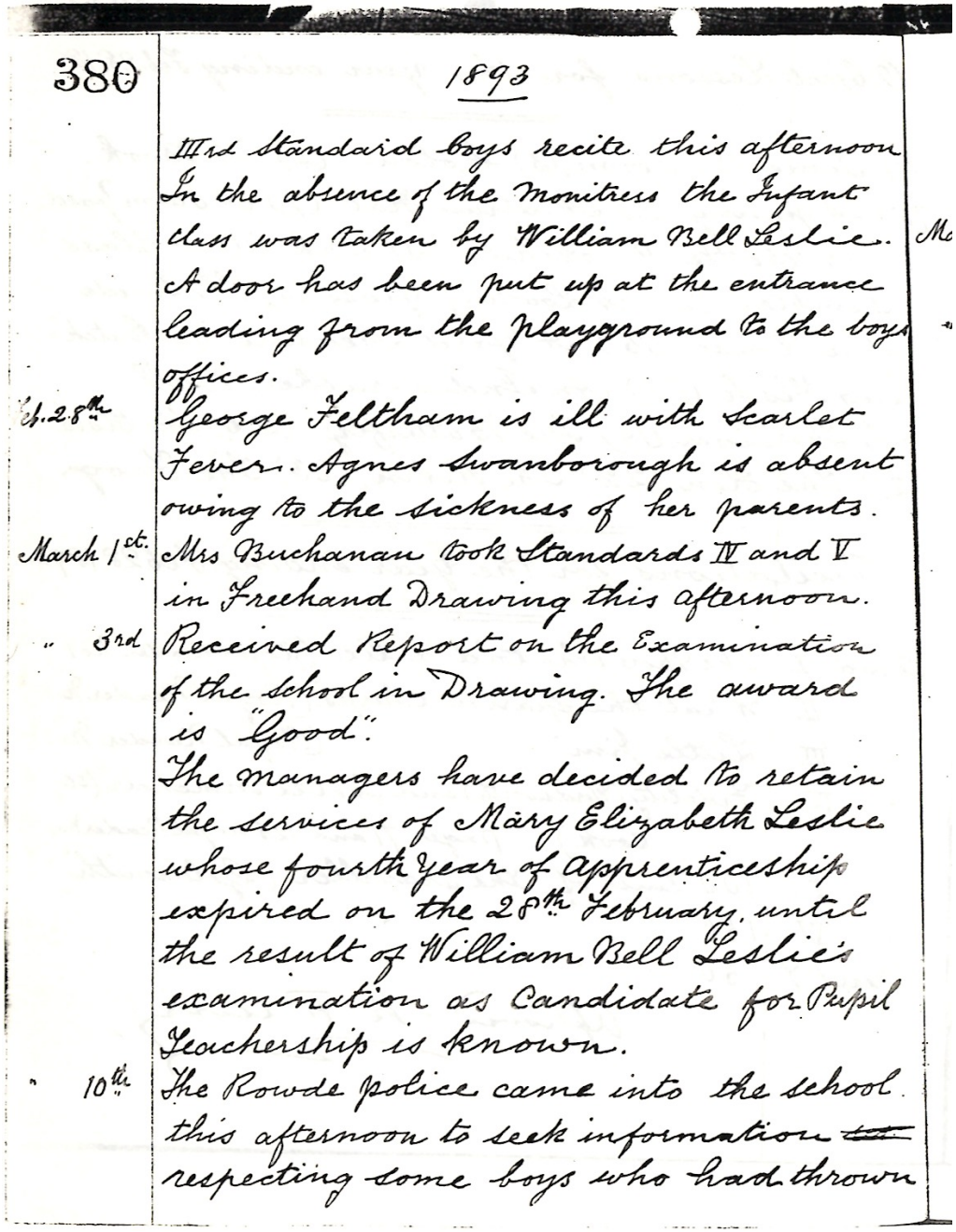
Poulshot School Log Book - school year 1893-94

Volume 1, pages 380-398 (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.



380

1893

IIIrd Standard boys recite this afternoon In the absence of the Monitress the Infant class was taken by William Bell Leslie. A door has been put up at the entrance leading from the playground to the boys offices.

Feb. 28th George Feltham is ill with Scarlet Fever. Agnes Swanborough is absent owing to the sickness of her parents.

March 1st. Mrs Buchanan took Standards IV and V in Freehand Drawing this afternoon.

" 3rd Received Report on the Examination of the school in Drawing. The award is "Good".
The managers have decided to retain the services of Mary Elizabeth Leslie whose fourth year of Apprenticeship expired on the 28th February, until the result of William Bell Leslie's examination as Candidate for Pupil Teachership is known.

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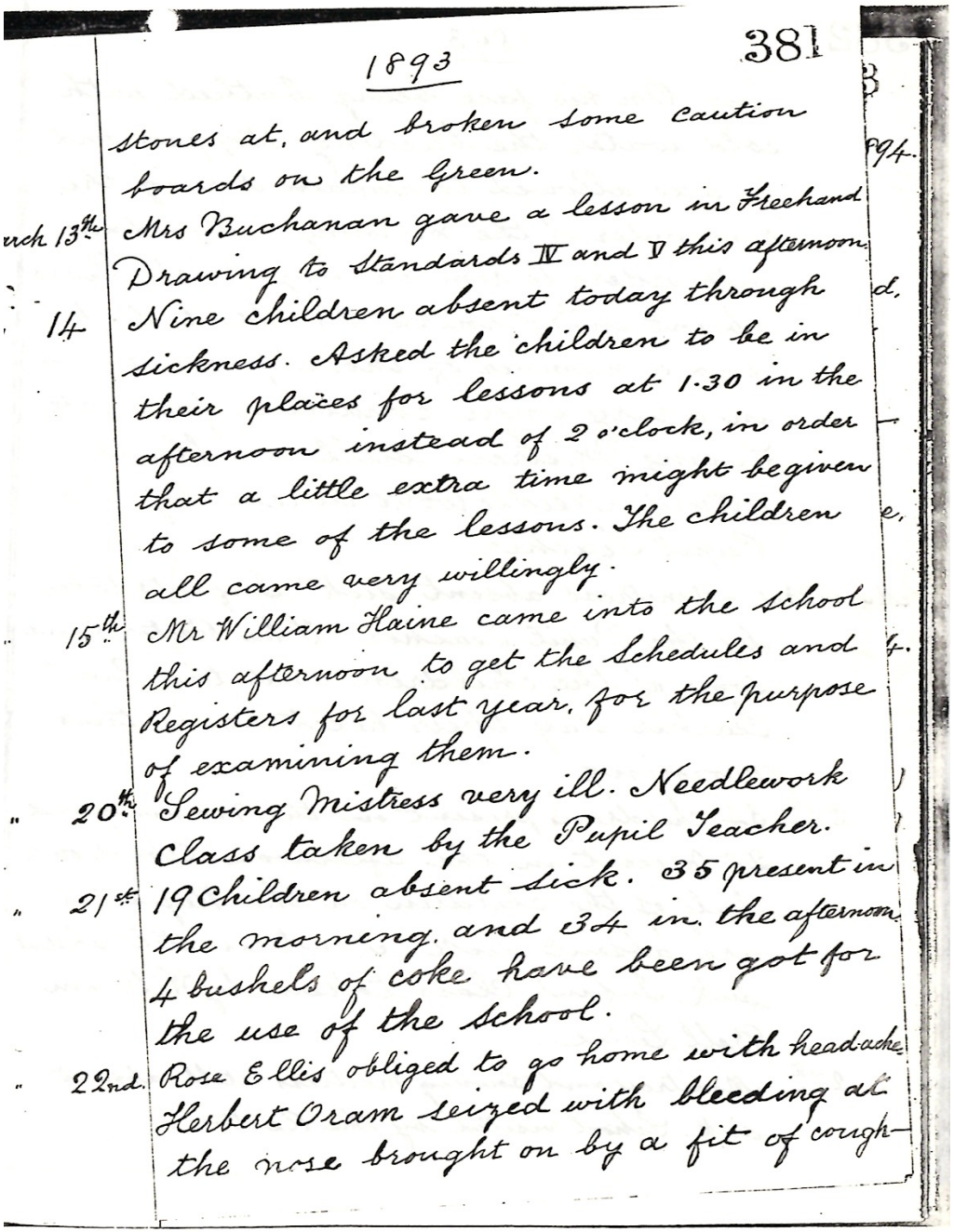
Uncertain readings: Margin date beside George Feltham entry partly cut off; read as 'Feb. 28th'; Struck-through word after 'information' appears to be 'the'



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stones at, and broken some caution boards on the Green.

March 13th Mrs Buchanan gave a lesson in Freehand Drawing to Standards IV and V this afternoon.

14 Nine children absent today through sickness. Asked the children to be in their places for lessons at 1.30 in the afternoon instead of 2 o'clock, in order that a little extra time might be given to some of the lessons. The children all came very willingly.

15th Mr William Haine came into the school this afternoon to get the Schedules and Registers for last year, for the purpose of examining them.

20th Sewing Mistress very ill. Needlework Class taken by the Pupil Teacher.

21st 19 Children absent sick. 35 present in the morning. and 34 in the afternoon 4 bushels of coke have been got for the use of the school.

22nd. Rose Ellis obliged to go home with head-ache Herbert Oram seized with bleeding at the nose brought on by a fit of cough-

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22nd. Rose Ellis obliged to go home with headache Herbert Oram seized with bleeding at the nose brought on by a fit of cough-

Uncertain readings: Mr William Haine's role (examining registers) assumed manager; 'Standards IV and V' — OCR read 'D'

1893.

ing. On his face being bathed with cold water the bleeding stopped and he was allowed to remain during the remainder of the morning's attendance, with orders to remain very quiet. He was absent in the afternoon. 23 absent sick, and a number of those present seem in a very unfit condition for work. Sewing Mistress still unable to attend. Needle-work taken by the Pupil Teacher.

March 23rd. Monitress absent sick. Infants taken by the Pupil Teacher. The Rector heard some of the children and the Pupil Teacher say their Recitations this morning.

" 24th. 34 children present in the morning and 29 present in the afternoon. About one half of the children on the Registers are absent sick. Monitress still absent sick. Infant Class taken by William Bell Leslie.

" 27th. Monitress and Sewing Mistress still absent sick. School visited by the Rector.

