

Extracts from School Log Books (1887-1893)

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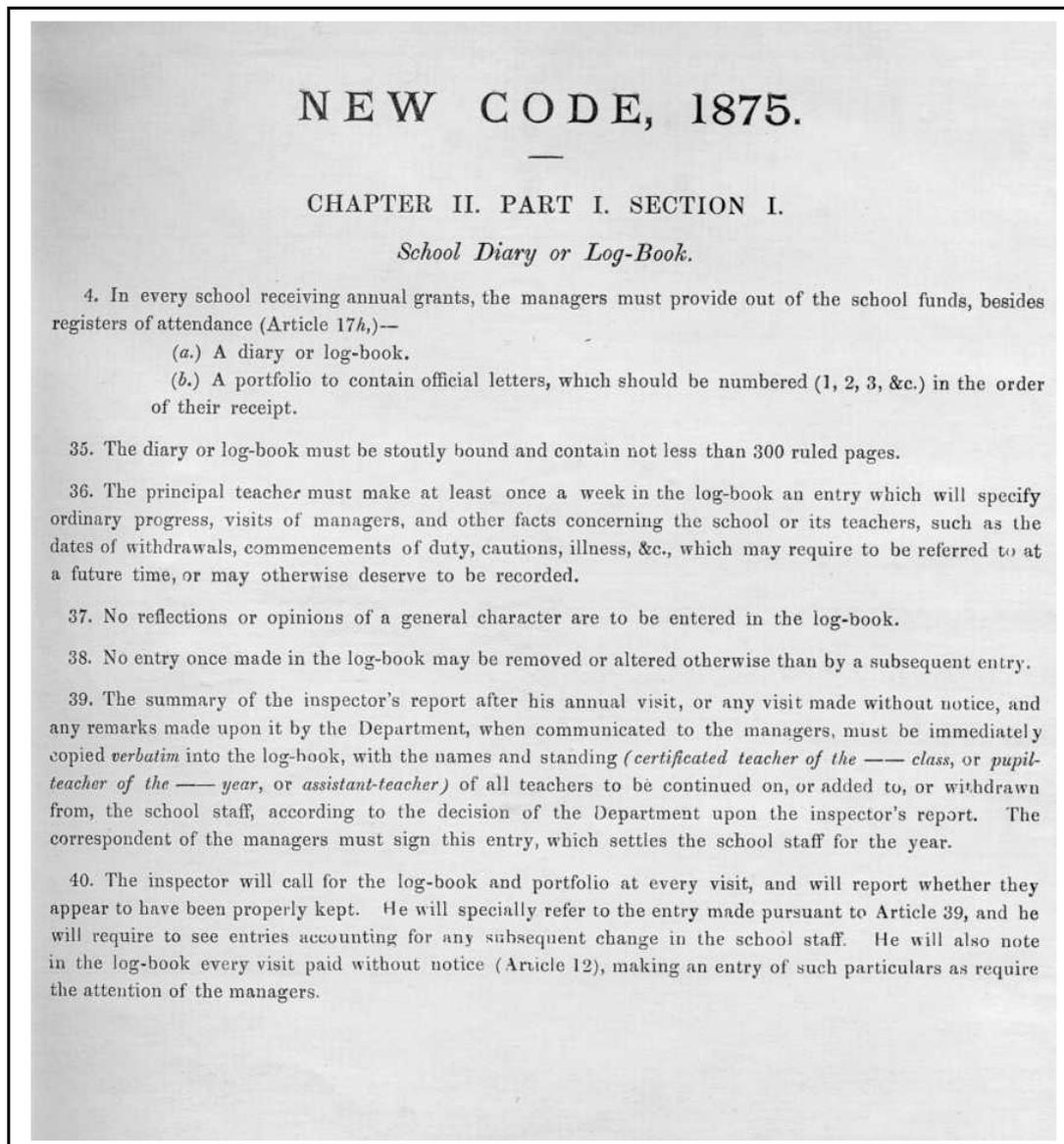
Nottingham

NG2 1AG

Editor's notes (italics) are inserted by the transcriber. An ellipsis (...) indicates partial extract).

I have tried to maintain the form of written notes – no attempt has been made to correct spelling or capitalisation. A query (?) indicates doubtful interpretation of a difficult hand.

Frontpiece has the following inside the front cover:



The facing page names the school as **Clarborough Board School**.

Page 'A' of this book has the following dimensions recorded, above which is written 12426 (presumably the school No.):

Length of School-room	–	45	ft.	1	in
Breadth	“	“	“	20	“ –
Height	“	“	“	10	“ 3
			ft		
Length of Class-room		16		“	
Breadth	“	“	“	10	“
Height	“	“	“	10	“ 3in.

No inserts to rest of 'lettered' pages. Log book entries proper begin on May 2nd :

2 May 1887 I Frances Seals commenced this Log Book to day the old one being completed. Attendance improved. 8 children absent the whole week sick. Several children absent at work who ought to be at school.

10-12 May 1887 School visited by the Revd. G.Roworth on both dates.

11 May 1887 Wednesday. School visited by the Attendance Officer who also left a notice to be read to the children about non-attendance. Work in all the Standards shows improvements but I should like to see less carelessness in Stan.II & I. The Infant Class require great attention in number and writing. Arithmetic in Stan.I will be taken by the Mistress next week. Object lesson to the Infants on "Pins". Average for the week 74.8

18 May 1887 I have this day examined the Registers and find them correct. (*signed*) G.G.Roworth.

20 May 1887 The new Board is now formed and consists of the following members:

Revd. G.Roworth, Mr Birks, Mr Spencer, Mr Ogle and Dr.Westbrook. The drains have been cleaned and other repairs have been done. The subjects requiring attention this week are Writing in Standards II and I, Reading in the Infant Class and Arithmetic in the first Class.

