

Extracts from School Log Books (1871-1887)

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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.

Items shown in blue are Editor's historical 'pointers' inserted to give social context – they do not appear in the Log Books and will need to be formatted differently for publication so that they are clearly indicated when printed in monochrome.

Frontpiece (Page 'A') of this book has the following dimensions recorded (a previous attempt immediately about is crossed through):

Length of School-room – 45 ft. 1 in

Breadth “ “ “ 20 “ –

Height “ “ “ 10 “ 3

Length of Class-room 16 feet

Breadth “ “ “ 10 “

Height “ “ “ 10 “ 3in.

Page 'C' has inserted (loose) the following:

Clarborough School Sept. 17/24

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find three Log Books dating from 1871 – 1899.

Yours obediently

E.F. Stephenson.

The Director of Education

Shire Hall

Nottingham

No inserts to rest of 'lettered' pages. Log book entries proper begin on May 1st, 1871.

1 May 1871 Clarborough Mixed School. This day I (Ellen Robinson) took the charge of the above named school. It has not been placed under government but is to be, though it has been subject to the Inspector's visits. I have not been able today to find out the childrens attainments so as to place them in the various standards.

2 May 1871 The Infant Department is confined to the Classroom, which I do not approve of, as they are only placed under a monitor. I cannot feel that they are sufficiently cared

for, so I hope to take them to the large room where I can have them rather more under my own eye.

3 May 1871 The Rev. H.C.Binns gave the Scripture lesson to the 1st and 2nd Class, during which I took the 3rd Class to the Class room & gave them a Scripture lesson.
Editing note: through this period Rev.H.C.Binns seems to have 'visited' at least twice weekly.

4 May 1871 Having had several complaints from the parents about the monitors being unkind to the little ones, I removed them to the large room which caused a delay of 15min opening school.

16 Jun 1871 *University Test Act: removes requirement of religious tests for students entering Oxford and Cambridge universities.*

29 Jun 1871 *Trade Union Act: legalizes unions by recognising their status as 'friendly societies'.*

5 Jul 1871 This morning have received the sad news that a dear Brother is dead very suddenly. The Rev.H.C.Binns kindly came in school & taught for me till eleven. In the afternoon I reopened school it then closed 4(?) closed at three as I was obliged to go to Retford in the afternoon.

6 Jul 1871 School worked as usual.

20 Jul 1871 *Queen Victoria gives assent to royal warrant abolishing purchase of army commissions.*

1 Aug 1871 The children have a half holiday as their annual tea feast is celebrated today. Upwards of 70 children partook of an excellent repast.

7 Aug 1871 *First Bank Holiday following recent enactment of John Lubbock's Bank Holiday Bill, giving three leisure breaks between Spring and Autumn each year.*

24 Aug 1871 Closed school for the harvest vacation. I also resign the office of School Mistress of the Clarboro' School, am extremely to do so as I have been so thoroughly happy while engaged here, but I felt it my duty to do so, owing to having had an offer of a school in the immediate neighbourhood where my husband resides. I trust the situation may be filled by one who will be able to keep the position & be the means of much good to the dear children (who though I have been so short a time among them) have learned to love. My earnest though humble prayer is that I may meet them all in heaven.

25 Sep 1871 (*Eliza Jukes*) First(?) took charge of this school, which I found very deficient in order, and notation. Opened the school with 53 children the Rev.H.C.Binns present for an hour.

28 Sep 1871 Taught reading, writing and Scripture. In the afternoon, Arithmetic and Vocal Music' also had many children for sewing, which had been much neglected.

12 Oct 1871 Examined the 1st Class in Arithmetic. Taught reading and writing. Tables to the Whole school.

19 Oct 1871 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns who examined the 1st Class in reading and Arithmetic.

25 Oct 1871 The II Standard rather dull in working questions in Arithmetic. Taught reading and writing.

26 Oct 1871 Great improvement in the reading of the two lower classes.

15 Nov 1871 Ordinary progress.

24 Nov 1871 Taught Notation to the I standard, and reading, writing to the II & III. Music to the whole school.

4 Dec 1871 Rev. H.C.Binns & Mrs present at the music lesson, pleased with the way the children answered the questions put to them & read the Notes.

22 Dec 1871 Broke up for the Xmas Vacation.

1 Jan 1872 Re-opened school after the Xmas holidays. Visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

2 Jan 1872 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns, Mrs Binns, Mr & Mrs Merryweather; Mr Merryweather examined the writing & thought it very creditable on the whole, the circumstances of the school being taken into Consideration.

8 Jan 1872 Examined the whole school in Arithmetic. School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns.

10 Jan 1872 A Public Examination of the School, by the Rev.W.J.K.Disney, Rev.H.C.Binns, Mr Brooks & myself. The above gentlemen & gentlemen and ladies present expressed their satisfaction at the progress made by the children.

17 Jan 1872 Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic. Many children away, suffering from Influenza.

18 Jan 1872 School continues small, 30 children away from illness, either of themselves or parents.

30 Jan 1872 Received word from Her Majesty's Inspector, postponing his visit until February 26th.

8 Feb 1872 School examined by the Rev.C.Sewell, Her Majesty's Inspector. Songs; As Tommy walking, etc.
March (Gallery Song.)
Pitter Patter. The Clock. The Fox. Spring.

26 Feb 1872 Inspectors' Report. "This School open 9 months has already suffered from a change of Teacher. The present Teacher appears capable and a very fair beginning has been made. Arithmetic and Notation are weak. The order is pleasing."
L.Warburton – Geography.
Eliza Manners (?) Jukes – Mistress certificated.
Lucy Warburton – Pupil Leader 1st year.
Henry C(?) Binns – Manager.

6 Mar 1872 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns and 3 ladies. One little boy away with a broken thigh caused by an engine passing over him after he left school the previous evening. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

16 Mar 1872 *First F.A. Cup Final, at Kennington Oval: Wanderers beat Royal Engineers 1-0; only 16 clubs entered the competition.*

27 Mar 1872 Arithmetic weak in Standard 1st. Taught writing and Arithmetic. Broke up for Easter Holidays.

24 Apr 1872 3 children away ill. Taught a Song to the little ones.

29 Apr 1872 Received word of the death of one of the Scholars, who had been from school ill. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

2 May 1872 Taught reading – writing and Arithmetic. After prayers in the evening the scholars followed the remains of their little schoolfellow to the grave.
(During this period Rev.H.C.Binns often visited at least twice a week)

29 May 1872 *Joseph Arch establishes the National Agricultural Labourers' Union to fight for better wages.*

25 Jun 1872 School visited by Rev.H.C.Binns who gave the Catechism Lesson to the whole school. Numbers low owing to the Feast (?) in the village.

28 Jun 1872 Taught reading, writing & Arithmetic. Examined the 2nd Standard in Arithmetic found the children improved in that standard. Pupil Teacher gave reading to 2nd Class.

5 Jul 1872 Examined Standard 4 in Arithmetic, found them improving especially in Solving a question.

18 Jul 1872 *Ballot Act to ensure secrecy at elections; first secret ballot is at Pontefract by-election on 15th August.*

22 July 1872 School Feast. School visited by Rev. H.C.Binns, Rev.J.W.Disney, Rev.M.C.Bird & several ladies and gentlemen.

23 Jul 1872 Children very tired from the effects of the Tea Feast (?)

30 Jul 1872 Taught reading – writing & Arithmetic. Punished a child for throwing stones.

31 Jul 1872 *Licensing Act limits hours and places at which alcoholic liquor may be consumed.*

8 Aug 1872 Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic. Numbers beginning to fall off owing to the commencement of the harvest.

9 Aug 1872 Taught reading – writing and Arithmetic. Cricket Match in connection with the school in which the largest boys of the school were engaged.

14 Aug 1872 Numbers low, children away gleaning.

15 Aug 1872 Broke up for Harvest Holidays.

16 Sep 1872 Re-opened school after the holidays.

17 Sep 1872 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns.

19 Sep 1872 Holiday. Harvest Festival.

20 Sep 1872 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns, Mrs & Miss Walker.

30 Sep 1872 Examined the whole school in reading.

9 Oct 1872 Punished a boy for throwing stones, taught reading – writing and Arithmetic.

16 Oct 1872 School Inspected by the Rev.J.Cusins Diocesan Inspector, who spoke in a very satisfactory manner, as to the Religious Knowledge of the children - .

24 Oct 1872 Taught reading writing & Tables. Received the following Report from the Diocesan Inspector. “A very satisfactory and promising school. The manner of the children was good, & they took an evident interest in their work. The singing was very fair.” Fred J.Cusins General Inspector.

