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SCHOOL HOUSE, BARTLEY HILL, LONDONDERRY.

# LONDONDERRY NEW HAMPSHIRE

240

# School District Number Eight

Published for the District Number Eight Old Home Association

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By REED PAIGE CLARK

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#### IN SCHOOL DAYS.

By John Greenleaf Whittier.

Still sits the school-house by the road,
A ragged beggar sleeping;
Around it still the sumachs grow,
And blackberry-vines are creeping.

Within, the master's desk is seen,
Deep scarred by raps official;
The warping floor, the battered seats,
The jack-knife's carved initial;

The charcoal frescos on its wall; Its door's worn sill, betraying The feet that, creeping slow to school, Went storming out to playing!

Long years ago a winter sun Shone over it at setting; Lit up its western window-panes, And low eaves' icy fretting.

It touched the tangled golden curls, And brown eyes full of grieving, Of one who still her steps delayed When all the school were leaving.

For near her stood the little boy
Her childish favor singled:
His cap pulled low upon a face
Where pride and shame were mingled.

Pushing with restless feet the snow To right and left, he lingered; As restlessly her tiny hands The blue-checked apron fingered. He saw her lift her eyes; he felt
The soft hand's light caressing,
And heard the tremble of her voice,
As if a fault confessing.

"I'm sorry that I spelt the word:
I hate to go above you,
Because,"—the brown eyes lower fell,—
"Because, you see, I love you!"

Still memory to a gray-haired man That sweet child-face is showing. Dear girl! the grasses on her grave Have forty years been growing!

He lives to learn, in life's hard school, How few who pass above him Lament their triumph and his loss, Like her,—because they love him.

# OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT OLD HOME ASSOCIATION, LONDONDERRY, NEW HAMPSHIRE. 1907–1908.

President.

Daniel G. Annis, Londonderry.

Honorary President.

REV. LUCIEN H. ADAMS, Derry.

Vice-President.

WILLIAM H. CROWELL, Londonderry.

Secretary-Treasurer.

REED PAIGE CLARK, Londonderry.

Executive Committee.

MRS. WILLIAM H. CROWELL, Londonderry, Chairman.
MRS. WILLIAM CLARK, Londonderry.
MISS LUCY W. PERKINS, Londonderry.
MRS. CHARLES S. GREELEY, Londonderry.

ARTHUR L. EVANS, Londonderry.

FRANK S. CROWELL, Bedford.

John H. Goodwin, Londonderry.

Mrs. Charles Adams, Londonderry.

RICHARD L. PETTENGILL, Londonderry.

CHARLES U. ANNIS, Londonderry.

Editor.

REED PAIGE CLARK, Londonderry.



#### THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

As early as the spring of 1905 it was suggested by Mrs. William Clark, Mrs. William H. Crowell, and other residents of District Number Eight, that those who had come in contact with the District as teachers, pupils or residents, organize themselves into an association the object of which should be the awakening of a healthful interest in the District.

Nothing came of the matter then, but in the summer of the following year a sufficient number were enlisted to warrant the issuance of a call for a meeting. This call was printed in the local papers, and on August 24, 1906, some twenty-five people met in the school house to consider the subject.

After a few minutes of informal discussion it was decided to organize. Mr. William Clark was chosen temporary chairman and Mr. Daniel G. Annis temporary secretary. The officers, a list of whom is printed elsewhere in this volume, were then unanimously elected.

The naming of the new association provoked some debate but it was finally agreed unanimously that it be christened: District Number Eight Old Home Association, Londonderry, New Hampshire.

The Executive Committee, having been given authority therefor, met subsequently and adopted the following constitution and by-laws, under which the Association is acting:

#### CONSTITUTION.

#### ARTICLE ONE.

This Association shall be known as the District Number Eight Old Home Association, Londonderry, New Hampshire.

#### ARTICLE TWO.

The object of the Association is to promote interest in District Number Eight among past and present residents of the District.

#### ARTICLE THREE.

All teachers of the school, alumni, and all residents of the District, past and present, are eligible to membership.

#### ARTICLE FOUR.

The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Honorary President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and an Executive Committee of ten, who shall constitute the Executive Board.

#### ARTICLE FIVE.

The annual meeting of the Association shall be held on Wednesday of the week designated as Old Home Week in New Hampshire, at the schoolhouse in District Number Eight, at such hour as the Executive Board may determine.

## BY-LAWS.

#### ARTICLE ONE.

The fee for membership shall be twenty-five cents, payable upon registration to the Secretary-Treasurer, except for children under sixteen years of age, who shall pay ten cents. There shall be no dues or assessments other than the fee for registration.

#### ARTICLE TWO.

The officers of the Association shall be elected at the close of the annual meeting for the ensuing year and shall hold office until the next annual meeting or until their successors are chosen.

#### ARTICLE THREE.

The officers of the Association shall perform the duties that usually devolve upon such officers, but no officer shall receive any compensation for such services.

#### ARTICLE FOUR.

These By-Laws may be amended at the annual meeting of the Association by vote of two thirds of the members present and voting.

### HISTORICAL SKETCH.

## By DANIEL GAGE ANNIS.

For the history of this school district from the settlement of the town in 1719 to the close of the year 1799 we find no words at this time. From later records we are able to state that the "Old Red School House" was built in the year 1794. This school district was known as Number 17 until the town of Derry was set off in the year 1829.

Following are the records of meetings, lists of officers, and actions taken each year.

1800

July 19

Jonathan Barnett James Adams Reuben Sawyer

Com-Men

(The Barnett family lived where Mr. Bresnon now lives; that place became the town poor-farm in 1833.)

Eightly:—Voted to give \$2.00 pr week to a School Maam. She boarding herself till sd money is expended.

Ninthly:—Voted that no Schollar Shall have Any Privilidge in this School house the Present year that Lives out of this District.

#### November 24

Voted:—That every Proprietor that send a scollar or scollars shall Bring 4 ft of wood, and that every Proprietor shall cut his own Wood.

1801

#### December 7

Meeting at Ensn John Dickey's. Voted:—That if any person did not bring their wood till Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> their children or servants should not be taught till the above vote is complyed with.

March 15

Nathan Plummer David Crowell Elder: Edward Dodge

Comttee Men

Voted:-One eighth cord wood to eatch schollar.

1803

March 10

Stephen Plummer James Wilson John Duncan

Comttee Men.

1804

March 6

Doctor Robt, Bartley Sam<sup>1</sup> March Eng<sup>m</sup> James Adams

Comttee Men.

Voted:—The Committee to order concerning the ashes. Voted:—the School house be furnished with Door and harth Stones.

1805

March 13

Capt. John Dickey Jonathan Barnett Mr Hugh Boyes

Com.ttee Men.

Voted:—the schollars to have the half the ashes at the expiration of said school.

1806

March 31

Ensa Wm Boyes Mr James Platts Mr Benjm Corning

Com.ttee Men

Voted:—the Committee to procure a convenient place for the Master to board at.

Voted:—Mr Platts to repair School house.

Voted:—that no nonresidents should be admited as schollars.

Voted:—that the committee should be judges of nonresidents.

1807

March 2

Messers

Caleb Gooding
John Dickey Junr
Ensn James Adams
Comtee

Voted:—Mr Thomas Bartlett and Mr John Dickey privilage to send a schollar by paying nine pence pr week for each schollar.

1808

March 14

Nathan Johnson Dr. Robt. Bartley Nathaniel Giles Comtte

Voted:—That if Glass be broken in the school House it should be repaired by the parents or Masters of them that broke it.

1809

March 18

Lt James Wilson Jona Barnett Joshna Gooding Comtee

1810

March 17

David Crowell Benj<sup>m</sup> Corning William Adams

Comtee

Voted:—That the Board of the Master shall be Vandued to the lowest bidder, and was struck off to Ruben Sawyer at 93 cts. Week.

March 16

Doct Robt. Bartley Dn Edward Dodge Mr John Duncan

Comttee

Voted:—To procure a Deed from the Proprietors to Dist No. 17.

1812

March 19

Lt. James Wilson
En James Adams and
Calch Gooden

Com.ttee

Voted:—to spend 1/3 part of the Money in the summer for a Mistriss,

Voted:—to build A fals back and jams to the school house. struck of the drawing of 500 of Brick and Clay to Liut James Wilson at \$1.25.

1813

March 18

Doc<sup>t</sup> Robf. Bartley Lt. William Boyes Robf. Patterson

Voted:—To give Caleb Gooden \$1.50 for procuring a Deed for sd Districk and gitting it Signed.

Voted:-To give Master Wm Redfield a recommendation.

Voted:—That there shall be no Sewing, Flowering or Writing brought into school this season.

Voted:—to give Robert Patterson 40 Cents for a pale and mug.

1814

February 18

James Watts
Leut John Dickey
and Luit James Wilson
Comttee

The ashes vandued and struck off to James Watts at \$1. for the whole. Vandued the Masters board and struck off to Lieut. John Dickey at 85 cts. per week.

March 1

Ensign: James Adams, Com.

Voted:-To have but one for a Comttee Man.