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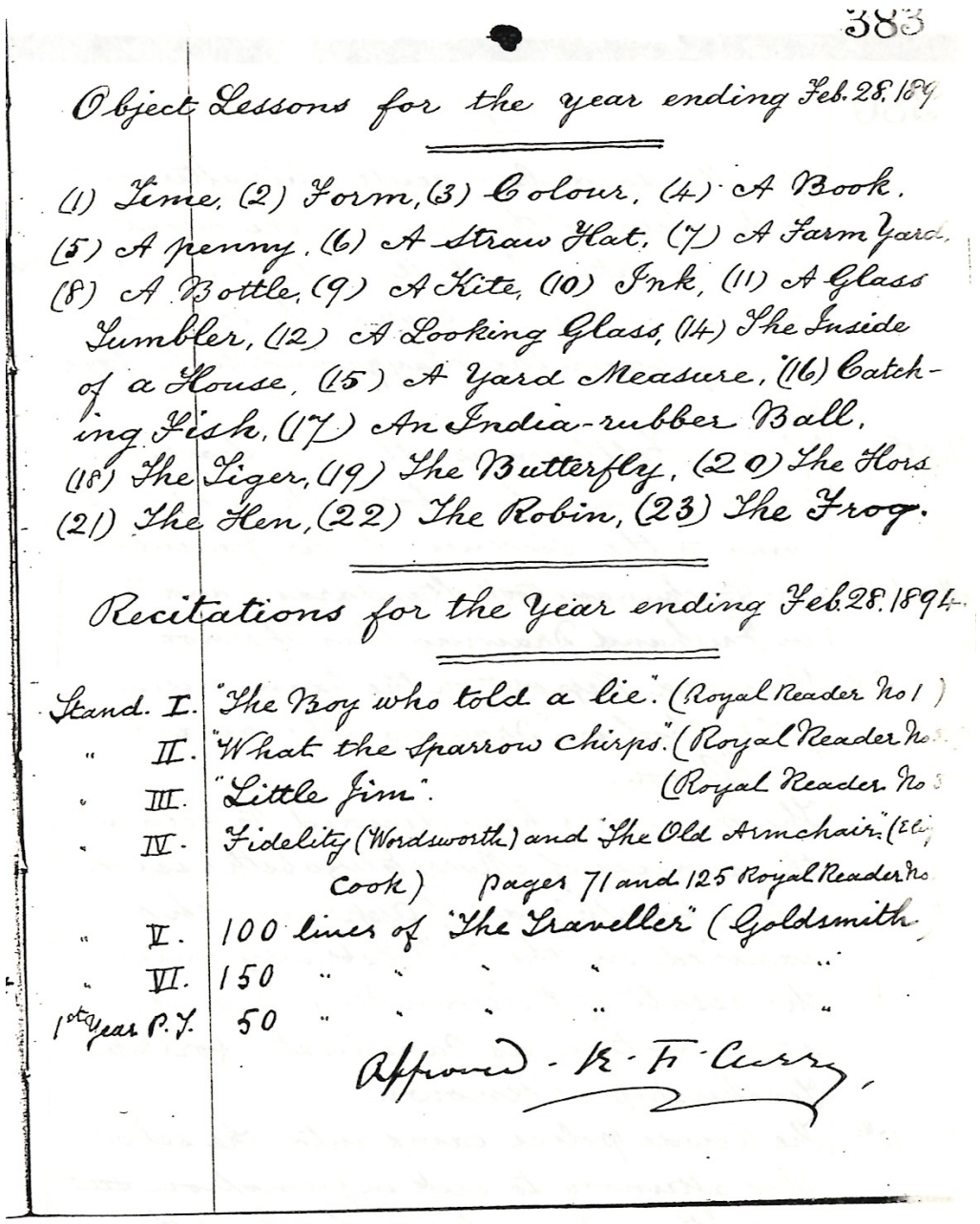
Uncertain readings: 'the' in 'in the afternoon' is an interlinear insertion



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Object Lessons for the year ending Feb. 28. 189[4]

(1) Time, (2) Form, (3) Colour, (4) A Book. (5) A penny. (6) A Straw Hat, (7) A Farm Yard. (8) A Bottle, (9) A Kite, (10) Ink, (11) A Glass Tumbler, (12) A Looking Glass, (14) The Inside of a House, (15) A Yard Measure, (16) Catching Fish, (17) An India-rubber Ball, (18) The Tiger, (19) The Butterfly, (20) The Hors[e] (21) The Hen, (22) The Robin, (23) The Frog.

Recitations for the Year ending Feb. 28. 1894.

Stand. I.	"The Boy who told a lie". (Royal Reader No 1)
" II.	"What the Sparrow chirps". (Royal Reader No
" III.	"Little Jim". (Royal Reader No
" IV.	Fidelity (Wordsworth) and "The Old Armchair" (Eliza Cook) pages 71 and 125 Royal Reader No
" V.	100 lines of "The Traveller" (Goldsmith
" VI.	150 " " " "
1st Year P.T.	50 " " " "

Approved - K. F. Curry.

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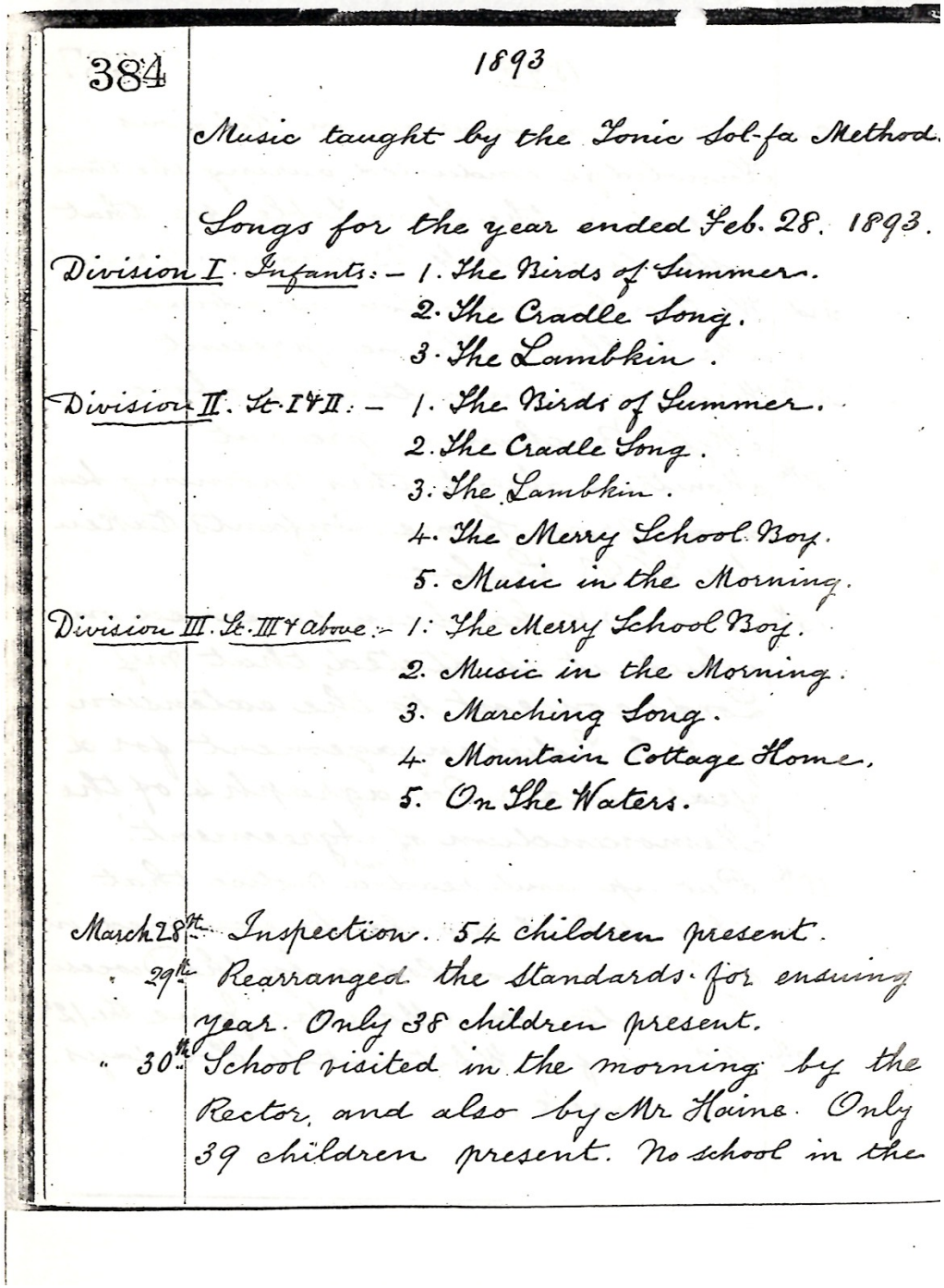
Uncertain readings: Header year cut off at edge: '189[4]' inferred from recitation heading; Royal Reader numbers for Standards II and IV cut off at edge; [2] and [4] inferred; 'Eliza' partly cut off at edge; Signature after 'Approved' read as 'K. F. Curry' but very uncertain; role as HM Inspector assumed; 'P.T.' (pupil teacher) read from 'P.Y.' in OCR; Item (13) omitted in the original numbering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1893

Music taught by the Tonic Sol-fa Method.

Songs for the year ended Feb. 28. 1893.

Division I. Infants:- 1. The Birds of Summer.
2. The Cradle Song.
3. The Lambkin.

Division II. St. I & II. - 1. The Birds of Summer.
2. The Cradle Song.
3. The Lambkin.
4. The Merry School Boy.
5. Music in the Morning.

Division III. St. III & above:- 1. The Merry School Boy.
2. Music in the Morning.
3. Marching Song.
4. Mountain Cottage Home.
5. On The Waters.