8 Nov 1872 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns & Rev.J.Beale.

15 Nov 1872 Taught writing. The 1st Class a little improved in Dictation & also in Composition.

16 Nov 1872 Standard III rather backward in the Application of the Rules of Arithmetic.

13 Dec 1872 Taught reading – writing & Arithmetic. Punished a little girl for taking another dinner.

17 Dec 1872 Broke up the Xmas Holidays.

30 Dec 1872 School reopened after holidays.

1 Jan 1873 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns who taught Scripture to the 1st three classes whilst I gave a similar one to lower classes.

28 Jan 1873 Pupil Teacher taught Arithmetic under my Superintendance, to the 2nd Class.

30 Jan 1873 Examined the Arithmetic in Standard II which had been committed for a fortnight to the Pupil Teacher. Taught reading writing and Arithmetic.

3 Feb 1873 A very snowy day, numbers low. Taught reading writing and Arithmetic.

4 Feb 1873 Very wet, numbers still low.

6 Feb 1873 The School visited by the Rev.C.Sewell Her Majesty’s Inspector.

10 Feb 1873 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns. Raised up the classes a standard. Appointed the Pupil Teacher her work for a month. List of Songs presented to Her Majesty’s Inspector. The Sea Gulls, The Violet, The River, The Swing, Poor Old Man, The Slave’s Dream, Give me a draught, Have Courage to do Right, The Children’s hour, Strive to Learn, The cowslip, The Snowdrop.

Infants’ List.
The slave’s Dream, The Snowdrop, Strive to Learn, The River, The Violet, The Swing, Pieces for Recitation, The dew was falling fast, A must not tease my mother, Lady bird, The little girls’ good night.

11 Feb 1873 Taught reading writing & Arithmetic. Spent $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour in technical instruction to the Pupil Teacher.

17 Feb 1873 Received the report of the Bishop as to the success of the pupil Teacher at the scripture Examination. She obtained a 2nd class Certificate. School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns.

21 Feb 1873 Pupil Teacher gave a Geography Lesson to the 1st two classes under my Superintendance.

26 Feb 1873 Pupil Teacher gave a Grammar Lesson to the 1st three classes under my Superintendance.

28 Feb 1873 Taught reading writing & Arithmetic. A little girl away with Scarlet fever.

31 Feb 1873 (*this date error was uncorrected!*) Received the Report of Her Majesty’s Inspector. Taught reading – writing & Arithmetic.

Copy of Report.

The School has made some progress since last year. The order and singing are very satisfactory. Reading is good but the characters (?) of the writing should be rounder (?) and more regular. Arithmetic in all standards must be improved. Unless there are better results in this subject next year the grant will receive (?) a deduction under article 32/61. Eight children are disqualified under article 19/(?)/1 from bringing any good to the school.

L.Warburton (Grammar & Geography)

Henry C(?) Binns (Manager)

12 Mar 1873 Taught Geography, Reading & Writing. 3 boys left, to go to a Master's School.

24 Mar 1873 Admitted 3 fresh Scholars. 2 Children away ill.

1 Apr 1873 Taught reading, writing, & Arithmetic. A family of children away owing to Scarlet fever being in the house.

21 Apr 1873 School visited by Rev.H.C.Binns. 7 children away through Scarlet Fever being in the house.

5 May 1873 School visited by Rev.H.C.Binns. 4 children returned after Scarlet fever. 1 little girl away ill. Numbers low, owing to the children being engaged in picking Cowslips, and other field occupations.

7 Jul 1873 Many children absent, being engaged in the hay fields. 3 children gone to Lpool (?) for some weeks.

30 Jul 1873 Sent Pupil Teacher home poorly.

31 Jul 1873 Pupil Teacher Absent, owing to illness. Many children absent, gone with Trip to Cleethorpes.

6 Aug 1873 School Feast.

11 Aug 1873 School visited by Rev.H.C.Binns who taught Scripture. Numbers very low owing to the Commencement of harvest.

14 Aug 1873 Broke up for the harvest holidays, one month.

11 Nov 1873 Scriptural Examination by the Diocesan Inspector.

5 Dec 1873 Received the Diocesan Report of the School; the substance of which is as follows.

"The Answers were accurately given to most of the questions. The children gave evidence of being very carefully instructed. Paper work was attempted by five of the scholars, with but moderate success" L(?) Hardy District Inspector

9 Dec 1873 Altered the Secular work of the Time Table, finding it impractical to work.

12 Jan 1874 Reopened School after the holidays – several children away with Measles.

27 Jan 1874 Taught reading – writing & Arithmetic received the paper from Her Majesty's Inspector informing of his visit.

2 Feb 1874 School visited by the Rev.J.W.K.Disney & the Rev.H.C.Binns. 68 children present, being the highest ever present during the last two years.

2 Feb 1874 *General Election: results finally published 17 February: Conservatives 350, Liberals 245, Irish Home Rule 57.*

11 Feb 1874 School visited by Her Majesty's Inspector who examined List of Songs (Infants)

The Swing, Fairy Song, Little Nellie, Those evening bells, The Mill, The little Scarecrow. Recitation

The Pedlar's Caravan, The sparrow, Glad to see you little bird, The fairy ring, That's the way for Billy and me.

School Song for the Elder children.

Excelsior, Fairy song, Little Nellie, Those evening bells, The Mill, The River, The Gulls, The little Scarecrow, Old John had an Apple tree, Robin Redbreast, Little (?), Song of the Grass.

Copy of Report received March 9.74

I regret to be unable to report any improvement on the work of last year. The faults noticed have not been repaired. Reading is the only satisfactory exercise. The (?) under

all the singing (?) and leaving all of very fair character. The infant class is only moderately instructed. Better work might undoubtedly be expected from the teaching staff employed. On the above report my (?) feel compelled to withhold (?) of the fault for defective instruction. (article 32/b/1). Their funds help (?) me to remind you that under this Article a heavier deduction might be (?) another year if no better results were obtained. J.(?) and W.Stevenson returned last year as over six were disqualified by age for further presentation under article 19/B/1(?)
Henry C(?) Binns Manager.

The hand of this report is so difficult that others must try to make more sense of it.

20 Feb 1874 *First organised strike of agricultural labourers begins (to 10 August); spreads from Suffolk to much of eastern England.*

25 Mar 1874 Many children away, being employed in Agricultural work. Taught reading – writing and Arithmetic. School visited by Rev.H.C.Binns.

15 Apr 1874 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns & the Rev.A.C.Downes. Receive a Gratuity of £3-0-0 for teaching the Pupil teacher. Taught reading – writing & Arithmetic. The writing in the 1st and 2nd Standards improving. The Arithmetic in Standard one rather below the mark.

27 Apr 1874 A Monitor provided this day. Taught reading, writing, and Arithmetic. Many children absent gathering Cowslips and gardening, etc.

1 Jun 1874 Reopened school after the holidays. Taught reading – writing – and Arithmetic. Many children absent engaged in Agricultural employment.

3 Jul 1874 Taught reading – Arithmetic & Dictation. Average for week 58.

29 Jul 1874 School Feast.

4 Aug 1874 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns. Numbers low, owing to the Commencement of harvest.

7 Aug 1874 School Closed for Harvest Holidays.

30 Aug 1874 *Factory Act: 56-hour week; further safeguards to protect children from employment as chimney sweeps.*

7 Sep 1874 Reopened the school after the harvest holidays. Numbers low, several children being absent owing to Scarlet fever being in the families.

10 Nov 1874 School examined by the Rev.J.Hardy the Diocesan Inspector. Present the Rev.H.C.Binns & 2 Misses Binns & 3 ladies. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

22 Nov 1874 Very wet, cold day, numbers low.

25 Nov 1874 Snow, only 18 children present. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

11 Dec 1874 Snow, low numbers in morning, higher in Afternoon.

14 Dec 1874 Received the Scripture Report from the Diocesan Inspector which is as follows

Old Testament	Good
New Testament	Good
Catechism	Good
Repetition of Scripture	Good
Hymns – Repetition	Very Good
Hymns – Singing	Good
Repetition of Private Prayers	Fair

The Infants Answered fairly well.
A.Hardy District Inspector.

21 Dec 1874 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns. The weather still very severe, hindering the little ones from attending. Several absences from colds.

23 Dec 1874 Broke up for the Xmas Holidays.

4 Jan 1875 Reopened school after the Xmas holidays.

6 Jan 1875 Pupil Teacher gave 6 months notice to leave.

26 Jan 1875 Received Notice for the School Examination, from Her Majesty's Inspector. School visited by Mrs. Heather. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

5 Feb 1875 School Examined by Her Majesty's Inspector; present Rev.H.C.Binns, Rev. W.J.K.Disney.

9 Feb 1875 Half a day's holiday being Shrove Tuesday.

25 Feb 1875 A very snowy day, only 36 children present.

8 Mar 1875 Received the Inspector's Report of the School.

"The work of the school is still of most moderate quality – especially in writing and arithmetic; and there is little perceptible sign of improvement. The children are very orderly and the Infants are fairly interested. The singing is tolerable and the services? particularly good. It is to be regretted that the services of the pupil Teacher dispensed with. A School of this size can hardly be worked single handed by the strongest teacher. One(?) teach is again deducted from the grant for defective instruction, especially in writing and Arithmetic (Article 32(C1)).