Voted:—to vandue the making and hanging of a Door mending Window Seets and boxes. struck of at \$1.66 to Benjamin Corning.

10th:—Voted that any Schoolar breaking Glass shall repare the same in eight and forty hours, after, or be denied the privilidge of instruction.

Voted:—to have the school house banked. vandued the banking of sd school house. struck of to Alexander Spinne at 58 cents.

1816

Robert Patterson, Com.

1817

Lt Jon'n Barnett-Com.

1818

John Duncan-Com.

1819

Hugh Boyes-Com.

John M. and Hazen G. Boyes signed Acknowledgement of bad behavior in school.

1820

John Dow-Com.

Voted:—to give Mr. Foster Towns the Master \$1.00 per. week for his Board.

1821

Capt. James Watts-Com.

1822

Caleb Gooden-Com.

Vandued the Masters board and struct of to John Wilson a 60 cents per week.

Enoch Gooden-Com.

Voted:-to buy the wood out of the school Money.

Vandued the Ashes and sold to Capt. James Watts at  $14\frac{1}{2}$  cents per Bushel.

1824

Capt. Robt. Patterson-Com.

1825

Silas Barker-Com.

Voted:-to make an alteration in the Fire place.

1826

John Duncan-Com.

Voted:-that the Master and Mistress board with the schollars.

1827

Dr. Hugh Bartley-Com.

Sold the Ashes to Doc Hughy Bartley for 11 ets. per Bushel.

1828

Joshua Gooden-Com.

Voted:—that the Committee man purchase a box or bask for to put in Ashes.

1829

John Morrison-Com.

Voted:—the committe Man to sell the ashes and give the schollars some refreshments—"No *Rum* brought into school."

Voted:-that Silas Barker survey the wood.

1830

John Adams—Com. Dist. 8.

Voted:-to raise \$115.00 to repair House.

James Perkins

James Watts, Jr.

John Adams

Com. to Examine House.

W<sup>m</sup> Plummer John Adams Lucius Whipple

Com. on repairs and to buy a Stove.

1831

Wm Plummer-Com.

1832

John Annis-Com.

Voted:-Edmun Adams to paint the House.

1833

Edmund Adams-prud Com.

1834

Robert McGregore-preud Com.

1835

Sami Crowell-Com.

1836

(No record of Meeting.)

1837

Isaac Dow-Com.

1838

Josiah Goodwin—prudential Com. Voted:—the Teachers board with the scholars.

1839

Voted:—to buy a new stove. Raised \$25.00 for Same.

1840

Jonathan Brickett-Prudential Com.

John N. Anderson-Com.

Rev. Timothy G. Brainard Doctor David Flanders Supt. Com.

1842

John Adams-Com.

1843

Samuel Crowell-Com.

1844

Reed P Clark-Prudential Com.

1845

James C. Hill—Prudential Com.

Voted:—to repair the school-house by subscription

1846

John N. Anderson-Prudential Com.

1847

David McGregore-Com.

Voted:—and sold the Old wood to Nathan Adams for 32 cts.

(First town report printed.)

1848

Reed P. Clark-Prudential Com.

1849

Moses Alley-Com.

1850

John Morrison-Com.

1851

Calvin Vickery-Com.

Samt C. Barker Com., vice Calvin Vickery, left town.

(Town reports not printed.)

Washington Perkins-Prudential Com.

1853

Samuel Crowell-Com.

1854

David C. Barker-Prudential Com.

Samuel Gilcreast Dr.  $W^m$  H. Martin John Dickey

Supt. Com.

1855

James Adams-Com.

John Dickey Rev. Henry Nutter Dr. W<sup>m</sup> H. Martin Supt. Com.

1856

Samuel C. Barker-Com.

May 22. Voted \$1,000. to build New School house.
Samuel C. Barker
Aaron P. Hardy
Reed P. Clark

Building Com.

June 25. Voted \$125.00 to repair Old House.

John Adams
John Annis
Trueworthy D. Chase
Repairing Com.

1857

Samuel Crowell Jr.-Com.

John Dickey Robt. C. Mack Elder John W. Greeley Supt. Com.

David C. Barker-Com.

Mar. 11. Voted to and did sell the Old house to Albert Atwood

for \$35.50. Also voted \$800.00 to build New House.

Reed P. Clark

Josiah Goodwin

Washington Perkins

David McGregor

John Dickey

Building Com.

Oct. 27. Voted to raise \$136.00 to finish School House.

Voted to raise \$100.00 for Out Bldgs.

Voted a Code of By-Laws.

John N. Anderson

Washington Perkins

Com. to enforce By-Laws.

John Dickey

Robt. C. Mack

Henry Goodwin

Supt. Com.

1859

John Dickey-Com.

Voted \$25.00 for Grading.

Voted \$212.00 to pay debt.

John Dickey

R. C. Mack

Dr. Wm J. Campbell

Supt. Com.

From this time on only one person each year was chosen Supt. Com. by the Town.

1860

Albert Atwood, Com.

1861

Washington Perkins -Com.

1862

John P. Whidden-Prul. Com.

Mr. Reed P. Clark closed a clerkship of the District of 19 years.

Began to record the Pru<sup>1</sup>. Com. Report.

David McGregor-Prul Com.

1864

Trueworthy D. Chase-Prul. Com.

1865

David C. Barker-Prul. Com.

1 1866

Henry Crowell-Prul. Com.

1867

Washington Perkins—Prul. Com. Voted \$150.00 to paint School House.

1868

Washington Colby-Prul. Com.

1869

Andrew J. Benson-Prul. Com.

First income of \$10.00 from Edmund Adams fund recorded in Pru. Com. report.

1870

Moses Alley—Com.

Henry Crowell-Prul. Com.

1871

Henry J. Whittemore—Pru. Com.

Owen Hinckley—Pru. Com., vice Henry J. Whittemore, resigned.

1872

James M. Floyd-Prul. Com.

1873

Samuel W. Annis-Prul. Com.

1874

Andrew S. Ladd-Prul. Com.

James G. Stone-Prul, Com.

1876

Henry Crowell—Prul. Com. Voted \$108.00 for repairs on buildings.

1877

Otis Adams-Prul, Com.

1878

Henry Crowell-Prul. Com.

1879

Washington Perkins-Prul. Com.

1880

Chas, R. Frost-Prul. Com.

1881

Chas. S. Greeley-Prul. Com.

1882

Elbridge A. Whidden—Prul. Com.

1883

James M. Floyd-Prul. Com.

1884

Owen Hinckley-Prul. Com.

1885

Owen Hinckley-Prul. Com.

Schools Managed by Town System:

1886

Wm P. Nevins Lucien H. Nesmith Chas. Geo. Pillsbury

School Board.

W<sup>m</sup> P. Nevins Samuel Gilcreast

School Board.

1888

Samuel Gilcreast W<sup>m</sup> P. Nevins

Albert P. Colby

School Board.

1889

Albert P. Colby Wm P. Nevins

School Board.

1890

Rev. H. B. Copp

Wm P. Nevins

Miss Hattie M. Whorf

School Board.

1891

Henry B. Copp

Hattie M. Whorf

Wm P. Nevins

School Board.

1892

Albert P. Colby

Wm P. Nevins

School Board.

1893

Wm P. Nevins

Albert P. Colby

Henry Crowell

School Board.

1894

Wm P. Nevins

Albert P. Colby

Henry Crowell

School Board.

Cost per scholar for the year was \$10.63. Average number of scholars for the year was 26.

W<sup>m</sup> P. Nevins Henry Crowell W<sup>m</sup> Richardson, M. D. School Board.

\$100.00 Extra Stock M. & L. R. R. received on Adams Fund and the same was deposited in the Peoples Savings Bank, Manchester, N. H., the interest to be used hereafter in support of the school.

1896

W<sup>m</sup> P. Nevins W<sup>m</sup> Richardson

School Board,

1897

Wm Richardson Daniel G. Annis Mrs. Georgietta W. Barrett School Board,

Modern Seats were furnished by the Vermont School Seat Co. at a cost of \$128.44.

1898

Daniel G. Annis Georgietta W. Barrett R. Guy Gibson

School Board.

1899

Georgietta W. Barrett R. Guy Gibson Chas, McAllister

School Board.

W<sup>m</sup> H. Crowell, Town Treas., was made Treas. of the Adams Fund. He holds office to the present time.

1900

R. Guy Gibson Chas. McAllister Daniel G. Annis

School Board.

Chas. McAllister
Daniel G. Annis
Rev. Geo. A. McLucas
School Board,

1902

Daniel G. Annis Miss Mabel F. M. Nevins Mrs. Sarah Annis School Board.

1903

Mabel F. M. Nevins
Sarah Annis
Daniel G. Annis
School Board.

1904

Sarah Annis Daniel G. Annis Mabel F. M. Nevins School Board.

School House reshingled & repaired at a cost of \$115.00.

1905

Daniel G. Annis Mabel F. M. Nevins Mrs. Almira A. Crowell School Board,

1906

Mabel F. M. Nevins Almira A. Crowell Wm G. Cross

School Board.