Punished G.Parker, J.Stephenson and W.Blagg for idleness. Object less to the Infants on the "Cat". Average for the week 77.1

6 Jun 1887 Monday Reopened School after the Whitsuntide holidays. Received a Doctor's certificate for Albert Spencer, he has already been absent 6 wks. Three children absent suffering from ringworms. J.Donnor has the measles consequently himself and 2 brothers are not allowed to attend for a month.

10 Jun 1887 Friday. Punished H.Stevenson, J.Storrs and T.Wilkinson for disobedience. Object lesson to the Infants on "The Horse". Average for the week 79.3

13-17 Jun 1887 ... J.Dunn, W.Dunn and William Dunn absent the whole week sick. A Spencer still absent ill. F.Wynch and F.Pye are not allowed to attend school, they have ringworms.

17 Jun 1887 Friday. Broke up for a weeks holidays it being Jubilee week and the room being required for the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee. ...

21 June 1887 *Tuesday. Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee celebrated.*

27 Jun-1 Jul 1887 Attendance good with the exception of the first Class. It is impossible for this class to do well the attendance is so very irregular. ... Several of the elder boys are absent hay-making. The Infant Class have worked fairly well but owing to the hot weather the varied occupations were not well done. Order has been defective throughout the School, children being restless and hot. Object lesson to the Infants on "The Reindeer" (*seasonal!*) Average for the week 81.3

4-8 Jul 1887 ... Several boys absent the whole week haymaking.

6 Jul 1887 Wednesday. ... G.Parker Stan.III absent the whole week haymaking. Have taken the backward children in Stan.I. Some of them have not the least idea of addition yet. Work in the other Standards has not been well done. The boys in Stan.V have

attended very badly the whole week. ... Infant Class have not worked so well owing to the heat. ...

12 Jul 1887 11 Jul 1887 Monday. Only one child out of 7 present this afternoon in Stan. V.

12 Jul 1887 Tuesday. School visited by the Revd. G.Roworth. G.Parker Stan.III absent the whole week at work. Stan.I shows signs of improvement. Three boys absent the whole week sick.

25-29 Jul 1887 There has been a decrease in the Attendance this week; many of the boys being at work in the fields.

28 Jul 1887 Thursday. School visited by Dr.Westbrook who came to examine the school with regard to the ventilation. ...

1-5 Aug 1887 Attendance very moderate the whole week. The boys in Standards IV, V have been at work in the fields.

5 Aug 1887 Friday. Broke up for the Harvest Holidays. 3 weeks. Duties to be resumed Aug. 29th. ...

29 Aug 1887 Reopened School after the Harvest holidays numbers present 50 & 51. Attendance has been wretched the whole week especially in Standards IV, V and III. A great number of boys and girls either gleaning or working who are not eligible for employment.

7 Sep 1887 Wednesday A whole holiday it being Clarboro' Flower Show.

12-16 Sep 1887 Attendance improved. Five boys absent the whole week. W.Marriott absent three weeks at work although not eligible to do so.

16 Sep 1887 ... Average for the week 80.8

21 Sep 1887 Wednesday. ...Have kept several Stan.I children after School hours for copying. ...

28 Sep 1887 Wednesday. A whole holiday the school being required for the Harvest Festival. ...

30 Sep 1887 Friday. School visited by the Revd. G.Roworth.

3 Oct 1887 Monday. To day being Retford Fair the children had a holiday.

10-14 Oct 1887 ... E.Spencer in the Infant class absent 4 weeks suffering from ringworms. A.Spencer Stan.V absent 5 weeks. Great attention has been bestowed on Stan.V. W.Marriott returned to school after an absence of over 6 weeks.

17-21 Oct 1887 Attendance not so good as previous weeks. A Spencer Stan.V not yet returned to school. J.Cobb, C.Cobb & J.Cobb have left the School this week their parents having gone to live in Retford.

2 Nov 1887 Thursday. School visited by the Revd.G.Roworth, Dr.Westbrook and Mr Birks, Members of the Board, who came to see about the Ventilation.

2 Dec 1887 Punished the whole of Stan.II for copying. ... Object lesson to the Infants on "Ice and Snow" (*more seasonal!*). Average for the week – 78.8.

14 Dec 1887 Wednesday. ... The weekly Exam. Was anything but satisfactory. ... G.Wych, W.Donnor, E.Wilkinson, G.Redfearn are to be placed on the Exception schedule. ... Average for the week 77.1

30 Dec 1887 Friday. The Board decided to give another weeks holiday on account of the school not being quite finished painting and cleaning.

6 Jan 1888 Friday. Attended the yearly Audit at Retford Union.

9 Jan 1888 Monday. Commenced school after Christmas holidays.

[The following three entries appear in the order written.]

10 Jan 1888 I have examined Walter Donnor, George Wynch George Redfern & Elizabeth Wilkinson & I consider they are deficient (*signed*) William Birks
(*End of the last word is very difficult – William Birk's handwriting is very deficient!*)

11 Jan 1888 Wednesday. School visited by by Mr.Birks and Dr.Westbrook who examined the Exceptions in Stan.I. I find the children in Stan.II and V very backward. Great pains have been taken with StanV the arithmetic has been badly done all the week.

10 Jan 1888 Punished A.Wistow and S.Bartle for copying. G.Parker Stan.III has only made 4 attendances this week. He is at work. ...

6-10 Feb 1888 Attendance fairly good. Rose Cordall, John Cordall & Lily Cordall have left the village; their parents having gone to live in Retford.

