

June 20. 1853.

The Executive Committee met on the call  
of <sup>the</sup> Chairman.

Present

The Superintendent of Public Instruction,  
D. Beech,  
W. Tompkins,  
W. Hammond,

The Minutes of the last meeting were read  
and approved.

The Principal made the following report  
which was ordered to be entered on the  
Minutes.

There are at present in the Normal School

All Pupils (as follows) 20.

3	of them leave at the close of this (22 <sup>nd</sup> term)
9	" " " of the 23 <sup>rd</sup> term
6	" " " of the 24 <sup>th</sup> term
2	are Mr Comings' wards.
<hr/>	
20.	

Mr Wm F. Phelps presented 23 volumes to  
the Library of the State Normal School,  
for which the Thanks of the Committee were  
ordered.

On Motion, Resolved that the fixtures for  
gas lights be continued from the Laboratory  
to the room above

A Communication was received  
from the Principal, in behalf of the Faculty,  
recommending the following changes in  
Text Books, to be used:

Instead of



20  
Parker's Aids to Composition  
to adopt Quackenbush's English Composition  
Cutler's Physiology  
to adopt Hooker's Physiology  
Perkins' Geometry & Algebra  
to adopt Davis' Legendre  
Davis' Algebra

Whereupon  
Resolved that the adoption of <sup>the</sup> first  
two Books be referred to the Standing  
Committee on Text Books with  
power, & that they report to this  
Committee as to the propriety of the  
other changes proposed.

A Communication was received from  
Miss Hance, stating that an account  
of her health, it would be necessary to  
be absent for some time & she therefore  
resigned her situation.

Whereupon the Committee declined to  
accept her resignation but agreed that she  
have leave of absence for one year <sup>without salary</sup> & the  
Treasurer was directed to pay her one  
hundred dollars as an extra allowance.

Resolved that the Principal report a proper  
person to fill the temporary vacancy  
at a salary of five hundred dollars.

The Principal made the following com-  
munication which was ordered to lie on  
the table for future consideration.

The Principal regarding it as due to  
the Executive Committee that they should  
be fully informed of the State of the School,  
make the following statement & sugges-  
tions.



✓ The number of Students who have been connected with the school, the present term is 225. Every county has been either fully or partially represented, excepting seven, viz, Alleghany, Essex, Hamilton, Herkimer, Lewis, Seneca & Wyoming. Reports of full appointments have been received from Herkimer & Lewis, but no pupils have entered the schools from these counties. Reports of the appointment of 40 pupils, who have not presented themselves, were received soon after the opening of the term. Had these pupils entered, every seat would have been filled. In addition to these 40 appointments, to fill vacancies, the parts of the appointment of 20 Supernumeraries have been rec<sup>d</sup>.

It is presumed that it was the intention of a large number, at least, of these sixty, to attend the school, or they would not have sought the appointments. Without attempting to assign a cause of their non-attendance, it is presumed that in many ~~cases~~ instances, the pecuniary pressure of the time, & the greatly increased expence of living, may have operated. In some of the counties, this is assigned as a reason by the Superintendents, of no appointments having been made.

It has been felt that the mode in which appointments have been made, is not calculated to supply the full quota of first class pupils from all the counties. In some of the counties, the local officers not only neglect to give wide notice of vacancies, but often do not even attend the meetings called by the State Superintendent. In the county of Steuben, which contains 29 towns & the same number of town Superintendents, & which is



20 <sup>sent</sup> entitled to 6 pupils, only three superintendents at-  
tended the late meeting. In the County of  
Dutchess, no meeting was held. It is pre-  
sumed that the same may have occurred  
in other counties. While this apathy in re-  
gard to schools exists, it cannot be hoped  
that this school will be filled with the best  
pupils.

The means of securing such a class  
of pupils has occupied the anxious attention  
of the Faculty. They have thought it important  
that the Teachers' Departments in the  
Academy should be more intimately con-  
nected with this school, & that these depart-  
ments, in many of which, the course of  
instruction is very limited, should be made  
a means of supplying pupils for a more  
extended & thorough course than they are  
able to furnish. A vacation of two months  
succeeds the close of the present term. The  
Faculty are not only willing but desirous to  
improve at least a part of this time in efforts  
to promote the improvement of the schools  
& the qualifications of teachers. Some of these  
Schools will undoubtedly be in session during  
a part of the ensuing vacation.

