

Themes from the Nash (National) School Log Book

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Log Book Details

Description of the book

The book is approximately 250x190x35mm (10"x7½"x1½") when closed and with a hardback cover with the words LOG BOOK printed on the front.

Inside, the pages are arranged in two ways:

- the first 26 pages have tabs showing A, B, C, D etc in alternate black and red colours
- the other 498 pages are marked with a page number in black on the top right or top left hand sides.

There are 24 lines across each page.

The book is in good order, except for one part that shows signs of water damage. This part is towards the bottom of each page on the outer edge; it is about 80x12 (3"x ½") long and each page is affected.

Pages A to Z have little written in them, and most of what is written are numbers, for example Page A shows:

Schoolroom 50x24 Height 40
Classroom 24x13 Height 20

School Room 42ftx16ft; Height 17½ft mean
Class Room 18ftx12ft; Height 14ft mean

How the transcription is organised

The transcription is laid out as closely to the original as possible with the following exceptions:

- Average attendance – a school's income was primarily based on the average attendance of the pupils, their age and how well they did at an examination when the HMI (Her Majesties Inspector of Schools) came. Thus registers were carefully taken and averages worked out weekly; I have put in the first two entries and then collated the weekly averages between 1864 and 1868 as Appendix 2.
- "Lessons as usual", "everything in the usual order during the week" and "usual routine" are common entries. I have entered all the ones for 1861 and then ignored the rest.
- Throughout the Log Book there are numerous visits by the local rector, especially during problem periods, these visits are all recorded until 1869 then ignored.
- Until 1869 I have tried to mirror the style of the entries as closely as I can.

Greg Davies
Nash
March 2001

The Nash School Log Book

Plans for the school were drawn up in July 1855 and Sheahan in "History and Topography of Buckinghamshire" published in 1862, states that the school was built in 1857. Furthermore the 1861 census shows Ann Mannings, aged 25 and born at Swainswick, Somerset to be the National School Mistress with Eliz Hollaway, aged 14 and born at Hadkerton, Notts as a Pupil Teacher.

The Log Book I have transcribed is the second of four such books, the first being lost, the second in the possession of Mr George Weatherhead of Stratford Road Nash, the third at the Bucks County Record Office, and the fourth lost.

I have transcribed from June 2nd 1864 to October 13th 1899 and during that period of 35 years, 16 Masters or Mistresses made entries in the book (see Appendix 1). Information recorded was primarily items that affected the income, the management or organisation of the school, and from this we can gather a great deal of background knowledge about conditions in the school at the time.

The vast majority of the income for the school was dependent on the HMI annual report, and this looked at pupil attendance figures, how pupils performed in an annual examination and any special grants. The reports also give a good indication of how well the school was doing (see Appendix 2).

Income

The 1873 Inspector's Report gives us some detail as to the school's main sources of funding:

Average Attendance		£	s	d
Art 26 N ^o for Payment at 6/-	<u>56</u>	16	16	0
Qualified for Presentation	35			
Presented	31			
N ^o for Payment at 8/-	<u>31</u>	12	8	0
Qualified for Examination	27			
Presented	<u>19</u>			
Passes in Reading	15			
" " Writing	9			
" " Arithmetic	<u>7</u>			
N ^o for Payment at 4/-	31	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>
		35	8	0

so that the:

- (annual) Average Attendance of 56 scholars is multiplied by the 'value' of each person (6 shillings) to give £16/16/-
- the number capable of being Presented was 35 but only 31 were actually presented, each one presented is multiplied by the 'value' of each person (8 shillings) to give £12/8/-
- there were 31 passes in the examination, each one multiplied by the 'value' of the exam (4 shillings) to give £6/4/- . See Appendix 3 for a more complete explanation.

HMI were very careful to check the paperwork regarding the examination and on a number of occasions comments such as "The Scholars numbered 59 and 72 on the Examination Schedule are disqualified as they were returned as four years of age in 1877", are to be found.

Appendix 4 shows the average weekly attendance from 1864 to 1867; anything that reduced that average meant lost income so there were frequent references to poor weather, scholars truanting, working in the fields or ill.

The only other funding source recorded in the Log Book is the 'School Pence', the money paid weekly by the family to the teacher. Some entries throw light on the practice –

August 1883 "The Rev^d R G Randolph visited the School before the children were dismissed, and gave notice that an alteration was to be made in the School Pence on their return after the holiday viz. That the eldest child in each family was to pay 2^d weekly, and that the others 1½^d, and no child was to be admitted for 1^d a week as formerly."

October 1883 "A very small attendance owing to the change made in the School Pence."

January 1884 "At the last Meeting, it was decided that the School Managers would pay one half weekly of the School Pence of M^{rs} Smiths' Children and M^{rs} French's because the Parents were too poor to pay the whole."

March 1890 "Mary Pratt sent home for School money (three weeks is owing) and kept at home all day."

While the comment of January 1891 "I cannot see how the school can be carried on voluntarily. There seems to be no means of obtaining funds beyond the bare pence & grant" shows the danger of relying on just two sources of income.

The weather and the seasons

It is evident that the weather and the seasons had an influence on the life of the scholars that is not so noticeable nowadays. Comments such as "More children returning for the winter" (November 1864) were echoed in other years along with "being fine weather little ones returning to school" (January 1871).

In the years between 1864 and 1868 the following entries based upon the weather are to be found:

"A very wet day, few infants at school." (November 1864)

"A very stormy week." (November 1864)

"Snowy day; very few children at school"; "Very snowy: only 19 children present"; "Very snowy only 17 children present"; "Very snowy" (end January – early February 1865)

1866 was a very unsettled year - "Very snowy; only twelve children"; "Very snowy; 25 children present" (January); "Very wet: very few children present" (March); "Smaller school owing to wet weather" (June); "Wet – fewer children present"; (July); "Very small school this afternoon because of rain" (August).

In March 1867 there was heavy snow; October 1868 was very cold; late January to early February 1879 had very severe and cold weather. December 1879 was also very cold with the entry "The School-room is very cold and both teachers and children suffer accordingly", while in February 1880 a window was blown in. In January 1881 "Very cold weather, the children scarcely able to work for cold" was only one of a series of entries about the cold weather, which resulted in the school being closed for a few days. January and March 1886 had a great deal of snow, as did January 1887 and February 1888. January 1891 sees the entry "The school has been remarkably cold, the fireplace in the large room being much too small to warm it. The school was closed on Jan^y 2nd owing to want of fuel".