13 Feb 1888 *First issue of the Financial Times.*

15 Feb 1888 Wednesday. Found W.Chambers an infant suffering from ringworms, sent home in consequence. .. A Spencer in this Stan (V) has only made 164 attendances during the year. ...

24 Feb 1888 Friday. Received notice that the Examination would take place at 9.30 a.m. on Monday Feb. 27 instead of 11.30. Average for the week 80.

List of Recitations 1888-89

Standard V "The Last Minstrel" (Sir Walter Scott)

Standard IV "Llewelyn and his dog" (Spencer)

Standard III "King Bruce and the spider" (E.Cook)

Standard II "The Beggar Man" (Aiken)

Standard I "This is the Way"

Proposed Second Class Subject

Standards IV, V, VI VII

Boys. Geography

Girls Needlework

Standards I, II, III

Boys. Geography

Girls Needlework

List of Object lessons 1888-89

The Seasons	Bees	
Ships	Eggs (hen)	
A Tree	Water	
An Umbrella	Robin	The Baker
A Window	Cuckoo	The Carpenter
A Penny	Skylark	The Postman
Rain	Starts	
Clock	Turnip	
Candle	Carrot	
Bell	Cotton	
Basket	Wool	
Farm	Sheep	
Buttercup	Goat	
Primrose	Cow	
Daisy	Wool	
Lamp	Tiger	
Pigeon	Wheat	
Hen	Barley	
Duck	Oats	
Fly	The Sea	
Elephant	The Miller	

Infants Article 106

Varied Occupations

Brick building, Word forming, Bead threading. Pricking. Embroidery. Object lesson once a week.

27 Feb 1888 Monday. School examined by Mr Webster, Members of the Board present. Mr Birks and the Revd G.Roworth. Children were examined in the three Rs Standards I,

II, III in English girls and Infants needlework. The Infants were also examined in their Reading, Writing and Number.

28 Feb 1888 Tuesday. Examinations completed by the Revd. G.Sewell. Members of the Board present Mr Birks and the Revd. G.Roworth.

29 Feb 1888 Wednesday. Placed children in their proper Standards.

6 Mar 1888 School visited by the Revd. G.Roworth. Received the Duplicate Schedule from Mr Wells. The percentage of passes is 83. The most failures have occurred in Sta.V. This is not to be wondered at considering how irregularly they have attended the whole year.

20 Mar 1888 Tuesday. Diocesan Examination. Registers not marked.

23 Mar 1888 Friday. Attendance very moderate owing to Retford Fair. 60 and 51 were the numbers. ...

26 Mar 1888 Received Her Majesty's Inspector's Report'; which shows an increase of grant.

Copy of H.M.I's Report

Mixed School " Except for Arithmetic in the fourth and fifth Standards, the exercises were very well done, advance being shown rather in the number than the quality of the passes. English has improved though Grammar in the fourth and fifth standards is indifferent.

Needlework is good, Order and singing satisfactory"

Infants Class "The Infants Classes are very well taught, especially in writing"

L.Ledger has passed fairly but should attend to Geography* History and needlework at examination."

(signed) Fred W.Wells Clerk to the Clarbro (sic) School Board April 28th 1888

16-20 Apr 1888 Attendance moderate. G.Parker Stan.IV absent the whole week at work. Three Infants absent the whole week.

17 Apr 1888 *Football League meets for first time; 12 clubs to compete in next (inaugural) season.*

19 Apr 1888 Thursday. A whole holiday. The School being required for the Childrens' treat.

20 Apr 1888 Friday. Numbers low owing to the wet weather. ... Punished J.Marriott and F.Bartle for copying. Object lesson to the Infants on 'A Window'. Average for the week 72.

27 Apr 1888 ... Admitted A.Wilkinson and H.Redfern. Object lesson to the Infants on 'A Penny'. Average for the week 76.3

30 Apr – 4 May 1888 ... Admitted John Spencer and Annie Pellingier.

11 May 1888 ... Several boys have been at work planting potatoes. ...

15 Jun 1888 *Accession of Kaiser Wilhelm II in Germany.*

21 Jun 1888 Thursday. L.Ledger absent today being ill. She has been unable to do her lessons since Monday through illness. ...

25 Jun 1888 Monday Today being Clarborough Feast, the children had a holiday.

27 Jun 1888 Wednesday. School visited by Dr.Westbrook, who examined Miss Ledger; who is ill. L.Ledger has received no lessons this week, nor has she done any home lessons owing ...

5 Jul 1888 *First strike by unorganised women workers – match girls in Bow, East London.*

20 Jul 1888 Friday. Punished J.Storrs for disobedience; also sent him home for being dirty. ...

3 Aug 1888 Wednesday. ... Several boys absent at work in the hay field who ought to be at school. ...

8 Aug 1888 Wednesday. Received the Diocesan Inspector's report which was as follows, "The school passed a very satisfactory examination and reflected great credit on the Teachers"

9 Aug 1888 *Local Government Act to set up elected county councils in England & Wales; single women to have equal voting rights with men.*

21 Aug 1888 Tuesday. A whole holiday the School being required for the Sunday School Treat.

24 Aug 1888 Friday. Broke up for the Harvest Holidays. 3 weeks duration, to be extended to 1 month if necessary. Object lesson to the Infants on "Bees". Average for the week 71.5

24 Sep 1888 Reopened school after the Harvest Holidays which were extended to a month. Attendance very poor throughout the school, 15 children absent gleaning.

2 Oct 1888 Tuesday. A whole holiday it being Retford Fair.

22-26 Oct 1888 Attendance improved. Several boys in Standard V returned after 6 weeks absence.

