

School Log Book Extracts

Landford National School 1870 - 1879

A note in the front of the log book:-

20 January 1875 - Owing to the increased expenditure necessary to the support of the School the Managers have decided to raise the rate of payment for the instruction given and have agreed hereafter the children of all farmers, keepers, head gardeners, policemen and household servants all be charged twopence per week, sixpence per week for 3 children and one penny per week for every child beyond this number. While the children of bona fide Labourers will be charged threehalfpence a week for one child, threepence for two, fourpence for three and penny for each child beyond that number.

Signed: F. G. Girdlestone Rector

J. E. Nelson Manager

28th February 1870 - 6 children (including A. King) brought before the Rev. F. G. Girdlestone for throwing stones and breaking the palings parting the garden from the field - Promised faithfully not to do so again. Punishment - Deprived of the liberty of taking a prize.

4th April 1870 - Andrew Moody brought halfpenny instead of 1d. stating it was all his mother had given him; on enquiring I find he had spent part on sweets. Parents took upon themselves to punish him.

30th June 1870 - Eliza Harris absent. Cause - no shoes

18th July 1870 - Six of the 1st and 2nd Class (... turned) and kept (in) for not having learnt the Gospel perfectly.

21st April 1871 - John Moody the only child in Standard IV, V, VI and VII but what had attempted or had learnt a parable - Reason - Preferred birds nesting.

5th May 1871 - Punished F. Curtis for tipping the ink from the well into his hand and then rubbing it about his face.

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8th June 1871 - The doctor has seen little Luffman again today and now says it is smallpox - the little Barnes and Luffmans are therefore not allowed to attend school.

15th July 1872 - Admitted Martin Luther Moody. Aged 4 years. Born June 9th 1868.

7th August 1872 - Children allowed to go out of school for 5 minutes to see the soldiers pass with the tents, bedding etc. for the Autumn manoeuvres.

10th October 1872 - Mrs. Kemish called to object to her boys assisting to clear the buckets used in the closets. An enquiry was instituted for the purpose of eliciting from the other boys whether they also objected or whether they disliked doing it - Job Edney said it made his head ache but that he would rather do it than have to endure the closets as they used to be, the others had no objection whatever.

11th July 1873 - M. L. Moody punished for swearing by being tied to the leg of the desk. (Martin Luther Moody)

13th August 1873 - F. Moody commenced 'Weights and Measures' from Davis "Graded Arithmetic". G. Edney, G. King, W. Robinson & E. Giles begin Compound Addition of Money.

20th March 1874 - The following boys absconded themselves from school in the afternoon without leave, to witness or assist as one or two say to extinguish the fire on the common. (List includes Jno. Moody, Fred. Moody, A. Moody)

8th June 1874 - Admitted Oliver Hood Aged 2 years 7 months. Born 21st November 1871

15th June 1874 - Admitted Frederick King Age 4 years 7 months. Born 13th November 1869

22nd June 1874 - Admitted James King Aged 4 years. Born 1st June 1870

4th July 1874 - Clara Judd reported Walter Robinson for having assaulted her by putting his hand up under her clothes during the dinner hour whilst they were playing in their playground. Punished by being tied to the desk and made to work alone and before the whole school.

5th October 1874 - Admitted Maria King Aged 5 8 months. Born 7th February 1869.

19th April 1875 - Admitted Alice Gray Moody. Aged 5 years 9 months. Born 8th July 1869

24thy May 1875 - Admitted Fred. Cecil Browning King. Aged 4 years 5 months. Born 4th December 1870.

13th September 1875 - Admitted Amy Mary Moody. Aged 4 years 4 months. Born 12th May 1871

26th November 1875 - Edward King bit G. Smith's finger and made it bleed. Punished by standing him in the room and then by kissing the injured child.

28th January 1876 - 1st and 2nd composition Subject - Herring. Fred Moody and G. Harrison did very nicely. L. King, E. King, Walter Crook and M. Gange did very badly.

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11th February 1876 - Alice and Amy Moody suffering with severe colds.

24th October 1876 - In the afternoon I again punished Frederick Wheeler for swearing. It seems to me that he will not be cured of the habit. I am informed that he is actually taught to swear by a boy in his father's employ. If that is the case it will be very difficult to break him of the habit. He is a little over 4 years old.

23rd January 1877 - M. L. Moody (Martin Luther) not having brought his money was told to do so on the following day.

24th January 1877 - M. L. Moody said his father had no work and that his mother had no money.

20th February 1877 - E. King and M. L. Moody brought their school money.

(Change of Headmaster April 1877 - first records of caning after that date)

24th June 1877 - Charlotte King admitted. Born 4th June 1871.

4th July 1877 - I prepared a list and gave it to the Rector of all the children in the parish from 3 years to 13 years on their last birthday.

9th July 1877 - Gabriel Samuel Moody admitted. Date of birth 15th November 1872.

6th November 1877 - Frank Gange and Martin L. Moody were caned for smoking short pipes.

1st February 1878 - Hearing about a dozen boys were sliding near Hamptworth when they ought to have been in school I followed them with the cane and plied it freely. It had a good effect.

21st March 1878 - Children becoming interested in so-fa-ing their tunes.

29th May 1878 - Maria King died this morning. She was in Standard IV and was a very good girl.

9th September 1878 - School commenced again. Admitted Jessie Edith Moody born July 4 1874. (M. Legg's grandmother)

9th October 1878 - Looking up backward children.

13th November 1878 - Examination day. Scholl inspected by Her Majesty Inspectors.

21st November 1878 - Miss Girdlestone came in and inspected the sewing and knitting.

14th April 1879 - Edgar King admitted. Date of birth 19th August 1874.

20th May 1879 - Admitted Thomas King. Born October 24th 1873.

27th May 1879 - Children interested in analysis and grammar.

11th July 1879 - J. J. Snelgrove sent home to-day because he had swallowed a piece of pencil.

11th August 1879 - Four boys played truant this afternoon and the Rector ordered them to appear at his house. They had followed cattle to Downton.

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18th August 1879 - The timetable will not be strictly adhered to from this date until after the Government Inspection because some subjects require more attention than the timetable devotes to them. (This happened quite frequently before an inspection!) 25th August 1879 - Mental arithmetic instead of dictation. 14th October 1879 - Mary Ann Moody admitted. Born 17th December 1871. 16th December 1879 - 16th February 1880 - School closed because of scarlatina. ©Wiltshire OPC Project/2013/Sandy Mursell