 70	
S. P. Towle rent of land for tramps,	10 00	
G. N. Batchelder making snow paths,	7 68	
Geo. T. Blake " "	27 12	
J. W. Mace " "	28 00	
C. H. Coffin " "	28	
A. B. Towle " "	96	
C. G. Toppan plow broke on road,	75	
C. G. Toppan guide post,	75	
	<hr/>	303 89
Henry J. Perkins tide mill,		1500 00

REVIEW OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in Treasury March 1, 1878	371 99
Outstanding taxes of 1877	474 49
Collector Cole on taxes of 1878	6,489 44
Credits from State	507 83
Credits from County	243 50
Income of Town farm	73 42
Income of Town Hall	29 75
Sale of Cemetery lots	56 00
On Town's note	400 00

\$8,646 42

EXPENDITURES.

State tax	\$1480 00
County tax	2025 73
School money	1478 25
Town note	126 25
Interest on town note	179 76
Support of poor	345 81
Highways and bridges	282 60
Cemeteries	242 77
Salaries	350 00
Discount on taxes	179 45
Abatement of taxes	46 78
Bounties	33 70
Various and incidental	303 89
Tide Mill	1500 00
	<hr/>
	\$8574 99
Cash in Treasury	71 43
	<hr/>
	\$8646 42

Hampton, March 1, 1879.

JACOB T. BROWN, Treasurer.

Hampton, March 1, 1879.

We have this day examined the Accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer and find them correctly cast and well vouched.

URI LAMPREY,
MORRIS HOBBS,
JOSEPH JOHNSON, } Auditors.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

CITIZENS OF HAMPTON:—Your Superintendent of Schools respectfully submits the following report for the year ending March 1, 1879.

“He who aims at the sun,” it is said, “shoots higher than he who points his arrow at a lower mark.” We have aimed at perfection in our schools, and, while we own that we have fallen immeasurably below our mark, we yet claim that we have done better work, made higher progress, than if we had been content with a lower standard.

Believing that the interests of the schools would be advanced by concerted action, regarding them, not as isolated companies, having no connection with, nor interest in each other, but rather as so many detachments of one company, each helping the other towards the attainment of one common end, I called a meeting of the teachers before the opening of the schools in the spring, to consult together how best to secure individual progress and mutual helpfulness. The three principal results of this meeting were, a uniform system of marking for attendance, recitation and deportment; the organization of teachers' meetings held fortnightly, with readings and other exercises by the pupils, and the establishment of the Star Scholarship.

The teachers' meetings were kept up without interruption until the summer vacations, and were resumed on the reopening of the schools in September, but could not be carried far into the fall, because those schools which adhered to the old plan of having but two terms for the year, having continued in session through the hot months, closed early. Severe weather, short days, and a scattered population made it impracticable to hold meetings in the winter.

Every teachers' meeting was public for the first hour, picked scholars from the several schools taking part in the exercises, which were at first, competitive readings; afterwards, a comparison of methods in Geography and Grammar, and last, but not least in interest, a battle for the multiplication tables between our two Primary schools, when Marcia Garland for No. 1, and Frank Flanders for No. 2, stood their ground without flinching and came off the champions of their respective classes.

The new school Register provides for a daily record of attendance, deportment and scholarship, on the scale of 100, of each scholar, with an averaging of accounts monthly. According to the plan agreed upon at our first teachers' meeting, every scholar whose average for a month in each of these particulars should be 100, should be termed a Star Scholar for that month, and should be so mentioned in this report. Many of our scholars have striven hard for the honor of having their names in the "Town Book" as neither absent nor tardy for a term. We have this year given them an opportunity to strive for the added honor of being named as Star Scholars, not only punctual in attendance, but uniformly correct in deportment, and correct in every recitation.

A few scholars, besides those named below, have been reported to me as correct in all recitations, but, having, meanwhile failed in deportment or attendance, they cannot properly be included in the following list of

STAR SCHOLARS.

Ida P. Williams,	(7 months.)
Carrie A. Drake,	5 "
Annie S. Towle,	4 1-2 "
Hattie B. Kendall,	4 1-2 "
Herbert B. Marston,	3 "
Sadie E. Kendall,	2 "
Carrie A. Brown,	2 "
George H. Towle,	2 "
Orrin L. Lane,	2 "
Georgie Brown,	2 "
Anna M. Cole,	2 "
Etta M. Leavitt,	1 1-2 "
S. Freddie Towle,	1 "
Mary A. Blake,	1 "
Nellie D. Coffin,	1 "
Irving W. Marston,	1 "

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Prudential Committee.—Charles M. Lamprey, Daniel M. Redman, Joseph L. Leavitt.