March 28th. Inspection. 54 children present.
" 29th. Rearranged the Standards for ensuing year. Only 38 children present.
" 30th. School visited in the morning by the Rector, and also by Mr Haine. Only 39 children present. No school in the

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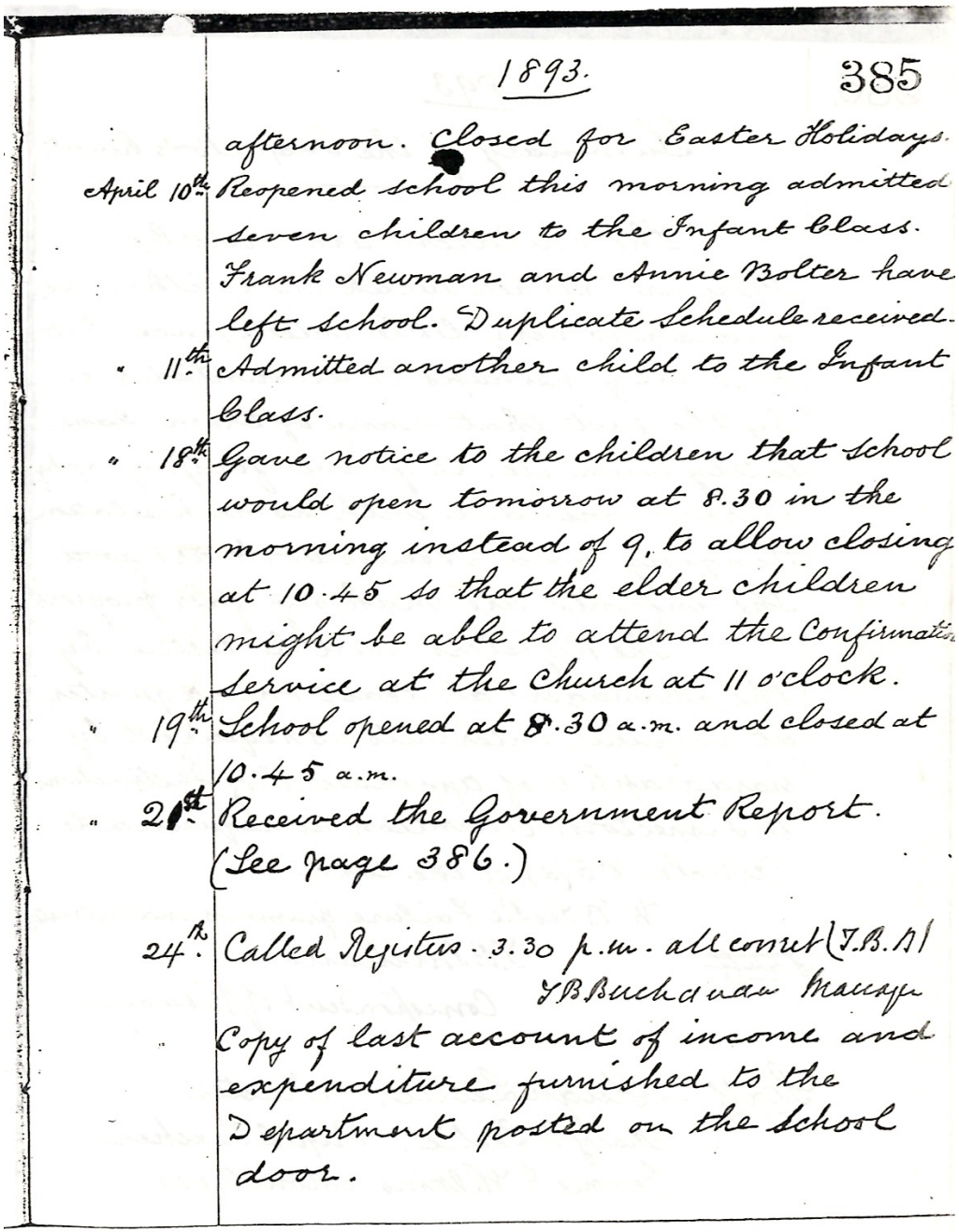
Uncertain readings: Mr Haine (surname reading)



1893. 385

afternoon. Closed for Easter Holidays.

April 10th. Reopened school this morning admitted seven children to the Infant Class. Frank Newman and Annie Bolter have left school. Duplicate Schedule received.

" 11th. Admitted another child to the Infant Class.

" 18th. Gave notice to the children that school would open tomorrow at 8.30 in the morning instead of 9, to allow closing at 10.45 so that the elder children might be able to attend the Confirmation service at the Church at 11 o'clock.

" 19th. School opened at 8.30 a.m. and closed at 10.45 a.m.

" 21st. Received the Government Report. (See page 386.)

24th. Called Registus. 3.30 p.m. all convet (T.B.[M?]) T B Buchanan Manage

Copy of last account of income and expenditure furnished to the Department posted on the school door.

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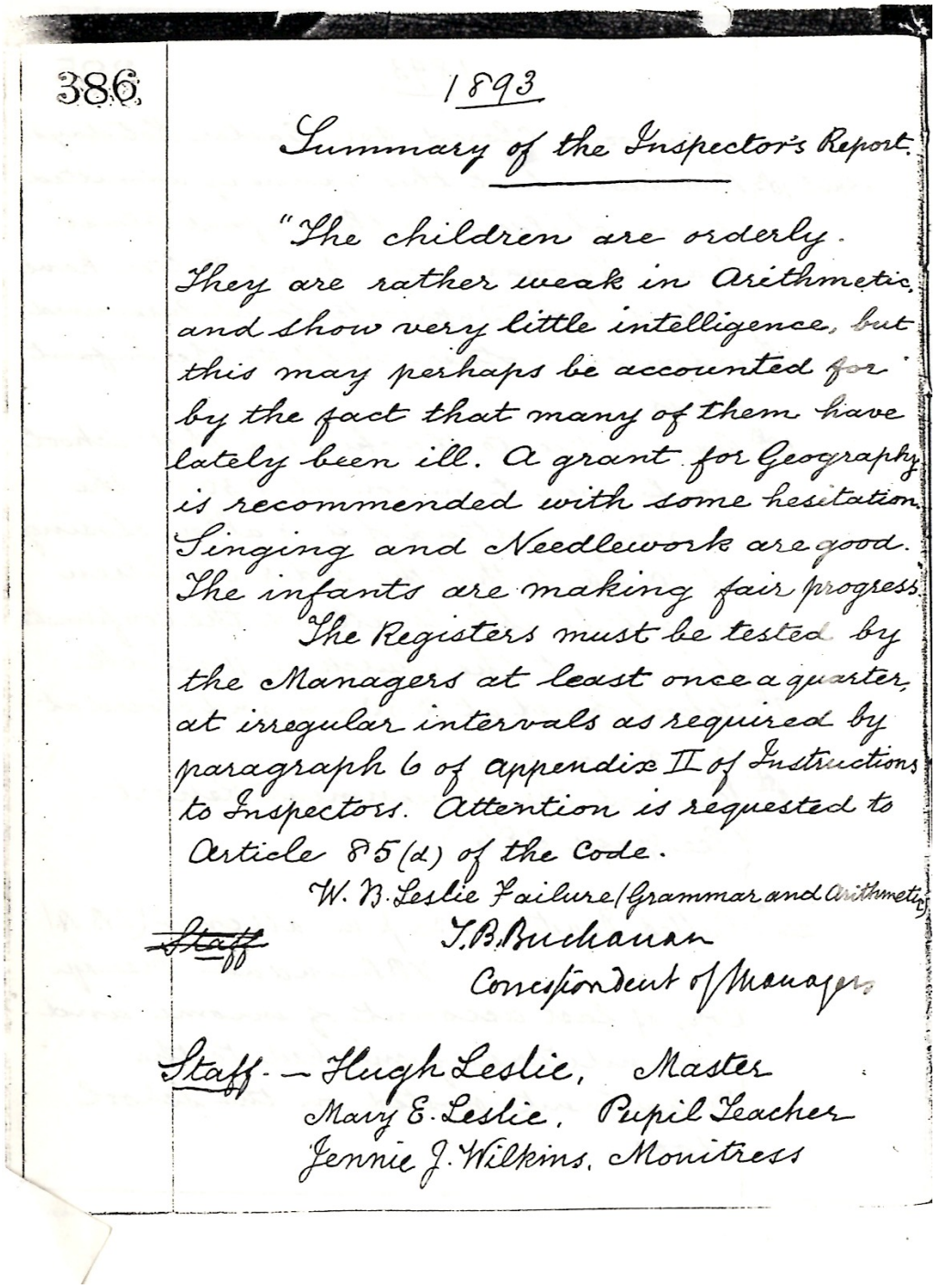
24th Called Registers. 3.30 p.m. all correct (T.B.[M?]) T B Buchanan Manager Copy of last account of income and expenditure furnished to the Department posted on the School door.

Uncertain readings: Initials in brackets after 'all correct' read as 'T.B.[M?]'; hastily written, possibly 'T.B.B.'; 'Registers' and 'correct' written hastily in the manager's hand (look like 'Rejistus', 'convet')



386

1893

Summary of the Inspector's Report.

"The children are orderly. They are rather weak in Arithmetic, and show very little intelligence, but this may perhaps be accounted for by the fact that many of them have lately been ill. A grant for Geography is recommended with some hesitation. Singing and Needlework are good. The infants are making fair progress.

The Registers must be tested by the Managers at least once a quarter, at irregular intervals as required by paragraph 6 of appendix II of Instructions to Inspectors. Attention is requested to Article 85(d) of the Code.

W. B. Leslie Failure / Grammar and Arithmetic

~~Staff~~ T. B. Buchanan
Correspondent of Managers

Staff — Hugh Leslie, Master
Mary E. Leslie, Pupil Teacher
Jennie J. Wilkins, Monitress