At the other end of the scale, September 1898 sees the entry "Weather has been extremely hot, & very trying to the Infants & lower standards"; while March 1893 actually says "Beautiful weather."

In many years there is an entry in October or November to the effect of "Began fires in school" but only one in March 1880 about "Discontinued fires in school".

Illness

On average every three years or so, a serious illness would appear in the school, such as:

1866 – Whooping Cough

1868 – Measles

1869 – Fever

1870 – Whooping Cough (October to December)

1875 – Whooping Cough

1877 – Measles

1878 – Measles (September and October)

1882 – Whooping Cough (September and October)

1890 – Ringworm

1892 – Measles (September to November – school closed for three weeks)

1893 – Scarlet Fever (September to December – school closed for four months – this is the only time a scholar is identified as having died from an illness, Harry Smith)

1894/5 – Whooping Cough (November 1894 – February 1895)

while Fred King was having problems in 1890 "Fred King Standard VI went home early this afternoon having come over in a faint during reading lesson" and "F^d King (Stand VI) fainted and was obliged to go home."

Scholars truanting and misbehaviour

In January/ February and September/ October of most years there appears a resigned comment such as "First class still very small only 3 present in morning & 2 in afternoon – the boys being required to work in fields" (February 1869). Variations include "Several admissions but 1&2 classes very small owing to harvest not being over" (September 1871). Other entries refer to "Several children absent gathering cowslips" and "many children being away to gather blackberries" (1887). While in 1889 this led to the worrying entry of "Lizzie Dunkley's sister came to the school and was very abusive and used most foul language to myself and sister; the girl had been punished for disobedience in staying from school blackberrying after repeated warnings".

This last entry should be seen in the context of a drive by the Master of the day (Henry F^k Heyward – appointed in October 1888 and resigned in August 1890) to reduce misbehaviour and truanting, for between November 1888 and February 1890 there appear the following entries:

- Mr Lowe, one of the parents complained of his child being punished for disobedience in staying from school without leave.
- Edward Harrup (4th Standard) was sent home today for repeated misconduct and disobedience
- Jno Laxton punished for repeated truanting
- Names of Jno Laxton, Daisy Laxton and Annie Colton sent in to the Attendance Officer
- Mr Clear visited this afternoon and has summoned the parents of J Laxton and T Turney? for irregular attendance
- Master left school at 11.15 this morning to attend court concerning adjournment summons for non-attendance of Jno Laxton.
- Sent names of Amos Smith, Albert Smith & Alb^t Cowley to Attendance Officer for irregular attendance
- Sent names of children most irregular in attendance to attendance officer: Alb^t Cowley, Emily Smith, Jess Smith, Lily Smith, Gert Harding, Thos Turney, Louis Turney
- Names of absentees sent to M^r Clear for 3rd time, no good having resulted from previous notices.
- Attendances still very bad, several children punished for staying away without leave
- Mr Clear saying he is not to interfere with those over Standard II for the present.
- Attendance still very low. Sent names of Em, Amos & Hy Smith to M^r Clear as irregular.

Outside this period of time there are only two other references to truanting when in 1866 "A boy punished for playing truant, ?? in consequence" and in 1894 "Sent Attendance Officer to call upon Violet Dunkley. Child has since attended well".

Other entries referring to disciplinary matters include:

- "Lower classes very noisy – kept them in for ten minutes on that account." (1869)
- "Ch^d kept in for coming late." (1869)
- "Many children late in the morning. Door locked, not admitted til 9.45." (1879)
- "Rev^d W J Wilson Lang visited school to chastise a boy." (1880)
- "Kept in several children who were late this morning." (1881)
- "Kept in few boys to work arithmetic." (1881)
- "Kept in Standard III to write dictation, they having done very carelessly in school hours" (1885)

Some interesting entries

Interesting entries include:

- "Several admissions to last class. New scholars cried a good deal." (1870)
- "11 Children received 1^d each for repeating a piece of poetry to the Rev^d R Hope Hooper." (1876)
- "Several boys absent owing to the pigeon shooting in the neighbourhood." (1880)
- "The Rev^d H R Peel intends giving a Magic Lantern Entertainment to the children in the School Rooms this Evening." (1883)
- "Mr & Mrs G Green visited the school; the Revd G Green complaining of several boys, behaving with disrespect to himself, and throwing stones at his dog.
(I made but one complaint viz that of throwing stones at the dogs (*Initialled*) WGG)" (1885)
- "I have sent several children home today, Friday, to wash themselves and comb their hair being so untidy." (1885)
- "Opened school in the morning, not many present. There being a public tea at the Chapel, I gave a half holiday." (1888)

- "I finished this morning the examination of the Infants School and found them progressing with the exception of two or three who are naturally dull." (*Signed*) A G Bene (1888)
- "A M^{rs} Smith came up to the school this afternoon and was very abusive to me before all the children." (1889)
- "Closed for Jubilee week." (1897)

How the school was organised

Classes, Standards and Divisions

'Standards' indicated the level of work a child had reached regardless of age. Thus you could have children in different classes working on the same Standard. They usually began Standard I work at about the age of 6.

- "Several old scholars returned to school – there is a difficulty in classing them as they have forgotten all they once knew & are too old to be placed with infants." (1874)
- "Three admissions. The girl of 7 years of age does not know her letters." (1874)

Appendix 5 gives the syllabus for the examination in each of the Standards.

Pupil Teachers and Monitors

The term Monitor appears to vary in its meaning, especially over time. In 1864, "Appointed Maria York monitor for the week", suggests that this was a pupil who was responsible for organisational matters such as giving out books or ink. However the HMI report of 1865 states "I do not think the monitors are much use to her", which suggests that they did more than that.

Later entries suggest another meaning, because in 1880 Kate Norman was appointed as a Stipendiary Monitor. Criticism of the Monitors occurs at various times especially in the mid 1880's:

- "I feel sure that she would do better if she had experienced assistants to support her instead of the well meaning but more or less incapable efforts of Monitors." (1884)
- "The Infants' class must be more carefully taught; it ought not to be left to the care of the incompetent little Monitor who is now responsible for it." (1886).