1907

Almira A. Crowell Frank E. Robie Mabel F. M. Nevins School Board.

#### DISTRICT CLERKS OF LONG SERVICE.

Reed P. Clark, 19 years. Daniel G. Annis, 8 years. John Dickey, 5 years. David F. Perkins, 5 years.

#### TEACHERS OF LONG SERVICE.

Miss Anna Florence Gibson,	9 terms	1899-1900-1901
Miss Mary Eastman Crowell,	8 terms	1889-1890-1891-1892
Miss Dora L. Young,	8 terms	1892-1893-1894
Miss Harriet F. Christie,	8 terms	1903-1904-1905
Miss Mary Eliza Crowell,	7 terms	1895-1896-1897
Mr. John Dickey,	6 terms	1847-1848-1852-1854
		1856-1869
Miss Abby E. Boyd,	5 terms	1874-1876
Miss Mary Jane Reid,	4 terms	1863-1864-1865
Miss Lucy W. Perkins,	4 terms	1875-1877
Miss Etta M. Young,	4 terms	1884-1885
Miss Mattie E. Farnum,	4 terms	1886-1887-1888
Miss Louisa E. Mullins,	3 terms	1873
Miss Nellie O. Moore,	3  terms	1879
Miss A. Helen Gibson,	3 terms	1901
Miss Florence C. Center,	3 terms	1907-1908

#### CENSUS.

In the year 1806 there were 42 polls and estates in No. 8. In the year 1906 there were 66 polls and 55 houses and estates, 256 being the total number of inhabitants.

# NUMBER OF PUPILS IN SCHOOL AT DIFFERENT PERIODS.

YEAR.	No. Pupils.	
1841	70	by Jonathan McAllister.
1858	92	for the year.
1861	88	for the year.
1863	95	for the year.
1866	71	for the year.
1868	58	Winter Term.
1872	42	Winter Term.
1874	42	Fall Term.
1877	29	Fall Term.
1880	23	for the year.
1882	20	for the year.
1885	34	for the year.
1886	18	for the year.
1890	23	for the year.
1894	26	for the year.
1898	32	for the year.
1900	32	for the year.
1902	39	for the year.
1904	40	for the year.
1906	40	for the year.
1907	45	Spring Term.
1908	38	Spring Term.

# Cost of New House.

1858, March 11,		
Sale of old building	\$35.50	
Appropriation	800.00	
1858, October 27,		
- To complete building	136.00	
Outbuilding	100.00	
1859,		
Grading	25.00	
To pay debt	212.00	
		\$1,308.50
Later disbursements (see below)	501.44	
Total		\$1,809.94

1867,	
To paint building\$150.00	
1876,	
Repairs to building 108.00	
1897,	
Modern Seats	
1904,	
Repairs to building	
Total	\$501.44

# LIST OF TEACHERS IN DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT, LONDONDERRY, NEW HAMPSHIRE.\*

The names of the early teachers in District Number Seventeen, later known as District Number Eight, are not a matter of record. It appears incidentally that William Redfield taught in 1813 and Foster Towns in 1820. Other early teachers who can not be definitely placed are:

1835 Miss Hannah Eastman.

1836 Miss Susan Choate Anderson.

1837 Miss Sally Reed.

1838 Miss Priscilla Claggett.

1839 Miss Priscilla Claggett. Rev. Stephen Pillsbury.

1840

1841 Jonathan McAllister.

1842 Jonathan McAllister.

1843 Andrew Wallace Mack.

1844

1845

1846 Miss Jane D. Patterson. Mrs. Robert Mack.

1847 Miss Jane D. Patterson. John Dickey.

1848 John Dickey.

<sup>\*</sup>This list is of necessity incomplete. The editor would be glad to know of any additions or corrections that should be made.

1849 Miss Hannah Jane Boyce.

Mrs. Turner, 2667 N. Lincoln St., Ravenwood Station. Chicago, Ill.

Josiah H. Pillsbury.

1850 Miss Caroline Choate. Samuel Gilcreast.

1851 Miss Caroline Choate.

1852 Miss Almira J. Anderson. Mrs. John Haynes,

John Dickey.

1853 Miss Alnora F. Pervier. Miss Sarah H. Goodwin. Samuel Gilcreast.

1854 Miss Frances M. Brickett. (Of Fisherville.) John Dickey.

1855 Miss Sarah J. Gilcreast. J. Kendrick Upton.

1856 Miss Harriet S. Holmes. John Dickey.

1857 Miss Ann J. Crosby. J. Kendrick Upton.

1858 Miss Mary W. Griffin. George Brickett.

1859 Miss Mary W. Griffin. L. Gilbert Chase.

1860 Miss Emily B. Noyes. A. B. Wood.

1861 Miss Marianna P. Clark.

William B. Fisher.

1862 Miss Hattie L. Jones. George Brickett.

1863 Miss Mary J. Reid.

George W. Dickey.

1864 Miss Mary J. Reid. Joseph R. Clark.

1865 Miss Mary J. Reid. (2 terms.) Londonderry, N. H.

(Of Wilmot.)

Litchfield, N. H. 43 Elm St., Melrose, Mass.

Haverhill, Mass.

(Of Henniker.) Mrs. Wm. H. Seaman,

1424 11th St., N. W.,

Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Rodney N. Whittemore,

Railroad St.,

West Manchester, N. H.

Rural Delivery No. 3,

Derry, N. H.

1866 Miss Mary F. C. March. Mrs. Hall,

Miss Jennie L. Moar. Mrs. Packer.

1867 Miss Harriet L. Warner. Mrs. John F. Pullen, 80 Highland Ave.,

Newtonville, Mass.

Long Pine, Neb.

Miss Hattie A. Tilton.

1868 Miss Emma L. Jenness. 764 No. Park Ave.,

Chicago, Ill.

K. F. Blaisdell.

1869 Miss Emma L. Jenness.

Miss Ida J. Mullins.

Mrs. Dustin,

Rural Delivery No. 5,

Manchester, N. H.

E. F. Higgins. John Dickey.

1870 Miss Lucy M. Boyd. Mrs. Gould.

(2 terms.)

1871 Miss Hannah C. Webster.
Myron Parsons Dickey.

1872 Miss Ella A. Gilcreast.

....

Milton, N. H.

east. Mrs. Huse,

Rural Delivery No. 1,

Derry, N. H.

Charles S. Frost.

1873 Miss Louisa E. Mullins.

(3 terms.)

Mrs. Nesmith,

Rural Delivery No. 5,

Rural Delivery No. 1,

Manchester, N. H.

1874 Miss Abby E. Boyd. (2 terms.)

E. Boyd. Mrs. Crowell, terms.) Rural Delivery No. 7,

Manchester, N. H.

Londonderry, N. H.

1875 Miss Lucy W. Perkins.

(3 terms.)

1876 Miss Abby E. Boyd.

(3 terms.)

1877 Miss Lucy W. Perkins. Miss Emma B. Greeley.

(2 terms.)

1878 Miss Florence E. Boyd.

(2 terms.)

H. Plummer Crowell.

1879 Miss Nellie O. Moore.

(3 terms.)

Mrs. Rei M. Hill.

Windham, N. H.

1880 Miss Ortie M. Smith.

Mrs. Severance.

Rural Delivery No. 1.

Manchester, N. H.

Miss Isabelle D. McGregor. Mrs. Demeritt.

Houston, Tex.

Ira W. Holt.

Webhannet, Maine.

1881 Miss Nellie S. Dickey.

Rural Delivery No. 3,

Miss Ella M. Allen.

Derry, N. H.

H. Plummer Crowell. 1882 Miss Mary L. Childs.

Mrs. Willie Watts,

1602 Dorchester Ave.,

Dorchester, Mass.

Miss Sarah P. Webster. Miss Ella M. Allen.

1883 Miss Emma H. Perkins. Mrs. Chas. W. Abbott.

(2 terms.)

Derry, N. H.

Arthur H. Hale.

Manchester, N. H. Mrs. Newman.

1884 Miss Etta M. Young. (3 terms.)

Rural Delivery No. 1,

Westmiuster, Mass.

1885 Miss Etta M. Young.

Miss Susie C. Whittemore. Tewksbury Center. Mass. Mrs. A. S. Butler,

1886 Miss Mattie E. Farnum.

Hudson, N. H.

Miss Cinderella J. Moore. (2 terms.)

Rural Delivery No. 1,

1887 Miss Mattie E. Farnum.

Windham Depot, N. H.

Box 174,

(2 terms.) 1888 Miss Mattie E. Farnum.

Mrs. Pressey,

Miss Grace H. Gibson.

Moutague, Mass.

1889 Miss Hattie M. Whorf

(2 terms.)

(2 terms.)

Miss Mary Eastman Crowell.

Mrs D. M. McQuesten, 413 Beech St.,

Miss Flora A. Temple.

1890 Miss Mary Eastman Crowell.

(3 terms.)

1891 Miss Mary Eastman Crowell.

(3 terms.)

Manchester, N. H.

