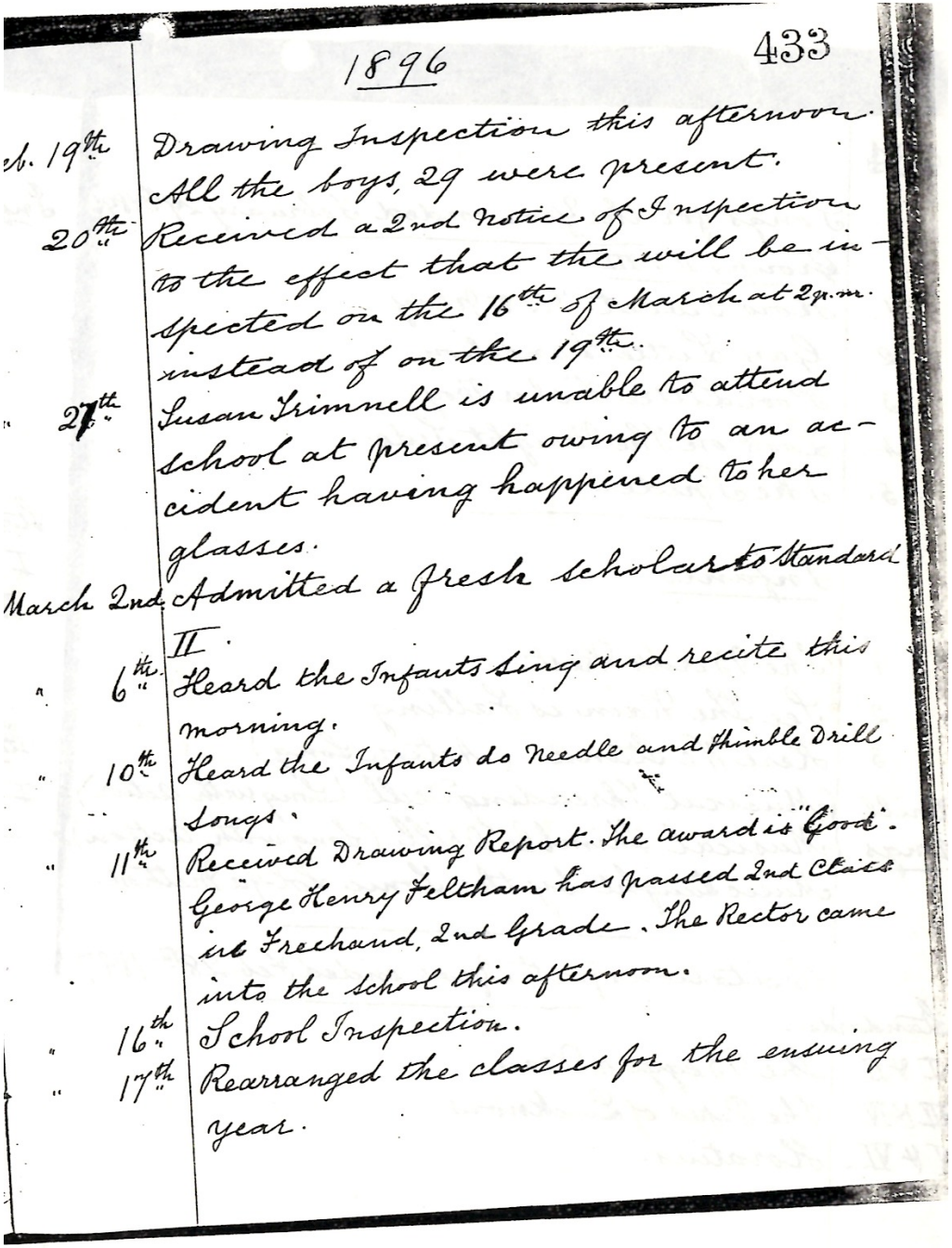
Poulshot School Log Book - school year 1896-97

Volume 1, pages 433-451 (19 pages)

Log book of Poulshot School kept by the headmaster, Hugh Leslie (1880-1915). Given to the Poulshot Village Trust by his granddaughter, with full rights to use and publish. Transcription: AWS Textract OCR corrected by Claude (AI) against the page image; it may contain errors - the page image is the authoritative record.

Produced 22 November 2026.



1896 433

b. 19th Drawing Inspection this afternoon. All the boys, 29 were present.

20th " Received a 2nd Notice of Inspection to the effect that the will be inspected on the 16th of March at 2p.m. instead of on the 19th.

27th " Susan Trimnell is unable to attend school at present owing to an accident having happened to her glasses.

March 2nd. Admitted a fresh scholar to Standard II.

" 6th " Heard the Infants sing and recite this morning.

" 10th " Heard the Infants do Needle and thimble Drill songs.

" 11th " Received Drawing Report. The award is "Good". George Henry Feltham has passed 2nd Class in Freehand, 2nd Grade. The Rector came into the school this afternoon.

" 16th " School Inspection.

" 17th " Rearranged the classes for the ensuing year.

Page 433

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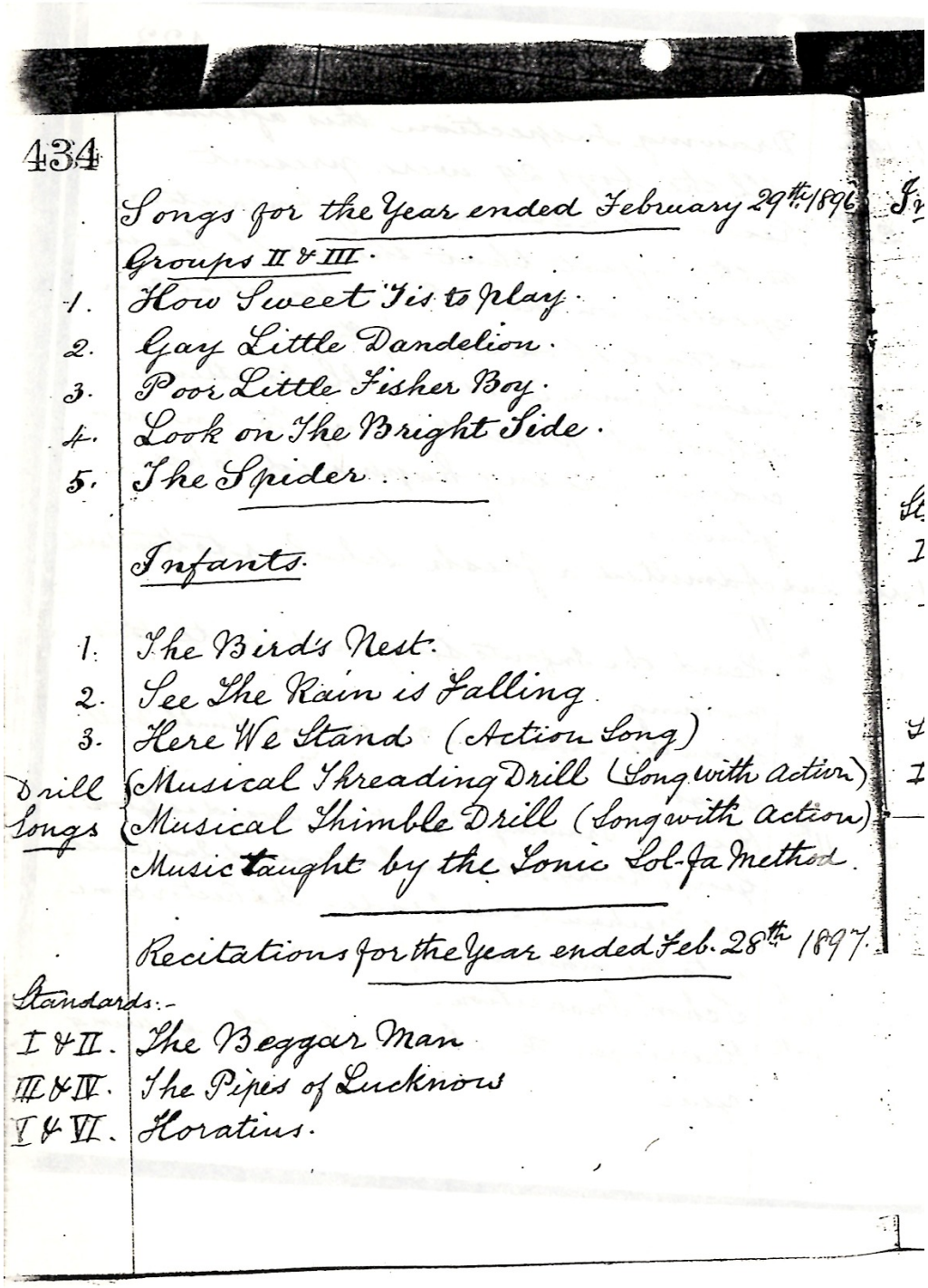
" 17th " Rearranged the classes for the ensuing year.

Uncertain readings: Margin date 'Feb. 19th' is partly cut off at the left edge; only 'b. 19th' is visible; 'the will be inspected': probably a slip for 'we'. Transcribed as written; Surname read as 'Trimnell' (OCR gave 'Trimmell'). The 'n'/'m' is ambiguous; '27th': the 7 looks written over another figure; 'Scholar to Standard' is squeezed in at the end of the line



434

Songs for the Year ended February 29th/1896

Groups II & III.

1. How Sweet 'Tis to Play.
2. Gay Little Dandelion.
3. Poor Little Fisher Boy.
4. Look on The Bright Side.
5. The Spider.

Infants.

1. The Bird's Nest.
2. See The Rain is Falling.
3. Here We Stand (Action Song)

Drill Songs (Musical Threading Drill (Song with action)
(Musical Thimble Drill (Song with action)
Music taught by the Tonic Sol-fa Method.

Recitations for the Year ended Feb. 28th 1897.

Standards:-

I & II. The Beggar Man
III & IV. The Pipes of Lucknow
V & VI. Horatius.