Pupil Teachers were sometimes ex-scholars who stayed at the school to teach under the supervision of the Master or Mistress. However the following entry suggests that most of them seemed to be assigned to an area rather than a specific school "An Assistant Teacher (Art: 79) should be engaged at once, or one Pupil Teacher transferred from some other school." (1880). There are few entries to give us any indication as to their training or roles, except for:

- "Pupil teachers instruction given "Morning" and "Noon" instead of Evening as heretofore" (1879) and "The private lessons to the Pupil Teachers are henceforth to begin at 6 o'clock in the evening." (1880) tells us they had specific instruction, while various entries tell of Pupil Teachers attending examinations in Stony Stratford, Fenny Stratford, Newport Pagnell and Buckingham.
- "Pupil Teachers examined in Holy Scripture." (1878)
- "Pupil Teacher gave a lesson on 'Colour' to Lower Division." (1874)
- There were occasions when the school had to be left in the charge of a Pupil Teacher, such as "The Mistress obliged to leave the School in charge of Pupil Teacher (E J Bryant) through an attack of Bronchitis" (1879) and "Mistress left School in charge of Pupil Teachers after 3pm" (1878).
- In times of shortage other methods of procuring help could be tried "Two 1st Class Girls chosen to teach the Infants, each to receive 6d a week, by permission of Mr Lang." (1880)

Appendix 6 gives more details on Pupil Teachers

Other organisational details

- A night school was in existence "Began fires as night school commences." (1866)
- School normally started at 9am but changed in the winter "During the three following month's school to commence at 9:30 instead of 9AM." (1866), and restarted at 2pm after lunch "School commenced at half past one for the afternoon lessons instead of at 2, the school being required for another purpose punctually at 4." (1880). However this was presumably altered to 1:30 at some time because in 1888

there is an entry “prepared, and commenced working by a new time-table (subject to the approval of H M Inspector) in which the afternoon school commences at 2 o'clock instead of 1.30.”

The Curriculum

The curriculum was very prescriptive for the majority of the time with entries such as “Gave the upper division their first ideas in elementary geography, preparatory to the series of lessons prescribed by H.M. Inspectors for next year viz:-

- i Outline of the Holy Land
 - ii River and mountain systems of either
 - (a) The southern portion of England bounded by the Welland and Avon or
 - (b) The rest of England and Wales.In either case a general knowledge of the remaining portion will be looked for.
 - iii Map drawing
- Physical Geography – River and mountain systems.” (1867)

and

“List of Songs 1886-7

Give me a draught.
Bygone days.
The Rivulet.
Let it pass.
The brave Comrade.

Infants

Little Blacksmiths.
The Old Black Cat.
Dear Little ladybird.

and

List of Object Lessons

The Lion, Camel, Elephant, Tiger, Cow, Sheep, Cat, Owl, Coins (gold, silver, copper) uses, Salt, Nettle, Wild flowers, Trees, Wool, Paper (kinds), Candle, Letter, Silk, Butter Making, Milk, Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter. Form & Colour.

However there was a increasing amount of freedom for schools to innovate from the early 1890's so that entries such as “Tried “Novel Reading Lesson” on Thursday afternoons viz The upper classes select their own readings from books & papers of their own & read to the whole school” occur. These entries include:

- “Gave notice of a “School Savings Bank”.
- “Got several advertisement pictures for decorating the walls. “
- “Began preparing Operetta Red Riding Hood.”
- “Notice of meeting of School Band.”
- “Introduced ‘General Knowledge’ lessons for the upper school”
- “I have been trying the effect of some conversational lessons in the upper school. The ignorance of things in common use is awful, many of the children, in fact the majority, have never seen such things as a railway, telegraph post or wire, a ?, river boat etc.”
- “Began trying to gather specimens for the formation of a museum.”
- “Introduced competitions on various subjects from “Scholar’s Own”.”

HMI were very keen on the development of needlework, sewing and knitting because they were useful for employment prospects in ‘service’ as well as for encouraging thrift amongst the lower classes. The earliest reference in the Log Book being in 1868 “Girls did needlework this morning.” The entry “Girls did needlework in Class-room, the school-room being very cold. (1878) tells us the needle-work was done in the School-room. The Rector’s wife sometimes took the group, “M^{rs} Lang took the Needlework lesson.” (1882) while in 1884 “It was decided at the last Needlework Committee meeting that the Girls should devote three afternoons every week to School Needlework and work for themselves one afternoon,” which is quite a chunk of the timetable. By 1885 HMI were saying “Girls of 5 years of age must be taught knitting as well as sewing” and in 1887 came the entry “The boys in the infant’s class began learning to knit.”

Sewing was particularly emphasised by HMI and the Log Book entries reflect this:

- "The infants are, particularly, in good order, and the sewing is much above the average." (1878)
- "Sewing may be taught, but I cannot judge of it. Three unfinished garments and a few knitting pins and some wool were all that represented the work in this useful branch of instruction." (1881)
- "The order is decidedly good, and the sewing specimens are creditably done." (1883)
- "M^{rs} Smith away from home & the sewing lessons were for a short time discontinued." (1895)

Nash was a Church of England school and it had an inspection by the Diocesan inspectorate every year. A half-day holiday and prizes often accompanied these inspections e.g. "Examination (Diocesan) by the Rev^d D. Alexander. Holiday this aft. Prizes to Jane Colton and Annie Leeson." (1871)

It also appears that the day started with Religious Instruction for in 1889 there is the entry "Registers marked at 9-5a.m. and secular instruction commenced at once so that the children might attend church at 11.15a.m."

Management of the school

Before the 1890's there are few entries which throw light on the management of the school. Examples are:

- "A Meeting of the Ratepayers and School Subscribers, held in the School Room at 4 P.M." (1882)
- "A Meeting of the School Attendance Committee was held in the School at 4 P.M. when the Registers and Government Papers were examined by Managers" (1883)
- "A Meeting of the School Committee was held in the School at 5 P.M." (1883)
- "The Rev^d R G Randolph, Rev^d H R Peel, M^{rs} Peel, M^{rs} A King, M^{rs} ? King and M^{rs} Norman visited the School at 3 P.M. to decide about having a Ladies Needlework Committee formed." (1883)
- "A Meeting of the Ladies Needlework Committee was held in the School Room this afternoon, when it was decided that M^{rs} Peel should provide the work for the coming Examination." (1884)

However a movement to increase the local influence on and management of the school had accompanied the freeing of the curriculum noted in the 1890's. Thus in 1891 there were a flurry of meetings reflected in the Log Book:

- (January) "I cannot see how the school can be carried on voluntarily. There seems to be no means of obtaining funds beyond the bare pence & grant."
- (February) "A meeting of the ratepayers was held in the School on the 12th to consider the means of carrying on the School & it was resolved to make a request to be allowed to form a School Board for the Parish."
- (March) "Myself absent Tuesday & Wednesday in connection with the above "Requisition" and "To-day the School was closed on acct of meeting being held to consider a resolution for forming School Board."
- (April) "School used a polling station in Election of 1st School Board. The following were elected: Mrs W E Cowell, G King, W King, Revd Lang, A T Simmonds"
- (July) "A meeting was held in the School on Thursday, to consider the transfer of the Schools to the newly elected Board. Meeting adjourned to Thursday week. The present state of affairs is extremely unsatisfactory, there are no funds to the present School & the Board are of course unauthorised to support it."
- (January 1894) "A proposal is on foot for the dis-establishment of the School Board."
- (February) "Meeting called for 1st March for dissolution of the Board."
- (September 1894) "Notice of the dissolution of school Board has been received & the requisite notices posted in the village."

