

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Selectmen, Treasurer, Auditors

AND

Superintending School Committee

OF THE

TOWN OF EPSOM,

FOR THE

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1880.

CONCORD, N. H.:

PRINTED BY THE DEMOCRATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

1880.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Remaining in hands of treasurer,	\$855 58
" Warren Tripp, collector 1875,	169 34
" G. C. Knowles, " 1876,	105 91
" G. C. Knowles, " 1877,	252 08
" Samuel Quimby, " 1878,	1,219 86
Amount committed to Samuel Quimby, for collection,	6,154 40
Received of State treasurer, insurance tax,	4 50
" railroad tax,	24 46
" savings bank tax,	533 40
" literary fund,	93 24
Received of county commissioners :	
Supplies for Persis E. Bennett,	164 48
" Sarah Mason,	142 50
" Osum Dowst,	48 15
" William C. Bennett,	83 65
" Rebecca Moody,	28 95
" Hiram G. Hartford,	41 95
" Josiah Howe,	7 50
" Betsy Ham,	2 25
The last bill was paid last year and received this year.	
Received of Silver & Robinson, half of town safe,	90 38
Received by note,	5,130 00
Received of Warren Tripp, interest on taxes of 1875,	12 34
" G. C. Knowles, " 1876,	15 55
" Samuel Quimby, " 1878,	37 99
" Samuel Quimby, " 1879	<u>7 31</u>
	\$15,225 77

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Mosler, Bahmann & Co., town safe,	\$180 75
William Yeaton, damage to field used as highway for the winter of 1878 and 1879,	6 00
C. C. Conner, damage to wagon near Lord's Mills,	7 00
N. M. Batchelder, damage to meat cart,	7 00
Gorham P. Rand, damage to team,	7 00
J. B. Tennant, paper and fixtures for room in town house,	1 95
J. H. Dolbeer, school house tax. Dist. No. 9,	400 00
Hiram A. Holmes, " 2,	50 00
Aaron Whittemore, counsel,	<u>1 00</u>
	\$660 70

SCHOOL ORDERS.

District No. 1, Joseph Lawrence,	\$209 55
" 2, Hiram A. Holmes,	136 23
" 3, John L. Brackett,	76 74
" 4, Horace Fowler,	184 00
" 5, James Yeaton,	80 00
" 6, Charles C. Sargent, (Union,)	59 00
" 7, Lucian Heath,	90 00
" 8, Blanchard Fowler,	58 00
" 9, Frank P. Ricker,	120 45
" 10, George W. Bartlett,	67 04
George S. Sanders, (Union,)	<u>45 83</u>
	\$1,126 84
Due District No. 4, \$7 60.	

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Paid George W. Ham, labor on roads and bridges,	\$24 75
Stillman E. Sherburne, labor on roads,	12 00
Alonzo Wallace, labor on roads,	8 00
Joseph B. Cass, " "	9 00
George H. Piper, " and bridges,	8 00
Welman S. Derby, labor on turnpike,	4 50

Paid Lucian Heath, labor on turnpike,	\$9 87
Albert L. Sanders, "	3 00
George S. Bixby, "	4 50
Walter Cofran, "	4 50
Elbridge Batchelder, "	8 25
William P. Babb, "	12 00
Amos P. Barton, "	13 50
B. B. Yeaton, "	11 75
Jacob E. Griffin, "	4 50
Cyrus O. Brown, "	18 75
T. F. Kelley, "	10 80
Warren Yeaton, "	32 67
David M. Philbrick, "	29 50
George Sanders, Jr, "	10 50
Benjamin Bickford, labor on Prescott bridge,	5 00
Daniel Yeaton, "	3 75
B. B. Yeaton, fixing bridge in District No. 10,	3 00
B. B. Yeaton, labor on road	14 25
B. B. Yeaton, for plow, powder and fuse,	2 75
B. B. Yeaton, for 550 feet bridge plank,	7 00
Morrill D. Bickford, 3600 feet bridge plank,	50 40
William Goss, 2413 feet bridge plank,	36 20
William Goss, 2 stringers and drawing the same,	15 00
William Goss, drawing one stringer and cap pieces,	2 55
William Goss, drawing plank and stringers on to bridge,	1 75
James C. Yeaton, 5 stringers, 2 cap pieces for Prescott bridge, and work on same,	20 50
Jacob E. Griffin, 923 feet bridge plank and 2 stringers,	12 54
Jacob E. Griffin, hauling plank and work on bridge,	2 75
George H. Burnham, labor on turnpike bridge,	1 50
Stephen B. Bartlett, "	1 50
George Sanders, jr., hewing timber and repair ing turnpike bridge,	5 50
David M. Philbrick, 3,744 feet bridge plank,	56 15

