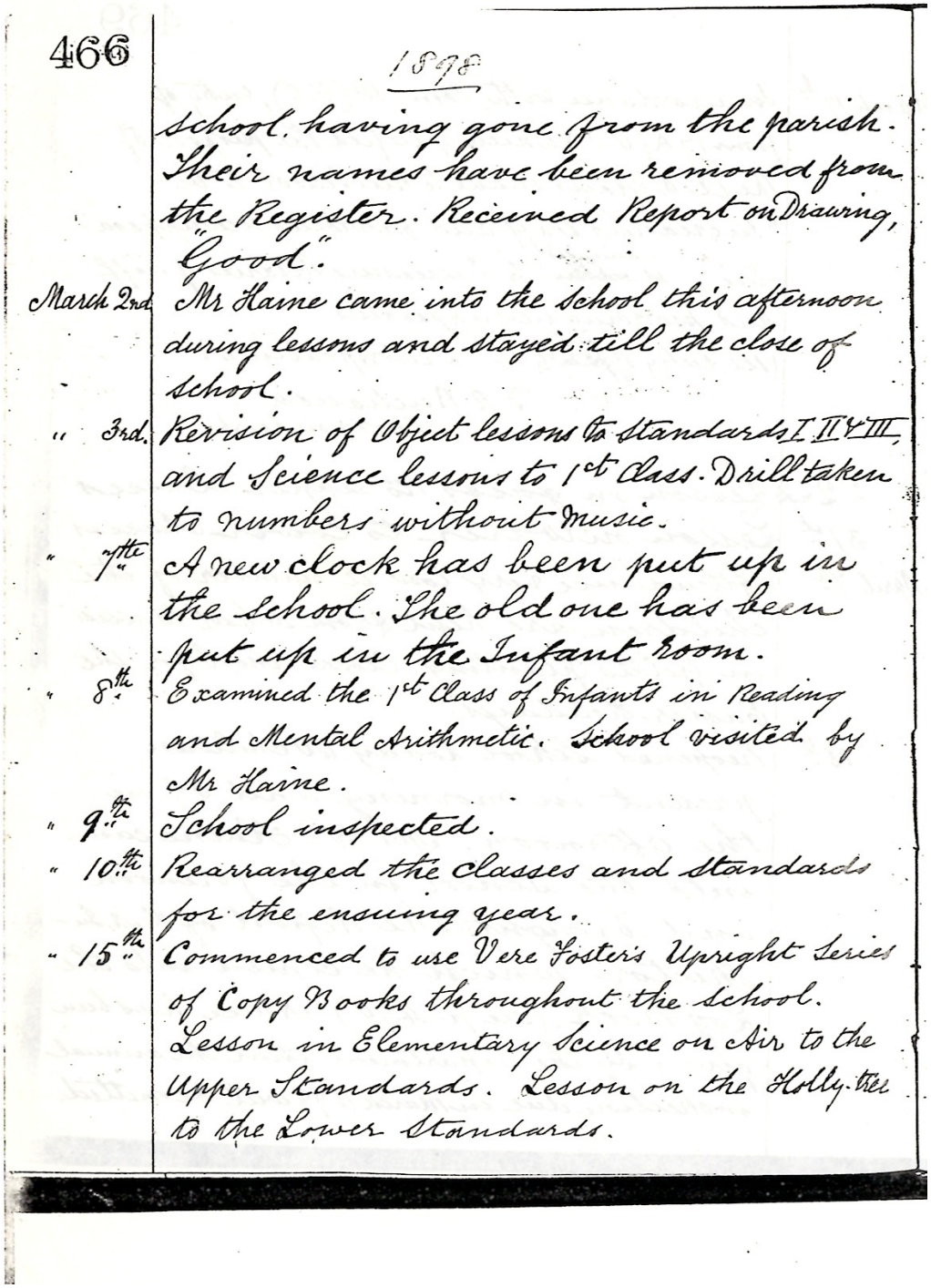
Poulshot School Log Book - school year 1898-99

Volume 1, pages 466-482 (17 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.


466

1878

school. having gone from the parish. Their names have been removed from the Register. Received Report on Drawing, "Good".

March 2nd Mr Haine came into the school this afternoon during lessons and stayed till the close of school.

" 3rd. Revision of Object lessons to standards I. II & III, and Science lessons to 1st Class. Drill taken to numbers without music.

" 7th A new clock has been put up in the school. The old one has been put up in the Infant room.

" 8th Examined the 1st Class of Infants in Reading and Mental Arithmetic. School visited by Mr Haine.

" 9th School inspected.

" 10th Rearranged the classes and standards for the ensuing year.

" 15th Commenced to use Vere Foster's Upright Series of Copy Books throughout the School. Lesson in Elementary Science on Air to the Upper Standards. Lesson on the Holly-tree to the Lower Standards.

Page 466

(continued from previous page)

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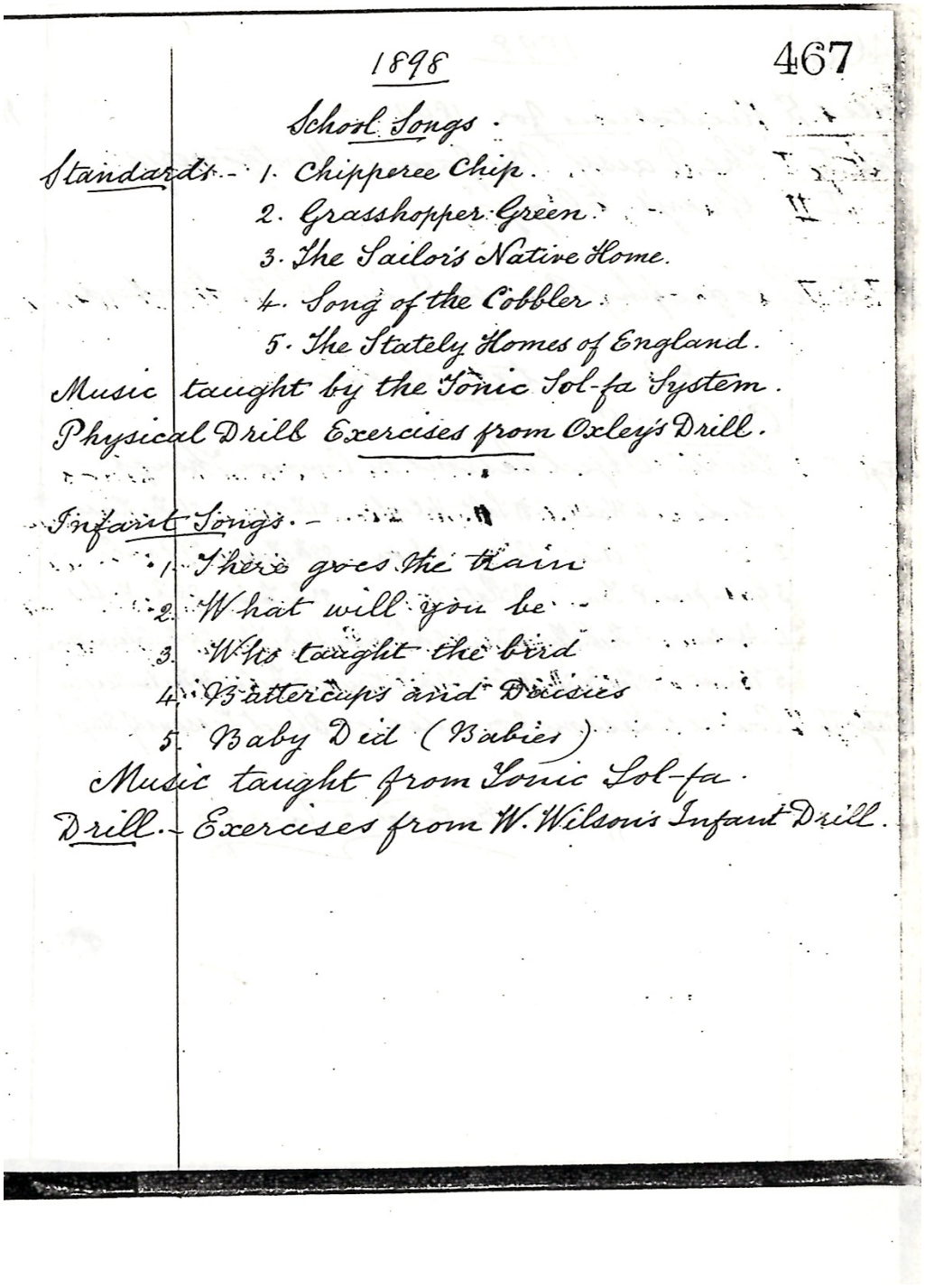
Uncertain readings: Date of the clock entry read as '7th' (the OCR gave nothing usable); 'I. II & III' standards written with Roman numerals and an ampersand; 'Holly-tree': the hyphen may be a dot or full stop in the original



1898 467

School Songs.

Standards. - 1. Chipperee Chip.
2. Grasshopper Green.
3. The Sailor's Native Home.
4. Song of the Cobbler.
5. The Stately Homes of England.

Music taught by the Tonic Sol-fa System.

Physical Drill Exercises from Oxley's Drill.

Infant Songs. -
1. There goes the train
2. What will you be
3. Who taught the bird
4. Buttercups and Daisies
5. Baby Did (Babies)

Music taught from Tonic Sol-fa.

Drill. - Exercises from W. Wilson's Infant Drill.

