

**THE DISTRICT SCHOOL
AS IT WAS. BY ONE
WHO WENT TO IT**

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The District School as It Was. By One Who Went to It by Warren Burton

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WARREN BURTON

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FRONTISPIECE.—see p. 25.
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THE
DISTRICT SCHOOL
AS IT WAS.

BY
ONE WHO WENT TO IT.

Revised Edition.

BOSTON:
PHILLIPS, SAMPSON AND COMPANY,
110 WASHINGTON STREET.
1850.

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Annex
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1850

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following work was first published in Boston in 1833, and was received with unqualified favor. A second and larger edition was issued in New York with equal success. Several hundred of this edition were purchased by a distinguished friend of education, in a neighboring state, and distributed for the purpose of suggesting ideas of reform.

It was republished in London a few years ago, as giving a faithful description of one of the Institutions of New England.

Notwithstanding these evidences of the value of the book, and repeated calls for it from various sources; several years have elapsed without a reprint. There ought to have been one before, for though much improvement has already been attained, the imperfections aimed at still linger in many places in our country.

The present publishers are happy now to make up the deficiency by a new edition revised by the Author, Rev. Warren Burton. It is hoped that it will be deemed particularly appropriate to School Libraries, and not unsuited to others; that it will be sought as an agreeable gift book from Teachers to Pupils; and lastly that it will ever be of historical use to rising generations, educated under better auspices, as exhibiting a true and graphic picture of "The District School as it Was."

PHILLIPS, SAMPSON & CO.,

Boston, Oct., 1850.

Publishers.



A W O R D

To the glancing Reader, if he will just stop a moment and see what it is.

This little volume was written in the hope that it would be a trifling aid to that improvement which is going on in respect to common schools. It was also intended to present a pleasant picture of some peculiarities which have prevailed in our country, but are now passing away.

It is trusted that no one who has kept* or is keeping a district school after the old fashion, will be offended at the slight degree of satire he will meet with here. Any one of due benevolence is willing to be laughed at, and even to join in the laugh against himself, if it will but hasten the tardy steps of improvement. Indeed, there are quite a number who have reason to believe that the author has here sketched some of his own school-keeping deficiencies.

It may be reasonably anticipated, that the young will be the most numerous readers of these pages. Some scenes have been described, the sports of the school-going season

* *Keep* school is a very different thing from *teach* school, according to Mr. Carter, in his *Essays on Popular Education*.

for instance, with a special view to their entertainment. It is trusted, however, that the older may not find it unpleasant to recall the pastimes of their early years.

Now and then a word has been used which some young readers may not understand. In this case they are entreated to seek a dictionary, and find out its meaning. They may be assured that the time spent in this way will not be lost. The definition thus acquired may be of use to them the very next book they shall take up, or at least in the course of the reading their future leisure will allow them to enjoy.

The Reader shall no longer be detained from the experience of a supposed school-boy ; if true to nature, no matter whether it really be, or be not, that of the

AUTHOR.