

HEd1/88/1

17^a Hertford Cowper Testim^l. S. 6064

M^r.Broomfield is commencing well.

I am directed to enquire whether the Managers are satisfied with the character, conduct & attention to duty of M^r. Kemble

The decision on his payment is suspended for your reply.

James XXX

Sec^y and Correspondent

The Cowper Testimonial Boys School under the management of a committee.

George Ludlow, Esq. Sec^y & Treasurer

Clergymen - Rev. J.W. Birch, Vicar

Rev. G Barratt, Curate

Masters and Teachers

1st Master - Alfred Broomfield

2nd Master - Tho^s Kember

Pupil Teachers. Ed. Chandler & Geo. Green & paid Monitor - changed weekly.

Report of School for July 1863

M^r. Broomfield is commencing well.

July 1st/63 Commencement of Gov^t Yr: E^d Chandler late.

“ 2 Examined 1st Class in Reading, not satisfactory.
E Chandler late 10 past 9.

“ 3 Examined 1st Class in Arithmetic, Unsatisfactory
E Chandler late 10 past 9.

“ 6 Very short attendance today, owing to the “Cherry Fair” &
“Town Cricket Match”. Gave G. Green a holiday to play in the Cricket Match

“ 7 Took the 2nd Class in Read^g - Satisfied
E Chandler late.

“ 8 E Chandler late in the morning 10 past 9.
Also in the afternoon 10 past 2.
Took the P[upil] T[eacher]s from 12 - 1

“ 9 Short in attendance. Assizes Judge entered the town.

“ 17 School as usual. Gave the P.Ts the time to view a cricket match at Hartham.

“ 20 The master ill unable to take P.Ts

“ 22 Very thin in Numbers today, owing to the wet weather in the morning and to the Cambridge Treat in the afternoon.

“ 23 Diocesan Inspector visited the Upper Sectⁿ
Inspector Rev. T Woodward. Present at inspection Rev. J.W.

Birch

“ 29 M^r. Woodward inspected the Lower Section.

“ 31 School Examined by H.M.I. M^r. Robinson

Aug^t 7 The Harvest Holiday commence.

School again September 7th/63

Sept. 7th First day of school since the holidays. Very few in attendance.
Ed. Chandler and Geo. Green changed schools. E.C. to the Jun^r Section
G.G. to the Sen^r. Rev. Barratt visited the school.

“ 8th School as usual. Attendance Bad.
E. Chandler late 10’ past 2.

“ 10th School as usual: E. Chandler 10’ late in the morning.

“ 15th School as usual. Government money arrived.

“ 17th School as usual. Very few in attendance this afternoon - Lord
Townsend¹⁹ buried at “All Saints Church”

“ 18th Singing lesson “Tonic So-Fa system” 2nd Class: G. Green late
5’ in morning.

“ 22nd Examined 1st Class Junior Sectⁿ. 13 Boys promoted, viz. [list of
names]

Sept 22nd The Master ill - school in charge of Geo. Green

“ 24th Do Do

“ 25th School as usual. Examination and promotion for the Quarter.

October 2 First Class Examined in Dictation. Results V.F. [Very fair]
G. Snowden & Chas Smith 270 marks out of 300.

October 5th The first class has a thorough drilling in Notation & Numeratⁿ
by the Master.

Oct. 12th School visited by M^r. Ludlow
G Green’s indentures canceled.

“ 16th G. Green left to-day.

“ 19th The Master gave the 2nd Class drilling in Arithmetic.

“ 21st Spelling Match in First Class.

Won by Arthur Carter.

“ 29th Boys rec^d a Singing lesson at the Abel Smith School.

“ 30th Master absent, went to Portsmouth about a fresh appointment

Nov 2nd Master returns - resignation sent in to M^r. G. Ludlow.

“ 5th Half Holiday - Gunpowder Plot.

“ 9th Fair - Election of Mayor - (H. Rayment Esq^{re}) Holiday in the afternoon.

“ 19th School as usual. 2nd Master absent in the afternoon - Battalion Drill at Hitchin. Visitors: afternoon - Rev^d J.H. Birch, M^r G. Ludlow, & M^r J Hancock

Dec. 18th School breaks up for the Christmas Holiday. Visitors in the morning - The Rev^d & J. W. Birch. Aftⁿ The Revd G. Barrett. Prizes distributed, also Club Tickets¹². M^r. Broomfield takes his leave of the boys.

1864 Monday Jan^y 4th the School re-opens after the Christmas Holidays under One Master, assisted by 1 Ex. Pupil teacher, 1 Candidate for Apprenticeship, and 4 paid monitors. Visitor afternoon M^r Ludlow.

Friday Jan^y 8th Ordinary progress. Attendance small as usual in 1st wk. after holidays. Average for week 85. No. in “attendance at all” 104.

Jan^y 12th Tuesday. Weather dull and wet - attendance rather less than ordinary, in consequence. Visitor in the afternoon - the “Vicar”.

Jan^y 15th Friday. Ordinary progress. Number present 90. Joseph Bennett withdrawn - admitted to Green Coat School¹⁵.

Jan^y 19th Tuesday. Ordinary progress. School divided into 3 sections for Scripture Lesson - Section i consisting of Division I & II: Section ii - Division III & IV/1: Section iii - Division IV/2 - taken by Master, ii by Assist, Dⁿ i by P.T.

Jan^y 28th Thursday. Ordinary progress. “Edward Saxton’s” (Bad conduct fighting, using bad language, and insubordination) reported to the Treasurer & the Rev^d J.N. Birch who severely reprimanded him & I threatened him with expulsion if the offence were repeated. Visitors: Rev^d J.N. Birch & M^r Ludlow. Afternoon weather wet. Usual singing practice at the “Smith” School for Divisions I & II.

February 10th Wednesday. School in the morning as usual till 10:30. Being Ash Wednesday, the whole school went to church. In the Afternoon the usual holiday was given.

February 15th Monday. Improved attendance. Satisfactory progress, ordinary routine. One readmitted, been to the British School¹¹. Visitor in the

morning, the Rev^d J.N. Birch.

Wednesday March 2nd School as usual. First Division still practised in the elementary rules. Assizes held this week, Judge enters the town. Divine service at All Saints at 3:30. Attendance in the afternoon small.

March 11th Friday. Herts County Election Polling day, weather showery, attendance very small. House Boys¹⁰ absent the whole day. Visitors: the Rev^d J.W. Birch. Ordinary progress, present in the afternoon 50.

March 14th Monday. Day fixed for the "Declaration of the Poll" at Hertford. Number present 70. House Boys all absent: usual routine.

March 24th Thursday. School as usual. Rev^d J.W. Birch visited in the morning. Scripture Division I Judges. Division I "X^{ts} suffering". Division I & II Singing practice at the "Smith School". Division III practised in Arithmetic & Tables. School breaks up for Easter vacation till Wednesday morning next.

March 30th Wednesday. Easter week, attendance very small, weather very unfavourable - snow & rain. 2nd Division well drilled in Arithmetic (Elementary). Examined the 4th Division in Arithmetic. Division I History Henry V. "Tables" repetition the whole school, usual progress.

March 31st Thursday. School opened at 9:30 as usual.

April 8th Friday. Ordinary routine. Herts Militia recruits come to the town, several boys required by Parents as a consequence, attendance less than usual.

Monday 18th April. School assembled as usual at 9:30. Attendance rather less than ordinary, 4 House Boys sick. Two boys left for the [Hertford] Grammar School, a few "gone to work."

April 21st Thursday. Prayers commenced at 9:35. Attendance small, the Herts Militia enter the town to-day for 21 days drill. 6 of the House boys still unwell & consequently absent.

Thursday April 26th School commenced at 9:30 A.M. 1:30 P.M. closed at the usual hour.

Some absent on account of "Ware Fair."

Thursday April 28th. Number present rather less than usual. School commenced as usual. Lessons according to ordinary routine.

In the afternoon, a holiday, the Master being absent at "Battalion Day" at Hitchin.

Monday: May 2nd School as usual. The attendance still lower than ordinary, the militia being in the town.

Thursday, May 5th. School commenced at 9:30 precisely. The Rev^d T.

Woodward, Diocesan Inspector, visited the school for Examination. All Classes were examined in Reading, Writing, Arithmetic and Religious Knowledge. The 1st Class was examined likewise in Composition & the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd in Dictation. - this latter subject requires especial attention. M^r. R. Cooke visited the School in the morning, the Rev^d J.W. Birch in the afternoon. School closed in the morning at 12:15, afternoon at 4. The attendance was not up to the ordinary average, for reasons already referred to above.

Monday May 9th Morning School commenced at 9 precisely. The usual routine was proceeded with till 11 when the boys were dismissed for the remainder of the day, The Inspection of Militia taking place at Hartham. Thursday May 12th. Fair day at Hertford. School duties as usual.

Morning attendance 84. Afternoon 52.

Friday May 13th The School breaks up for the usual Whitsuntide Holidays.

Wednesday May 18th. School opens as usual, ordinary routine, admitted two boys from Brickendon, both very backward. E. Chandler having heard of a situation leaves the school to-day. Attendance very small. Number present in the morning 70, satisfactory progress.

Thursday May 19th School as usual, ordinary routine. Instead of Scripture Lesson, the whole school Repetition of Ch. Catechism: other lessons as usual. Morning attendance 68.

