

MINUTES

OF

1955

Feb 1, 1855

The Semi Annual public Exercises were held  
this day.

The Principal & Faculty reported the follow-  
ing as worthy to receive Diplomas & they were granted  
accordingly

1. Frances A. Bacon	Albany
2. Celestine Curtis	Rensselaer
3. Sarah B. Sedell	Erie
4. Mary L. Bodwell	Livingston
5. Julia C. Carpenter	Monroe
6. M. Louisa Campbell	Albany
7. C. Jane Dayton	Warren
8. Elizabeth B. Ensign	Orleans
9. Brenda O. Hull	Erie
10. Sarah A. Huestis	Westchester
11. Harriet J. Huestis	Westchester
12. Elizabeth E. Hunt	Rensselaer
13. Frances L. Harrington	Yates
14. Mary A. King	Albany
15. Hannah J. Meakler	Albany
16. Sarah W. Furmort	Essex
17. Louisa H. Furmort	Essex
18. S. Amelia Flomb	Oswego
19. Margaret Pringle	Oneida
20. Mary H. Phelps	Essex
21. Anna E. Purdy	Livingston
22. Almira E. Rice	Wayne
23. Eliza E. Sickler	Ontario
24. Elizabeth S. Smith	Tompkins
25. Fanny M. Taggart	St Lawrence
26. Harriet E. Wilcox	Delaware
27. Catharine Wilson	Albany
28. LeRoy C. Cooley	Jefferson
29. David E. Chase	Otsego
30. E. Austin Fry	Onondago
31. Leon F. Hardy	Cortland
32. John D. Hiller	Chautauque
33. Albert N. Husted	Dutchess
34. Henry H. Hagen	Franklin
35. Merrit Moore	Wyoming
36. John D. O'Dell	Ontario
37. Charles H. Parker	Erie
38. William H. Phillips	Cattaraugus
39. Thomas H. Stone	Monroe
40. Wheaton A. Welch	Onondago
41. Isaac B. Wilcox	Delaware

The Hon Mr Headley, delivered the address

It was unanimously Resolved that the thanks of the Executive Committee be presented for his address & that he be requested to furnish a copy for publication.

The Treasurer presented his half yearly account, which was duly approved.

Adjourned

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March 26, 1855

The Executive Committee met this day

Present

Dr Beck

Mr Townsend

Mr Hammond

The Minutes of the last meeting were read & approved.

Adjourned

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May 7, 1855

The Executive Committee met this day

Present

The Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mr Austin

Dr Beck

Mr Townsend

A Work entitled "Mathematics Simplified" accompanied with numerous Engraved diagrams by Thomas Fisher of Philadelphia was submitted to the examination of the Committee &

ordered to be purchased (\$10) for the use of the State Normal School.

Adjourned.

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May 17, 1855

The Committee met this day.

Present

The Superintendent

Mr Austin

Dr Beck

Mr Hammond

The Minutes were read & approved.

Adjourned.

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June 20, 1855

The Executive Committee met on the call of the Chairman.

Present

The Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dr Beck

Mr Townsend

Mr Hammond

The Minutes of the last meeting were read & approved.

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

There are at present in the Normal School

Free Pupils (as follows)

3 of these leave at the close of this (22nd term)  
 9 " " of the 23rd term  
 6 " " of the 24th term

3 are Mr Comings Wards

220.

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

Parker's Aids to Composition

to adopt Quackenboss' English Composition

Cutters Physiology

to adopt Hooker's Physiology

Ferkins' Geometry & Algebra

To adopt Davies' Legendre

Davies' Algebra

Whereupon

Resolved that the adoption of the 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 on 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 without salary & 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 communication which was ordered to be 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 makes the following statement & suggestions.

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. Allegany, Essex, Hamilton, Herkimer, Lewis, Seneca & Wyoming. Reports of full appointments have been received from Herkimer & Lewis, but no pupils have entered the school 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, reports of the appointment of 20 Supernumeraries have been recd.

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 instances, the pecuniary pressure of the times & the greatly increased expenses 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 long 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 20 towns & the same number of town Superintendents which is entitled to send 8 pupils, only three superintendents attended the late meeting. In the County of Dutchess, no meeting was held. It is presumed that the same may have occurred in other counties. While this apathy in regard 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 Academies should be more intimately connected with this school, & that these departments, 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 succeed 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 improvements 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 view of the Committee, for the Principal & Professors to visit such of these Academies, as may be convenient, & to which the service may be acceptable & 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. It is believed that not only a good may thus be secured to the schools, but that the purpose & plan of this 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 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 expenses necessary to be incurred in the execution of them, the Principal & Professors will cheerfully employ such a part of the ensuing vacation as can be profitable 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 & 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 for the fiscal year commencing October 1885.