Books and Equipment

There are few references to books and equipment being delivered to the school until to 1885 when Joseph Ball wrote the following:

"On entering this school I found no slates for the use of Infants. Finding a no. of broken slates in the Girls yard I chose the best for the use of the Infants. The slates for the Standards are of all sizes (framed). Mostly broken."

To be followed two weeks later by:

"No of slates found in the school when I took charge:-

Whole ones	19 of all sizes
Cracked ones	4 of all sizes
Broken ones	24 of all sizes and not fit for use.
The Infants have been working upon bits of slate found in the Girls yard.	
No. of <u>Inkpots</u>	Stone ones 9
	Leaden ones 9"

while a great deal of money was spent in 1889 to improve the condition of books and equipment, for we read of:

"Received new mat and two water cans for school use", "Received new books for Standard three & slates & dusters", "Received new bell", "Received fresh supply of ink" and "Received new Readers for Standard 1 & Infants & Exercise Books & paper & cards etc."

Presents

Virtually every Christmas there are entries such as "Every child in the school received a present from the Rev^d R. H. Hooper & friends." (1864). These presents were named as clothing in 1865, 1866, 1869 – 1872 and 1877; an orange in 1877, 1880 and 1882, and a bun in 1882.

In addition presents were sometimes given after an inspection, "All the children who attended the examination yesterday received a book or picture today" (1867) and a picture card in 1871.

However I think the highlight must have been the first Christmas tree in 1869, "Children very noisy and excited owing to preparation making for Christmas tree tomorrow." And "This afternoon each child received a gift off the Christmas tree – treats given by Mrs Mundy of Thornton."

Activities

Tea drinking was held most years between 1865 and 1877, normally in the early part of August when an entry such as "Children's annual tea-drinking" would appear, but no reason was ever given for the activity.

The school was clearly also the village hall because it was also used for other activities such as:

- "Church Anniversary tea-drinking." (1867)
- "Holiday in the Afternoon – schoolroom being required for a Temperance meeting." (1873)
- "Registers not marked in the afternoon, the children assembling for their Annual School Treat." (1879)
- "Gave children a half holiday as the room was required for a Concert in the evening" (1882)
- "The children have a weeks' holiday as the School room is required for the Nash Club Feast." (1883)
- "Holiday on account of Sunday School treat." (1886)
- "Holiday on account of Harvest Festival. All the school children had tea provided free." (1887)
- "School examined by H M Inspector. Number present 56. This was the only time the school was opened during the week as it is Whitsun Week & the Schoolroom is used for the Village Club Feast."
- "I did not mark the registers this afternoon as school was closed early on account of a treat for the Sunday School." (1888)
- "Half holiday this afternoon on account of School being used for Harvest Thanksgiving tea meeting." (1888)
- "Holiday this afternoon for Harvest Festival Tea." (1889)
- "Closed at 4 o'clock as room was wanted for a tea meeting in the evening." (1890)
- "I have told the children to assemble on Thursday next week as the School will be occupied the first three days by the Club." (1890)
- "Harvest Festival Celebration. Public Tea held in the School-room." (1890)
- "Closed Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday for Club feast." (1893)

Work done to the school

- "Blacksmith repaired back of schoolroom door this morning" and "Clock repaired this afternoon." (1868)
- "School re-opened after 3 wks holiday. The 3rd wk being given on account of the School being under "repairs"; which were not completed." (1879)
- "Several trees being felled on the school grounds. Children left school for play-ground for a quarter of an hour at 2.45, it being feared that one might fall across the building." (1879)
- "Desks screwed to the floor." (1879)

- "Carpenter mended broken picture frames and wrought other little improvements in the School-room." (1879)
- "School slightly repaired & walls plastered." (1880)
- "School opened by Rev^d W J Wilson-Lang who visited school to alter the time of the clock." (1880)
- "Blackboard and Frame repaired." (1883)
- "A Pole for swinging put up in the Playground – meets with very great favour." (1885)
- "Boys offices inspected & found in need of cleaning." (*Signed*) A G Bene" (1887)
- "The boys' and girls' sanitary offices have been thoroughly cleaned during the Christmas holidays." (1888)
- "The Class room has been unbearable on account of smoke for some days past. A coal shed has been put up in the Girls' yard." (1889)
- "Called attention to the condition of the door to Infants room." (1891)
- "Closed School for 3 days to allow of cleaning to be done." (1892)

While a series of HMI comments in the 1890's throw light on the conditions in the school

- The offices required considerable attention. They are not sufficient at present. (Rule 13 of schedule VII of the code), are not sufficiently lighted & should be flushed with water more frequently. (1893)
- The number of the offices is insufficient and a tank or cistern for storage of water for flushing purposes ought to be provided. The Infants class also are doing satisfactorily under the circumstances. The room is not large enough. It ought to be widened at least three feet. (1894)
- In both rooms the walls should be cleaned and colour washed and the ceilings whitewashed. There are large cracks in the wall of the main room at the south east corner, and over the door leading into the classroom. The plaster has come off this doorway. The skirting board has broken away from the wall in one part of the room, and the floor near the fireplace is giving way. In the girls' offices proper arrangements are not made for flushing. This has frequently been reported (see reports of 1893 and 1894), but nothing has been done. The boy's offices are on the earth system. I am to require what arrangements will be made for flushing the offices. (1897)
- The Managers have done a great deal to improve their premises & equipment. They hope to be able to provide new desks soon. (1899)

.... which resulted in the following entries:

- "The School wall, which had blown down during a heavy gale, has been repaired: other repairs also seen to." (1894)
- "Plans drawn for the alterations in the offices." (1894)
- "New Store placed in School, as a result from Christmas Entertainment." (1895)
- "During the week the new offices have been commenced." (1895)
- "The new offices have been completed." (1895)
- "The yards of the offices newly gravelled." (1897)
- "School considerably interfered with owing to repairs. We have been obliged to confine ourselves to one part of the room." And "New grates etc to large room & class-room. Stove moved. School fearfully dirty on account of work about." (1898)