1892 Miss Mary Eastman Crowell. Miss Dora L. Young. Mrs. Lake, (2 terms.) Rural Delivery No. 6. Manchester, N. H. 1893 Miss Dora L. Young. (3 terms.) 1894 Miss Dora L. Young. (3 terms.) 1895 Miss Mary Eliza Crowell. Mrs. Brown. (3 terms.) Rural Delivery No. 7, Manchester, N. H. 1896 Miss Mary Eliza Crowell. (3 terms.) 1897 Miss Mary Eliza Crowell. Irving C. Gove. Kensington, N. H. Miss Ruby E. McIntire. 1898 Miss Lilla F. Warren. New Boston, N. H. (2 terms.) 1899 Miss Anna Florence Gibson, Mrs. Holcomb, (3 terms.) State College, Amherst, Mass. 1900 Miss Anna Florence Gibson. (3 terms.) 1901 Miss Anna Florence Gibson. (3 terms.) 1902 Miss A. Helen Gibson. (3 terms.) 1903 Miss S. Evelyn Russell. Center Sandwich, N. H. Miss Harriet F. Christie. Mrs. Bergeron, (2 terms.) Derry, N. H.

(2 terms.)
1904 Miss Harriet F. Christie.
(3 terms.)
1905 Miss Harriet F. Christie.
(3 terms.)

1906 Mrs. Clarence O. Watts. Rural Delivery No. 1,
Londonderry, N. H.

Miss Mary Louisa Mooar. 869 Valley St.,

Miss Z. Grace Stevens. Suncook, N. H.
1907 Miss Florence C. Center. Rural Delivery No. 1,
(3 terms.)

1908 Mrs. Clarence O. Watts.

Hudson, N. H.

Manchester, N. H.

### THE OLD RED SCHOOL HOUSE.

# A PART OF ITS HISTORY AND HOW THE NEW SCHOOL HOUSE CAME TO BE BUILT.

# By WILLIAM CLARK.

We learn from the records that the Old Red School House was built in 1794 on the corner of the lot where the present school house stands. It was of solid, hewn oak frame and had a fireplace for heating it, being undoubtedly one of the most substantial and best appointed school houses of its day.

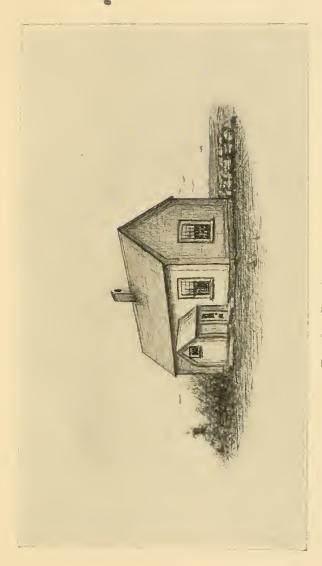
The original lot contained about twelve square rods. This lot, with the school house thereon, was deeded by the proprietors to District Number Seventeen, March 16, 1811. for a consideration of \$45.00.

The proprietors were:

Jonathan Barnett.
James Adams.
John Dickey.
Nathan Plumer.
James Wilson.
David Crowel.
Caleb Gooden.
James Morrison.
Benjamin Corning.
Nathaniel Giles.
Reuben Sawyer.
Edward Dodge.
James Watts.
Robert Bartley.

Stephen Plumer.
Hugh Boyes.
Thomas Bartlett.
David Gooden.
Robert Nesmith.
Ebenezer Fisher.
Joshua Corning.
John Duncan.
William Adams.
Jonathan Griffin.
Robert Wilson.
James Plats.
John Cochran.
Jean Duncan.

Repairs were made on the school house from time to time until 1830, when quite extensive repairs were made and the first stove bought. This was replaced with a new one



THE OLD RED SCHOOL HOUSE. (Drawn by Charles McGregor.)



in 1839 and others followed. The house was subjected to hard usage but withstood its abuse and was evidently large enough for its purpose until about 1847, when complaints began to be made; conditions grew worse ever after.

The Superintendent School Committee, Rev. Timothy G. Brainerd, in his report for 1849-50, says:

The house is such a crazy old thing that it is altogether unfit for school purposes, and its location is on one of the most elevated and bleak spots in the town. Not only its decayed condition, but its size, render it totally unfit for so large a school.

The dimensions of the school room inside are, by actual measurement, found to be 25 feet in length and 17 feet in breadth.

This room contains twelve benches 6¼ feet long; and in front of them are four corresponding low seats for small scholars, and the teacher's desk.

Before the desk is an open space to the door, occupied by the stove and the legs and feet of the scholars on the front seats; for the space is so narrow that the little fellows can almost reach their neighbors on the opposite side. Into this space of 17 feet by 25 feet were crowded on some days 60 scholars, 20 of whom were over 14 years of age. Every foot appropriated to seats was occupied so that whenever a class was called upon to recite a double change was necessary. \* \* \*

About 1852 there began a determined effort for a new, or larger and better school house, and then, and thereafter, articles were inserted in the warrants for school meeting, to build a new school house, or to enlarge and "fit up" the old one, which for one cause and another failed of enactment.

At a special meeting held May 22, 1856, the District voted to build a stone school house, and located it on land of Isaac Dow at the corner of the road opposite the old house; voted to raise \$1,000.00 therefor; and chose a committee to build. The District also voted to sell the old school house but neglected to do so, thereby making the vote to build illegal, as under the law no District could have two school houses.

At a special meeting held the twenty-third day of June, 1856, the motion to build was lost; \$125.00 was voted to repair the school house, and a committee was chosen to repair, viz.: John Adams, John Annis and Trueworthy D. Chase. The repairing was left discretionary with the committee, "but not to exceed in expense more than \$125.00 at any rate."

In 1857 there was not much done in the way of building a new house, but the fires were kept burning by both factions, then nearly equal in point of numbers and well matched in parliamentary skill.

In 1858 they had a warm time in District Number Eight. The annual meeting on the eleventh day of March took up the article to sell the school house before acting on the article to build a new one, which preceded it. The District voted to sell the old house and to reserve its use for the summer school, and, on motion, voted to proceed to sell at auction. The building was knocked down to Albert Atwood for \$35.50, he being the highest bidder. The bidding was not very spirited, as none of the prominent advocates of a new house took an active part and it was not evident what Albert Atwood wanted of his bargain. He was, however, bidding for Reed P. Clark, as many present well knew. The whole affair was looked upon as a huge joke by those opposed to a new house.

Then the District voted to build a new school house; voted to raise \$800.00 to be expended in building; and chose a committee to locate and build, viz.: Reed P. Clark, Josiah Goodwin, Washington Perkins, David McGregor, and John Dickey.

Early in April, 1858, an undated petition, duly signed by three legal voters of the District, was presented to the Prudential Committee, asking him to call a special meeting and to insert in the warrant articles to reconsider votes to sell the school house and to build a school house (passed at the meeting of March 11, 1858); to discharge the committee; and to divide the District. David C. Barker, the Prudential Committee, issued his warrant on the twenty-fourth day of April, warning a meeting on May 29, 1858, making as much delay as possible in issuing the warrant and also fixing the date of meeting as late as he could in order to let the building committee get well under way. The writer well remembers hearing the matter discussed.

This meeting was held at the store of Washington Colby, as the District then had no school house. After electing Washington Perkins Moderator, each article in the warrant was dismissed in turn and the meeting dissolved. There was nothing else to do under the circumstances. This was the last ditch.

The building committee, awaiting this meeting, had been very much alive. They had located the new house and had acquired of Isaac Dow land adjoining the old site, making in all a plat containing 42 3/10 square rods. The building of the house had been contracted to Isaac Coburn. The lumber and other materials had been bought and partly delivered. The foundations were being put in by Benning Noyes, and the underpinning furnished by Reed P. Clark.

The summer wore on. The school in the old house progressed under the skilful and effective management of its teacher, Miss Mary W. Griffin of Litchfield, New Hampshire. The new house materialized immediately in the rear, to the north-west of the old one, and the Old Red School House looked complacently on to see itself supplanted, but yet another mission was in store for it.

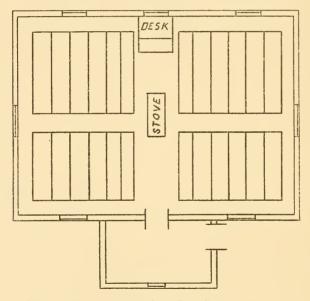
After school closed the old house was moved up the hill to the corner of the road leading to John Dickey's, where it remained for several weeks. Warren Richardson then purchased it of Reed P. Clark and moved it to Wilson's Crossing, where it became a part of Mr. Richardson's shoe factory. Here it again swarmed with humanity and became a beehive of industry. All through the long years of the War, and afterwards, many whose first school days

were passed within its walls were among its busy workers. After eighty-six years of continuous service, sixty-five as a school house and twenty-one as a shoe factory, the Old Red School House was consumed by fire in the night of January 19, 1880, and with it went the store, railroad station, and post-office at Wilson's Crossing. The missions of the old building were ended. Peace to its ashes!

