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REPORT

of the Superintendent of Schools for Waterville, Maine, for the year ending March 12, 1855.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—At your last annual meeting, Rev. Mr. Lovejoy was appointed a member of the Board, for the term of one year, by which he was virtually constituted Chairman of the Committee. His failing health occasioned his absence soon after his election, and he never entered upon the duties of his office. Rev. Mr. Thurston, who was re-elected for a full term, after the service of a few months resigned, when Prof. S. K. Smith was appointed to fill the vacancy. Notwithstanding these changes we believe the interests of the schools have been looked after with usual vigilance, and the following is a report of their individual success.

District No. 1. This school has been, during three terms, under the charge of Mr. H. A. Sawtelle. The classification and management of the studies in this school were excellent; the instruction thorough and able; and the discipline good. A good degree of improvement was made in this school, but the attendance was somewhat irregular.

The Grammar School taught by Miss Tobie was a good school, the instruction systematic and thorough. Her predecessor, Miss A. did not succeed so well.

The Grammar School at the south brick house was for two terms under the charge of Miss Parcher. The school appeared well during the first term. The interest, however, was not so well sustained through the second.

This school was under the charge of Mr. Ludden during the winter term, assisted by Miss Bailey. Both teachers are competent and laborious, and they succeeded in awakening a deep interest in the minds of their scholars. The school was always found in good order, and the progress made was rapid.

The three Primary Schools have for the last term been under the charge of competent teachers; Miss Hill, Miss Bailey, and Miss McIntire; each of whom has given good satisfaction to the Committee. A good degree of improvement has been observed in all of these schools.

The order in some of the schools in the village has been defective. An improvement, however, in this respect, was observed during the winter term.

District No. 2.—Reports in Fairfield.

No. 3. Miss Hannah Conforth has had the charge of this school in Summer, with the exception of one term, for the past five years. We think the district appreciates her labors. Under her direction the school appears well. The Committee see no demand for a change if her services can be secured.

Mr. John R. Barrett commenced the winter term very judiciously, and without the consent of the Committee, having failed to sustain an examination. His school continued some weeks to the evident satisfaction of the majority of the parents, and we doubt not, the profit of most of his pupils. Yet a marked defect in the instruction of his most advanced classes, found on visiting his school, compelled the Committee, much against their personal feelings, to adhere to their former decision.

Mr. Constantine B. Marston, a teacher of much experience, was employed for one month. His instruction was analytical, correct. His government very mild, paternal.

No. 4. A Summer term of 6 weeks, with an average attendance of 11 pupils, taught by Miss L. W. Parker. Very quiet when visited. Mr. Reuben M. Gage instructed in winter. The spirit of insubordination with some large backward scholars, strengthened, probably, by unwarrantable interference with the regulations of the school room from some without, rendered his task both unpleasant and laborious. Formal action of the committee was superfluous by the voluntary withdrawal of the belligerents. There are no advanced scholars here. Those well disposed, made good progress. The teacher manifested commendable energy.

No. 5. United with No. 1.

In Dist. No. 6, the school was, during the Summer, under the charge of Miss Young. Some improvement was made in the management of this school during the term. During the winter term the school was under the charge of Mr. Lyford. The number of scholars in this District is small, and they are not very far advanced; but the means employed by the teacher to awaken their interest in study were entirely successful, and rapid progress was made in the school. The Com. regarded the winter term of this school as a very profitable one.

No. 7. Miss Elvira C. Marston had charge of the summer school. It was her first effort, and so far as we have learned very acceptable. We cannot speak of the progress made; closing earlier than was represented, it was visited but once. Miss Hannah Conforth taught in winter. Her scholars were well classed and well instructed. The examination was creditable. With few exceptions the pupils cheerfully submitted to wholesome restraint. May no such exception mark a future report. This district, with 31 scholars, the smallest in town having 30, sustains six months schooling.