Paid Zachariah Leighton, 1,800 feet lumber for bridge,	\$16 00
" " labor on bridge	3 75
" " gravel to repair highwa	2 00
Cyrus O. Brown, oak and chestnut for bridge,	1 50
Benjamin Towle, labor on Prescott bridge,	1 50
David M. Philbrick, labor on north-east road,	7 25
Daniel Philbrick, labor on north-east road and turnpike,	7 50
T. F. Kelley, labor on north-east road,	2 25
" cutting bushes,	6 75
Warren Yeaton, work on road, Dist. No. 10,	9 50
Jacob E. Griffin, labor on road,	2 00
Josiah D. Langley, labor on road,	5 58
William P. Babb, labor on road, Dist. No. 9,	2 00
Silas G. Bickford, grade furnished to repair swamp road, New Rye,	3 00
John Chesley, labor on road,	12 00
" stringers for bridge delivered,	8 50
" labor on road,	9 25
Walter Chesley, labor on road drawing plank,	10 00
James L. Wells, labor on turnpike,	4 25
James W. Fowler, labor on turnpike bridge,	3 00
Robert C. Brown, labor on turnpike and north east road,	22 20
Cyrus O. Brown, 4 chestnut sleepers,	1 40
Horace Bickford, 300 feet bridge plank,	3 00
Warren E. Hilliard, labor on turnpike and north east road,	6 00
Benjamin Freeze, labor on road,	4 50
Joseph Marden, 2d, labor on turnpike,	1 61
Daniel C. Ayers, 15 fence posts,	<u>2 55</u>
	\$639 98

BREAKING ROADS.

Paid William T. Sanders,	\$2 00
George H. Rand,	2 75
Silas B. Paige,	1 00

Paid Henry F. Sanborn,	\$7 00
Charles Ames,	3 00
Benjamin B. Yeaton,	8 70
T. B. Robinson,	7 18
Joseph B. Cass,	12 00
Daniel Watson,	2 37
J. E. Griffin,	1 10
Joseph Lawrence,	6 50
James L. Wells, shoveling snow on Hill road,	5 00
Benjamin Yeaton, breaking roads in Dist. No. 10,	1 50
Robert C. Brown,	1 00

TOWN CHARGES.

Paid H. F. Sanborn and Samuel Martin, auditors in '79,	\$3 00
Dem. Pub. Co., printing town and school report,	30 00
Jeremiah Sanborn public watering place, 1878,	3 00
Stephen F. Brown, " " "	3 00
William Goss, " " "	3 00
Arthur C. Locke, " " "	3 00
Bounty on 13 foxes,	6 50
Bounty on 6 hawks,	1 20
H. S. Knowles, powder, fuse, lead, oil, &c.,	5 28
Jacob F. Robinson, recording births and deaths,	7 75
Cyrus O. Brown, making statistical school report to Supt. of Public Instruction,	2 00
D. Gilman Chesley, services as S. S. committee for the year 1878, and getting notices printed,	30 75
Gorham P. Rand, over taxed in 1875,	4 62
B. W. Sanborn & Co., receipt and order book, 4 check lists,	2 05
Joseph Lawrence, railing road near M. M. Steele's,	1 00
Jacob F. Robinson, stationery and postage,	1 15
George C. Knowles, services as collector in 1876,	75 00
Warren Tripp, services as collector in 1875,	80 00
A. H. French, M. D., 25 certificates of births and deaths,	6 25
Fannie V. Kelley, loss of horse in 1878,	48

Paid William H. Straw, over taxed on land,	\$	90
Andrew S. Evans, furnishing dinners for select men, supervisors, collectors, auditors, and their horses from March i, 1879, to March 1, 1880,		31 50
B. W. Sanborn & Co., invoice record book, journal for treasurer, blank books and stationery,		<u>16 45</u>
		\$317 88

EXTRA CHARGES.