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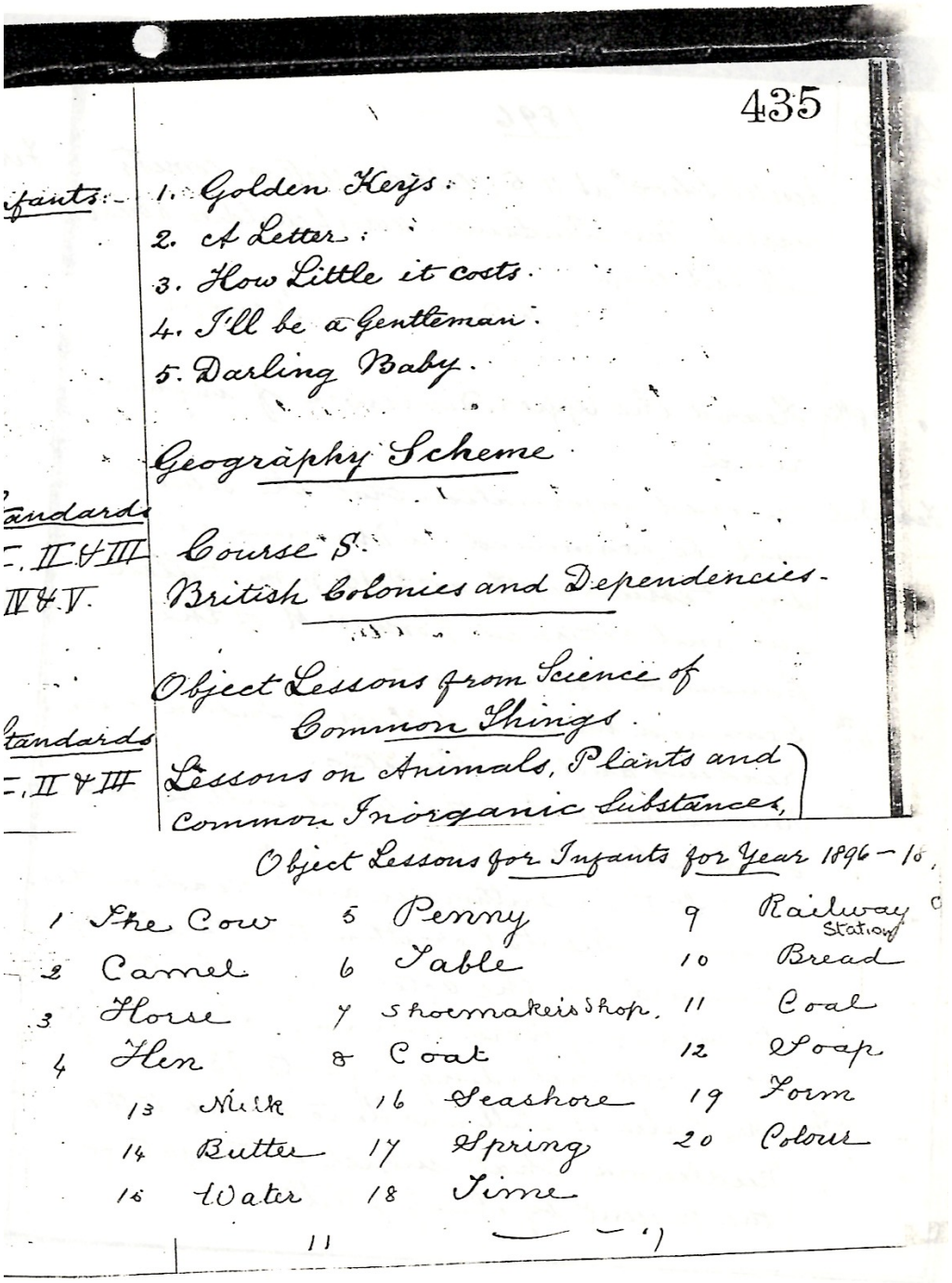
Recitations for the Year ended Feb. 28th 1897. Standards:- I & II. The Beggar Man III & IV. The Pipes of Lucknow V & VI. Horatius.

Uncertain readings: Title year: the songs list says 'February 29th/1896', but the recitations below are for the year ended 'Feb. 28th 1897'. The 1896 date is plausible because 1896 was a leap year. No separate header year appears at the top centre, so header_year is set to 0.; 'Tis' in 'How Sweet Tis to play' is written without an apostrophe.; 'Drill Songs' is a margin label bracketing the two musical drill lines.


435

fants:- 1. Golden Keys.
2. A Letter:
3. How Little it costs.
4. I'll be a Gentleman.
5. Darling Baby.

Geography Scheme

tandards
I. II & III Course S.
IV & V. British Colonies and Dependencies.

Object Lessons from Science of Common Things.

tandards
I. II & III Lessons on Animals, Plants and common Inorganic Substances,

Object Lessons for Infants for Year 1896 – 1[?].

1 The Cow 5 Penny 9 Railway Station
2 Camel 6 Table 10 Bread
3 Horse 7 Shoemaker's Shop. 11 Coal
4 Hen 8 Coat 12 Soap
13 Milk 16 Seashore 19 Form
14 Butter 17 Spring 20 Colour
15 Water 18 Time

11

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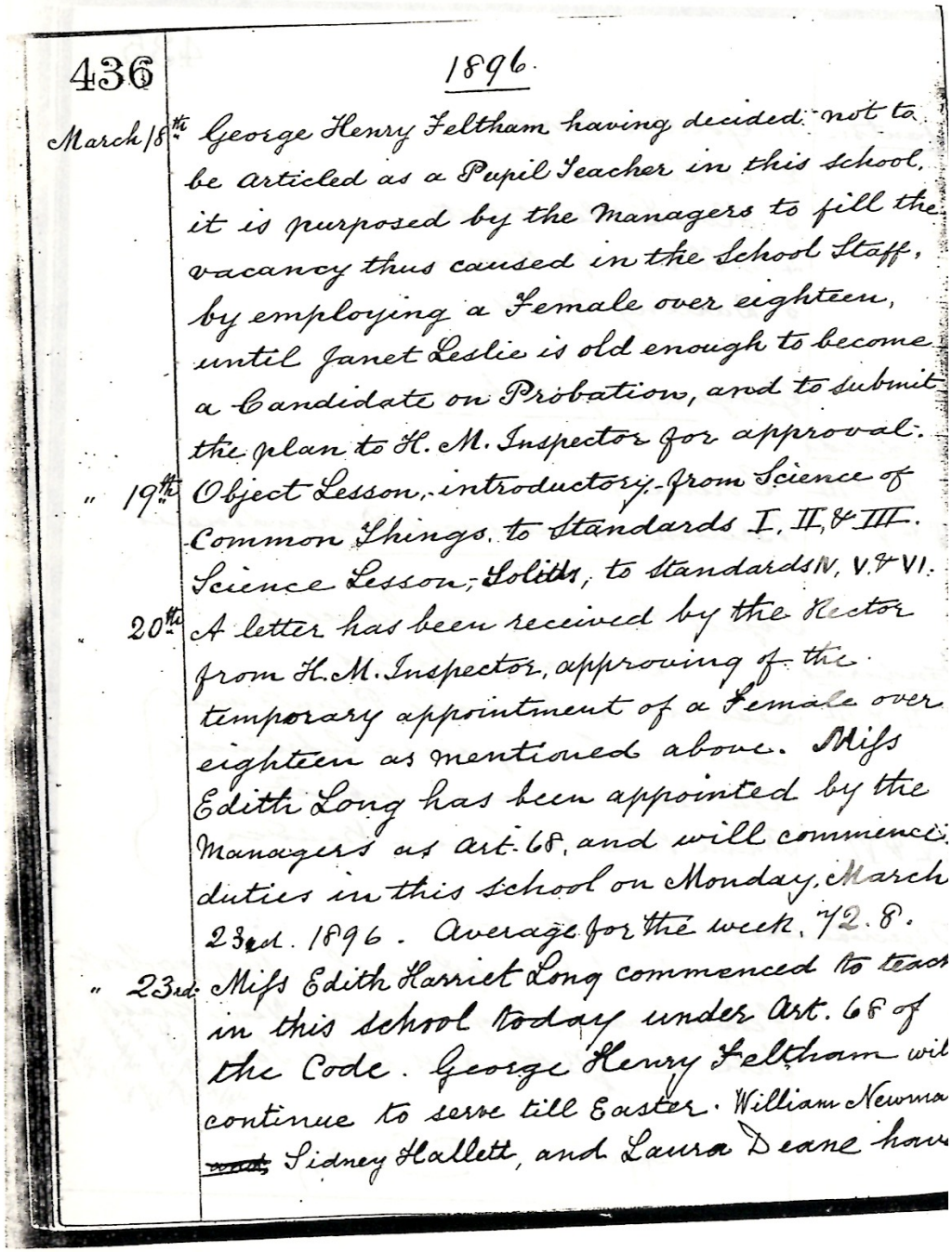
(continued from previous page)

Infants:- 1. Golden Keys. 2. A Letter: 3. How Little it costs. 4. I'll be a Gentleman. 5. Darling Baby. Geography Scheme. Standards I. II & III, IV & V. Course S. British Colonies and Dependencies. Object Lessons from Science of Common Things. Standards I. II & III. Lessons on Animals, Plants and common Inorganic Substances, Object Lessons for Infants for Year 1896 – 1[?]. 1 The Cow 2 Camel 3 Horse 4 Hen 5 Penny 6 Table 7 Shoemaker's Shop. 8 Coat 9 Railway Station 10 Bread 11 Coal 12 Soap 13 Milk 14 Butter 15 Water 16 Seashore 17 Spring 18 Time 19 Form 20 Colour

Uncertain readings: Left margin is cropped: 'fants:-' read as 'Infants:-', 'andards'/'tandards' as 'Standards', and the standard numerals 'I. II & III' and 'IV & V' are partly cut off; Year on the pasted slip reads '1896 – 1' followed by an unclear figure, probably the end of the school year (e.g. 1897); Item 15 'Water': the number is written oddly and could be read as 16, but the sequence needs 15; Stray '11' at the foot of the slip and a curved mark ('—')') below item 18, purpose unclear; No year header visible at the top of the page



436 1896.

March 18th George Henry Feltham having decided not to be articled as a Pupil Teacher in this school, it is purposed by the Managers to fill the vacancy thus caused in the School Staff, by employing a Female over eighteen, until Janet Leslie is old enough to become a Candidate on Probation, and to submit the plan to H. M. Inspector for approval.

" 19th Object Lesson, introductory from Science of Common Things. to Standards I, II, & III. Science Lesson, Solids, to Standards IV, V. & VI.

" 20th A letter has been received by the Rector from H. M. Inspector, approving of the temporary appointment of a Female over eighteen as mentioned above. Miss Edith Long has been appointed by the Managers as art. 68. and will commence duties in this school on Monday, March 23rd. 1896. Average for the week, 72.8.

" 23rd. Miss Edith Harriet Long commenced to teach in this school today under Art. 68 of the Code. George Henry Feltham will continue to serve till Easter. William Newman Sidney Hallett, and Laura Deane have

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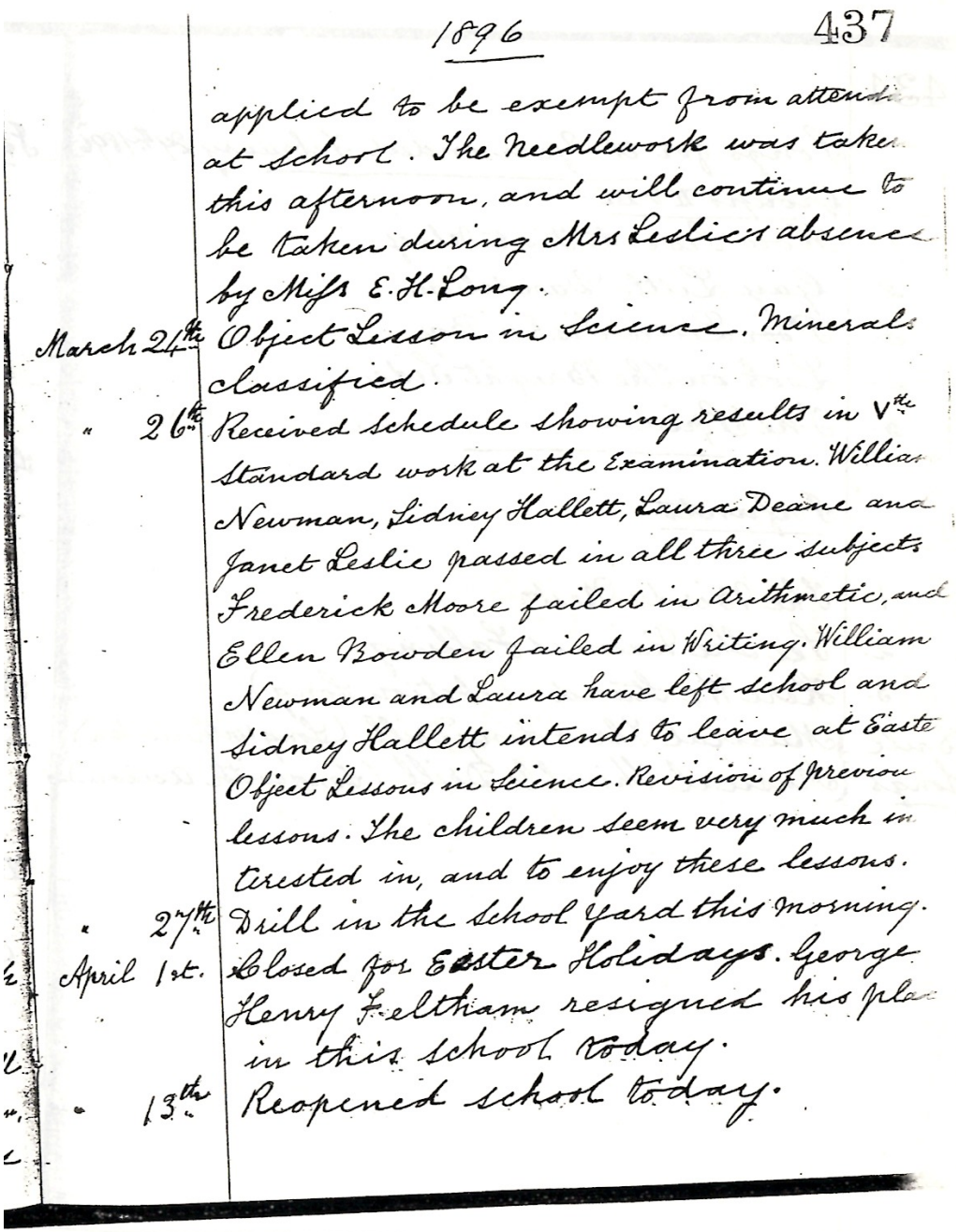
1896 437

applied to be exempt from attendance at school. The Needlework was taken this afternoon, and will continue to be taken during Mrs Leslie's absence by Miss E. H. Long.