31 Oct 1888 Wednesday. School visited by the Attendance Officer. Have been obliged to keep Stan.I in 20 minutes for inattention.

9 Nov 1888 Punished W.Anderson for bad behaviour at Scripture lesson. Writing in the Infant Class must be improved. Sta.I require great attention in Reading have taken them all week myself.

12-16 Nov 1888 Attendance moderate owing to the wet weather. Removed J.Donnor, W.Donnor and William Donnors names from the Registers they having left the village. ...

13 Nov 1888 Tuesday. Punished F.Hurst for swearing.

16 Nov 1888 A whole holiday. It being the yearly Audit at Retford Union.

26 Nov 1888 Attendance very poor owing to illness and wet weather.

27 Nov 1888 41 & 55 only were the numbers to day.

28 Nov 1888 Wednesday ... Children do not think before they answer. (*what's new!*)

10-14 Dec 1888 ... The following will be placed on the Exception Schedule Harold Spencer, George Eason, William Redfern Stan I and Mary Redfern. II The Infant class have worked well. Object lesson to the Infants on "The Sheep". Average for the week 70.6

21 Dec 1888 Friday Broke up for the Christmas Holidays; Duties to be resumed Dec 31st. Object lesson to the Infants on "The Gat". Average for the week 70.7

31 Dec 1888 Monday. Commenced School after the Christmas holidays.

1 Jan 1889 Tuesday. To day being New Years Day there was a holiday.

2 Jan 1889 Wednesday. Have decided to withhold Eliza Billyard from Exam, Stan.I. She cannot pronounce her words and has no idea of sound.

4 Jan 1889 ... The children have been exercised during play time instead of going out. ...

8 Jan 1889 Tuesday. A half holiday the room being required for the County Council.

9 Jan 1889 Wednesday. A half holiday the room being required for a concert. ...

15 Jan 1889 Tuesday. L.Ledger did not prepare her home work.

17 Jan 1889 Thursday. L.Ledger did not remain to lessons, she having asked permission to leave at 4 oclock (*sic*).

25 Jan 1889 Friday. School visited by Mr Birks and Dr.Westbrook who examined the Exceptions for Stan.I viz. H.Spencer, W.Redfern, G.Eason & E.Billyard. M.Redfern Stan.II is too ill to attend school.

11-15 Feb 1889 Monday. A very snowy day. Only 36 children present in the morning and 45 in the afternoon...

18-22 Feb 1889 ... J.Bartle and C.Groves left this week they having passed Stan.IV

4-8 Mar 1889 Attendance very moderate the whole week owing to the bad weather. The following children have been absent the whole week from illness: C.Green, G.Eason, J.W.Briggs, M.Redfern, R.Aukland, N.Bartle.

5 Apr 1889 Friday. The attendance is always poor on this day; many children going home at dinner time and not returning. Object lesson to the Infants on "Tea". Average for the week 66.

10 Apr 1889 Friday. Received the Report of the Scripture Exam. "The School did well". "The best written work was done by A.Billyard F.Stevenson and A.Redfern. R.Aukland and L.Hewitt also are worthy of mention." Object lesson to the Infants on "Coffee". Average for the week 63.8

9 May 1889 A whole holiday, it being the Review of the Cavalry. ...

30 May 1889 Punished R.Stevenson, L.Gregory, H.Ogle for copying. ...

31 May 1889 *Naval Defence Act establishes principle that UK Fleet has strength of any two other country's fleets shaping naval policy until 1912.*

24 Jun 1889 Clarborough Feast. A whole holiday.

27 Jun 1889 Thursday. Punished W.Wilkinson for playing truant. ...

15-19 Jul 1889. Attendance moderate the whole week especially in the upper Standards. Nearly all the boys in the First Class are at work.

17 Jul 1889 Wednesday. L.Ledger absent the whole day having gone to Clumber with the Sunday School teachers. Infants taught by the mistress.

17 Jul 1889 Punished G.Briggs and G.Eason for playing truant. ...

22-26 Jul 1889 Attendance very poor in all the Classes. Nearly all the Upper Standard boys have been absent at work. Three children absent the whole week sick.

12 Aug 1889 *Start of London Dock Strike campaigning for 'dockers' tanner'.*

16 Aug 1889 Friday. Broke up for the harvest holidays – three weeks. Duties to be resumed Sep 9th. It is to be regretted the Board did not give a months holiday instead of three weeks, the children will not have finished gleaning. Object lesson to the Infants on "The Horse". Average for the week 51.7

16 Sep 1889 Reopened School after the Harvest Holidays which were extended to a month. Attendance poor the whole week in all classes. I find the children very backward in all their work. I have commenced the Reading books again. 9 children absent in the first Class the whole week. Work in all the Standards has been badly done. The Infant Class have worked fairly.

16 Sep 1889 *London dockers return to work having won their 'tanner'.*

18 Sep 1889 Wednesday. A whole holiday it being Clarborough Flower Show. ...

25-27 Sep 1889 School visited on both dates by the Revd. G.Roworth. Admitted Henry, David and Alexander Bowman. ...

2 Oct 1889 Attendance very poor. A half holiday in the afternoon it being Retford Fair. Work in all classes has been fairly done.

9 Oct 1889 Wednesday. A days holiday the school being required for the Harvest Festival. ...

27 Nov 1889 Punished J.Stevenson & H.Spencer for copying. L.Ledger's home lessons might have been better prepared.

22 Oct 1889 Punished the whole of Standard I boys for copying. ...

29 Nov 1889 Friday. School visited by Mr Ogle one of the Members of the Board, who measured for a new stove for the large room and a fire-guard for the class-room. Examined the whole school in their work, which was fairly done. The Infants and Standard I require great attention in Spelling. The Kindergarten might have been better done. The Infants have not been kept in very good order.

