

The health of the boys was exceptionally good during the year, not a single case of serious illness having occurred to require the services of a physician.

The boys were employed as usual in the shoe-making and kindling wood departments and in gardening and light farm work, due regard being exercised as to their fitness for these employments by reason of their age, physical condition and natural aptitude.

Facilities are afforded for a reasonable amount of recreation, mostly in the way of out-door sports and pastimes. The School needs a gymnasium and recreation room for use during inclement weather and the Directors would be glad to supply it if funds were available for such a purpose.

The usual Christmas festivities were a source of much pleasure to the boys. Thanks to the kindness of friends a sumptuous dinner was given, followed by class exercises in singing by the boys and by addresses from Directors and other friends present.

Several improvements to the School property were made during the year, including the grading of the roadway leading from Quinpool Road to the School, fencing, &c., and some internal changes in the equipment of the School Building.

The Directors regret that they have to report a balance on the wrong side in the financial statement. For many years they have been hampered in their work by a discrepancy between the income received and the expenditure necessary to the maintenance of a satisfactory standard of efficiency, the result being a continuous series of deficits. At the beginning of 1898 the deficit was \$925.31. By exercising a prudent economy in the management of the schools resources this was reduced during the year to \$553.51.