March 24th Object Lesson in Science. Minerals classified.

" 26th Received Schedule showing results in Vth Standard work at the Examination. William Newman, Sidney Hallett, Laura Deane and Janet Leslie passed in all three subjects Frederick Moore failed in Arithmetic, and Ellen Bowden failed in Writing. William Newman and Laura have left school and Sidney Hallett intends to leave at Easter Object Lessons in Science. Revision of previous lessons. The children seem very much interested in, and to enjoy these lessons.

" 27th Drill in the School yard this morning.

April 1st. Closed for Easter Holidays. George Henry Feltham resigned his place in this school today.

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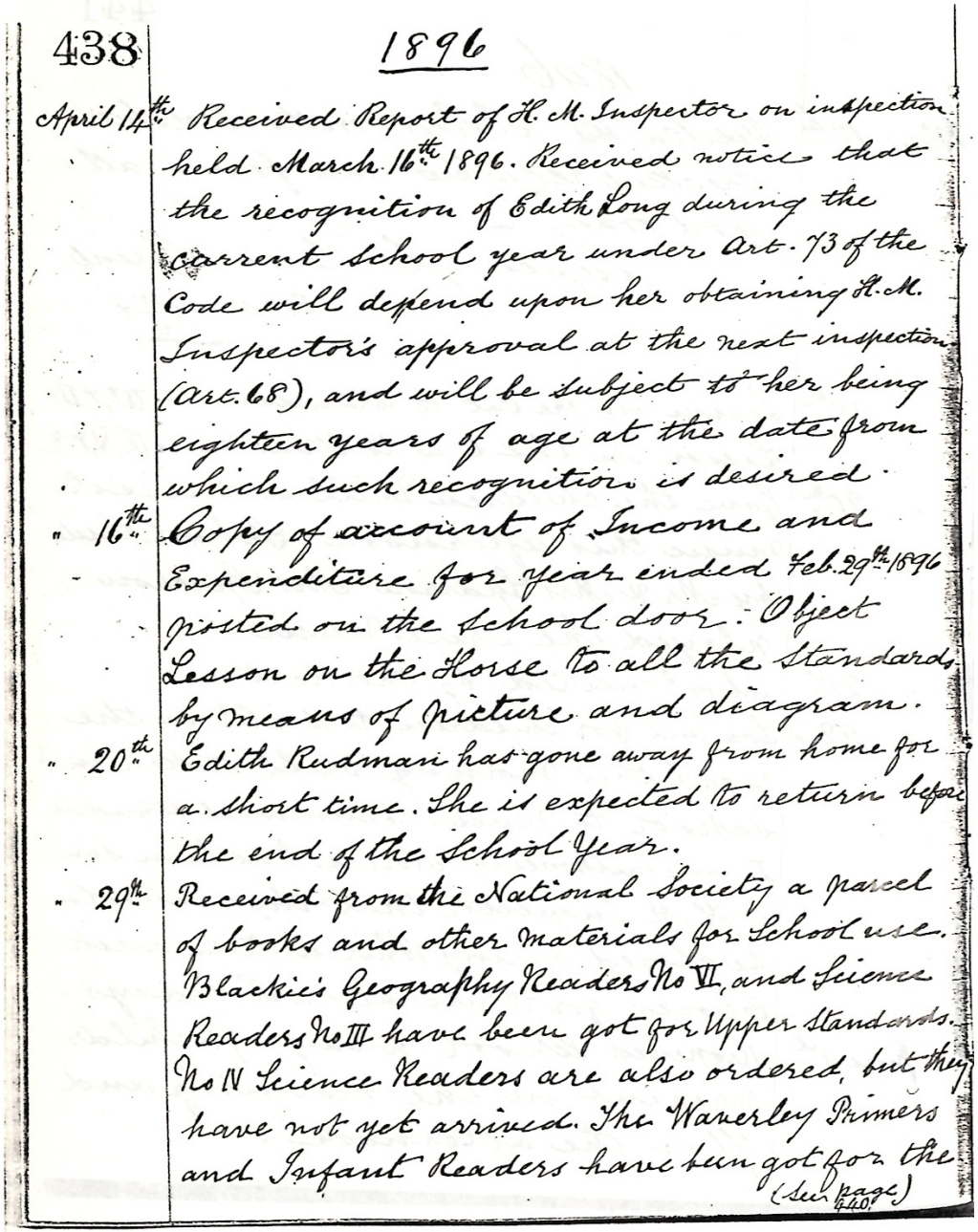
Uncertain readings: Words at the right edge are cut off in the scan and have been completed in brackets: attend[ance], take[n], Willia[m], Easte[r], previou[s], pla[ce]; 'Mi■s' is written with a long s (■s); 'in / terested' runs across a line break with no hyphen visible; The 'Object Lessons in Science. Revision...' passage has no date in the margin, so it has been kept as part of the 26th March entry



438 1896

April 14th Received Report of H. M. Inspector on inspection held March 16th 1896. Received notice that the recognition of Edith Long during the current school year under Art. 73 of the Code will depend upon her obtaining H. M. Inspector's approval at the next inspection (Art. 68), and will be subject to her being eighteen years of age at the date from which such recognition is desired.

" 16th Copy of account of Income and Expenditure for year ended Feb. 29th 1896 posted on the school door. Object Lesson on the Horse to all the Standards by means of picture and diagram.

" 20th Edith Rudman has gone away from home for a short time. She is expected to return before the end of the School Year.

" 29th Received from the National Society a parcel of books and other materials for School use. Blackie's Geography Readers No VI, and Science Readers No III have been got for Upper standards. No IV Science Readers are also ordered, but they have not yet arrived. The Waverley Primers and Infant Readers have been got for the (See page 440.)

Page 438

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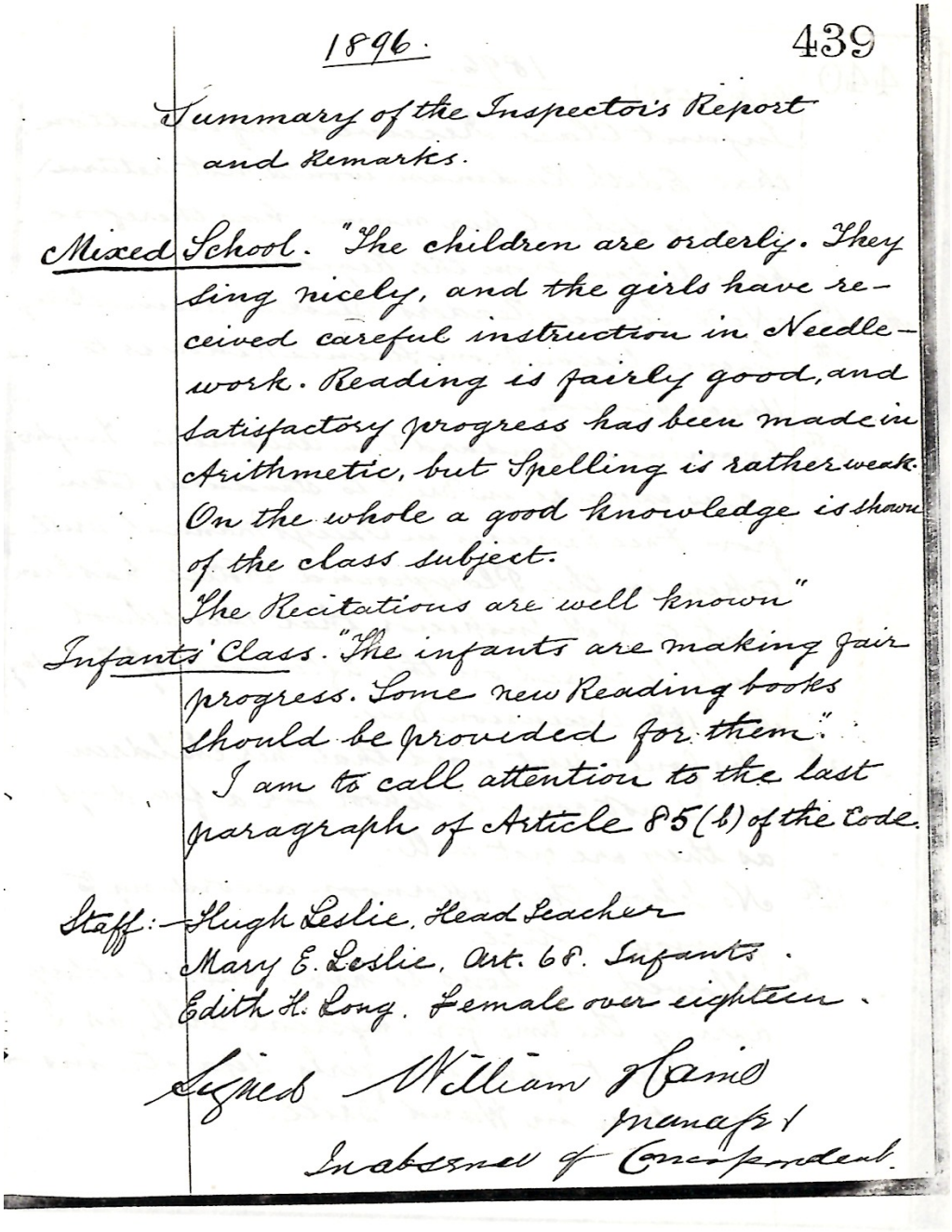
Uncertain readings: 'Waverley' Primers: the hand looks like 'Wanerley'; read as Waverley; Blackie's: the apostrophe and final letters are unclear ('Blackie's' or 'Blackies'); '(See page 440.)': small note squeezed under the last line, continuing the 29th entry



1896. 439

Summary of the Inspector's Report and Remarks.

Mixed School. "The children are orderly. They sing nicely, and the girls have received careful instruction in Needlework. Reading is fairly good, and satisfactory progress has been made in Arithmetic, but Spelling is rather weak. On the whole a good knowledge is shown of the class subject. The Recitations are well known"

Infants' Class. "The infants are making fair progress. Some new Reading books should be provided for them".

I am to call attention to the last paragraph of Article 85(b) of the Code.

