

part of the year—In the winter, and part of the fall and spring, by masters, and in the warmer and more busy season, by mistresses. For the support of these schools, the legislature have appropriated very ample funds:—one arising from new lands, sold by the then colony, many years since—the other from the sale of the land in New Connecticut. These lands, called the Western Reserve, sold for 1,200,000 dollars. In October, 1815, the value of the fund, as reported by the committee of said fund, was \$1,501,914 89, secured by mortgages and lands. Since October, 1815, there has been funded and added to the principal, 106,759 dolla. making the present amount of the school fund, \$1,608,673 89. The dividends on the school funds, paid to the different school societies in the state, for the year ending March 1st, 1818, on the list of 1816, is as follows:

October dividend, 1817.....	Dolls. 19,761..87
March dividend, 1818.....	29,643..11
Allowance of two dollars on the 1000, on the list of 1816, payable out of the treasury, on the old fund.....	13,174..68
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	Dolls. 62,579..66

Besides the academies which have charters, the grammar and district schools, there are about twenty of higher order, in which young gentlemen and ladies are instructed in higher branches of knowledge than are taught in the district schools.

NUMBER III.

Libraries, Newspapers, and Reading of the State.

EXCLUSIVE of the libraries of the clergy, lawyers, and physicians, and the Masonic libraries, of which there are many large and excellent ones, there are libraries in almost all the towns and societies in the state; formed by particular companies, and, generally, under good regulations. According to the best information which the writer has been able to obtain, there are about 140 of these libraries, containing, in the whole, about 26,000 volumes.¹ These have, generally, been instituted since the American revolution. They, generally, contain a well chosen assortment of books in divinity, morals, geography, history, biography, voyages, travels, &c. The proprietors draw from them as they please. They afford a stimulus and taste for reading.

¹ From a considerable number of towns, no account of their libraries has been received. It is believed, that the whole number of volumes is not less than 30,000.