

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## TOWN OF PELHAM, N. H.,

SHOWING THE

### RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 1891,

TOGETHER WITH THE

### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

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LOWELL, MASS.

MORNING MAIL PRINT: NO. 18 JACKSON STREET  
1891.

## TOWN OFFICERS, 1890.

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### SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF POOR.

LUTHER C. RICHARDSON, CHARLES W HOBBS,  
WM. H. PEABODY.

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### TOWN CLERK.

DANIEL P. ATWOOD.

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### TOWN TREASURER.

ENOCH M. MARSH.

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### FISH AND GAME WARDENS.

WILLIS H. ATWOOD, HENRY LEWIS, WILLIAM D. PAXTON.

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### BOARD OF HEALTH.

AMOS BATCHELDER, M. D.

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### AUDITORS.

WILLIAM G. BUTLER, GEO. S. BUTLER, DANIEL MARSHALL.

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### FENCE VIEWERS.

DANIEL MARSHALL, G. W. HOBBS, D. N. ATWOOD.

( 4 )

SURVEYORS AND CORDERS OF WOOD AND MEASURERS OF LUMBER.

DANIEL MARSHALL,	C. W. HOBBS,	L. C. RICHARDSON,
GEO. H. CURRIER,	C. L. SEAVRY,	JOHN WILSON,
GEO. S. BUTLER,	NELSON WEBSTER,	WILLIAM G. BUTLER.
ALLEN E. LEWIS,	R. B. HILLMAN,	PATRICK J. COGGER.
FOREST E. KELLEY,	J. N. WOODMAN,	

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HIGHWAY SURVEYORS.

DAVID W. KENT,	SAMUEL KELLEY,
CHARLES M. HARDY,	WILLIAM J. LIVINGSTON,
L. C. RICHARDSON,	WARREN SHERBURNE.

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BOARD OF EDUCATION.

AUGUSTUS BERRY,	FREDERIC A. CUTTER,	HENRY S. RUSS.
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SEXTON.

KIMBALL J. CHAPLIN.

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TAX COLLECTOR.

FRANK M. WOODBURY.

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SUPERVISORS.

DANIEL N. ATWOOD,	GEO. H. CURRIER,	D. G. B. BURNS.
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( 5 )

## Selectmen's Report.

### INVENTORY OF THE TOWN OF PELHAM, TAKEN APRIL 1, 1890.

Polls, 213.....	\$21,300 00
Real estate.....	385,949 00
Horses, 270.....	18,745 00
Oxen, 10.....	475 00
Cows, 902.....	18,923 00
Other neat stock, 158.....	2,318 00
Sheep, 35.....	104 00
Hogs, 117.....	846 00
Fowls, 1160.....	505 00
Carriages, 17.....	1,100 00
Bank stock.....	2,800 00
Money at interest.....	22,150 00
Stock in trade.....	12,480 00
Mills and machinery.....	10,700 00
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$498,395 00</b>

### TAXES ASSESSED IN THE YEAR 1890.

State tax.....	\$1,295 00
County tax.....	939 73
For schools.....	906 50
repairing school house.....	75 00
text books.....	150 00
highways.....	1,500 00
dog tax.....	121 00
overlay.....	119 24
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$5,106 47</b>

Taxes committed to the Collector for collection for the year 1890, which includes dog tax and non-resident highway tax.....	\$3,901 55
Highway tax for the year 1889, returned by the highway surveyors.....	22 92
<b>Making a total of.....</b>	<b>\$3,924 47</b>

Rate of taxation: Money tax, \$6.90 on \$1,000; rate of highway tax, \$3.10 on \$1,000; total, \$10 on \$1,000, or .01%.

( 6 )

**PAY OF TOWN OFFICERS.****SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.**

Paid Richard B. Hillman, for the year ending March, 1890.....	\$100 00
Charles H. Wyman, for the year ending March, 1890,	40 00
Daniel M. Webster, for the year ending March, 1890,	18 75

**TOWN CLERK.**

Paid Daniel P. Atwood, for the year ending March, 1890,	30 00
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**TOWN TREASURER.**

Paid Enoch M. Marsh, for the year ending March, 1890,	40 00
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**SUPERVISORS.**

Paid John Woodbury, for two years ending Nov. 4, 1890,	15 00
Dan'l N. Atwood, for two years ending Nov. 4, 1890,	15 00
George H. Currier, for two years ending Nov. 4, 1890.....	15 00