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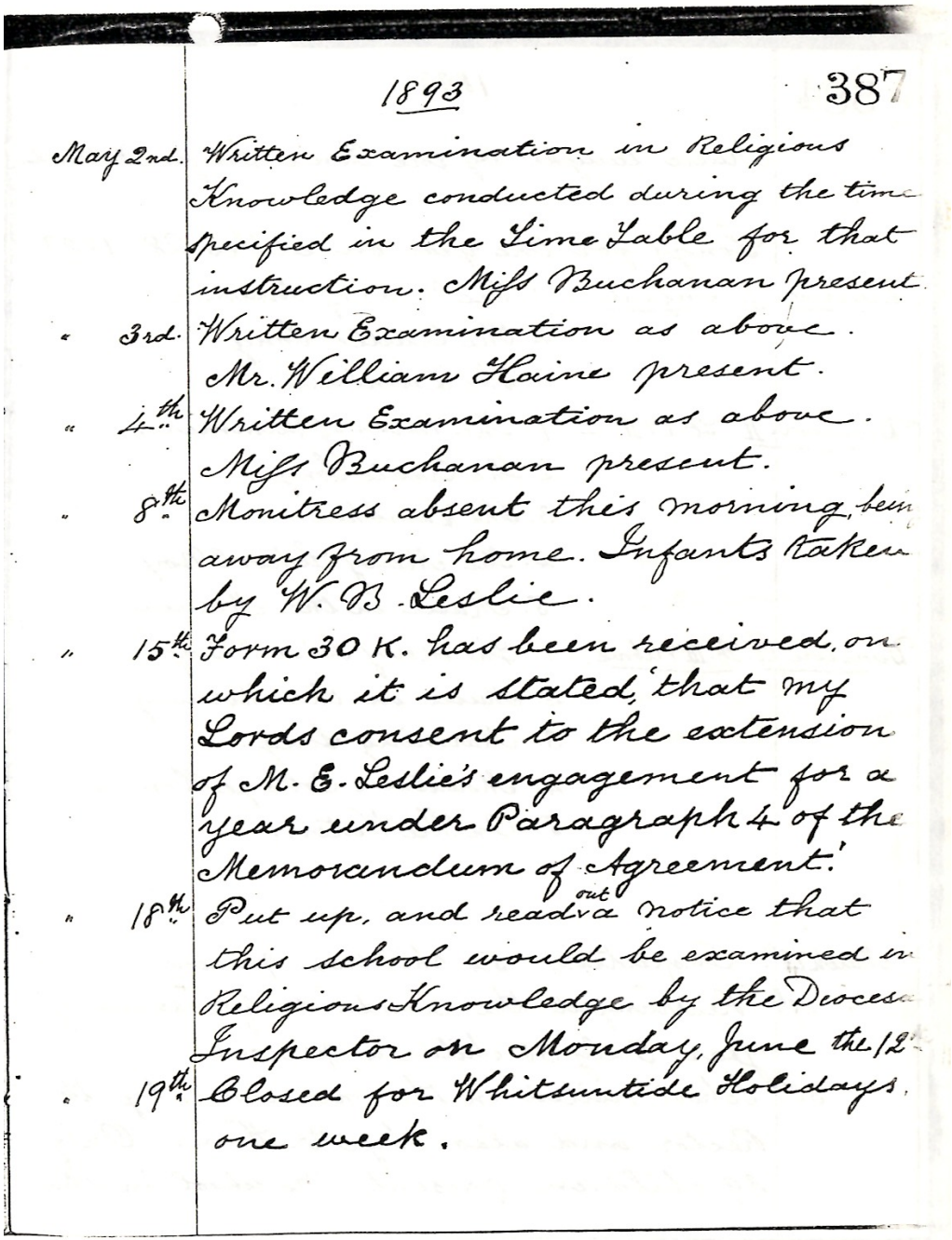
Uncertain readings: 'W. B. Leslie' initials uncertain; may refer to the pupil teacher Mary E. Leslie; 'T. B. Buchanan' initial T vs J (OCR read J.B.); 'Staff' struck through before Buchanan's signature



1893 387

May 2nd. Written Examination in Religious Knowledge conducted during the time specified in the Time Table for that instruction. Miss Buchanan present.

" 3rd. Written Examination as above. Mr. William Haine present.

" 4th. Written Examination as above. Miss Buchanan present.

" 8th. Monitress absent this morning, bein away from home. Infants taken by W. B. Leslie.

" 15th. Form 30 K. has been received, on which it is stated, 'that my Lords consent to the extension of M. E. Leslie's engagement for a year under Paragraph 4 of the Memorandum of Agreement.'

" 18th. Put up, and read out a notice that this school would be examined in Religious Knowledge by the Diocesa Inspector on Monday, June the 12

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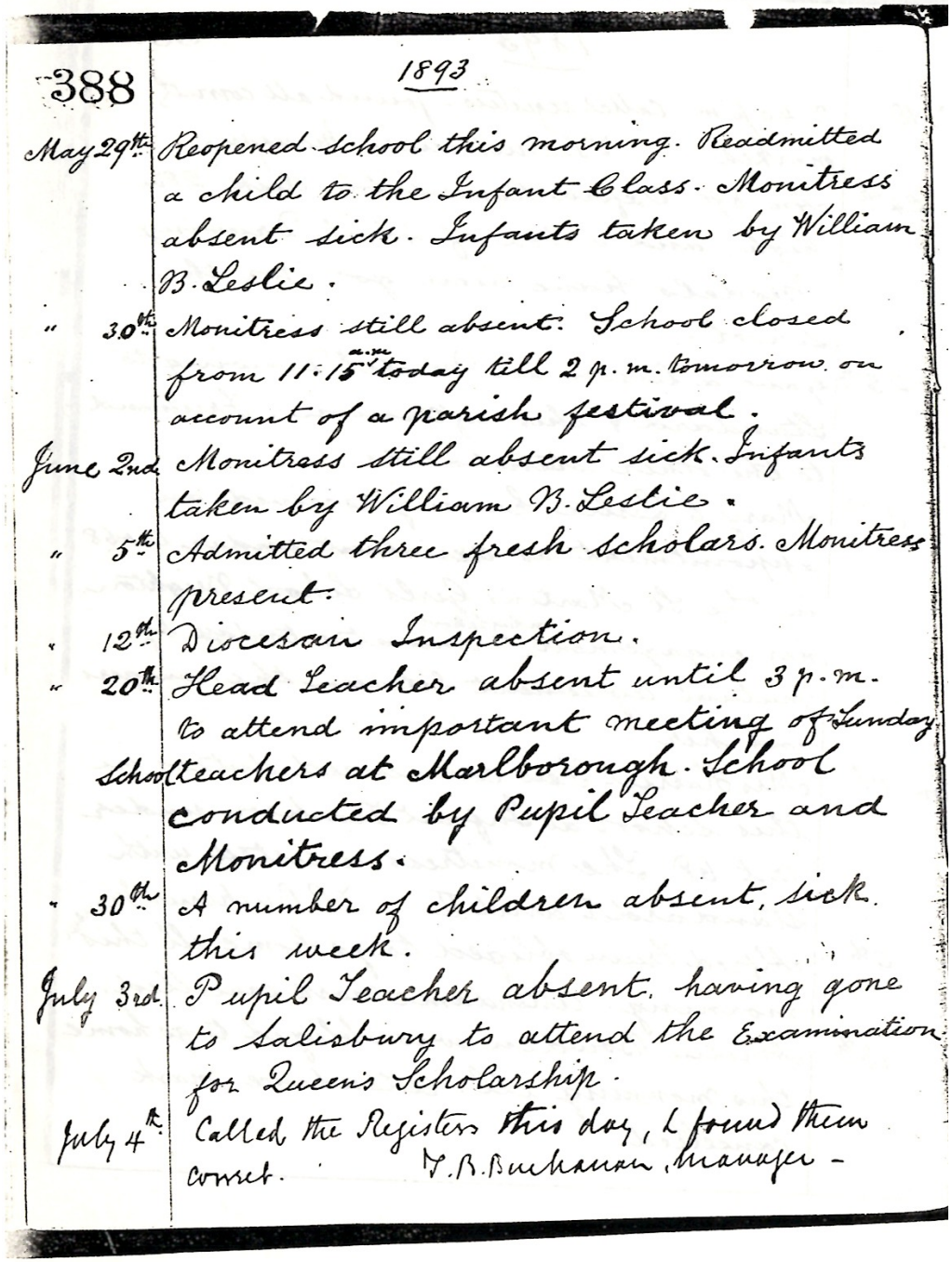
Uncertain readings: 'being' at end of the 8th May line is cut off at the page edge; 'Dioces[an]' cut off at page edge; 'out' is inserted above the line in the 18th May entry; Initials 'W. B.' in 'W. B. Leslie' read from the image (OCR gave 'W. rs')


388

1893

May 29th Reopened school this morning. Readmitted a child to the Infant Class. Monitress absent sick. Infants taken by William B. Leslie.

" 30th Monitress still absent. School closed from 11:15 a.m. today till 2 p.m. tomorrow on account of a parish festival.

June 2nd Monitress still absent sick. Infants taken by William B. Leslie.

" 5th Admitted three fresh scholars. Monitress present.

" 12th Diocesan Inspection.

" 20th Head Teacher absent until 3 p.m. to attend important meeting of Sunday Schoolteachers at Marlborough. School conducted by Pupil Teacher and Monitress.

" 30th A number of children absent, sick this week.

July 3rd. Pupil Teacher absent, having gone to Salisbury to attend the Examination for Queen's Scholarship.

July 4th. Called the Registers this day, & found them correct. T. B. Buchanan, Manager -

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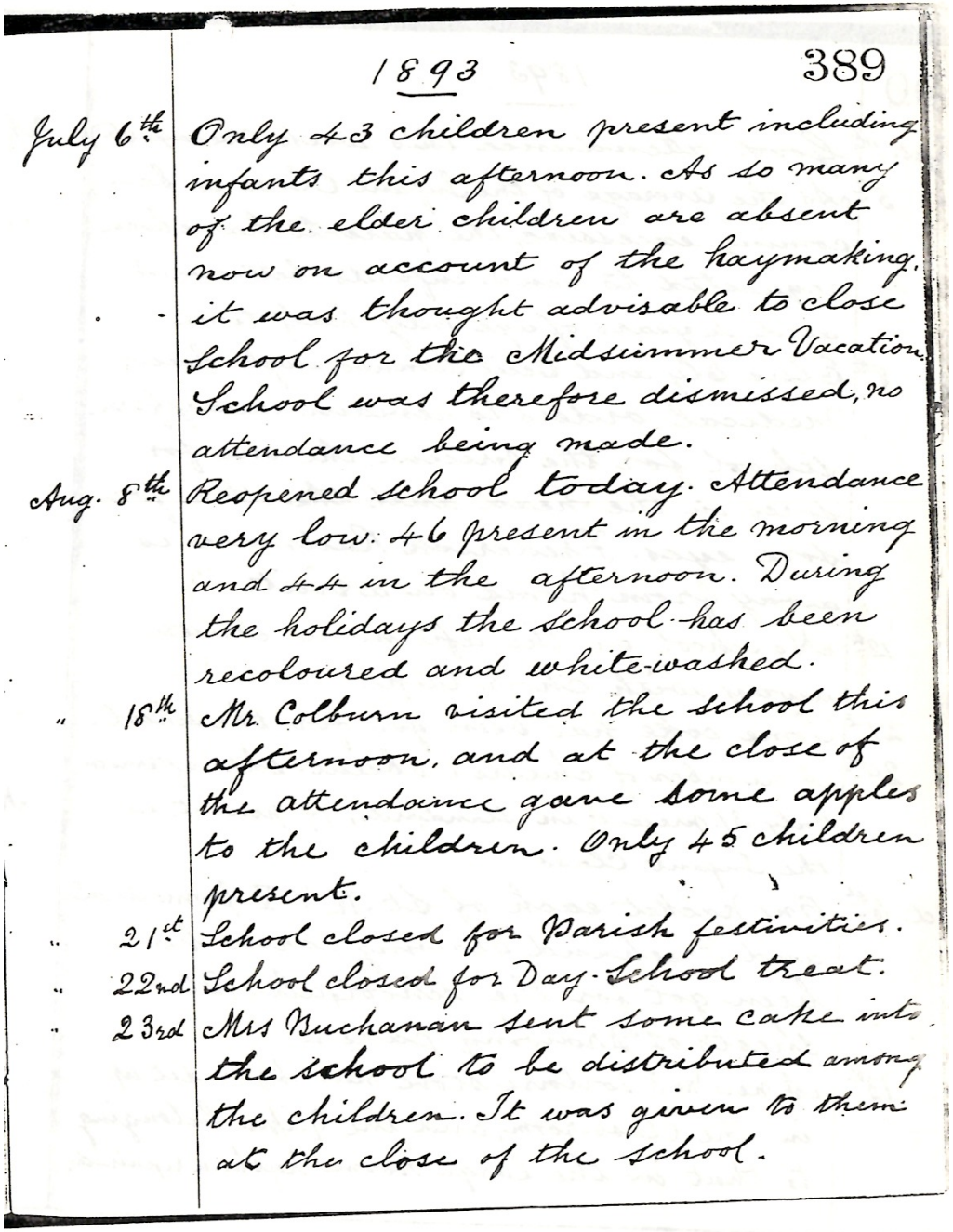
July 4th. Called the Registers this day, & found them correct. T. B. Buchanan, Manager -