Monday May 23rd School as usual - admitted two boys formally at School in Wandsworth, ages 8 & 9. Robert Silverside engaged to fill Chandler's place for term. Attendance improved - morning attendance 98. Visitors in the afternoon The Rev^d J. W. Birch. Ordinary routine & progress.

Monday, May 30th. School as usual. Lessons slightly altered in the Routine - School worked in three Divisions instead of 4 - 1st chiefly under the superintendence of Master - 2nd under Assistant - 3rd under Head Monitor. Scripture as usual.

Wednesday June 1st Commenced as usual at 9:30. Routine as usual. Lessons in Scripture:- Section 1 "The Death of Aaron", 2. "The Ascension", 3. "Abraham offering up Isaac." The attendance considerably below the average owing to the "Hatfield Races". Satisfactory progress. Class 1 had a thorough drilling in Mental Arithmetic.

Friday June 10th Holiday - Master absent.

Friday June 17th Several absent this week on account of "Haymaking" & other work, 4 or 5 on account of sickness.

Monday June 27th School as usual, admitted 1 new scholar, age 10. Been to

Miss Woodcock's School. Also 4 others.

Tuesday 28th Commenced as usual. Ordinary routine & progress. Rev. J. Bennett visited in the afternoon. Small attendance - Cowbridge tea-party.

Tuesday July 12th Her Majesty's Inspector, The Rev. C. I. Robinson visited the school for Inspection in the morning.

Visitors: The Rev^d J.W. Birch & The Rev^d T. Bennett. Present 114.

XXXXXX Member, Certificated Master of the 3rd division, of the 2nd Class.

C. I. Robinson

H.M. Inspector

May 13th School Examined by the Government Inspector. 97 for Examⁿ 124 present, Registers 113. 4 Standards. Present The Rev^d J.W. Birch & The Rev^d T. Bennett. Holiday in the aft.

Wednesday August 3rd Usual routine & progress, afternoon attendance small owing to Cricket Match in Hartham & Archery Meeting at Panshanger. No. present, Morning 100, Afternoon 82.

Thursday August 4th Afternoon attendance 75, small, owing to treat at Hertford Heath & Band boys being absent.

Friday August 5th School as usual. The House Boys all absent being invited to a treat at Woodhall by Abel Smith Esq^{re}. Singing practice in the afternoon for Classes 1 & 2 at Abel Smith Church. Attendance small.

Thursday August 10th Ordinary Routine & progress. Attendance small - House Boys all absent being invited to a treat at The "Rye House".

Friday August 12th Morning school as usual. Broke up at noon for the Harvest holidays, 4 weeks.

Monday Sep^{tr} 12th School commenced after the holidays, usual routine, 10 new boys admitted. Visitors: The Rev^d J.W. Birch & The Rev^d T. Bennett. R Cock absent.

Tuesday 1st & 2nd Class went to the "Smith School" for Singing Practice.

Wednesday Sep^{tr} 14th No school - Children's annual feast.

September 20th Tuesday. Morning school as usual, afternoon the whole school went for Play in Ball's Park.

September 26th Monday. School as usual. Commenced another Quarter in Registers - ordinary progress.

September 27th Tuesday. Ordinary Routine & progress. School hours for this Quarter Morning 9:30 to 12. Afternoon 1:45 to 4:15.

Oct^r 12th Wednesday. School as usual. Visitor in the morning The Rev^d T

Bennett. House Boys very disorderly in going Home & coming to school, mentioned to the Master of the Workhouse.

Oct^r 21st Friday. School as usual in the morning. Visitors, The Rev^d J.W. Birch and Major H. Birch. Holiday in the afternoon - Battalion Drill of Rifle Volunteers in Hartham.

October 24th Monday. School as usual. Holiday in the afternoon, Bishop's Visitation, service not concluded till 2:30.

November 1st Tuesday. Municipal Election, several boys absent in consequence, 4 or 5 likewise absent on account of sickness.

Nov^r 8th Tuesday School open as usual. Bad attendance - Fair at Hertford.

Nov^r 14th Monday. School as usual. William Barrett readmitted. Morning attendance 114. W^m Nash left for British School, (attendance 9 wks, absent 7 days) parents dissatisfied.

Nov^r 16th Wednesday. Usual routine & progress, several absent on account of sickness, also a Waxwork Exhibition.

Dec^r 19th Monday. Ordinary school duties, satisfactory progress. [Clothing] Club tickets distributed in the afternoon.

Dec 20th Tuesday. A Committee Meeting in the Classroom at 11 to appoint a Head master - present The Rev^d J.W. Birch, The Rev^d H.S. Warleigh, The Rev^d T Bennett, G. Ludlow Esqre & M^r Hancock.

Dec 22nd Thursday. Morning school as usual. In the afternoon The Rev^d J.W. Birch & The Rev^d T. Bennett visited the school. The present master takes his leave of the Boys & the school breaks up for the Christmas Holidays - reassemble on the 9th January '65.

Thomas Newber

<i>1865 Head</i>	<i>Master M^r Baker</i>
<i>Assistant</i>	<i>M^r R. Silversides</i>

Jan^y 9th Monday. Commenced duties this morning, children present include 9 admitted for the first time. The Revs J Birch & T Bennett visited the school in the afternoon.

Jan 10th Classes in general worked well, 4th too noisy. Supplied clothing cards to Abel Smith's school.

Jan 11th Dispensed with two of the monitors' services. Working good, especially in the afternoon. No^s. 111 106.

Jan 12th Boys to practice singing at the Church at 11.45. E. Saxton left school without permission at 12 & stayed away in the afternoon. Sent a note

to acquaint his father & also his general conduct.

Jan 13th M^r Saxton brought his son, promising amendment &c. House boys want of subordination. Reported Arthur Cates to the Master, Promise of amendment.

Jan 16th Commenced taking Club money before School. 122 present in morning. J Brown & J Clark refractory after coming 25' late. Former brought stones to school, one was thrown by him. Dismissed the school. J. Brown left without permission.

Jan 17th Sent P McLean home with note to Master of Workhouse on account of his bad conduct & disobedience. J Brown left on being punished for his conduct with Clark yesterday.

Jan 19th Attendance good considering the bad weather. 109 112

Austin, McLean & Bunyon very badly behaved. Reported to M^r Ludlow.

25th Spoke to boys about behaviour out of school, & punctuality.

26th Attendance smaller than usual on account of the heavy fall of snow. 96 100

27th Snowing all day with slight thaw. 90 a.m. 77 p.m.

30th Snow & thaw, small school.

31st Attendance better. House boys troublesome.

Feb 6th Several old scholars returned. 125 present in the morning.

Formed an upper division in first class for higher XXX of sixth measure.

14th Commenced dictation on paper to first class. Two candidates for Pupil Teachership.

15th Heard of M^r Silverside's appointment as clerk, & consequent resignation of the assistant mastership.

20th M^r Green commenced his duties as assistant master this morning.

Feb 24th Raining, smaller attendance. Rob^t Cocks finished, left for Christ Church School, Ware.

27th 114 present. Two monitors (U. Miller & J Deards) in place of R. Cocks & a monitor from first class. Two divisions - monitor for each. Miller & Deards to stay till the Inspector visit as paid monitors, if fit & required to be Pupil Teachers.

March 7th Found that the House boys had the 'ringworm'. Desired the Master to keep them at home till well.

14th M^r Birch came, said that the alteration of the Church Day to Friday should commence next week as he forgot to mention it to M^r Burnel before. Spoke to M^r Birch & M^r Ludlow about the probability of a government inspection this year, asked whether the requirement of the committee of

Council that all the school buildings should be devoted to the use of this school, would be met. The matter to be referred to M^r Cowper & the Teachers of the Green Coat School.

20th M^r JW Birch visited in the morning & said that the Council had sent to M^r Robinson H.M. Inspector that the attendance was not to be counted when the children went to church. Several panes of glass out of classroom windows - strong East wind. Reed Farm at Brickendon caught fire. Many children absent in consequence.

21st Glass put in classroom window.

28th Heard from M^r Ludlow that the school garden was proposed as a site for the Green School.

31st M^r Ludlow called about the feasibility of building a new school for the Green boys in the garden of the Cowper School.

April 6th Very unwell, cold & headache. Miss Stoddard brought missionary papers for distribution among the boys.

27th Several boys went to hear a lecture in the Green School at 4.15, by an escaped slave.

May 2nd Re-admitted W White. M^r S Austin¹⁸ visited the school, examined some of the 'House Boys' & expressed his satisfaction at their attainments.

5th Rev J Birch came & arranged that the children should go to Church at 9.30 on Sundays whilst the Militia are in the Town.

9th Three House boys, McLean, Sharpe & Shepherd absent, having run away from the Workhouse. Reason given by the other boys, 'McLean had been punished by the Master of the House.' Bunyan was late, he being with them, refused to run away.

12th Morning 85 present. Exam class I & II in Arith. & Scrip. Class I Good, II Fair. Class III writing from memory. Annual fair held today, few present in afternoon. Dismissed at 3.15, no registers.

24th Several boys went to see a microscope in the Green School.

25th Ascension Day. Registers marked at 9.45 as usual. At 10.45 found we were expected to attend Church. School attendance therefore not to be counted for this morning. Holiday in the afternoon on account of the Militia Service at Hartham.

May 26th M^r Ludlow brought the visitor's report (M^r S Austin), spoke of the satisfactory state of the House Boys &c. & the desirability of removing W Baynes from the school on account of his being an idiot.