**SCHOOL BOARD.**

Paid Augustus Berry, for year ending March, 1890.....	40 00
George H. Currier, for two years ending March, 1890,	40 00

**SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK.**

Paid Nathan S. Sleeper, for year ending March, 1891...	10 00
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**COLLECTOR OF TAXES.**

Paid Sherman Hobbs, for the year ending May, 1890....	80 00
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**SEXTON.**

Paid Kimball J. Chaplin, for the year ending March, 1891	40 50
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\$484 25

**SCHOOL MONEY.**

Paid F. A. Cutter, Treasurer of School Board, whole amount due the several old school districts, as reported March 1, 1890.....	\$1,028 37
F. A. Cutter, Treasurer of School Board, town appropriation for schools for 1890.....	906 50
Literary fund of 1889 .....	133 77
Dog fund of 1889 .....	62 00
Town appropriation for school-books, 1890.....	150 00

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\$2,280 64

( 7 )

**STATE AND COUNTY TAX.**

Paid State Treasurer, amount of State tax.....	\$1,295 00
County Treasurer, amount of County tax.....	939 73
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	\$2,234 73

**SCHOOL HOUSES.**

Paid Jonathan N. Woodman, chairman of committee, for repairs of school house on Gage Hill.....	\$50 00
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**TOWN HALL.**

Paid John Woodbury, for insuring Town Hall for three years from July, 1890.....	\$30 00
L.C. Richardson, 5 cords pine wood furnished Hall, Woodbury and Atwood, for articles furnished Town Hall for the year ending March 1, 1891.....	15 00
Frank Stickney, for services as janitor of Town Hall for the year ending March 1, 1891.....	10 55
Washing articles used in Town Hall.....	35 20
	1 00
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	\$91 75

**HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.**

Paid Geo. S. Butler, for 1787 ft. 3-in. pine plank, delivered at bridge east of I. C. Marshall's house, at \$16.00.....	\$28 59
Geo. S. Butler, for 92 feet oak joists for same bridge	3 22
L. C. Richardson, for 33 ft. oak joists for same.....	99
Woodbury & Atwood, for spikes.....	1 19
Cash paid for labor replanking bridge.....	7 50
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	\$41 49
Paid Wm. G. Butler, for 198 2-in. pine plank for repairing bridge at North Pelham.....	2 97
P. J. Cogger, surveyor of District No. 1, for the year ending May, 1890, for repairing defective highway.....	2 69
Charles M. Hardy, surveyor of District No. 2, amount expended on highways above that contained in list of resident taxpayers.....	54 46
L. C. Richardson, surveyor of District No. 3, amount expended on highways above that contained in list of resident taxpayers.....	18 35
Samuel Kelley, surveyor of District No. 4, balance of highway tax of 1889.....	100 56
Samuel Kelley, for repairing defective highway...	2 69
Wm. J. Livingston, surveyor of District No. 5, amount expended above that contained in list of resident taxpayers.....	215 29
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	\$438 50

**PAUPERS.**

The selectmen have contracted bills to the amount of \$10.00 or \$12.00 for the relief of J. S. Manning and family, which amount is to be repaid by the town of Derry.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

Paid Morning Mail Co., for printing town reports.....	\$27 00
D. P. Atwood, for recording births and deaths....	3 30
D. P. Atwood, for stationery and postage.....	75
W. H. Thompson, for new pole for road machine..	2 00
Geo. H. Currier, for work at school houses in Nos. 1, 3, and 5.....	10 00
P. J. Cogger, for keeping public watering place, for the year ending March 1, 1891.....	3 00
K. J. Chaplin, for care of Gorrell lot.....	1 50
C. L. Seavey, for repairs on road machine.....	9 00
L. C. Richardson, keeping eight tramps .....	4 00
M. V. B. Greene, for collector's book, Surveyor's books, and warrants.....	3 27
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	\$63 82

**SNOW BILLS.**

Paid C. L. Seavey, breaking snow paths, to March 1, '91,	\$2 79
C. M. Hardy, " " " " " "	60
Barnard McCann, " " " " " "	2 25
C. H. Wyman, " " " " " "	2 40
Isaac C. Marshall, " " " " " "	2 25
J.A. & E.G. Hobbs, " " " " " "	2 25
Samuel Kelley, " " " " " "	4 40
G. B. Gurrier, " " " " " "	3 63
W. J. Livingston, " " " " " "	1 05
	<hr/>
	\$21 62

