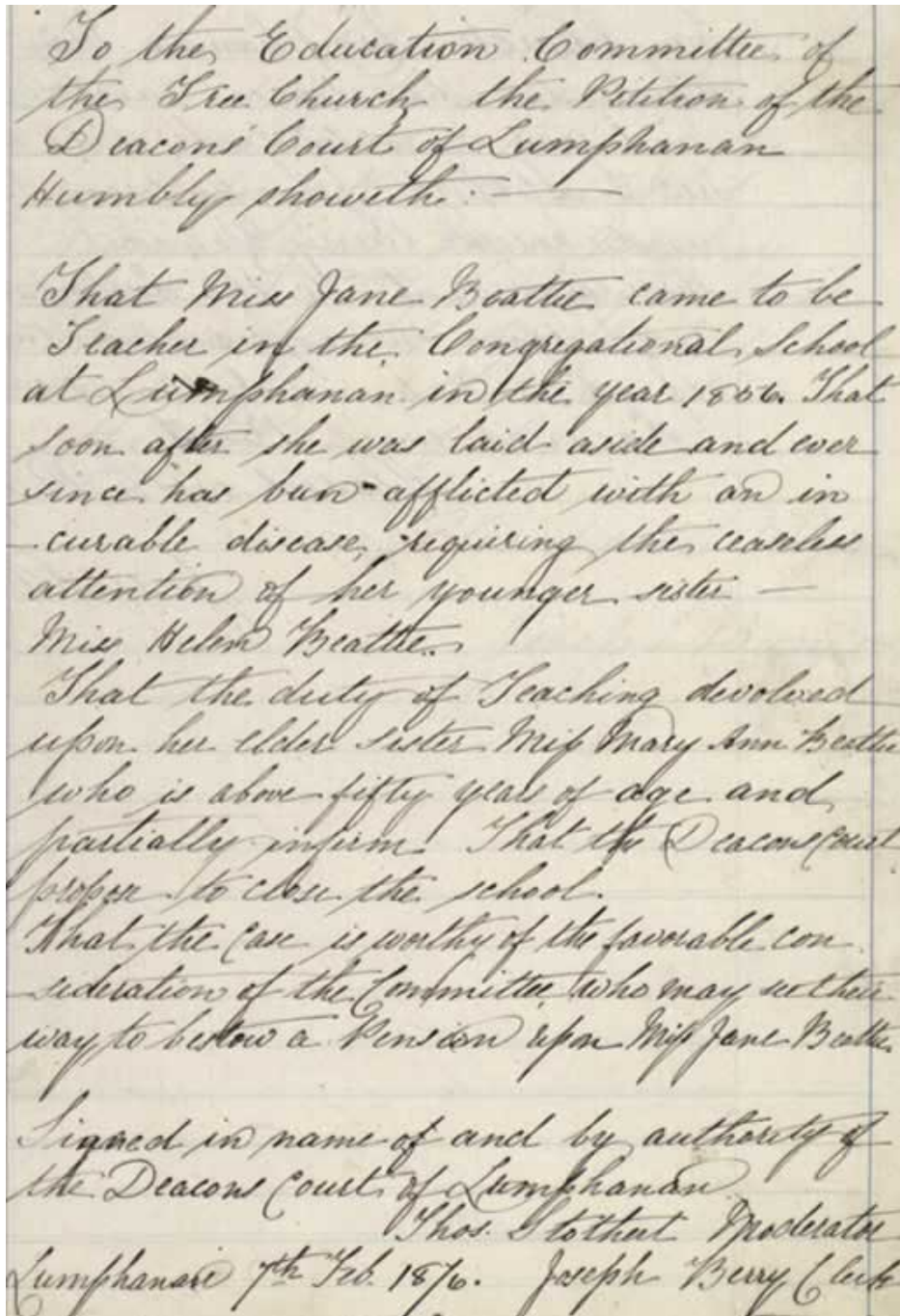


Weekly Poser 329 - Minute book of Lumphanan Free Church, 1876

This week's poser is taken from the minute book of Lumphanan Free Church, Aberdeenshire, in 1876 (National Records of Scotland, CH3/737/1 page 29). Churches were very much involved in the education of children and this extract deals with the case of a teacher.

The hand is fairly typical and the clerk is consistent in the way the letters are formed. You might find some of the capital letters as well as letters formed by minims troublesome.



To the Education Committee of
the Free Church, the Petition of the
Deacons Court of Lumphanan
humbly sheweth:—

That Miss Jane Beattie came to be
Teacher in the Congregational School
at Lumphanan in the year 1856. That
soon after she was laid aside and ever
since has been afflicted with an in-
curable disease, requiring the constant
attention of her younger sister—
Miss Helen Beattie.

That the duty of Teaching devolved
upon her elder sister Miss Mary Ann Beattie
who is above fifty years of age and
partially infirm. That the Deacons Court
propose to close the school.

That the case is worthy of the favorable con-
sideration of the Committee who may see their
way to bestow a Pension upon Miss Jane Beattie.

Signed in name of and by authority of
the Deacons Court of Lumphanan
Thos. Stothart Moderator
Lumphanan 7th Feb 1876. Joseph Berry Clerk

This week's questions: can you name the three women involved and how they are occupied?

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Answer: The three women mentioned were Miss Jane Beattie, teacher, who was afflicted with an incurable disease. Miss Helen Beattie, Jane's younger sister, who was caring for her. Miss Mary Ann Beattie, Jane's elder sister, who was teaching in place of Jane.

Transcription:

*To the Education Committee of
the Free Church the Petition of the
Deacons Court of Lumphanan
Humbly showith : -*

*That Miss Jane Beattie came to be
Teacher in the Congregational School
at Lumphanan in the year 1856. That
soon after she was laid aside and ever
since has been afflicted with an in-
-curable disease, requiring the ceaseless
attention of her younger sister -
Miss Helen Beattie*

*That the duty of Teaching devolved
upon her elder sister Miss Mary Ann Beattie
who is above fifty years of age and
partially infirm. That the Deacons Court
propose to close the school.*

*That the case is worthy of the favourable con-
-sideration of the Committee, who may see their
way to bestow a Pension on Miss Jane Beattie*

*Signed in name of and by authority of
the Deacons Court of Lumphanan
Tho[ma]s Stothirt Moderator
Lumphanan 7th Feb[ruary] 1876. Joseph Berry Clerk*

This week's poser was contributed by 'Bosco', an archivist from Fife.