Page 467

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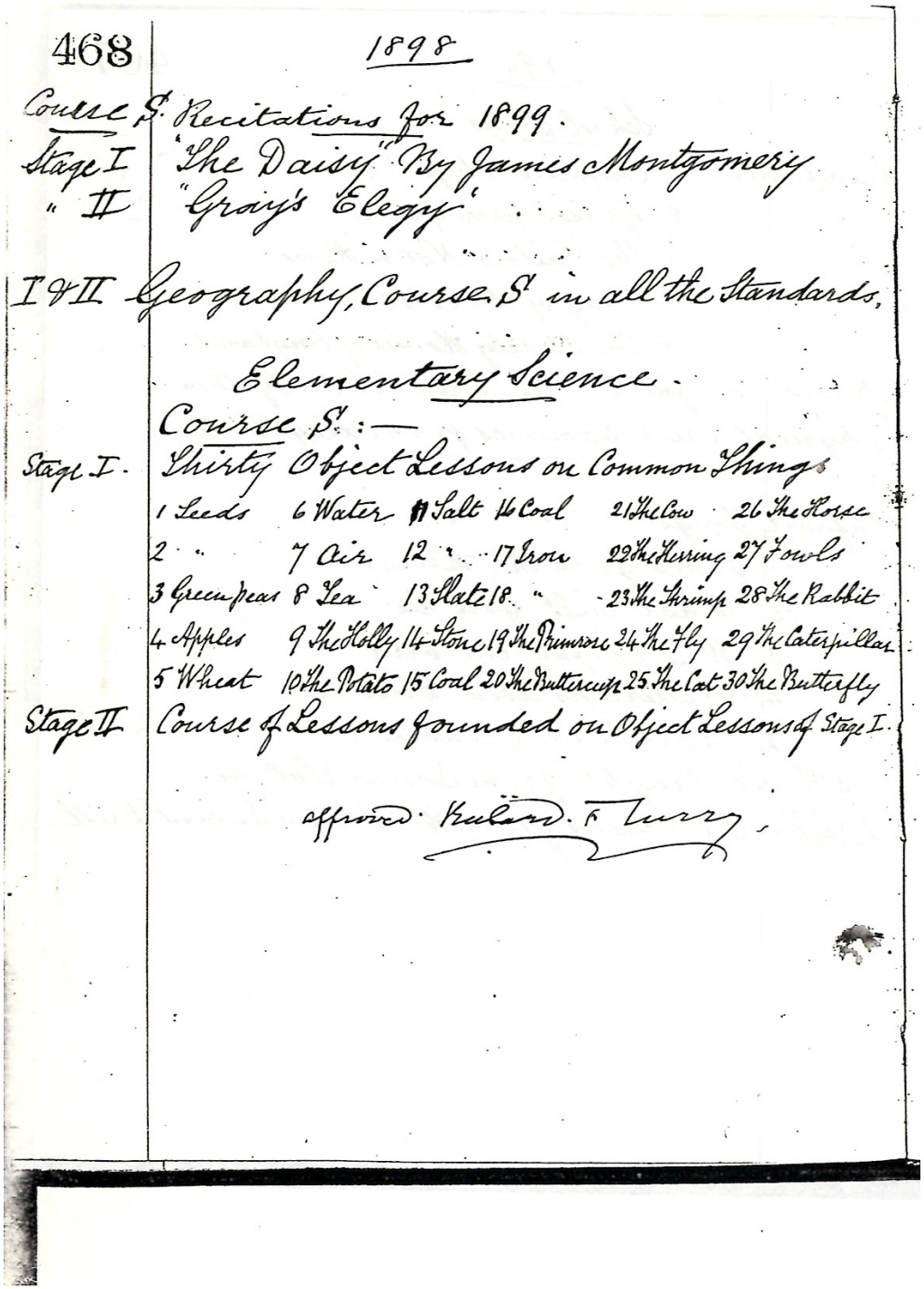
Infant Songs. - 1. There goes the train 2. What will you be - 3. Who taught the bird 4. Buttercups and Daisies 5. Baby [Did?] (Babies) Music taught from Tonic Sol-fa Drill. - Exercises from W. Wilson's Infant Drill.

Uncertain readings: 'Baby [Did?] (Babies)' – fifth infant song title; the second word could be 'Did', 'Deil' or 'Dear'; 'Chipperee Chip' – spelling of the first song title as written


468

1898

Course S. Recitations for 1899.

Stage I "The Daisy" By James Montgomery

" II "Gray's Elegy"

I & II Geography, Course S in all the Standards.

Elementary Science.

Course S :—

Stage I. Thirty Object Lessons on Common Things

1 Seeds	6 Water	11 Salt	16 Coal	21 The Cow	26 The Horse
2 "	7 Air	12 "	17 Iron	22 The Herring	27 Fowls
3 Green peas	8 Tea	13 Slate	18 "	23 The Shrimp	28 The Rabbit
4 Apples	9 The Holly	14 Stone	19 The Primrose	24 The Fly	29 The Caterpillar
5 Wheat	10 The Potato	15 Coal	20 The Buttercup	25 The Cat	30 The Butterfly

Stage II Course of Lessons founded on Object Lessons of Stage I.

Approved. Richard F. Turry.

Page 468

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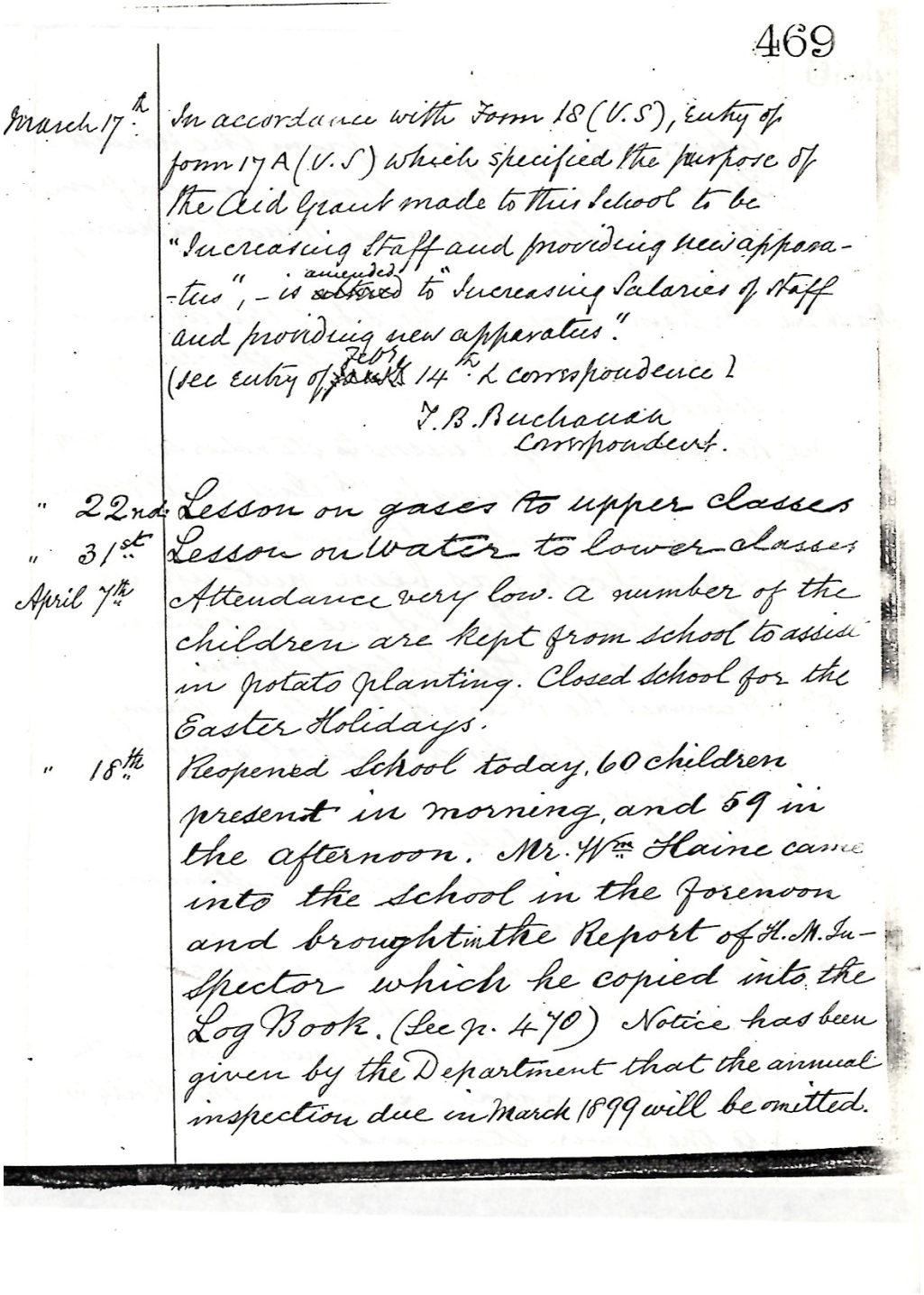
Uncertain readings: Signature after 'approved' is hard to read: possibly 'Richard F. Turry' or 'Tarry'; 'Course S': the letter may be another capital with a superscript or dot; Lesson 16 reads 'Coal', which repeats lesson 15; it may be a slip of the pen or a misreading; Lesson 13 read as 'Slate'



469

March 17th In accordance with Form 18 (V.S), entry of form 17A (V.S) which specified the purpose of the Aid Grant made to this School to be "Increasing Staff and providing new apparatus", - is amended to "Increasing Salaries of Staff and providing new apparatus." (see entry of Feby 14th & correspondence)
T. B. Buchanan
Correspondent.

" 22nd Lesson on gases to upper classes

" 31st Lesson on water to lower classes

April 7th Attendance very low. a number of the children are kept from school to assist in potato planting. Closed school for the Easter Holidays.

" 18th Reopened School today, 60 children present in morning, and 59 in the afternoon. Mr. Wm Haine came into the school in the forenoon and brought in the Report of H. M. Inspector which he copied into the Log Book. (See p. 470) Notice has been given by the Department that the annual inspection due in March 1899 will be omitted.