It is believed that the Principals  
of many of these would gladly avail themselves  
of this aid which might be offered in instructing  
their classes, & should the proposal meet the views  
of the Committee, for the Principal & Professor to  
visit such of these Academies, as may be con-  
venient, & to which the service may be accept-  
able & spend a few days in lecturing the  
Teachers' Classes in modes of instruction,  
school government & other important subjects,  
they will willingly undertake to do it. H



It is believed that not only a good way may be secured to the schools, but that the purpose & plan of the school may be brought to the knowledge of many young men & women, who now know scarcely any thing of it & that some might thus be induced to avail themselves of its advantages, who would ~~otherwise~~ become valuable permanent teachers.

Within a few years, the system of normal schools has been greatly extended in New England, Ohio, Michigan & Canada. It is presumed that in some or all of these schools, other & improved methods may have been introduced. With these methods, it may be important for the teachers of this school to become acquainted.

Should the Committee regard the objects here suggested of sufficient importance to warrant such an appropriation as may meet the expense, necessary to be incurred in the execution of them, the Principal Professor will cheerfully employ such a part of the ensuing vacation, as can be profitably spent in this way.

To all who are acquainted with the condition of the schools in the State, it is apparent that there is a great need, that every possible means for their improvement should be put in vigorous operation. The instrumentalities by which this may be done are by no means powerful. An oppressive apathy pervades the public mind, and incompetent teachers are often employed to avoid the expense of those who are well qualified. Local School Officers are often incompetent



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inefficient). In this state of things, the Faculty feel that the influence of this school should be more widely & more deeply felt. They are especially desirous of bringing to its instruction & discipline, a larger number of young men & those of a higher order of talents & of more advanced qualifications. They are willing to devote their energies to this object, & in doing so, they hope to be able to do more than has yet been done for accomplishing the high purposes for which the School has been established.

The Secretary reported, that during the late Session of the Legislature, the Annual appropriation for the support of the State Normal School, had been increased from \$10,000 to \$12,000 ~~per~~ for the fiscal year commencing October 1853.

Whereupon

Resolved, that the following increase be made to the salaries of the Instructors for said year

✓ To the Principal & three Professors, each \$200	\$800
To the Superintendent of the Exr. School,	100
To the Superintendent of the Study Room	100
For the four Tutors, each \$100,	400
For the janitor, on condition of \$5 per month	60
For Extra Compensation to W. Webb	15

\$1485



On Motion of Mr Hammond

Resolved that four hundred dollars of the additional Appropriation be reserved for the payment of contingent Expenses.

On Motion of the Superintendent

Resolved that Prof. Chas Davies, be requested to deliver the Annual Address, at the public exercises of the Institution.

Agreed.

July 11, 1855.

The Annual Exercises of the State Normal School were held this day.

Professor Chas Davies delivered the Address to the pupils & graduates, for which the thanks of the Committee were unanimously ordered, and a copy was requested for publication.

The usual Diplomas were on the recommendation of the Faculty, granted to the following Females.

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|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Kate M. Allen        | Columbia City    |
| 2. Jane C. Ackerman,    | Jefferson City   |
| 3. Delia A. Bristol     | Wayne City       |
| 4. Esther Bennett.      | Tompkins City    |
| 5. Mary C. Bennett.     | Chemung City     |
| 6. Helen M. Bacon.      | Albany City.     |
| 7. Amanda P. Baldwin    | New York City    |
| 8. Margaret J. Brown    | Albany City      |
| 9. Emelita J. Carpenter | Monroe City      |
| 10. Amelia A. Christie. | Gates City       |
| 11. Sarah A. Cook.      | Albany City      |
| 12. Eleanor H. Dickson. | Albany City      |
| 13. Julia A. Frewer.    | Albany City      |
| 14. Eliza M. Hatch.     | Oswego City      |
| 15. Anna M. Hammett     | Albany City      |
| 16. Mary J. Hatfield    | Westchester City |