Uncertain readings: 'Diocesan' may be written 'Diocesain'; '&' in July 4th entry resembles 'L'; manager's initials read as 'T. B.' (could be 'J. B.')



1893 389

July 6th Only 43 children present including infants this afternoon. As so many of the elder children are absent now on account of the haymaking, it was thought advisable to close School for the Midsummer Vacation. School was therefore dismissed, no attendance being made.

Aug. 8th Reopened school today. Attendance very low. 46 present in the morning and 44 in the afternoon. During the holidays the school has been recoloured and white-washed.

" 18th Mr. Colburn visited the school this afternoon, and at the close of the attendance gave some apples to the children. Only 45 children present.

" 21st School closed for Parish festivities.

" 22nd School closed for Day-School treat.

" 23rd Mrs Buchanan sent some cake into the school to be distributed among the children. It was given to them at the close of the school.

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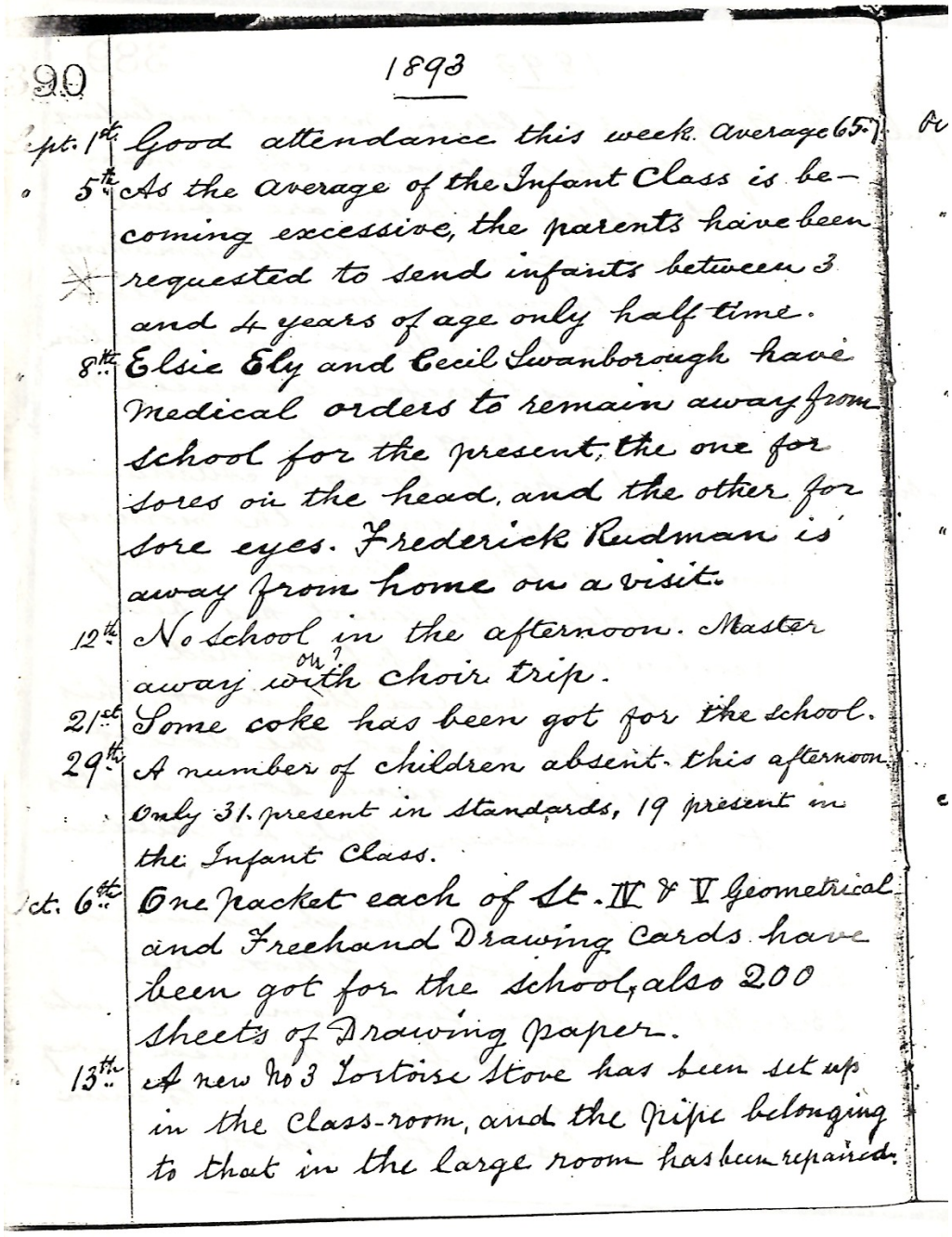
390 1893

Sept. 1st Good attendance this week. Average 65.7

5th As the average of the Infant Class is becoming excessive, the parents have been requested to send infants between 3 and 4 years of age only half time.

8th Elsie Ely and Cecil Swanborough have Medical orders to remain away from school for the present, the one for sores on the head, and the other for sore eyes. Frederick Rudman is away from home on a visit.

12th No School in the afternoon. Master away on? with choir trip.

21st Some coke has been got for the school.

29th A number of children absent this afternoon. Only 31. present in standards, 19 present in the Infant Class.

Oct. 6th One packet each of St. IV & V Geometrical and Freehand Drawing cards have been got for the school, also 200 sheets of Drawing paper.

13th A new No 3 Tortoise Stove has been set up in the Class-room, and the pipe belonging to that in the large room has been repaired.

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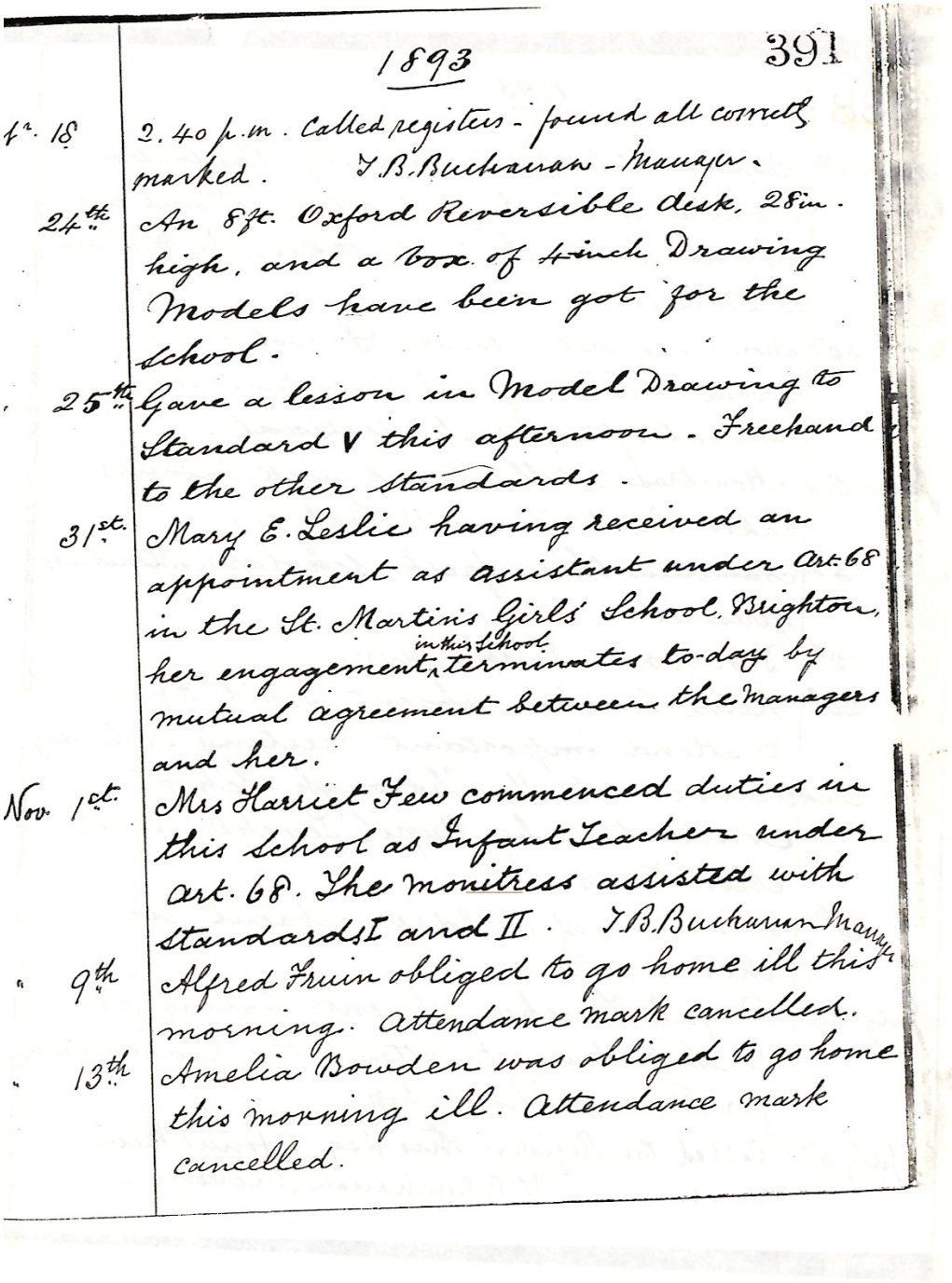
Uncertain readings: Margin dates 'Sept.' and 'Oct.' are partly cut off at the left edge ('pt.', 'ct.'); 'on?' is written above 'with' in the 12th entry, probably a later reader's annotation and not the headmaster's; 'Tortoise' (a make of stove) is written with an unusual first letter, so the OCR read it as 'Lostoise'; An asterisk-like mark in the left margin beside the 5th entry is probably a later annotation; Average read as 65.7, and the last digit is faint


1893 391

[illegible]r. 18 2.40 p.m. Called registers - found all correctly marked. T.B. Buchanan - Manager.