Whereupon

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

To the Principal & three Professors, each \$200	\$600
To the Superintendent of the Exp. School	100
To the Superintendent of the Study Room	100
For the four Tutors, each \$100	400
For the Janitor, an addition of \$5 per month	60
For Extra Compensation to Mr Webb	25
	<u>\$1485</u>

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.

Adjourned.

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.

1. Kate M. Allen	Columbia Cty
2. Jane C. Ackerman	Jefferson Cty
3. Della A. Bristol	Wayne Cty
4. Esther Bennet	Tompkins Cty
5. Mary C. Bennet	Chemung Cty
6. Helen M. Bacon	Albany Cty
7. Amanda P. Baldwin	New York City
8. Margaret J. Brown	Albany Cty
9. Emelie L. Carpenter	Monroe Cty
10. Amelia A. Christie	Yates Cty
11. Sarah A. Cook	Albany Cty
12. Elleanor F. Dickson	Albany Cty
13. Julia A. Pravor	Albany Cty
14. Eliza M. Hatch	Oswego Cty
15. Anna M. Hamilton	Albany Cty
16. Mary J. Hatfield	Westchester Cty
17. Alice J. Hepinstall	Albany Cty
18. Anne C. Mathies	Monroe Cty
19. Elizabeth Powell	Albany Cty
20. Maria E. Mansom	Erie Cty
21. Emily A. Rice	Erie Cty
22. Harriet A. Sleight	Wayne Cty
23. Sarah A. Visscher	Albany Cty
24. Ann B. Wilcox	Cayuga Cty
25. Susan A. Witherell	Albany Cty
26. Lorinda J. Whipple	Kings Cty

## Males

1. Edmund A. Austin	Erie Cty
2. Milton Draper	Otsego Cty
3. Mervin Hollister	Wayne Cty
4. Norman Judson	Cayuga Cty
5. John Kelley	Chenango Cty
6. James C. Ross	Monroe Cty
7. Hiram L. Rockwell	Madison Cty

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|-----------------------|-------------|
| 8. Dwight S. Spafford | Genesee Cty |
| 9. Henry T. Sprague   | Ontario Cty |
| 10. William F. Smith  | Essex Cty   |
| 11. Samuel Wright     | Queens Cty  |

The Superintendent communicated the resignation of Mr Wood, to take effect with the conclusion of the present term, which on motion was accepted.

15th September 1855

The Committee met, on the Call of the Chairman

Present

The Superintendent of P. I.

Dr Beck

Mr Townsend

The Minutes of the two last meetings were read & approved.

The Treasurer presented his semi-annual account from Feby to August 1855.

T. Homeyn Beck, Treasurer in A/ current

on the State Normal School

Debtor

To Balance of Cash in the hands of the Treasurer	
Feby 1, 1855 as per former acct.	4481.25
Received for Tuition in Experimental School	
for last term	847.00
" From Bank of Albany Interest on Deposits	49.08
Advanced by Treasurer	178.36
	<u>5555.69</u>

Credit

By pd Salaries Principal & Teachers	5775.00
By Experimental School, including)	
Salary of Teacher	512.83
" Mileage of Students	587.30
" Stationary, Text Books & Chemicals	187.80
Repairs to building	30.16
Contingents, including salaries	
of Treasurer & Janitors, cleaning	422.68
postage & commissions	)

To Miss B. C. Hance, by Resolution(....?) 100.00 5555.69

New A/c Cr

Cr By Balance Our Treasurer 178.39

On Motion, the above was referred to the Standing Committee on accounts.

(The Standing Committee on the same day furnished the following certificates).

The undersigned members of the Executive committee of the State Normal School, appointed a committee to examine the accounts of T. R. Beck, Treasurer of said school for the six months ending February 15, 1855, do certify that we have examined the foregoing account of his receipts and disbursements during that period together with the vouchers in support thereof and find the same to be correct, and that the balance above credited of four thousand, four hundred and eighty one <sup>25</sup> ~~100~~ dollars to the Treasury of said School, is deposited in the Bank of Albany to the credit of said Treasurer as appears, by pass Book of said Bank, Albany Sept. 15, 1855.