**ABATEMENT OF TAXES.**

Non-resident highway tax for the year 1890, paid in labor,	\$73 63
J. E. Ainsworth, tax of 1890.....	69
J. E. Ainsworth, dog tax.....	1 00
Eliphalet Fox, tax and dog tax .....	1 90
Joseph Greenwood, dog tax .....	1 00
Isaac Lawrence.....	69
Ora L. Myers.....	69
Frank Payne.....	83
W. W. Giles .....	83
Joshua Jackson.....	69
Lydia Rollins, dog tax.....	1 00
	<hr/>
	\$82 95

( 9 )

**RECAPITULATION.**

Paid town officers.....	\$484 25
School money.....	2,280 64
State and county tax.....	2,234 73
School-house tax.....	50 00
Town Hall.....	91 75
Highways and bridges.....	438 50
Miscellaneous.....	63 82
Snow bills.....	21 62
Abatement of taxes.....	82 95
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	\$5,748 26

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT.****ASSETS.**

Cash in the treasury, March 1, 1891.....	\$1,352 10
Balance in the hands of Collector.....	484 47
Due from heirs of Caleb Carlton, for aid furnished Sarah Carlton.....	87 25
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	\$1,923 82

**LIABILITIES.**

Literary fund for 1890.....	\$151 94
Dog fund for 1890.....	113 00
Balance of school house tax.....	25 00
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	\$289 94
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Balance in favor of the town.....	\$1,633 88

Respectfully submitted,

LUTHER C RICHARDSON,  
CHARLES W. HOBBS,  
WM. H. PEABODY,

*Selectmen of Pelham.*

( 10 )

## Treasurer's Report.

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The Treasurer respectfully submits the following report for the year ending March 1, 1891 :

DR.

To amount of cash in treasury, March 1, including \$133.77 literary fund, and \$62.00, dog fund .....	\$2,074 06
Received of Frank Stickney, for use of Town Hall.....	67 00
K. J. Chaplin, one cemetery lot.....	1 00
L. C. Richardson, for old plank.....	1 00
State treasurer, railroad tax.....	119 12
State treasurer, savings bank tax.....	709 57
State treasurer, literary fund .....	151 94
Sherman Hobbs, taxes of 1889 list .....	536 67
F. M. Woodbury, 1890 taxes .....	3,440 00
 Total amount received.....	 \$7,100 36

CR.

By cash paid on sundry orders issued by the selectmen...	\$5,748 26
 Leaving amount of cash in treasury, March 1, 1891, including \$151.94, literary fund, and \$113.00, dog fund,	 \$1,352 10

E. M. MARSH, *Town Treasurer.*

## Auditors' Report.

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We, the undersigned, Auditors of the town of Pelham, for the year ending March 1st, 1891, find the Selectmen have issued orders to the amount of \$5,748.26, and find that said orders are properly receipted. And we find that the Town Treasurer has received \$7,100.36, and has paid orders above mentioned leaving a balance in the treasury to the amount of \$1,352.10.

GEO. S. BUTLER,

W. G. BUTLER,

*Auditors town of Pelham.*

## VITAL STATISTICS.

In compliance with Section I., Chapter 74, of the Laws of 1887, I hereby submit the following report:

