

1873

Annual Report of Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor, Town Treasurer, and Supervisor of Schools, for the Town of Winthrop, for the Year Ending March 10, 1873

Winthrop (Me.)

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF POOR,

TOWN TREASURER,

AND

SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS,

FOR THE

TOWN OF WINTHROP.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 10, 1873.

HALLOWELL:
MASTERS & LIVERMORE.
1873.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

THE Municipal Officers for the year 1872-'73, submit the following Report :

TOWN GRANTS.

For support of Schools,	\$1629 76	
For support of Poor and other necessary town charges,	1600 00	
Discharge of indebtedness,	3000 00	
Repairing Highways,	2000 00	
	<hr/>	\$8229 76
State Tax,	6462 07	
County Tax,	1712 45	
Overlayings,	467 13	
Dog Tax on 63 dogs,	63 00	
	<hr/>	8704 65
Total amount of Money Tax,		16,934 41
Rate per cent., 16 1-2 mills.		
Percentage paid for collecting, 14 mills on the dollar.		
Number of polls assessed,	507	
Amount of real and personal estate	\$930,015,00	

SCHOOLS.

Amount assessed,	\$1629 76	
School mill tax,	685 63	
Savings Bank tax,	233 04	
Interest on School Fund,	170 24	
	<hr/>	2718 67
Number of scholars, 680		

TOWN FARM.

The Farm still remains in charge of our faithful and efficient superintendent, Mr. E. D. Hutchins, with salary for himself and wife of \$275.00. Number of persons who have received support at the Almshouse the past year, seven, viz. : — William Dicker, Richard M. Frost, Joseph Cummings, George Chandler, Thomas N. Frost and wife, and Mary Fairbanks. George Chandler and T. N. Frost and wife, for a short time only.

Expenditures, including salary of Superintendent,	\$1019 85
Income, including increase of personal property,	865 35
Leaving a balance against the Farm of \$154 85, for family expenses.	

Inventory of Personal Property at the Farm.

2 Oxen,	\$200 00	25lbs. Butter,	\$7 00
6 Cows,	240 00	50 " Lard,	7 00
2 2 year olds,	60 00	60 " Tallow,	5 00
2 Shoats,	20 00	60 Bush'ls Potatoes,	40 00
16 Tons Hay,	240 00	25 " other roots,	6 00
25 Bush'ls Corn,	21 25	5 Bbls Apples,	10 00
6 " Oats,	3 60	150lbs. Dried Apples,	15 00
4 " Beans,	14 00	6 Bbls. Cider,	18 00
2 " Peas,	4 00	1-2 " Vinegar,	3 00
400lbs. Pork,	40 00	10 Cords Wood,	30 ⁰⁰ 00
250 " Beef,	25 00		
50 " Ham,	7 00		141 00
25 " Cheese,	4 00		878 85
	<u>878 85</u>		<u>1019 85</u>

Support of Poor off the Farm.

Paid town of Fairfield, for support of Mrs. Avery,	\$ 24 50
" " Palmyra, for support of Frost family,	128 27
" Cost of moving T. N. Frost and wife,	19 00
" for Clothing for same,	8 00
" Relief of transient paupers,	24 00
" Coffin for child of Seth Hammond,	5 50
" Support of Sarah A. Wharton,	34 13
" E. Besse, for support of John Raymond,	20 00
" Insane Hospital, for R. I. Lambert,	78 78
" " " John Williams,	102 80
" Reform School, for G. R. Crocker,	52 00
" Mrs Friend, for support of insane son,	75 00
	<u>571 98</u>

RECEIPTS.

From City of Bangor, for support of Sarah A. Wharton,	\$34 13
" Levi Jones, for R. I. Lambert,	78 78
" E. N. Williams, for J. Williams,	33 43
" East Livermore, for John Raymond,	15 00
" G. B. Crocker, for G. R. Crocker,	36 00
	<u>197 34</u>

HIGHWAYS.

Appropriation,	\$2000 00	
Balance of last year's appropriation,	451 41	
		<u>2451 41</u>
We have expended, exclusive of snow bills,	2090 78	
For last winter's snow bills, after March 1st,	630 00	
		<u>2720 78</u>
Excess,		269 37

Though unable to "contend with the elements," we have endeavored to repair damages and make improvements where they were most needed. And we believe as much has been done with the money as could reasonably be expected. The snow bills of this memorable winter are unpaid.

We have purchased a pair of oxen to work on the highway, at a cost of \$225, which we still have on hand, and worth all they cost.

SUPPORT OF POOR AND OTHER TOWN CHARGES.