The school in District No. 8, taught in the Summer by Miss Bates, was not regarded as one of the most successful. In the Winter the school was taught by Miss Davis, who had evidently bestowed a good deal of care and attention on its classification and instruction. There was, however, an apparent want of interest on the part of some of the scholars.

No. 9. Miss Emily F. Davis of Fairfield, taught in Summer. Her school was large and demanded patience and perseverance; the majority of her pupils were less than ten years of age. Her amiable disposition, her mild, firm, discipline, secured the respect and affection of her scholars.

Mr. H. W. Savage of Norridgewock was employed in winter. Mr. S. is an earnest, active man. With a school ily convened in a cold house, his success deserves commendation. The time has fully come when this school should be graded. We are happy to report that the citizens of this district are taking means to erect a commodious and inviting school house, for the accommodation of two schools.

District No. 10 has been somewhat unfortunate the past year. Miss E. V. Sawtelle of Sidney, commenced the Summer term with fine prospects of usefulness. She was compelled from feeble health to relinquish her charge. Miss Charlotte Combs, who is a good scholar, and accurate teacher, continued the school for seven weeks. The scholars were very irregular in their attendance. With 61 scholars in this district only 41 attended, with an average of 21. Mr. C. E. Sawtelle taught in winter. The average attendance was 28. There are a few very good scholars, but generally a lack of interest. Some who had failed to obtain a society from their attainments, secured it by depositions upon the school house and personal property. It is just to say that a few notable families were favored with private instruction.

No. 11. Miss S. Jenny Lewis taught the summer term. Some of the classes appeared well, though as a whole, not so ambitious to learn as could be desired. In penmanship,

which is too much overlooked in our schools, Miss Lewis excels.

Mr. A. H. Wyman was employed 6 weeks in winter. He is young and inexperienced, and had not that commanding influence over his large scholars that is essential; he may become a useful teacher. Out of 50 scholars returned, the average attendance in summer was 15, in winter 28. To whose remission shall this be attributed?

No. 12. Taught in summer by Miss Susan W. Sandford of Belgrade. This her first school was a most promising commencement. She is a bright apt scholar, and would have a still house. It sometimes exact to a fault it is a rare peculiarity. Her pupils were required to learn.

The winter school under the tuition of Miss Rebecca W. Norton of Norridgewock, was well classed and correctly instructed. This is the smallest school in town, but not the least, in point of interest. Their school room has been repaired and greatly improved.

No. 13. None of our small schools have been visited with more satisfaction than this. Miss Avis A. Cummings from Belgrade, taught two terms, one in summer and another commencing in autumn. She devoted herself most ardently and successfully to her work. Enjoying the affection of her school, and generally, the co-operation of the parents, she awakened an enthusiasm which we had not anticipated. This is not an advanced school, but the money has been profitably expended.

No. 14. Miss Emma R. Lewis who had charge of this school last season, was again employed in summer. This is testimony in her favor on the part of the district. The general appearance of the school was very good when the Committee were present. The exercises were mostly in the elements. Though there are some scholars of promise, there was not much emulation.

Mr. Jonathan Soule taught in winter. Mr. S. has the advantage of successful experience, and is qualified to instruct a more advanced school. He performs his work in a very kind and noiseless manner, allowing his scholars to make a little more noise, possibly, than is profitable.

No. 15. This district has had four schools during the year; a summer school for girls, under the charge of Miss Helena E. Pullen. Miss P. seemed much interested, and labored assiduously for the advancement of her pupils. Some of her classes passed an excellent examination. Her manner of governing, perhaps a little indiscrete, failed to secure the respect of some large scholars, who rendered her task unpleasant by repeated exhibitions of their evil nature. No serious difficulty. The Boys' School in summer, Primary School in autumn, and an Advanced School in winter, have been under the tuition of Miss Lucy M. Norton of Norridgewock. The first of these found shelter in an old store, temporarily arranged for the purpose, being neither inviting nor convenient; yet a good school. The Primary School and the Advanced, have convened in the school house. In these several schools, Miss N. has had under her charge some fine scholars, and has proved herself an excellent teacher. The firm and even course maintained towards her pupils, secured for the most part, respectful obedience. There are a few restless spirits, that require sterner treatment, that must be made to feel the necessity before they will obey.