Scholars not absent nor tardy during a term.—Ida E. Hawbolt, Alice G. Locke.

Miss Luella A. Dow has had charge of the Primary department through the year, and has succeeded in advancing the children in their studies, and in keeping them interested and happy.

The spring term of the Grammar school was taught by Miss Lucy E. Marston, of North Hampton, who brought to her work the tact and skill and gentle refinement which have always characterized her teaching among us. Another *engagement*, which has since culminated in marriage, prevented her returning to the school in the fall, and Miss Flora L. Haines of Manchester was employed. After teaching one term, she accepted a more permanent situation elsewhere, and was succeeded by Miss Lucy B.

Suter of Manchester, for the winter term. Both these teachers have secured good order, and exceptionally good recitations. Under their charge, those scholars who have attended constantly have made fine progress. I have listened to many recitations here during the year, and the thorough understanding of the lessons shown by the scholars has been a constant surprise and gratification. Whether the regular lesson for the day, or an unexpected review was called for, the result has been the same,—the scholars have answered clearly, distinctly and with self-reliance, not depending on the teacher for help step by step, sentence by sentence, through leading questions; but, a topic being once stated, the scholar has given understandingly all that the lesson contained on that topic.

This is the agreeable aspect; but there is another side. There has not been entire harmony in the district. Disaffection has sprung up in various quarters. Where the blame belongs, or whether it lies jointly in the parents, the teachers, the Prudential Committee and the Superintendent, I will not undertake to say. It is devoutly to be hoped that, whatever the cause of the evil, a remedy will speedily be found.

Aside from this general irritation, another cloud of trouble threatened at the beginning of the winter, growing out of a misunderstanding as to the requirements for promotion from the Primary room. The difficulty was settled without serious consequences, but, to prevent further misunderstanding, it may be well to state in full, the changes which I partly explained in last year's report.

By the old rule, any scholar, at eight years of age, might pass into the Grammar school without ceremony; but, in accordance with a vote of the district in 1877, the Prudential and Superintending Committees for that year regraded the school, making promotion depend entirely upon a satisfactory examination, by the Superintendent in reading in the Fourth Reader, spelling simple words in common use, writing one's own name and the

town and State, in the tables of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, and as far as the questions on Europe in the second grade of Geography now in use, (Cornell's,) or an equivalent.

Since these regulations went into effect, no promotions on any other terms have been allowed. It is not to be wondered at that parents, knowing only the old method of promotion, should think it unjust to exclude their twelve-year-old child from the Grammar school, and admit another child of seven. Precisely the same regulations prevail in the center district, with the added provision that, at twelve years, a scholar may be promoted without examination. It is for this district to determine whether a similar provision should be made here.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Prudential Committee.—A. D. Brown, Horace M. Lane, Horace Hobbs.

Scholars not absent nor tardy during a term.—Frederic A. Adgursion, Albert R. Brown, (year,) Charlie G. Brown, (year,) Edith M. Brown, Georgie Brown, (year,) John G. Brown, (2 terms,) Lillie Brown, Lottie A. H. Brown, (2 terms,) Willie E. Brown, (2 terms,) George A. Chase, (2 terms,) Hattie L. Cole, (2 terms,) Ernest G. Cole, Anna M. Cole, (year,) Sadie Dow, (2 terms,) Willie W. Dow, Carrie A. Drake, (2 terms,) Ervin S. Drake, Alice C. Hobbs, Hattie G. Hobbs, (2 terms,) Josie E. Hobbs, Sadie M. Hobbs, (2 terms,) Webster D. Hobbs, Josie F. Holmes, (2 terms,) Stella Holmes, (year,) Effie A. Laird, Howard G. Lane, (2 terms,) Ida M. Lane, (year,) Mamie A. Lane, Addie F. Merrill, (2 terms,) Annie M. Marston, (year,) Charlie R. Palmer, Frank A. Palmer, (2 terms,) Mamie J. Perkins, Lowell Rowe, Flora W. Shaw, Martha A. Shaw, (2 terms,) Eddie B. Towle, Nellie M. Towle, A. Blanche Williams, Grace R. Williams, (year,) Ida P. Williams, (year).

The Primary school has prospered under the care of Miss Mary E. Shaw for the spring and fall terms, and Miss Annie M. Dunbar for the winter. The children's affection for Miss Shaw, with appreciation of her two and a half years services, showed itself in the gift of a handsome writing-desk. Miss Dunbar has had but little experience in teaching, but has carried the winter school through successfully. A class of four has just passed the examination preparatory to promotion.

