

Newsletter

APRIL 2013

**Conway Historical
Society**
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VOLUME 19, ISSUE 2

A quarterly publication
of the Conway
Historical Society

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Serving Conway NH since 1935

Welcome New Members

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In Memorium

**Roger Clapp
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UPCOMING MEETINGS

Save the dates—monthly
every 2nd Tuesday

**** April 9**

History of Mt. Washington Valley
Will Brouard

May 14

Eastman Lord House Exposed
Jim Arnold

**** June 11**

July 9

**** August 13**
Annual Picnic Outing

September 10

**** October 8**
Annual Dinner and Meeting

November 12

**** December 10**
Christmas Party and
Yankee Swap

****Potluck dinner begins at 6pm with
regular meetings and presentations at
7pm. All programs are open to the
public at the Salyards Center.**



Bring a Friend !

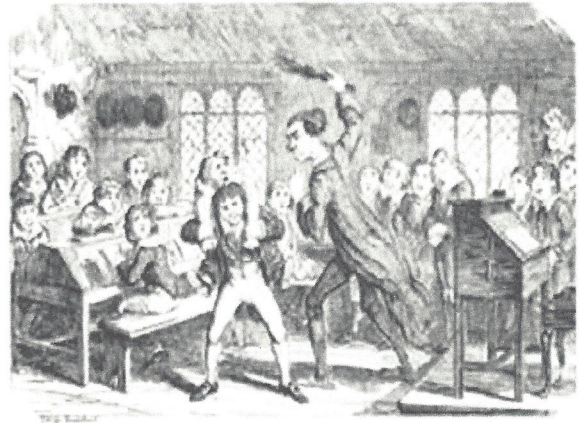
excerpt from Chapter XIII, Conway

A view of some of the schools of our boyhood so well illustrates the difficulties and privations of the first settlers in educating their children, that we can but refer to them. "We presume other towns might have afforded instances of as great or greater disadvantages than this town; but let Conway speak for the whole.

The first that now occurs to us was kept, literally, in a small opening in the woods. To reach it, most of the scholars had always to go in paths cut through the thick forest, and in "bad weather" on sleds drawn by oxen; and when, by such means, they reached the house of instruction, it was very poor, and illy adapted to the end for which it was designed. It was contracted in dimensions, and rude in its construction. The walls were built of rough hemlock logs, grooved together at their ends, and covered with the bark of trees, and rude boards. The something that answered for a fire-place and chimney was constructed with poor bricks and rocks, together with sticks, laid up so as to form what was called a "catting," to guide the smoke. It was lighted by panes of glass placed singly in its wall. Rude however, as it was in structure, many a contest in "spelling and ciphering" has taken place within its walls; and many tears have been shed, and bursts of applause shaken the very bark on its roof, at the successful performance of the "Conjuror," and "Neighbor Scrapewell."



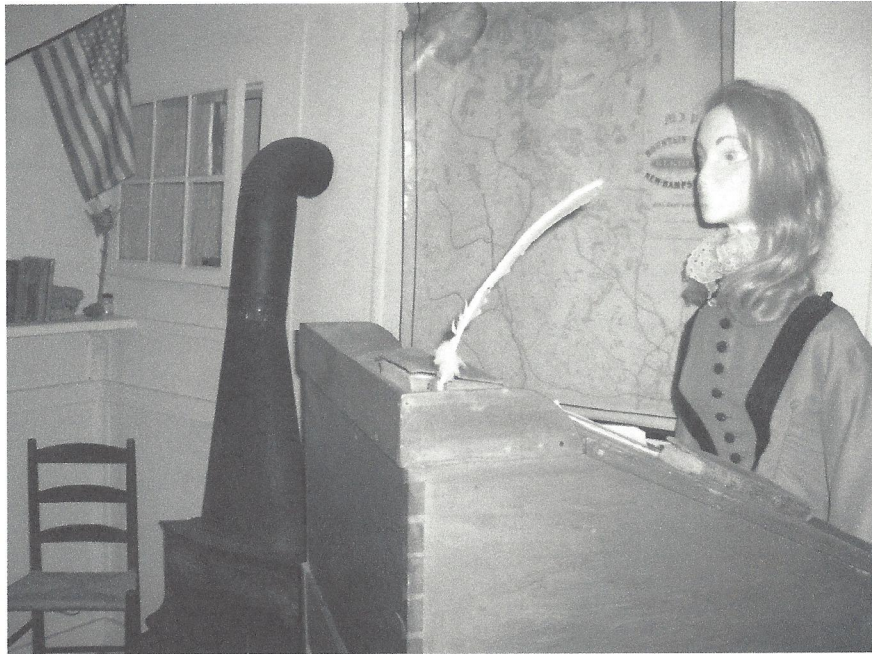
Another school, and the last we shall specify, to illustrate the general character of schools half a century since, was kept, about that time, near the place of my birth. It was kept by a veteran teacher, peculiar in his habits and aspect, keen, fearless, and practiced in his business. He kept in a house we shall not describe at great length. In a few words, it was contracted in its dimensions, uninviting in its general appearance, and open on its walls and floor, so that both the light and the winds of heaven could pass freely through it. Under the house the hogs had as free access as the light and the winds of heaven had into it above. This was their cherished place of resort; and they were there, too, every day, as regularly as the scholars were to the school.