In No. 16, Miss Olive A. Heron commenced a school in summer, which was once visited and appeared prosperous and useful. At the expiration of six weeks she left, but for what reason the Com. have not been informed. Miss Dorcas Gleason finished the term. She had a few small scholars whom she was qualified to teach correctly. Term in winter by Mr. M. H. Alexander of Belgrade. His was a well managed school. His pupils were led forward systematically and required to learn what they undertook. This was his first effort but should he make teaching his business, we shall regard him a valuable accession to our list of instructors.

No. 17. Miss Atalenty G. Holmes, an amiable girl, taught in summer. With experience and farther opportunity to prosecute her studies, she might be useful in a larger school. She closed abruptly and was not visited the second time. Mr. Welcome S. Page, who is a good scholar and capable of teaching, commenced the winter term. Under his direction we anticipated success; but there were external influences at work, which resulted in closing his school at the expiration of five weeks. An examination of differences before legally constituted arbiters was avoided.

Complaints were made of disorder and confusion in the school-room. Some scholars were withdrawn; the school-house key obtained from the teacher, and finally the stove pipe clandestinely withdrawn. Mr. Alexander was employed to close the school. We hope this district may obtain as good instructors hereafter, and that they may receive more respectful treatment. It is proper to say, that some of the district feel quite chagrined, and disclaim any sympathy with such conduct.

From the above, it will be seen that in several instances there have been decided failures. Few have failed for want of adequate literary qualifications. The greatest evil we have had to combat, has been the disturbance produced by ignorant and evil-minded scholars, who may have been simply the exponents of neighborhood feuds, personal jealousies, or wounded pride. The correction of such an evil, demands not only the persevering labors of teachers and committees, but the cooperation of parents and guardians.

Young men, men only in physical stature, who seek for notoriety in disturbing the peace of our schools, should meet with merited rebuke, from every friend of the public good. We would suggest that parents make themselves acquainted with the character of their schools and teachers, by personally visiting them, instead of relying upon flying reports, which may have originated in the spleen of some offended scholar. Much injury done our schools by the creation of a morbid sympathy, would thus be avoided.

As an offset to some failures, we may report at least as many schools of the first class, as have existed in preceding years. It will also be observed that in districts of similar size, there has been great difference in the amount of schooling. The magnanimous spirit which has characterized some neighborhoods in meeting a portion of their expenses from private funds, and the employment of female teachers in the winter, will account for this. Of 48 schools for the year, 35 have been instructed by females. The result confirms the opinion advanced in our last report, that well qualified young women for many of our winter schools, are more profitable than cheap male teachers.

The whole number of scholars in town, by last returns, is 1645. The whole number in attendance in summer was 768. The average attendance in summer was 560. The whole number in attendance in winter was 878. The average attendance in winter was 700. Dist. No. 1 embracing 897 scholars; 149

more than in the rest of the town, had in attendance in summer 306, with an average attendance of 209. Aggregate attendance in winter 351; average do. 272.

Making a reasonable deduction for those receiving private instruction, for apprentices and others engaged in industrial avocations, can we escape the conviction that there are many truant children, who promise little, save an accession to the ignorance and pauperism of our town? The friends of popular education have yet important duties to perform.

Respectfully Submitted,
G. W. BEAN, Sup. Sch.
S. K. SMITH, J. Committee.
March 12, 1855.

The Eastern Mail.

WATERVILLE... MAR. 22, 1855.

AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.