#### EDITOR'S NOTES:

Portions of the original school house not forming a part of the main building are still to be found scattered over the District. There is at Stonehenge a very substantial grain-chest made from the battle-scarred planks of which the benches were built.

School was first opened in the new house in the fall of 1858, with George Brickett presiding over its destinies.



GROUND PLAN OF THE OLD RED SCHOOL HOUSE.

(Drawn by Charles McGregor.)
Scale: \frac{1}{8}" = 1'.

#### THE ADAMS FUND.

# By WILLIAM H. CROWELL.

Treasurer of the Fund.

In the year 1870 the District came into possession of two shares of Manchester and Lawrence Railroad stock from the estate of Mr. Edmund Adams, an old and highly respected resident of the District.

The par value of this stock was one hundred dollars per share. It pays a dividend of ten per cent per annum.

In May, 1897, an extra dividend of one hundred ninety-five and 95-100 dollars (\$195.95) on the two shares was declared. This was deposited in the People's Savings Bank of Manchester and pays at the present time three and one-half per cent interest.

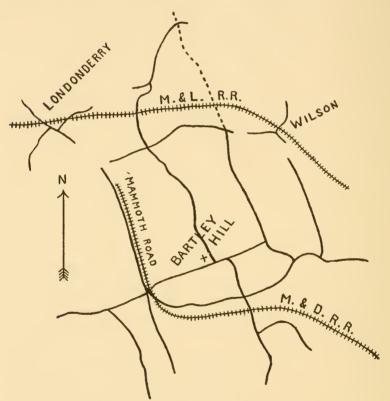
This amount, with the original two hundred, forms what is known as the "Adams Fund," the income of which is to be expended in extra schooling for the District. This amounts to \$23.50 and gives about  $2\frac{1}{4}$  weeks each year.

Mr. Adams, the donor of this fund, was a man who was deeply interested in the cause of education and prominent in the affairs of the District. He was the father of the Reverend Lucien H. Adams of Derry, the Honorary President of the District Number Eight Old Home Association, who was for many years a missionary in Turkey.

Mr. Lucien H. Adams graduated from Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, and from Dartmouth College in the class of 1858. He is the father of Edward F. Adams, who graduated from Harvard College in the class of 1896; Walter S. Adams, who graduated from Dartmouth College in the class of 1898; and Helen Adams, who graduated from Bridgewater Normal School and from Johns Hopkins University in the class of 1906.

It has been suggested that a portrait of Mr. Edmund Adams be placed upon the wall of the school room in honor of his memory, and steps have already been taken to carry the suggestion into effect. We hope before another year to see the plans perfected and the picture placed in position.\*

<sup>\*</sup>A crayon portrait of Mr. Adams has been purchased by the Association and placed in the school room.



SKETCH MAP OF DISTRICT NUMBER EIGHT. (From the Government Survey, 1903.)

## THE FIRST CELEBRATION.

# By REED PAIGE CLARK.

Preparations for the first celebration of the District Number Eight Old Home Association were under way very early in the year 1907. The Committee on Ways and Means and the important Committee on Invitation were appointed at the outset by the Executive Committee. It was a difficult matter to prepare even an approximately complete list of teachers, pupils and former residents, but such a list was compiled largely through the untiring efforts of Mr. Annis, who was ably seconded by his colleagues on the Committee.

Early in August attractive invitations were mailed to all non-residents eligible for membership in the Association whose names and addresses could be obtained.

Committees whose duties did not involve such careful research as did those of the Committee on Invitation, but who devoted themselves to the immediate details of the celebration were appointed at a meeting of the Executive Board on July 10th. These committees went to work with a will and nothing was left undone that would contribute in the least to the success of the undertaking.

The school house, through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Crowell, had been re-papered, cleaned and put in perfect order prior to the entertainment of May 17th. Later the well was cleaned and a new pump installed. On the day before the celebration the Committee on Decorations and Order, having perfected their plans, repaired to Bartley Hill with the necessary assortment of brooms, scythes, rakes, shovels and other instruments of warfare. They were generously assisted by enthusiastic members of the Association who realized what a task was before them. The wall around the school house, overturned by pupils

in years gone by, was largely rebuilt. The grass was cut; the grounds carefully raked and graded; ropes were stretched for the tying of horses; tents pitched; and a thousand and one things attended to. The school house was tastefully decorated with bunting, loaned by Londonderry Grange, and masses of goldenrod, sumae and other native flowers, while the flag was flung to the breeze from the top of its staff.

The day of preparation was ideal, but August 21st dawned cloudy and threatening. All committees were early on the scene. A large tent, loaned by Mr. Frank A. Hardy, had been pitched directly in front of the school house, though at some distance from it. Flanking this tent on the right was a large shelter tent, while on the left, marshalled along the wall, were two small tents, one the head-quarters of the Secretary-Treasurer, and the commodious coffee tent. Below the pump a screen of birches ran across the grounds from the wall to the school house. The tea booth was at the angle of the wall by the road leading down the hill and a table loaded with refreshments for invited guests was set near by. About the grounds, in the tents and in the school house were chairs loaned by the town through the courtesy of Mr. Pettengill.

A large conveyance had been provided to carry passengers to and from the station at Londonderry. Early in the day it began to discharge its human freight, Lawrence's Orchestra of five pieces being among the first arrivals.

And then came the rain,—not a gentle shower, but a regular downpour that lasted until late in the afternoon. It was the irony of fate that the stormiest day of the season should come on August 21st, sandwiched between two of the most beautiful days in the entire summer.

Nevertheless the celebration was in every way a success. Although many were kept at home, although many who had the courage to venture out left before the exercises began, yet some three or four hundred remained, jamming

the school room almost to suffocation. Not a word of complaint was heard, however. Every face was wreathed in smiles, and those who took part in the program were rewarded with hearty applause.

A large Reception Committee of representative residents was on duty during the day. Through the kindness of the Morrison family lemonade was served to all. Post-cards of the present school house were on sale, and the membership of the Association was doubled and trebled, much to the delight of the Treasurer, who was enabled to meet all bills and to have a balance to his credit.

At two o'clock the assembly was called to order in the school room by President Annis. It had been intended to hold the exercises upon a platform erected for that purpose before the school house, but for obvious reasons this plan was abandoned. The program follows in detail:

#### PROGRAM-AUGUST 21, 1907.

Invocation.

Singing by the audience: Auld Lang Syne. Home Again.

Historical Sketch by Daniel Gage Annis.

Singing by the audience: Old Oaken Bucket.

Letters from Absent Friends, read by the Secretary.

Five-Minute Addresses.

Singing by the audience: America.

Music by the orchestra.

The Secretary read letters of regret from a number of former teachers and pupils, among whom were the following:

Mrs. Mary F. C. (March) Hall, of Long Pine, Nebraska,—a teacher in 1866:

Can it be possible that forty years have passed since I taught in District Number Eight! And yet we are face to face with the stern truth that time has been swiftly passing, and the boys and girls of that happy summer time are now men and women, doing their part in the world's work. Some, alas! finished their work before the noontide of life and are now "resting from their labors." I, in a quiet way, have been trying to live not for self alone.

I would like to tell those boys and girls some of my experiences during my stay in Iowa and Nebraska, but you will have many letters to read and the time would be too short.

Suffice it to say that I am living a very happy life, with my family near me, and renewing my youth in the love of the little children who call me grandmother.

My visits to Londonderry have always been in the earlier months of the year and I have missed the enjoyment of Old Home Week.

But while I have lived so many years in the West, and have become, in a way, westernized, I have never forgotten my old New England home or the dear friends of long ago.

And now from my far away western home let me send a kindly greeting to one and all of the dear friends of other days, and when you call the roll of teachers, listen, for the western wind may whisper, Here!

Mrs. Harriet L. (Warner) Pullen, of Newtonville, Massachusetts,—a teacher in 1867:

It is with much pleasure that I look back upon the summer spent at the schoolhouse on Bartley Hill, and I remember well many of my pupils, some of whom I have met from time to time since then, but most of them I have not seen since the last day of that term.

Mary and Lucy Perkins, always ready with well prepared lessons; Plummer Crowell, a bright, pleasant boy; Lizzie Crowell, Abbie Adams, Charlie Barker and many others. I remember one little boy who found much difficulty in learning his letters. I have often thought of him in connection with the modern method of teaching children to read. The entire system of teaching is so changed, we are led to exclaim: "Surely old things have passed away. Behold all things have become new!" However, I still cling, in spite of progress, to many of the old-fashioned ideas and methods.

Miss Emma L. Jenness, of Chicago, Illinois,—a teacher in 1868 and 1869:

It is almost forty years since, during two pleasant summer sessions, I so enjoyed my work there with my big girls, Ella Benson, Etta McGregor, Etta Barker, Abbie Adams and Lucy Perkins.