June 1st Dismissed at 4.15 for the usual Whitsun Holiday.

7th Commenced with 50 boys. Many gone to Hatfield Races.

14th Rev J Birch came & told the boys that he would not allow boys to go to the treat who did not attend Sunday School unless their parents were dissenters.

28th Dissenters Sunday School Treat, several boys absent in consequence.

July 5th Several boys absent in the afternoon at the Cherry fair & the Cricket Match at Balls Park. E. Hewill gone to the Baptist Sunday School Treat.

18 Nomination of candidates for the Knights of the Shire of Hertford.

21 M^r G Green absent went to attend his sister's funeral.

24 G Green resigned. Declaration of the poll - half holiday.

July 26 School examined in standards by Her Majesty's Inspector Rev C Robinson.

27 School inspected in the morning by the Rev C Robinson. No assistant master present.

31 Readmitted Arthur Dickens from the British School., Class II. All the classes worked in the Schoolroom under the Master & Monitor.

Aug 7th M^r Cousins complained of being interrupted by House Boys as they are going to & from school. Found on inquiry that the offenders were House Boys who did not go to school.

10 Several boys gone harvesting.

Hertford Cowper Testimonial School

Summary of the Inspector's Report on the School. 2nd August 1865

"The attainments are very fair.

The School is too noisy, but I hope it will improve in that respect, as in the discipline generally.

The Master needs more assistance.

E.A, Miller Grammar & Geography^o*

James Wheeler Birch

Sep 14 School treat. Children assembled at 2.30, marched to Bailey Hall Field. Played a cricket match between the two schools, &c had tea, schools &c. had tea at the Corn Exchange at 6 o'clock.

25th Several admissions. Commenced new quarter in the registers.

Advanced several boys to higher classes.

Oct 2 M^r Ludlow came about advertisements in the National Society's Paper for assistant Masters.

Oct 11 M^{rs} Horton called about her son's school fee. She thought 2d a week too much, & 1d quite enough.

Oct 16 M^r Ludlow brought testimonials &c of John Groom, a candidate for the assistant mastership.

17 School as usual in the morning. Boys to assemble at 2.30 to march to Balls park have tea, & welcome the Marquis & Marchioness of Townsend.

27 Heard that J. Groom had received another appointment through the delay in answering his application.

Nov 6 Attendance small in the morning. Holiday in the afternoon to celebrate Fawkes Day.

Nov 21 Thomas Porter appointed assistant master: duties to commence after the Christmas holidays.

22 Rev Woodward, Diocesan Inspector examined the boys. Wet day. 77 present on that account, &c no notice had been sent to the School. After examination, M^r Woodward addressed the boys: he impressed upon them 'learn yourselves', and spoke of the Scripture answering being the best of their answers, & hoped they would practise as well as learn.

27 Lesson on the Manufacture of Coal Gas to Classes I & II.

28 Rev J Birch came and signed the Diocesan Inspector's report and the Pupil Teacher's indentures.

Dec 11 Last day for paying Clothing Club, returned money to those who had paid less than 1/-, retained all cards.

12 Arranged classes for ensuing quarter.

15 Dismissed the boys for Xmas holidays, 3 weeks. Gave out Clothing Club tickets.

1866

Jan 8 Commenced school at 9.30 with 83 boys. Thomas Porter has written to say he is unable to come this week on account of illness.

Jan 15 Thomas Porter commenced duties - kept very fair order in his classes (III & IV).

16 Window broken by W^m Smith firing a cannon.

Jan 29 Homework, chiefly Arithmetic to all in First Two Classes.

30th Homework done well by both classes.

Feb 5 Commenced the week with 84 boys. Winkworth readmitted. F Butler dead (fever).

Mar 14 Fast day on account of the Cattle Plague. Church in the morning. 1½ hours school in the afternoon. No Registers.

Mar 21 All but a few boys went to Circus in the afternoon.

April 11 A few boys absent, & others late through going to see the wild beast show.

(Now after(noon) 2.15 - school closing at 4:15 during the Summer months)

April 17 Altered the timetable so that Classes 2 and 5 received more of the master's attention in reading and Class 2 in Arithmetic. Assistant to take Classes 5 and 6 alternately with the pupil teacher in arithmetic as formerly. Admitted Brock and Proctor sons of Sergeants of Militia, to remain while the Militia are out.

May 9 James Bunyan left - gone to farm work.

May 16 Boys dismissed at 11.45. Holiday in the afternoon, (to see the Militia Inspected.)

June 12 Complaint made of Cowper and Green Boys throwing stones at each other during dinner time. Boys punished.

13 Examined Standard VI in reading, very moderate. M^r Birch came to say that he would see M^r Grove about the Green Sch. Boys leaving the Cowper school premises next week unless sanction to remain was given by the Privy Council.

June 19 Commenced school at 9.5. Took boys to cricket match (at 11.30) Balls Park.

June 22 M^r Birch brought a letter from the Privy Council Office, to be placed in the Portfolio. The Green Boys are to return to their old school on Monday.

28 Several boys absent this week, hay making - attendance this afternoon 59.

29 End of Registers for School Year.

July 2 Commenced new Registers.

July 10 Told Alfred Watson I could not allow him to attend school again on account of his irregular attendance and general bad conduct.

July 27 Registers closed at 9.12. School dismissed at 11.20 to allow the master to attend the General Meeting of the Herts Ch. Of England Educational Union, held at Thundridge Vicarage.

1866 W^m George Baker, Master , Probationer

C.A. Miller, Pupil Teacher of the 1st Year.

C.A. Robinson, H.M. Inspector

Aug 1 Rev C Robinson examined the boys in their classes and Standards.

79 boys present. School dismissed for the day, classes 3 - 6 at 12.10 & 1 & 2 at 12.45.

Aug 3 House boys absent: gone to Woodhall Park.

8 Rev C Robinson visited the School in the morning, heard the scripture lessons; questioned classes 1 & 2 in Geography.

9 Dismissed at 11.45 to reassemble at 2.15 to march to Bailey Hall field for annual school gathering.

10 Dismissed the boys at 11.45 for the Harvest Holidays, assemble again on Tuesday, Sep 10.

Sep 10 Assembled at 9.30. Attendance 64, a few boys still away harvesting, several absent on account of wet weather.

12 Attendance 45, several gone to Harvest Home at Hertingfordbury.

17 Raised the school fees of several boys whose parents are able to pay more than they have previously.

Sep 18 Hertford Cowper Testimonial School.

Summary of Inspector's Report.

"I think the school is improving."

C.A. Miller Spelling & Composition.

M^r Baker told he will receive his Certificate.

James W Birch

Sep 27 Master left at 11.35 to go to Cheltenham to attend a reunion of students at the Normal College. School left in charge of the Assistant and Pupil Teacher.

Oct 1 School commenced at 9.30 as normal. Commenced new quarter in Registers. Numbers on books 21, 20, 17, 19, 16, 14 in each class respectively. M^r Law came in the afternoon & told the boys he intended to be present at the Sunday School & to teach, & asked them to attend. Parents had been visited & it was found that mainly attended the Wesleyan, & others the Baptist, & others the Independent Sunday School.

Oct 5 Sent the assistant's resignation to M^r Ludlow.

Oct 21 Dark & foggy afternoon. Arthur Carter and Joseph Styles appointed monitors with a view to them becoming Pupil Teachers after H.M.

Inspector's visit.

Oct 26 Rev's H Demain and J Birch visited in the afternoon, the latter to state that the Marquis Townsend intends giving a treat to the school children

at the Corn Exchange on Wednesday next to celebrate the birth of a son and heir to his property.

Nov 1 Municipal election, several boys absent (employed as messengers &c).

6 W Marshall left, unable to pay fee, 1d per week.

8 Onion fair, small attendance.

21 M^r S Austin visited, asked if there was a boy in the School who would do for a 'reading boy' at his printing office. Recommended W Prior.

23 M^r Hutchinson visited and examined Class III in reading, expressed himself satisfied with them. M^r Ludlow brought a letter from the guardian of Arthur Cater declining the offer of the Committee of this school to take him as Pupil Teacher, giving as reasons that he had the opportunity to apprentice the boy to a trade offering larger emolument (present & future), and greater certainty of employment in the future.

26 A sergeant of police called to enquire about witnesses to a window of the Smith School being broken.

Dec 3 A Wilson employed as Monitor instead of A Cater.

7 The Master attended a committee meeting of the Cowper School at the Abel Smith School at 11 a. m. , to receive reports of visitors, & to consider the advisability of having Pupil teachers instead of an assistant master, & increasing the Master's salary; & to receive the resignation of J Porter.

10 House boys absent - cases of Cholera in the Workhouse. Measles very prevalent among the children. M^r Brown took measurements of the building (formally used for the Green schoolroom) adjoining the School - to see how it may best be converted into a dwelling house for the Master.

Dec 12 All Saints Church opened by the Bishop of the Diocese.

14 Thomas Porter leaves to attend the Queen's Scholarship Examination at Battersea, previous to entering Cheltenham Normal College. Attendance very small this week on account of illness and the wet weather. No registers this afternoon.

17 Last day for paying Clothing Club money. Cards detained. Several boys away still with measles.

19 Sent Pupil teacher to the bank with Clothing Club receipts.

21 School in the morning. Gave out Clothing tickets. Sunday school to be open during the holidays as the Master stays in the town. Dismissed 12.