Miss Maria Perkins, whose well-known popularity as a teacher makes comment unnecessary, had charge of the Grammar department in the spring and fall, succeeded, in the winter, by Miss Flora E. Taylor, an excellent teacher fresh from her Normal School training. A marked improvement has been made in this district the past year in the matter of attendance. Teachers, scholars, and parents have seemed to join together in efforts to raise the standard. As a consequence, against eight reported last year as neither absent nor tardy for a term, we have now the pleasure of naming forty-one, nine of whom have not failed in prompt attendance for the whole year.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Prudential Committee.— Arthur B. Blake, John I. Page
Jeremiah L. Godfrey.

Scholars not absent nor tardy for a term,— Bennie A. Blake, Emma L. Blake, Mary A. Blake, Mary B. Blake, (year), Mary L. Blake, Ida L. Blake, Levi O. Blake, Sadie E. Blake, (except once tardy without blame), Milo W. Hook, George W. Lane, (year), Isa S. Lane, Annie L. Weare, Alice S. Weare, Josie Weare, Ernest W. Towle.

There have been here but two terms. Miss Clara E. Philbrick, the teacher for the first term, was entirely without experience, but soon showed that she possessed the elements of a

good teacher, and the classes moved steadily forward under her care.

Of the condition of the school during the winter it is sufficient to say that Mr. Horace M. Lane taught, his presence in a school-room being always a guaranty of success. The examination at the close of the term gave abundant proof of a well-spent winter, the skillful handling of problems in "Fractions" and "Interest" being especially noticeable.

Unless sickness prevails, this school always shows a remarkably clean Register, constant attendance being evidently considered, as it should be, one of the cardinal virtues in school life.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Prudential Committee, — William H. Kendall.

Scholars not absent nor tardy during a term, — Carrie A. Brown, (year), May Johnson, (except one day detained out of town by a storm), Hattie B. Kendall, Sadie E. Kendall, Orrin L. Lane, Irving W. Marston (year, except one day, sick), Annie S. Towle, George H. Towle.

It is a pity that such a bright, wide-awake school as this should not be better accommodated. I do not despair of yet seeing the two districts, 3 and 4 again united, as in years long past, with a centrally located house, and a carefully graded school; but, pending so desirable an event, let the present school-room be extended a few feet, an ample entry added, the narrow, uncomfortable desks replaced by modern ones, built with a view to comfort and health; let there be other needed appliances which would then be possible, chief among which, perhaps, is more blackboard surface, — then call in the scholars, with the teacher for the past year, Miss Laura A. Norris, at their head, and you would scarcely find a more attractive

school in the vicinity. There has been no routine work here. Newspapers, books, magazines, letters, all available sources of information have been made to yield treasures of knowledge while the regular text-books have been by no means neglected. Habits of observation, and a lively interest in the news of the day have been carefully cultivated, even the youngest partaking of the general enthusiasms.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

Prudential Committee, — Henry L. Dodge,

Spite of all adverse influences, a mere handful in number, a gloomy prison-like school-house, and, in the winter, long distances through drifted roads, the scholars in this district persistently refuse to be discouraged, but make the most of such advantages as they do possess, and accept the inevitable heroically. Under the competent instruction of Miss Annie M. Dunbar in the summer, and Mr. S. Albert Shaw in the winter, they have made gratifying progress. The attendance is not as regular as, in the summer at least, it should be.

▲ DISTRICT NO 6.

Prudential Committee, — Aiken S Coffin.

Scholars not absent nor tardy during a term, — Frank H. Coffin, Nellie D. Coffin, Annie J. Howard, Nellie D. Howard,

Miss Alice M. Lamprey, the teacher for the spring term, being obliged by failing health to resign her position, the school was placed in charge of Miss Clara E. Philbrick for the fall and winter terms. The additional year or more which she contemplates devoting to study, will, with her natural aptitude for the work, make of Miss Philbrick a superior teacher.

This school, like that in No. 5, is small — too small for advantage, and the district has wisely admitted a few scholars

from Hampton Falls, an arrangement which, we trust, has been a mutual benefit. We find here one of the cheeriest school-rooms in town, and a studious, orderly school.

The many friends of Miss Lamprey grieved that she did not regain her health. Slowly but surely she faded away, and about Christmas time she died. So passed from us one of our valued teachers. Thorough, quiet and gentle, yet dignified and of commanding presence, she had already taken an enviable position among our teachers, and we mourn her loss sincerely.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