P. PALMER, American Newspaper Agent, is Agent for this Paper and is authorized to take Advertisements and Subscriptions at the same rates as required by us. His office is at South's building, Court st., Boston; Tribune Building, N. Y. City; N. W. cor. Third and Chestnut sts., Philadelphia; S. W. cor. North and Fayette sts., Baltimore.

S. M. PERRELL & Co., Newspaper Agents, No. 10 State st., Boston, are Agents for the Eastern Mail, and are authorized to receive Advertisements and Subscriptions at the same rates as required at this office. Their receipts are regarded as payments.

A. T. BOWMAN—Traveling Agent.

[For The Mail.]

Rail Roads.

Messrs. Editors:—The grant to the Wiscasset and Richmond Railroad, for bridging the Kennebec, and the other facilities accorded to it, will insure a speedy completion; and it is to be hoped by another year, will open to the travel and business of the Kennebec Valley one of the very best harbors in Maine.

This short road is of more importance, not only to Wiscasset, but to the towns to the eastward, and to the river towns upon the Upper Kennebec, than is generally known or acknowledged. The Kennebec and Skowhegan Road, will the ensuing season, be finished to the latter place. But it will not stop there long. Its course is upward and onward, until it shall reach the pass in the high lands that divides the waters which flow to the southward from those that find their way to the St. Lawrence by the Chaudiere river, where it will intersect the Portland and Oxford Railroad, that will be met by a road up the Chaudiere from Quebec. The building of this latter road is only to be a question of time, and make the distance from Quebec to Wiscasset much nearer than to Portland. It is quite too late in the day to suppose that for any length of time, any corporation however powerful, can monopolize the travel and transportation through the State to any foreign Province. Whenever roads are wanted and are necessary and promise a remuneration for the investment, they will be had. Although the stockholders may not derive an immediate income from them directly, they are with the public at large immensely benefited by the increased facility both for travel and business. When these roads shall be completed, Waterville will receive a new impetus in her trade, but the immense and safe water power, that cannot present any new obstruction to navigation of the river, will be brought into requisition and in a few years add more to its growth and wealth than for many years past; a result which would be greeted with pleasure by all her neighbors.

VIATOR.

"THEOLOGICAL DISCUSSION."—We have observed in several exchanges a paragraph with this caption, in which reference is made to the communications that have appeared in the Advocate within a few weeks past relative to the doctrines advanced in the report of Dr. Sheldon's sermon. The public are informed in this paragraph that the matter is likely to lead to a theological debate upon the points in respect to which Dr. S. is thought to be heretical. And it is stated that the heresy charged is found in this sentence:

"The sin of Adam has no immediate causal and determining influence on the sin of his posterity—that his sin does not directly make them sinners."

Supposing the writer of the paragraph to have intended to state the case fairly, it is evident that he had not attentively read the communications to which he refers, for had he done so, he would have known that no heresy has been charged by any one upon the sentence quoted. It was subsequently proposed by Dr. S. as the thesis which he is ready to maintain, but which no one has attacked, nor, with a possible interpretation, do we suppose that any one would be inclined to dispute it.

Our brother of the Waterville Mail, we think, was the first to start the above erroneous statement: will he be as prompt to correct?

[Zion's Advocate.]

Certainly, so far as it needs correction. We only know that heresy was charged, and that in reply, Dr. Sheldon, after complaining that he was not correctly reported, stated his position in the sentence quoted, and offered thereon to meet the charge of heresy. It was upon the sentiment of this sentence that we called attention to the probable 'theological discussion.' If the sentence does not embrace heresy to the Baptists, whether 'charged' or not, then we do not know enough to be a heretic. As to the 'possible interpretation' that would render it orthodox, it must be broader than that of the Dutchman who argued that because 'all things are possible with God,' it might be that a certain plaintiff bit off his own nose. Though we designed to state the case fairly, we are perfectly willing to change the programme so as to excuse either party that may wish to withdraw from the debate. Our creed makes us accountable for nobody's sins but our own; and as we expect to answer for them, one and all, we heartily desire to avoid all implication in the proposed 'theological discussion.'