### Marriages Registered in the Town of Pelham, N. H., for the Year ending December 31, 1890.

Date of Marriage.	Place of Marriage.	Name and Surname of Groom and Bride.	Residence of each at time of Marriage.	Age in Years.	Color.	Occupation of Groom and Bride.	Place of Birth of each.	Names of Parents.	Birthplace of Parents.	Occupation.	Number of Marriage.	Name, Residence and Official Station of person by whom married.
June 11	Pelham..	Fred R. Taisey.....	Lowell, Ms..	26	All white.	Agent.....	Wells River, Vt.	William Taisey.....	Groton, Vt.....	B'ksm'h Housek.	1st	Augustus Berr Clergyman, Pelham, N.
		Mary J. Thompson..	Pelham.....	23		Dress-Ma'r	Pelham.....	Lucinda Heath.....	Stanstead, P. Q.....	Dec'sed.	1st	
Dec. 15	Pelham..	Edward Vayo.....	Nashua.....	21		Painter....	St. Albans, Vt.	Thomas Thompson..	Scotland.....	Dec'sed.	1st	Charles W. Ho Justice, Pelham, N.
		Mary McEwen.....	Nashua.....	19		Weaver...	Scotland.....	Eliza.....	Canada.....	Dec'sed.	1st	
Dec. 16	Nashua..	Winthrop B. Keyes.	Pelham.....	35		Carpenter..	Pelham.....	Peter Vayo.....	St. Albans, Vt.....	Housek.	1st	Cyrus Richards Clergyman, Nashua, N.
		Nellie M. Lipsett...	Dracut, Ms..	27		Housek'p'r	Nova Scotia..	Louisa.....	Scotland.....	Mason...	1st	
Dec. 31	Pelham..	Joseph A. Seavey...	Pelham.....	36		Civil Eng'r	Pelham.....	Robert McEwen....	Scotland.....	Farmer..	1st	Augustus Berr Clergyman, Pelham, N.
		Annie M. Stewart...	N Brunsw'k.	31		Housek'p'r	N Brunswick..	Edward Wright.....	Westford, Mass.	Dec'sed.	1st	
								Mary J. McKay.....	Nova Scotia.....	Farmer..	1st	
Louisa A. Swan.....	Andover, Mass.	Housek.	1st	William Stewart....		Ireland.....	Farmer..	1st	Eliza A. Campbell..	New Brunswick.....	Housek.	1st

**Births Registered in the Town of Pelham, N. H., for the Year ending December 31, 1890.**

Date of Birth.	Place of Birth.	Name of Child (if any).	Sex and Condition.					Name of Father.	Maiden Name of Mother.	Col. of Parents.	Residence of Parents.	Occupation of Father.	Birthplace of Father.	Birthplace of Mother.
			Male.	Female.	Living or Stillborn.	No. Child, 1, 2, 3, &c.	Color.							
Mar. 12	Pelham..	Martin Ernest.	M	F	L.	4th	Enoch Holmes.....	Emily Jackson.....	All white.	Methuen, Ms	Weaver.....	England.....	England.	
Mar. 31	Pelham..		"	"	"	4th	Martin L. Jones.....	Flora A. Shuman....		Pelham.....	Farmer.....	Pelham.....	Rockland, Me.	
Apr. 29	Pelham..		"	"	"	4th	John Muldoon.....	Jane Molloy.....		Pelham.....	Farmer.....	Ireland.....	Ireland.	
May 17	Pelham..		"	"	"	1st	Matthew Smith.....	Lizzie Fisher.....		Pelham.....	Laborer.....	Canada.....	Nova Scotia.	
June 7	Pelham..		"	"	"	9th	Wesley Sawyer.....	Mary E. Cash.....		Pelham.....	Physician...	Cumberland, Me	C. Elizabeth, Me.	
June 28	Pelham..		"	"	"	7th	Andrew K. Tallant..	Angie L. Roby.....		Pelham.....	Farmer.....	Meredith.....	Lawrence, Mass.	
July 1	Pelham..		"	"	"	6th	Moses Raymond.....	Julia E. Lary.....		Pelham.....	Laborer.....	Canada.....	Salem.	
July 22	Pelham..		"	"	"	3d	Denis Keefe.....	Alice Doherty.....		Pelham.....	Operator.....	Ireland.....	Westfield, Vt.	
July 29	Pelham..		Clara Corinne.	"	"	"	4th	Owen Muldoon.....		Emeline Doherty...	Lowell, Ms.	Coachman...	Ireland.....	Westfield, Vt.
Sept. 21	Pelham..	"		"	"	12th	Frederic A. Cutter..	Susan M. Hardy....	Pelham.....	Farmer.....	Pelham.....	Hudson.		
Dec. 23	Pelham..	"		"	"	6th	William H. Peabody	Eliza H. Woodbury.	Pelham.....	Farmer.....	Dracut, Ms.....	Pelham.		

Deaths Registered in the Town of Pelham, N. H., for the Year ending December 31, 1890.

