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Absent Through Want of Boots: Diary of a Victorian School in Leicestershire

By Robert Elverstone

The History Press Ltd. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Absent Through Want of Boots: Diary of a Victorian School in Leicestershire, Robert Elverstone, June 13th 1890: Mrs Bailey found Albert playing truant on Wednesday morning and brought him to school, giving him a good thrashing in the cap room with a stick she brought withher. December 11th 1908: The inclement weather has affected the average. Had two cases of boys not attending through want of boots. Following the 1870 Forster Elementary Education Act, Albert Road Board School in Leicestershire opened on September 2nd 1878, with an average role of 500 children. Drawn from the first-hand accounts of the head teachers in the school logbooks, this book details the diseases and ailments suffered; the struggle of local families to feed and clothe their children, especially during difficult times of strike and war; the introduction of vaccinations and the school health inspector; and comments about the curriculum, staff and leisure activities. Sometimes humorous but often sad, everyday life is captured here: from accounts of overcrowded classrooms and corporal punishment, to squabbles about tending the classroom fires, this book describes the reality of life in a Victorian school.



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