A SHORT ESSAY ON MARRIAGE.—Some young men marry dimples, some ears; the mouth, too, is occasionally married; the chin not so often. Only the other day, a young fellow fell head over heels and ears in love with a braided-braid, we believe young ladies style that mass of hair that, descending from the forehead, forms a sort of mouse's nest over the ear. He was so far gone in his infatuation, that he became engaged to this braid; but the Eugene mode of hair dressing coming in just then, the charm was dissolved, and the match was happily broken off, and there is no present appearance of its being renewed. What do young men marry? Why, they marry these and many other bits of scraps of a wife, instead of the true thing. And then, after the wedding, surprised to find that although married, they have no wives. He that would have a wife must marry a woman.

True enough, but what do young women marry? A bunch of bristles; a fast horse; a quid of tobacco; a cigar case, or a jug of rum. Sometimes a brass watch chain, or a big ring of the same metal; and nine times out of ten a checked horse-blanket and a bob-tail coat.

What else? Nothing, generally; though now and then one marries a man, by way of mistake, and hankers for a flop or a fool afterward. She that wants a good husband should be careful to—live and die an old maid. ALECK.

Messrs. Editors:—In your last paper I noticed the following editorial:

NOTE 1.—The omnibus bill, appropriating land to various schools failed of its final passage in the House by a vote of 63 to 60. This is as it should be, though we believe that the application of Waterville College without the obnoxious accompaniments embraced in the bill would have been successful.

Your statement of the matter is incorrect in fact, and illiberal in spirit. The omnibus bill as it has been stigmatized, did not purport to appropriate land, and the terms 'obnoxious accompaniments,' which you employ are invidious and but little in keeping with your usual candor. (1)

There were three seminaries associated with Waterville College in what you call the 'omnibus.' May it not be well for you, since you have taken it upon yourself to pass so summarily a judgment, to state which of the three institutions is undeserving of appropriation from the State? (2)

Waterville College undoubtedly deserves an appropriation. Its professors are able and good men. The college has been doing good service in the career of education, and has been shabbily treated by the State. It is sad policy to deny a respectable endowment to the only college in the State under the control of the Legislature. (3)

But there are other educational establishments whose claim upon the patronage of the State, is not second to that of Waterville or any other college. (4)

One of the 'obnoxious accompaniments' referred to, has given instruction during the last year to three hundred and thirty three students, and has furnished one hundred and seventy-eight teachers for our public schools. For thirty one years it has turned out over one hundred teachers annually; and the average number of its students, during all this time has been much larger than that of any other institution of learning in Maine; while the whole amount received by this institution from the State is less than \$7,000. (5)

The friends of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary are not unwilling to put this institution in comparison with the score of general usefulness with any literary institution in the State; but invidious comparisons are not called for, and should be avoided. (6)

The other two 'obnoxious accompaniments' are deemed by the Committee on Education to be deserving of aid; and it is fair to presume that the gentlemen of this committee are quite as well qualified to judge of the merits of these institutions as the editor of the Eastern Mail. (7)

Allow me to say in conclusion, that the friends of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary, intend to put their hands still deeper into their pockets, and to carry through the enterprise they have undertaken. They intend, as soon as the requisite funds shall be secured to erect a spacious new edifice for the accommodation of their over-crowded school; and to establish in connection with the seminary a Female Collegiate department. Funds are now being secured for that purpose. We think the movement commends itself to the good will of all enlightened men; and if the press sees fit to notice our effort we think it should not be in 'obnoxious' terms. (8)

With full confidence that you will readily correct what I suppose may be an unintentional error. (9)

I am, with respect, yours &c., S. ALLEN.

Augusta March 8, 1855.