My last hope that strenuous efforts will be made to ? the condition of this school before the next inspection."

The name of Lucy Warburton has been removed from the register of Pupil Teachers.

Henry C.Binns

School Manager.

15 Mar 1875 Taught Grammar to the 2nd, 3rd, 4th & 5th Standards. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

17 Mar 1875 Several boys away potato setting; 2 children absent from sickness.

23 Mar 1875 Half holiday, being Retford Fair.

5 Apr 1875 Reopened school after Easter Holidays. New Monitor Appointed.

26 Apr 1875 Many children absent being engaged in Agricultural work. School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns.

24 May 1875 Reopened school after a week's holiday. Many children absent tending radishes.

25 May 1875 School visited by Mrs Hayward and Miss Fowler; also by the Rev.H.C.Binns & Rev. – Fuller – Examined Standard III (*should this read Standard II?*) in Dictation and found them considerably improved. Dictation in Standard III still very inferior, in Standard IV a considerable improvement. Ordered new Reading books and a new Map of the World.

1 Jun 1875 Many children absent, it being the Chapel Sunday School Feast. (*What day of the week is this?*)

2 Jun 1875 Taught Grammar to Standards 3, 4 & 5. children improving nicely. School visited by Mrs Hill and 2 ladies.

7 Jun 1875 School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns who overlooked the writing in Standard I. Taught reading, writing Grammar and Geography – 60 children present, being more than have attended altogether the last 2 months.

17 Jun 1875 Taught reading – Pupil Teacher gave the Scripture Lesson. 5 children away engaged in Agricultural work.

18 Jun 1875 Mistress poorly, school closed half the day.

21 Jun 1875 Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

1 Jul 1875 Wet day numbers low.

7 Jul 1875 Holiday. Children taken to the Sea Side for a trip.

8 Jul 1875 Pupil Teacher's time up to leave, after giving 6 months notice.

13 Jul 1875 School visited by Mrs Heather. Taught subtraction to Standard I. Monitor works well – her class gives signs of evident improvement.

21 Jul 1875 School visited by Mrs Strong, Miss Bradshaw and Miss Strong. A monitor appointed this week for the little ones.

31 Jul 1875 *Public Health Act consolidates over 100 local Acts into a national code of sanitation.*

13 Aug 1875 *Artisans Dwellings Act gives local authorities power to purchase and replace insanitary buildings.*

13 Aug 1875 *Agricultural Holdings Act: displaced tenants to receive compensation for improvements.*

13 Aug 1875 *Sale of Goods Act: provides basic protection against adulteration.*

13 Aug 1875 *Conspiracy & Protection of Property Act legalises peaceful picketing by trade unions.*

14 Aug 1875 Broke up for 5 weeks' holiday.

20 Sep 1875 Reopened School after the Harvest holidays. Numbers low, many away gleaning – 2 absent from Whooping Cough – School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns.

23 Sep 1875 Sent home a little girl with Whooping Cough.

20 Oct 1875 School visited by Mr Heather who taught Arithmetic to Standards 3 & 4. Holiday in the Afternoon, Mistress poorly.

26 Oct 1875 Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

11 Nov 1875 Diocesan Inspection in the Afternoon. Inspector Rev.A.Hardy. School visited by Rev.H.C.Binns.

15 Nov 1875 5 children away with Whooping Cough.

6 Dec 1875 Very snowy morning. Numbers low. School visited by the Rev.H.C.Binns who gave Dictation to Standards 3 & 4. Many children away poorly.

7 Dec 1875 Monitor away poorly all day.

8 Dec 1875 Monitor present today. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

15 Dec 1875 Examined Class Room and was pleased with the way the Monitor taught the Infants; also with their work.

3 Jan 1876 Reopened School. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic. School visited by Rev.H.C.Binns.

11 Jan 1876 Holiday in the morning, occasioned (*sic*) by the Marriage of the Rev.H.C.Binns.

3 Feb 1876 School visited by Mrs Binns and Miss Cottam, who heard the children sing and examined the Needlework.

23 Feb 1876 School Examined by G(?) C.Mills Esq, Her Majesty's Inspector. Rev.H.C.Binns present.

29 Feb 1876 School Feast holiday in the Afternoon. Copy of Medical Certificate by Dr.Savile of Retford "This is to certify that Madeline Heather of Clareborough is in a sound state of bodily health" January 22nd 1876.

6 Mar 1876 Received the Schedule from Her Majesty's Inspector. School visited by the Rev.H.C. Mrs.Binns. (*Note: items underlined were partially or completely struck through – whole entry for this day is very scruffy*)

7 Mar 1876 Monitor away owing to the dangerous illness of her sister.

23 Mar 1876 Half holiday being Retford Fair – received the Report from Committee of Council

Copy of Report

I am sorry to say that the condition of the School has not apparently improved since last inspection. Needlework is the only subject well known, while both spelling and Arithmetic are decidedly bad. The Treasurer's account shows an increasing debt prejudicial to the interests of the School.

My (?) have ordered a deduction of one tenth from the grant for faults of (?) shown by H.M.Inspectors' Report, and the results of the examination. Article 32(b) Unless decided improvement is shown next year, a more severe deduction may be imposed.

W.Green, having been returned last year as over six, was disqualified by age for further presentation under Article 19 (B) 1.

M Heather Geography.

Henry C.Binns Manager.

(Editor's Note: once again, this report is in a very difficult hand and would repay revisiting)

28 Mar 1876 School visited by Mr Binns to take the children's Club Money. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

13 Apr 1876 Broke up for the Easter holidays. Very snowy day – numbers low.

24 Apr 1876 Reopened School after the Easter vacation with 60 present – school visited by Mrs Binns. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic.

12 May 1876 Half holiday in the Afternoon. Taught reading, writing and Arithmetic in the morning. Numbers low, many of the children being engaged in Agricultural labour, and others gone to the “Review” at Grove.

18 May 1876 School very thin, most of the children being engaged in Agricultural work.

30 May 1876 School visited by Mrs Binns who was present at the Arithmetic lesson. Taught reading, history and Geography. A little girl away dangerously ill – also many away pulling radishes.

12 Jun 1876 Reopened school after the holidays. Numbers low, owing to the Chapel Anniversary.

22 Jun 1876 I, Eliza Manners Jukes, this day resign my situation as Mistress of the Clareborough School and am extremely sorry to do so. I hope the situation may be filled by one who will be able to keep the position.

10 Jul 1876 (Monday) Took charge of Clareborough School on Monday July 10th. Number present 42. The school had been closed for a fortnight. The Rev.H.C.Binns read prayers this morning & gave a Scripture lesson on Wednesday to Classes I & II. F.B.Hemming.

(Editor's note: the ink/hand from here through to 28th June 1878 is very difficult to decipher (pages 81-96 on Log book))

21 Jul 1876 (Friday) The Rev.H.C.Binns visited school on Wednesday & Thursday & took Class I for Reading & Scripture. Admitted J.Cobb.

10 Aug 1876 (Thursday) Broke up for Harvest Holidays. Several older children away the week at work. I intend to discontinue the extra subjects for this year to devote the time to.....undecipherable line.

11 Sep 1876 (Monday) Commenced School duties after a month's holiday. School visited on Friday by Rev H.C. & Mrs Binns.

20 Nov 1876 (Monday) A good attendance morning & afternoon.

21 Nov 1876 (Tuesday) The Diocesan Inspector the Rev.A.Hardy examined the school in Scripture. Half holiday in the afternoon.

1 Dec 1876 (Friday) Very wet morning attendance reduced in consequence.

4 Dec 1876 Admitted S.B. & N.Pass to present 66.

1 Jan 1877 *Queen Victoria is proclaimed Empress of India at Delhi.*

8 Jan 1877 Admitted H.C. & E.Hayward to present 39. Gave a lesson in Geography in the afternoon.

22 Feb 1877 (Thursday) Average this week 37. A whole holiday on Friday in consequence of Retford Fair.

9 Apr 1877 (Monday) Attendance not good to-day – reduced by Retford Races to which many of the elder children went.

4 May 1877 (Monday) Average attendance 3 less than previous week. Some boys at work and some children with measles.

23 May 1877 (Friday) The attendance has improved a little this week but many still ill with measles. The attendance Officer called this morning for a list of irregular children between the ages of 3 & 9. Mr & Mrs Ward visited school & remained for the Singing lesson.

2 Jun 1877 Pupil Teacher was examined at Retford.

11 Jun 1877 (Monday) To present 69. The attendance has improved a little since the Officer has called at the homes of the irregular children.