Date of Death.	Name and Surname of the Deceased.	Age.			Place of Birth.	Sex and Cond.				Occupation.	Birthplace of Father.	Birthplace of Mother.	Name of Father.	Maiden Name of Mother.
		Years.	Months.	Days.		Male.	Female.	Color.	Single, Married or Widowed.					
Jan. 25	Avery Jones.....	80	5	8	Sudbury, Mass	M	.....	W.	.....	Farmer.....	Milford, Mass...	Sudbury, Mass..	Elijah Jones.....	Mehitable Hayne
Feb. 13	George F. Cloyd.....	31	9	16	Saco, Me.....	"	.....	S.	.....	Farmer.....	Boston, Mass...	Saco, Me.....	John F. Cloyd.....	Jane Foss.
Mar. 2	Jesse Wilson.....	80	9	27	Pelham.....	"	.....	M.	.....	Farmer.....	Pelham.....	Dracut, Mass...	Eliab Wilson.....	Damaris Fox.
Mar. 15	Solinda Wilkins.....	74	4	5	Pelham.....	F	.....	W.	.....	Housekeeper..	Salem.....	Pelham.....	Frederic Hardy...	Elizabeth Weber
Apr. 30	Harriet A. Ellenwood	67	2	18	Vermont.....	"	.....	W.	.....	Housekeeper..	Vermont.....	Vermont.....	John Moore.....	
June 24	James M. Hobbs.....	78	7	10	Pelham.....	"	.....	M.	.....	Farmer.....	Pelham.....	Haverhill, Mass.	James Hobbs.....	Pamela Hazeltor
July 10	Agnes Hayden.....	22	3	.....	Dracut, Mass..	"	.....	S.	.....	Housekeeper..	England.....	Ireland.....	Thomas Hayden...	Mary McAloon.
July 18	William Titcomb.....	84	4	.....	.....	"	.....	W.	.....	Farmer.....	Newburypt, Ms.	Tewksbury, Ms.	William Titcomb...	Hannah Kittredg
July 24	Leora A. Ford.....	44	11	13	Pelham.....	"	.....	M.	.....	Housekeeper..	Pelham.....	Andover, Mass..	Nathan B. Seavey...	Almira F. Swan.
Aug. 3	Henry H. Peters.....	76	10	.....	Sutton.....	"	.....	M.	.....	Farmer.....	.....	Hopkinton.....	..... Peters.....	..... Gould.
Sept. 18	Elizabeth Spaulding..	84	5	12	Pelham.....	"	.....	W.	.....	Housekeeper..	Pelham.....	Hudson.....	Barnabas Gibson...	Betsy Chase.
Sept. 20	Ellen B. Geudreau....	11	9	.....	Pelham.....	"	.....	S.	.....	.....	Canada.....	Canada.....	Flavian Geudreau..	Ellen Ravenelle.
Dec. 25	Charles H. Baker.....	67	2	21	Lowell, Mass..	"	.....	M.	.....	Farmer.....	Dracut, Mass....	Westford, Mass.	Richard Baker.....	Mary Reed.

The following persons, former residents, were buried in this town as follows :

Sadie A. Brown, aged 17, died in New York, buried Feb. 14.  
 Chas. W. Richardson, aged 18, died in Lynn, buried April 6.  
 Judith E. Atwood, aged 69, died in Boston, buried May 14.

Georgie Inez Sleeper, aged 22, died in Lowell, buried Aug. 17.  
 Amos A. Currier, aged 56, died in Wakefield, buried Aug. 27.  
 Moses Wheeler, aged 81, died in Chelmsford, buried Nov. 5.

DANIEL P. ATWOOD, *Town Clerk and Registrar.*

REPORT  
OF  
THE SCHOOL BOARD  
OF THE  
TOWN OF PELHAM,  
For the Year Ending March 1, 1891.

SCHOOL BOARD.

AUGUSTUS BERRY,	.	Term Expires March, 1891.
HENRY S. RUSS,	.	Term Expires March, 1892.
FREDERIC A. CUTTER,		Term Expires March, 1891.

## REPORT.

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The Board of Education are happy in reporting a year of successful schools. They have been in charge of the same teachers for the year,—an important condition of their success. The artist must execute his own conception; no one can take his unfinished work and successfully complete it; nor can another take the incomplete work of the teacher and so conduct it that there shall be no *fault* or *break*.