Paid Copeland & Edgerly, plaintiffs' attorneys, cost of suit of Knight and Epsom,		\$ ¹ 44 90
Joshua G. Hall, attorney, two journevs from Dover to Epsom, services in trial of suit and expenses paid out,		125 00
T. J. Smith, attorney, services in trial of Knight and Epsom,		100 00
Sanborn & Clark, attorneys, services in trial of Knight and Epsom ; journey to Epsom, Dover, Berwick, Salmon Falls, and expenses, and term fee in same,		72 00
A. T. Pierce, Dover, board of witnesses, their horses, and a horse to Epsom,		83 75
N. Randall, carrying jury from Dover to Epsom,		25 00
C. O. Foss, engineering services on Prescott Hill, making plan and proving the same at Dover,		19 30
D. C. Wiggin, 18 dinners at Hawley House, Northwood,		9 00
L. G. Hill, M. D., witness as medical expert,		20 00
M. C. Lathrop, M. D., witness as medical expert,		20 00
Twenty-seven witnesses in Knight suit,		228 02
Geo. Sanders, jr., services in Knight suit,		<u>63 25</u>
		\$910 22

DAMAGE TO SHEEP BY DOGS.

Paid William Brackett,	\$16 00
J. E. Griffin,	8 00
George H. Rand,	6 00
William T. Sanders,	5 00
Moses W. Perkins,	4 00
Benj. Towle,	3 00
F. P. Pinney, turkeys killed by dogs,	<u>3 00</u>
	\$45.00

POOR ORDERS.

Paid Henry O. Cass, for board of J. S. Cass, at Asylum,	\$120 19
Andrew P. Mason, for board of P. E. Bennett, from June 12, 1879, until Feb. 5, 1880,	102 00
Mrs. W. C. Bennett, work done for P. E. Bennett,	2 96
Silver & Robinson, goods delivered to P. E. Bennett, from Feb. 12, 1879, until June 12, 1879,	49 52
A. H. French, M.D., medical charges for P. E. Bennett,	3 50
George Sanders, jr., moving P. E. Bennett, to Chichester,	1 50
Robert E. Brown, one cord wood delivered P. E. Bennett,	4 00
Silver & Robinson, goods delivered to Sarah Mason,	140 00
Alfred P. Bickford, wood delivered Sarah Mason,	2 50
Silver & Robinson, goods delivered W. C. Bennett,	78 00
A. H. French, M. D., medical charges for W. C. Bennett	5 65
Abby J. Haynes, board of Eliza A. Cotton, fifty-two weeks,	78 00
J. B. Tennant, goods delivered H. G. Hartford's family,	10 50

Paid A. H. French, M. D., medical charges for H. G. Hartford's family,	\$22 45
Sarah E. Prescott, work done for H. G. Hartford's family,	6 00
Mary K. Davis, work done for H. G. Hartford's family,	3 00
J. C. Hall & Son, goods delivered Osum Dowst,	23 20
A. H. French, M. D., medical charges for Osum Dowst's family,	22 95
Sarah J. McCartney, nursing Mrs. Osum Dowst,	2 00
A. H. French, M. D., medical charges for Rebecca Moody,	28 95
A. H. French, M. D., medical charges for Josiah Howe,	7 50
John S. Hoyt, board of Betsey C. Goss,	104 00
	\$81837

RECEIVED OF	COUNTY FOR PAUPERS.
Persis E. Bennett,	\$164 48
Sarah Mason,	142 50
William C. Bennett,	83 65
Osum Dowst,	48 15
Hiram G. Hartford,	41 95
Rebecca Moody,	28 95
Josiah Howe,	7 50
Betsey Ham,	<u>2 25</u>
	\$519 43

The last bill was paid last year and received this year.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Cyrus O. Brown, services as S. S. committee,	\$30 00
Jacob F. Robinson, " town clerk,	15 00
James B. Tennant, " supervisor,	3 50
Morrill D. Bickford, " "	5 25
D. Gilman Chesley, " treasurer,	25 00

Paid James W. Fowler, services as selectman,	\$46 12
Robert C. Brown, " "	46 75
George Sanders, jr., " "	76 25
James M. Burnham, supervisor, March, 1879,	<u>1 75</u>
	\$249 62

RECAPITULATION.