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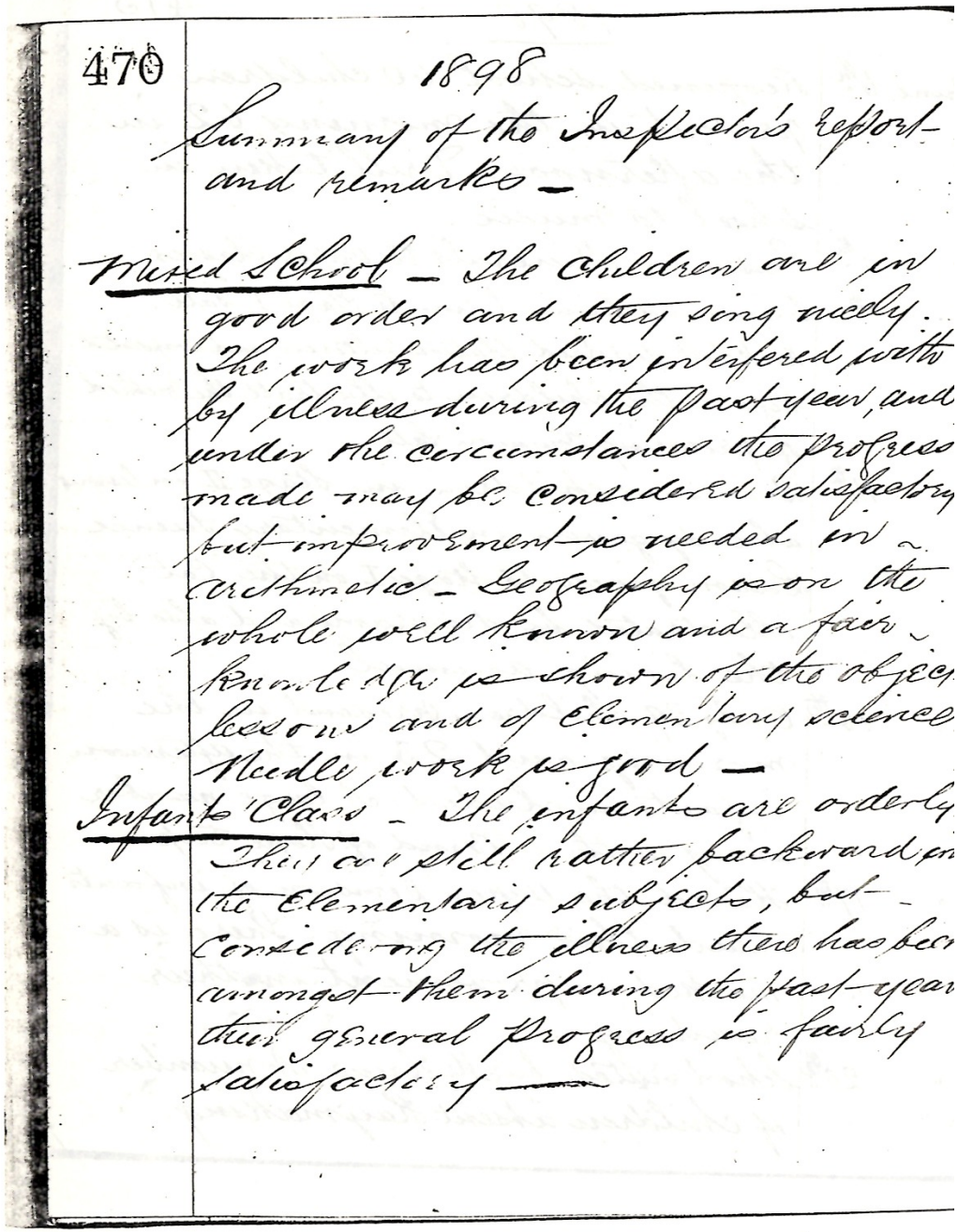
Uncertain readings: No year is written in the page header. The dates are inferred as 1898 because the next inspection was due March 1899 and the Easter closure dates (7 to 18 April) fit Easter 1898.; The struck-through word before 'Feby' is unclear, possibly 'Jany'.; The struck-through word before the interlined 'amended' looks like 'altered'.; Wm Haine's role is not stated on the page. 'Manager' is inferred because he copied the HMI report into the log book.; 'assist' runs off the right edge of the page.



470

1898

Summary of the Inspector's report and remarks —

Mixed School — The Children are in good order and they sing nicely. The work has been interfered with by illness during the past year, and under the circumstances the progress made may be considered satisfactory but improvement is needed in Arithmetic — Geography is on the whole well known and a fair knowledge is shown of the object lesson and of Elementary science Needle work is good —

Infants' Class — The infants are orderly They are still rather backward in the Elementary subjects, but Considering the illness there has been amongst them during the past year their general progress is fairly satisfactory —

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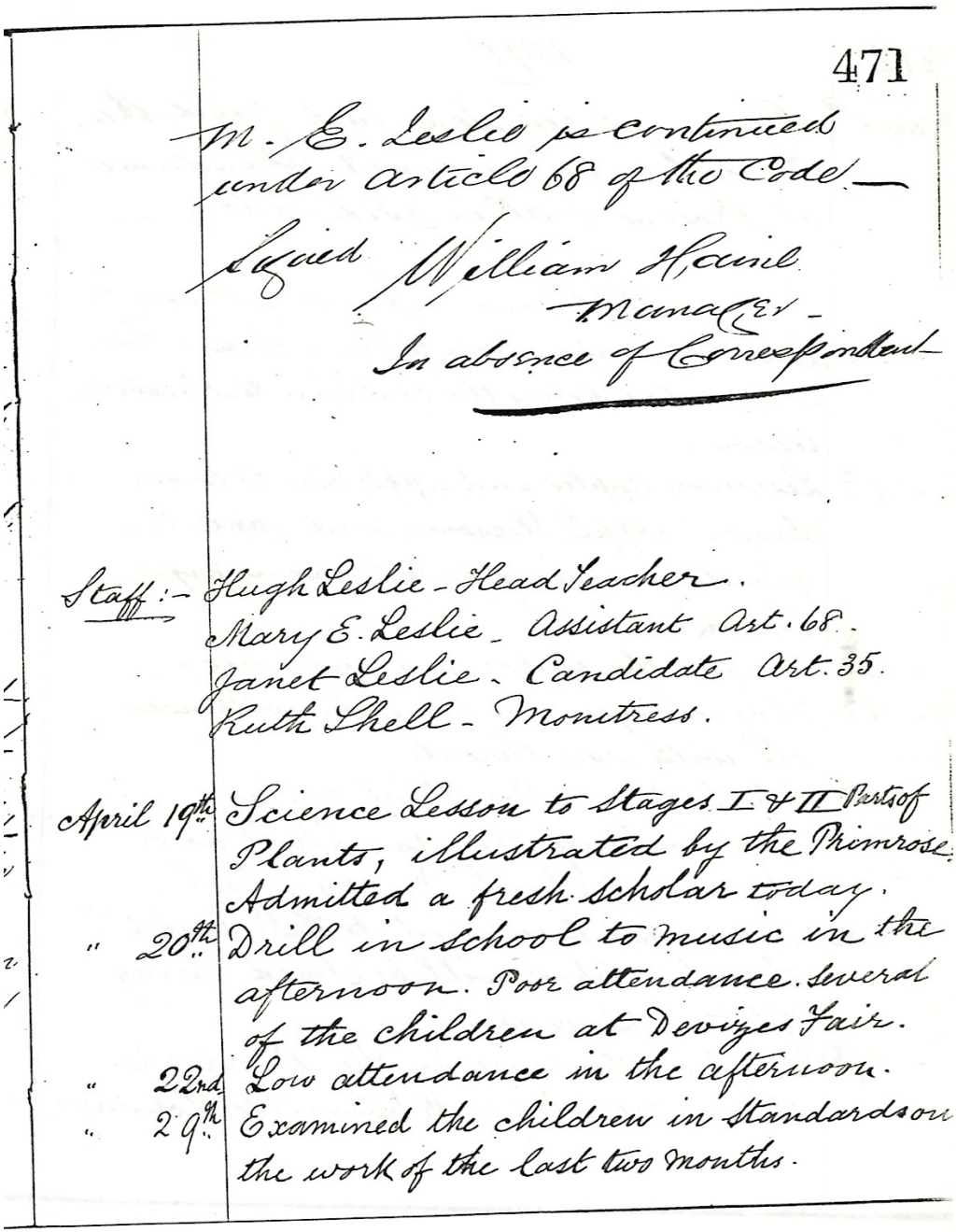
Uncertain readings: 'in' at the end of 'rather backward in' is partly cut off at the right edge of the page; 'object' (lesson) is cut off at the right margin; 'sing' could also be read as 'song', which is how the OCR has it; 'sing nicely' fits the sense


471

M. E. Leslie is continued under article 68 of the Code —
Signed William Haine
Manager —
In absence of Correspondent

Staff:- Hugh Leslie - Head Teacher.
Mary E. Leslie - Assistant Art. 68.
Janet Leslie - Candidate Art. 35.
Ruth Shell - Monitress.

April 19th Science Lesson to Stages I & II Parts of Plants, illustrated by the Primrose. Admitted a fresh scholar today.
" 20th Drill in school to music in the afternoon. Poor attendance. several of the children at Devizes Fair.
" 22nd Low attendance in the afternoon.
" 29th Examined the children in Standards on the work of the last two months.

Page 471

(continued from previous page)

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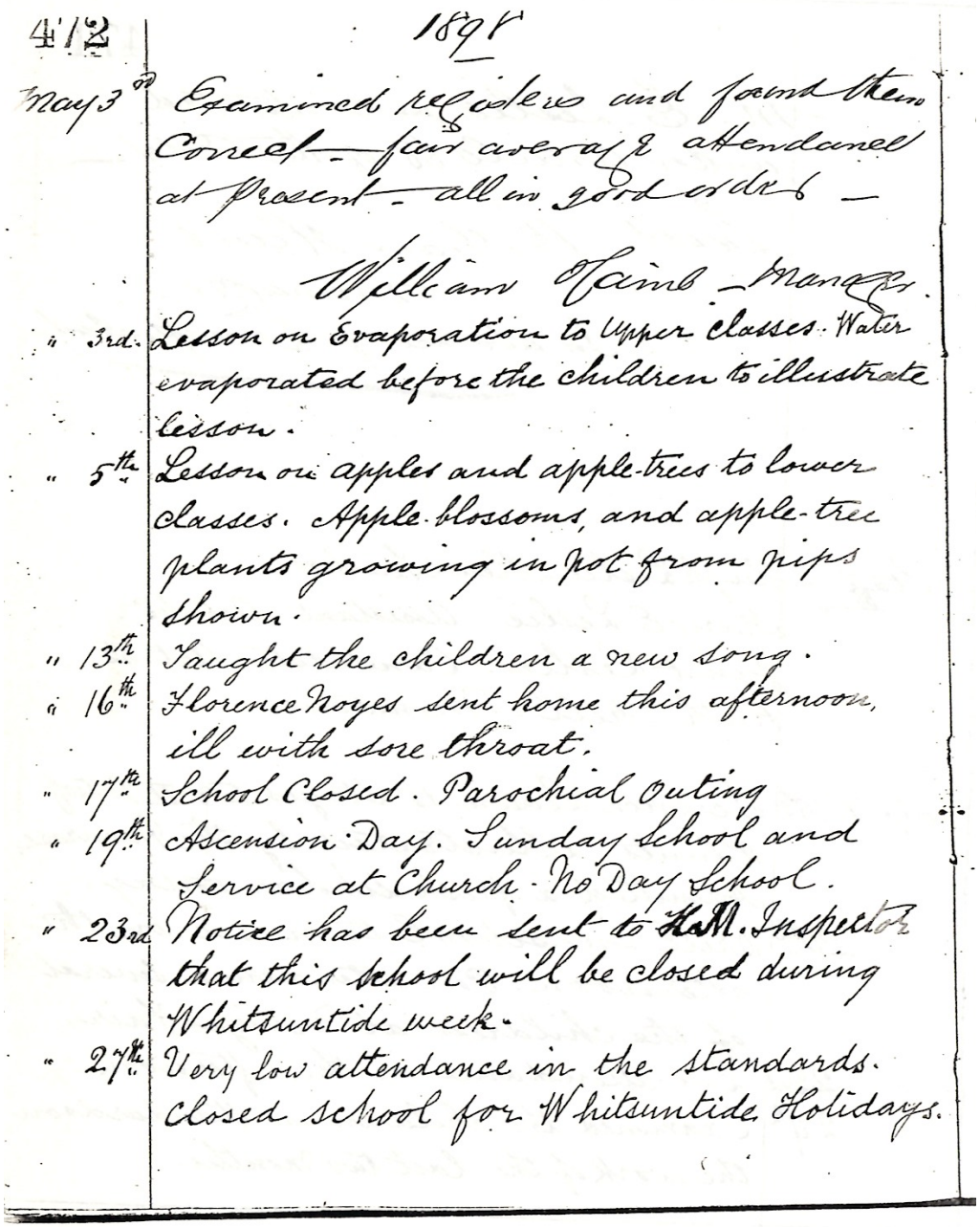
Uncertain readings: Manager's surname read as 'Haine' (could be 'Haine' or 'Hanil'); 'Manager' is written irregularly; No year in the page header, so ISO dates are left blank; the April 20th Devizes Fair could help date the page; 'Signed' is written in a cramped hand (OCR read it as 'Agreed')



4/12 1894

May 3rd Examined registers and found them Correct — fair average attendance at present — all in good order —

William Hains — Manager.