24th " An 8ft. Oxford Reversible desk, 28in. high, and a box of 4inch Drawing Models have been got for the School.

25th " Gave a lesson in Model Drawing to Standard V this afternoon. Freehand to the other Standards.

31st. Mary E. Leslie having received an appointment as assistant under Art. 68 in the St. Martin's Girls' School, Brighton, her engagement in this School terminates to-day by mutual agreement between the Managers and her.

Nov. 1st. Mrs Harriet Few commenced duties in this School as Infant Teacher under art. 68. The monitress assisted with standards I and II. T.B. Buchanan Manager.

" 9th Alfred Fruin obliged to go home ill this morning. Attendance mark cancelled.

" 13th Amelia Bowden was obliged to go home this morning ill. Attendance mark cancelled.

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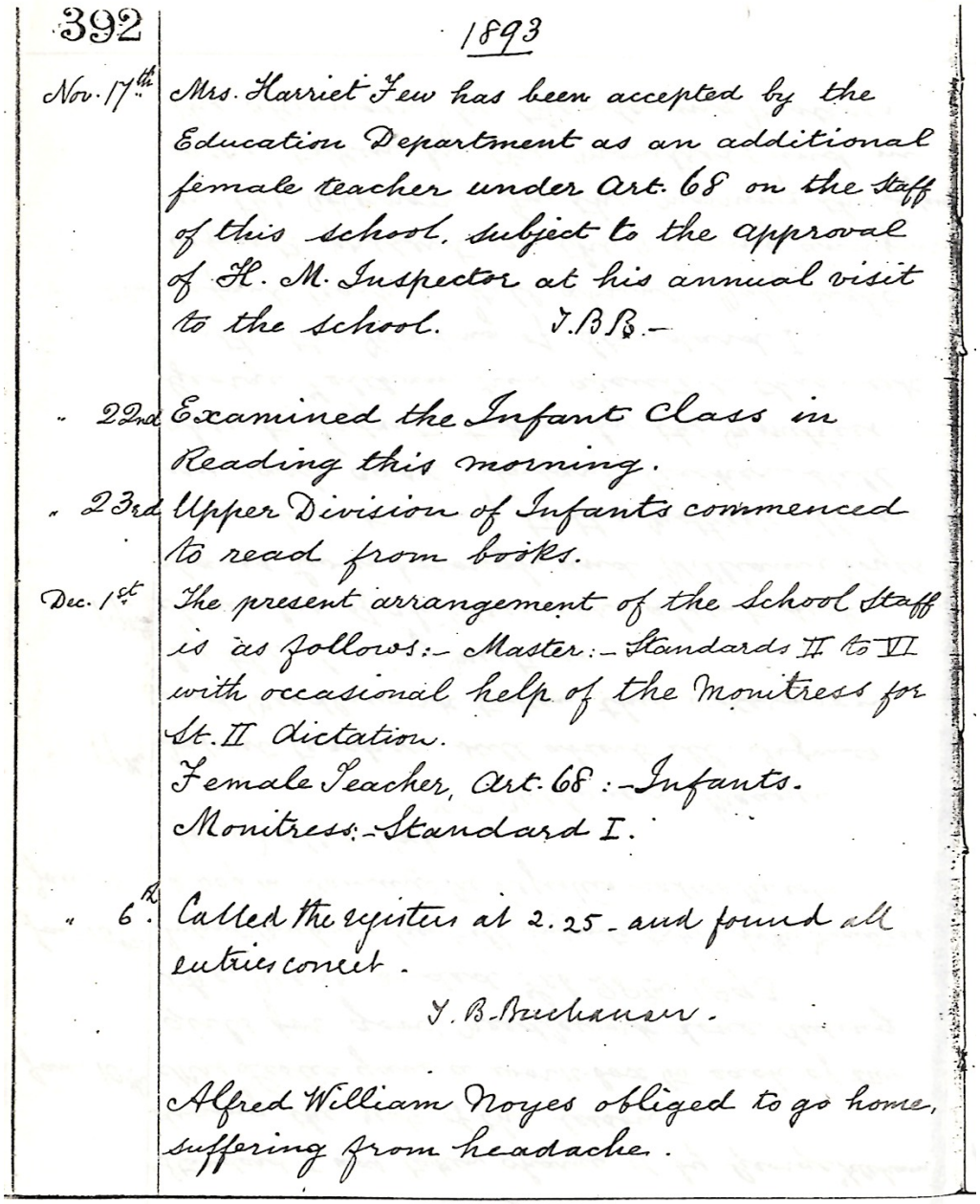
Uncertain readings: First margin date cut off at left edge; only 'r. 18' visible, read as October from following entries; Signature initials read as 'T.B.' (OCR gave 'J.B.'); '4inch' written as one word, with the 4 looking like a crossed numeral; 'in this School' is an interlinear insertion with a caret after 'engagement'



392 1893

Nov. 17th Mrs. Harriet Few has been accepted by the Education Department as an additional female teacher under Art. 68 on the Staff of this school, subject to the approval of H. M. Inspector at his annual visit to the school. J.B.B.-

" 22nd Examined the Infant Class in Reading this morning.

" 23rd Upper Division of Infants commenced to read from books.

Dec. 1st The present arrangement of the School Staff is as follows:- Master:- Standards II to VI with occasional help of the Monitress for St. II dictation.
Female Teacher, Art. 68:- Infants.
Monitress:- Standard I.

" 6th Called the registers at 2.25. and found all entries correct.
J. B. Buchanan.

Alfred William Noyes obliged to go home, suffering from headache.

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Uncertain readings: Nov. 17th (OCR read 14th); Standards II to VI (OCR read III)

Dec. 12th George Bowden was incorrectly called absent at the marking of the Registers this morning. The entry was corrected. Amelia Bowden is still absent ill. Agnes Swanborough is also absent ill. Only 36 children present including 5 infants this afternoon, owing to the rain. Monitress absent.

" 18th Henry Newman went away from the playground this afternoon to go an errand for Mr. W. Wiltshire and did not return. His attendance mark was cancelled.

" 21st A large number of children absent begging.

" 22nd. The Rector, at the close of school this afternoon, gave prizes to the children who had done well at the Religious Examination. School was closed for two weeks holiday.

Jan. 8th/1894 Reopened School today. Fair attendan[illegible]

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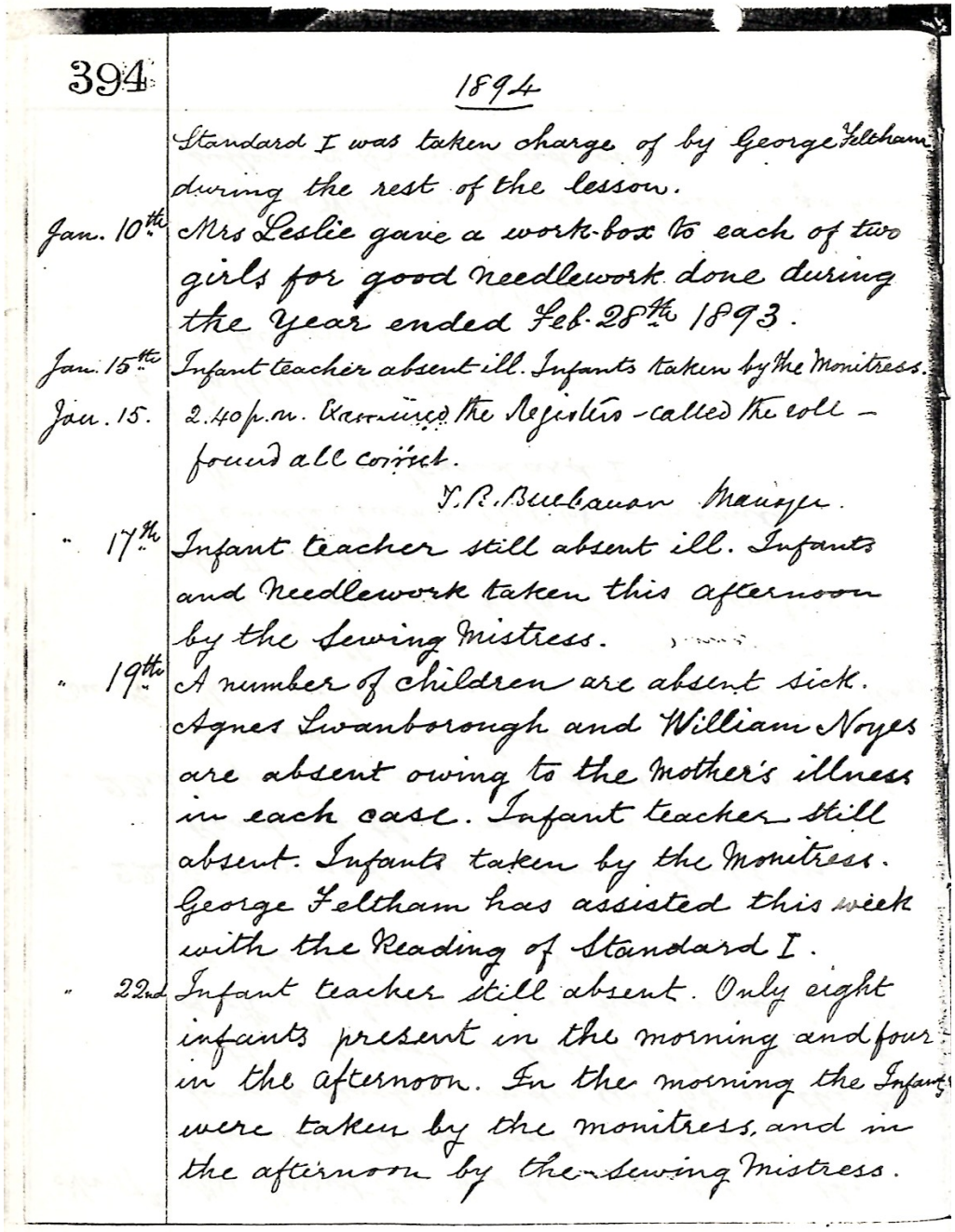
Uncertain readings: 'Fair attendan[ce?]' – word runs off the edge of the page; 'Ist' – superscript after 'I' read as 'st'; 'P.T.O.' at foot of page (OCR 'P.F.O.')