### PROGRESS.

This is a significant term. It is inseparable from all real life. Where there is no progress, there is no true life. Schools run year after year in the same ruts, if not dead, are in a process of death. The matter of starting right is a feature of progress apparent in the past year. It has come to be understood in some instances at least, that unless the child starts right, subsequent work will be very faulty. There has been progress in method. In nothing is there more importance of method than in the work of the school, and nowhere else has there been so little method. There has been progress in the idea that the pupil must do his own work, and not the teacher or some other pupil do it for him. The idea has made some progress that the school is not so much for memorizing books as to learn to think, reason and use one's own powers. There has been progress in understanding that it is not the easiest of all

things to teach ; that it is a responsible work demanding culture, skill and large preparation. There has been progress in the idea that the advance of the pupil does not consist in what he has been over, but in the how he has been over it. The idea seems to be dawning in some directions that a child's training is of more importance than the training of a colt, and that the conditions of it should be, at least, as carefully guarded ; that mind has such value that there should be great caution in regard to the one who is allowed to work upon it. There has been an actual advance in the work of the schools ; and it is cheering to be assured that the cause of education moves in spite of all that tends to keep it in the ruts of the past.

#### JUDGMENTS UPON THE CHARACTER OF THE SCHOOLS.

It is not just to form these from rumor, the tales of children, nor in any other way than by repeated visits to the schools ; nor should one pass judgment upon school work until he fully understands the work and knows something about the opinions of experienced educators. It does not follow that a school is a failure because children have their grievances, the excellence of the school may be the occasion of these grievances ; nor that the school is all right because the children are pleased ; the reason of their satisfaction may be that they are not required to do what they ought to do. Mutual forbearance is needful in all the parties to the school. Teachers must exercise it ; children must be taught it ; parents must have this spirit. It is a condition where a hasty judgment by either of the parties is perilous.

**EDUCATION AN EARNEST MATTER.**

The school should be pervaded by an earnest spirit. Earnestness characterizes the true teacher; it is something that such a teacher imparts to the pupils. The test of what is permissible in teacher and pupils is the effect upon the ardor with which school work is performed. Ought that dampens ardor must be disallowed.

**SYSTEM.**

Success, in any kind of effort, is conditioned upon some well-ordered system. This is greatly needed in our schools. In both civil and social life, the individual is made subject to the civil and social systems. In a certain sense the individual is merged in the system. Something of this is especially necessary in the schools. And by this it is not meant that the individual pupil shall be completely at the mercy of the system established in the school, but that while the system may bend to the accommodation of the individual scholar, he must also accommodate himself to the system. And with this spirit pervading the schools, it would not be difficult to have a system of classification, that while it is allowed to accommodate individual cases, would not essentially discommode any, and would largely increase the efficiency of the schools and correct a great evil in them.

**UP WITH THE TIMES.**

The expression abreast of the times is significant. To be behind the times is not merely a fault, but a reproach. The advance in the last twenty-five years in educational ideas, principles, methods and implements, has been parallel with the improvement in other things, and it is of the first importance that, not only teachers,

the school year, all are in a neat condition, a great contrast with the condition of the school-houses a few years since. With the exception of No. 4, each is well arranged and furnished for school work, and it is a pity that this house, with its pleasant location, its beautiful yard, should be so deficient in facilities for school work. The seats and desks need to be rearranged and space obtained for more black-board. In these particulars the house is forty years behind the times and the work of an efficient teacher is thus impaired a large per cent. The school-room with its furnishing has the same relation to productive labor that improved tools and barns have to the income of the farm; the arrangements of the shop with its machinery to the work and profits of the mechanic; the construction of the store to the business of the merchant; and it is hoped that the house in No. 4 will soon be unsurpassed by any in town in facilities for the best school work.

#### KEEPING SCHOOL BUILDINGS IN REPAIR.

This is economy in many senses. It makes the scholars careful; it is a lesson in neatness, taste, frugality and true thrift. This is a wise expenditure of money. It is for education in a real sense. Repairs should be frequent. Another old adage, "the stitch in time saves nine," is true. Every few years the house should be painted, the desks varnished, and the walls tinted.

#### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Three of the school-rooms have such instruments. It is hoped that an effort will be made to put such an instrument in each of the others. Apart from the value of musical culture, it is an efficient aid in securing good order and in imparting refinement to school-life.

## INTEREST OF THE CITIZEN IN THE SCHOOLS.

A thoughtful citizen remarked, respecting the annual school-meeting, "This is the most important meeting of the town." The substantial citizen should express an interest in the schools and recognize his duty to them, whether he have children in them or not. Children's lives and children's destiny should call forth his interest. The welfare of the town, the value of real estate, will be largely conditioned on the character of the schools, and he cannot afford to neglect them. He should make himself acquainted with their standing by personal visitation; and by his active interest and co-operation, correct their faults, and aid in their improvement.