They greatly annoyed the teacher, but were as acceptable to most of the scholars as they were troublesome to him. Many were the scenes of amusement, during that school, which took place with these hogs. Sometimes, after lying and rolling on the ground awhile, grunting and growling as they rooted each other's sides, they would rise up, and brushing along under the floor, carry their bristles up through the huge cracks into plain sight of the scholars. Seeing these, one of them would creep along, when the master's eye was turned, and give them a sharp pull. Then immediately would come a squeal, and after that sharp words from the teacher. "Boys! let those hogs alone; mind your studies." For a moment they would put their faces into their books, and seem content; but they wouldn't "stay put."

There was a working of humor that must be gratified, and now was a good time to gratify it. Presently the bristles would be seen moving along again in the crack of the floor, and then would follow another pull, and then immediately another squeal. Now would come stronger, sterner words from the teacher.

'Boys! I say, let those hogs alone. If you don't, I'll give it to you!' This, it might seem, would stop them, and it did seem to affect them awhile. But still the itching in them for fun was not yet allayed. Their fingers worked nervously to be hold of those bristles again, and provoke another squeal. Nor did they wait long before another opportunity came to indulge their craving. Soon the bristles appeared again, and then came another pull, and immediately another squeal. Now things became more serious, and the teacher must put more authority and power into his words than he had in either of the preceding cases. "Consumption, boys!"—that was the word he often used—"Consumption, boys! What do you mean? If you don't let those hogs alone I'll tan your jackets for you! I'll make your backs smoke!"



Scenes from the Schoolhouse Room in the Eastman Lord house Museum. Many other fun, interesting, and educational rooms await your arrival! The weekly schedule is Wed. (2-4 pm) and Sat. (1-4 pm) from Memorial Day to Labor Day . Special days/hours can be arranged from May through October by calling the office.



Student Rules, 1860

- 1. Boys and girls shall file into classroom in separate lines and be seated quietly on opposite sides of the room.*
- 2. Boys shall remove their caps when entering.*
- 3. Children must sit up straight at all times.*
- 4. Children must not squirm, fidget or whine.*
- 5. Children must be clean and tidy in clothing.*
- 6. There will be a daily inspection of neck, ears and fingernails prior to class to ensure cleanliness of person.*
- 7. Young ladies must never show a bare ankle; girls' and boys' clothing should cover arms and legs completely.*

Punishments

Five minutes tardy in the morning = 1 hour after school.

Double assignments if homework is not done.

Nothing shall be dipped into ink wells except pens.

Children who are caught writing with their left hand = 1 ruler rap on the knuckles.

Do not speak unless spoken to by the teacher. Talking in class = 1 whack with a rod.

Nothing shall be thrown in class. Such behavior = 5 whacks with a rod.

Chewing of tobacco or spitting = 7 whacks with a rod.

Speaking immoral language = Suspension.

Carving on desks or defacing school property = Expulsion.

Fighting, lying, or cheating = Expulsion.

Only Well Mannered Children May Attend School.

Remember: Education Is A Privilege.

Teacher Rules, 1872

1. *Teachers each day will fill lamps, and clean chimneys.*
2. *Each teacher will bring a bucket of water and a scuttle of coal for the day's session.*
3. *Make your pens carefully. You may whittle nibs to the individual taste of the pupils.*
4. *Men teachers may take one evening each week for courting purposes, or two evenings a week if they go to church regularly.*
5. *After ten hours in school, the teachers may spend the remaining time reading the Bible or other good books.*
6. *Women teachers who marry or engage in unseemly conduct will be dismissed.*
7. *Every teacher should lay aside from each day pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years so that he will not become a burden on society.*
8. *Any teacher who smokes, uses liquer in any form, frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop will give good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty.*
9. *The teacher who performs his labor faithfully and without fault for five years will be given an increase of twenty-five cents per week in his pay, providing the Board of Education approves.*

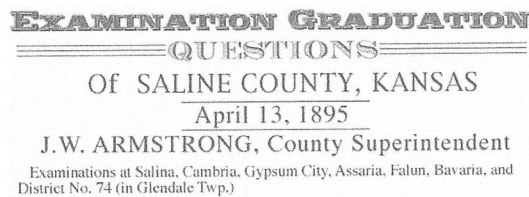
TruthOrFiction.com has listed this eRumor as unproven, even though there is a source for it and we have obtained an actual copy of the exam. There has not been sufficient proof given, in our view, that the exam is what is claimed.

Rather than being for eighth graders, there are several aspects of the exam that raise the question as to whether it was intended for adults, perhaps newly graduated teachers or teacher applicants.

The eRumor says the exam is from the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society in Salina, Kansas, and was published in the Salina Journal newspaper. That is true. Shirley Tower, the volunteer librarian for the Smokey Valley Genealogical Society, found the exam and posted it on their website in 1996 and the Salina Journal's article appeared the same year. The exam started circulating on the Internet and became the subject of numerous newspaper articles including in the Washington Post and the Boston Globe.