Paid State tax, \$832 00	
County tax,	1,108 34
School orders,	1,126 84
Highways and bridges,	639 98
Breaking roads,	61 10
Incidental expenses,	660 70
Town charges,	317 88
Extra charges,	910 22
Sheep bills,	45 00
Poor orders,	818 37
Town officers,	249 62
Notes and interest,	6,833 43
Abatement of taxes,	150 79
Non-resident highway worked out,	26 76
Remaining in hands of G. C. Knowles, collector 1877,	156 42
" Samuel Quimby, collector 1878,	88 01
" Samuel Quimby, collector 1879,	<u>701 68</u>
	\$14,727 14

GEORGE SANDERS, JR.,) *Selectmen*
 ROBERT C. BROWN,) *of*
 JAMES W. FOWLER,) *Epsom.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Received of—	
George Sanders, jr., treasurer for 1878,	\$855 58
Samuel Quimby, collector,	6,507 31
" as interest on taxes of 1878,	37 99
1879,	7 31
George C. Knowles, collector for 1876 and 1877,	201 57
" as interest on taxes of 1877,	45 00
1876,	15 55
Warren Tripp, collector for 1875,	169 34
" as interest on taxes of 1875,	13 34
Selectmen, money hired,	5,130 00
County, for board of paupers,	519 43
State treasurer, savings bank .tax,	533 40
" insurance tax,	4 50
" railroad tax,	24 46
" literary fund,	93 24
Silver & Robinson, for one-half interest in safe,	<u>90 38</u>
	\$14,248 40

EXPENDITURES.

Paid town orders of the selectmen, 225 in number,	\$13,740 96
Amount of receipts of treasurer,	\$14,248 40
" Expenditures,	13,740 96
Remaining in hands of treasurer,	\$507 44

FINANCES OF TOWN.

In hands of Geo. C. Knowles, collector, 1877,	\$156 42
" Samuel Quimby, " 1878,	88 01
" " " 1879,	701 68

Amount of available funds,	1,453 54
Due collectors for services,	215 00
Indebtedness by note,	18,712 89
Total indebtedness,	18,927 89
Actual indebtedness of the town,	17,474 35

DANIEL G. CHESLEY,
Town Treasurer.

Epsom, March 1, 1880.

We hereby certify that we have examined the accounts of of the selectmen and treasurer of the town of Epsom, for the year ending March 1, 1880, and found them correctly cast and properly vouched.

SAMUEL MARTIN, }
HENRY F. SANBORN, }
Auditors

SCHOOL REPORT.

Your committee has endeavored to discharge his duty the past year, and presents to you for consideration the following report:

No epidemic or contagious disease has rendered it necessary to close any of our schools, while other towns have been less fortunate. Our schools in general have not been more or less successful in securing good teachers than heretofore—while some districts have had better, others have had poorer teachers. To avoid conflicting opinions between superintending and prudential committees, and the ill feeling and evil influences caused by refusing a certificate, would it not be better to examine teachers before employing them, rather than have them rejected, perchance, a short time before their schools are to begin? By the present dual system, many unqualified teachers obtain certificates to avoid the little unpleasantness which is sure to follow a refusal. For the want of something better, a superintending committee of two or more might be chosen, who might require a public examination of teachers, and if any one cannot answer correctly a certain per cent, of previously prepared questions, they could bear the responsibility of rejecting better than a committee of one. Something, evidently, must be done, or our examination will become a farce or an opportunity for the display of automatic power. In my report of the different schools and teachers, my endeavor has been to do simple justice to all, to be partial to none, and to bestow credit or censure upon those who deserve it.

DISTRICT No. I.—CENTER.

Number weeks of school: summer, 103-5; winter, 131-2.
Number scholars : summer, 32 ; winter, 37. Wages of teachers :
summer, per month, \$27 ; winter, \$40. Average attendance :
summer, 28 1-5 ; winter, 33 2-3.

The summer term was taught by Miss Luella M. Ewings, of New York. This teacher governed her school well and labored industriously for the welfare of her pupils and deserved better success than she attained. Her dialect, somewhat peculiar and at variance with ours, but common in other parts of our country, grated the ears of some fastidious minds and caused unfavorable remarks that lessened the esteem of her pupils. The most of her classes appeared well and made fair improvement.

Winter Term.—Mr. Daniel G. Chesley, teacher. A veteran of nearly a quarter of a century, who possesses a patience and untiring industry united with a critical and practical knowledge of the branches taught, which rank him pre-eminent as an instructor. This school contains more advanced scholars than any other in town. The attendance has been very regular, which clearly indicates a continued interest kept up by the teacher. Mr. C. has done more for the education of the younger portion of his district than any other teacher.

DISTRICT No. 2.—CILLEY.

Length of schools : summer, 8 weeks ; winter, 13 weeks.
 Number of scholars : summer, 38; winter, 39. Average attendance: summer, 36 1-8 ; winter, 33 1-3. Wages per month : summer, \$19.50 ; winter, \$24.