" 3rd. Lesson on Evaporation to Upper classes. Water evaporated before the children to illustrate lesson.

" 5th. Lesson on apples and apple-trees to lower classes. Apple-blossoms, and apple-tree plants growing in pot from pips shown.

" 13th. Taught the children a new song.

" 16th. Florence Noyes sent home this afternoon, ill with sore throat.

" 17th. School Closed. Parochial Outing

" 19th. Ascension Day. Sunday School and Service at Church. No Day School.

" 23rd. Notice has been sent to H.M. Inspector that this school will be closed during Whitsuntide week.

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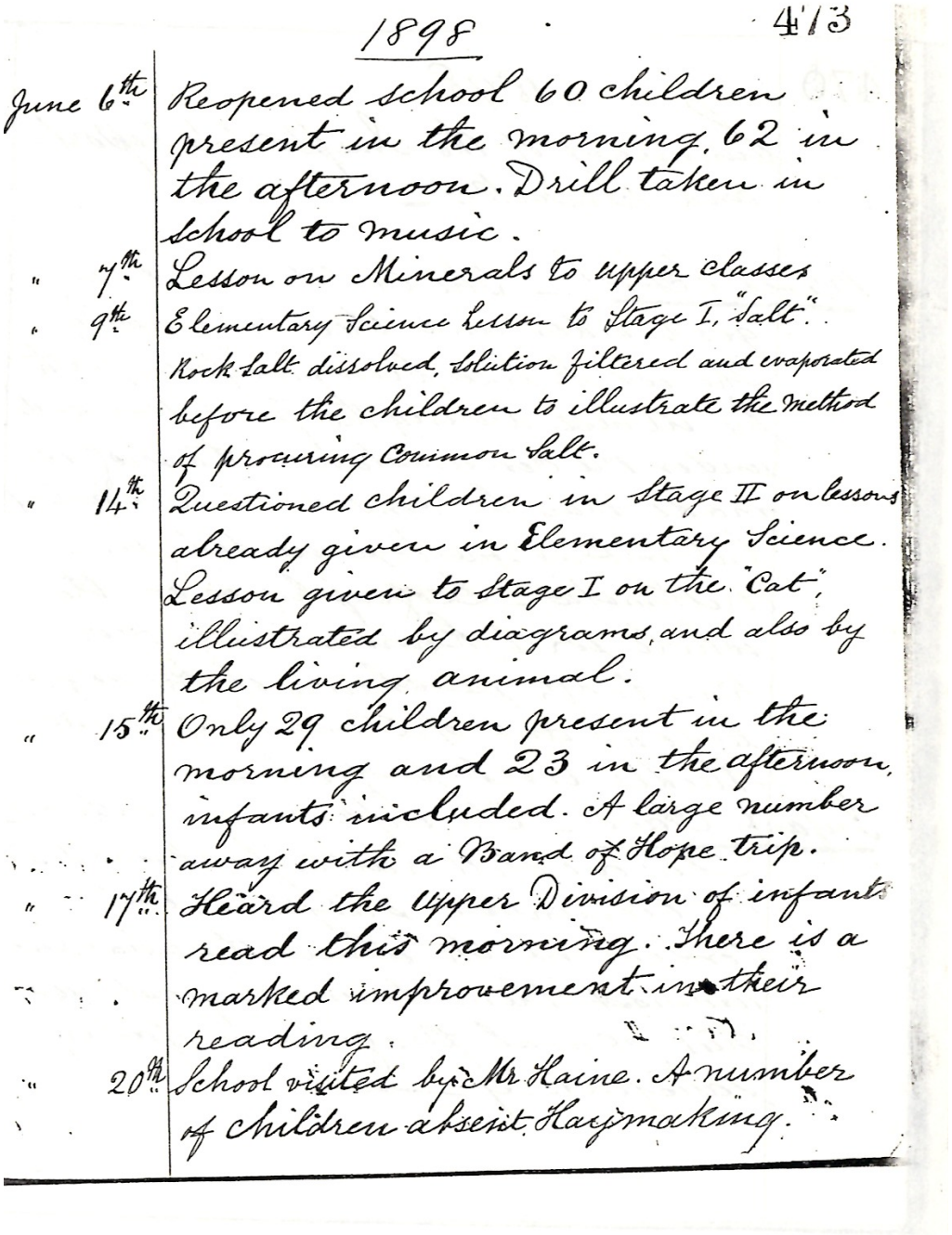
Uncertain readings: Manager's surname in signature: read as 'Hains' (OCR 'ainb'); could be 'Haine' or similar; 'Outing' capitalised O appears likely; Pupil surname 'Noyes' (N/n ambiguous in OCR), read as capital N



1898 473

June 6th Reopened school 60 children present in the morning, 62 in the afternoon. Drill taken in school to music.

" 7th Lesson on Minerals to upper classes

" 9th Elementary Science Lesson to Stage I, "Salt". Rock Salt dissolved, solution filtered and evaporated before the children to illustrate the method of procuring Common Salt.

" 14th Questioned children in Stage II on lessons already given in Elementary Science. Lesson given to Stage I on the "Cat", illustrated by diagrams, and also by the living animal.

" 15th Only 29 children present in the morning and 23 in the afternoon, infants included. A large number away with a Band of Hope trip.

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" 20th School visited by Mr Haine. A number of children absent Haymaking.

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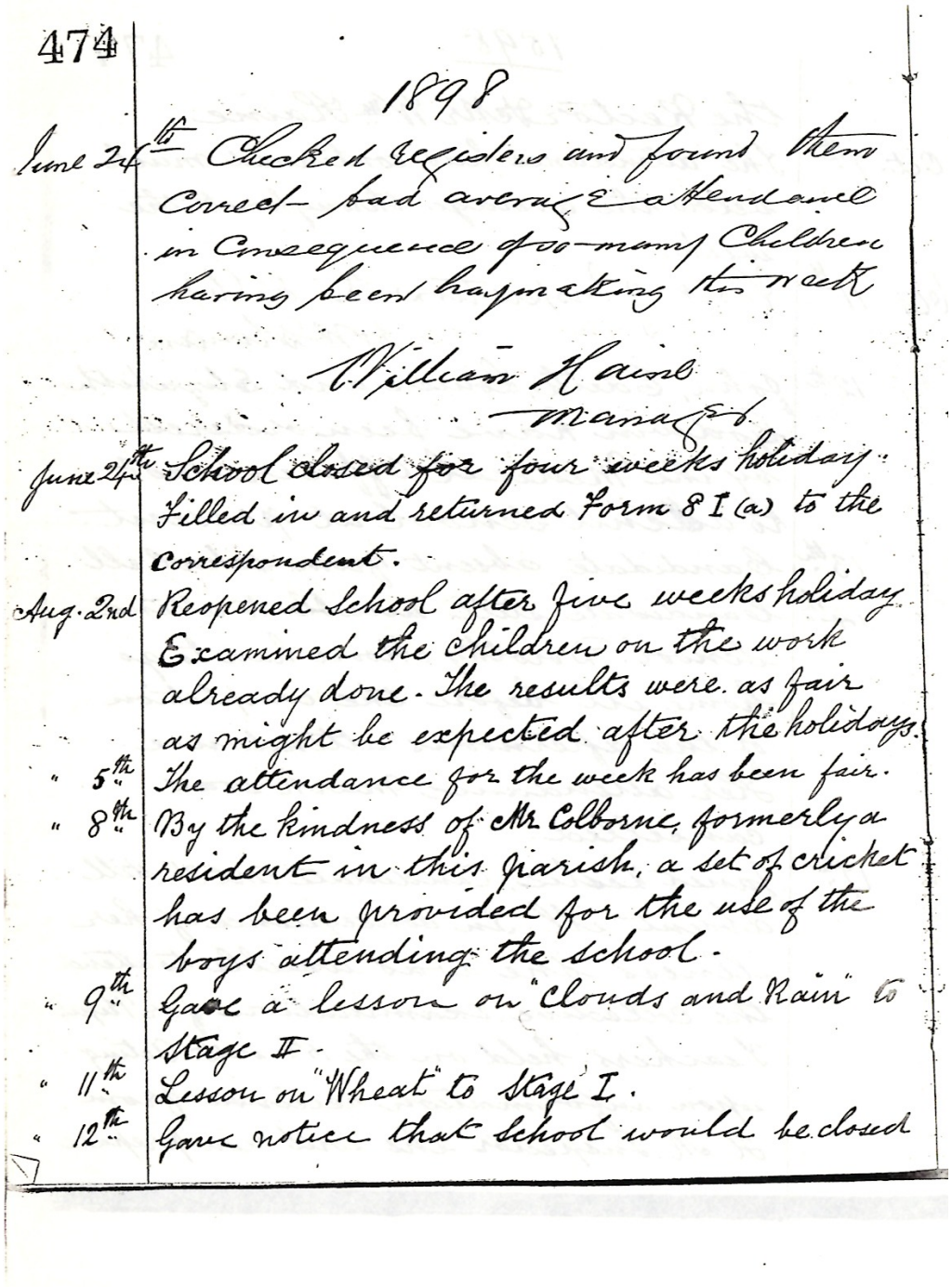
Uncertain readings: 'morning, 62': the mark after 'morning' could be a comma or a full stop; 'Haine': the visitor's surname is fairly clear, but who they were is not stated


474

1898

June 24th Checked registers and found them Correct- bad average Attendance in Consequence of so many Children having been haymaking this week

William Haine

Manager.

June 24th School closed for four weeks holiday. Filled in and returned Form 8 I (a) to the Correspondent.

Aug. 2nd Reopened School after five weeks holiday. Examined the Children on the work already done. The results were as fair as might be expected after the holidays.

" 5th " The attendance for the week has been fair.

" 8th " By the kindness of Mr Colborne, formerly a resident in this parish, a set of cricket has been provided for the use of the boys attending the school.

" 9th " Gave a lesson on "Clouds and Rain" to Stage II.