	Number of District.	Number Weeks of School.	Whole Number Scholars.	Average Attendance.	Scholars not absent nor Tardy.	Visits by Superintendent.	Visits by Prudential Com.	Visits by other Citizens.	Wages of Teachers per Month.
Primary	1	10	32	26	0	5	1	8	\$16 00
	1	10	33	27	1	4	0	7	16 00
	1	10	23	15	0	5	2	1	16 00
Grammar	1	10	36	25	1	6	0	12	28 00
	1	10	21	14	0	4	4	19	30 00
Primary	1	12	41	22	0	6	4	4	30 00
	2	10	34	32	10	3	0	38	12 00
	2	5	36	34	14	2	1	8	14 00
Grammar	2	17	34	26	6	4	1	33	14 00
	2	10	30	28	17	4	0	29	21 00
	2	5	28	26	15	2	1	5	21 00
	2	16	33	29	11	4	0	30	24 00
	3	10	22	20	7	3	0	15	14 00
	3	14	28	24	9	3	3	20	38 00
	4	10	15	14	5	3	1	6	18 00
	4	17	18	14	3	3	0	19	22 00
	5	16	12	11	0	5	1	20	17 00
	5	16	7	6	0	2	1	3	20 90
	6	8	7	5	1	3	1	5	15 00
	6	8	9	7	1	2	1	10	15 00
	6	16	11	8	2	2	0	7	20 00

A few matters of general interest remain to be mentioned.

In several of our districts the school year has been divided into three terms with satisfactory results. So far as I can learn, the opinion has been quite general that it is a better plan than the two term system. In No. 2, however, the fall term was too short to obtain the highest advantage. I earnestly recommend that the other districts, so far as practicable, test the new method next year.

By joint order of the Selectmen and the Superintendent of Schools, a copy of Cline's Map of New Hampshire, the best map of our state ever published, has been purchased for each school-house. District No. 6 furnished its school, at the beginning of the year, with a set of Mitchell's Small Outline Maps, an investment which has been of great profit to the scholars. I would again urge the importance of saving from swift destruction the large maps in No. 2, by hanging them permanently in the Grammar school-room, and supplying the Primary room with a set like those in No. 6. Ten dollars will do it. Will not No. 1 also, appropriate that sum similarly for its Primary room, and receive it back many fold in the enlarged understanding and interest of the children?

In *Text Books* I have made no alteration. Although long since convinced that a change of Geographies was needed, I have not deemed it judicious to push the introduction of a new series so closely upon the changes made last year. The teachers, without exception, I think, are agreed that a better Geography, of two grades rather than three, and with much of the useless, burdensome matter of that now in use expunged should be substituted. Scholars have been advised to make nearly worn-out books answer if possible, rather than buy new, and so we have endeavored to prepare the way for an easy change next year. I think such a change could now be made with little or no opposition.

I would respectfully call the attention of Prudential Committees to Chapter III, Section 27, of the School Law, which makes

it their duty to notify the Superintendent of the commencement and close of the schools. My thanks are due to those Committees who have uniformly extended that courtesy to me.

There has been a general lowering of teachers' wages this year. With due deference to the opinions of others, I yet feel constrained to urge my own conviction that this is a mistake. Just so surely as wages are cut down below a reasonable compensation, so surely will the majority of our best teachers leave us for more remunerative situations elsewhere, and our schools will suffer proportionably.

Through the kindness of Superintendents, I have been enabled to compare our prices with those in some of the neighboring towns. The North Hampton Superintendent writes: "We are paying \$25, \$45, and \$60, to our teachers this year. Your prices seem very low, certainly, to command good teachers." From Hampton Falls I received the following: "Teachers' wages in our town are \$28 for summer, and \$30 for winter. One teacher we paid but \$25 for spring term, and for the other two terms \$28" This is the reply from Seabrook: "We employ seven teachers, of whom one receives \$26, one \$27, four \$30, one \$40, average 30 3-7." From Rye comes this word: "Teachers in this town during the summer were paid \$32, \$34, and in one instance, \$36 per month. In winter, wages here always range higher, and the lowest price now paid is not less than \$36, while the highest is \$50." And this from Stratham: "Teachers' wages here are \$46, \$46, \$42 and \$38 per month, including board, which ranges from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per week."

Can we afford to incur the stigma of falling so far behind as our Statistical Table denotes?

On this subject, Superintendent Eliot of the Boston schools says: "Teachers' salaries ought to be the very last expense to cut down. We can get on without vast buildings or materials; we can wait for better times to fill our libraries or our collections; we can part forever with drills, exhibitions and festivals, or with

all that is expensive about them ; but we must have men and women whom nature as well as training has made teachers ; we must have the heads and the hearts that are not found wherever we seek them ; we must have the personal force which is beyond all other forces, in earth as well as heaven. If everything else were sold that we might have these treasures, they would not cost too dear. Economy beginning with them is not economy, but wastefulness."

In this connection it will not, I trust, be deemed presumptuous, as I retire from office, to ask that the pay of the coming Superintendent be made, not merely nominal, but something like actual compensation ; and to bespeak for my successor that kindness and consideration which you have extended to me.

LUCY E. DOW,

Superintendent of Schools.