1867

Jan 7 Commenced school at 9.30 this morning. Attendance 44. House boys

absent. Took payment for Clothing Club 9.15 -9.30.

No. on books at commencement of this quarter 18, 18, 18, 16, 16, 24 = 110.

8 Heavy rain, a few boys came in the morning - no registers. Afternoon attendance 53. House boys present.

9 Received complaint from M^{rs} Styles of Miller, his conduct out of school being calculated to influence for evil, referred it to the vicar.

Jan 10 Miller's conduct to be referred to the Committee.

Feb 4 Master absent three weeks scarlet fever in the family & master unwell the first week. School carried on, in conjunction with the Green Coat School, in this building by M^r Grove with Pupil Teacher and 2 monitors from this school & a monitor from the Green Coat School. Pupil Teacher received lessons at M^r Grove's evening school.

Commenced with 71 boys this morning. Savage & Saville have gone of Berkhamstead School, & Hart to Bull Plain.

6 Smallpox at the workhouse, boys absent. Wet day, attendance small, singing hymns instead of scripture lesson. F. Hutchings admitted from Cowbridge.

18 H. Walker admitted. Does not know his alphabet, aged 8.

21 M^{rs} Moulding brought her son to show that he was too ragged to come to school - wished for a note to that effect for the Board of Guardians.

28 Harding's club money cancelled, given to M^r Grove to be entered on his club. M^r Warleigh called to enquire for a Schoolmaster salary £30 & house for day school & perhaps £20 might be made by night school. Have not met with a master wishing such a school.

Mar 6 Ash Wednesday. Church at 10:40. No registers. Holiday in the afternoon.

7 Snowy day - many absent.

12 M^r Ludlow called after 4 o'clock to enquire about Miller's conduct during the past month. His work at home has been better, & his conduct at School has been rather better but not satisfactory.

14 A heavy fall of snow kept several boys away today. Attendance small.

18 Found that M^{rs} Allen's son has scarlet fever. Had the door of the room joining the classroom undone, & boys enter by the upper front door. Boys forbidden to go into the lobby or passage & back premises occupied by M^r Allen. Windows mended today. School commenced at 9.40 in consequence of delay in opening up the entrance to the classroom.

25 8 house boys present today, 2 ill, & 2 left since Feb 4. Attendance 62.

26 Sent in House Boys Account for preceding Quarter £3.0.0

28 M^r Birch & M^r Sendall (HM Inspector) visited the school in the morning. Attendance 69.

April 1 Commenced the last quarter in the Registers. 2 house boys & Mayes returned to school after illness, & J Lawrence from work. J. Jeremy admitted. N^o in Register at Commencement of this Quarter, 17, 17, 15, 16, 12, 25 = 102.

April 12 M^r Allen's son died this morning in rooms under the school, from scarlet fever.

15 Closets & rooms below fumigated, to be white or lime washed, carbolic acid and chloride of lime used for the drawers, &c.

16 Charles Overall admitted, to attend while his father is on duty in the town as Sergeant of Militia. E. Allen buried today.

May 23 School for 2 hours in the morning, small attendance. No registers. Holiday in the afternoon. Review & athletic sports of the Militia.

May 29 James Walton died yesterday of scarlet fever.

June 12 Assembled at 9.30 took club money: dismissed for the remainder of the week to allow master to see the Secretaries of the Church Missionary Society about an appointment in Bombay.

July 1 Admitted W. Catlin, Class 1. Commenced new Registers. Number on books 15, 16, 14, 15, 14, 30 = 104

July 15 School as usual in the morning. A. Willocks admitted. Missionary Meeting presided over by Rev C. Deedes at Abel Smith School, in the afternoon, school till 3. No registers.

*1867 W.G. Baker, Certificated Teacher of the 4th class, Upper grade.
Chas Miller, Pupil teacher of the 2nd year.*

*C.J. Robinson
H.M. Inspector*

July 31 School examined by H.M. Inspector. Boys examined in their standards. Attendance 79. Dismissed for the day at 12.30.

August 8 School in the morning 9.30 - 11.50. School feast in the afternoon. Games in M^r Young's field. Tea &c in the Corn Exchange.

Sep 9 Attendance 50 & 51. Several boys not yet returned from harvesting. Cater & G Ephgrace left the workhouse. Catlin & Smith gone to work. Received report. 34 examined. 32, 20 & 23 passed. £23-14-8 claimable deduction under endowment minute 52.d. £9.6. Grant obtained £14.8.8.

Wilson indentures enclosed.

19 M^r Hurcomb gave an address to the boys before dismissal in the morning "Be thou the Guide of my youth"

20 Gave Wilson & Styles half an hour in the morning to put up swings in Miss Green's field for the "Brown Girls" [

Sep 30 Commenced new quarter in Registers, divided the school into five classes: Class 5 corresponding to standard I at the next examination, Class 4, Standard II, Class 3 Standard III, Class 2 Standard IV, Class 1 all above standard VI, upper division st VI & VII, lower division st V.

Report 1867

"The boys are making satisfactory progress."

"The number of those presented for examination - 34 is exceedingly small compared with the number qualified for examination - 62. It is obvious that when so few children of those qualified are submitted to it, the examination is no satisfactory test of the general instruction of the school.

Miller Geography & Teaching.

He should be warned that he should produce unqualified Certificates from the Managers & Master next year.

George Ludlow

Treasurer

Oct 1 Class 2 commenced subtraction of money, gave them home exercises in arithmetic. Class 1 commenced division of weights & measures. Sent in bill to M^r Wheeler for House boys, June 24 to Sep 29 £2.5

2 Received books for London stationer (Lacey, City Road) for Pupil Teachers, Copy books &c. Paid Pupil Teachers for preceding quarter Miller £2.10 Wilson £1.5

Oct 9 Commenced fires, 2 ton coals & a score of faggots sent in, former from McMullen, latter from Randall.

Oct 16 House boys absent - potato picking.

25 M^r Birch came for a boy lately left who would be likely to suit M^r Gardner of Hertingfordbury, recommended W. Smith.

28 Raised school fee of W Cooper & E Harvey. Told Jeremy & Dymock to bring 3d instead of 2d next week.

29 Ephgrave kept at school during dinner time, absented himself from the workhouse & school without leave.

30 School as usual in the morning. Opened in the afternoon gave a

holiday (attendance 28) Circus in town.

Nov 8 Attendance smaller than usual on account of the fair.

12 M^r Ludlow came to enquire about a tree broken, belonging to Abel Smith School (South Lane). Lawrence & Kitchener saw A. Watson break it.

Dec 3 House boys absent in the morning & afternoon - heavy snow- gave Styles leave from 11.30.

4 House boys absent.

5 Found on enquiry that the house boys were staying away because Dr Woodhouse thought there was a danger of their catching small-pox which is prevalent in the Hertford. Stokes ill with scarlet fever.

11 Sent W Teichener home, brother & father ill with small-pox. Find that many families in the lower part of the town have it.

16 H Barnard died of small-pox, absent from school a week previously.

18 M^r Birch visited. Engaged to take the Second City School, Shoe Lane, Fleet Street after the Xmas holidays.

20 Gave out club tickets, for interest given see Club book. Arranged school for holidays, books &c. Bade the boys 'good bye' & dismissed them for their Xmas holidays, to reassemble Jan 13.

(3 weeks instead of 2, to allow more time to settle with a master.)

Made out bill for house boys, 9 boys @ 5s per qu £2.10 sent to M^r Wheeler. Pupil Teacher Charles Augustus Miller (in 3rd year) Alfred Wilson (in 1st year). Monitor Joseph Styles (6d per week)

Class I Two divisions, upper preparing for Standard VI have gone through practice & have a little knowledge of vulgar fractions, lower for st. V gone through compound rules, now doing miscellaneous questions. Reading books W Laurie's (dictation) & Cate's poetry.

Class II for st iv short division of money, have gone through 3rd S.P.C.K. & half through supplement to H. Irish, read III SPCK at last term.

Class III for st III up to short division, reading III SPCK passed in second sequel SPCK last term.

Class IV st II Bilton's II. Addition & subtraction & numeration.

Class V st I Bilton's I. Arith as code.

Scripture I Genesis II Genesis III Scripture Prints

Geography Classes 1 & 2 Palestine, & began s. half of England.

1868

Jany 13 Commenced school after the Xmas holidays. M^r Grove¹⁶ carried on the Green Coat School & this school today in this schoolroom because the

master was unable to get to Hertford today.

15 I, Charles A. Blackwell, late of Byfleet N. School and previously of St Mary's Haggerston NE commenced duty at this school for the first time - 25 present in the morning, 30 in the afternoon, smallpox being very prevalent deters many from coming.

20th Monday Improvement in attendance. Too much noise as yet, in changing lessons, owing to the loud tone the pupil teachers give their orders.

23 1st & 2nd classes wrote Precis on Scripture instead of usual Oral lesson as I have a fearful cold caused by removing into a damp house in wet weather.

30 The bigger boys in this school invariably try how much a new master will put up with - Jolliffe, Hollingdale, Bolton disobedient after leaving school last night. Tried mild measures first, found them failing, on Jolliffe's repeated disobediences, thrashed him this morning: all the bigger boys were astounded, and discipline was considerably improved.

Feb 4 Beautiful weather this afternoon, so to keep up a good custom, we are going out for a walk this day with the scholars.

20 M. Frankies, a foreigner, recoloured Y B Boards for the school. Chalk marks may now easily be seen; but not effaced very well, without washing.