## FLAGS.

In the past year the star-spangled banner has been raised over three of the school-houses. These flags were procured largely by the personal effort of the scholars. Their raising was celebrated by commendable literary exercises on the part of the scholars, and social festivities that were participated in by parents, children, citizens, and friends, constituting an occasion of interest, pleasure and profit that will be historic.

## TEACHERS.

The Board of Education feel that they were fortunate in securing the teachers of the past year. It is difficult to find teachers of character and experience for our schools. The country school is sort of a training school for larger places. The standard of qualification has been raised much, but it is not as high as it should be. The ideal teacher cannot be found, and Boards of Education and patrons of school must be content with



what may be termed 'measurably good work. The Board of Education, in selecting teachers, have sought an adaptation to particular schools, and have tried to have the schools acceptable to every patron, correcting and changing everything in the schools that was objectionable to any patron, when it could be done without interfering with good school work. It is impossible to procure teachers of every qualification, but there are qualifications they must have, such as character, intellectual attainments, literary furnishing and some skill in teaching. There are other qualities, such as personal attractions, winning traits, pleasing address and presence, that are very desirable, but cannot be expected in a full measure in every one; and it is often better to retain a reasonably good teacher than to incur the risk of a change. Those schools yield the best results, that have the same teachers a succession of terms.

#### FREE TEXT-BOOKS.

The efficiency of the schools has been largely increased by free text-books and school supplies. They deepen interest and help the order of the school-room. We may, with no exaggeration, say that the system has worked like a charm in the schools. The books have generally been used with care. Teachers have, in some instances, covered the books in general use in the school-room, such as the dictionaries, and parents often cover the books their children are using. It is gratifying that there has been such harmony in the introduction of the system. To drop it now would, in a certain sense, be like dropping the schools. The Board of Education have studied economy and efficiency. The expense of the supplies will vary from year to year, but in no year has it been as large as was anticipated.

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**TIME-PIECES.**

Two of the school-rooms are furnished with clocks. It is very important that the others should be.

**ROLL OF HONOR.**

This is not to be lightly considered. It inspires the the children and is a power in securing regularity and punctuality in attendance. Many fail, from no fault of their own, to secure a place in this roll, and they call forth sympathy and admiration. The following are the names of those who have been present every half day and not tardy during the year :

GEORGIE L. HOBBS,	MABEL L. LAWSON,
JENNIE STICKNEY,	RACHEL E. RICHARDSON,
CLARANCE A. STICKNEY,	ALBERT J. RICHARDSON,
FRANK P. GAGE,	ETHEL H. WEBSTER,
INA G. KELLEY,	FRED. H. PEABODY.

CLARANCE A. STICKNEY and GEORGIE L. HOBBS have not been absent or tardy for five years.

ETHEL H. WEBSTER and FRANK P. GAGE have not been absent or tardy for three years.

The following have a perfect record for two terms of the year :  
CARIE M. STICKNEY, ARTHUR P. ATWOOD, HELEN ARMINE MARSH, LEVI JOE MARSH, GEORGE F. LAWSON, CARRIE M. CARLTON, NETTIE L. CURRIER, DANIEL G. CARLTON.

CUMMINGS G. TITCOMB and OTIS E. TITCOMB failed of a perfect record for the two terms by only one day.

There are a number who have a perfect record for a single term, and others who were trying for it and failed from causes beyond their control.

**STATISTICS.**

The School Board designed that each of the schools should have 31 weeks, but on account of sickness two had but 30 weeks. They designed three terms of 9, 10 and 12 weeks respectively.

SCHOOL No. 1.—Miss Julia A. Bixby of Lowell, Mass., teacher. Number of different scholars in the first term, 28; in the second term, 27; in the third term, 29; for the year, 31; boys, 16; girls,

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## AUDITORS' REPORT.

We, the undersigned, Auditors of the School Board of the Town of Pelham, for the year ending March 1, 1891, find the Chairman of the School Board has issued orders on the Treasurer to the amount of \$1,511.96; and we find that the Treasurer of the School Board has received \$2,568.42 and has paid orders above mentioned, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$1,056.46.

FRANK M. WOODBURY,  
GEORGE S. BUTLER,  
*Auditors.*