There is no reason to doubt the authenticity of the exam, but there are questions about for whom it was intended (If the graphics are difficult to read, place your pointing device arrow over the graphic for details).

First, the original exam doesn't mention the eighth grade. Here is an actual photograph of the title of the document:



Second, the document describes itself as being administered orally and for "applicants." Unless eighth graders were described as "applicants," it makes one wonder if the exam was actually for newly graduated teachers:

READING AND PENMANSHIP — The Examination will be oral, and the Penmanship of Applicants will be graded from the manuscripts.

Third, some of the questions don't seem to be oriented toward students, but rather toward a teacher or a teacher applicant, for example:

4. District No. 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals?

Impressed either way? Sharpen your pencil and read on.....

8th Grade Final Exam: Salina , KS – 1895

Grammar (Time, one hour)

1. Give nine rules for the use of capital letters.
2. Name the parts of speech and define those that have no modifications.
3. Define verse, stanza and paragraph
4. What are the principal parts of a verb? Give principal parts of 'lie,' 'play,' and 'run.'
5. Define case; illustrate each case.
- 6 What is punctuation? Give rules for principal marks of punctuation.
- 7 – 10. Write a composition of about 150 words and show therein that you understand the practical use of the rules of grammar.

Continued page 7

Arithmetic (Time, 1 hour 15 minutes)

1. Name and define the Fundamental Rules of Arithmetic.
2. A wagon box is 2 ft. Deep, 10 feet long, and 3 ft. Wide. How many bushels of wheat will it hold?
3. If a load of wheat weighs 3,942 lbs., what is it worth at 50cts/bushel, deducting 1,050 lbs. For tare?
4. District No 33 has a valuation of \$35,000. What is the necessary levy to carry on a school seven months at \$50 per month, and have \$104 for incidentals?
5. Find the cost of 6,720 lbs. Coal at \$6.00 per ton.
6. Find the interest of \$512.60 for 8 months and 18 days at 7 percent.
7. What is the cost of 40 boards 12 inches wide and 16 ft. Long at \$20 per metre?
8. Find bank discount on \$300 for 90 days (no grace) at 10 percent.
9. What is the cost of a square farm at \$15 per acre, the distance of which is 640 rods?
10. Write a Bank Check, a Promissory Note, and a Receipt.

U.S. History (Time, 45 minutes)

1. Give the epochs into which U.S. History is divided
2. Give an account of the discovery of America by Columbus.
3. Relate the causes and results of the Revolutionary War.
4. Show the territorial growth of the United States.
5. Tell what you can of the history of Kansas.
6. Describe three of the most prominent battles of the Rebellion.
7. Who were the following: Morse, Whitney, Fulton, Bell, Lincoln, Penn, and Howe?
8. Name events connected with the following dates: 1607, 1620, 1800, 1849, 1865.

Orthography (Time, one hour) [Do we even know what this is??]

1. What is meant by the following: alphabet, phonetic, orthography, etymology, syllabication
2. What are elementary sounds? How classified?
3. What are the following, and give examples of each: trigraph, subvocals, diphthong, cognate letters, linguals
4. Give four substitutes for caret 'u.' (HUH?)
5. Give two rules for spelling words with final 'e.' Name two exceptions under each rule.
6. Give two uses of silent letters in spelling. Illustrate each.
7. Define the following prefixes and use in connection with a word: bi, dis, mis, pre, semi, post, non, inter, mono, sup.
8. Mark diacritically and divide into syllables the following, and name the sign that indicates the sound: card, ball, mercy, sir, odd, cell, rise, blood, fare, last.
9. Use the following correctly in sentences: cite, site, sight, fane, fain, feign, vane, vain, vein, raze, raise, rays.
10. Write 10 words frequently mispronounced and indicate pronunciation by use of diacritical marks and by syllabication.

Geography (Time, one hour)

1. What is climate? Upon what does climate depend?
2. How do you account for the extremes of climate in Kansas ?
3. Of what use are rivers? Of what use is the ocean?
4. Describe the mountains of North America.
5. Name and describe the following: Monrovia, Odessa, Denver, Manitoba, Hecla, Yukon, St. Helena, Juan Fernandez, Aspinwall and Orinoco.
6. Name and locate the principal trade centers of the U.S.
7. Name all the republics of Europe and give the capital of each.
8. Why is the Atlantic Coast colder than the Pacific in the same latitude?
9. Describe the process by which the water of the ocean returns to the sources of rivers.
10. Describe the movements of the earth. Give the inclination of the earth.

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CHS Newsletter

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 2 APRIL 2013



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A significant percentage of our income is generated through membership. Please pass your newsletter along to a friend when you are finished with it. Recycle and help the society to grow. Membership Dues are payable in October.

Conway Historical Society

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Conway NH. 03818

Phone: 603-447-5551
Fax: 603-447-1991

CHS Membership Dues = \$20.00 per person per year

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The Society encourages the following levels of giving:
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