Staff:- Hugh Leslie. Head Teacher
Mary E. Leslie. Art. 68. Infants.
Edith H. Long. Female over eighteen.

Signed William Harris
manager
In absence of Correspondent.

Page 439

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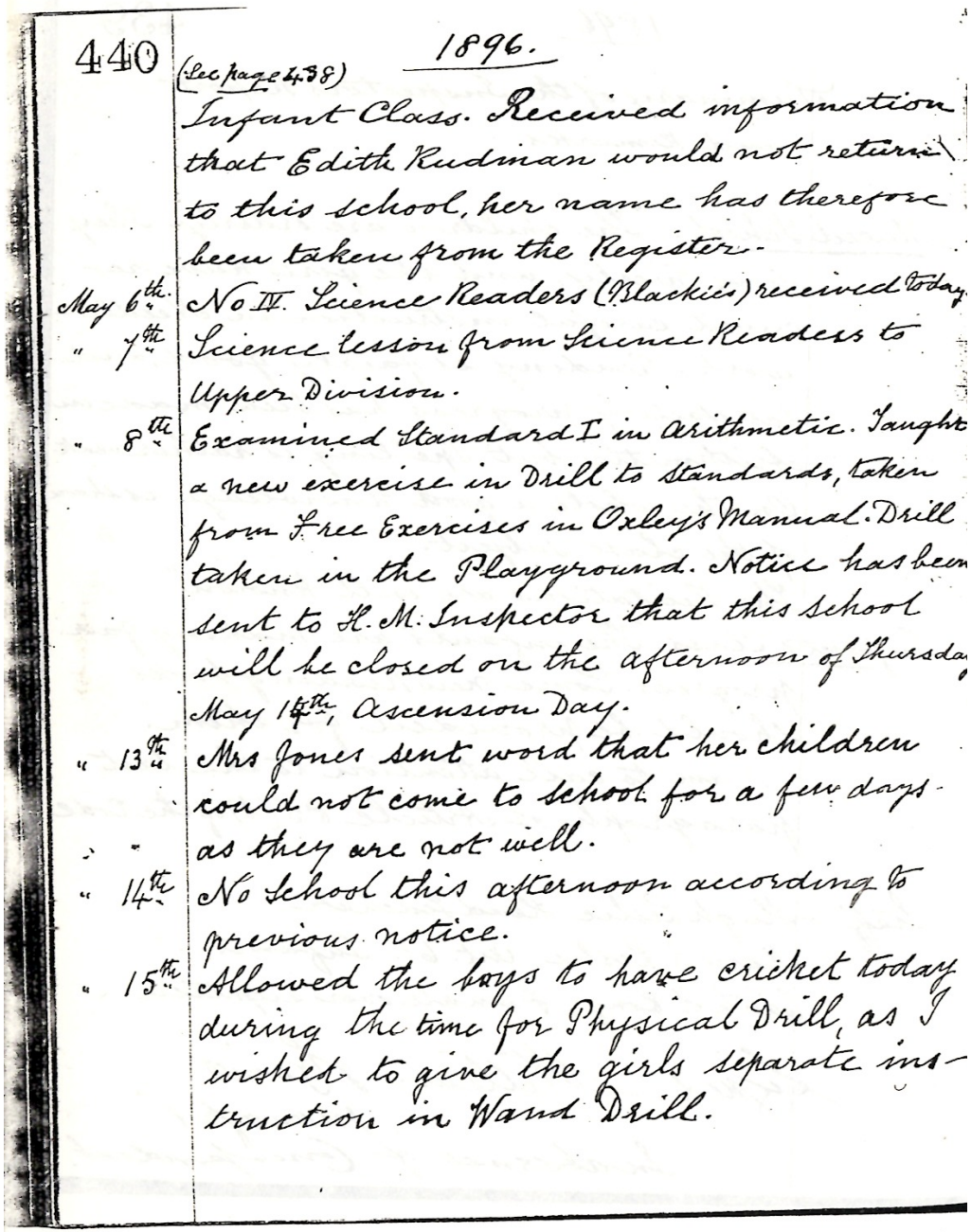
Uncertain readings: Manager's surname in the signature: read as 'Harris'; OCR gave 'glame'; could also be 'Hains' or 'Haines'; 'Infants' Class' - the apostrophe position is unclear; 'Head Teacher' - the T is shaped like an S but 'Teacher' is meant; The word 'Manager' is written above the line, inserted before 'In absence of Correspondent'


440 (See page 438) 1896.

(See page 438) Infant Class. Received information that Edith Rudman would not return to this school, her name has therefore been taken from the Register.

May 6th. No IV. Science Readers (Blackie's) received today

" 7th Science lesson from Science Readers to Upper Division.

" 8th Examined Standard I in arithmetic. Taught a new exercise in Drill to Standards, taken from Free Exercises in Oxley's Manual. Drill taken in the Playground. Notice has been sent to H.M. Inspector that this school will be closed on the afternoon of Thursday May 14th, Ascension Day.

" 13th Mrs Jones sent word that her children could not come to school for a few days as they are not well.

" 14th No School this afternoon according to previous notice.

" 15th Allowed the boys to have cricket today during the time for Physical Drill, as I wished to give the girls separate instruction in Wand Drill.

Page 440

(continued from previous page)

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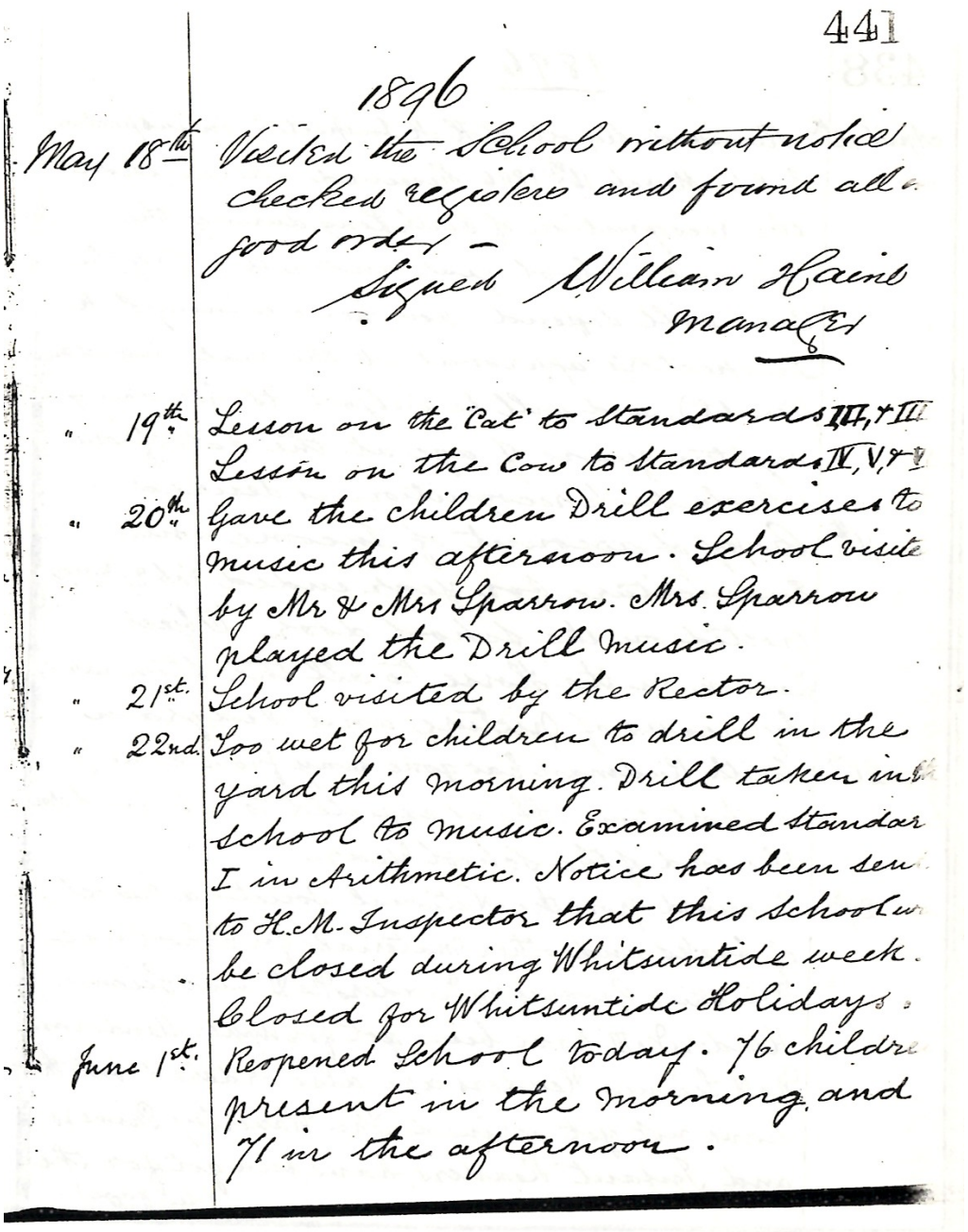
Uncertain readings: 'No IV.' read as Roman IV (OCR gave 'II'); '(See page 438)': the first entry seems to continue or add to an entry on page 438, not on the page before this one, so its date is unknown


441

1896

May 18th Visited the School without notice checked registers and found all in good order — Signed William Haine Manager

" 19th Lesson on the 'Cat' to Standards I, II, & III Lesson on the Cow to Standards IV, V, & VI

" 20th Gave the children Drill exercises to music this afternoon. School visited by Mr & Mrs Sparrow. Mrs. Sparrow played the Drill music.

" 21st. School visited by the Rector.

" 22nd. Too wet for children to drill in the yard this morning. Drill taken in school to music. Examined standard I in Arithmetic. Notice has been sent to H.M. Inspector that this school will be closed during Whitsuntide week. Closed for Whitsuntide Holidays.

June 1st. Reopened School today. 76 children present in the morning and 71 in the afternoon.