Appendix 1

Masters, Mistresses, (Pupil) Teachers and Monitors

Start	Finish	Name	Title
Before 1861	23 rd December 1864	Ann Mannings	Mistress
September 15 th 1864		Sarah French	Monitor
September 19 th 1864	September 23 rd 1864	Maria York	Monitor
September 26 th 1864	September 30 th 1864	Harriet Briar	Monitor
January 9 th 1865	22 nd August 1867	Anne Sophia Withall	Mistress
June 12 th 1866	June 18 th 1866	Mary Ann Whitehead	Teacher (on trial)
June 27 th 1866		Caroline Hassall	Teacher
July 16 th 1866	December 18 th 1871	Harriet Briar	Teacher
September 29 th 1867	July 25 th 1872	Annie Harriet Pearman	Mistress
November 20 th 1867		Mary Ann Colton	Teacher
December 18 th 1871	June 1875	Jane Colton	Teacher
August 5 th 1872	June 30 th 1873	Ann King	Mistress (previously Ann Mannings)
June 30 th 1873	August 9 th 1878	Annie Harriet Pearman	Mistress
March 18 th 1874		Lizzie Briar	Teacher
July 19 th 1875	September 14 th 1875	Elizabeth Ecles	Monitor
September 23 rd 1875		Sarah Brier	Monitor
September 23 rd 1875		Elizabeth Woods	Monitor
March 9 th 1876	March 17 th 1876	Annie Leeson	Monitor
April 16 th 1877	August 9 th 1880	Elizabeth Sear	Teacher
Sept 9 th 1878	December 24 th 1879	Selina Harriet Briar	Mistress (temporary)
January 5 th 1880	August 1880	Eleanor M Dart.	Mistress
September 20 th 1880	July 1 st 1881	Helen Dudley	Mistress
September 20 th 1880		Caroline Keys	Teacher
October 26 th 1880		Kate Norman	Stipendary Monitor
July 4 th 1881	? December 1884	Celia Bray	Mistress
July 15 th 1881	30 th October 1882	Adele Prideaux	Monitor
February 13 th 1882	November 24 th 1882	Clara King	Monitor
October 3 rd 1882	November 24 th 1882	Annie Harwood	Monitor
November 23 rd 1882		Emily Asher	Teacher
November 27 th 1882	December 22 nd 1882	Maria Brooks	Teacher
January 15 th 1883		Celia Prideaux	Teacher
March 25 th 1884		Susan Blain	Teacher
September 8 th 1884		Caroline Bray	Assistant Teacher
January 5 th 1885	February 13 th 1885	Joseph Ball	Master (joint)
January 5 th 1885	February 13 th 1885	Emma Ball	Mistress (joint)
February 23 rd 1885	March 6 th 1885	Rebecca Druce	Schoolmistress
March 9 th 1885	August 31 st 1888	Ann King	Mistress
March 9 th 1885	July 1 st 1887	Ann Jane Harwood	Assistant Mistress
March 9 th 1885	July 1 st 1887	Fanny King	Monitor
July 4 th 1887	August 31 st 1888	H M Fuller	Assistant Mistress
October 8 th 1888	August 15 th 1890	Henry F ^k Heyward	Master (joint)
October 8 th 1888	August 15 th 1890	Alice S H Heyward	Mistress (joint)
September 22 nd 1890	November 14 th 1890	Selina H Briar	Mistress
November 10 th 1890		Selina H Briar	i/c Infants Department
November 17 th 1890	October 13 th 1899	John Smith	Master (joint?)
May 1891	October 13 th 1899	Annie Smith	Mistress (joint?)
September 1893	August 6 th 1896	Emma Cowley	Monitress
August 27 th 1896	December 1 st 1896	Lizzie Beckett	Monitress
December 8 th 1896		Emma Cowley	Monitress
January 21 st 1898		Ethel Smith	Monitress
October 16 th 1899		William H Harwood	Master

Appendix 2

HMI's Annual Reports

Date	Comment
June 1865	"Mrs A Withall has begun well. I do not think the monitors are much use to her." My Lords are unable to allow a ? for your evening school as it is under an uncertified teacher, and has not met more than thirty two times in the year.
June 1866	"The Examination was not very successful. This School should at once be supplied with proper teaching power. The Mistress is wholly unable to cope with the numbers without an efficient helper. The Mistress will shortly receive her certificate.
June 1867	I think the attainments have improved since my last visit.
June 1868	"The attainments are wanting in accuracy and I shall look for better discipline especially in the lower part of the School. Miss Pearman will, I hope, overcome the difficulties she has experienced in the commencement of her duties here. My Lords will be unable to allow a full grant (Article 52) unless they receive next year a better report and the children pass a better examination especially as regards the Arithmetic of the First Class.
June 1869	The discipline in the School is satisfactory. The Instruction only fairly so. The Children should read more distinctly and the Spelling should be improved. The Arithmetic especially requires attention, and the children in the first Class should be taught Long Division. Looking at the warning given last year, it is with ?? hesitation that my Lords have refrained from making a reduction this year under Article 52. Unless marked improvement is shown in H. M. Inspectors' next visit the Grant for the current year will be reduced. The issue of Miss Pearlman's Parchment Certificate must be deferred.
July 1870	This school has apparently been taught with care, and has much improved during the past year in all subjects. My Lords will look for more decided improvement next year, especially in the arithmetic. Mrs Pearman will shortly receive her Certificate.
May 1871	The Reading of the Children examined under the final Standard is unsatisfactory and should be improved. Attention should also be given to their spelling. The Reading of the first class is fair for the most part but greater ease and fluency might be looked for. Attention should be paid to the Reading generally, and particularly in the first Standard where the Spelling is also reported defective.
September 1872	This School is making good progress.
July 1873	This school is in a most unfortunate state, the Managers being unable to procure a Teacher in the place of their last. Mrs King has undertaken the duties in the interim, but has too many home encumbrances to be able to fill the post adequately. The result is that the numbers have decreased, the Instruction has deteriorated and the discipline and tone are demoralized. A change of Teacher is absolutely necessary. The Infants' Instruction has suffered with the rest, they especially need Cards and other apparatus for Object Lessons. The Portfolio could be the better for sorting and indexing. The Afternoon Register must be marked in full two hours before the close of the School. A similar Report to the above another year would necessitate a serious deduction from the Grant under Article 32(b), and the withdrawal of the Grant for the Infants under Article 19(B)1, Article 32(e) Code of 1873.
June 1874	The Infants attend remarkably well and are fond of their Teacher, and pass a good examination in the Rudiments of R W & A. The work of the lower Standards is also good, but the few children in the upper Standards are rather backward owing to their irregular attendance. Needlework is pretty fair. I am glad to hear that the Boys Offices are to undergo an alteration.
June 1875	"The School is in a very satisfactory Condition. The lower Standards in particular are well taught, though the Fifth and Sixth Standards have not done well. The Reading in the higher Standards is rather monotonous.
June 1876	"Miss Pearman gets very fair results for the hard and anxious work she does at this school. She spares no pains to get her scholars on; her heart is in her work. The Children passed very nicely, on the whole, in the Elementary subjects: and some intelligence was shown in the answers given to questions in Grammar and Geography."

