THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMON SCHOOLS

IN

THE TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD, QUEENS COUNTY,

PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT

TO THE FREEPORT SCHOOL DISTRICT


From Volume 6 of the Original Records
Of the Town of Hempstead, Queens County,

Now in the vault of the Town Clerk,

Town Hall, Front Street, Hempstead.

Copied by

John F. DeLorme,

Historian, Village of Freeport.
“We the Commissioners of Common Schools for the Town of Hempstead in the County of Queens, agreeable to the Direction of an Act of the Legislature of the State of New York entitled an Act for the Establishment of Common Schools, passed January ye 19, 1812,

“Do hereby Describe the Bounds and the number of each District Within the Said Town of Hempstead, as follows:

“Raynors..................District No. 6

“Bounded on the North by (District) No. 2, on the East by (District) No. 5. On the South by the Bay, and Westardly 20 rods to the East of Benjamin Tredwell’s, Uriah Bedell’s and Isaac Raynor’s Sen. And from the road the whole Distance 20 rods.

(Signed) Oliver Hewlett,

David Dorlon,

Samuel Carman,

January 15, 1814. Commissioners of Schools.

(My note: District #2, mentioned above, covered “East Meadow”

District #5, mentioned above, had as its West boundary the Merrick River.

The Act of the Legislature referred to is Chapter 242, Laws of 1812.

(Page, 196)

“We the Commissioners of Common Schools for the Town of Hempstead in the County of Queens, agreeable to the direction of an Act of the Legislature of the State of New York entitled an Act for the Establishment of Common Schools passed January 19, 1822,

“We Do hereby Certify that we have altered, laid out and Regulated the different districts in the Town of Hempstead as follows:

“District No. 9.........Raynortown

“Commencing at John Seaman’s, running a Northeast course until it strikes the line of (District) No. 8, thence Eastwardly bounded on the north by (District) No. 8, thence Southerly bounded on the East by (District) No. 7, and on the South by the Bay until it comes to Frost’s Mill Creek, thence Northerly by the Creak and Pond until it comes to John Seaman’s, the place of beginning.”

August 1st, 1827 (Signed)

Benjamin C. Jackson,
Stephen Johnson,

Robert Carman,

Commissioners of Common Schools

NOTE: The Act of the Legislature referred to is Chapter 240 of the laws of 1821.

(Page 234).....January 15, 1844

ALTERATION OF DISTRICT #8 AND #9

“District No. 9 and No. 8...are altered by setting off the farms and parcels of land occupied by Edmund Smith, Junr., Jacob Smith, Silvanaus Smith, Jacob Valentine and Daniel Seaman from District No. 9, in which they have heretofore been included, to District No. 8, so that the Northeast boundary of District nine and the Southerly and Southwesterly boundary of District number eight shall hereafter be the Southerly and Southwesterly lines of the farms and parcels of land occupied by the said Silvanaus Smith, Daniel Seaman, Jacob Valentine and Jacob Smith the line passing westerly from the Eastmeadow Stream, so called, two rods North of the Meeting House, the said Edmund Smith, Junr, Silvanaus Smith, Jacob Valentine and Daniel Seaman having signed and presented a petition to be set off as aforesaid and the said Jacob Smith not having consented to the above alteration.”

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SEE ATTACHED SHEETS FOR STATISTICAL MATTERS.

(Page 169) (1821)

“Returns as made out by the Trustees of School Districts to the Commission of Common Schools in the Town of Hempstead in the year 1821.

(Report of District No. 6)

“Months taught by an approved teacher 6

Number of children taught 37

Number of children 5/15 yrs in District 85

“Equal proportion of $798.31 of each of 15 Districts:

District No. 6 share.............................................$38.87

..........................

“Amount of money received in 1821 by the Commissioners of Common Schools in the Town of Hempstead:
From the County Treasurer ...................... $399.31

From John Simonson, Collector .............. 399.00

                      $798.31

(Signed)             Oliver Hewlett,

David Dorlon,

Stephen Hewlett.

(Page 199) ............... June 1st, 1827

District No. 6.

(Not changed to #9 until August 1st, 1827)

Months taught by an approved teacher ............ 9

Number of pupils taught .................................. 45

Number of children 5/15 yrs in District .......... 124

Money received .................................. $48.98

........................................................

(Page 235) ....................... March 18, 1844.

District No. 9 .......... (Raynortown)

Whole length of time any school has been kept therein by an approved teacher .......... 6 months 24 days

Pupils taught ........................................... 56

Children 5/15 yrs in District ................. 122

Teacher’s money received ............... $75.63

Library money ..................................... 18.91

(Page 239, etc) .............. April 1, 1845

From Report of Elizabeth A. Smith, Town Superintendent of Schools .................

Number of School Districts reporting .......... 20
“That the number of schools for Colored Children taught in said Town during the year aforesaid four months or upwards by a duly qualified teacher was .................. 1

Length of time any school has been taught by approved teachers .................... 9 months 15 days

Number of children taught ...................... 92

Children 5/15 years in District .............. 122

Number of pupils attending less than 2 months ..... 38

Over 2 months, less than 4 months ................... 22

4 months, less than 6 months ...................... 26

6 months, less than 8 months ...................... 5

8 months, less than 10 months .................... 1

Volumes in Library ................................. 114

Teachers money ................................. $87.53

Library money ................................. 21.88

$109.41

NOTE: The District referred to was District #5.)

List of books used in the schools on next page

(Page 240)

“That the school books most in use in the said Town, as reported by the trustees, are as follows:

The Elementary Spelling Book
March ’28, 1851 ..... 

From Report of Wm. P. Wright, Superintendent of Schools, Town of Hempstead.

District No. 9

Teachers wages .........................$125.67

Library money ............................ 19.34

........................................ $145.01

February 7, 1852:
District No. 9

Teachers wages $143.19

Library money 5.82

$149.01