27 Judge entered the town in the afternoon. Jeremy and Dymock being in the Volunteer Band excused attendance at School. M^r Stiles made a complaint against Miller; investigated it, found it almost groundless, and prompted by bad feeling.

March 4 Abused by M^{rs} Gear. Gave her boy and others one slight tap with the cane yesterday not knowing Fred^k Gear was XXXX and had puffy flesh. Explained the matter to M^{rs} Gear. Mem, not to punish Gear on the hand but on the shoulder.

9 M^r Austin came in the afternoon for a boy who would do for a Reader at his printing office, recommended J. Jeremy.

17 Sanger's circus came into the town, Kiff and Taylor away from school in the morning, and Gutteridge came in at 11.30.

25 Lady-day. Thirteen pauper boys have not attended at all during the past quarter, by the doctor's order. The town is now quite free of smallpox.

26 Sent a note to M^r Wheeler, governor of the Union, inviting him to send the boys, as a new Quarter has commenced.

30 Nine work-house boys attended for the 1st time this year.

April 1st Last night after school the Hertford boys and those from Hertford

heath quarrelled. It originated between individual boys on each side, one Saturday a few weeks ago. Investigated the affair this morning. Showed the silliness, danger, and unchristian of doing so. Eight Heath boys slunk away home in the morning just before school.

3 Gave Hollingdale an imposition, degraded him for a week to the third class, made further punishment contingent upon his behaviour.

7 Hollingdale very well behaved, encouraged him. Degradation better than flogging him.

28 Received a proof from M^r Simpson the printer of the absentee tickets ordered of him on Friday night. Price 7/6 per thousand.

May 4 Arthur Dickens applied for re-admission. Sent to the treasurer and secretary for their advice, as Dickens had only just completed a term of imprisonment for stealing from the till and had moreover been dismissed from school two years previously for ill behaviour. He is to come as long as his behaviour is satisfactory.

12 Hertford fair. Attendance good in the morning. In the afternoon, some of the smallest boys kept at home from fear of accident in passing through the horse fair to the school.

13 The two Bouchiers left. Their father having returned from New Zealand, and taken his sons from the Union last night.

June 16th House boys absent this afternoon, with leave, that they will see the wax-work exhibition in the town.

18th The Herts Yeomanry Cavalry assembled at Hertford to day. Meagre attendance at school.

22nd The committee assembled at the Abel Smith School formally appointed me, master of this school.

24th Midsummer Day, sent in quarter's bill for myself and pupil teachers, paid same day.

July 2nd Cottagers' Flower show. Some of the boys absent on that account.

6th 75 Present in the morning. Cherry fair in the Afternoon. So many boys late that I did not mark the registers.

8th Returned Charles Gear's two shillings, that he had deposited in the clothing Fund. E. Hewitt and W and H Cooper had permission to be away at the Cowbridge Sunday School tea party.

10th Examination in the morning. No school in the afternoon, being the Annual meeting of the Herts Education Union.

July 13th No school in the afternoon as the boys attended the Annual Missionary Meeting for Juveniles, held at Abel Smith School at 3 PM this

day.

14th Dymock and Jeremy had leave of absence to attend the archery meeting at Wood-hill as band-boys.

15th Baptist Sunday School Tea party. About 15 of our boys absent on that account. Drilled the boys in the morning.

July 24th Attendance very thin, and all the week, owing to the excessive heat, sickness, and the harvest. Received a note from M^{rs} Wilmot, requesting the payment of G. Hollingworth's club money: upon consideration declined to do so until the card is given up and I no longer liable for the money.

27th Attendance decreased, 55 and 53. Excursion to Hunstanton; some boys visiting, many ill and a few gleaning. 22 absent of those intended for examination.

28^h Attendance improved. 62 in the morning. Excursion to Ramsgate. Sent notes requesting the attendance of certain boys at the Examination.

29th None of the Hertford Heath boys have yet attended this week. Heard that they had informed their parents that the holidays had already commenced. Examined the boys in the course of scripture they have had since Christmas.

30th H.M.I. The Rev^d C.I. Robinson inspected the school.

1868 *Charles H. Blackwell, Master:*

Chas Miller, Pupil teacher of 3rd year

Alfred Wilson, “ 1st year

C.J. Robinson

H.M. Inspector

August 31st Resumed school after a month's holiday. 75 present. W. Chaplin knocked down by a runaway horse and dangerously hurt, not expected to recover.

September 4th All with the exception of the 6th class had paper supplied them, for the weekly examination.

September 7th Chaplin after a serious relapse on Saturday, is again progressing favourably. 75 present in the morning. Powell's Circus exhibited in the town. Small attendance and no registers in the afternoon. Fitzjohn and Epgrave said to have run away from the Union because M^r Wheeler had limited their food, for loitering about the circus.

“ 8th Fitzjohn and Ephgrave returned. Punished them for playing truant yesterday afternoon.

“ 11th Examination on paper, for the whole school. The boys are taking more pains with their writing. Bygrave and Rob^t Aylott rewarded for neatness..

“ 18th Attendance small in the afternoon owing to a heavy storm just before assembly time

“ 21st William Chaplin returned to school after 3 weeks illness.

“ 24th Attendance at school good, some few absent at the Flower Show and ploughing match.

Report 1868

“There is fair efficiency in the Discipline and Elementary attainments. With the present teaching staff the School ought to reach a higher rank. The number of children presented for examination is again very small compared with the number qualified by attendance. My Lords will be obliged to reduce the Grant under Article 52(a)²⁰ unless improvement in this respect is shown next year.

George Ludlow

Treasurer/Secretary

Oct 14th Thin attendance in the afternoon owing to the Volunteer Prize shooting in Panshanger park.

October 19th Monday. 88 present in the morning. C. Hollingdale gone as page at Wyndham club. Reynolds left the town. Two panes broken by Alf Warner a Hertford Heath boy who also assaulted Thomas Bygrave.

“ 22nd Sent home Joseph W Hills as his head appeared in an unclean state.

“ 23rd Two tons of coal received; but the faggots not yet sent.

“ 26th Monday. Received news from M^{rs} Hill saying her son's head was clean, and that it was scurvy John had and not what I supposed. Heard that Jolliffer family had scarlet fever; must see into the truth of the matter at once.

“ 27th Called at Jolliffes yesterday, they have scarlatina in the family, advised the Jolliffes to keep Joshua from school till the family recovered.

“ 30th Actual weekly average exclusive of late boys = 80. The best week's attendance for at least a twelve month. Sent after absentees.

November 3rd The five Catlins away gathering litter for pigs.

9th Hertford Fair and Election of Mayor. Good attendance in the morning ; bad attendance in the afternoon, kept school; but did not mark registers.

“ 11th Thin attendance in the afternoon. Boys are beginning to ask to go home before dismissal time.

“ 16th Nomination Day of candidates for the representation of the Borough and County. 39 boys present in the morning and ten in the afternoon.

“ 17th Polling day for the borough. Many boys absent from school., being employed as messengers by different candidates.

Nov. 18th Declaration of the Borough Poll. Fair attendance considering the General Election.

“ 19th Polling for the County members. 1st class boys wrote a composition exercise on “the events of the week” and did it remarkably well.

“ 23rd Joseph Stiles late monitor, obtained a situation at M^r Neales, Walter Dymock made monitor in his place.

December 7 The gale on Saturday evening has almost blown out one of the casements in the disused school. Sent to the plumber's to see to its repair.

“ 8 matched 6 of our best spellers with 6 Green boys. The Cowper boys averaged 14 months younger than their opponents, and averaged 6 mistakes less in the dictation exercise.

December 9th M^r Williams called and chose some boys to assist in the Sunday evening choir.

16 81 present in the morning. House boys kept at home in the afternoon for examination by the chaplain. A very sudden violent gust of wind at 3.45 blew out a window in the disused school.

17 M^r Hancock visitor in the morning. I pointed out to him the number of cracked windows & he said it was the effect of small shot, and not hail as I supposed. Attendance good, 3rd class retrograde in reading, punished the most careless, then made them take it word for word.

23rd Master and apprentices paid their salaries. Club money paid up; a statement of accounts given to M^r Ludlow.

24th Forty present. Kept school 2 hours, then dismissed for a fortnight. Senior PT. inspected the roof, as, directly after last holiday a quantity of lead was stolen. The premises are now in their usual state, i.e. in pretty good repair.

1869

January 18th Monday. Attendances 90, 90, maximum number for past two years.

19th M^r Frances, nurseryman, buried. He having been a teacher in the Congregational Sunday school many of our boys attending that Sunday school, absent from school in the afternoon.

25th Windows repaired.

27 Catechism 8th and 9th commandment. 3rd class finished the SPCK reading book, No. 2 and commenced reading the geography of England and Wales. I endeavoured to make the reading as varied and interesting as possible.

Feb. 1st Some of the Hertford Heath boys absent, employed as beaters of the bushes.

18th Wombwell's menagerie in the town. Few boys absent, sent after the absentees as I feared some may have played truant.

22nd Henry Fitzjohn admitted, and Arthur Dickens left. The latter boy has been very attentive and well behaved since his readmission, see "Entry May 4th 1868."

24th Promoted Hervey, Farrow, Mansfield to the 3rd class, and Kidby, J Catlin, Fox, Walker and Warner to the 4th.

March 16th Found my desk broken open, the first thing this morning. Meeting of the school committee at the Abel Smith School.