Page 441

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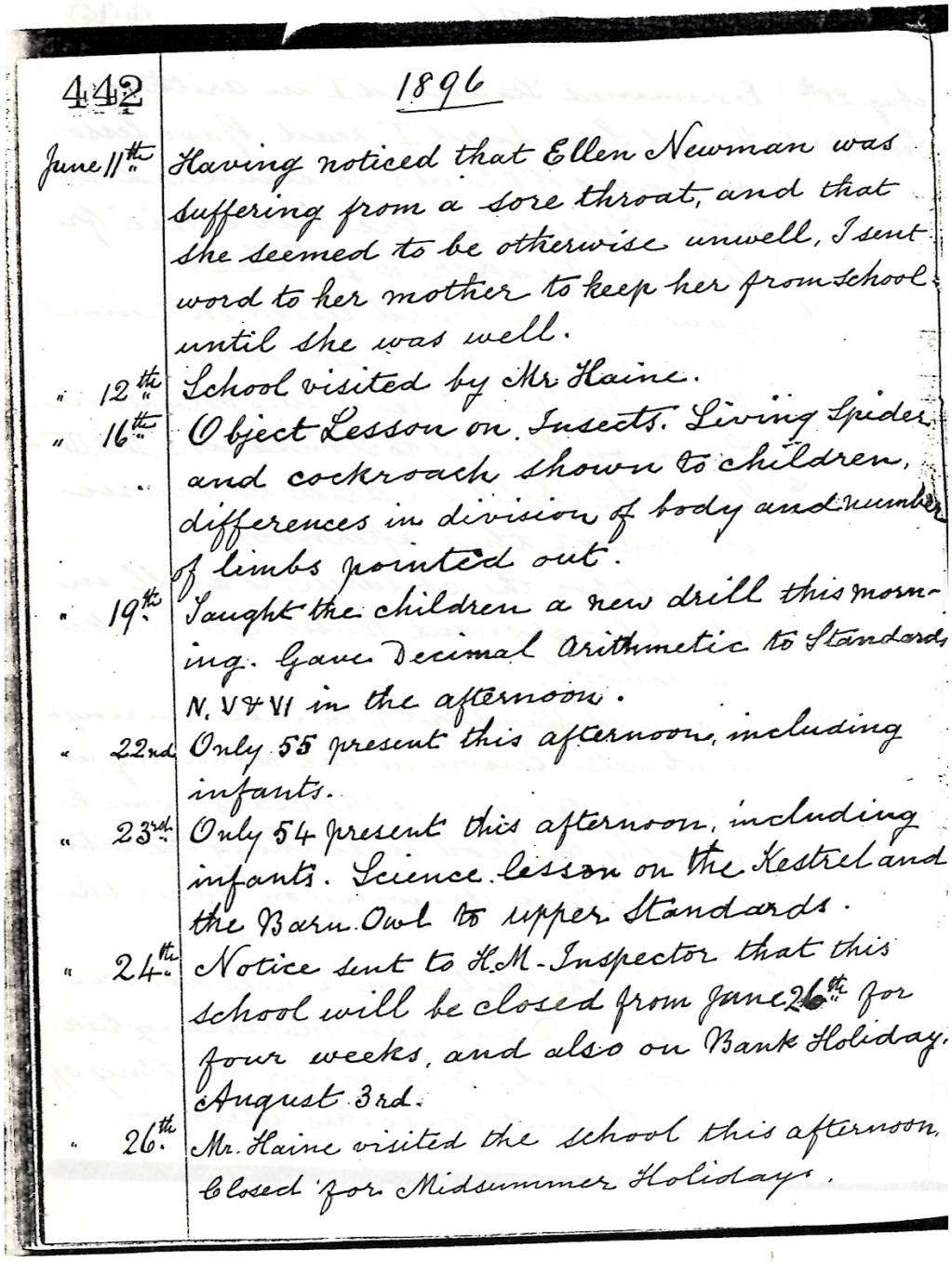
June 1st. Reopened School today. 76 childre[n] present in the morning and 71 in the afternoon.

Uncertain readings: 'all [in?] good order' - the word at the end of the line is cut off at the page edge; manager's surname read as 'Haine'; it could also be 'Haines' or 'Hains'; standards for the Cat lesson are partly cut off; they appear to be I, II & III; last standard for the Cow lesson is cut off at the edge; probably VI; line-end letters cut off by the page edge, shown in square brackets: visite[d], in [the], Standar[d], sen[t], w[ill], childre[n]


442

1896

June 11th Having noticed that Ellen Newman was suffering from a sore throat, and that she seemed to be otherwise unwell, I sent word to her mother to keep her from school until she was well.

" 12th School visited by Mr Haine.

" 16th Object Lesson on. Insects. Living Spider and cockroach shown to children, differences in division of body and number of limbs pointed out.

" 19th Taught the children a new drill this morning. Gave Decimal Arithmetic to Standards N. V & VI in the afternoon.

" 22nd Only 55 present this afternoon, including infants.

" 23rd Only 54 present this afternoon, including infants. Science lesson on the Kestrel and the Barn Owl to upper Standards.

" 24th Notice sent to H.M. Inspector that this school will be closed from June 26th for four weeks, and also on Bank Holiday, August 3rd.

" 26th Mr. Haine visited the school this afternoon. Closed for Midsummer Holidays.

Page 442

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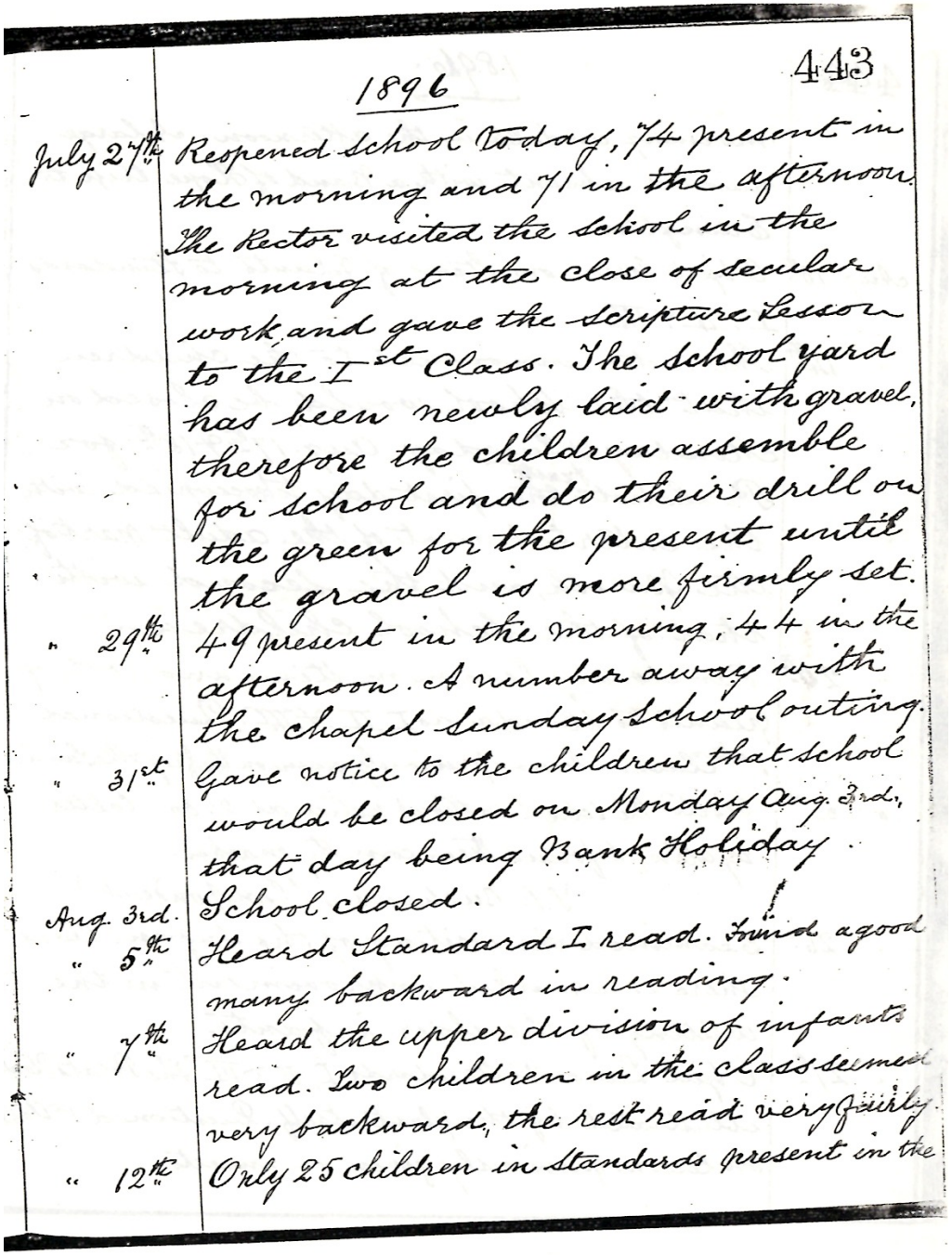
" 26th Mr. Haine visited the school this afternoon. Closed for Midsummer Holidays.

Uncertain readings: 'IV, V & VI' – written closely as 'N. V&VI'; the first numeral is read as IV; 'Taught' – the initial capital looks like an S but must be T; Mr Haine's role is not stated; assumed to be a manager or visitor



443

1896

July 27th Reopened School today, 74 present in the morning and 71 in the afternoon. The Rector visited the school in the morning at the close of secular work and gave the scripture Lesson to the I st Class. The school yard has been newly laid with gravel, therefore the children assemble for school and do their drill on the green for the present until the gravel is more firmly set.

" 29th 49 present in the morning, 44 in the afternoon. A number away with the chapel Sunday School outing.

" 31st Gave notice to the children that school would be closed on Monday Aug. 3rd., that day being Bank Holiday.

Aug. 3rd. School closed.

" 5th Heard Standard I read. Found a good many backward in reading.

" 7th Heard the upper division of infants read. Two children in the class seemed very backward, the rest read very fairly.

" 12th Only 25 children in standards present in the

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Uncertain readings: "Found a good" is written almost as one word ("agood"); "very fairly": "very" is squeezed in at the end of the line; The 12th August entry continues on the next page

1896.

morning and 24 in the afternoon. A large number absent with a Band of Hope trip to Edington.

Aug. 13th Object lesson on Stems of plants to Standards I, II & III.

" 14th The Rector announced to the children that the School would be closed on Monday & Tuesday, Aug. 17th & 18th for Poulshot feast; the first day to be occupied with the entertainment of the adult part of the Parish, and the second with that of the School children.

" 20th Revisionary lesson on stems and roots of plants to Standards I. II. & III. Questioned 1st Class on lessons previously given on the frog & the Snail.

" 21st. Visited the School without notice at 2.30. Called registers, & found them correctly marked.

T. B. Buchanan (Correspondent)

" 26th Examined the writing of the Infant Class. There is a marked improvement in the writing of the elder infants.

" 27th Object Lesson to Standards I, II & III "The Potato Plan[illegible] illustrated by the plant itself. Questioned 1st Class on lessons previously given on insects.

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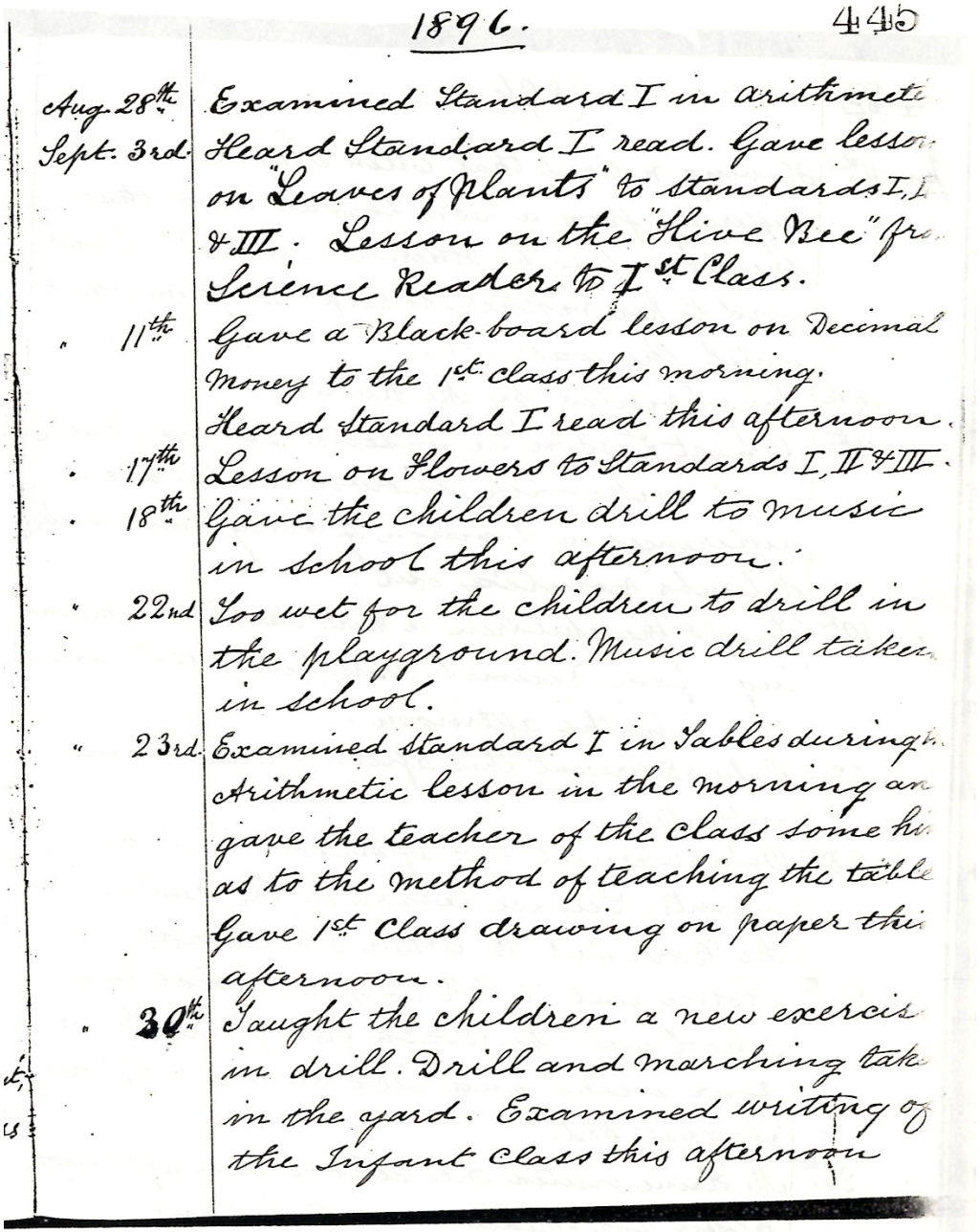
Uncertain readings: 'feast' is inserted above the line with a caret after 'Poulshot'; the punctuation after it is unclear, possibly ';' or ','; 'to be occupied' is written cramped, almost as 'tobeoccupied'; '& found them': the ampersand is written in a form that looks like 'L'; 'The Potato Plan[t]': the last letter is lost at the right edge of the scan; Signature 'T. B. Buchanan (Correspondent)': the closing bracket is unclear