" 11th " Lesson on "Wheat" to Stage I.

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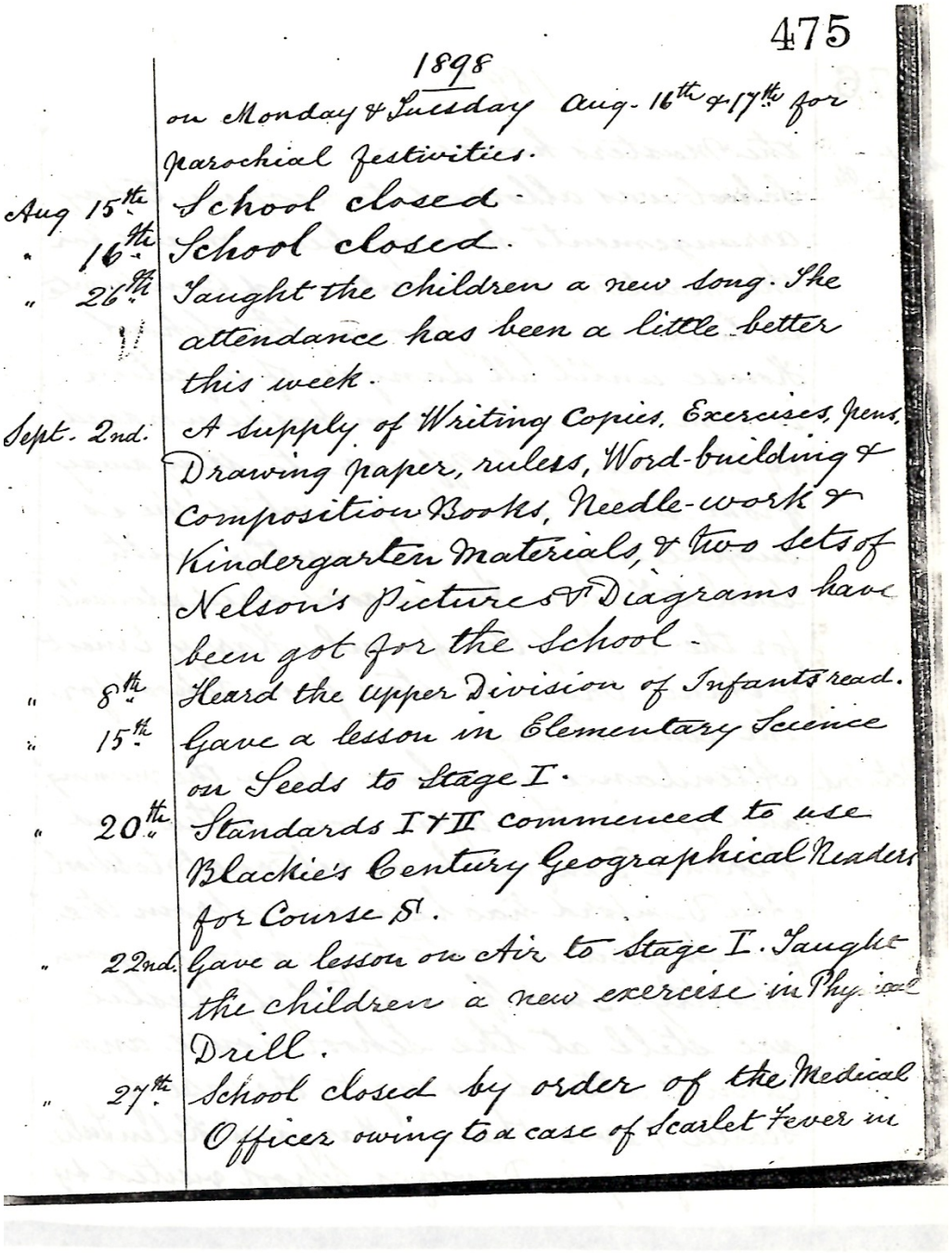
Uncertain readings: Manager's signature read as 'William Haine'; could be 'Hains' or 'Haines'; 'closed for' in the second June 24th entry seems to have a line through it, possibly struck out by the writer; transcribed as written; 'a set of cricket' looks like a word (e.g. 'things') was left out in the original; transcribed as written; 'Correct-' is followed by a dash or stroke before 'bad average attendance'



475

1898

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Aug 15th School closed.

" 16th School closed.

" 26th Taught the children a new song. The attendance has been a little better this week.

Sept. 2nd. A supply of Writing Copies, Exercises, Pens, Drawing paper, rulers, Word-building & Composition Books, Needle-work & Kindergarten Materials, & two sets of Nelson's Pictures & Diagrams have been got for the School.

" 8th Heard the upper Division of Infants read.

" 15th Gave a lesson in Elementary Science on Seeds to Stage I.

" 20th Standards I & II commenced to use Blackie's Century Geographical Readers for Course S.

" 22nd. Gave a lesson on Air to Stage I. Taught the children a new exercise in Phy. coal Drill.

" 27th School closed by order of the Medical Officer owing to a case of Scarlet Fever in

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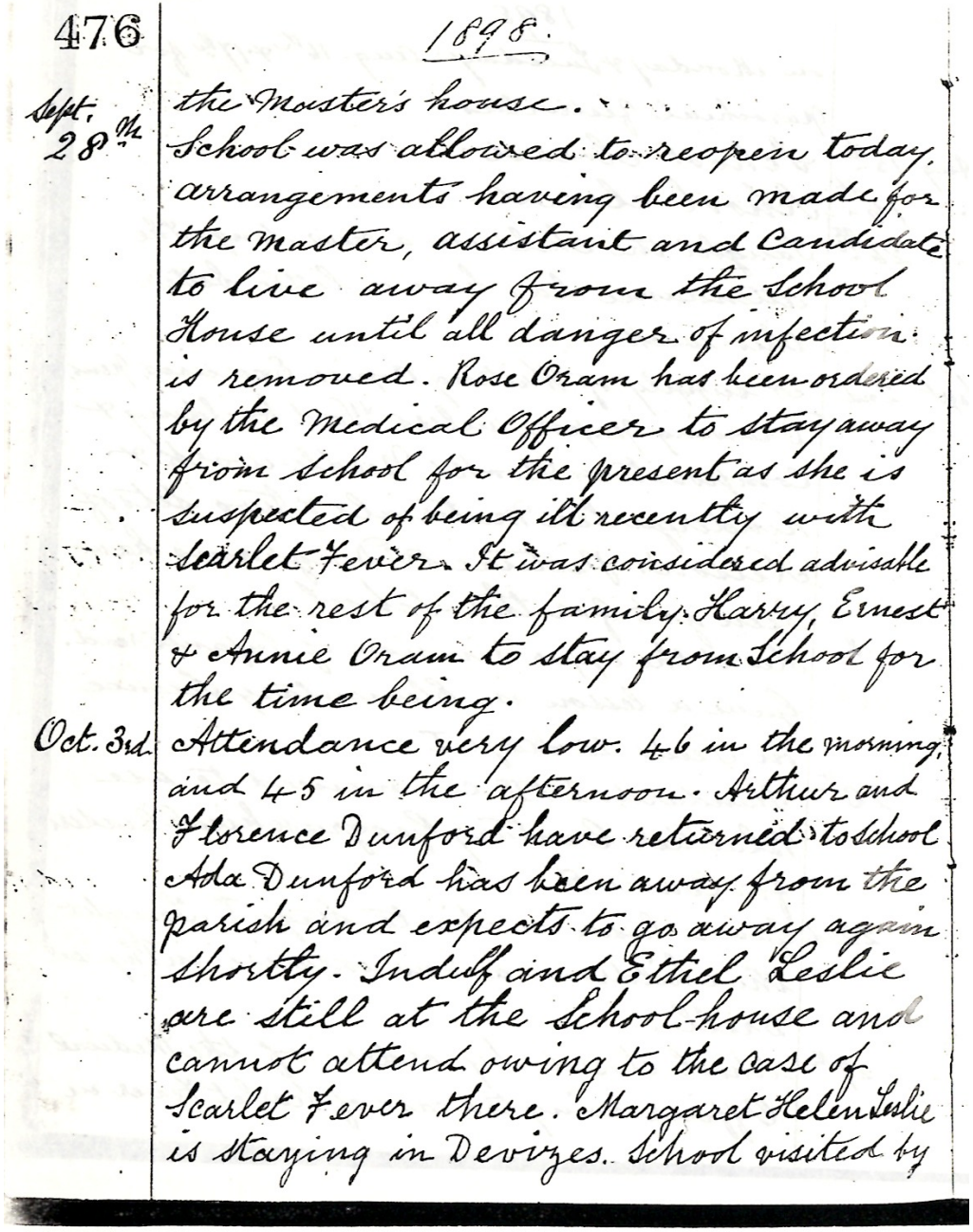
Uncertain readings: Body text says 'Aug. 16th & 17th' (Monday & Tuesday) but the margin dates the closures 15th and 16th; in 1898 Monday was 15 August, so the writer's text date is probably a slip. Kept as written.; 'Course [D?]': the letter could be D or S.; 'Physical' is smudged at the end of the word (OCR read 'Phy. coal').; 'Pictures & Diagrams': there's a small mark after the ampersand, which could be '&c'.



1898.

the Master's house.

Sept. 28th School was allowed to reopen today, arrangements having been made for the Master, assistant and Candidate to live away from the School House until all danger of infection is removed. Rose Oram has been ordered by the Medical Officer to stay away from School for the present as she is suspected of being ill recently with Scarlet Fever. It was considered advisable for the rest of the family Harry, Ernest & Annie Oram to stay from School for the time being.