June 1877	<p>"The School has made good progress during the past year, and is doing well generally. A creditable examination has been passed in subjects under Article 19(C) as well as the elementary subjects, and general tone of the School and the character of the work done reflect upon the work of those engaged in the teaching of it."</p>
June 1878	<p>"I am glad to be able again to give a good account of what is being done at this School." "The children have passed satisfactorily in the Elementary Subjects, as well as in Grammar and Geography." "The infants are, particularly, in good order, and the sewing is much above the average."</p>
June 1879	<p>Miss Briar took charge here on the 8th September 1878. The School has fallen off in point of efficiency in a most extraordinary manner since our last visit. Time alone can tell who is responsible for this. The percentages of passes last year was 85, this year it is 38.7: the discipline is bad and the infants seem to have been neglected. In fact the School seems to have quite collapsed. My Lords regret that they are compelled to reduce the Grant by one-tenth under Art 32(b) for defective instruction, especially in arithmetic and they are unable to allow payment under Art 19(a)3 ? H M Inspector reports most unfavourably on the discipline. They hope that great efforts will be made during the current year to raise the Standard of attainment.</p>
July 1880	<p>The School is certainly in better case than it was last year; but it is still some way from being in a really sufficient condition. The percentage of passes is 63.5 against 38.7 last year. The arithmetic is poor and the handwriting is not good in its style. Reading and Spelling too, are weak. The children were presented for Examination, but could not answer in Grammar or Geography. I think it is a pity that time should be devoted to instruction in these subjects while the children are so lamentably backward in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic. The order is fair and the Infants, except that they know very little about Subtraction are properly taught. The Sewing is moderate. My Lords have ordered The Grant to be reduced by one-tenth under Article 32(b) for defective instruction.</p> <p>The Scholars numbered 59 and 72 on the Examination Schedule are disqualified as they were returned as four years of age in 1877. An Assistant Teacher (Art: 79) should be engaged at once, or one Pupil Teacher transferred from some other school (Art: 32[c]1). E J Bryant should be informed that she is not qualified by this Examination under Article 60 or 79. She can be qualified for Art: 79 only by passing the Examination specified in Art: 91. My Lords cannot continue to recognise E A Sear as satisfying Art: 32(e) as it appears from her Medical Certificate the duties of a Pupil Teacher are injurious to her.</p>
June 1881	<p>The School has again come out very badly indeed in Examination. Circumstances during the past year have been, I am told, against successful working. The results certainly go far to prove the truth of this, for they could hardly be worse. The children were presented, (time therefore has presumably been spent in giving instruction) in Grammar and Geography. Not an answer of any kind was forthcoming to the simplest questions in these subjects. Sewing may be taught, but I cannot judge of it. Three unfinished garments and a few knitting pins and some wool were all that represented the work in this useful branch of instruction.</p> <p>My Lords have ordered one-tenth to be again reduced from the Grant for faults of Instruction (Art:32b). In spit of the fact that a reduction was made last year, the results of the Examination show a most discreditable falling off in attainments of the scholars, and had it been that Their Lordships have taken into consideration the untoward circumstances in which the school appears to have been placed, the reduction in accordance with this Report would have been heavier. They trust that the Managers will make a serious effort to improve the School before next Inspection.</p> <p>My Lords regret that the state of E A Sears health renders it necessary to remove her name from the Register of Pupil Teachers serving in this School.</p>
June 1882	<p>"The order here is much better than it was, and the work is decidedly neater: but the Spelling is bad and Sums are inaccurately worked. Still there are many hopeful signs, and I look forward to better results next year. The Infants are pretty fairly forward. Some books are wanted for them: and I must mention that the Books in general are very dilapidated. A good start has been made in the teaching of Sewing.</p>

July 1883	<p>The School is certainly improving. The papers and work generally are neat and show some style; but they are still, many of them, inaccurate. The order is decidedly good, and the sewing specimens are creditably done.</p> <p>The Infants show that they are being fairly well grounded in the Elementary Subjects. An Assistant Teacher (Article 50) should be engaged at once, or a Pupil Teacher transferred from some other School (Articles 83 and 115)</p>
August 1884	<p>“I wish I could say that this school had done well in Examination. The Dictation of the Third Standard and the arithmetic of the fifth Class (the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh Standards inclusive) are very inferior while the work of those that passed is only passable. Miss Bray’s hands are overfull. I feel sure that she would do better if she had experienced assistants to support her instead of the well meaning but more or less incapable efforts of Monitors. The order is good, and there is distinct evidence of an earnest desire on the part of the Teacher to do her best with the material at her command. But next year I shall not be able to recommend any merit grant on similar results. The sewing is satisfactory.”</p> <p>“The Infants do not appear to advantage this year. Two only show any acquaintance with the rudiments of the Elementary Subjects. There is only one Reading book for the first Class containing 35 pages.”</p>
June 1885	<p>The school is at present in a hopeless state of inefficiency. The last two teachers, M^r Bate and Miss Druce were useless, the former rarely entered the school and the latter suffered from ill health. The supply of Books was short all through the School Year, but it has now been set right. The Infants are in better condition than they were. The Registers have not been kept lately in accordance with the Regulations but this was through ignorance on the Teachers’ part. The Managers must frequently test the Registers.</p> <p>A deduction of one tenth has been made from the Grant for faults of instruction. A larger deduction may have to be made next year if improvement is not then shown. The Grant will also be liable to deductions if the registers are not properly kept and verified (Article 115(l)).</p>
June 1886	<p>The School has passed a much better examination this year though there are still some weak places. The Infants’ class must be more carefully taught; it ought not to be left to the care of the incompetent little Monitor who is now responsible for it.</p> <p>I have again to complain of insufficient supervision of the Registers on the part of the Managers. Your attention is again requested to paragraph 18 of the Circular on Registration.</p> <p>A deduction of one-tenth has been made from the Grant for failure on the part of the managers to exercise due care in the supervision and verification of the Registers (Art 115(i)). A deduction may have to be made next year from the Grant if a better Report on the Instruction of the Infants is not then received.</p>
May 1887	<p>The Reading & Arithmetic of the Standards above the first Standard are very fair; but the Spelling throughout is bad & the style of the Handwriting is not good. The first Standard and the Infants are in an unsatisfactory condition: the former show the natural results of their being ill-taught as Infants, the latter are in no better condition than their predecessors. The younger children must receive more suitable Instruction & the Spelling of the children generally requires special attention.</p> <p>Unless the Instruction, especially that of the Infants, improves, a deduction may have to be made from the Grant next year under Article 115(l). On the present occasion, My Lords have restricted themselves to refusing any Merit Grant.</p>
June 1888	<p>The results of the examination of the upper school are again disappointing, the Reading and spelling being very faulty and much of the Arithmetic being weak. Only 10 children of 36 examined have passed in all subjects, and none of these are included in the fourth or any higher standard. There can be no question that the present condition of the School is unsatisfactory and inefficient. The Infants under their new Teacher are doing very fairly.</p> <p>My Lords have ordered the Grant to be reduced by one-tenth, on account of the defective instruction of the elder children.</p>

