

A.

School Commissioners Report.

At the annual meeting of the school commissioners of the county of Rockingham, at the courthouse of said county, assembled according to law, on the 21st day of Oct. 1839. Present Dorman Lofflaw Esq. president of the board, John Brown, John Vigar, Jacob Bowman, Jacob Grumb, William G. Thompson, Samuel Moffett, G. R. Meller, George W. Kemper, Ropham Kemper, Archibald Hopkins Jr. and James A. Millevotte, (the whole number appointed by the courts being 13,) the following report was adopted:

The school commissioners for the county of Rockingham Report to the superintendants of the literary fund, that within the year ending the 30th Sept. 1839.

There have been in operation in the said county 85 common schools,

That from the best information they can obtain, there are in the said county, upwards of 900 poor children entitled to the benefits of the fund; of whom 646 have been educated for different periods, during the year, at the said common schools.

That the average price of tuition, exclusive of books, paper, &c. has been 4cts per day, for each poor child.

That there remained unexpended in the hands of their treasurer, on the 19th day of November 1838, agreeable to his accounts settled by the commissioners, at their last annual meeting, and certified to the clerk of the courts, a balance of

	\$	cts	\$	cts
			1356	10 ¹ / ₂
Since which he has received of the school quota of 1839.			1807	48
Amounting to			\$3163	58 ¹ / ₂

That they have examined, corrected, and allowed their treasurer's accounts, for the period comprehended in this report, and which accompanies this report, Marked B, and find that there has been paid by him, as follows:

Continued

	\$	cts	\$	cts
For tuition of the said 846 children, as per the annexed abstract of the school masters' accounts marked C.	22	74	62	$\frac{3}{4}$
For books, paper &c for the use of poor children at school.	56	79		$\frac{3}{4}$
For allowance to Clerk of the courts	3	..		
For allowance to Clerk of the board	10	..		
Amount of disbursements.	\$ 23	44	42	$\frac{1}{2}$
For allowance to the treasurer	58	60		
Making a total expenditure of	24	03	02	$\frac{1}{2}$
Leaving a balance unexpended of	734	56		
	3	137	58	$\frac{1}{2}$

The commissioners would state that there are no claims for tuition due and unpaid. They consider the poor indigent as applicable to children whose parents are unable to support and educate them. Children are ^{schoolers} from 6 to 16 years. No distinction is made between boys and girls. The schools are occasionally visited by the commissioners but not as frequently as they should be, and it is believed the poor children make equal improvement with others attending the same schools. The teachers with some exceptions, are ~~are~~ men of good moral character and necessary qualifications, but in the poorer parts of the county good teachers cannot be had.

The board suggests the propriety of remunerating the commissioners for their services, believing it will remove an evil that now exists (Viz.) The appointments of new commissioners each year, unacquainted with the duties of their office, held by compulsion, and resigned at the end of 12 mo.

They also believe that the objects for which the fund was intended, is in a great measure defeated, in some counties, by appropriating it to seminaries, instead of applying it exclusively to the education of poor children, in the common schools.

They think that a considerable amount might be saved annually, if such books as are in common use in all the schools, were purchased by the quantity, and

placed in the hands of each treasurer, to be distributed
as occasion might require.

In conclusion they will state that John Brown was
appointed their treasurer and James A. Dillworth Clerk,
for the ensuing year

Signed by order of the board

Attest Jas. A. Dillworth Clerk of the board

D. Lofland

President S. C.

School Camp.

Report on

1879.