Signed

V. H. Rice } Committee  
Franklin Townsend } to examine  
accounts

The undersigned members of the Executive Committee of the State Normal School appointed a committee to examine the accounts of T. R. Beck, Treasurer of said School, for the six months ending Aug. 15, 1855, do certify that we have examined the foregoing account of his

receipts and disbursements during that period, together with the vouchers in support thereof, and find the same to be correct, and that the amount of one hundred and seventy eight 38/100 dollars was advanced by the said Treasurer to supply the deficiency in the funds to meet the expenses, and that the said amount of advance has been repaid him out of moneys received since the above date.

Albany Sept. 15, 1855

Signed

V. H. Rice } Committee  
to examine  
Franklin Townsend) Accounts.

The Superintendent communicated the resignation of Mr Webb of his various appointments which was duly accepted, and Mr Webb having served faithfully since the organization of the school, as a teacher in the same, it was resolved that the Superintendent communicate to him the thanks of the Executive Committee.

On motion resolved that Mrs. Herres (formerly Henrietta B. White, a graduate of 1847) be appointed a tutor in the room of Miss Hence, at a Salary of \$600 per annum.

Resolved, that Albert H. Husted of Poughkeepsie a graduate of this Institution, be appointed tutor in the place of Mr Wood at a salary of \$500 per annum.

Resolved, That Miss Rice, a graduate of this

institution be employed as an assistant teacher, at a salary of \$350 per annum, until the further order of the committee.

The Principal reported that Mr Headley declined the publication of his address to the graduates.

The standing committee on Text Books, to whom was referred the recommendation of the faculty for the adoption of

Hooker's Physiology, in the room of  
Cutter's Physiology & of

Quackenbush's Aids to Composition  
in the room of Parker's

with power to have the same adopted if they so agree.

Report,

That they deem Hooker's work on Physiology superior to Cutter's in its style and manner of classification and arrangement, and also in the fact that the author is a well known Professor of Medicine, in one of our Eastern Colleges, and already somewhat distinguished as an author. It is therefore probable that he is familiar with the latest discoveries, and has judiciously employed them.

The committee also recommend Quackenbush's Work, being of much later preparation than Parkers, and they are quite ready to adopt the advice of the Faculty since both works have been used by them.

signed

Sept. 15, 1855

T. R. Beck  
C. S. Austin &  
Franklin Townsend

} Com.  
} on Text  
} Books

Novr. 17th 1858

The Executive Committee met on the call of the Chairman.

Present

The Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mr. Austin

Mr. Townsend

In consequence of the illness of the Secretary and Treasurer Dr. Beck, on motion of Mr. Austin, Mr. Townsend was appointed Treasurer protem, and on motion of Mr. Townsend Mr. Austin was appointed Secretary protem.

On motion of Mr. Townsend the sum of Twenty dollars was appropriated towards defraying the expenses of the biennial meeting of the Association of Graduates in July last.

A letter was received from Prof. Plympton, tendering his resignation of his Professorship in the Normal School to take effect from this day

Mr. Hammond appeared and took his seat in the Committee.

On motion of Mr. Hammond it was resolved to accept the resignation of Prof. Plympton to take effect as soon as a successor can be appointed to his professorship.

On motion of Mr. Hammond, the Superintendent of Public Instruction and Mr. Woolworth were appointed a committee to inquire into the matter of the appointment of



a successor to Prof. Flympton, and to report their recommendation to the Committee.

Adjourned

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The Executive Committee met at the Office of  
the Superintendent of Public Instruction

Novr. 20th 1858

Present

The Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mr. Austin

Mr. Townsend

The Chairman stated that the Committee had been called together on account of the decease of Dr. T. Romeyn Beck, a member of the Executive Committee, and its Secretary & Treasurer.

The following preamble and resolutions were offered by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and ordered to be entered on the minutes :-

"The Executive Committee of the New York State Normal School, in recording the decease of their Secretary T. Romeyn Beck M.D., take occasion to declare their deep and earnest consciousness, that the spirit of a good and useful man has withdrawn from the earth; that from society has been taken one of its brightest ornaments; that the department of science has lost an efficient

laborer and zealous teacher and that the school of which this committee have charge has been deprived of an able and constant friend. In consideration and as a befitting acknowledgment of this afflictive dispensation it is therefore hereby

Resolved, That in testimony of veneration and respect for the memory of the deceased, and with a desire to emulate his virtues this committee will attend his funeral on Wednesday next and order that on that day the State Normal School be closed and its exercises suspended.

Resolved, That we tender to his bereaved family the assurance of our sympathy with them in the loss which they have sustained in the dissolution of relations the duties of which were performed by the deceased with the most constant rectitude affection and fidelity and that a copy of this record certified by the Superintendent of Public Instruction be transmitted to them as an evidence thereof.

The Committee then adjourned.

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