

# HOUSE.....No. 26.

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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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IN SENATE, Feb. 9, 1846.

The Joint Committee on Education, to which were committed the several Petitions of the Selectmen of the town of Brookfield, the School Committee of Carver, the School Committee of Dighton, the School Committee of the town of Foxboro', the School Committee of the town of Leverett, the School Committee of the town of Medford, the School Committee of the town of Princeton, and the School Committee of the town of Wrentham, praying for such portions of the School Fund as they have failed to receive in the past year, having duly considered the said Petitions,

### REPORT

unanimously as follows:

These petitioners represent towns which have failed to receive their respective portions of the school fund, from a failure to comply with some one or more of the conditions prescribed by the laws of this Commonwealth, and an exclusion in consequence of such failure, by the Secretary and Treasurer, from the distribution of the income of the same.

It is due to those officers to express the opinion of the Committee, that, in thus excluding the above applicants, they pursued a course altogether proper. Their duty is to distribute the income of the fund among those towns exclusively, who

have complied with all the conditions prescribed by law. Any town which omits so to do, must be relieved from the consequences, if at all, by the Legislature, and not by the Secretary and Treasurer.

It remains to inquire whether the petitioners in the cases above mentioned, are entitled to such relief, and after a full consideration of all those cases, your Committee can find no good reason for deviating in respect to any one of them, from the requisitions by law established, in relation to the distribution of the income of the school fund. In recommending a strict adherence to those requisitions, your Committee have been governed by the principles laid down in the report of their predecessors of the last year, (Senate Documents, 1845, No. 68,) as your Committee are entirely satisfied with the correctness of those principles. Whether the existing regulations are susceptible of improvement, is not a subject of inquiry on the present occasion.

Such as they are, they have been complied with by the great majority of the towns in the Commonwealth, and a facility in excusing omissions to comply would render those regulations worse than useless. Your Committee are therefore unanimous in recommending that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Your Committee, for the same reasons, unanimously recommend, that leave to withdraw be granted to the selectmen of the town of Erving, who petition for an allowance to the said town of a portion of the income of the school fund distributed in the year 1844.

Respectfully submitted,

Per order,

J. C. GRAY.

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SENATE, Feb. 11, 1846.

Accepted.

Sent down for concurrence.

CHARLES CALHOUN, *Clerk.*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: [illegible]

RE: [illegible]

1. [illegible]

2. [illegible]

3. [illegible]

4. [illegible]

5. [illegible]