March 18th M^{rs} Allen gave up possession of the apartment below the school.

April 8th M^{rs} Kiff called respecting her boy going to the Hertford Heath School.

" 9th Eight Hertford Heath Boys left. The Rev M^r Bevan of Hertford Heath having engaged a Master instead of a schoolmistress. Gave out cards showing attendance, conduct etc. for the first time.

April 14th S. Ginnett's circus in the town; a good attendance in the morning, very few in the afternoon; but marked no registers.

" 19th Green coat boys taught in this school to day, as their master has been appointed to a London school, and his successor cannot take charge of the Green coat school as yet. 124 present in the morning, i.e. 90 Cowper boys and 34 Green coats. Page, a Green coat boy disobedient and insolent to Miller the senior apprentice and attempted to kick him: Miller slapped his face.

" 20th M^{rs} Page complained of Miller. I explained to her the true state

of the case, and said that the pupil-teachers were not allowed to chastise the boys under ordinary circumstances; but in this case he was justified in doing so in his own defence.

“ 26th The two pupil-teachers confirmed this day at All Saints' church; consequently no school.

May 11th Detained Farrow in school as I find solitary detention to be more effective than corporal punishment.

“ 12th Hertford May fair. Good attendance in the morning. No register in the afternoon, as many boys were late.

“ 24th Jeremy, Standard VII joined the Militia Band. His mother asked my advice in the morning, counselled her to let him do so. M^r Jeremy's late sudden death, putting a trade for the son out of the question.

“ 25th R Aylott although the best at arithmetic, is very backward in orthography; his dullness proceeds from weakness, through poor diet (work-house fare); gave him some food and his dizziness decreased.

“ 28th Jeremy called to take leave, stayed tea with me, and I gave him some friendly advice. He has been one of the best and cleverest lads in the school. Wet in the afternoon, attendance smaller, no 6th class boy present.

June 2nd Degraded Charles Edwards to the 3rd class on account of his indifference to progress.

“ 4th Corner stone of the new St Andrew's church laid by Earl Cowper this afternoon; several boys absent on that account, allowed those present ¼ hour's play.

“ 14th Two boys admitted from the British School and one from the Ragged School²¹.

“ 16th M^{rs} Farrow called about her son's admission to the Green Coat School. Five other Cowper School boys are trying for admission also, asked the reason and was informed the gratuitous clothing was the chief inducement to obtain a presentation.

June 18th Edward Marshall obtained a presentation to the Green Coat School. M^{rs} Walls is perfectly well satisfied with her son's progress here; but wishes to get him in the Green school for the benefit of the clothes. At least 4 others of these boys wish to obtain admission for the same reason.

June 24th Master present at the examination at the Green coat school in the morning. 95 present here, pupil teachers conducted the school. House boys kept at home in the afternoon for examination by the chaplain.

June 25th 1st class wrote abstracts on “The Irishman and the hare”, “The English Drummer boy”, and “Mary the maid of the inn”, all tales from their

reading books. Pupil teachers received their quarter's salary. Miller applied for his indentures for the Inspector's perusal to-morrow. M^r Ludlow said they were not in his possession and suggested they might be with M^r Lingley.

June 28th Pupil teachers examined on Saturday, 26th inst. Bouchier a houseboy gone to sea. 101 present in the morning, which is the maximum attendance for several years. 88 in the afternoon. Received account of the society of arts examination March 16th, 4 out of 6 Cowper boys gained certificates.

June 30th End of school year. 120 on the books, 80 admitted during past year, 61 left. The boys who left were nearly all in Standards III, IV, V, VI and VII and those admitted were very backward.

July 1st Standards IV, V, VII read Macauley's "Spanish Armada", tried to infuse some spirit into the reading, explained the poem. VI and VII then wrote an abstract, a paraphrase on it and IV and V transcribed a portion.

July 19th M^r Starr died on Friday night consequently Henry will leave at once for work and W^m will be excused this week.

21st Juvenile Athletic Club sports. Good attendance.

23rd Flogged Oddle for lying and stealing, he took a toy from a little boy. Oddle has been several times known to have stolen the boy's food.

" 29th M^r Ludlow visitor. Ordered the school to be whitewashed, the gravel in the playground to be levelled and the safety of the swing post to be seen to, during the holidays.

1869 Chas A Slackwell, *Certificated Master of the 2nd Class, 2nd division.*

Cas Miller, *Pupil-teacher of the 4th year*

Alfred Wilson, " " 1st year.

E.J. Robinson

H.M. Inspector

July 30th 119 boys present at the examination, 57 presented. Half-holiday in the afternoon.

August 2nd 114 present. Promoted all the boys who were examined last Friday, 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th classes full, 2 and 6th rather thin. Walls obtained a presentation to the Green Coat School.

August 6th Had school in the morning and the school treat in Balls Park in the afternoon. Gave notice of a month's holiday, to assemble on Monday,

September 6th.

September 6th Resumed school 86 present in the morning, weather wet, four admissions, several boys left for work.

October 4th Paid PTs their quarter's salary.

“ 3rd Received two tons of coal of M^cMullen & two boxes of pens from Simsons.

“ 18th Reynolds admitted, detained the boys who were bad in church yesterday. Fox very bad, his mother sent a disrespectful note bringing a false charge against Miller, sent the boy back for his mother.

“ 19th Weather very cold and windy, upper ventilators kept incessantly chattering, spoiling the discipline for the day.

“ 21st M^r Pigeon called about his son who had been playing truant all the week, he said the boy's mother was to blame. Promised to let the pence run on till M^r Pigeon could bring it himself.

“ 25th Monday. John Wackett returned from work, James from Cowbridge School. W Bouchier returned from sea. C. Fox's mother apologised and wished her son to be readmitted. 100 present.

Government Report for 1869

“The state of this school is improving; but I hope there will be steady advance. A school in my district similarly situated in another county town is much more forward in all respects.”

No grant has been paid under Article 54²⁰ as the conditions of clause (b) of that Article have not been complied with.

*Miller (Repetition, History, Euclid
(and Reading
He must work hard to improve.*

Wilson - Reading and Geography.

	£	s	d		£	s	d
Gross amount of claim =	35	9	4	Deduction 52(d) ²⁰	9	5	8
Net sum payable [£]	26	3	8				

F. Lingley

October 26th 100 present in the morning.

Mess^{rs} Powell, Footit and Clarke's circus in the town, no registers in the afternoon owing to the scanty attendance.

“ 27th Returned to M^{rs} Bygrave the sum of £1”1”7 deposited by her sons Robert and William in the school clothing club.

Nov. 1st M^r Bygrave called and objected to William and Robert's club money having been returned to his wife. An itinerant potter exhibited the process of shaping ware.

“ 2nd 1st and 2nd wrote composition on the potter's exhibition, and also on the Municipal Election.

Nov 3rd Received a cauldron of coke for use of school. 20 houseboys present. Received a gross of penholders from Simpson on Monday.

Nov 5th Walter Taylor injured in a fall in coming to school. Sent him home in charge of W. Smith. There being few boys present in the morning no registers were marked. Gave a short discourse on the Gunpowder Plot and the landing of the Prince of Orange. No school in the afternoon as is the custom.

“ 8th Ketteridge returned after 18 months' absence. Farrow the most intelligent boy in the 3rd class gone into the Greencoat school.

November Horse and cattle Fair, small attendance in the afternoon.

“ 16th Walls gone to Ragged school.

“ 22nd Dickens returned. Taken into custody by police for an alleged case of petty fraud.

“ 23rd Dickens returned, the affair having been satisfactorily explained.

Dec 9th Houseboys late in the afternoon. Meat day, dinner late.

1870

Jan^y 24th Missionary meeting held at Abel Smith School in the afternoon. 104 Cowper boys present.

“ 25th 1st and 2nd classes wrote an account of the missionary meeting - result very fair.

Feb^y 7th Received a note from M^r Bouchiere concerning his son Robert's progress, same time M^r Titmarsh sent a message complaining of his son's slow progress. Bouchier is regular, intelligent and painstaking; Titmarsh irregular, dull, and an arrant truant.

Feb^y 9th First two classes having finished St John's gospel, commenced it a second time.

14th Henry Armstrong at school last Friday, died next day of a

convulsive fit, 1½ hour's illness. Called this day and sympathised with his parents. Received a note from M^{rs} Harvey expressing her satisfaction at her sons' progress, stating same time that she had sent them to a private school, opened this morning a few yards from her house which is a considerable distance from this school. Called on her and returned the clothing club money.

Feb^y 17th H. Armstrong buried. Spoke to the boys about the uncertainty of life, of Armstrong's innocent life, and followed him to the grave.

“ 24th Punished Oddel for chalking obscene words on the neighbours' palings and caused him to efface it.

“ 25th Sent account to M^r Ludlow of the school accommodation, average attendance, number of teachers and school hours of this school, the Abel Smith Sch; Infant-school; School of Industry and Green Coat School.

“ 28th Received a ton of coal from M^r McMullen. Claydon returned from work.

March 1st Punished Phipps, Bolton and Hewitt for playing hockey instead of coming to school.

March 3rd Discovered a small landslip in the school garden, 5 feet deep and six in diameter. Dispensed with school fires yesterday and to day owing to the mildness of the weather.

“ 8th M^r Wheeler sent word that the houseboys would not be at school this week owing to the prevalence of fever in the town. G. Ludlow, Esq. and Sergeant Wray cautioned the boys about playing at hockey or tip cat in the public roads.