Summer Term.—Mrs. Lizzie M. Warren, teacher. Mrs. Warren is a teacher of high reputation and possesses keen mental attainments acquired by long experience in teaching. With so many classes as this school contains and so difficult to govern, great improvement cannot be secured, and if scholars make fair progress, what more is required of a teacher? The advancement of all her classes equaled my anticipations.

Winter Term.—Miss Ella F. Chesley, teacher. This teacher has had much experience in teaching, both in this and other towns. She realized the amount of labor required of her to govern and instruct this school, and by her physical power and determination she secured the one, and in a good measure imparted the other. Her reading classes were made to un-

derstand what they read and then taught how to read, for the art of reading is the absence of art. Miss Chesley states that if this school could be classified with uniform books, four times the progress might be made in less time.

DISTRICT No. 3.—MOUNTAIN.

Length of school in weeks : summer, 8 ; winter, n. Number of scholars: summer, 23; winter, 23. Whole number in district, 29. Average attendance : summer, 18 ; winter, 22 1-6. Wages: summer, \$14 ; winter, \$17.60.

Summer Term—Miss Nellie M. Marden, teacher. This is Miss Marden's debut as a teacher. Her order was excellent and every work was done with clock-like precision. Some of her classes made commendable progress, others did too much work to be thoroughly understood. But few teachers do better than this one in their first school.

Winter Term.—Mrs. Ella F. Tarlton, teacher. This school was fortunate to secure the services of a Massachusetts Normal School graduate. She did an immense amount of work by writing so many examples and exercises upon the black-board, for written arithmetic and other classes. In arithmetic, by this course, a new impulse was given as they were taught to rely upon themselves and form their own rules. Geography was taught by wall maps and questions written upon slips of paper. Composition and written spelling were neatly executed. One class in reading, the best in town. No doubt this was one of the most profitable schools ever taught in this district.

DISTRICT No. 4.—SHORT FALLS.

Length of school in weeks : summer, 10 ; winter, 16. Number of scholars: summer, 28 ; winter, 31. Whole number in the district, 33. Average attendance : summer, 23 1-2; winter, 25 9-11. Wages: summer, \$22; winter, \$30.

Summer Term.—Miss Nettie R. Jones, teacher, a graduate of Plymouth Normal School. On our first visit this school appeared well and the prospect was flattering that we should receive some benefit from our "Normal School." Her order

was good and scholars industrious. A few made some progress but many had but little interest or energy and no doubt were glad when school was done.

Winter Term.—Mr. Charles S. Adams, teacher. A young man of good mental qualifications but not much experience in teaching. He was energetic and did his work thoroughly. His closing examination clearly evinced good progress in arithmetic, both mental and written. One class in grammar and analysis did credit to themselves and teacher. Progress was evidently made in all other studies. There is no reason why he will not become one of our best teachers.

DISTRICT No. 5.—NEW ORCHARD.

Miss Lucy F. Morse, teacher of both terms. Length of schools : summer, 7 weeks ; fall, 9 weeks. Number scholars : summer, 8 ; fall, 5. Average attendance : summer, 7 ; fall, 4. Wages per month, \$20.

Although this school is small its teacher could excite an interest and find enough to do. Great interest was manifested in writing and the best improvement made. Our last visit found but five scholars, still this small number (perhaps in honor of your committee) produced a paper composed of the compositions of the term, and a chapter of chronicles well written, an oration delivered and a farce played. Good progress was made.

DISTRICT No. 6.—UNION. (With Pittsfield.)

DISTRICT No. 7.—NORTH ROAD.

Miss Addie L. Howe, teacher of both terms. Length of schools: summer, 8 weeks ; winter, 10. Number of scholars : summer, 15; winter, 15. Average attendance : summer, 12; winter, n. Wages per month, \$20.

Always kind and pleasant, a strong attachment grew up between this teacher and her pupils. The scholars all loved her too well to disobey or displease her. They played around the hill of science as they did their temple of learning, and their minds rose but little higher. A class in Colburn's Mental Arithmetic knew as little about some problems they attempted

to solve as a modern Choctaw Indian knows of the ancient Sanscrit. The reading classes received little or no drilling and some scholars could read nearly as well at the close as at the beginning of the year.

DISTRICT No. 8.—FOWLER.

Length of school in weeks: summer, 8; winter, 16. Number scholars : summer, 6 ; winter, n. Average attendance: summer, 531-40; winter, 105-8. Wages: summer, \$20; winter, \$20.