1896. 445

Aug. 28th Examined Standard I in arithmeti
Sept. 3rd Heard Standard I read. Gave lesso
on "Leaves of Plants" to standards I, I
& III. Lesson on the "Hive Bee" fro
Science Reader to Ist Class.
" 11th Gave a Black-board lesson on Decimal
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Page 445

Aug. 28th Examined Standard I in arithmeti[c?]

Sept. 3rd. Heard Standard I read. Gave lesso[n?] on "Leaves of Plants" to Standards I, I[I?] & III. Lesson on the "Hive Bee" fro[m?] Science Reader to Ist Class.

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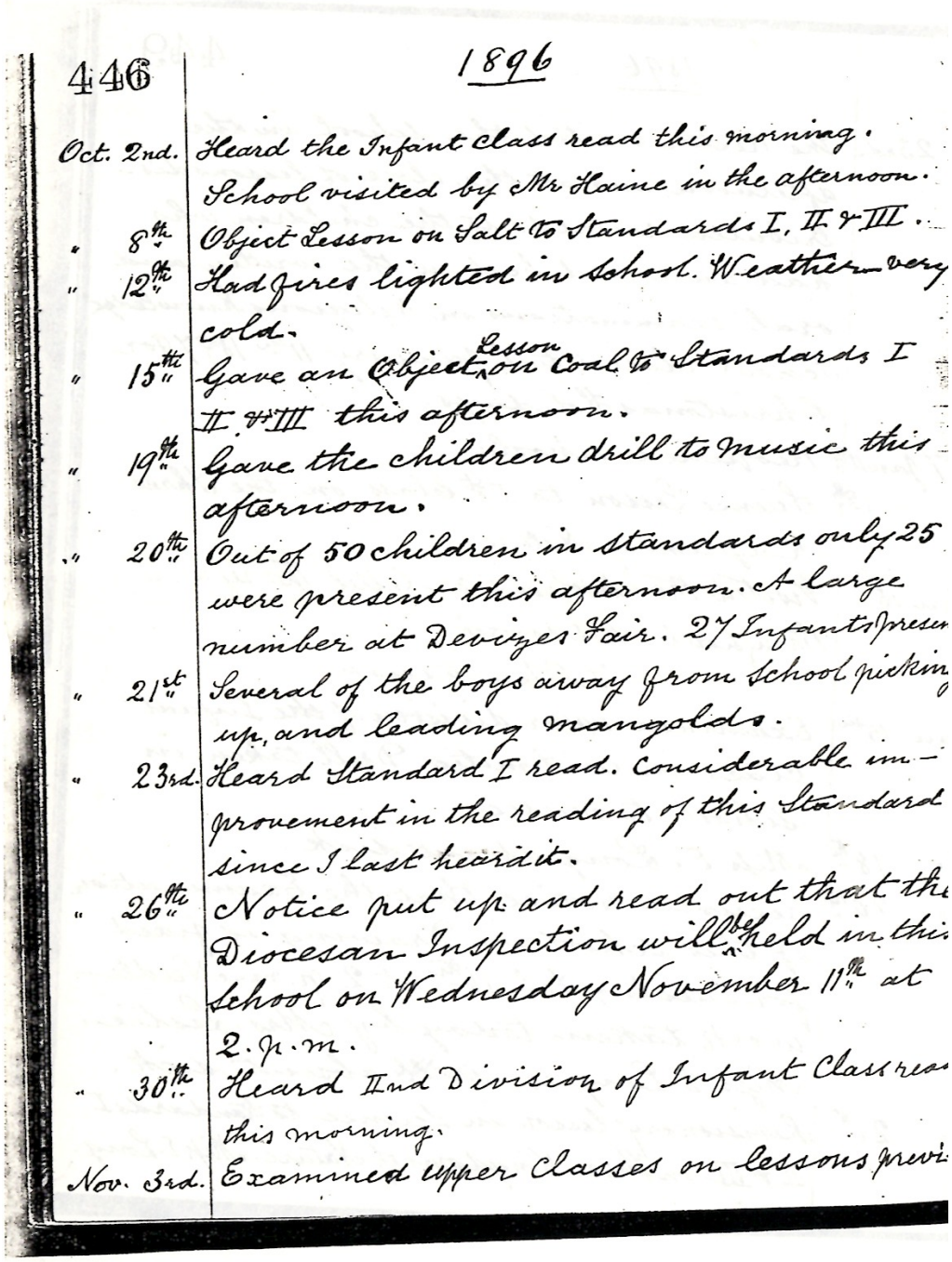
" 30th Taught the children a new exercis[e?] in drill. Drill and marching tak[en?] in the yard. Examined writing of the Infant class this afternoon

Uncertain readings: Right-hand edge of page cropped in the scan; word endings supplied in brackets: arithmeti[c?], lesso[n?], I[I?], fro[m?], th[e?], an[d?], hi[nts?], table[s?], thi[s?], exercis[e?], tak[en?]; 'Ist Class' on line 5 is written with a capital I-like numeral with superscript 'st'; could be read as '1st'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1896

Oct. 2nd. Heard the Infant class read this morning. School visited by Mr Haine in the afternoon.

" 8th Object Lesson on Salt to Standards I. II & III.

" 12th Had fires lighted in School. Weather very cold.

" 15th Gave an Object Lesson on Coal to Standards I II & III this afternoon.

" 19th Gave the children drill to music this afternoon.

" 20th Out of 50 children in standards only 25 were present this afternoon. A large number at Devizes Fair. 27 Infants Presen

" 21st Several of the boys away from School pickin up, and leading mangolds.

" 23rd. Heard Standard I read. Considerable im- provement in the reading of this Standard since I last heard it.

" 26th Notice put up and read out that the Diocesan Inspection will be held in this School on Wednesday November 11th at 2. p. m.

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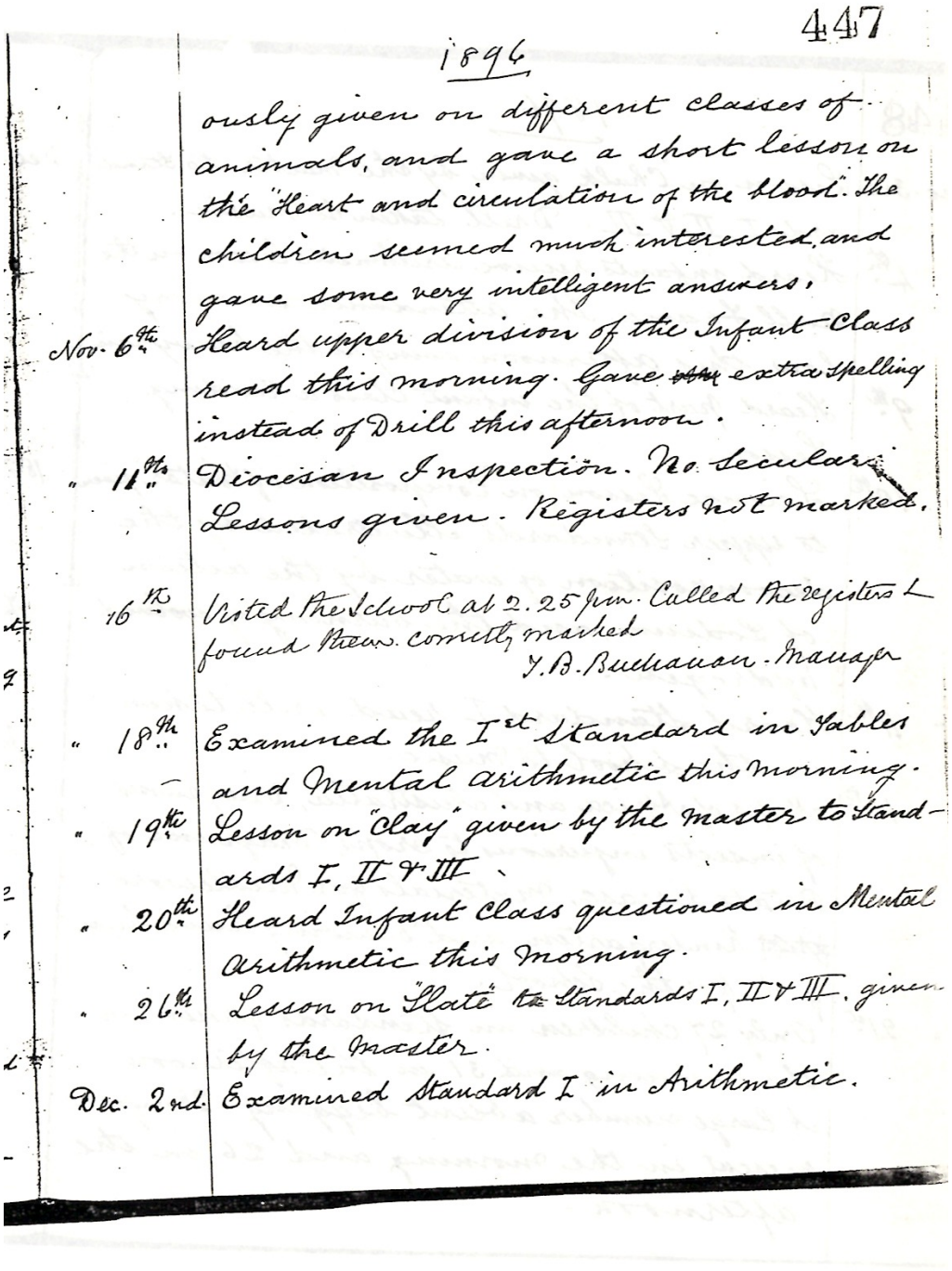
Uncertain readings: Line ends cut off at the right margin: 'presen[t]', 'pickin[g]', 'rea[d]'; Final entry continues off the page: 'lessons previ...' (probably 'previously given'), continued on the next page; 'Mr Haine': reading is clear but the person's role is not stated



1896

447

ously given on different classes of animals, and gave a short lesson on the "Heart and circulation of the blood". The children seemed much interested, and gave some very intelligent answers.