“ 9th David Catlin obtained a presentation to the Green coat school. M^{rs} Catlin expressed her satisfaction at her son's progress, and thanked me for the same, but having a large family she was glad to have her son clothed and educated gratuitously. I think some limit ought to be put to the number received from this school, as this is the 5th promising boy received from this school during the past 9 months and others are to speedily follow.

March 14th Attendance very good considering the illness in the town and the absence of the Houseboys.

“ 18th Examined M^r Norris bill and M^r Brown's the builder. I consider M^r Brown's charges exorbitant, and I fear we must dispense with having new reading books for some time longer.

“ 24th St Andrew’s Church re-opened.
 “ 25th All the boys in the 2 first classes have attended school with well polished boots for the past two days, and the 3rd class is following their example.
 “ 31st Rev. J. Woodward, diocesan inspector examined the school. Half holiday in the afternoon.
 April 1st The custom of making April Fools appears becoming obsolete. There has not been the slightest allusion to the subject in the school that I am aware of.
 April 5th Mumps rather prevalent, several boys absent on that account.
 “ 8th Received 24 Standard VI Reading Books, Nat. Soc^y’s from Simson.
 ” 15th Good Friday. Boys attended church, no registers marked. Half Holiday in the afternoon. Gave notice of the Easter holidays, to reassemble on 25th inst.
 “ 26th 2nd class making good progress in writing on paper (unruled).
 May 2nd Monday. 101 present in morning. Detained C. Borham a houseboy for idleness and disobedience, supplied him with food at 1.30.
 “ 3rd John Fitzjohn admitted, making the third of the same Christian and Surname in school.
 “ 11th Took Prior, Aylott, Fitzjohn and Willmot, four stammerers in Simultaneous reading after morning school.
 “ 12th Hertford horse and cattle fair. Aftⁿ attendance small.
 May 13th Friday. Raining all day, attendance good, much better than usual for Friday afternoon.
 “ 17th Allowed the boys a few minutes play in the afternoon to enable them to see H R H The Prince of Wales as he passed the school on his way to Balls Park.
 June 15th M^{rs} Vigus called about her son’s truant playing. Explained to her how parents facilitated truancy by keeping their sons at home on every trivial excuse without giving notice to the master.
 June 17th The Bounds of the Borough beaten this day. Thin attendance in the afternoon.
 “ 21st Congregational Sunday-school treat. Attendance 94 and 84. Thus less difference was made than anticipated.
 “ 22nd The Yeomanry cavalry arrived for 8 days training.

Baptist Sunday school treat in the afternoon. Small attendance in the afternoon.

“ 24th Quarter day, postponed taking in quarter's bills to enable me to obtain one week's more pence and thus complete the school year. M^{rs} Bouchier informed me there was fever and diphtheria where she lodged and therefore her 3 sons had better not attend school till the sickness is over.

June 29th Yeomanry cavalry review; thin attendance in the aftⁿ. Sent after some suspicious absentees, found they were kept at home.

“ 30th Charles A Miller completed his apprenticeship this day. 3rd class read much better. Last day of school year. Attendance decreased this quarter, owing to sickness (fever and diphtheria). School pence £10.4.5 more than last year. Paid quarter's account due 24th inst.

July 4th G. Brown commenced his duties yesterday. Received 24 Fourth Consecutive Readers and 36 ditto ditto. M^r Simpson cannot procure any “Books for Little Readers” and the “Evening at home” are 1/6d each plain and 3/6d illustrated. I have therefore declined having them till I receive further instruction from the treasurer.

“ 5th Arthur Dymock Baldock, Standard III and Walter Brown went to the Green coat school this day. Thomas Catlin to speedily follow. Cherry fair small attendance.

“ 7th Bennett has truanted two days, detained him all dinner time, he had his dinner. Flower show in aftⁿ.

July 11th Admitted a large number of boys from the Infant School. 11 to remain, the others to be sent back when the infant school reopens. Rev. J Lingley visitor brought notice of the Government Inspection on 29th inst.

“ 13th Heard all classes read throughout the school. I have heard the lower classes read much better, more difficult books than they have at present.

“ 19th Detained 1st class to do their dictation lesson again, having been done so badly the 1st time.

“ 20th Small attendance in the afternoon: causes, Baptist and Bengoe Sunday school treats and a cricket match.

“ 26th G.S. Brown five minutes late in the afternoon. I think it would be beneficial to commence school at 2 pm as many of the parents do not dine till after one pm and some boys have considerable distances to come. At present we assemble at 1.30 and commence at 1.45

“ 27th A Wilson obtained a certificate of good bodily health

from D^r Evans. The doctor having given him a certificate when Wilson was apprenticed, thought the second certificate not required. Parents of pupil teachers pay very reluctantly for medical certificates a second time.

“ 28th Examined upper section in Old Testament history. Sent after absentees.

Eve of Annual Inspection, Daily Average raised from 80 to 94. The master has worked especially at the arithmetic; but for the last 6 weeks with the lower classes in reading. The books have been frequently changed, those at present having been in use about 5 weeks. The 1st two classes have read the books of Joshua and Judges and the gospel of St John, they have also had “Grammar” as their special subject of instruction.

1870 Charles A Blackwell, certificated Teacher of 2nd Divⁿ of the 2nd class

Alfred Wilson, Pupil teacher of the 2nd year.

C.J. Robinson

H.M. Inspector

July 29th The Rev C.J. Robinson, H.M. Inspector examined the school. 112 boys were present, 93 have attended 200 times and upwards, of these 84 were named in the schedule for examination but only 74 were present, seven of the the absentees were too ill to attend. Half holiday in the afternoon.

August 1st 111 present. Raised all boys a class who were suitable for promotion.

August 4th School treat in Balls Park. Broke up for a month's holiday, to reassemble September 5th.

Sept 3rd received from M^r Ludlow the Government Report and draft of George Brown's indentures.

Hertford Cowper Testimonial School

Summary of H.M. Inspector of Schools. 15/8/70

“There is very fair progress: any tendency to noise or talkativeness should be promptly corrected. I regret to find the senior Pupil Teacher so much unprepared for his examination.

The conditions of Article 52(b) have not been fulfilled.

C.A. Miller appears to have neglected his studies; he has not produced satisfactory certificates from the Managers, and has passed an

indifferent examination at the close of his apprenticeship. My Lords cannot consider that it has been satisfactorily completed (Article 90)

A. Wilson Geography

J Lingley

September 5th Recommenced school. Attendance good. Thomas Catlin admitted to the Green coat school. He was one of the most promising scholars rising Standard III. Nine infants returned to their own school.

12th Began school at 9 am instead of 9.15 as hitherto. George Brown's indentures signed by himself and his father in my presence.

20th W Parker, Esq. paid me his subscription to the school.

21st Hearing that the Bouchiers were about leaving for Jersey, sent the school bill to Doctor Cardew. Burleigh played truant all day. This boy has become mixed up with bad associates, and his father is bed-ridden.

September 22nd First class wrote an essay on "Building a house". The House boys in the class have made good use of their eyes, in notice the progress of house building on the Ware Road.

“ 29th Agricultural show. Gave notes, and required the 1st class to write an essay on the subject, desired them to compare the account in next Saturday's paper.

October 4th Received from the Town-clerk an educational form to fill up by December 1st.

“ 5th Very cold and windy. Had fires in school for the first time this season.

“ 6th Several boys absent picking acorns.

“ 27th So many caps having been lost recently, gave the boys permission to suspend them behind their backs and for several other good reasons.

Nov^{er} 2nd Great Educational meeting in the Town Hall this afternoon. Half holiday to make up for the usual one on the 5th and to enable the teachers to be present at the meeting.

“ 8th Horse Fair. Weather fine, is usually wet, hence the local term Wetshod fair. 1st Class wrote an account of it. Burleigh played truant all day.

Nov 9th Burleigh, who has received vouchers of his attendance for some time past, was flogged as a last resource to prevent his trancies.

His father is bed-ridden and has said I neglected my duty in not caning him hitherto. Rev J Woodward rather unexpectedly examined this school this afternoon.

“ 10th Two 1st class boys spread a false report of there being a half holiday this afternoon as none had been given on account of the diocesan inspection. About 25 absent on that account this afternoon.

“ 11th Kept in all absentees who believed in the false report of yesterday, as they did not refer to me for the truth. Received 2 tons of coal, 2 sweeping brushes, 1 hand brush, 1 score of faggots for the use of the school.

“ 14th Cooper and Cannon returned after very long illness. E Allen Re-admitted, he stays as long as the itinerant company performs in the town. Morning attendance 113.

“ 16th Attendance 109 & 109. Detained Fitzjohn to do his work. Fitzjohn and Oddel are the most troublesome of the houseboys, frequently manifesting a spirit of insubordination. They require very firm treatment.

“ 18th Best Friday attendance for several years past. 117 + 111

“ 24th Six certificates, from the Hertford, Local Examination Board in connection with the Society of Arts, awarded to scholars of the school. Ebenezer Hewitt obtained 3 prizes, for General Proficiency, Geography and Scripture.

Dec 1st Commenced school at 9.15, having had the chimneys swept this morning: dispensed with play. Rev C.N. Hughes examined the Houseboys.

“ 5th Finch and Fitzjohn junr two new houseboys admitted, making 21 in all. John Oddel punished for running away at playtime and for general bad behaviour.