Summer Term.—Miss Alice E. Ladd, teacher. Some persons can impart instruction readily and in plain, concise and appropriate language. Such was this teacher, and her happy faculty of leading her scholars on till they forgot their book and reasoned for themselves was as rare as it is commendable. Notice failed to reach me, and did not visit this school at its close. The district seemed perfectly satisfied, and I judge the money was well invested.

Winter Term.—Miss Mary I. Dearborn, teacher. This district takes more interest in its school, contributes more and is better united, than any other district. In consequence of which they have better teachers, better school and better scholars. Instead of hearing complaints and grumbling on visiting their district, their earnest enquiry always is: " How is our school doing?" " Have we got a good teacher?" &c. Should all our districts do likewise, our schools would soon improve their condition. A class in philosophy and an algebraic class in the mysteries of quadratics can be found here— not to the neglect of other studies, however. All classes made good progress. I do not hesitate to say that Miss Dearborn is a successful teacher.

DISTRICT No. 9.—NEW RYE.

Whole number of scholars in summer, 15 ; winter, 17. Average attendance: summer, 13; winter, 163-5. Wages: summer, \$16; winter, \$32. Number weeks of school: summer, 10 ; winter, 9 7-10.

Summer Term.—Miss Etta E. Wells, teacher. Her first term of teaching. Her school was small, and many of her

pupils in their rudiments. At one of my visits I found but five or six scholars present. Answers were promptly given to all questions. She did her work with a woman's patience, and accomplished all that could be done, and a satisfactory progress was made.

Winter Term.—Mr. Charles W. Tarlton, A. M., teacher. The winter term was delayed some weeks till the new school house was completed. It seemed fitting that so nice and convenient a house should have for its first teacher so accomplished a scholar, of so much experience in all grades of schools. Mr. Tarlton has a method of teaching peculiar to himself, and is always clear and comprehensible in his explanations and illustrations. Nothing was seen in his school to criticise, and everything to approve. Grammar, geography, and written arithmetic, were all taught by topic. Not being confined to text-books, gave rise to many practical and synthetical questions, which few, if any, know how to ask better than he. By this method, an interest is always awakened. His answers were required to be promptly given, and if not pertinent, were corrected by some pleasant repartee or suggestion.

DISTRICT No. 10.—MARDEN.

Miss Emma G. Drake, teacher of both terms. Length of school in weeks: summer, 7; winter, 9. Number scholars: summer, 9 ; winter, 9. Average attendance : summer, 8.96; winter, 8. Number scholars in district, 12. Wages: summer, \$12 ; winter, \$14. Miss Drake possesses an energy and an indomitable perseverance, that is indispensable to a successful teacher. Herself a good reader, she is most interested in reading classes, in which all improved. The classes in arithmetic are most all dull, but by continued drilling appeared well. Geography classes made excellent progress. With so persevering a teacher as Miss Drake, this school would soon show some very good scholars.

REMARKS.

It will be required of me to report to the State that two school-houses (in Nos. 1 and 5) are unfit for school purposes.

One unfit to have a winter school in and the other but little better. It has been said that one would not hold a pig. The other would freeze him if it did. As one new school house has been built the past year in No. 9, may two be built the present year. Other districts need better interior accommodations, which can be supplied at small expense, and would add, much to their comfort. All need outline maps, globes, and a sufficient surface of blackboards in good condition. With a few of these aids, much more might be accomplished by the teachers.

New Rye district the past year, has built a model school house, and supplied it with some of the modern improvements, besides purchasing a beautiful site to locate their house upon. Every district should have an equal amount of schooling; each boy and girl in town have a right to this which we are yearly refusing. Why should a boy in one district have twenty-six weeks schooling, while another in a smaller has only sixteen? Can any valid reason be assigned for this? Clearly not. Several States give each scholar in the town an equal amount of schooling. This town needs a free high school within its limits for advanced scholars, and those that can pass a certain examination. This would be a stimulus to our youth which is much needed. Perhaps some former resident who may have become rich since leaving the home of his youth, and desiring a perpetual monument to his memory would bestow a legacy upon us to establish such a school. But no one will do this till we do something for ourselves. Let us improve our schools in every way possible. We cannot do too much to educate our youth. How then can we elevate our schools? Not necessarily by raising more money, but by judiciously expending what we do raise, by employing the best, teachers, by furnishing the best books, and insisting upon a regular attendance.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

CYRUS O. BROWN,

Superintending School Committee.

Epsom, March 1, 1880.

M