Nov. 6th Heard upper division of the Infant Class read this morning. Gave extra spelling instead of Drill this afternoon.

" 11th Diocesan Inspection. No Secular Lessons given. Registers not marked.

16th Visited the School at 2.25 pm. Called the registers & found them correctly marked
J. B. Buchanan - Manager

" 18th Examined the Ist Standard in Tables and Mental arithmetic this morning.

" 19th Lesson on "Clay" given by the master to Standards I, II & III.

" 20th Heard Infant class questioned in Mental Arithmetic this morning.

" 26th Lesson on "Slate" to Standards I, II & III. given by the master.

Dec. 2nd Examined Standard I in Arithmetic.

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(continued from previous page)

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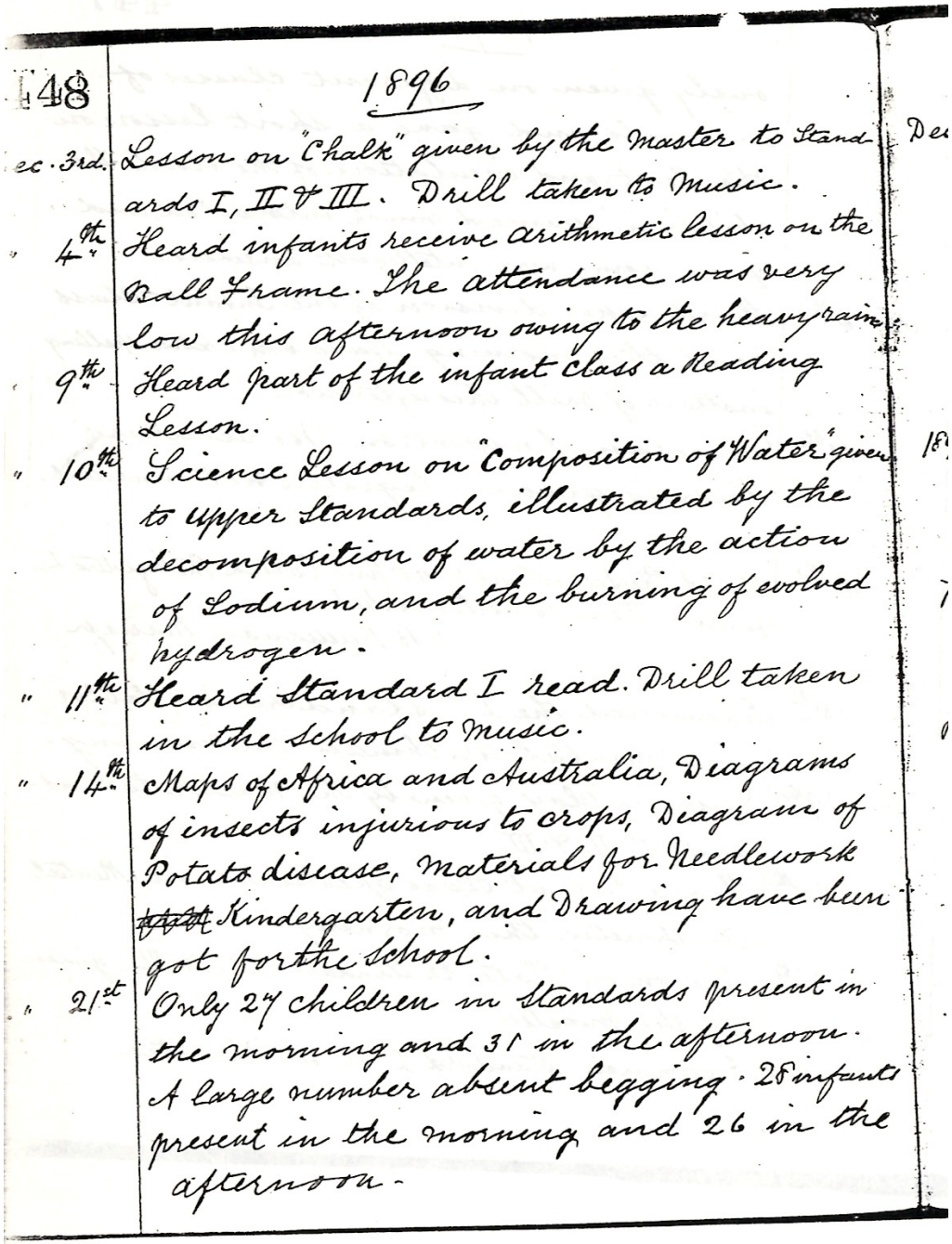
" 26th Lesson on "Slate" Standards I, II & III. given by the master.

Dec. 2nd Examined Standard I in Arithmetic.

Uncertain readings: Manager's initials could be 'J. B.' or 'T. B.' Buchanan; 'Gave an extra spelling': 'an' appears struck through; 26th: 'to' before 'Standards' appears struck through; Closing quotation mark after 'blood' is unclear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1896

Dec. 3rd. Lesson on "Chalk" given by the Master to Standards I, II & III. Drill taken to Music.

" 4th. Heard infants receive arithmetic lesson on the Ball Frame. The attendance was very low this afternoon owing to the heavy rain.

" 9th. Heard part of the infant class a Reading Lesson.

" 10th. Science Lesson on "Composition of Water" given to upper Standards, illustrated by the decomposition of water by the action of Sodium, and the burning of evolved hydrogen.

" 11th. Heard Standard I read. Drill taken in the school to Music.

" 14th. Maps of Africa and Australia, Diagrams of insects injurious to crops, Diagram of Potato disease, materials for Needlework ~~and~~ Kindergarten, and Drawing have been got for the School.

" 21st. Only 27 children in Standards present in the morning and 31 in the afternoon. A large number absent begging. 28 infants present in the morning and 26 in the afternoon.

Page 448

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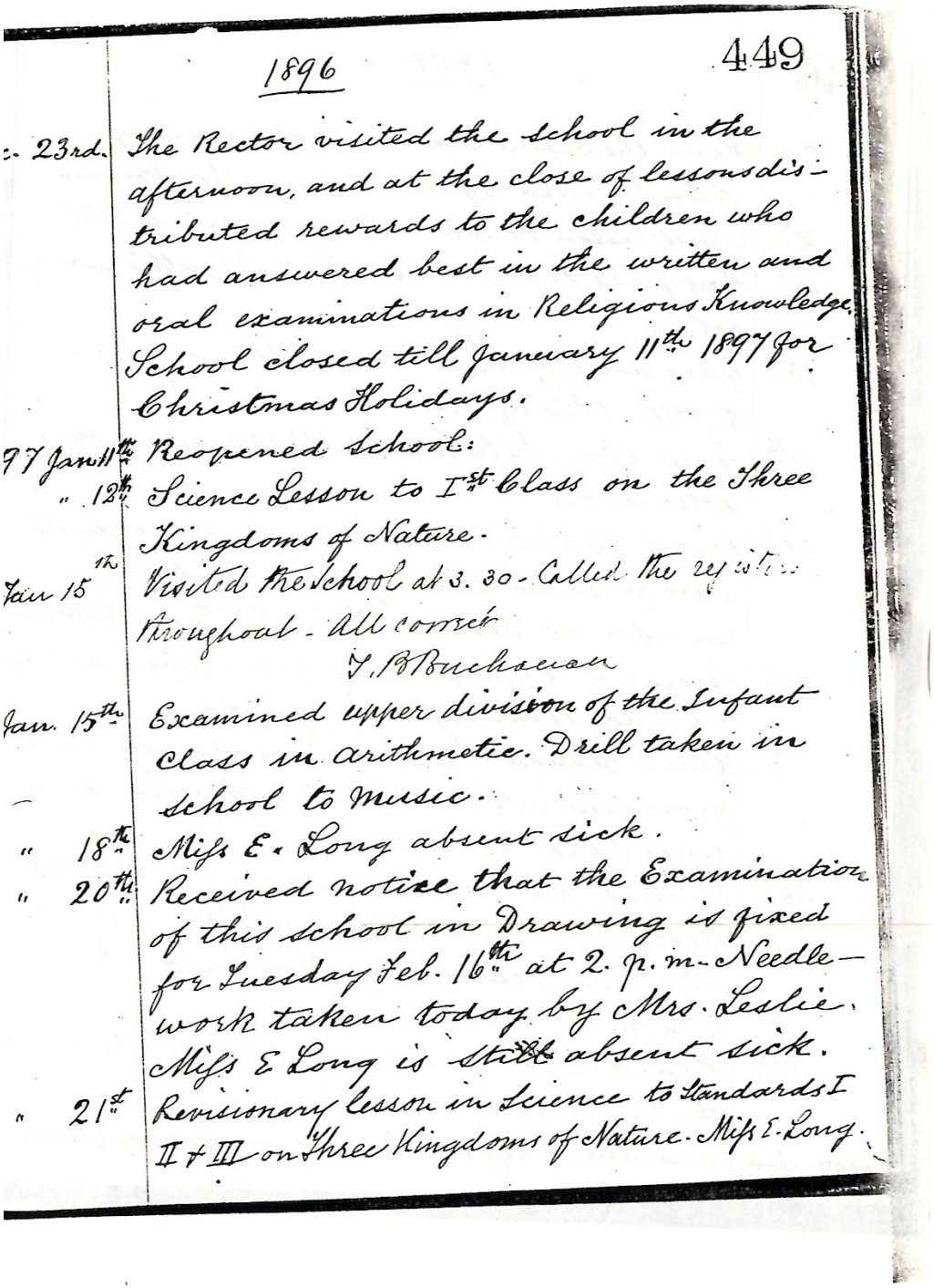
Uncertain readings: Page number: the OCR read '48', but the image shows a partly cut-off leading digit and the facing page is 147, so it is taken as 148; Margin date 'Dec.': the 'D' is cut off at the left edge; 14th entry: a word before 'Kindergarten' is struck through, probably 'and'; Reading 'Sodium' (the OCR gave 'Lodium'); the writer's capital S looks like an L


1896 449

c. 23rd. The Rector visited the school in the afternoon, and at the close of lessons distributed rewards to the children who had answered best in the written and oral examinations in Religious Knowledge. School closed till January 11th 1897 for Christmas Holidays.

97 Jan 11th Reopened School:

" 12th Science Lesson to Ist Class on the Three Kingdoms of Nature.

Jan 15th Visited the School at 3. 30 - Called the registers throughout - All correct

T. B Buchanan

Jan. 15th Examined upper division of the Infant class in arithmetic. Drill taken in school to music.

" 18th Miss E. Long absent sick.

" 20th Received notice that the Examination of this school in Drawing is fixed for Tuesday Feb. 16th at 2. p. m.- Needle-work taken today by Mrs. Leslie. Miss E Long is ~~still~~ absent sick.

" 21st Revisionary lesson in Science to Standards I II + III on Three Kingdoms of Nature. Miss E. Long.