4 Dec 1889 A new stove has been placed in the large room. ...

13 Dec 1889 Friday. Received a new fire-guard for the class-room, which has been very much needed. Object lesson to the Infants on "A Railway". Average for the week 73.3

20 Dec 1889 Friday. A half-holiday. Broke up for the Christmas Holidays. School to be reopened Dec 30th 1889. At a meeting of the Board held to day the Revd. G.Roworth resigned his seat on the Board. No new Object lessons have been given this week. Average for the week 64.7

3 Jan 1890 A whole day's holiday. The room being required for a concert.

4 Jan 1890 *Forth Railway Bridge opened by Prince of Wales.*

7 Jan 1890 Tuesday. The Revd. G.Roworth left Clarborough to day. Reading and Arithmetic in Stan.I require attention. ...

17 Jan 1890 Friday. 7 boys stayed away from school, to go after the hounds, without their parents consent. Work in the Infant Class has been well done. Object lessons have been revised. Average for the week 75

21 Jan 1890 ... Harold Spencer Stan.I has again been placed on the Exception List – He has no idea of sound. Object lessons have been again revised. Average for the week 74.5

31 Jan 1890 Friday. Received notice of Her Majesty's Inspector's visit. ... Although there are 27 names on the Infant Register the yearly average is only 19.1. 10 children absent the whole week sick. Average for the week 59.

7 Feb 1890 Friday. Examination conducted by the Revd. C.Sewell and Mr Webster.

10-14 Feb 1890 Attendance very fair. Several absent at work in the fields. The Upper Standards have attended badly – As soon as the Gov. Examination has taken place, the children in the upper Standards begin to stay away.

18 Feb 1890 Tuesday. ... G.Green, M.Wallers, A.Wistow have left school. ... Admitted R.Hurst. Shall be obliged to divide Stan. I into 2 divisions; several children being very backward from the Infant Class. ...

24-28 Feb 1890 ... J & W.Marriott and J.Bennett left this week. ...

4 Mar 1890 *Prince of Wales opens the Forth Railway Bridge.*

5 Mar 1890 Wednesday. School visited by Mr Ogle who examined the registers also by the Attendance Officer. Work in all classes has been fairly well done. Received the Report from the Clerk to the Board. Owing to irregular attendance it was not as favourable as last years. Twenty one children were absent sick just before the Exam. Which reduced the average. Arithmetic lessons have been given in all the Standards. Object lesson to the Infants on "A Farmyard". Average for the week 70.1

[Copy of report]
 "The Standard work was well done, but Handwriting in the second, third and fourth standards should be of better style. Composition was better done in the fifth standard than in the sixth. English was only fair. A want of intelligence was shown and the Grammar was very poor. The Infants class is well taught and in good order. The reading of the first class is hardly advanced enough. L.Ledger has passed fairly but should attend to Geography * History* and knowledge of Method" [*Significance of * symbols not clear*]
[Signed] Fred W Wells Clerk to the Clarborough School Board. Dated 3rd March 1890

24 Mar 1890 Monday. Retford Fair. A days holiday.

25 Mar 1890 Tuesday. ... R.Hurst is suffering from the chicken pox. The children from the same family are not at School.

31 Mar – 4 Apr 1890 F.Hurst, A.Hurst, M.A.Hurst & R.Hurst absent all the week. ...

14 Apr 1890 Monday. Reopened school after the Easter Vacation. Admitted M.Gregory and Ethel Stamp. Infants. The upper Standards have not attended well.

21-25 Apr 1890 ... Admitted H.Eason, A.Sevindin & B.Sevindin. ...

5-9 May 1890 Attendance improved. Stan.III girls are very irregular. Arithmetic in all the Standards has been very badly done. ... Received the Diocesan Inspector's Report which is as follows: "The School passed an excellent examination, in the written work the papers were above the average." ... Object lesson to the Infants on "Catching Fish". Average for the week 71.5

2-6 Jun 1890 Reopened school after a weeks holiday. Admitted A.Briggs, E.Stubbings, J.Crossland, M.Gant & R.Hebain.

9-13 Jun 1890 ... Several boys at work planting celery who ought to be at school. ...

24 Jun 1890 Tuesday. To day being the *Clarborough* Feast; a half holiday was given.

25 Jun 1890 Wednesday. A half holiday was again given.

7-11 Jul 1890 L.Ledger absent the whole week. She is sitting for her Scholarship Examination in Lincoln.

21-25 Jul 1890 Attendance very poor the whole week. Half the First Class boys are at work in the hayfields. ...

12 Aug 1890 Tuesday. Numbers reduced in consequence of the Choir Trip.

15-19 Sep 1890 Commenced School after the Harvest Holidays. Attendance poor the whole week; especially in Stan.III. Many of the children absent gleaning. Four cases of Whooping cough have occurred in the School; none of these children are allowed to attend. Children are very backward in their work, Stan.III especially.

22-26 Sep 1890 ... John Crossland Stan.II absent all the week at work; he is very backward.

29 Sep 1890 Monday. School visited by the Revd.F.Barnes.

2 Oct 1890 Thursday. Retford Fair, a days holiday. The attendance has been poor the whole week. There are now 13 cases of Whooping cough. Several children at work who ought to be at school; others are kept at home, for fear of catching the Whooping cough. ... Object lesson to the Infants on "Butter". Average for the week 56.3

6-10 Oct 1890 Attendance very poor. Several boys in the Upper Standards at work who ought to be at School. There are now 21 cases of whooping cough. More than half the children in the Infant class are absent sick. ...