Oct. 3rd Attendance very low. 46 in the morning, and 45 in the afternoon. Arthur and Florence Dunford have returned to School Ada Dunford has been away from the parish and expects to go away again shortly. Indulf and Ethel Leslie are still at the School-house and cannot attend owing to the case of Scarlet Fever there. Margaret Helen Leslie is staying in Devizes. School visited by

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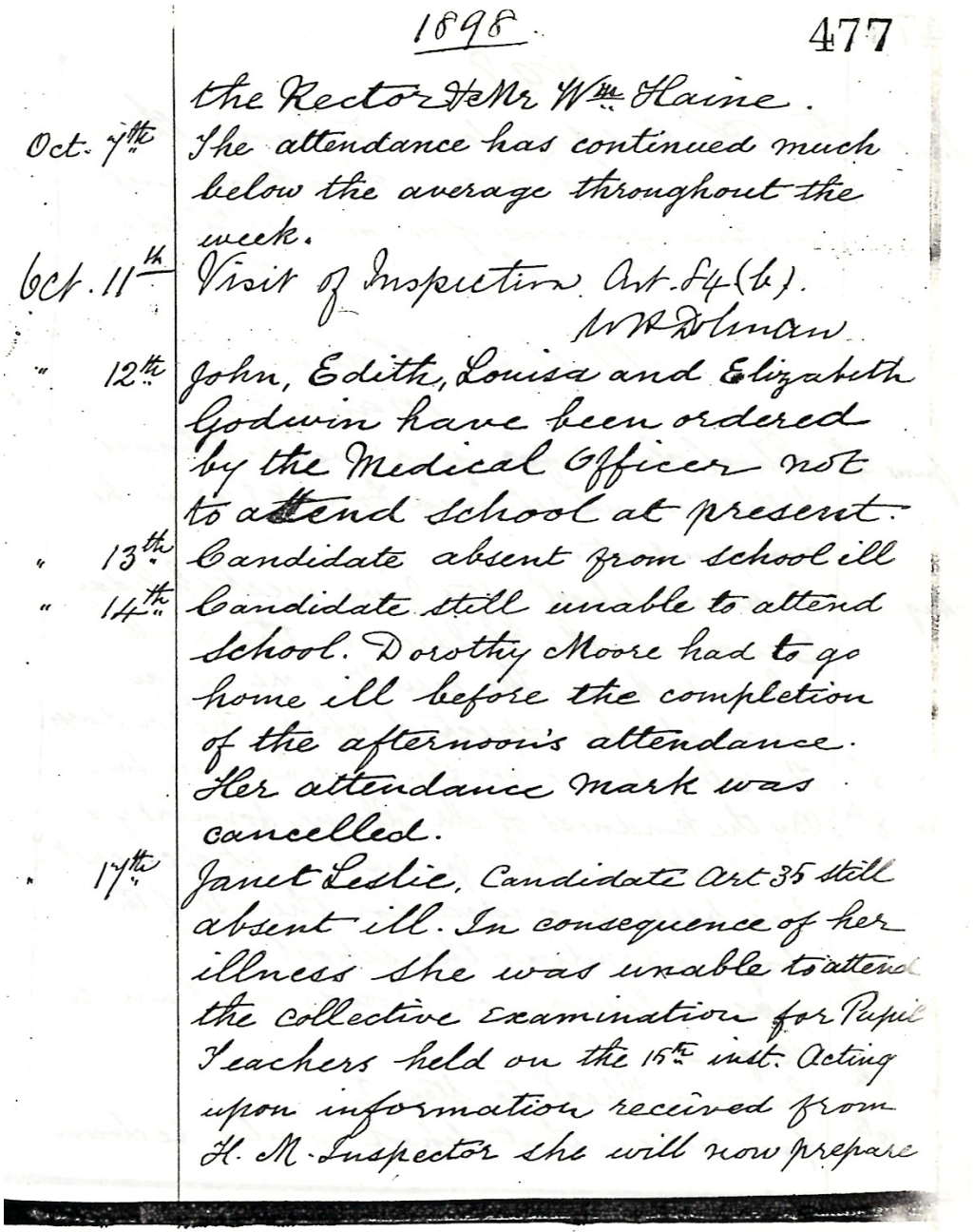
Uncertain readings: 'Indulf' (Leslie child's first name): the capital is unclear and it might be 'Rudolf'; the OCR also reads 'Indulf'; 'to school' after 'returned' is written as one word on the page


1898 477

the Rector & Mr Wm Haine.

Oct. 7th The attendance has continued much below the average throughout the week.

Oct. 11th Visit of Inspection Art. 84(b).
W H Dolman

" 12th John, Edith, Louisa and Elizabeth Godwin have been ordered by the Medical Officer not to attend school at present.

" 13th Candidate absent from school ill

" 14th Candidate still unable to attend school. Dorothy Moore had to go home ill before the completion of the afternoon's attendance. Her attendance mark was cancelled.

" 17th Janet Leslie, Candidate Art 35 still absent ill. In consequence of her illness she was unable to attend the collective examination for Pupil Teachers held on the 15th inst. Acting upon information received from H. M. Inspector she will now prepare

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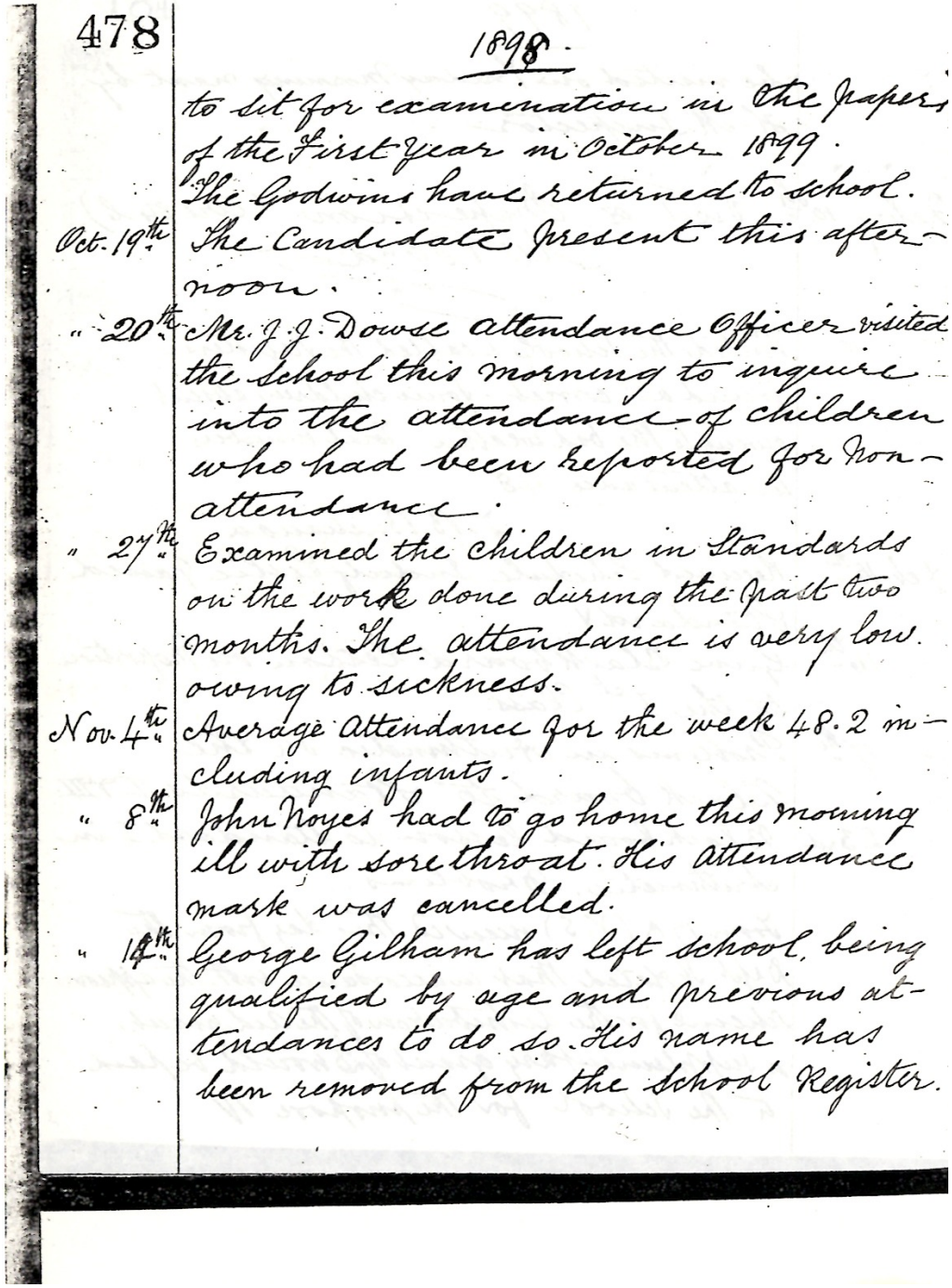
Uncertain readings: Signature after the Art. 84(b) inspection read as 'W H Dolman'; initials uncertain; 'Art. 84(b)': the numeral 84 is fairly clear but could be 64


478

1898.

to sit for examination in the papers of the First Year in October 1899.

The Godwins have returned to school.

Oct. 19th The Candidate present this afternoon.

" 20th Mr. J. J. Dowse attendance Officer visited the School this morning to inquire into the attendance of children who had been reported for non-attendance.

" 27th " Examined the children in Standards on the work done during the past two months. The attendance is very low. owing to sickness.

Nov. 4th " Average attendance for the week 48.2 including infants.

" 8th " John Noyes had to go home this morning ill with sore throat. His attendance mark was cancelled.

" 14th " George Gilham has left school, being qualified by age and previous attendances to do so. His name has been removed from the School Register.

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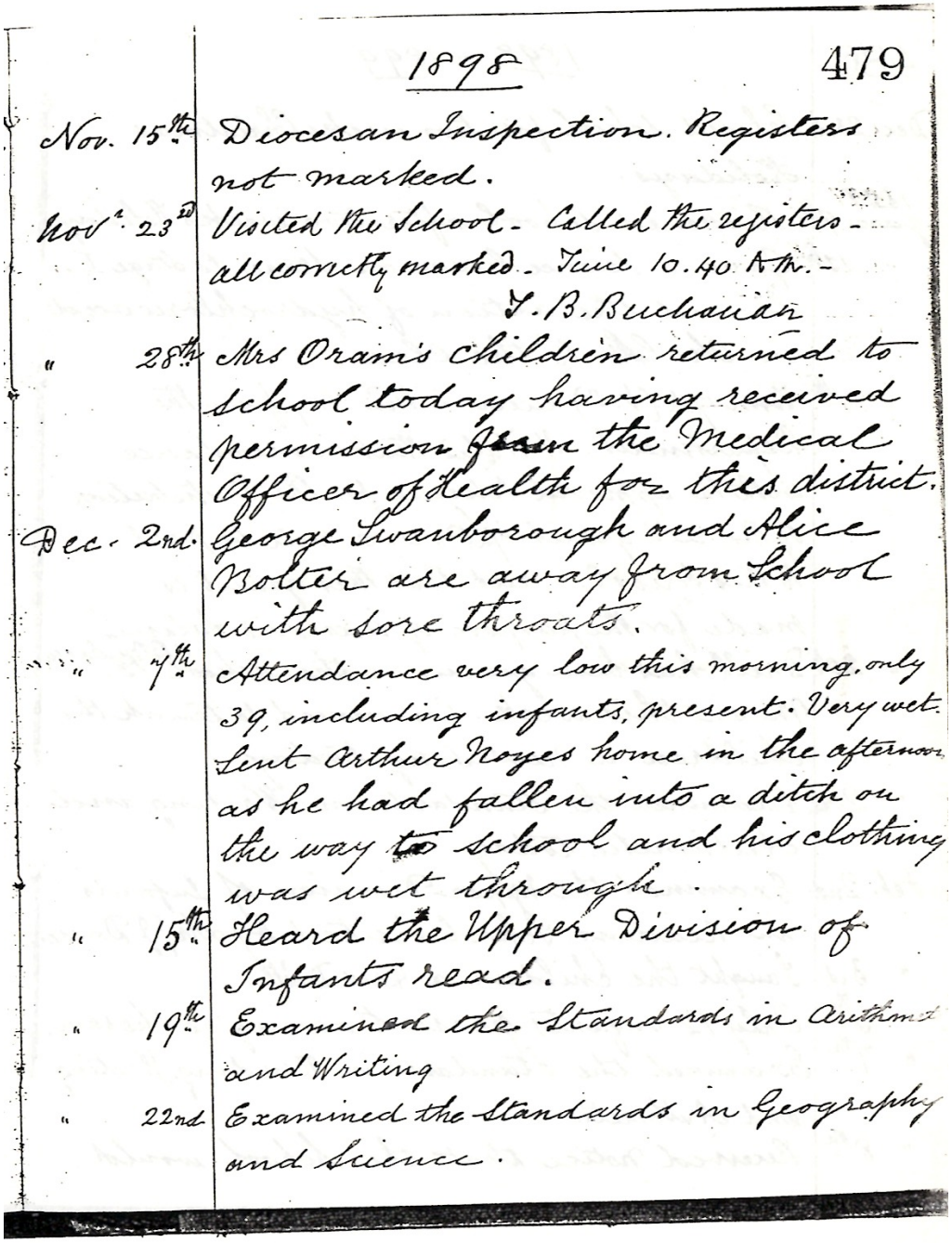
Uncertain readings: Header year: the final digit may have been written over, but it reads 1898; Last margin date: '14th' could possibly be '12th'; 'papers' at the end of line 1 runs off the right edge of the page