Page 449

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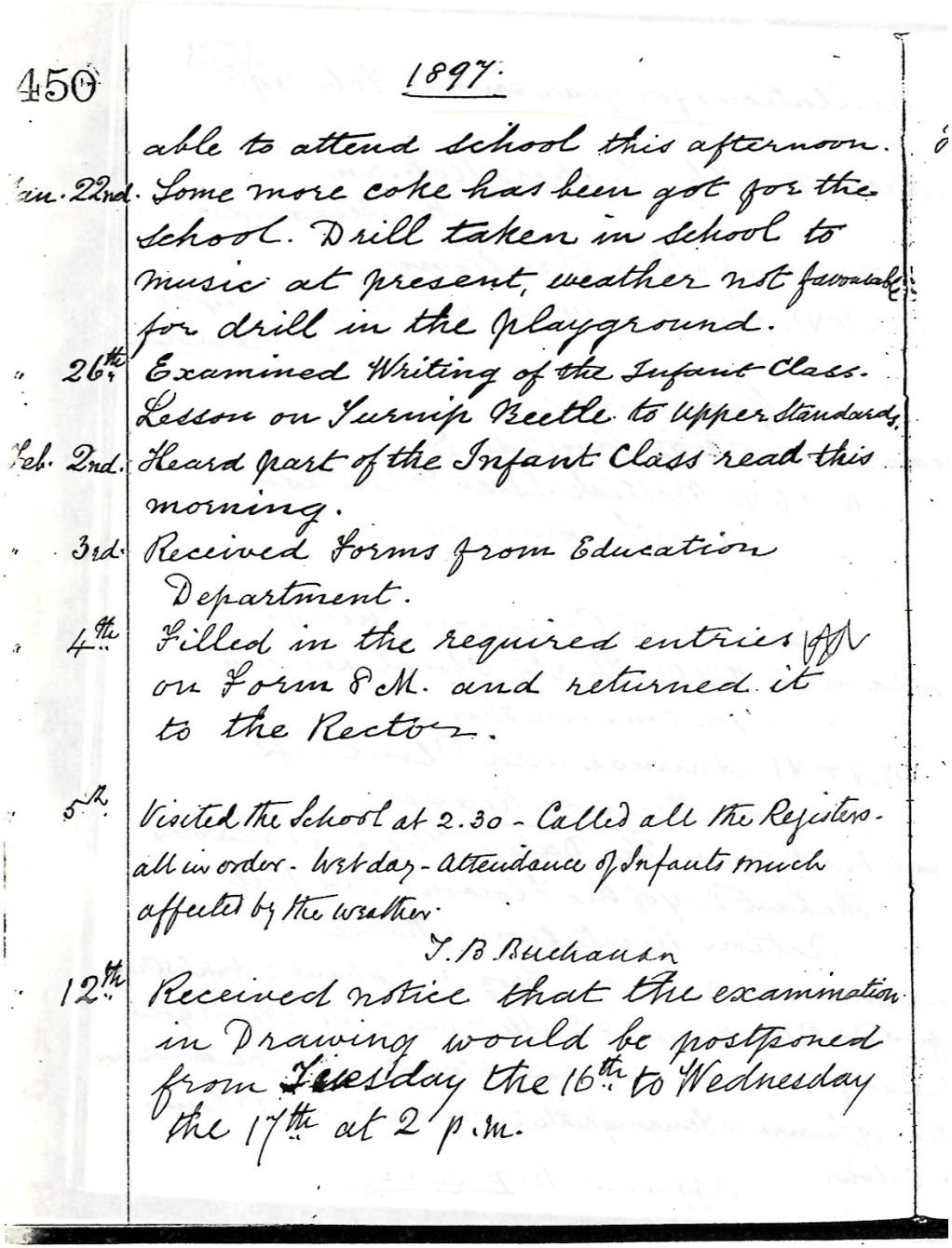
Uncertain readings: Margin date of first entry is cut off at the binding: only 'c. 23rd.' is visible, presumably 'Dec. 23rd.'; January entries are dated 1897 from the margin '[18]97', even though the page header reads 1896; Signature read as 'T. B Buchanan'; the initials could be 'J. B' or 'T. P' (OCR gave 'T.P.Buchanon'); 'still' in 'Miss E Long is still absent sick' appears to be struck through; Miss E. Long's role is not stated on the page; 'monitress' is a guess. Her name at the end of the 21st entry may mean she gave the lesson; Mrs. Leslie's role is inferred from her taking needlework


450

1897.

able to attend school this afternoon.

Jan. 22nd. Some more coke has been got for the school. Drill taken in school to music at present, weather not favourable for drill in the playground.

" 26th Examined Writing of the Infant Class. Lesson on Turnip Beetle to Upper Standards.

Feb. 2nd. Heard part of the Infant Class read this morning.

" 3rd Received Forms from Education Department.

" 4th Filled in the required entries [illegible] on Form 8 M. and returned it to the Rector.

" 5th Visited the School at 2.30 - Called all the Rejisters - all in order - Wet day - attendance of Infants much affected by the weather.

T. B Buchanan

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(continued from previous page)
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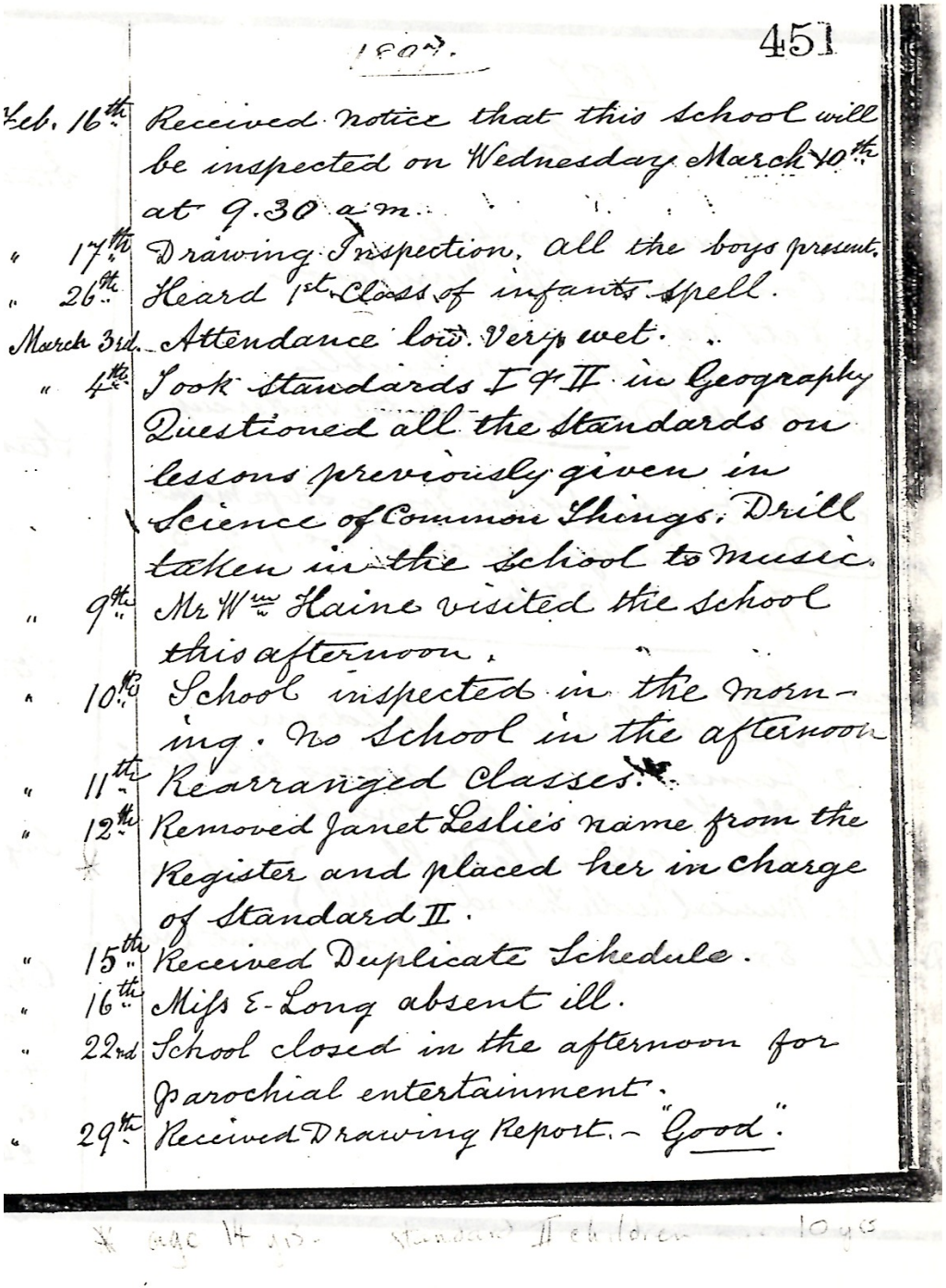
12th. Received notice that the examination in Drawing would be postponed from Tuesday the 16th to Wednesday the 17th at 2 p.m.

Uncertain readings: Initials after 'entries' on 4 Feb read as 'HL' (possibly Hugh Leslie's initials, or a correction mark); 'Form 8 M.': the numeral could be a different figure; 'Tuesday' is written over a struck-through or corrected word; 'Registers' may be spelled 'Rejisters' in the manager's hand



Page 451

Feb. 16th Received notice that this school will be inspected on Wednesday March 10th at 9.30 a.m.

17th Drawing Inspection, all the boys present.

26th Heard 1st Class of infants spell.

March 3rd. Attendance low. Very wet.

4th Took Standards I & II in Geography Questioned all the Standards on lessons previously given in Science of Common Things. Drill taken in the school to music.

9th Mr Wm Haine visited the school this afternoon.

10th School inspected in the morning. No school in the afternoon

11th Rearranged classes.

12th Removed Janet Leslie's name from the Register and placed her in charge of Standard II. [Pencil footnote, later hand: * age 14 yrs. Standard II children 10 yrs?]

15th Received Duplicate Schedule.

16th Miss E. Long absent ill.

22nd School closed in the afternoon for parochial entertainment.

29th Received Drawing Report. - "Good".

Uncertain readings: Header year is faint; read as 1897 (March 10th 1897 was a Wednesday, which agrees with the entry); Pencil footnote at the foot of the page, in a later hand: ' age 14 yrs. Standard II children 10 yrs' - the last figure is uncertain; Mr Wm Haine's role is not stated; recorded as manager by inference; Janet Leslie is presumably related to the headmaster Hugh Leslie, but the page does not say so*

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Edith Harriet Long (assistant (female over eighteen), assistant teacher, assistant teacher (Article 68), assistant teacher (candidate for recognition under Art. 68/73), monitress, sewing mistress (temporary substitute)) — pages 436, 437, 438, 439, 449, 451

Edith Rudman (pupil, unknown (probably pupil or monitress)) — pages 438, 440

Ellen Bowden (pupil) — pages 437

Ellen Eliza Newman (pupil) — pages 442

Frederick Moore (pupil) — pages 437

George Henry Feltham (monitor / prospective pupil teacher, pupil, unknown (staff member, possibly monitor or pupil teacher)) — pages 433, 436, 437

HM Inspector (HM Inspector) — pages 436, 440, 441, 442

Hugh Leslie (headmaster) — pages 439, 440, 447, 448, 450

Janet Leslie (future candidate on probation (headmaster's daughter), monitress, pupil) — pages 436, 437, 451

Laura Deane (pupil) — pages 436, 437

Mary Elizabeth Leslie (infants teacher (Article 68)) — pages 439

Mr Haine (manager) — pages 442, 446

Mr Sparrow (visitor) — pages 441

Mrs Jones (parent) — pages 440

Mrs Leslie (sewing mistress) — pages 437, 449

Mrs Newman (parent) — pages 442

Mrs Sparrow (visitor) — pages 441

Sidney Hallett (pupil) — pages 436, 437

Susan Trimnell (pupil) — pages 433

T. B. Buchanan (manager) — pages 444, 447, 449, 450

The Rector of Poulshot (Rector) — pages 433, 436, 441, 443, 444, 449, 450

William Haine (manager) — pages 441, 451

William Harris (manager) — pages 439

William Newman (pupil) — pages 436, 437

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HM Inspectorate of Schools — pages 436, 438

National Society — pages 438

School Managers — pages 436, 439