13 Oct 1890 Received notice that L.Ledger had failed to pass the Scholarship Exam. She will have to sit in July 1891. Revised Object lessons to the Infants.

13-17 Oct 1890 Attendance very poor, The Whooping cough still continues. Twenty two children are now absent. The Infant Class suffer most from Whooping cough, 14 being absent in this class alone. John Crossland Stan.III Fred Bartle Stan.IV are at work. ...

29 Oct 1890 A days holiday the room being required for the Harvest Thanksgiving Tea.

10-14 Nov 1890 Attendance not as good as previous week. A great number still absent suffering from whooping cough. ...

14 Nov 1890 Friday. A holiday in consequence of my having to attend a funeral at Blackburn. ...

17-24 Nov 1890 ... Herbert and Arthur Quayle infants left to go to Hayton.

28 Nov 1890 A very snowy day. Only 11 children present in the morning and 12 in the afternoon. ...

11 Dec 1890 ... Have placed W.Smith, F.Bartle and A.Walters in Stan.III. They are very dull. W.Smith & A.Walters have never passed in Arithmetic in any Stan. ...

15 Dec 1890 Holiday. The School being used as a Polling Station for the Bassetlaw Election.

18 Dec 1890 *City & South London Railway opens; the first electric underground railway in the world.*

19-23 Jan 1891 Attendance improved. May Marriott Stan.I still absent ill. ... Mary Ann Hurst Stan.III was drowned in the Canal Jan 17 she having fallen in while trying to rescue her brother.

30 Jan 1891 Friday. School visited by the Members of the Board. L.Ledgers apprenticeship expired today. ...

4 Feb 1891 Wednesday. School visited by the Attendance Officer. ... John Spencer, James Crossland, George Briggs & H.Bowman are not to be examined in Stan.I. They are very backward and have been worked with the First Class Infants. Mental Arithmetic in all classes might be better. Object lesson to the Infants on "The Sea-shore". Average for the week 65.8

11 Feb 1891 Wednesday. School visited by the Attendance Officer. At a meeting of the Board held Feb.5th it was decided to retain the services of L.Ledger for a period of six months. Three months notice to terminate the engagement on either side. ...

23-27 Feb 1891 Attendance fair. The girls in the Upper Standards have attended very badly. Stan.IV, III & V girls attend the worst. A.Otter, R & A.Aukland, L.Goves have not been since Feb. 16th

26 Feb 1891 ... Admitted G.Stamp. Infants. ... M.Grant & E.Bennett Infants returned after several weeks absence through illness. Rosanna Hurst, Hilda Eason, infants not yet returned. May Marriott Stan.I returned to school after several months absence through illness. ...

5 Mar 1891 ... L.Gregory, S.Gregory and Maggie Gregory left the school to day, their parents are leaving the village. L.Groves Stan.V has left. ...

19 Mar 1891 Diocesan Inspection. Registers not marked. School visited by the Revd.F.Barnes & Mr Birks. Work in all the Standards has only been fairly well done. The Report of Her Majesty's Inspector has been received; and has been placed at the house of Mr Spencer for Inspection. ...

[Copy of Report]

“The lower standards were well prepared in all subjects, though handwriting in the third standard should be better. In the fifth and sixth standards Reading alone was good, Arithmetic being very indifferent. Grammar was fair as was also the Recitation. Needlework, Order and Singing were satisfactory. The infants’ class is taught with diligence and very fair success, though the style of the rudimentary work should improve. The office used by the girls is insufficient in accommodation and unsuitable in structure. Plans of any new building (or alterations) which may be proposed, drawn in accordance with the Rules which are contained in Schedule VII of the Code, should be submitted to the Department for approval before the work is begun. Your attention is particularly requested to Article 85 and I am to point out that unless the Plans are to be submitted and approved the Board will have no sufficient security that the premises will be recognised as satisfying that Article. The staff is insufficient for the payment of a grant under Article 105. Adverting (*difficult word*) to your letter of the 10th ultimo, I am to state My Lords consent to the extension of L.Ledger’s engagement under paragraph 4 of her Memorandum of Agreement.”

Signed Fred W.Wells Clerk of the Clarborough School Board. 21st March 1890

23 Mar 1891 A day’s holiday. It being Retford Fair. L.Ledger’s engagement by the Board for a year has been sanctioned by the Department. She is now under Article 68.

Attendance has only been moderate the whole week.

1 Apr 1891 *Public telephone link between London and Paris.*

6 Apr 1891 ... R.Hebden returned to School after several months absence from illness. ...

13 Apr 1891 Monday. Admitted Bertha Rogers, R.Hurst returned to School after several months absence from sickness.

4-8 May 1891 Admitted A.Baker, J.Bowman, E.Nicholls. ...

25 May 1891 Reopened School after the Whitsuntide Holidays. The weather being very wet, numbers were only 41 and 43. W.Blagg Stan.VII left to go to work. ...

9 Jun 1891 Tuesday. ... A.Auckland Stan.IV has been absent 10 weeks. ...

23 Jun 1891 Tuesday. School visited by the Inspector to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to children to enquire about W.Cordall an infant who had been cruelly treated by his parents. The child is not now at School; he is under the protection of the police. ...

25 Jun 1891 Thursday. A half holiday it being Clarborough Feast.

29 Jun – 3 Jul 1891 Attendance moderate all week. Fred Anderson Stan.V at work although not eligible. Several children have absent (*sic*) at work during the week.