1898 479

Nov. 15th Diocesan Inspection. Registers not marked.

Nov. 23rd Visited the School - Called the registers - all correctly marked. Time 10.40 A.M. - J. B. Buchanan

" 28th Mrs Oram's children returned to school today having received permission from the Medical Officer of Health for this district.

Dec. 2nd. George Swanborough and Alice Bolter are away from School with sore throats.

" 7th Attendance very low this morning. only 39, including infants, present. Very wet. Sent Arthur Noyes home in the afternoon as he had fallen into a ditch on the way to school and his clothing was wet through.

" 15th Heard the Upper Division of Infants read.

" 19th Examined the Standards in Arithmetic and Writing

" 22nd Examined the Standards in Geography and Science.

Page 479

Nov. 15th Diocesan Inspection. Registers not marked.

Novr. 23rd Visited the School - Called the registers - all correctly marked. Time 10.40 A.M. - J. B. Buchanan

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Dec. 2nd. George Swanborough and Alice Bolter are away from School with sore throats.

" 7th Attendance very low this morning. only 39, including infants, present. Very wet. Sent Arthur Noyes home in the afternoon as he had fallen into a ditch on the way to school and his clothing was wet through

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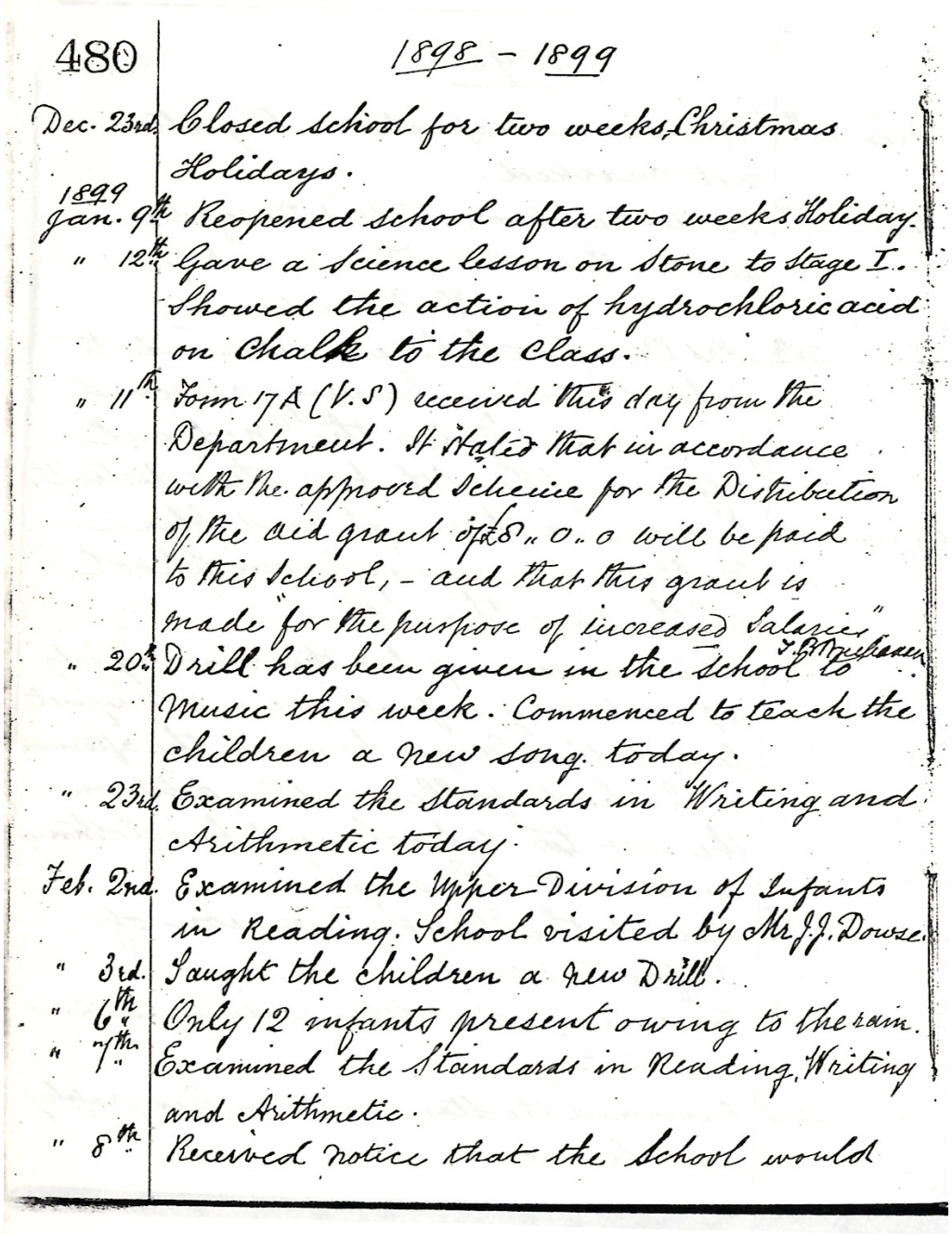
" 19th Examined the Standards in Arithme[tic?] and Writing

" 22nd Examined the Standards in Geography and Science.

Uncertain readings: Signature initial could be 'T. B.' or 'J. B.' Buchanan; read as J.; 'Arithme[tic?]': the word runs off the right edge of the page; 'from' in the 28 Nov entry is written over a smudged or corrected word; Role of J. B. Buchanan (manager) is inferred from the register check, not stated


480

1898 - 1899

Dec. 23rd. Closed school for two weeks, Christmas Holidays.

1899 Jan. 9th Reopened school after two weeks Holiday.

" 12th Gave a Science lesson on Stone to Stage I. Showed the action of hydrochloric acid on Chalk to the Class.

" 11th Form 17A (V.S) received this day from the Department. It stated that in accordance with the approved Scheme for the Distribution of the aid grant of £8„0„0 will be paid to this School, - and that this grant is made "for the purpose of increased Salaries" T. B. Maclachlan

" 20th Drill has been given in the School to Music this week. Commenced to teach the children a new song today.

" 23rd. Examined the Standards in Writing and Arithmetic today.

Feb. 2nd. Examined the Upper Division of Infants in Reading. School visited by Mr J.J. Dowse.

" 3rd. Taught the children a new Drill.

" 6th Only 12 infants present owing to the rain.

" 7th Examined the Standards in Reading, Writing and Arithmetic.

" 8th Received notice that the School would

Page 480

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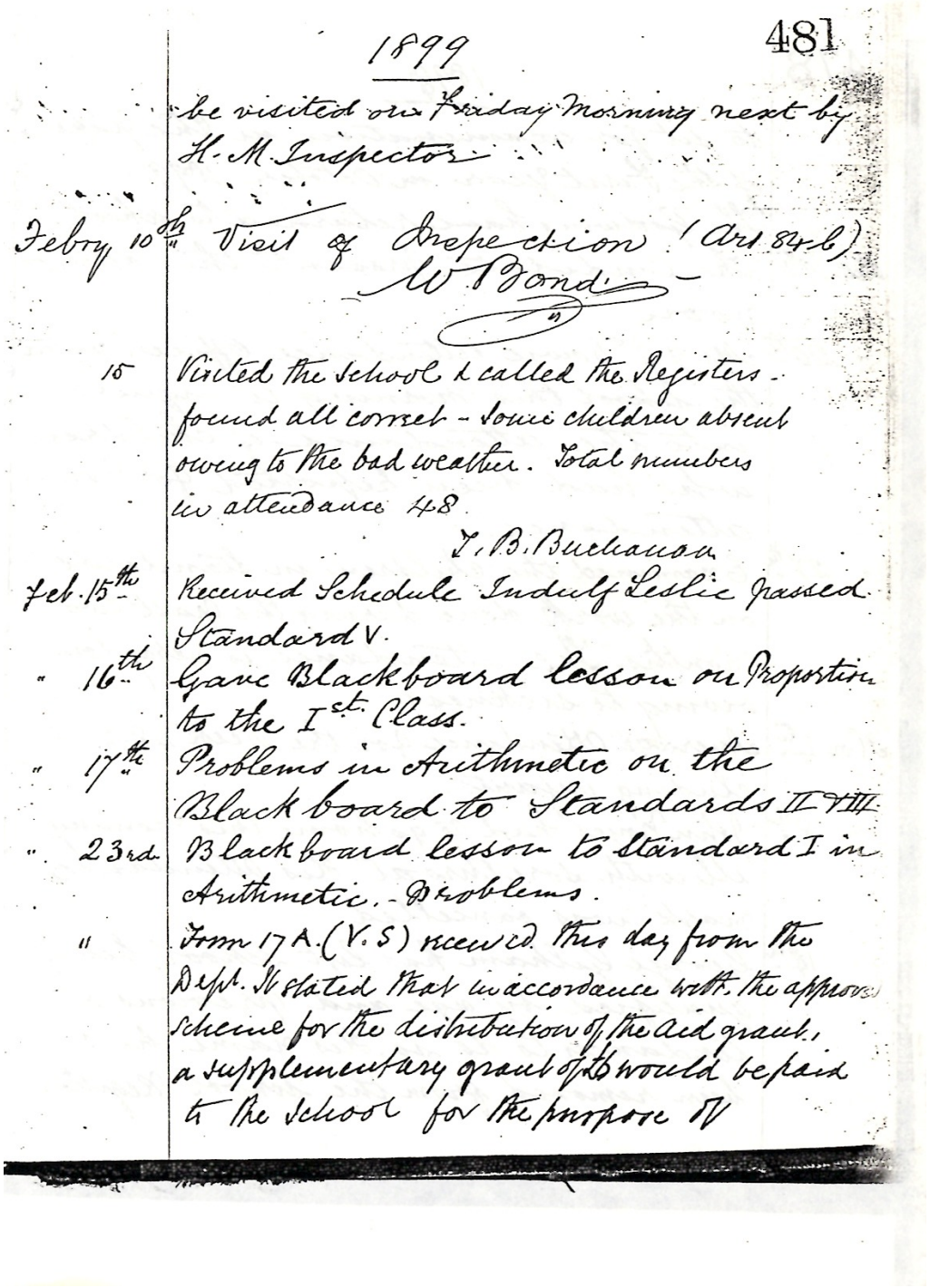
Uncertain readings: Signature after the Jan. 11th entry is small and written above the line in a different hand; read as 'T. B. Maclachlan' but the surname is very uncertain; 'Taught' on Feb. 3rd: the capital T looks like an S in this hand; Form number read as '17A' (OCR gave '7A'); 'V.S' presumably Voluntary Schools; Header gives 1898 - 1899; header_year given as 1898