20 Jun 1877 (Wednesday) Inspection. M.J.Barrington-Ward M.A. H.M.Inspector.

25 Jun 1877 (Monday) Half holiday in the Afternoon being Clarborough Fair.

19 Jul 1877 (Thursday) A Whole holiday. The children of the Sunday School were taken to Cleethorpes.

27 Jul 1877 (Friday) Many boys absent from school engaged in field work.

16 Aug 1877 (Thursday) School closed for the Harvest Holidays.

Copy of Inspector's report

The change produced by the new Mistress is very marked. The children can now read well. The girls sew very neatly, Arithmetic has improved and discipline is excellent. There is every prospect of the school becoming a thoroughly good one, provided that its financial difficulties can be overcome.

M.Heather has been passed fairly.

Henry Ch(?) Binns

School Manager July 30.1877

1 Oct 1877 (Monday) Commenced school with 39 children. Many away gleaning barley.

10 Oct 1877 (Wednesday) I found the children of Standard II have gone back in Arithmetic during the holidays but I intend taking them for a week or two instead of the Pupil Teacher in order to work up the backward ones.

12 Nov 1877 (Monday) Admitted E & A.Chambers. Five children have left school owing to their parents changing situations.

10 Dec 1877 Admitted H.Beach & H.Harrison. ...

21 Dec 1877 (Friday) school for Christmas Holidays. Mr Hayward called at ten minutes to four with a supply of oranges & sweets which he distributed amongst the children who were of course well pleased at such(*undecipherable*)

13 Jan 1878 (Wednesday) G.Wheat & H.Storrs left school at 2.30 to go to work in the fields.

11 Feb 1878 *Meteorological Office issues first weekly weather report.*

28 Feb 1878 (Thursday) Several boys away working in the fields.

18 Apr 1878 (Thursday) Many children absent from school working in the fields.

26 Apr 1878 (Friday) Mr Bowes (the attendance Officer) called at school to make enquiries of G. & H. H(?) & F. & Fred Johnson who are very irregular in their attendance.

6 May 1878 Admitted A & E.Clarkson & F.Grove.

17 May 1878 (Friday) The attendance this week very bad – elder boys working in gardens pulling radishes many little ones prevented from coming by the wet weather. The attendance officer called for a list of irregular ones in the afternoon.

20 May 1878 Admitted C.Slight & an Tuesday re-admitted A & S.Anderson.

25 May 1878 *Gilbert & Sullivan's HMS Pinafore first performed at Opera Comique, Strand, London.*

17 Jun 1878 (Monday) Admitted H.J. & E.Bovill to present this morning 61.

28 Jun 1878 (Friday) The attendance to-day much lessened in consequence of the Review at Wiseton. On Monday many were absent, being the Village Feast.

Inspection July 6 1878 M.J.Barrington-Ward M.A. H.M.Inspector.

Copy of Report

Great care has been taken with the instruction and the children are in excellent order. The examination has been fairly successful but the attendance is at present so irregular that it is impossible to secure thoroughly satisfactory results.

M.Heather's name has been removed from the register of Pupil Teachers serving in the school.

Henry C.Binns School Manager.

8 Jul 1878 The Pupil Teacher M/Heather has left & gone into the Post Office at Retford. C.Hayward has commenced duties as monitor.

18 Jul 1878 (Thursday) Holiday the whole day. Children attending the Sunday School taken to Cleethorpes.

19 Jul (Friday) The Rev.H.C.Binns closed the school until the School Board should decide to (?) open it.

2 Sep 1878 (Monday) School re-opened after being closed for six weeks. Numbers very low.

12 Sep 1878 (Thursday) Clarboro' Flower Show to(?) Present in the morning 22, in the afternoon 10.

18 Sep 1878 (Wednesday) The annual tea in connection with the Harvest Thanksgiving took place this afternoon (Half holiday).

27 Sep 1878 (Friday) Attendance rather better this week but many still absent.

2 Oct 1878 (Wednesday) Half holiday in the afternoon in consequence of Retford Fair.

11 Oct 1878 (Friday) More children have attended this week than since the Harvest Holidays. I find a great difficulty in carrying on the work of the school being without pencils and having so few slates, the books also of Standard II are very imperfect. No monitor or pupil teachers since July 18th.

16 Oct 1878 *British troops enter Afghanistan after Amir Yakub refuses to receive British envoy at Kabul.*

14 Oct 1878 (Monday) H., E & C. Chambers returned to school after absence of several months. Also William Cobb who has been at work for more than a year.

5 Nov 1878 (Tuesday) This day resign the charge of Clarboro' School. I hope my successor will not have the difficulty with the attendance that I have. F.B.Hemming.

6 Nov 1878 Wednesday. I Frances Seals took charge of Clarborough School. Number present 61.

7 Nov 1878 Thursday. I find Standard I very backward in Arithmetic and writing. Gave a lesson to Standard II on multiplication. The attendance this afternoon was 57.

8 Nov 1878 Friday. The attendance was very poor today. Gave a writing lesson to Standard I and examined all the Standard children in Arithmetic. Average for the week 54.

12 Nov 1878 Tuesday. School visited by Revd. C.H.(sic) Binns. Only 29 children present – owing to bad weather.

14 Nov 1878 Thursday. School visited by Rev.H.C.Binns. The reading in Standard II is very bad.

15 Nov 1878 Friday. Attendance still very poor. Only 2 infants were present – Examined all classes in Arithmetic. The result was anything but satisfactory. Average attendance for the week 41.

18 Nov 1878 Monday. School visted by the Revd. H.C.Binns in the morning and by the members of the School Board in the afternoon – Readmitted G.Wheat.

21 Nov 1878 Thursday. At a meeting of the School Board – Caroline Gant was appointed permanent monitor – half holiday.

27 Nov 1878 Wednesday. I gave the first and second classes writing instead of Arithmetic owing to the bad spelling in all the standards, home lessons have been given (*first reference to homework?*)

28 Nov 1878 Thursday. I find great difficulty in working by the time table being without a pupil-teacher. Changes two lessons today namely Arithmetic instead of writing in the first two classes.

29 Nov 1878 Friday. Numbers very low 48 present this morning and 45 this afternoon. Examined all the Standards. Results were much better. The Infants have been in the School room today. Average for the week 52.3

5 Dec 1878 Thursday. Gave a Geography lesson to Standard IV and one on Grammar to Standard V.

18 Dec 1878 Wednesday. Examined the Infants in reading. Owing to my not having a pupil teacher, the Infants are almost entirely under a monitor.

18 Dec 1878 *Joseph Swan demonstrates his incandescent electric lamp in Newcastle.*

20 Dec 1878 Friday. The numbers were very low today. Broke up for a weeks holiday. Duties to commence Dec 30th 1878. Average for the week 51.3

Having given a fairly detailed review of the Log Book from 1871 to this point (top of page 105) I propose to take a more rapid transit of the remaining pages (to page 500), picking out only those points that seem to me most noteworthy.

2 Jan 1879 Thursday. Highest numbers present since Nov 18th. The attendance officer has now been appointed by the board so that attendance will increase.

21 Jan 1879 Admitted Elizabeth Wislow who had not been since 1877. ...

28 Jan 1879 Tuesday. The monitor again absent from illness. Copy book writing was nicely done in Standard I. Dictation is still very deficient in Standard II. Attendance still improves. 60 present this morning and 59 this afternoon.

3 Feb 1879 Monday. Many children still away through illness. The infants have been on the gallery all day.

10 Feb 1879 ... Readmitted Eliza Chambers who had not been to school for more than a a(sic) year – the Infants have been in the large room this afternoon.

11 Feb 1879 Tuesday. Have taught the Infants a new song. Heard them repeat their recitations. Not having yet the services of a pupil-teacher – I find it extremely difficult to work all the Standards alone.

10 Mar 1879 Monday. Many children away working in the fields.

17 Mar 1879 Monday. Many children still absent. Several infants came back today who had been away several months.

17 Apr 1879 Thursday. School visited by the Attendance officer. The School Board have given me Authority to fill in the Childs School Book, and have decided to dispense with the certificate from the Registrar.

29 Apr 1879 Tuesday. Received notice of Her Majesty's Inspector's visit. The Inspection is fixed for Friday May 2nd.

2 May 1879 Friday. The School was examined by the Revd. C.Sewell H.M.Inspector. Average for the week 64.

11 Jun 1879 Wednesday. Several girls have not yet returned to School, they being at work.

Copy of Report
 This school gives promise of success in the hands of the present Mistress. The numbers have increased and the order is good but the work throughout is of very moderate quality. Sewing is passable but Grammar is very imperfect. The Infants class should both read and write better. Some reading Sheets are wanted. The singing is satisfactory.