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1894

Standard I was taken charge of by George Feltham during the rest of the lesson.

Jan. 10th Mrs Leslie gave a work-box to each of two girls for good needlework done during the Year ended Feb. 28th 1893.

Jan. 15th Infant teacher absent ill. Infants taken by the Monitress.

Jan. 15. 2.40 p.m. Examined the Registers - called the roll - found all correct.

J. R. Buchanan Manager.

" 17th Infant teacher still absent ill. Infants and Needlework taken this afternoon by the Sewing Mistress.

" 19th A number of children are absent sick. Agnes Swanborough and William Noyes are absent owing to the Mother's illness in each case. Infant teacher still absent. Infants taken by the Monitress. George Feltham has assisted this week with the Reading of Standard I.

" 22nd Infant teacher still absent. Only eight infants present in the morning and four in the afternoon. In the morning the Infants were taken by the monitress, and in the afternoon by the Sewing Mistress.

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(continued from previous page)

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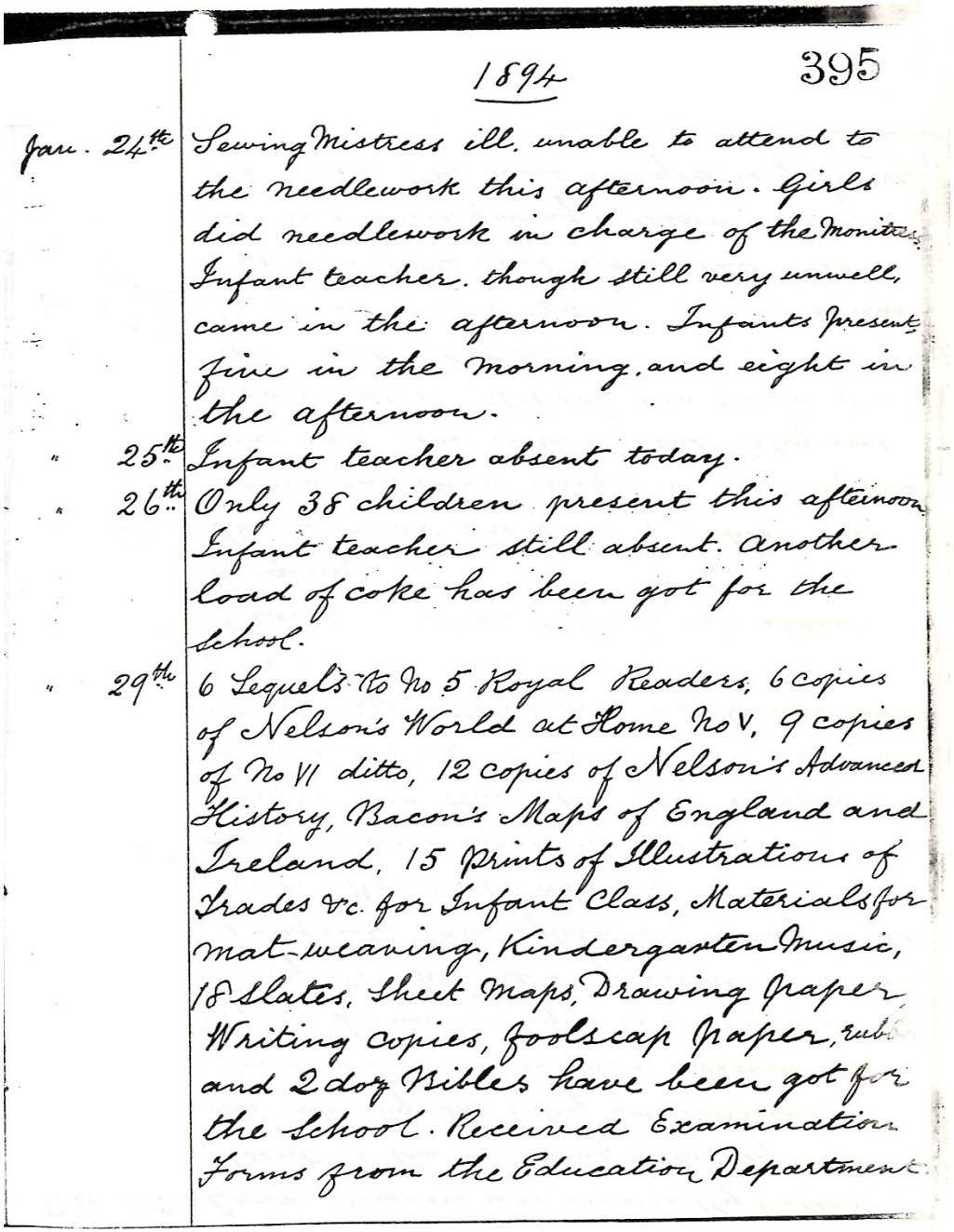
Uncertain readings: 'J. R. Buchanan' signature is in a different, rough hand; 'Examined' in the manager's entry is hard to read



1894 395

Jan. 24th Sewing Mistress ill. unable to attend to the needlework this afternoon. Girls did needlework in charge of the Monitress Infant teacher. though still very unwell, came in the afternoon. Infants present; five in the morning, and eight in the afternoon.

" 25th Infant teacher absent today.

" 26th Only 38 children present this afternoon Infant teacher still absent. another load of coke has been got for the school.

" 29th 6 Sequels to No 5 Royal Readers, 6 copies of Nelson's World at Home No V, 9 copies of No VI ditto, 12 copies of Nelson's Advanced History, Bacon's Maps of England and Ireland, 15 Prints of Illustrations of Trades &c. for Infant Class, Materials for mat-weaving, Kindergarten Music, 18 Slates, Sheet Maps, Drawing paper, Writing copies, foolscap paper, rub[ber?] and 2 doz Bibles have been got for the School. Received Examination Forms from the Education Department.

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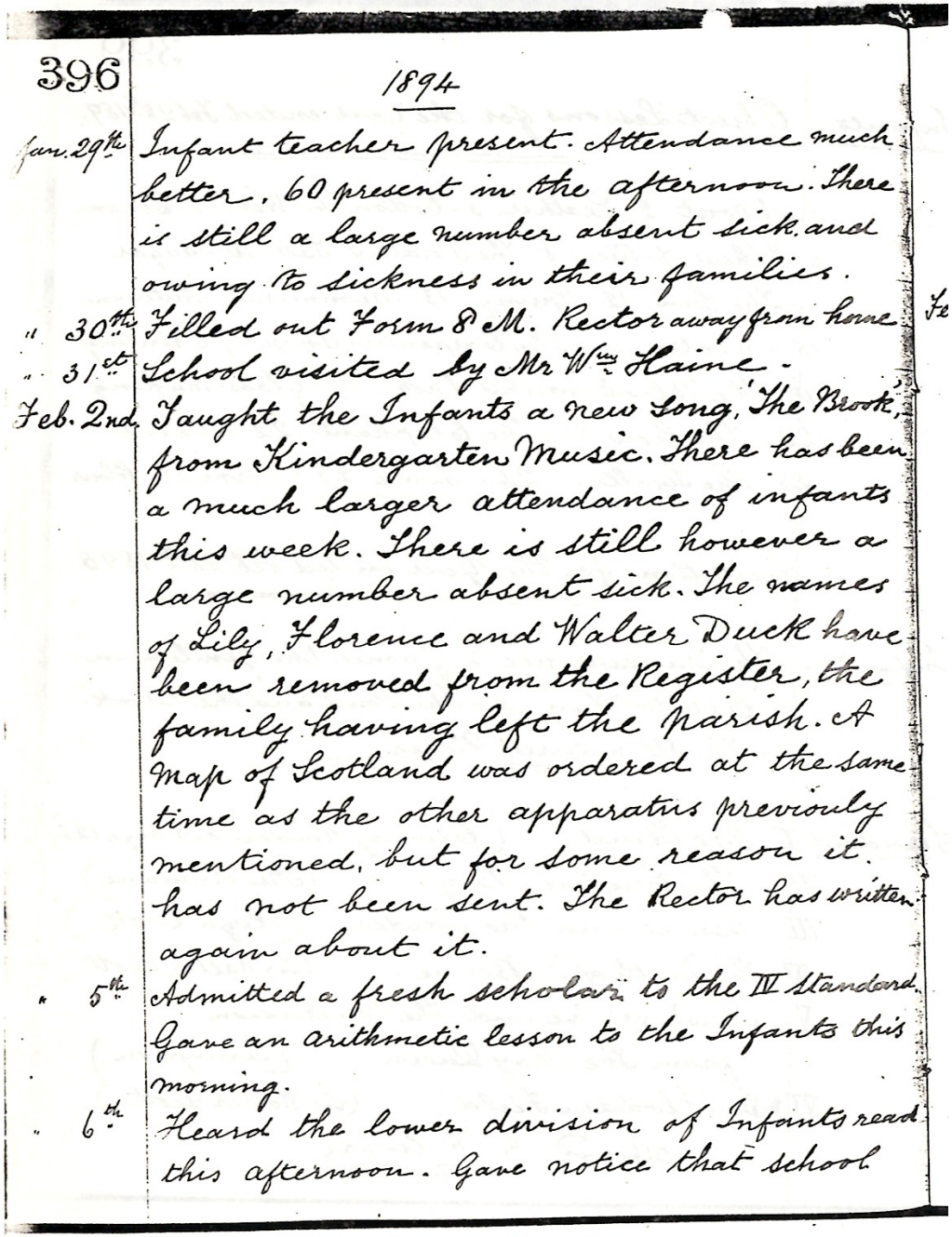
Uncertain readings: 'Monitress' cut off at page edge, written 'Monitr...'; 'rub' at line end, probably 'rubber' continued off the page; 'Sequels' read for OCR 'Lequel's'



396

1894

Jan. 29th Infant teacher present. Attendance much better. 60 present in the afternoon. There is still a large number absent sick. and owing to sickness in their families.