6-10 Jul 1891 Attendance improved. Two girls absent from sickness. The case of W.Cordall was decided July 4th by the magistrates; who ordered the boy to be taken away from his parents, consequently he has left the school. Lucy Ledger absent the whole week sitting the Scholarship at Lincoln. Her place has been supplied by R.Auckland a monitoress.

9 Jul 1891 Thursday. Meeting of the Board in the School to consider alterations. Work in all Standards has been better done, Stan.I have given least satisfaction, have taken tis Stan. The whole week. Object lesson to the Infants on “The Umbrella”. Average for the week 62.9

20-24 Jul 1891 ... H.Bennett Stan.III absent a month sick. ...

28-30 Jul 1891 ... Several boys have again been absent hay-making. ...

13 Aug 1891 Thursday. At a meeting of the Board the following resolution was passed. “Resolved that the School under the management of the Board be free, no school fees being charged to the parents on and from the 31st Aug. 1891.” ... Object lesson to the Infants on “A Newspaper”. Average for the week 65.9

24 Aug 1891 Choir Trip to Skegness, numbers only 50 both morning and afternoon. L.Ledger absent having gone with the trip. ...

28 Aug 1891 Broke up for the Harvest Holidays a month. Duties to be resumed Sep 28th 1891. The last fees from the children were received this week. ...

28 Sep – 5 Oct 1891 Owing to the illness of the Mistress the holidays were extended to five weeks.

5 Oct 1891 School was reopened by L.Ledger my place being taken by Mr Seals. I was unable to commence work Oct 5th owing to continued illness.

12 Oct 1891 Commenced work myself. A.Aukland readmitted after an absence of 6 months illness. Admitted J.Redfern, I find the children very backward in all their work. Admitted G.Eaton. Stan.III

27 Oct 1891 Punished W.Bingham and C.Anderson for copying.

19 Nov 1891 R.Hebden, E.Bennett, G.Stamp, E.Nicholls Infant Class absent the whole week sick. ...

14-18 Dec 1891 Attendance improved. E.Allison Stan.I left and gone to Worksop.

14 Jan 1892 ... 27 boys for exam in Drawing 28 were returned to the Local Inspector but one has left and gone to live at Gainsborough. ...

25 Jan 1892 Received notice from the Medical Officer of Health that Rose Annie Hurst Infant class is suffering from "Scarlet Fever – She is not to attend school for eight weeks.

[Report – of Diocesan Inspector]

"Reading and Recitation are the best exercises, subtraction in the final Standard and Arithmetic generally, except in the fourth Standard were inaccurate. The Mental Arithmetic also seem very inefficiently practiced. The higher grammar is very moderate and hardly deserves recognition. The Needlework exhibited was better than the specimen work. Songs and general order are very pleasing."

Signed : Fred W.Wells Clerk of the Claborough School Board 5th March 1892

12 Feb 1892 Received the Drawing Report. Drawing received the mark "Good" The following children have been retained in the Infant Class. Edwin Ogle who is very delicate. John Marriott, R.E.Stubbings, Mary Gant, Jessie Bowman Hilda Eason. R.Hurst who is very delicate. ...

11-14 Apr 1891 Attendance improved. Admitted A.Murdoch, P.Murdoch, Alex. Murdoch, A.Eason, R.Bartle, A.Gant and Mabel Rogers. R.Hurst and E.Nicholls infants absent the whole week. ...

25 Apr 1892 Mary Murdoch commenced work as a Monitoress.

26 Apr 1892 Received the Diocesan Inspector's report. Work in all the Standards has been only fairly done – Children are very backward especially those who have just been admitted (*surprise?*)

26 Apr 1892 Received New Historical Readers for Standard IV. Gill's "Regina" E.Nicholl's infant and J.W.Briggs absent the whole week. Several boys have absented themselves this week in the First Class to work. ...

12 May 1892 Thursday. At a meeting of the Board it was resolved to keep M.Murdoch as monitoress until she passed the P.T's Exam. First year in October.. work throughout the Standards has been better done than last week. Children stay away for half a day for the most frivolous excuses. ...

20-24 Jun 1891 Attendance poor owing to an outbreak of measles. 34 children absent though some of them are not suffering from measles, but are prohibited from attending by the Sanitary Inspector, owing to the measles being in their homes.

27 Jun – 1st Jul 1892 Attendance very poor owing to the measles. Fresh cases have occurred every day. Have reported the outbreak to the Board and the Sanitary Inspector.

1 Jul 1892 Numbers present 22 and 18. All the Infants suffering from Measles except 2.

1 Jul 1892 Friday. School closed for a fortnight by order of the Sanitary Doctor.

18 Jul 1892 The School was ordered to be closed another week owing to the measles.

25 Jul 1892 Reopened School after closing three weeks. Attendance fair. Several children absent who are not yet allowed to come. Six boys absent at work in the fields. ...

4 Aug 1892 *General Election (July) gives Conservatives & Unionists 314 seats; Liberals 272; Irish Party 81. Salisbury remains Prime Minister.*

1-5 Aug 1892 An improvement in the attendance. The Upper Standards attend the worst, the boys being kept at home to work. The Infants have been taught by M.Murdoch.

11 Aug 1892 *Irish vote with Liberals at first important division and defeat the government; Salisbury resigns.*

15 Aug 1892 *Gladstone (82yrs) forms his fourth government.*

25 Aug 1892 At a meeting of the board, it was decided to give only a fortnights Harvest Holidays owing to the School being closed for three weeks during the time children had measles. ...

19-23 Sep 1892 Monday. Reopened School after the harvest holidays. Attendance wretched. 36 & 37 being present on Monday. The boys in the Upper Standards are at home at work in the fields, Several girls absent gleaning.