10 Jun 1879 (*Signed - indecipherable*) School Correspondent

20 Jun 1879 Friday. Many children are absent today. The members of the School Board are going to visit the School once a month. Many children are ill. Average for the week 59.4

24 Jun 1879 A whole day holiday on account of the village feast.

14 Jul 1879 Monday. A very good attendance. 71 present this afternoon.

18 Aug 1879 Monday. School visited by the Attendance Officer. Owing to an outbreak of fever among the children, many are prohibited from attending by the Sanitary Inspector.

21 Aug 1879 Thursday. At a meeting of the School Board it was decided to close the school for one month.

22 Aug 1879 Friday. Attendance very poor 43 present this morning and 40 this afternoon. School broke up for harvest holidays – to recommence Sep 22nd. Average for the week 51.4

29 Sep 1879 Monday. School reopened after the Harvest Holidays. Children had five weeks holiday instead of one month. Attendance was very poor only 47 present. School visited by Mr & Mrs Clater. Also by the Rev.G.R(?)oworth.

20 Oct 1879 Monday. Admitted J.Wand, M.Worthington. 61 children both morning and afternoon.

31 Oct 1879 Friday. A whole holiday the room being required for the Harvest Festival. Average for the week 53.6.

3 Nov 1879 Monday. Number present 63. G.Anderson and A.Shelton returned to school having been absent since May.

12 Nov 1879 Wednesday. Attendance very bad 13 children absent gleaning.

24 Nov 1879 Monday. One boy returned who has had the fever – 10 yet remain away. Took standard II for Reading and Arithmetic.

1 Dec 1879 Monday. A very snowy day. 31 present in the morning and 36 in the afternoon.

9 Dec 1879 Tuesday. Two more children returned who have had the fever. Gave a Grammar lesson to Standard II.

5 Jan 1880 Monday. School reopened after Christmas holidays. Have not yet got a pupil teacher, the Board are again advertising for one. 65 present this morning and 62 in the afternoon. Sent a list of absentees to the Attendance Officer.

7 Jan 1880 Wednesday. A. Eaton one of the monitors gave a week's notice.

28 Jan 1880 Wednesday. Annie Maria Middleton was elected by the Board to be a pupil-teacher.

12 Feb 1880 Thursday. Two children away ill from Fever – which has broken out again in the village. Many infants away suffering from colds.

25 Feb 1880 Wednesday. A whole holiday in consequence of my attendance being required at the Audit of the School Board and the registers being wanted.

24 Mar 1880 Many children absent it being Retford Fair.

5 Apr 1880 Monday. Many children away at work. Only 46 present this afternoon – Received the Schedule from Mr Wells the Clerk to the Board.

3 Apr 1880 *Gilbert & Sullivan's The Pirates of Penzance first performed at Opera Comique, Strand, London.*

16 Apr 1880 Friday. Attendance very poor in Standards IV and II. Several children who have made these times are away at work in the fields and have been absent all the week – It is impossible to keep the children well up in their Standard work, as the attendance is so irregular. Average for the week 57.3

18 Apr 1880 *General Election: Liberals 353, Conservatives 238, Irish Home Rulers 61.*

22 Apr 1880 Thursday. Received notice of H.M. Inspector's visit, which is on the 5th of May. A.M. Middleton received notice to attend the general examination of pupil-teachers at Nottingham.

5 May 1880 Wednesday. General inspection conducted by Mr Hall and Mr Oliver. Mr Clater the Chairman of the board and Mr Barkstone (?) were present.

Copy of Report

The order is good. The Standard work satisfactory on the whole. The only weak points being Arithmetic in the third Standard, and writing in the fourth Standard, while Reading in the upper Standards lacks intelligence. The Specimens are fair so is the singing. The Infants are fairly taught but backward in numbers. More desks are needed. The clerk of the Board was not present on the day of examination and the portfolio was not forthcoming.

2 Jun 1880 F.W.W. Wells (*hand very difficult*) School Correspondent

7 Jun 1880 (*Monday*) Only 22 present this morning and 23 this afternoon – owing to the children attending the Chapel Sunday School having their treat.

21 Jun 1880 Monday. 67 present this morning. Admitted Terzate(??) Bower. Have taken Standard I the whole of this afternoon.

24 Jun 1880 Thursday. A half holiday it being Clarborough Feast.

5 Jul 1880 Monday. Many children absent at work in the fields.

25 Aug 1880 Wednesday. Many children absent at work in the Harvest fields.

27 Aug 1880 Friday. Broke up for Harvest Holidays. The Board gave one month, but if the weather was unfavourable five weeks. Average for the week 44.3

6-8 Sep 1880 *First Test Match played in England: Australia lose to England at Kennington Oval.*

4 Oct 1880 Monday. Commenced School after five weeks holidays. 52 children present this morning and only 28 this afternoon. The reason for the poor attendance was that many children went to Retford Fair.

16 Oct 1880 First Boer War between Britain and Transvaal republic (South Africa) begins.

18 Nov 1880 Thursday. A very snowy day. Only 36 present in the morning and 37 in the afternoon.

6 Dec 1880 Monday. Admitted Ellen Lawrence, George Lawrence, John Lawrence and Martin Lawrence.

3 Jan 1881 Monday. Reopened school after the Christmas holidays. 65 present in the morning 68 in the afternoon. Caroline Gant, one of the monitors absent being very ill.

4 Jan 1881 Tuesday. C.Gant will not be able to resume her work for some time as the medical attendant has ordered her not to do so. Have taken Standard I myself today.

19 Jan 1881 Tuesday. Only 36 present this morning in consequence of a heavy fall of snow.

24 Jan 1881 Monday. Attendance improved 58 present morning and afternoon. C.Gant resumed her duties.

31 Jan 1881 Irish Party MPs obstruct House of Commons business until 2nd Feb. Much agrarian unrest in Ireland.

1 Feb 1881 Tuesday. Gave Geography lessons to Standards II, III & IV instead of Grammar. The spelling in Standard I was very poor to day. J.Stevenson and John Broggs were kept in to learn their spellings.

2 Feb 1881 66 Present in the morning and 67 in the afternoon. Punished W.Bartle and A.Smith for disobedience.

27 Feb 1881 Boers defeat British at battle of Majuba.

8 Mar 1881 Tuesday. Examined the Infants Writing and Reading require great attention. The Rev.A.Hardy the Diocesan Inspector examined the children in Scripture. Registers not marked in consequence.

15 Apr 1881 Friday. Today being Good Friday the children had a whole holiday. Average for the week 63.1

18 Apr 1881 Monday. Today being Easter Monday the children had a whole holiday.

25 Apr 1881 Monday. Admitted A.Stevenson. ...

27 Apr 1881 British withdraw troops from Afghanistan.

2 May 1881 Monday. 64 present in the morning and 59 in the afternoon. The attendance of R(?) Stamp and William Green has been so irregular that it is impossible to prepare them well in Geography.

20 May 1881 Friday. A great number of boys absent at work in the fields today. Many of the children have only attended half their times this week. Two girls in the First Class have left this week. Average for the week 55.

Copy of Report

The style of work in the fourth and fifth Standards is somewhat poor, otherwise the exercises were very well performed indeed. It is unfortunate that the first class both in Geography and Grammar should be in so marked contrast to the lower ones where very good work was done. The order, singing and sewing are quite satisfactory. The Infants are well taught.

A.M.Middleton (Grammar and Geography).

F.W.W.Wells (*very difficult to decipher*) Wells. School Correspondent.

4 Jun 1881

24 Jun 1881 Friday. The children had a holiday, in consequence of Clarborough Feast.

27 Jun 1881 Monday. Admitted C.Selby and A.Thisby (?). F.Clifton and J.Clifton have both left in consequence of their parents leaving the village.

1 Jul 1881 Friday. Examined the whole school in their weeks work – Satisfactory progress has been made in all Standards except the 4th where the Attendance is very irregular. Average for the week 59.1

12 Jul 1881 Tuesday. Only one girl present in Standard IV, the others being at work.

18 Jul 1881 Monday. Attendance moderate. Several children away picking potatoes. Gave two Arithmetic lessons to Standards II & III.

20 Jul 1881 Thursday. Many children absent at work in the fields. Several children absent suffering from illness. Gave a writing lesson to the Infants.

28 Jul 1881 Thursday. A whole holiday. The Teachers went to Cleethorpes with the Church Choir.

29 Jul 1881 Friday. Attendance low. The attendance is always poor on Friday afternoons. Many of the Infants absent from illness. A Middleton absent today. Average for the week 55.

5 Aug 1881 Friday. Only 47 present this morning. Several children in the First Class have only attended 2 instead of 10. Broke up for the harvest holidays. Duties to be resumed on the 5th of September. The harvest holidays may be prolonged to 5 weeks if the harvest is not in. Average for the week 52.

2 Sep 1881 *British and other foreigners caught up in Arabi Pasha's Egyptian nationalist revolt.*

12 Sep 1881 Monday. Reopened school after five weeks holiday; attendance very poor.

13 Sep 1881 Tuesday. Many children absent gleaning. Only two girls present in Standard IV. The children in Standard II have gone back in their work more than any class in the school.