Then there were Edmund Richardson, Charlie Barker, Frank Colby, David Perkins, Frank Bagley, Frank Benson, Plummer Crowell and little Willie McGregor and Frank Hovey. Emma Perkins is the only baby girl of whom I can think, and there were Josie Chase, Sadie Crowell, Emma and Carrie McGregor of the "middle size." I know there were many more dear boys and girls, and I wish I could recall their names. I should like a list of the names of all who were my pupils there. I wonder how many of them will be present in just one week from today. How many, I wonder, will remember having had a teacher by the name of Miss Jenness? A beautiful copy of Whittier's Poems and a photograph album are among the treasures precious to my heart. Through all these years remains the memory of my speaking impulsively to the dear, dear girls who came in late one warm afternoon just as the term was drawing to a close, bringing a deeper pink to the cheeks already flushed with rapid walking in the glowing sunshine. After the Last Day Exercises were over and the book with loving, tender words of appreciation had been presented, while the good-byes were being said, I learned why the girls were late at noon that day. The ache in my heart has never left it. My eyes are filled with tears as I write. It is the only touch of sadness connected with my Number Eight days.

I could write pages of happy memories. There is not one pupil whose name has come to mind since beginning this of whom I could not tell things interesting,—things "rememberful." Oh, if I could but be "in presence there" next Wednesday! Please let no one so much as think in his head "It is perhaps well she is confined to writing—that she can not be here to talk."

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Crowell were my first Number Eight friends. It was through their influence that I went there, and they never let go by any opportunity to help make my life pleasant and homelike. Mr. Andrew Mack was the examining committee and Mr. Washington Colby the prudential.

My boarding place was at Mr. Isaac Dow's, but not many nights in succession went by that I did not go home with some of the children to take supper and to spend the evening. That good old custom has, I am afraid, almost died out. At no home was I oftener or more warmly welcomed than at that of Mr. and Mrs. John Dickey. Of course I was often at Reed P. Clark's, for Will and Sallie and I were old Pinkerton schoolmates. \* \*

I shall think of you next Wednesday. I hope the day will be perfect and the company large. I trust some will think of me, speak of me; and there may be a few to say "I went to school to Miss Jenness"; more perhaps to say "She was my father's

teacher" or "My mother, who went to school to Miss Jenness, has often told me of her." You see, friends, that as people grow older the knowledge that they are not forgotten grows more and more precious. You see, don't you, that I am growing old? Well, I am satisfied to have it so. So far, each year has been the best year.

Rev. Myron P. Dickey, of Milton, New Hampshire,—a teacher in 1871:

The rural school district is the first little world whence the great part of the men and women have come that have so far met the grave problems which continuously arise. Modern methods of education change as everything else, but it is doubtful if there will ever be a school for all-round training of youth better than the mixed country school, with a moderate number of pupils and an enthusiastic, high-souled teacher. They learned from each other; the younger looked up to their elders; the older members felt themselves looked up to and were inspired to set worthy examples.

Mrs. Etta M. (Young) Newman, of Westminster, Massachusetts,—a teacher in 1884 and 1885:

Very pleasant memories come of my association with pupils and parents in District Number Eight, and I have much for which to be grateful in my very pleasant relations with both while teaching my four successive terms on Bartley Hill.

Changes have come to all of us; faces and forms have vanished; new names are on the school roll. When we meet in the school under "The Great Master," may every name we love and cherish be found filling an honored place!

Miss Mary E. Perkins, of Boston, Massachusetts, writing from Austria:

I have wandered far from that dear old school house this summer and have seen the cities which were only a name to me then—quite as mythical as "Far Cathay" or "Ancient Troy." Now I know that Rome and Florence and Venice and Geneva do really exist and that they are very beautiful, but they can never make me forget the scenes or friends of my childhood, which will seem more beautiful than ever when next I see them. There is no country like the United States, no state like New Hampshire, no town like Londonderry, and no school like Number Eight.

Five-minute addresses were made by the Reverend Lucien H. Adams of Derry, who in the course of his remarks exhibited a number of articles formerly owned by his father; \* Colonel William S. Pillsbury of Londonderry; Hon. Leonard H. Pillsbury of Derry; James Morrison of Cambridge, Massachusetts; Mrs. Ella A. Huse of Derry; and by those whose addresses are herewith printed in full.

Henry Goodwin, of the Crawford House, Boston, Massachusetts:

It is more than fifty-five years since I attended school on Bartley Hill, where this structure now stands. This is the only time that I have ever entered this lineal descendant of the "Old Red School House," but memory, true to her traditional trustworthiness, holds sacred and secure the experiences of those boyhood days. It is hard to recall that on any particular day anything was learned that was valuable as an asset, to be placed in the storehouse of accumulated wisdom for future use in the intelligent performance of the duties of life. The fact is that a boy never completes his education, if ever, till he gets away from teachers' books and schoolhouses and runs up against the really difficult problems of life, the answer to which is not in the text books. Incidents are more easily recalled than the solution of difficult problems.

The district was so bounded that from the north, south, east and west, every child had a steep hill to climb, and no change could be made except to make four districts instead of one, with four schoolhouses and four teachers and a division of the school term by four.

I recall the wood stove in the center of the room, sometimes as cold as the northern hinges on the door of a receiving tomb in

<sup>\*</sup>These articles, with certain books used in his own early life, were presented to the Association by Mr. Adams August 19, 1908.

An ancient play-box made about 1792 and used by Edmund Adams. A coat worn by Edmund Adams in 1806, when four years of age. And the following books, all of which were used in Number Eight: The Only Sure Guide to the English Tongue, by William Perry. (1790.)

by William Perry. (1790.)
A Compendious System of Universal Geography, by Elijah Parish, D. D. (1813.)
The Understanding Reader, by Daniel Adams. M. P.

by Daniel Adams, M. B. (1815.)
Practical and Mental Arithmetic,
by Roswell C. Smith, 1833.
A Practical System of Modern Geography,

by J. Olney, A. M. 1838.

January, and again glowing with the intense heat made possible by the excessive use of white oak and maple. The older boys took turns with the teacher in making the fire, and I felt proud when thought big enough to take my turn with the rest and to be asked to bring one cent towards buying a broom. I remember taking one egg to Mr. Anderson's store and with it getting a slate pencil. When I asked if he would let me have two for that price he said he would break it in the middle for me. I recall distinctly the boys and girls of those days, most of whom, though gone from us, yet live in the second and third generations represented here today. Some have become prominent in business and in professional life and to them the pulpit, the press and the platform are familiar; some are honorably serving as teachers in other fields; others have homes of their own made richer than they will ever know by what they have learned from teachers and text books in Number Eight.

I believe in the district school system. Its one glory is this, that the boys and girls, with shoes and stockings or barefooted, place their feet upon the same level floor but put their heads where they have the will to put them, and this is why they do not go forth into the world like a paper of pins with their heads all alike. If my desire for knowledge had been one half as keen as my appetite for the lunch that mother put up to appease my midday hunger, a man of letters in the place of your uninformed alumnus might be talking to you today. I was taught to obey the teacher, to be kind to my schoolmates, to remember what I learned from the Bible as well as from text books, to consider the Golden Rule as the Magna Carta of God's Kingdom on earth. So character was being formed in which was the purpose to do right for truth's sake, and now to those far-off days I backward look for much that has been helpful and inspiring during all the intervening years. And now while here assembled, believing that the teaching in good old Number Eight has helped us to attain to that which makes for what is noblest and best in manhood and womanhood in the line of physical, mental and moral development, let us renew our pledge of unswerving loyalty to this shrine of our hearts' devotion, and ere this gray day shall darken into night-by all the hallowed memories that cluster here, by the dignity of our birthright, by the flag we love, re-baptized in the blood of those who made its supremacy possible and permanent. Let us go forth to new duties, knowing that we reach the limit of our obligations only when we reach the limit of our ability to make the world better.

"Up, brothers, up, and join the glorious strife, Where man is struggling for a loftier life; Deep through earth's yearning universal heart, New hopes, new energies, new beings start. Old bondage breaks, old chains are rent and riven, Freedom from all her mountains shouts to Heaven, False creeds are crumbling, man's first faith and best, The source of all the good in all the rest, The pure, the bright, the heavenly and the true, Eternal, vital and forever new, These, these instinct with impulse from above Go conquering on to rule the world by love."\*

# Mr. Arthur H. Hale, of Manchester,—a teacher in 1883:

One beautiful afternoon in the Indian summer of 1883, my thoughts were directed to the famous old school of District Number Eight by Professor Parker of Hanover. My struggle for an education at Dartmouth required me to teach that winter and I had made several applications for a position. Up to that time I had not made much progress. It appeared that the professor had received an urgent request for a good teacher of experience for this district. Fortunately for me the experienced teachers already had other engagements, so he offered to recommend me. But word came back that it was a hard school. No one but a teacher tried and true could be accepted. A week or two passed. Then I was informed that they would try me and I might do if I would come quick. Meanwhile I had read "The Hoosier Schoolmaster" and prepared myself for all kinds of capers on the part of the pupils.