1899 481

be visited on Friday Morning next by H. M. Inspector

Febry 10th Visit of Inspection (Art 84 b) W. Bond

" "

15 Visited the School & called the Registers - found all correct - some children absent owing to the bad weather. Total numbers in attendance 48.

J. B. Buchanan

Feb. 15th Received Schedule Indulf Leslie passed Standard V.

" 16th Gave Blackboard lesson on Proportion to the Ist. Class.

" 17th Problems in Arithmetic on the Black board to Standards II & III

" 23rd. Black board lesson to Standard I in Arithmetic. - Problems.

" Form 17 A. (V. S) received this day from the Dept. It stated that in accordance with the approved scheme for the distribution of the aid grant, a supplementary grant of £5 would be paid to the School for the purpose of

Page 481

(continued from previous page)

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Febry 10th Visit of Inspection (Art 84 b) W. Bond

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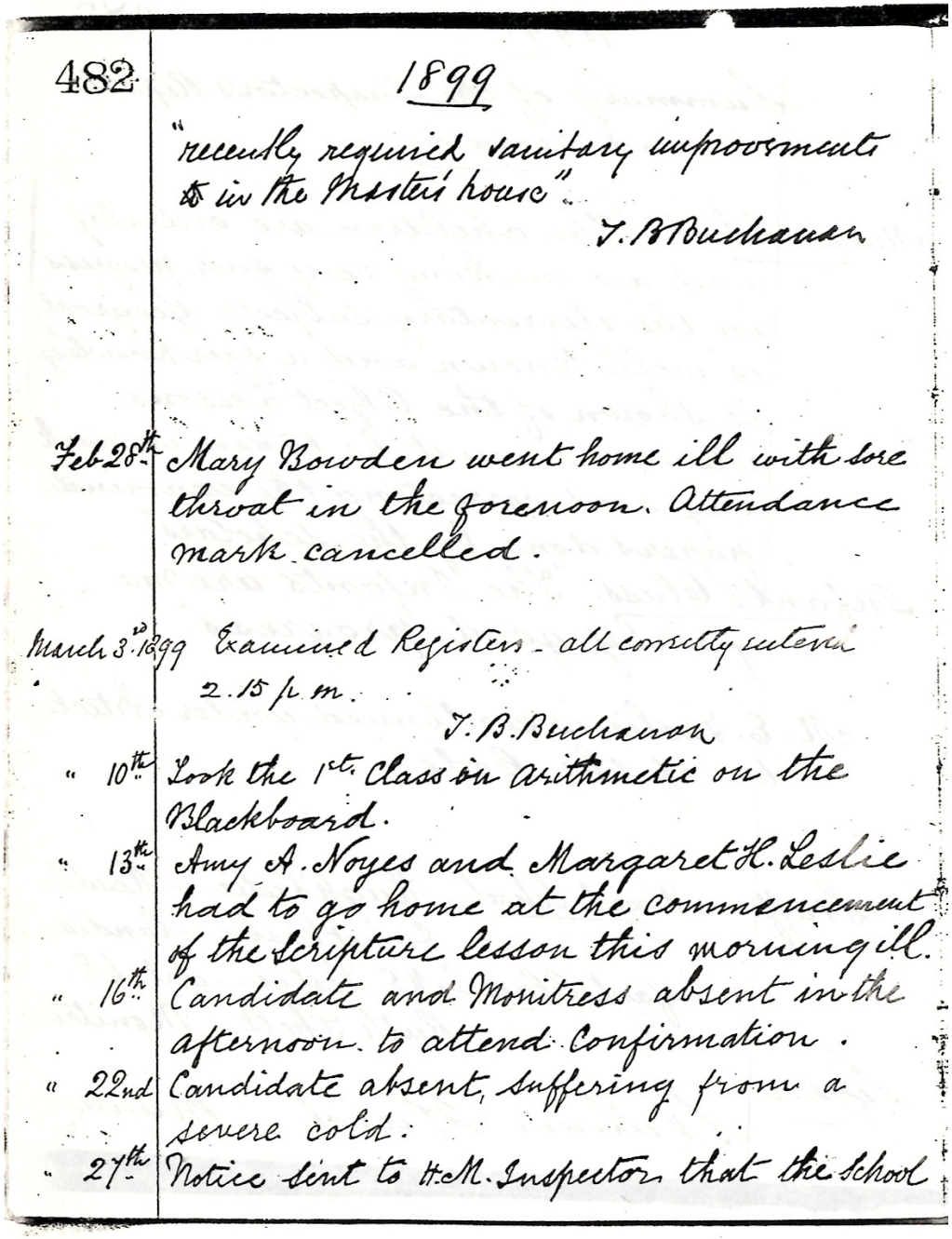
Uncertain readings: 'Indulf' Leslie: first name unclear; could be 'Rudolf' or 'Ludolf'; Grant amount read as '£5'; the OCR gives 'tb'; 'Standards II & III': the ampersand is faint; '(Art 84 b)': article reference partly unclear; 'Form 17 A. (V. S)': possibly V. S. for Voluntary Schools


482

1899

"recently required sanitary improvements & in the Master's house".

T. B Buchanan

Feb 28th Mary Bowden went home ill with sore throat in the forenoon. Attendance mark cancelled.

March 3rd 1899 Examined Registers - all correctly entered 2.15 p m.

T. B. Buchanan

" 10th Took the 1st. Class in arithmetic on the Blackboard.

" 13th Amy A. Noyes and Margaret H. Leslie had to go home at the commencement of the Scripture lesson this morning ill.

" 16th Candidate and Monitress absent in the afternoon. to attend Confirmation.

" 22nd Candidate absent, suffering from a severe cold.

" 27th Notice sent to H.M. Inspector that the School

Page 482

(continued from previous page)

"recently required sanitary improvements [&?] in the Master's house". T. B Buchanan

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Uncertain readings: Symbol before 'in the Master's house' looks like an ampersand that has been struck through or overwritten; read as [&?]; 'entered' at the end of the 3 March line is cut off at the page edge ('entere...'); 'Took' at 10 March: the capital T looks like an L (the OCR read 'Look'); Margaret's middle initial is read as H (the OCR read L)

Index

People

Ada Dunford (pupil) — pages 476

Alice Bolter (pupil) — pages 479

Amy Annie Noyes (pupil) — pages 482

Annie Oram (pupil) — pages 476

Arthur Dunford (pupil) — pages 476

Arthur G. Noyes (pupil) — pages 479

Candidate (pupil teacher, pupil teacher candidate) — pages 478, 482

Dorothy Moore (pupil) — pages 477

Edith Godwin (pupil) — pages 477

Elizabeth Godwin (pupil) — pages 477

Ernest Oram (pupil) — pages 476

Ethel Eddie Leslie (pupil) — pages 476

Florence Annie Dunford (pupil) — pages 476

Florence Noyes (pupil) — pages 472

George Gilham (pupil) — pages 478

George Swanborough (pupil) — pages 479

Godwin family (pupil) — pages 478

HM Inspector (HM Inspector) — pages 472, 482

Harry Oram (pupil) — pages 476

Hugh Leslie (headmaster) — pages 471

Indulf Leslie (pupil) — pages 476, 481

J. J. Dowse (attendance officer) — pages 478, 480

James Montgomery (poet (author of set recitation)) — pages 468

Janet Leslie (candidate (Art. 35), candidate (pupil teacher)) — pages 471, 477

John Godwin (pupil) — pages 477

John Noyes (pupil) — pages 478

Louisa Godwin (pupil) — pages 477

Margaret Helen Leslie (pupil) — pages 476, 482

Mary Bowden (pupil) — pages 482

Mary Elizabeth Leslie (assistant) — pages 471

Medical Officer (medical officer of health) — pages 475

Monitress (monitress) — pages 482

Mr Colborne (former parishioner, benefactor) — pages 474

Mr Haine — pages 466, 473

Mrs Oram (parent) — pages 479

Oxley (author of drill manual) — pages 467

R. F. Curry — pages 468

Rose Oram (pupil) — pages 476

Ruth Noyes Shell (monitress) — pages 471

T. B. Buchanan (correspondent (school managers), manager) — pages 469, 479, 481, 482

T. B. Maclachlan (manager) — pages 480

The Rector of Poulshot (Rector) — pages 477

Thomas Gray (poet (author of set recitation)) — pages 468

Vere Foster (copy book author) — pages 466

W. H. Dolman (HM Inspector) — pages 477

W. T. Bond (HM Inspector) — pages 481

W. Wilson (author of infant drill manual) — pages 467

William Haine (manager) — pages 469, 471, 472, 474, 477

Places

Devizes — pages 471, 476

England — pages 467

Poulshot — pages 474

Poulshot Church — pages 472

School House, Poulshot — pages 476

Organisations

Band of Hope — pages 473

Blackie & Son — pages 475

Diocesan Inspection — pages 479

District Medical Officer of Health — pages 476, 479

Education Code — pages 471

Education Department — pages 469, 480, 481

HM Inspectorate of Schools — pages 469, 477, 481

Medical Officer — pages 477

Poulshot Sunday School — pages 472

School Correspondent — pages 471, 474

School Managers — pages 471, 472

Thomas Nelson & Sons — pages 475