14 Sep 1881 Wednesday. Attendance wretched. Only 48 being present. Nearly the whole of the fourth Standard away.

15 Sep 1881 Thursday. Have given lessons in Arithmetic to all the Standards. Many children still away gleaning.

26 Sep 1881 Monday. Attendance good 64 present this morning. Admitted F & E. Groves.

3 Oct 1881 Monday. Attendance very poor owing to Retford Fair.

4 Oct 1881 Tuesday. Many children away today it being Retford Fair again.

14 Oct 1881 Friday. Attendance lower than on any previous day this week. Arithmetic in Standard IV requires great attention. The girls in this Standard are most irregular in their attendance consequently their work is very inferior to the boys. The work of Standard II was only moderate. Average for the week 56.1

11 Nov 1881 Friday. School visited by the Attendance Officer. Several children who have been attending school in a dirty state were ordered by the Board to be withdrawn till they were cleaner.

Subjects requiring attention this week are Reading in the 4th Standard (especially the girls), Arithmetic in the second, Reading in I. Average for the week 58.4

A constant theme through this period in every week is Mrs Seals' frustration at poor attendance - particularly of girls - and lack of consistent teaching support and resources.

2 Jan 1882 Monday. Reopened school after the Christmas holidays. A. Middleton absent today through illness.

9 Feb 1882 Tuesday. Numbers present 73 and 71. Admitted one.

4 Apr 1882 Tuesday. Attendance very moderate. Have taken the Infants for two hours today. Several children kept in for home lessons.

3 May 1882 Wednesday. 13 children absent gathering cowslips. The Girls in Standard VI did their work very badly today.

6 May 1882 *Lord Frederick Cavendish (Chief Secretary for Ireland) and his deputy are murdered in Phoenix Park, Dublin by Irish nationalists.*

11 May 1882 Thursday. School examined by R.D.M. Oliver Her Majesty's Inspector and Mr Adlard. The following members of the board were present: Revd. G. Roworth (?), Mr Clater and Mr Bisks. School was closed till Monday. Average for the week 74.2

Copy of Report

The order is fair. The standard work very fair throughout, but reading in the fourth fifth and sixth Standards is wanting in intelligence. Grammar and Sewing are quite successful, but Geography fails being poor throughout. The Specimens are good. Singing deserves praise. The Infants are in good order and their attainments are satisfactory.

A.M. Middleton has passed fairly, but should attend to Grammars and Arithmetic.

F.W.W.Wells School Correspondent.

5 Jun 1882 Monday. Reopened school after the Whitsuntide holidays. 73 & 71 were the numbers. Admitted Samuel, Alice & Frank Anderson also Henry Millon.

12 Jun 1882 Monday. 70 children present. Half holiday in the afternoon. Admitted Harriet Gabbitass.

Aug 1882 *Married Womens' Property Act further safeguards womens' rights.*

13 Sep 1882 *British land troops in Egypt defeating Arabi Pasha who is subsequently exiled.*

16 Jun 1882 ... Several children have been absent the whole week at work. ...

18 Sep 1882 Monday. Reopened School after the Harvest Holidays. Attendance very poor. Admitted W & J.Marriott.

19 Sep 1882 Tuesday. No improvement in the attendance 47 & 49 being the numbers. Gave an object lesson to the Infants on the 'Horse'.

13 Dec 1882 Wednesday. A very snowy day. 29 present in the morning and 39 in the afternoon.

1 Jan 1883 Monday. Attendance very poor 34 & 42 being the numbers.

12 Jan 1883 Friday. The Arithmetic in Standards V & IV has been very inaccurate this week. A great improvement has taken place in the Arithmetic of Stand.I. Attendance poor. School visted by the Revd. G.Roworth. Have taken the Infants all the week there being no monitoress. No visit from the Attendance Officer since July 26th 1882. Average for the week 61.2

2 Feb 1883 Friday. The school has been closed to day by order of Dr.Housely the medical officer of health in consequence of the children suffering from whooping cough. 32 children have been absent this week ill. The attendance has been the worst this week since 1878. Average for the week 40.1

6 Feb 1883 *Dufferin Report on Egypt; recognises nominal Turkish sovereignty (Khedive) but sets out legislative structure formalising effective British control.*

5 Mar 1883 Half the children are still absent. Admitted James Wilks. Gave Grammar instead of writing in Standard I.

16 Mar 1883 Friday. Great attention is required in Arithmetic in all Standards. Children are very careless in their work. 20 children still remain at home ill, Some have been absent more than 8 weeks. The object lessons have been discontinued till the children return to school as almost half the Infants are absent. Average for the week 45.8

18 Apr 1883 Wednesday. School visited by Mr Birks who verified the registers. Gave an object lesson to the Infants on "Sugar".

17 May 1883 Thursday. General Examination conducted by R.D.M.Oliver Esq & Mr Hall. Rev.G.Roworth and W.Birks Esq – members of the Board were present. The Examination being in Whit week, which is always a holiday, the Board decided to give the week following. Duties to be resumed May 28th 1883. Average for the week 65.3

Page 311- 313 (top) immediately following the above has:

Code Requirements 1883-4

Reading Books

Standard I	Cassells (Modern) Nelson's (Geographical)
" II	Cassells (Modern) Nelson's (Geographical)
" III	Nelson's (Historical) " Sequel to Stan.III " Standd.III
" IV	Nelson's (Historical) " Sequel " Stand.IV
" V	Nelson's (Historical)

- “ Sequel
- “ Stand II (*sic*)
- “ VI Nelson’s (Historical)
- “ Stand. VI
- Blackios Stand.VI

Recitations for 1883-4

- Standard I “To the Cuckoo” (Wordsworth)
- “ II “Lucy Gray” (Wordsworth)
- “ III “Lady of the Lake” (Scotts)
- “ IV “Lady of the Lake” (Scotts)
- “ V & VI Merchant of Venice (Shakespeare)

Proposed Second Class Subjects

Lower Division. Standards I, II & III Boys Geograph. Girls – Needlework.
Upper division. Standards IV, VI, VI. Boys Geography Girls Needlework.

Infants. Article 106

Object lessons = once a week, ½ an hour.

Varied occupations = 3 times a week – Threading beads – ball frame (?) etc.

28 May 1883 Monday. Admitted A. M. J. & B. Billyard also E. Anderson. Attendance moderate.

29 May 1883 Tuesday. Admitted J. Stamp. Two children have left being thirteen.

30 May 1883 Wednesday. Received the Schedule from Mr Wells, The Examination is not so successful as last years owing to the illness of the children and the irregular attendance.

Copy of Report

The order is good. The standard work fair English the only class subject attempted is a failure owing to the great want of intelligence in every Standard, Grammar in the fourth Standard is also very poor the sewing and specimens are good the sewing pleasing. The school staff should for the future be entered at the end of the Report.

In the Infants class the order is good. The elements are very fairly taught – except Number in the second class. The girls sew well. Nothing in the way of object lessons or appropriate and varied occupations have been attempted. A.M. Middleton must improve generally.

F.W.W. Wells School Correspondent.

30 Apr 1883

Jun 1883 *‘How the Poor Live’ (George Sims) is published is serialised in Pictorial World and becomes highly influential.*

11 Jun 1883 Monday. Attendance moderate. Admitted M. Thompson.

13 July 1883 Friday. Object lesson to the Infants on the “Clock”. The attendance of the First Class has been very unsatisfactory this week. Three children were kept in until 4.30 for misbehaviour. The weekly examination shows very fair results. Average for the week 63.6

20 Jul 1883 Friday. The weekly examination shows improvement. The Attendance of Standards IV & V has been poor. James Bartle in the IV Standard has met with an accident and is unable to walk to school. J. Wilks returned to school after being absent 7 weeks. Average for the week 63.7

30 July 1883 Monday – **August 3rd** Attendance moderate – Scarlatina has broken out in the village. Four children are suffering from it; three children belonging to the families who have the complaint are not allowed to come to school. The Attendance has been moderate all the week. Have received a Certificate from Dr. White saying that three children of Lawrences are not fit to attend School. The work throughout the School with

the exception of the Arithmetic in the III Standard has been very fairly done. Object lesson to the Infants on "Soap". Average for the week 60.3

4 Aug 1883 *William Thomson lectures at the Royal Institution on the nature and size of the atom.*

9 Aug 1883 Thursday School visited by Mr Clater, the Attendance Officer, and the Revd. G.Roworth. Owing to many children have the Scarlatina it was decided to close the school. The attendance has been poor all the week.