(1) "In fact" the original idea contemplated land, but was afterwards converted into cash; a point we carelessly overlooked in our hasty paragraph—though of no importance. If our 'usual candor' prevents an honest expression of our opinions, without fear of sect or party, it is time we throw it away. Please give us no more credit of that kind.

(2) Certainly;—all of them, in our honest opinion. 'Is this invidious?'

(3) True, every word. The legislature ought not to 'father' any denominational school or institution; but having done so, it is honorably bound to take care of its own child—and by all means not to deny it what has been conceded to another school having no such claim.

(4) Doubtful; but 'since you have taken it upon yourself' to express such an opinion, will you specify them? Do you name the Methodist school at Kents Hill?—and why not the Universalist school at Waterville, and every where from Christian to Mormon? What then would become of our common schools? Can you tell?

(5) Nobly patronized indeed, and an honor to the denomination to which it belongs! But why, in the name of common sense, should such a flourishing school become a 'beggar at the door of the State Treasury? Who can tell!

(6) If it compares well, the comparison certainly is not 'invidious'; if not, then let those 'avoid' it or complain of it who think it necessary to do so.

(7) Admitted—while we claim as good a right to our opinion as they to theirs. The committee did not think as we do—but the legislature did, it seems. If dignities and numbers are desirable backers, we are better endorsed than we could have been by the committee. Why will not our correspondent therefore conclude we are right?—especially when our decision is made without a score of 'advocates' at our elbow, to coax and bribe us from our honest conviction.

(8) No; and it will not be 'invidious,' we presume, for us to express our decided approbation of the determination of the friends of the Maine Wesleyan Seminary to 'put their hands in their own pockets' and sustain the school devoted to their denominational interests. Let the Baptists, Universalists and Congregationalists do the same: and let the money of the people go to sustain the schools of the people, which are the Common Schools of the State.

If academies are demanded, let the demand furnish the means for their support, and not take from our common schools what would render them competent to fill the place of academies.

We advise our correspondent to make as little ado about the defeat of the 'omnibus bill' as his disappointment will permit. That defeat indicates something, as he doubtless fears, that is destined yet to be made plainer. The less the people know of the tendency of our academies and select schools, feeble and beggarly as they are, to undermine and weaken our common school system, the better chance will there be, by constant supplication and legislative log-rolling, to bring the State treasury to their support in the end. The work should be done without any noise that will arouse investigation and reveal the hypocrisy that so often cloaks itself with the advocacy of 'popular education.' Otherwise it will continue to meet the same fate accorded by the late legislature—as we ardently hope it may for all coming time.

(9) Of course! Your 'confidence' is well placed; and notwithstanding the disagreeable tinge of wormwood thrown into your letter, and the suspicion you may get that our 'errors' were not so 'very' 'unintentional,' we kindly commend our 'corrections' to your acceptance.

Man of business! do you want to know how to throw off dull care? Just take a half hour's romp and play with your children, each day—if you have any; and if you have not, get some kind friend to lend you his, out of pity. It will make their young hearts happier, and if you don't feel better satisfied with yourself and all the world beside, then just call at the apothecary's and get a dose of ipecac.

The above is handed us by a friend who is deeply engaged in business, but is blest with a sweet cluster of little 'family goods' prettier than a bunch of ripe strawberries. He has tried the recipe, and likes it so well that he would even put it within the reach of old bachelors.

ANOTHER GOOD TIME.—Those who remember the fair last Fall, at which the ladies made so fine an exhibition of tableaux, and fed the multitude with such a variety of good things, will be glad to learn that another social festival of similar character, is arranged for some evening about the middle of next week. Those, also, who recollect the gratuitous performances of the Waterville Band on those two successive evenings, will like the proposed entertainment the better for being devoted to their benefit. They have been at great expense for instruction and instruments; and everybody, who knows anything of their success and qualifications, will cheerfully contribute to their aid in the very agreeable way proposed.