A bleak fall day gave me my first acquaintance with the town of Londonderry and my little trunk was thrown off at Wilson's. One of the prudential committee was at the little station and on the road to my boarding place he laid down the law and prepared me for serious business in a kind but forcible way. Many misgivings as to my ability to handle your excellent school and visions of being thrown headlong from one of the windows or stowed away in the capacious stove were not at all diminished when I saw on the first morning of school in the front row as one of my scholars great, big-chested Charlie Tilly. If he knew how many nightmares he gave me he would be surprised. It was amusing indeed to the scholars to see him reciting to a little fellow like myself. One day as he stood by his seat reading, he came to a sudden stop. I tried to help him out, but he persisted in holding

<sup>\*</sup>From "The World's Hope," by George Lansing Taylor.

his book away up above my head. Off my guard, I started to climb upon a chair near by, but a smile here, a ripple there, and a laugh of increasing dimensions everywhere warned me only in time to hastily say to him "Yes, that's right, very good. You may take your seat." I will say for Charlie that he was always a good, big-hearted fellow and proved the least of all my troubles. The boys and girls, forty and more, were without exception attentive and considerate. Indeed, I was not prepared for so much consideration. Young and bashful, I was almost overwhelmed the first week when one of the handsome young ladies, on my offering her assistance over a stone wall, sweetly replied: "Thank you, dear."

Many times since have my thoughts reverted to that delightful winter among the snowy hills of Londonderry and in the family of Mr. Floyd, distinguished for good cheer and kind hospitality, as one of the happy and profitable experiences of my life, an incentive and inspiration. I assert with confidence that the keen air from these rugged hills developed the robust frames of the native children and gave them a kind of strength better adapted to violent exertions of mind and body and inspired them with a constitutional bravery and enterprise.

What wonder is it that your young men and women go forth to our cities and take the lead in every walk of life! Their common school education is practical and fits them for the real struggle of life. In youth they are free from the luxurious entertainments of the city, which enervate the body and soften the mind. sturdy manhood once attained becomes permanent. It successfully resists corruption in contact with the outside world. world improves, the opportunity for real individual success widens-not money success but the success of service which brings all material reward necessary for human content. There is a real demand for captains of industry who will work for service and not for play. Shams are being exposed. Mere money is losing its power over men. Character is now the prime requisite. The world is really growing better. The higher standards of conduct which each one of us sets up for himself tell us this is so. To be cheerfully optimistic is the duty of all. To lend a hand in every good cause, to help while we may, is the motto of every true man, whatever his occupation.

"I've toiled with the men the world has blessed;
I've toiled with the men who have failed;
I've toiled with the men who strove with zest;
And I've toiled with the men who wailed.

And this is the tale my soul would tell, 'As it drifts o'er the harbor bar:
The sound of a sigh don't carry well,
But the lilt of a laugh rings far."

Hope is the beacon that lures men onward. But the light from the star of hope is but the reflection of the fire in the heart filled with bright memories of the past. Without memories of the past we can have but small hope for the future. Memories of deeds accomplished but lead on to greater deeds, and the memories of good old District Number Eight are the brightest of them all.

Mrs. William H. Seaman, of Washington, D. C.,—a teacher in 1861:

I will speak briefly of a tornado, remarkable for a region so far north, of which I was witness from this point in July, 1861, when I was teaching in Number Eight.

A class of older pupils were remaining after the closing hour for an extra lesson, when we were attracted by a darkening of the sky and a "rushing mighty wind." We gathered at the windows and presently upon our left there appeared a dark column advancing from the woodland and swirling within it what appeared to be twigs and leaves, but which were really limbs and whole trees. We soon saw that its course was so far away from us that we were not in danger, so we watched this wonderful column as it passed through the valley below. It reached from earth to sky, not ragged in its outline but clear cut.

As it approached Lake Massabesic there arose before it from the water an enormous shape like the head of an elephant with trunk in air, as though trumpeting, and directly over it in the sky another head and trunk reaching down to meet the first. As the tips of the trunks met each other they instantly formed a solid square column and joined the advancing huge one. A moment later a great pyramid arose from the earth and an inverted pyramid came down from the sky just above it. Another square column formed as the points of these pyramids met and this also united with the main column and it so passed from our sight, having traversed the entire valley before us.

These water spouts were both over Lake Massabesic, the first one over the larger lake, the second over the smaller. A picnic party, fishing, were just coming to the shore when the first spout formed and all the water in the lake appeared to be scooped up away from them for the moment. The table on shore, spread with their luncheon, was so completely demolished and carried away that no trace of anything pertaining to it could be found afterwards.

Fortunately the track of this tornado was through the forest and not in line with buildings, and few upon its borders suffered loss. In one house a woman, to shut out the wind coming through a broken window pane, put a child's hat into the opening, stuffing the crown with a small cushion. These were instantly torn from her hands and later were found, in opposite directions, a half mile each from the house.

For nearly a year the track of this notable tornado was marked by a blood-red band of broken and uprooted trees, as though a fire had passed through the woodland; and several years later the United States Weather Bureau sent one of its experts to gather full information of the event for permanent record in the Bureau.

George Brickett, of Melrose, Massachusetts,—a teacher in 1858 and 1862:

It gives me pleasure to be present at this District Number Eight Old Home Day reunion. Whenever an Old Home Day celebration is proposed our thought is directed to the old, for they are an absolutely necessary feature of such celebrations.

While I have been observing you today in your earnest conversations, not hearing your words, my imagination became excited. I imagined one of you of the young class asking an older: "Who is that fine-looking gentleman over there?" The older replied: "Why, that is James Morrison! Don't you know him?" "Of course I know Mr. Morrison," said the younger, "but who is that ministerial appearing gentleman?" "Why," said the older, "I supposed everybody knew him. That is Henry Goodwin." "I know Mr. Goodwin," replied the younger, "and I want to know who is that handsome man over there." "Oh, that is George Brickett," was the reply, "and be was my teacher in this district forty-nine years ago. Don't you know him?" In a slightly impatient manner the younger answered: "How do you suppose I should know who was your teacher twenty-nine years before I was born?"

While I was thus imagining, a vision appeared. I saw myself standing by the teacher's desk and looking into the faces of the Morrisons, the McGregors, the Barkers, the Sargents, the Blodgetts, the Noyes, the Clarks, the Perkins, the Whitcombs, the Whittemores, the Goodwins, the Huntees, the Crowells, the Boyces, the Pettengills, the Atwoods, the Dows, the Dakins, and the entire

school, and if I should now listen I think I might hear their voices. I saw the young teacher who, though able to pass the examination, had come to this district to learn what he had not learned at the academy. Right on this spot I learned that every intelligent human being is born with a desire to learn and he will retain that desire until ignorant parents or incompetent teachers obscure it by their blackguardism.

Young parents and young teachers! I offer you advice based on my experience as teacher in this district and subsequently in Massachusetts. Some children are bright and some are dull, but all want to learn. You can not stop the bright ones and you can help the dull ones.

Teachers! I know how pleasing it is to read in the committee's report that under my direction the pupils had made rapid progress. The fact was that I could not have stopped the bright ones in their progress. But the dull ones who had progressed by my help could not make the brilliant showing on examination day, and I was given credit not for helping the dull but for not hindering the bright.

Parents! If you admit that your child is dull, don't abuse him. He wants to learn. Help him! Don't blackguard him, don't call him stupid, don't tell him that little Johnny Brown knows more than he does, don't tell him that you are too busy, don't deadeu his desire to learn. To be sure, we have seen children who seemed indifferent and who did not show the desire to learn, but God never made such a child, and, for everyone who shows such indifference, there is a day of judgment for the parent or the teacher who by blackguardism has destroyed a mind. Destroyed a mind? No, no, mind can not be destroyed and that child's mind is now willing and anxious for development, but is waiting for kind and humane treatment. I believe the highest reward an instructor can receive in this world is that which appears in the face of the dull child awakened to the truth that he can learn when treated as one worthy of acquiring knowledge.

And a second vision appeared. I saw you people assembling here forty-nine years hence at another Old Home Day reunion and enjoying the reciting of the events of 1907, but I could not clearly see the positions which the old of today would then occupy. Through a cloud we seemed to be present at District Number Eight Old Home Day of 1956, but, before the mist had rolled away, the vision vanished and left me to hope and trust.

My young friends! I thank you for your sympathy and your hearty coöperation in giving to the old this opportunity for happiness such as you will not realize until you are old. Laughter

and hilarity seem to be emblematic of pleasure, but one step higher on the ladder of happiness is the feeling of sadness. May you live to reach that step and fully realize the happiness you have given us today!

The long, long ago, and the sweet, sweet home have been feelingly expressed in three charming melodics, and by request of my schoolmate as well as pupil, Mr. Harlan P. Morrison, I will endeavor to interpret them.

Mr. Brickett then played on the harmonica the songs "Long, Long Ago," and "Home, Sweet Home," and recited "The Long Years" by Thomas Moore:

And doth not a meeting like this make amends
For all the long years I've been wand'ring away—
To see thus around me my youth's early friends,
As smiling and kind as in that happy day?
Though haply o'er some of your brows, as o'er mine,
The snow-fall of time may be stealing—what then?
Like Alps in the sunset or smooth-flowing Rhine,
We'll wear the gay tinge of youth's roses again.