10 Aug 1883 There being only 24 children present, it was deemed advisable to break up this morning for the Harvest Holidays. Duties to be resumed Sep 17th, 1883 – 5 weeks. Average for the week 54.2

18 Aug 1883 *Corrupt & Illegal Practices Act limits spending by candidates in particular constituencies during a General Election.*

1- 5 Oct 1883 Reopened school after seven weeks holiday. The board having extended the holidays on account of the illness of the children. The attendance the whole week has been very poor indeed. 29 only having been present on Wednesday, and only twelve children have been every time the school has been open. The children are very backward in all subjects. Arithmetic is very poor. More than half the children are still absent, consequently it is impossible to make much progress. Admitted M.Green and C.Groves. G.M. & J.Lawrence returned after an absence of 16 weeks. Average for the week 41.8

22 Oct 1883 Monday 74 present both morning and afternoon, being the highest number present since the reopening.

12 Nov 1883 Monday. E.Clarkson one of the Infants died yesterday. No children who have recovered from Scarlatina are allowed to come to School for six weeks by order of the Sanitary Doctor.

Search for a death certificate (whole of Nottinghamshire, Sep – Dec 1883) yielded just one GRO reference:

Clarkson Edith (5yrs) Dec 1883 E.Retford 7b, 5

16 Nov 1883 Friday. There has been a slight improvement in the work; Two more children absent from scarlatina; the attendance has not improved owing to a fresh outbreak of Scarlatina. No object lessons were given owing to there being so few Infants present. Average for the week 55.4

20 Nov 1883 Tuesday School visited by the Medical Officer of health Dr Houseley who sent one child home.

21-23 Nov 1883 Sixteen children absent this week, still suffering from Scarlatina. Received a notice from Dr.Houseley, not to allow any children who have recovered from Scarlatina to attend school for 7 or 8 weeks.

31 Dec 1883 Monday. Reopened School by order of the Board. Attendance poor 48 & 55 were the numbers. A Tinkler returned to school after an absence of seven months.

10 Jan 1884 Thursday Punished R(?) Wilkinson for disobedience and rudeness, also kept him in until 5 o'clock p.m. There has been an improvement in the attendance. Several children who ought to be attending school have not yet come – although notice of their absence has been sent to the Attendance Officer.

A Middleton did not do her home lessons today. The work this week has been fairly done. No improvement in the Third Standard. 12 children still absent ill. Average for the week 57.4

4 Feb 1884 Friday Gave the children a half holiday in consequence of my attendance being required at the yearly audit of the School Board account at the East Retford Union. Average for the week 63.1

4-8 Feb 1884 Attendance not as good this week owing to an outbreak of Measles. Eight children absent suffering from this complaint. Two kindergarten lessons to the Infants on Tuesday and Thursday by Miss Cocking, Kindergarten Teacher. Object lessons to the Infants on the "Egg".

21 Feb 1884 The attendance has been the worst since the reopening. Only 10 Infants present the whole week instead of 29. Only two Standard I girls present instead of 7. 21 children absent from illness. The work of the Standards has not been well done, the Dictation in Standard II requires great attention. Average for the week 47.3

27 Feb 1884 Tuesday School visited by Dr Housley the Sanitary Doctor; who has also prohibited me from admitting children who have had the measles for six weeks.

24 Mar 1884 Monday. Attendance reduced in consequence of Retford Fair.

1 Apr 1884 Tuesday. Highest number present since the harvest holidays – 72 & 74. Miss Cocking had charge of the Infant Class. Object lesson on “Salt” to the Infants.

7-10 Apr 1884 Attendance poor 57 & 60. The attendance this week has not been good. Many children have been at work in the fields. Object lesson on “Coal” by Miss Cocking. Also Paper Folding lessons to Infants by the same teacher.

22 Apr 1884 *Four killed by East Anglian earthquake.*

15 May 1884 Thursday. School visited by the Revd. G.Roworth. The attendance has been very poor the whole week. Several children in Standard One absent getting cowslips. Only two boys in the first Class made 10 attendances. Object lesson to the Infants on the “Thimble”. Arithmetic lessons have been given to Standards V, VI, IV & III. Admitted three Infants. Average for the week 64.6

20 Jun 1884 Friday. School visited by the Attendance Officer. At a meeting of the Board held June 19th it was decided to give the children two days holiday June 24 & 25th it being Clarborough Feast. Object lesson to the Infants on “Wool”. Average for the week 63.1.

14 Jun 1884 *[Copy of Report]* Clarborough Board School (Nottingham

“This School continues to be taught with diligence and success. Writing in the fifth Standard was however weak. Sewing is good. The children are orderly and sing with fair taste”

“The Reading and Arithmetic of the Infants are good. Writing is fair. Pains are taken with their occupation and other exercises. Sewing is satisfactory. The singing is of very moderate character, Recitation is satisfactory”

A.M.Middleton has passed fairly but should attend to Geography.

Fred W.Wells School Correspondent.

7 Jul 1884 Monday. Florence Clarkson returned to School, absent since Oct 26th 1883. No improvement in the attendance. Two children in Stan.III & I in Stand.I at work in the fields.

14 Jul 1884 Monday. A whole holiday; it being the annual trip of the choir.

8 Aug 1884 Friday. Broke up for the Harvest holidays, a month has been given by the Board to be extended to 5 weeks if necessary. Object lesson to the Infants on “Oats”. Average for the week 49.4.

15 Sep 1884 Reopened school after the Harvest holidays. Attendance moderate.

17 Sep 1884 Wednesday. A half holiday; the room being required for the Harvest Festival.

26 Sep 1884 Friday. School visited by the Attendance Officer. At a meeting of the Board, Mary Green was allowed to be a half-time scholar (*reason?*) Object lesson to the Infants on the “Plough”. Average for the week 61.5.

14 Nov 1884 A great improvement in attendance this week. Several children returned who have been absent from illness. G.Redfern, M.Redfern, J.Stamp, F.Clarkson absent the whole week from illness.

17-21 Nov 1884 There has been a slight improvement in the attendance. The most irregular are the Infant girls, and Standard III. Gave Grammar lessons to all the Standards that are taking that subject. Recitation in Standard II requires great attention. Improvement shown in Standards II, III & IV, but none in Stand. II Reading. Amanda Wilks returned to school after an absence of 18 months.

10 Dec 1884 *Third Parliamentary Reform Act giving uniform male suffrage in town and country; some 2 million farm workers get the vote.*

24 Dec 1884 Wednesday. Broke up for the Christmas Holidays. School to be reopened Jan 5th 1885 when it is hoped the attendance will be improved. Average for the week 54.1

5 Jan 1885 Monday. A fair attendance. Admitted Arthur & Albert Spencer.

12 Jan 1885 A wet and snowy week. Attendance very moderate in consequence.

24 Jan 1885 *Irish extremists damage Tower of London and Westminster Hall.*

26 Jan 1885 *Khartoum is stormed by Mahdi's troops, General Gordon is killed.*

3 Feb 1885 Tuesday. Samuel Anderson and John Lawrence were punished and kept in three quarters of an hour for playing truant on Friday. ...

5 Feb 1885 *News of Gordon's death reaches London.*

10 Feb 1885 Tuesday ... W.Marriott and J.Wilks detained on Tuesday afternoon until 4.30 for fighting. ...

2-6 Mar 1885 A great decrease in the attendance. Several boys absent the whole week at work in the fields. ...

5 Mar 1885 S.Anderson, W.Bennett, J.Cobb were detained till 4.30 p.m. for idleness. Object lesson to the Infants on "Ice". Average for the week 66.2

10 Mar 1885 *Cruft's Dog Show first held.*

20 Apr 1885 Monday. Received notice of Her Majesty's Inspector Annual Visit May 5th. Also notice of the Exam of Pupil Teachers April 25 at Newark.

5 May 1885 Tuesday. General Examination conducted by the Revd. C.Sewell and Mr Hall H.M.I. Half holiday in the afternoon. School visited by Mr Birks and Mr Clater.

6 May 1885 Wednesday. Placed the children in their new Standard – Gave lessons in Arithmetic to Stand. I, III, IV & V.

12 May 1885 Tuesday. A whole holiday, it being the Review in Grove Park.

13 May 1885 Wednesday. Received the Duplicate Schedule from Mr Wells. Percentage of passes for the whole school 84.6. The following have been placed in the same Standard: Sarah Bartle, James Bennett, Mary Anderson, George Blagg; they having failed in two subjects.

7 Jun 1885 *Violent demonstrations in London (Hyde Park) over proposed increases in duties on beer and spirits.*

15 Jun 1885 Attendance improved. Admitted George Wynch.

17 Jun 1885 Wednesday. School visited by Mr Pichard, the Attendance Office. Received notice of the Diocesan Inspector's visit July 7th.

18 Jun 1885 ... Mary Redfearn absent the whole week sick. Received doctor's certificate H.Orgle absent suffering from ringworms. An object lesson was given on the "Hand". Average for the week 66.9

[Report] Clareborough Board School (Nottingham)

"The Standard work was successful. "The style of reading is decidedly good. English had been diligently studied, but with scarcely sufficient intelligence. Grammar was accurate, Sewing very fair. The children are in admirable order and sing with fair spirit. The Infants are well taught.