20 Sep 1892 Tuesday. Savings Bank started in the School, managed by the Rev.F.Barnes.

22 Sep 1892 School visited by the Rev.F.Barnes. The Infants class have attended badly all the week. Children are very backward in all their work owing to their very irregular attendance. ... It is impossible to secure satisfactory results with the present attendance. 21 children absent the whole week. ...

6 Oct 1892 ... E.Bennett Infant Class absent 3 weeks suffering from bad hands. ...

5 Oct 1892 Wednesday. School closed for the day the room being required for the Harvest Festival.

14 Oct 1892 Friday. A very wet day. 31 & 32 were the numbers. E.Bennett and A.Storrs are not allowed to attend school, they are suffering from an infectious disease. ...

19 Oct 1892 Wednesday. Sent Maggie Sevindin home – found she was suffering from an infectious complaint.

21 Oct 1892 Mary Murdoch absent all day through illness.

21 Oct 1892 Friday. School visited by the Sanitary Doctor (Dr.Houseley) ...

22 Oct 1892 Mary Murdoch took 1st years papers at the Pupil-Teacher Exam held at Retford.

3 Nov 1892 ... The boys in the Upper Standards stay away to work in the summer and autumn and return just 3 months before the Exam. Arthur Quayle returned to School after an absence of 10 months, he having been a voyage with his parents.

21 Nov 1892 Monday. Admitted L and J.Twidale.

8 Dec 1892 Admitted A.Wilkinson Stan.II. ...

5 Jan 1893 Received notice of the drawing Exam. ... Children do not think sufficiently before they answer. The Infants have worked well. Several children in these class live a long distance from the School, consequently they cannot attend in bad weather. ...

12 Jan 1893 Drawing Exam. Conducted by Colonel Sandford. 32 boys were presented. Mary Murdock and Agnes Murdock took free hand papers Second Grade. The Exam. Took place in the afternoon registers not marked. The girls not being present. ...

13 Jan 1893 *Independent Labour Party founded in Bradford, headed by James Keir Hardie, who was elected MP for West Ham South in 1892.*

23-27 Jan 1893 Received notice of the Examination from the Clerk which takes place Feb 6th. Hetty Bennett & A.Storrs Stan.IV H.Storrs Stan.I will not be present at the Exam. Owing to illness. They having suffered from an infectious complaint. ...

26 Jan 1893 Thursday. Dr.Houseley the Sanitary Doctor visited the School to inquire about the children who were absent from sickness. Attendance has been good throughout the School.

30 Jan – 3 Feb 1893 Attendance good. 3 children in Standards, viz Alice Storrs IV Hetty Bennett IV and H.Storrs will not be able to be present at the Exam. They having suffered from an infectious complaint; also the following infants V.Jackson Emily Bennett, Bertha Briggs and Eliza Briggs from the same cause.

31 Jan 1893 Completed the School year.

[Report]

“Reading and Recitation are particularly good, the other work except writing in the first Standard and Arithmetic in the first fifth and sixth Standards was very fair Grammar was unequal, that of the fourth standard being of no value. Mental Arithmetic should be more practised. Needlework and general order are satisfactory. The songs want sweetness and expression. The Infants’ class is in good order and fairly taught but best in arithmetic

Needlework, Drawing and singing should improve. Some desks suitable for Infants should be fitted for their use in the large school room.”

“M.Murdoch History. The name of L.Ledger, Pupil Teacher, has been removed from the Register.”

Signed: Fred W.Wells. Clerk of the Clarborough School Board 25 March 1893

F.W.Wells always puts an “ at the start of every line of his transcript of the reports!

17 Mar 1893 E.Billyard, George. Ernest. William Harry and John Redfern left to day. Redfern’s parents having left the village. ...

20 Mar 1893 Admitted E.Bowman. Work in all the Standards has been badly done owing to irregular attendance. Children kept at home for the merest trifles.

24 Mar 1893 Five children kept at home to gather wild flowers. ...

12 Apr 1893 School visited by Mr Spencer one of the members of the board, also by the Attendance officer also W.Birks Esq and Revd. F.Barnes visited the School about new desks for the Infants. Attendance fairly good. John W.Briggs Stan.IV & W.Booth Stan.V absent the whole week at work. E.Ogle & J.Bartle absent sick.

11+13 Apr 1893 School visited by the Revd. F.Barnes on both dates. Work throughout the School has not been well done. Children have been very disorderly. Punished R.Hebden for telling untruths & J.Mitchell & G.Green for copying. Object lesson to the Infants on “The Hen”. Average for the week 70.9

18-20 Apr 1893 School visited by the Revd. F.Barnes on both dates also on the 20th by W.Birks Esq. Standard II require the greatest attention in Arithmetic and spelling, although tables are given every day no improvement is shown in arithmetic. Work in Stan.V has not been well done owing to irregular attendance. The Infant class require great care. Stan.I have been very irregular, three children are kept at home to nurse while their parents go to work. Several boys absent the whole week, ??ing, planting celery and potatoes. Stan.III have worked well. Object lesson to the Infants on “The Canary”. Average for the week 70.1

22 Apr 1893 M.Murdoch signed her indentures today.

3 May 1893 Wednesday. A.Quayle left school, his parents having left the village. ...

9-11 May 1893 School visited by Revd. F.Barnes on both dates. Stan.I have been very irregular the whole week – the boys working in the fields. The girls are kept at home to nurse, while their mothers go out to work. Object lesson to the Infants on “The Nightingale”. Average for the week 70.7

15-19 May 1893 Admitted S.Johnston and W.Mitchell both are very backward.

Last entry for this Log Book made during the week of 29th May – 2nd June, 1893

Transcript prepared by G.A.Herdman (May-June, 2008)