The entertainment will consist of music, tableaux, refreshments, and all the ingenious art ceteras that can be added—including an immense gathering of beautiful girls and gallant young men, such as our village and vicinity can always assemble in a good cause. The Waterville Band is in one sense the property, as it promises to be the pride, of our village. It is composed of young men of sterling merit and good musical talent; and it should be cherished and encouraged accordingly. This is considered good policy in other places, and must be peculiarly so here. At Skowhegan, recently, three hundred dollars were raised for their band in this way. Mr. Bond, of Bond's Band, Boston, who is engaged to instruct the Waterville Band for a week or two, will probably be their leader for the evening. A genuine good time can hardly fail. So, take hold, young men—show yourselves, young ladies; and we venture to pledge the gallantry of the Band for excellent music next Summer, to sweeten your moonlight promenades on the Common.

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.—Both Houses adjourned on Saturday, the 76th day of the session, having passed 216 acts and 92 resolutions. Prominent in the list are the revised Liquor Law; the law prohibiting state officers to aid in catching slaves, and denying the use of jails for their detention; reorganizing the supreme judicial courts; and prohibiting the state courts from giving naturalization papers to foreigners;—and the resolution providing for an amendment of the constitution, so that certain officers may be elected by the people. Several bills have been retained by the Governor for further consideration—among them, that relating to foreign insurance companies. The session has been one of unusual industry, and of singular harmony.

We shall furnish our subscribers, in due time, with the laws and resolves in an extra sheet, as usual.

DEATH OF THE CAESAR.—The Africa, which left Liverpool on the 3d, brings news of the death of the emperor of Russia. There is no reasonable doubt of its truth, it having been announced in Parliament as coming by telegraph from the British ministers at Berlin and at the Hague. It is reported from Washington that the Russian minister there considers the matter a hoax, though nobody else seems to doubt it. What will be the effect upon the war in the East is beyond conjecture.

THE NEW DEPOT OF THE SOMERSET AND KENNEBEC RAILROAD.—At this place, is nearly completed. It is a plain, unpretending structure about 80 feet long, and stands on the east side of Front Street, between the street and the railroad, opposite the residence of Mr. Alfred Burleigh. It is highly creditable to the road, in the line of economy—however little it may do for the appearance of our village. On the latter point, however, it must be acknowledged we have no very strong claims.

RIGHT.—We notice from a Washington paper that the 'Governmental Instructor,' by our friend Shurtleff, of Winslow, has been adopted by the Board of Instruction as a text-book for the schools of that city. This speaks well for a work that needs no commendation where it once becomes known. The decision in its favor was 'unanimous.'

STANDARD FOURTH READER FOR Public and Private Schools.—Containing a thorough course of Preliminary Exercises; Articulation, Pronunciation, Accent, &c.; numerous Exercises in Reading; a New System of References; and a copious Explanatory Index. By James Sargent, author of 'The Standard Speller,' 'The First Class Standard Reader,' etc. Boston: Phillips, Sampson & Co.

Mr. Sargent has for several years been engaged in preparing a series of readers for schools, and this is the second one published. The first one issued has been pronounced, by those well qualified to judge—teachers, literary men, &c.—the best first class reader ever published; and the one before us is equally 'distinguished' as a text book for scholars a grade lower. The preliminary rules and exercises are admirably well adapted for grounding the pupil in right first principles, and fixing upon him correct habits; the selections for reading are most excellent, and commendable alike for their literary merit and moral purity. The last valuable feature of the work, and one peculiar to this grade, is the 'explanatory index' at the end, which contains a great deal of information not easily found elsewhere. These works find great favor with those employed in teaching, and are confidently predicted by many that this series will eventually supersede all other readers now in use.

For sale in Waterville by G. K. Mathews.

FIRST GEOGRAPHY FOR CHILDREN.—By Mrs. H. Beecher Stowe, author of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.' Boston: Phillips, Sampson & Co. New York: J. G. Derby.

