

YORK CITY. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE.

Vol. 2. Minutes 1887-1889

In: Explore York Archives, Reference code - Y/COU/5/3/6/2

Selected notes.

1887 10 May SCHOOL FEE SUB-COMMITTEE

26 applications for payment of school fees (56 children)

5 disallowed, 19 paid to end of the Quarter, 1 for 2 months, 1 for 1 month

1887 12 May MALTREATMENT OF BOYS AT A LIVERPOOL TRUANT SCHOOL

The school was Hightown Truant School (Roman Catholic section), Liverpool. Three boys had been sent back to York on licence. The Town Clerk of York wrote a letter to the Managers of the Truant School complaining about the state of the boys:

PATRICK ROWAN – he had attained 13 years. He had returned with an inflamed arm. He apparently could remember no injury but another child said that a brush had been broken over his arm by the Labour Master because he was sweeping outside the area he should have been.

MICHAEL KIRON – had an abscess on the knee - “a gathered knee.” Hightown considered him half-witted so it was “not worthwhile to exact school attendance from him” but York found him “perfectly intelligent”

FREDERICK JOHN PUTT – affectation of hand – too much carbolic soap from scrubbing floors

1887 25 July REPLY FROM HIGHTOWN TRUANT SCHOOL, LIVERPOOL

Hightown put ROWAN’s injury down to a broken chilblain. They agreed that housemaid’s knee was probably the correct diagnosis for KIRON. They considered that PUTT’s injury was caused by a splinter in one hand and a chilblain on the other. They said that the boy was healthy and had put on 1 lb [pound] while with them.

A later letter suggested that ROWAN’s chilblain had been aggravated by the boy himself to avoid work.

1887 11 October SCHOOL FEE SUB-COMMITTEE

172 applications for school fees (353 children)

156 paid to the end of the Quarter. 7 applicants did not appear before the Committee

1887 CASES BEFORE MAGISTRATE'S COURT

[NB Numbers related to families not individual children. There may well have been more than one child in each family.]

On 25th September:

Adjourned x 5

Attendance orders x 8

Fines x 2 (2/6 and 5/-)

To Truant School, Hightown x 1

To Truant School, Cockermouth x 1

To Truant School, unnamed x 1

On 26 October:

Adjourned x 3

Attendance orders x 9

Fined x 1 (1/-)

To Truant School, Hightown x 1

To Leicester Industrial School x 1

On 31 October:

To Leicester Industrial School x 1

1887 9 November QUARTERLY REPORT OF SAC to September 1887

List of Truant Schools and Industrial Schools visited

No notice was given of these visits. All children were in good health and well cared for, especially the girls. Brief reports are given.

Kirkedge Girls School, Sheffield was discontinued for girls, being "too isolated and exposed". However, "Boys could indulge in outdoor work on the adjoining lands, which girls could never attempt."

1888 1 March CASES BEFORE MAGISTRATE'S COURT

List of cases before Magistrates on 29 Feb 1888

Adjourned x 10

Orders made x 16

Fines x 1 (2/6)

To York Industrial School, 1 (girl)

To Hightown Truant School x 1

1888 17 May CHERRY STREET INFANT SCHOOL

The Town Clerk had sent a letter to Revd. G.M. ARGLES because too many children had not been attending school. Revd. Argles' reply included the example of JAMES STEGGLES who was unable to attend because he had measles, then chickenpox, then whooping cough in succession. [This correspondence continued.] SEE: 30 July

1888 30 July CHERRY STREET INFANT SCHOOL

Letters were received from Revd. Argles who pointed out that children had not been visited by Attendance Officers even although their names had been marked with a cross. Revd. Argles wanted house to house enquiries to be done in Nun Mill Road, and named children he knew personally.

1888 24 Sept MARY JANE AND MARIA LOUISA DIXON

Mrs Annie Dixon of 86/2 Lowther Street, The Groves attended before the Committee with reference to a complaint that she had not sent her children Mary Jane, Maria Louisa, Lila and Ellen to school. The Clerk was instructed to apply to the Magistrates for the committal of her children Mary Jane and Maria Louisa to an Industrial School.

I followed Mary Jane and Maria Louisa's life stories as part of Clements Hall Local History Poverty Project. Their progress through the education system is on a separate report:

The education of MARY JANE (Jenny) AND MARIA LOUISA (Louie) DIXON

1889 24 January

Accounts passed include:

Hull Boys (training ship <i>Southampton</i>)	Maintenance	£0.13. 2
Hull Girls	Maintenance	£4. 8. 0
Hull Truant School	Maintenance	£4.19. 0

The account book ends on 14 March 1889, when the Attendance Committee passed to York School Board

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