June 1889	The school, which for a long time has been very inefficiently taught, shows signs of improvement under its new teachers. The writing and arithmetic are vastly improved but the reading and spelling are still very indifferent. Miss Heyward has been very successful with the sewing. The Infants require further instruction in reading and numbers.
June 1890	The School is now fast making way. The improvements in the work is very noticeable the failures being confined almost entirely to the older children – hopeless cases – and the style of the work now general being quite satisfactory. A new historical reader is required and a second set of readers for the first class of infants, who are being well prepared by Miss Heyward. The Needlework specimens have been marked ‘good’ by the Directress of Needlework.
June 1892	The school is improving, as the lower standards (I & II) show promise in the work, but the children in the III & IV standards, neglected in years gone by, have not distinguished themselves in examination. Until the work of the classes is ? ? and the older scholars acquit themselves with credit, the special grant under Art:105 will not be recommended. The condition of the Infants class is now very fair and seems likely to improve. H M Inspector cannot consider the staff so distinctly efficient as to qualify the school for a grant under Art 105.
July 1893	The School has come on well since it was last examined, and its general condition now, both as regards order & attainments is distinctly good. The children’s intelligence is still low, but I hope that this will grow as time goes on. The answering in English is not far advanced as present, but a fair Knowledge of Geography is shown by the boys, and the girls sew well. The Infants are being suitably taught in all respects. The offices required considerable attention. They are not sufficient at present. (Rule 13 of schedule VII of the code), are not sufficiently lighted & should be flushed with water more frequently.
June 1894	The school is of course suffering from having been closed for such a long time in 1893. It is doing very fairly considering the circumstances and I have no doubt it will do well under ordinarily favourable circumstances. The number of the offices is insufficient and a tank or cistern for storage of water for flushing purposes ought to be provided. The Infants class also are doing satisfactorily under the circumstances. The room is not large enough. It ought to be widened at least three feet.
June 1895	The School is doing well on the whole, having regard to its circumstances. The spelling is the feature which requires special attention: in other respects the results of the Examination in the elementary subjects are very fair indeed, the Arith ^c being good. The answering in English and History is fair; the girls sew well, and the grant for singing by note may be recommended. The Infants division is being taught with some success by M ^{rs} Smith.
July 1896	The general condition of the School as regards the attainment in the elementary and class subjects, the intelligence and the order is now satisfactory, and it may be said to have reached a good educational standard.
June 1897	M ^r Smith is teaching his school with great care, and the appearance of his scholars and their attentiveness show that he is succeeding. M ^{rs} Smith can also show a thriving class of Infants. In both rooms the walls should be cleaned and colour washed and the ceilings whitewashed. There are large cracks in the wall of the main room at the south east corner, and over the door leading into the classroom. The plaster has come off this doorway. The skirting board has broken away from the wall in one part of the room, and the floor near the fireplace is giving way. In the girls’ offices proper arrangements are not made for flushing. This has frequently been reported (see reports of 1893 and 1894), but nothing has been done. The boy’s offices are on the earth system. I am to require what arrangements will be made for flushing the offices.

<p>February 1898</p>	<p>I am not at all satisfied with the way in which this school is being conducted. At a visit without notice paid at the end of the late school year i.e. in April 1897, the whole question of school teaching & management, observed in schools ? examination under Article 84(b) of the code, was carefully gone into with the teachers, & at the same time an entry was made in the Log Book asking for (1) examination books for the periodical examinations, (2) record book to be kept in the manner explained, (3) note books for the brief summaries of the oral lessons as required in the Instructions, (4) new Time Tables, to be prepared and submitted for approval. To-days visit, paid nine months later shows that (1) there have been no examinations, (2) no records have been kept, (3) no notes of the oral lessons made or preserved, & (4) no new Time tables prepared.</p> <p>The oral lesson given on 'Iron' to the lower standards had not been properly prepared, & it was not a lesson at all. No 'notes' were ready, the lesson was not illustrated, nor was the blackboard used. The care of the infant's class is worse. M^f Martin, sub-Inspector reports:-</p> <p>On arrival, at 9.30, I found the 22 children in the charge of a little girl aged 12, a daughter of the Master. To my enquiry for her mother she replied that her mother only came in the afternoons. As her 'afternoons' are devoted to needlework in the upper school the infants can have but very little of M^{rs} Smiths' time. A son fetched M^{rs} Smith. An 'Object Lesson' fell due in the course of the morning for which no preparation had been made. There were no notes, object or illustration of any kind.</p> <p>It is quite possible to teach a school up to passing ?, & to ? results on a certain day which are of no real indication of the values of the work of the school or its efficiency. I must inform the managers that their school, taught as M^f Martin has reported, is not being taught efficiently; & that unless the methods of instruction change it may eventually become necessary to warn them under Article 86.</p>
<p>November 1898</p>	<p>The special sent in January has had some effect. The managers are bent on putting the schools in proper order as regards building & equipment and I have not so much fault to find now with the general condition of the instruction. A proper supply of material for Needlework must. Of course, be provided by the Managers. The Directress of Needlework hopes that the Needlework may improve. Notes must be kept of all oral lessons. The instruction of the Infants must be regular & thorough or the approval of M^{rs} Smith under Art 68 will certainly be withheld.</p> <p>My Lords trust that the improvement in the teaching & management of the school will be steadily maintained. It is hoped that no further neglect to provide for the further instruction of the infants will be noted. Special attention of the infants will be noted. Special attention is requested to the last lines of HMI's report.</p>
<p>October 1899</p>	<p>The School is in very fair general condition, but I feel sure that more ought to be done with it than is being done. The Managers have done a great deal to improve their premises & equipment. They hope to be able to provide new desks soon.</p>

Appendix 3

Working out the grant

The following information is from History of Education in Great Britain, S.J.Curtis, Universal Tutorial Press Ltd. 4th edition 1957.