The attempt to interest small children in the study of geography, made in this little work, is remarkably successful. It is especially to be commended for its popular simplicity and the admirable tact displayed in enticing the little learner, by easy steps, up the hill of knowledge. In other respects, too, it possesses great attractions for little folks, being handsomely printed and embellished with maps and pretty pictures. We should suppose it would find its way into our schools at once; but as the author has taken the liberty to call things by their right names, it will not probably be in very high repute south of Mason and Dixon's line. For sale in Waterville at the bookstore of G. K. Mathews.

THE HORTICULTURIST FOR MARCH is embellished with a portrait of Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, and a plate of Chrysanthemums. The number is well filled, and in it will be found a 'Table of Popular Fruits,' carefully prepared by the editor, showing what varieties are best adapted to each locality, which must have great value to those engaged in the culture of fruit. Published by James Vick, Jr., Rochester, N. Y., at \$2 a year; colored edition \$5.

PETERSON'S MAGAZINE.—The April number of this old favorite of the lovers of good stories, contains a good picture of 'Moses Smiling the Book,' and a pretty Fashion Plate, together with numerous little 'knick-knacks' for the ladies. The usual number of interesting stories are also found in its pages. Published by Chas. J. Peterson, Philadelphia, at \$3 a year.

LITTLE'S LIVING AGE.—The following are the titles of some of the longer articles in No. 565—Life of Dalton—Atomic Chemistry, Boundary Map of Europe, Old Tiff, John Muscat the Courier, Hilliard's Six Months in Italy, The Convention, The Founding of Glenahilly. Many other articles are given, which, with some choice poetry, go to make up an unusually good number. Published weekly by Little, Son & Co., Boston, at \$6 a year; single numbers 12 cts.

Byron's "Child Harold." has been issued in a pretty volume by Phillips, Sampson & Co., Boston, and may be found at Mathews's bookstore.

THE WEATHER, thus far in March, has been mild and pleasant. The winds that promise April showers and May flowers, have not been scant, and the travelling has permitted a choice between sleighs and wagons. The season is favorable for stock, and the price of hay tends downward.

A little daughter of Mr. Bancro, on the Plain, was burned to death last week, by her clothes taking fire while playing with other children around a fire they had built out doors.

"WILTING."—The erection of a new building on the small lot on Main St., between Moody's Bookstore and J. Higgins's store, is the first bud of promise for the season. No matter about the dimensions, as the building is about the same size as the lot—and it would be folly to make it bigger.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Strayed or Stolen—3500 penitentiary Know Nothings, who have left the lodges in New Hampshire at different times, since last September. Any information will be thankfully received at the office of the Patriot, Concord New Hampshire.—[Boston Atlas.]

The administration Postmaster at Exeter telegraphs to Boston: "EVERYTHING DONE TO THE D—L." Since that dispatch was forwarded the Atlas discovers certain 'tricks' which render it possible that the Know Nothings may not be the persons missing.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—The Northern Light brings news of disastrous failures. The great banking houses of Page, Bacon & Co., Wells, Fargo & Co., Adams & Co., Robinson & Co., and Wright's Miners' Deposit, are mentioned as the principal, which must lead to extensive suspensions of smaller houses. No U. S. Senator has been elected. The prospect of the miners was good, though drought had prevailed. The St. Charles and the Williams hotel had been destroyed by fire in San Francisco; and sixteen houses in Nevada and twenty-five in Stockton. Indian troubles were on the increase, and the native Californians were preparing for a general emigration to Sonora.

Mr. Saxe lectured at Gardiner Monday evening, but could not be induced to come to Waterville on account of other engagements.

Our BRONX, on the first page, should not be neglected, because 'to be continued.' It is too good to be lost, and not only the boys and girls, but the old folks, will find something good before they get through it.

W. L. A.—Rev. Thomas Starr King is to lecture before the