Dec 6th John Fitzjohn, senior, punished for disobedience and being insolent to the senior PT. This boy and Oddel, Raw and Shadbolt (all houseboys) are exceedingly troublesome.

“ 7th Practised first class in Bills of Parcels. The conduct of Fitzjohn, Oddel, Shadbolt and Raw improved.

“ 12th Harvey Frisby played truant in the afternoon.

“ 13th Harvey Frisby detained till 12.45. Mrs Frisby sent for her son.

“ 14th The three Frisbys left.

1871

July 20th Eve of Examination. During school year ending June 30th school open 425 times, 41,219 attendances, 7 more would have made an average of 97. Many older boys have left for work. Houseboys increased in number. There has been a great change in the routine, the spirit of the conscience clause always having been the rule of this school. 89 boys attended 250 times and upwards 7 of whom left ad interim. Grammar was chosen as the special subject of instruction with the hope of improving the older ones in orthography and composition. With the exception of measles the health of the school has been good. 12 boys in the 5th class have not been presented for examination as it has not been possible to coach them up to Standard I owing to their backward state of admission.

July 21st Mess^{rs} Hilton and Baldry examined the school. 102 and 100 present. 60 presented + 2 under 7 yrs.

“ 24th Rev C.J. Robinson made enquires about school gardens: informed that upper gardens should reset to play ground as soon as crops could be cleared off and little or no difficulty anticipated in closing the tenancy with the Miss Greens with the lower garden. Their Lordships will not sanction letting any part of the school estate.

Government Report 1871

The Reading of the younger children was careless. The hand writing of the three upper Standards requires attention, and in all Standards the Dictation is only moderate. The third and fourth Standards are weak in Arithmetic. Mr Blackwell has worked very fairly and will doubtless remedy these defects.

J Lilley

Memorandum. The inspector again this year called attention to the high charges for school stationary, and said if a considerable discount was not allowed, the goods ought to be obtained more cheaply from town.

Memorandum. Informed by M^r Robinson that their Lordships will not sanction the letting of any part of the school estate, see also entry July 24th 1871.

Report 1872

The school is in a very fair state of efficiency. Some of the boys are backward in Dictation and the knowledge of the Special subjects needs to be

strengthened.

J Lilley

Amount of grant £72.2.0. Deductions nil.

Passes in Grammar 12. In Geography 12.

Sept^r 19th Information received that each pupil teacher at this school had gained a 1st class certificate at the Diocesan examination in Holy Scripture.

Dec 13th Completion of Alf Wilson's term of service at this school. On Monday he proceeds to Cheltenham for the Scholarship examination.

1873

March 11th Election of Organist. Some of the boys employed as runners.

Dated Aug 8 1873

Government Report 1873

I should be pleased to see a higher tone & more willing discipline among the boys. The examination is only partially successful. Great weakness is apparent in the handwriting, spelling, & Arithmetic. The Notation however is good, and some of the reading is commendable. The drilling is satisfactory. The discipline and instruction must both improve, cf. (Art 32b) The Report must be entered into the Log Book (Art 39)

J Lilley

Sep 15 1873

Inspector's Report on the school 1874

I am glad to find improvement in most respects in this school. The recitation is not quite up to the mark nor are the meaning of attainment sufficiently mastered. The reading of the lower classes is backward.

Government Report July 1876

The order is better than the attainment. In the Standard work failure reaches 40 percent. The lower classes are poor in all subjects. Dictation and Arithmetic are at a low mark. Grammar and Geography will be insufficient unless a larger proportion pass creditably. Drill and singing are very fair. For the last six months the assistance has been inadequate. If the second schoolroom which is too remote from the principal Teacher to be

under satisfactory supervision is constantly used, at least an Assistant Master will be required, and anyhow a much more powerful staff will be necessary to raise and maintain the efficiency. The School Accounts would be more in form if kept in an official Cash Book (see Circular on Accounts)”

My Lords will look for decidedly better results in Writing and Arithmetic next year. (Article 32(B))

D.G. Thomas has passed an unsatisfactory examination. Should he be required to complete the staff and fail to the same extent next year, the Grant will have to be reduced under Article 32(c)

T. Lilley

C.W. Clarke (Grammar

(Handwriting

Mr C.A. Blackwell, certificated Master

Daniel G. Thomas, 4th Year pupil teacher

C.W. Clarke 1st Year pupil teacher.

Oct 19th Average for this week 130 nearly. This school has about doubled its average attendance during my charge. I have had no extra assistance. The pence have more than doubled. The grant has risen from about £14 to £82.4.0.

Mr Blackwell took leave of the boys, who with the pupil teachers agreeably surprised him with the present of a very handsome pencil case as a token of their affection and esteem.

“ 20th Mr Blackwell settled accounts with Mr Ludlow.

1876

23 Oct^r Joshua JB Bootes (Culham 1859) took charge. Arrangement of Secular portion of Time Table in some cases suspended to admit of taking stock of pupils acquirement.

1885

March 24th Bade Boys Goodbye, & Received Illustrated Quarto Edition of Milne's Gallery of Nature. Tried to impress on the boys minds the marker I gave when I first arrived 8½ years ago

“Work when yo work & play when you play

March 25th 1885

John R Strubell commenced duties as H^dMaster

Staff Present

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H^dMaster - John R Strubell, Trained Certif. 1st Division

First Assistant - Arthur Pratt (C)

Second Assistant. Henry Harvey, Ex P.T.

Monitors:- Dickerson & Hart

Arranged Standards II & III under Mr Pratt, with Monitor Hart in South Room. Standard I under Mr Harvey in Centre Room, and Standards IV, V, VI & VII in North Room.

Teaching Staff for the year 1908 - 1909

John R Stubell A.C.P., F.R.H.S. Art Master. Trained First Class.

Frederick Thrower, certificated No 04/1599

Fred Moore, certificated 06/1753

Harry Cawley, certificated 07/1593

William Gibbs Powell, certificated No 07/1723

Harry Wentworth Powell, Art 50

Charles Booker, Art 50

Notes:

1. XXX is used on the few occasions that a word could not be deciphered. Text in [] has been included for clarity.
2. School logbooks became compulsory in 1862.
3. The school was run by a group of managers including the vicar, curate and local business men.
4. The school consisted of an infants' school and a junior school which was divided into standards. Standard I for rising 7 year olds, Standard II for rising 8 year olds, etc., up to Standard VII rising 14 year olds. Standards V, Vi and VI had few pupils and were taught with Standard IV. Division 1
5. Her Majesty's Inspector visited the school on a number of occasions during the year and on one occasion carried out a formal inspection which included testing the children. The report of that inspection was expected to be copied into the logbook by one of the school managers. These reports and the comments by the inspector on the teaching staff have been typed in italics. How well the children performed in the test had a bearing on how much grant the school was given by the Government.

6. A Diocesan inspection was also carried out. This focused on how much religious knowledge the children could demonstrate. Later these reports were also copied into the logbook.
7. The school year ran from 1st July to 30th June but the summer holiday (often referred to as 'harvest holiday') did not usually begin until a few days into August.
8. In the school rules the hours of attendance were defined as from 9 to 12 in the morning and 2 to 5 in the afternoon from 1st March to 1st November and from 2 to 4 during the other five months. (Children usually walked to school and this reduction in hours was to allow the children to reach home before dark.)
9. The quarter days were 25th March (Lady Day), 24th June (Midsummer Day), 29th September (Michaelmas), 25th December (Christmas Day). These were important days of the year, as this was when rent was due and, in this case, when the teachers and pupil teachers were paid. New registers were begun on quarter days.
10. References to 'house boys' means boys who lived at the workhouse which was sited close to where Wheatcroft Primary school is situated at the bottom of Stanstead Road. In the early 20th century the workhouse was converted into Kingsmead School and it is now a housing estate.
11. The British School (later called Cowbridge School) opened in 1863. It was behind what is now United Reformed Church which at that time was referred to as the Congregational Church.
12. The school ran a clothing club into which parents paid small sums of money so that they could redeem the total amount in December and buy clothes for their children.
13. Pupils were expected to pay 1d a week to the school for their education. If it was judged by the managers that the parents could afford more the amount would be raised to 2d.
14. At this time there was no legal age at which children were to be schooled. The 1880 Education Act was the first act to decree that it was compulsory for children between the ages of 5 and 10, inclusive, to attend school.
15. References are made to the Green Coat School. Len Green wrote an 'Occasional Paper' on the school, see [Hertford Green Coat School & the Newton Exhibition Foundation | Our Hertford and Ware](#) whilst there is a shorter article at [Hertford Green Coat School | Education |](#)

- [Our Hertford and Ware](#) The school moved to a building next to Cowper School on 27th January 1868.
16. John William Grove was Master of Green Coat School through most of the 1860s.
 17. The Brown Coat School or School of Industry for Girls was intended to prepare girls for working as servants in large houses, see [School of Industry for Girls | Education | Our Hertford and Ware](#)
 18. Stephen Austin who established a printing firm in 1768 in Fore Street where it was based for many years. It is now situated in Caxton Hill
 19. The Marquis and Marchioness of Townshend lived at Balls Park.
 20. The Revised Code of Regulations 1862 which regulated all grants made to schools.
 21. Ragged Schools were established (the London Ragged School Union in April 1844) to educate the most destitute children. The Hertford one was run by the Hertford town Mission at this time in Bircherley Street.
 22. An asterisk (*) is used with digits or numbers to denote minutes.
 23. PT stands for Pupil Teacher.