What softened remembrances come o'er the heart,
In gazing on those we've been lost to so long!
The sorrows, the joys, of which once they were part,
Still round them, like visions of yesterday, throng,
As letters some hand hath invisibly traced,
When held to the flame will steal out on the sight,
So many a feeling, that long seem'd effaced,
The warmth of a moment like this brings to light.

So brief our existence, a glimpse, at the most,
Is all we can have of the few we hold dear;
And oft even joy is unheeded and lost,
For want of some heart, that could echo it, near.
Ah, well may we hope, when this short life is gone.
To meet in some world of more permanent bliss,
For a smile, or a grasp of the hand, hast'ning on,
Is all we enjoy of each other in this.

And thus, as in memory's bark we shall glide,
To visit the scenes of our boyhood anew,
Tho' oft we may see, looking down on the tide,
The wreck of full many a hope shining through,

Yet still, as in fancy we point to the flowers,

That once made a garden of all the gay shore,

Deceived for a moment, we'll think them still ours,

And breathe the fresh air of life's morning once more.

After reading this melody Mr. Brickett asked the President to permit him to express good-bye sentiments through the voice of his wife, and, leading her to the platform, he accompanied with the harmonica while Mrs. Brickett very feelingly and very sweetly sang the following parting song:

# SEFARATION.





While we've wandered we have hearkened For the voice of Home, Sweet Home, And we heard Old Home Day calling: "Wand'ring pilgrims, homeward come!"

We have come to meet companions
In the grand old Granite State,
And we never shall forget thee,
Dear loved District Number Eight.

We've renewed the dear old friendships, Hand in hand, and heart to heart, But our joy gives way to sadness; Time is fleeting—we must part. We must part—but not forever,
For a spirit ne'er can die.
We shall meet in God's Own Homeland,
Nevermore to say: "Good-bye."

Mrs. Mary J. (Reid) Whittemore, of Manchester,—a teacher in 1863, 1864 and 1865:

Forty-four years in the future stretches away a long distance, so far that neither eye nor thought can see the end. Turning to the past, it is now forty-four years since I first came as teacher to District Number Eight, which was the largest school in town, numbering sixty-four pupils in summer and sixty-eight in winter. The next year I taught the spring term, the winter term being taught by Mr. Joseph R. Clark. In 1865 I taught both terms and also a select term of six weeks.

I have many pleasant recollections of the weeks spent in the good old district, for the pupils were eager to learn as well as to please by their good conduct.

One writer has said: "No college has played a more important part in the educational history of our country than has the district school house."

For one, I thank you that you have entertained the idea of a reunion, and that you have called back the wandering pupils of District Number Eight, with their teachers, to participate with you in the pleasures of this occasion.

Those of us who have stopped even for a short time on Bartley Hill and looked out upon those grand old mountains in the west, not so many miles distant, with the hills and valleys between, will have their images so stamped upon the memory that time can never efface them. Today these have not changed, but what of the families that were here forty years ago? A shade of sadness comes over us as we call to mind Mr. David Barker, Mr. and Mrs. Dow, Mr. and Mrs. E. Young, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Crowell, Mr. and Mrs. Washington Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Reed P. Clark, and the superintending school committee, Mr. John Dickey and Dr. John Haynes. The questions they would ask the pupils in reference to the different branches they had been pursuing were well calculated to bring to the surface what the pupils had learned as well as what they had not.

As we meet the many dear friends and old acquaintances here touay, "How varied will be the emotions awakened by memories that will come trooping from the past, precious and dear to us all." I count it a great privilege and honor to be one with you today.

# COMMITTEES FOR AUGUST 21, 1907.

#### WAYS AND MEANS.

Reed Paige Clark. Mrs. Charles Adams. Ruth M. E. Blodgett.

D. B. McGregor. Mrs. John E. Ray. Frank N. Colby.

#### INVITATION.

William Clark. Daniel G. Annis. William H. Crowell.

#### ENTERTAINMENT.

Frank N. Colby. Lucy W. Perkins. Mrs. Frank N. Colby. Mrs. Fred E. Annis. William H. Crowell.

#### DECORATIONS AND ORDER.

William Clark. Fred E. Annis. William H. Crowell. Mrs. William H. Seaman. Lucy W. Perkins.

Carl Floyd. James M. Noyes. George N. Watts. Elizabeth Morrison. Dorcas Morrison.

#### REFRESHMENT.

Mrs. Arthur L. Evans. Arthur L. Evans. Mrs. R. L. Pettengill.

Charles H. Watts. Mrs. Charles H. Watts.

#### TEA.

Mrs. Charles S. Greeley.

Mrs. Frank N. Colby.

#### COFFEE.

Mrs. William H. Crowell. Mrs. Charles Adams. Charles U. Annis.

#### TRANSPORTATION.

Daniel G. Annis.

#### HOW THE MONEY WAS RAISED.

As the fees for registration constitute the only regular source of income of the Association and as it is not intended at any time to circulate subscription papers to raise funds, it was found necessary to resort to extraordinary means to meet the expenses of the first celebration. How these expenses were met is shown in the following letters:

On May 7th a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Association was called at the home of Mrs. William H. Crowell for the purpose of discussing ways and means of raising money to defray the expenses of the celebration in August.

It was voted to give a baked bean supper and social at the school house on May 17th. Two committees were appointed, the one of which Miss Lucy W. Perkins was chairman to arrange a suitable program for the evening's entertainment, and the other to have entire charge of providing the supper and serving the same. Mrs. William Clark was elected chairman of this committee and much credit is due her for her splendid management.

The evening of May 17th proved to be mild and beautiful, and truly it may be said that all roads, on that night at least, led to the old school house on Bartley Hill. The school room was filled to overflowing. Many of the older ones present had not been in the school building for years and to them especially it was like renewing their youth. All present, whether former pupils or strangers in the district, entered into the spirit of the evening with the enthusiasm of boys and girls.

And the supper! Certainly it was a supper long to be remembered, and to sit again at the old desks piled high with good things was in striking contrast to former school days.

The entertainment proved as great a treat as the supper. Mr. Alden Youngman, a brother of the late Mrs. Washington Perkins of this district, was present and sang several pleasing ballads of the olden time. Earlier in his life Mr. Youngman was a public singer of note and the numerous encores given him were sufficient proof that he had by no means lost the power to charm his hearers.

Miss Susie Magoon, the daughter of a former pupil at Number Eight, played several violin solos, which were well received. Great credit is due her for her excellent work.

Too much praise can not be given Miss Lucy Laws, a public reader of Derry. The old school house rang with applause at the close of each of her readings.

The evening proved a grand success, and everyone, in the district and elsewhere, who contributed in any way whatever toward the affair has just cause to be proud.

#### MRS. WILLIAM H. CROWELL,

Chairman Executive Committee.

#### ECHO FARM SOCIAL.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. Evans, the second entertainment was given June 25, 1907, for the benefit of the Old Home celebration.

A beautiful day was promised until five o'clock, when the clouds began to gather and a heavy shower forced its unwelcome arrival. For a time things began to look doubtful and what promised to be a lawn party was changed to a house social.

A plentiful repast, consisting of baked beans, salads, cakes and pies, was served in the dining room. After the supper an entertainment was given by the young people who in former years attended the school. This entertainment, which was of the highest order, was enjoyed by all. The readings, music, both vocal and instrumental, and chorus singing reflected much credit upon the performers. A graphophone concert was given by Mr. Charles H. Watts on the spacious piazza.

All who attended thoroughly enjoyed the evening and it will go down on record as one spent most acceptably both socially and financially.

RUTH M. E. BLODGETT.

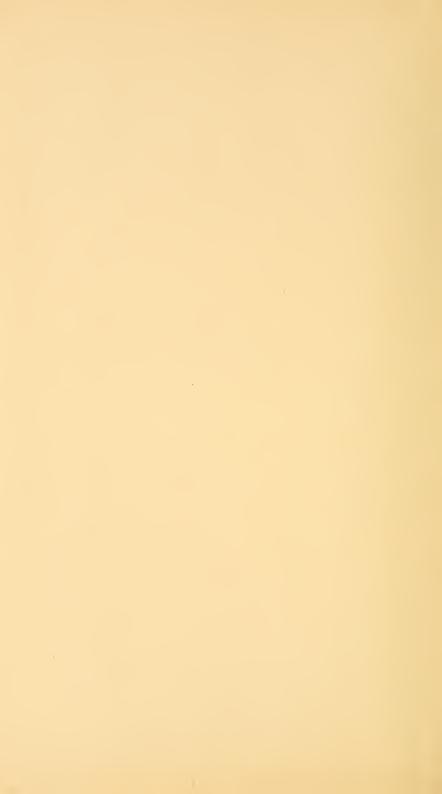
In the latter part of July a lawn party was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Annis for the benefit of Number Eight. The evening was passed in games and dancing. Ice cream and cake were served. The proceeds of the evening added very considerably to the fund for the district celebration.

CHARLES ANNIS.

# School District Number Eight









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