These calculations refer to Robert Lowe's Revised Code of 1862. Schools were paid by attendance and by results in examinations.

Attendance was reckoned as two hours instruction in the morning or afternoon and one and a half hours in the evening. Evening attendances only applied to pupils over twelve. So, for example, in 1862 a grant of 4 shillings per scholar was paid, according to the average number in attendance throughout the year at the morning and afternoon meetings of the school and a grant of 2s. 6d. per scholar for the evening meetings. For children under six, a grant of 6s. 6d. would be made subject to a satisfactory report from the inspector. The remainder of the grant was dependent on the annual examination. If the scholar failed to pass in reading, writing and arithmetic, 2s. 6d. was forfeited for each subject failed.

Every scholar who attended more than two hundred morning or afternoon meetings of the school and passed the examination would earn a grant of 8s. Evening scholars who attended not less than twenty-four evening meetings and passed the exam would earn a grant of 5s.

Perhaps Presentation applied to the oral examination by the School Inspector, and Examination was probably a written test, although the terms may apply to different subjects. The discrepancies in numbers perhaps meant that some children were absent, though schools did everything they could to ensure as many as possible took the tests, even forcing them to come to school with infectious diseases on the day.

Payment by Results was heavily criticised by people such as Matthew Arnold, himself a school inspector, and Kay-Shuttleworth, as encouraging rote learning at the expense of more enlightened education. It remained in force until 1897.

Appendix 4

Average attendance for the week, 1864 – 1867

1864

Sep 62, 63, 61
Oct 67, 67, 64
Nov 63, 61, 58
Dec 64, 61, 65

1865

Jan 47.9, 49.5, 33,
Feb 23.1, 46.1, 34.4, 31.1
Mar 50, 47.7, 51.7, 57.1, 49
Apr 57, 53.2, 59.8
May 60.6, 66.9, 73.5, 67.2
Jun 72, 67.6, 66.4, 62.7
Jul 62, 60.6, 63.5, 65.8
Aug 68
Sep 48.8 (number on books 95), 50.7 97, 60
Oct 57.7 96, 56.8, 58.5 99, 55.5
Nov 60.2 87, 60.5, 63.9 88, 66.9
Dec 66, 66.9, 68.2

1866

Jan 34.8; 39.9; 39 87
Feb 39.7; 50.6
Mar 43.2; 45.4; 42.8 91; 38.9; 39.4
Apr 62; 51 84
May 54.7; 60.2; 54.1
Jun 61.1, 55.6, 62.5, 65.2, 65.7, 64.8
Jul 70.5, 68.4, 70.x, 70.8 94
Aug 71.6, 70.1
Sep 62.9, 60.7, 54.2
Oct 52.2; 59.9; 54.3, 56.2;
Nov 58.5; 55.4; 60.?.; 60.7
Dec 63.2; 69.7; 69.9

1867

Jan 43.5; 41.5; 37 83
Feb 49.?.; 46.7; 53.5; 52.3
Mar 59.9; 61.6; 45; 29; 51.6
Apr 55.2; 60.2; 55.6
May 64.8; 66.6; 68.4; 73.5; 76.?
Jun 48.2; 66.5; 70.5
Jul 68.4; 74.1; 67.1; 63.7 88
Aug 69.3; 55.1; 66.2; 73.3
Oct 61.6; 66.9; 66.8
Nov 62; 69.1; 74.4; 75.4 79.9
Dec 62.3

Appendix 5

Classes, Standards and Divisions

The following information is taken from Pamela Horn's book, Labouring Life in the Victorian Countryside Dublin, 1976

Standard I

Reading Narrative in monosyllables

Writing Form on blackboard or slate from dictation, capital and lower case letters

Arithmetic Figures up to 20 on blackboard or slate from dictation, name at sight figures up to 20, add and subtract figures up to 10 orally

Standard II

Reading Narrative in an elementary reading book

Writing Copy in manuscript character a line of print

Arithmetic A simple addition or subtraction and the multiplication table

Standard III

Reading A short paragraph from an elementary reading book

Writing A sentence from the same paragraph from dictation

Arithmetic A sum in any simple rule as far as short division

Standard IV

Reading A short paragraph from a more advanced reading book

Writing A sentence dictated from the same book, but from a different paragraph

Arithmetic A sum in compound rules money

Standard V

Reading A few lines of poetry

Writing A sentence from a reading book

Arithmetic A sum in compound rules weights and measures

Standard VI

Reading A short paragraph in a newspaper or modern narrative

Writing Another short paragraph in a newspaper or modern narrative

Arithmetic A sum in practice bills of parcels

Appendix 6

Pupil-Teachers

The following information is from History of Education in Great Britain, S.J.Curtis, Universal Tutorial Press Ltd. 4th edition 1957. Please note the amounts would have changed over time.

To improve the supply and quality of teachers quickly the scheme of appointing pupil-teachers was introduced in 1846. Schools with a favourable report were to be recognised as suitable for training pupil-teachers. These entered upon a 5 year apprenticeship at the age of 13 and earned £10 p.a. rising by annual increments of £2. 10s to £20 p.a. One pupil-teacher was allowed for every 25 scholars and headteachers were required to give them 1 1/2 hours instruction each school day. Headteachers received extra salary for this: £5 for one pupil-teacher, £9 for two and £3 for each additional one. At the end of their apprenticeship they presented themselves for the Queen's Scholarship examination. Those selected were awarded exhibitions to the value of £20 or £25 at a training College for 3 years of training. A pupil-teacher who did not go on to college was classed as an uncertificated teacher.