" 30th Filled out Form 8 M. Rector away from home.

" 31st School visited by Mr Wm. Haine.

Feb. 2nd. Taught the Infants a new Song, 'The Brook', from Kindergarten Music. There has been a much larger attendance of infants this week. There is still however a large number absent sick. The names of Lily, Florence and Walter Duck have been removed from the Register, the family having left the parish. A map of Scotland was ordered at the same time as the other apparatus previously mentioned, but for some reason it has not been sent. The Rector has written again about it.

" 5th Admitted a fresh scholar to the III Standard. Gave an arithmetic lesson to the Infants this morning.

" 6th Heard the lower division of Infants read this afternoon. Gave notice that school

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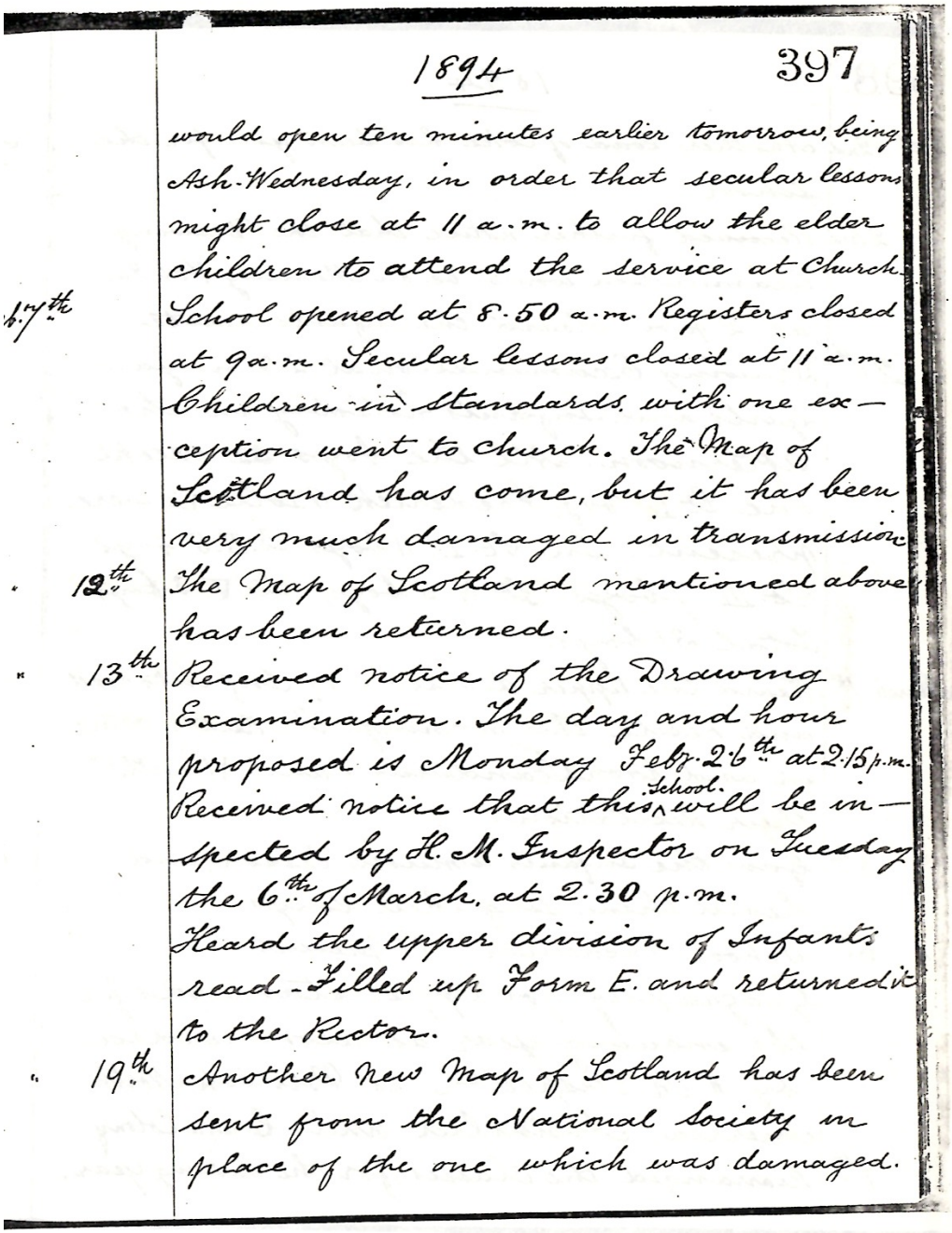
Uncertain readings: Standard numeral in 5th Feb entry read as II; OCR gives IV; 'previously' may be written 'previouly'



1894 397

would open ten minutes earlier tomorrow, being Ash-Wednesday, in order that secular lessons might close at 11 a.m. to allow the elder children to attend the service at Church.

[illegible]7th School opened at 8.50 a.m. Registers closed at 9a.m. Secular lessons closed at 11 a.m. Children in standards with one exception went to church. The Map of Scotland has come, but it has been very much damaged in transmission.

" 12th The Map of Scotland mentioned above has been returned.

" 13th Received notice of the Drawing Examination. The day and hour proposed is Monday Feby. 26th at 2.15p.m. Received notice that this School will be inspected by H.M. Inspector on Tuesday the 6th of March, at 2.30 p.m. Heard the upper division of Infants read - Filled up Form E. and returned it to the Rector.

" 19th Another new Map of Scotland has been sent from the National Society in place of the one which was damaged.

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(continued from previous page)
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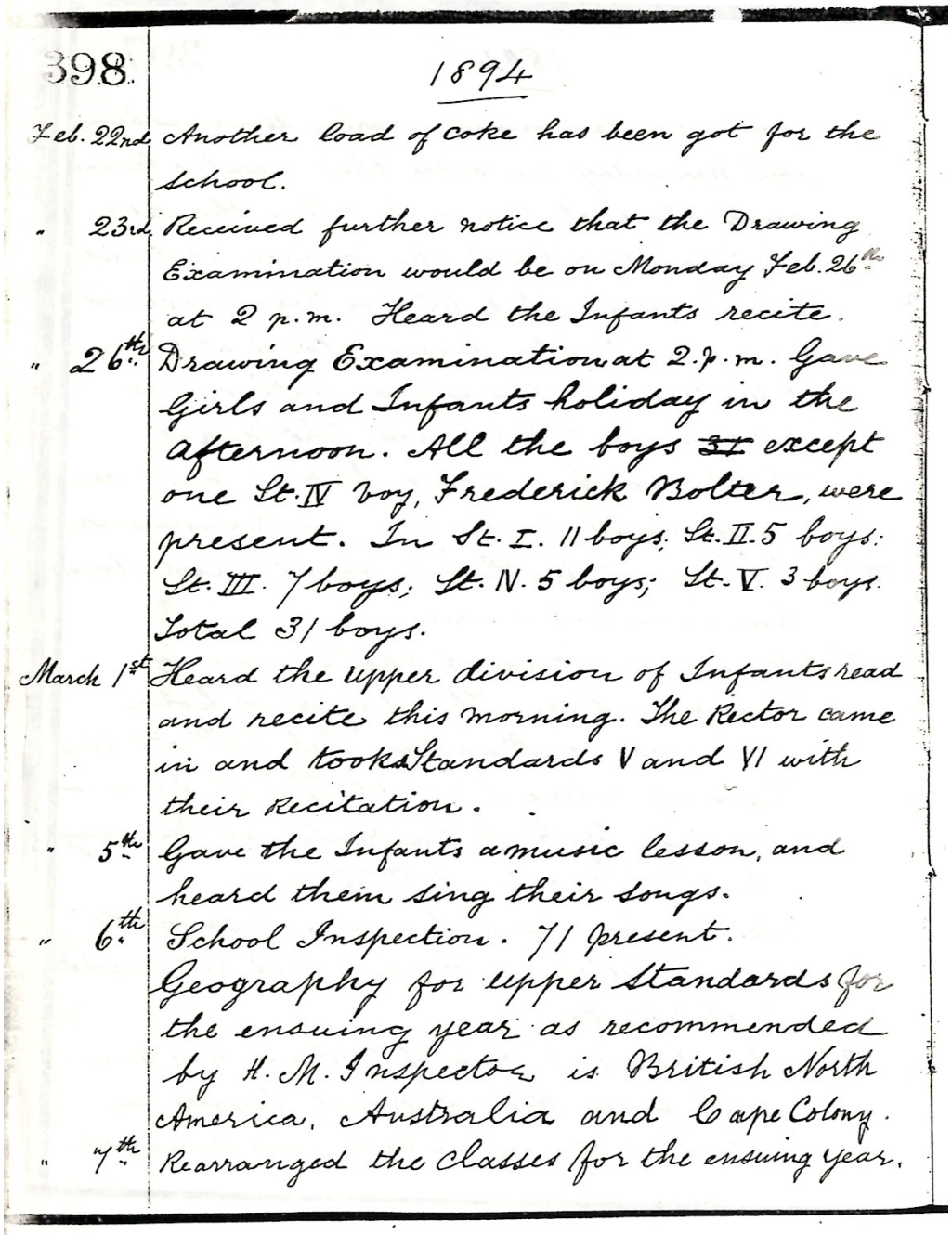
Uncertain readings: Margin date for the Ash Wednesday entry is partly cut off; only '…7th' visible, taken as Feb. 7th (Ash Wednesday 1894); 'Feby.' — abbreviation of February, final letter uncertain; 'School' inserted above the line with a caret



398 1894

Feb. 22nd Another load of coke has been got for the school.

" 23rd Received further notice that the Drawing Examination would be on Monday Feb. 26th at 2 p.m. Heard the Infants recite.

" 26th Drawing Examination at 2.p.m. Gave Girls and Infants holiday in the afternoon. All the boys ~~31~~ except one St. IV boy, Frederick Bolter, were present. In St. I. 11 boys. St. II. 5 boys. St. III. 7 boys; St. IV. 5 boys; St. V. 3 boys. Total 31 boys.

March 1st Heard the upper division of Infants read and recite this morning. The Rector came in and took Standards V and VI with their Recitation.

" 5th Gave the Infants a music lesson, and heard them sing their songs.

" 6th School Inspection. 71 present. Geography for upper Standards for the ensuing year as recommended by H. M. Inspector is British North America, Australia and Cape Colony.

" 7th Rearranged the Classes for the ensuing year.

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Uncertain readings: '31' struck through after 'All the boys' (OCR read 'II')

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