A.M.Middleton has passed fairly. She should be informed that she is now qualified under Article 50 but can only qualify herself under Article 52 by passing satisfactorily the Examination specified under Article 4b."

Red W.Wells Clerk to the School Board 27 June 1885

22 Jun 1885 Monday & Tuesday. Attendance good. Admitted Martha Stamp.

27 Jul 1885 Monday. A whole holiday – The Sunday School children had their annual Treat.

31 Jul 1885 Friday. School visited by the Revd. G.Roworth. A.M.Middleton left today having completed her apprenticeship May 1st 1885. Object lesson to the Infants on "Colour". Average for the week 57.

3 Aug 1885 Monday. Fanny Aukland commenced duties today, having been engaged as a Candidate by the Board.

14 Aug 1885 Friday. Broke up for the Harvest Holidays (5 weeks). Duties to be resumed Sep 21st. Average for the week 60.5.

21 Aug 1885 *Criminal Law Amendment Act to protect girls and women raises age of consent to 16; child prostitution outlawed.*

21-25 Sep 1885 Reopened School after five week holidays. Attendance in the upper Standards has been very poor. Five boys absent the whole week at work. Admitted J.Wynch, T.Briggs, L.Gregory, H.Spencer, A.Walless, C.Cobb. ...

2 Oct 1885 Friday. Attendance poor. 42 only being present. A half holiday in the afternoon it being Retford Fair ...

8 Oct 1885 Thursday. ... Writing in the Infant Class shows no signs of improvement – Reading in the same is only fair; five of the Infants cannot talk properly. Object lesson to the Infants on “Leather”. Average for the week 66.8.

15 Oct 1885 Thursday. Punished W.Blagg for disobedience. ...

28 Oct 1885 Wednesday. ... The Infant Class require great attention in Writing; they write out of the lines instead of in them; Reading in this class has improved.

31 Oct 1885 F.Aukland attended the Pupil Teacher’s Exam at Worksop as a Candidate for the First Year. Object lesson to the Infants on “Water”. Average for the week 72.3

16 Nov 1885 Owing to an outbreak of Scarlatina the attendance has decreased. Six children absent the whole week ill.

23-27 Nov 1885 ... At a Board Meeting a resolution was passed that no child who had suffered from Scarlatina should be admitted for 2 months. ...

23 Nov 1885 *General Election: Liberals 335, Conservatives 249, Irish Party 86.*

25 Nov 1885 Wednesday. School visited by the Attendance Officer. Received Medical Certificate for C.Hurst & M.Redfearn who is now allowed to come half a day. ...

4 Dec 1885 Friday. School closed. The room being required as a Polling Station for the General Election. ...

11 Dec 1885 A Stephenson is not to attend school all the winter; owing to her suffering from a bad throat.

23 Dec 1885 Wednesday. Broke up for two days holiday; it being Christmas. Duties to be resumed Dec 28th 1885. Object lesson to the Infants on “The Dog”. Average for the week 63.1

28 Dec – 1 Jan 1886 Two children returned to School after an absence of 8 weeks; they having suffered from scarlatina. 10 children absent the whole week sick.

7-8 Jan 1886 *Windows broken in London’s West End by unemployed during coldest February for 30 years.*

10 Jan 1886 *Army put on stand-by in case of unemployed riots in London.*

25 Jan 1886 Monday. A wet snowy day. Attendance reduced in consequence. ... Annie Stephenson, Herbert Ogle, John Donnor, Mary Redfearn will be placed on the Exception Schedule owing to their being delicate. H.Ogle & J.Donnor have had the Scarlatina. A.Stephenson has been absent since Oct.30 1885 with a bad throat.

10 Feb 1886 Wednesday. Annual Examination. School examined by Mr Webster. The Revd. C.Sewell wrote saying he was unable to attend but would do so on Feb. 25th. School visited by Mr Birks and Revd. G.Roworth. A half holiday in the afternoon. Attendance has been good with the exception of Friday afternoon when 59 only were present.

16 Feb 1886 Received the Duplicate Schedule from Mr Wells. Results are not so satisfactory as last year, this was a 9 months exam. Replaced children according to Duplicate Schedule. Albert Smith has left this week having passed Standard VII. ...

11 Mar 1886 Monday. Punished W.Bennett for copying.

12 Mar 1886 Friday. Punished J.Stephenson for telling untruths. ...

18 Mar 1886 Thursday. Punished H.Adcock for using bad language.

19 Mar 1886 Friday. Punished J.Cobb for disobedience. ...

[*Report 10 Feb*] Claborough Board School (Nottingham)

“Except for Arithmetic in the fifth Standard, and Reading and Writing of the Second Standard, the Exercises were very well done. English was wanting in intelligence in the second, third and fourth Standards and the higher Grammar was weak in the fourth and fifth Standards. Sewing singing and general order were very satisfactory. The Staff should

be at once strengthened so as to meet the requirements of Article 83 which are not at present satisfied (Article 115/11).

J.Aukland Failure.

Fred W.Well. Clerk to the School Board

5 Apr 1886 Monday. Admitted B.Parker and T.Gregory.

6 Apr 1886 Tuesday. Punished H.Adcock and J.Bartle for disobedience.

14 Apr 1886 Wednesday. School visited by Mr Ogle one of the members of the board also the Attendance Officer. F.Aukland left today; I was obliged to send her home for misconduct.

15 Apr 1886 At a meeting of the Board it was decided to dispense with her (*F.Aukand's*) services. ...

22 Apr 1886 Thursday. At a Meeting of the board Miss L.Ledger was appointed Candidate, to come a week on trial commencing May 3rd.

3 May 1886 L.Ledger commenced work today as a Candidate. Have given her Standard I also to help with Stan.II.

21 Jun 1886 ... Admitted George Parker. ...

24 Jul 1886 *General Election results: Conservatives 316, Liberals 191, Irish Party 85, Chamberlainite Liberal Unionists 78.*

29 Jul 1886 Thursday. ... A half holiday in the afternoon the room being required for the Sunday School Treat. ...

27 Aug 1886 Friday. Broke up for Harvest Holidays. 5 weeks. Duties to be resumed Oct 4th 1886. The Infant class have attended well and shew improvement. Object lesson to the Infants on "The Swallow". Average for the week 67.1

1 Sep 1886 *Severn Tunnel (4 miles 628 yards), longest railway tunnel in Britain, opens after 14 years construction.*

4 Oct 1886 Monday. Reopened School after the Harvest Holidays. 34 children present in the afternoon it being Retford Fair. ...

8 Oct 1886 ... Received notice of the Pupil Teacher's Exam Oct 30th. L.Ledger will take 1st Year papers. ...

17 Dec 1886 School visited by Revd. G.Roworth. At a meeting of the Board it was decided to give one weeks holiday, to commence Dec 24th. ...

23 Dec 1886 Thursday. Broke up for a weeks holiday. Duties to be resumed Jan 3rd, 1887. ...

24 Dec 1886 Friday. A whole holiday it being the day before Christmas Day.

3 Jan 1887 Reopened School after Christmas Holidays.

21 Jan 1887 ... Langton Gregory, William Chambers and Fred Bartle are to be placed on the 'Exception List'. They are very dull, they cannot do the work of Stan.I. They were nearly 6 years old when admitted. ...

[Annual Examination Report]

"Standard preparation continues to be satisfactory. The style of writing on paper should improve. Arithmetic in the fourth and sixth Standards and Spelling in the second Standard were weak. Recitation of English was only fairly intelligent and Grammar, except in the sixth Standard, was very fairly good. Sewing was of very creditable character. The Infants class is properly taught. Writing should be more careful.

L.Ledger's attainments do not justify her admission for a shortened term of apprenticeship."

Fred.W.Wells Clerk to the School Board. March 19th 1887

14 Feb 1887 Attendance moderate the whole week. H.Wislow left to day. Admitted H.Birds and E.Spence.

21-25 Feb 1887 Attendance very fair. Four of Cordalls children absent through sickness. Two of them have the Chicken Pox which being infectious the others are not allowed to attend.

28 Feb – 4 Mar 1887 Attendance fairly good. Six children left this week to go to work.

2+3 Mar 1887 School visited by the Revd. G.Roworth on both dates.

23 Mar 1887 Wednesday. A whole holiday it being Retford Fair. Lucy Ledger has been absent the whole week ill. ...

28 Mar 1887 *Balfour (PM) introduces Irish Crimes Bill suspending trial-by-jury and increasing powers of magistrates. This Bill enacted in September after intense Commons' opposition.*

18 Apr 1887 L.Ledger commenced work after a months absence.

Last entry to this Log Book – page 500) made on 29th April, 1887

Transcribed by G.A.Herdman (Feb-May 2008)