Appropriation,	\$1600 00	
Overlayings,	467 13	
Dog tax,	63 00	
Value of oxen,	225 00	
		<u>2355 13</u>

EXPENDITURES.

R. E. Fuller, Selectman, &c.,	\$100 00	
E. S. Briggs, " "	75 00	
F. H. McIntire, " "	61 50	
J. M. Benjamin, Treasurer,	75 00	
L. P. Moody, Clerk,	15 00	
E. D. Hutchins, Farm Superintendent,	275 00	
A. Bryant, Supervisor of Schools,	50 00	
D. Cargill, Insurance on Town Farm buildings,	10 00	
Holmes & Badger, for Printing Reports,	30 63	
Masters & Livermore, Printing list of voters,	7 00	
Judgment and cost in Nichles case,	200 03	
Meal for Town Farm,	60 50	
Interest on School Fund Loan,	170 24	
Oxen to work on Road,	225 00	
Books, Stationery, &c.,	21 49	
A. C. Carr, Constable Fees,	16 00	
A. C. Carr, percentage for Collecting Taxes,	173 92	
A. C. Carr, abatem't of Taxes for 1869 to '71, inclusive,	159 37	
S. Holden, Bier for village Cemetery,	4 00	
Balance of Poor Account,	374 64	
		<u>2104 32</u>

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Bills of Town Officers and Farm Superintendent,	\$ 700 00
Amount of outstanding Bonds,	23,250 00
Unpaid interest on the same,	550 00
Interest on School Fund Loan,	170 24
Due School Districts,	1144 50
Orders outstanding,	1017 74
Unsettled Bills against the Town, including Snow Bills,	1800 00
	<hr/> 28,632 48

RESOURCES.

Uncollected Taxes,	\$9153 97
State Bonds in Treasury,	3600 00
Due from State,	966 67
Oxen,	225 00
Accrued Interest on State Bonds,	90 00
Cash in Treasury,	1179 18
	<hr/> 15,214 82
Indebtedness of the Town,	\$13,417 66

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. FULLER,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
E. S. BRIGGS,	
F. H. McINTIRE,	

of
Winthrop.

Winthrop, March 1, 1873.

TREASURER'S REPORT, MARCH, 1873.

1872.

RECEIPTS OF TREASURER.

March.	Cash balance from last account,	\$631 27	
	“ received of A. C. Carr, Collector,	10768 17	
	“ for Town Bonds issued,	2700 00	
	“ State Bonds sold,	500 00	
	“ interest on State Bonds,	225 00	
	“ of E. S. Briggs, on ac't support of Poor,	34 13	
	“ S. Holden, for rent of Town Hall,	38 68	
	“ of State on State Pension account,	111 16	
	“ of School District No. 4 on Loan ac't,	11000 00	
	“ of R. E. Fuller, on account of support of Poor,	163 21	
		26,171 62	26,171 62

EXPENDITURES.

Town Bonds paid,		\$5630 00	
Interest on Town Bonds paid,		1467 40	
Highway Orders paid,		2467 85	
Support of Poor and Town Charges,		2032 64	
School Orders paid,		1743 68	
State Pensions paid,		48 00	
School Dist. No. 4,— Committee's orders paid,		11134 27	
School Dist. No. 9,— special tax account,		418 60	
Cash on hand,		1179 18	
		26,171 62	26,171 62

LIABILITIES.

Town Bonds due in 1872,		100 00	
“ “ “ 1873,		5000 00	
“ “ “ 1874,		6700 00	
“ “ “ 1875,		4100 00	
“ “ “ 1876,		1200 00	
“ “ “ 1877,		2350 00	
“ “ “ 1878,		2800 00	
“ “ “ 1879,		1000 00	
		23,250 00	
Due to School Districts,		1135 93	
“ Highway account,		597 04	
“ Support of Poor, &c.,		633 50	
“ School District No 4,		888 86	
“ School District No. 9,		37 90	
		26,543 23	26,543 23

RESOURCES.

Uncollected Taxes,		9153 97	
State Bonds on hand,		3600 00	
Due from State,		966 67	
Cash in Treasury,		1179 18	
Balance against the town,		11643 41	
		26,543 23	26,543 23

Winthrop, March 1, 1873.

J. M. BENJAMIN, *Treasurer.*

ABSTRACT OF TOWN WARRANT.

*Meeting to be held at Town Hall, March 10, 1873, at half past
nine of the clock, A. M.*

- ART. 1. To choose a Moderator.
- ART. 2. To choose all necessary Town Officers.
- ART. 3. To grant a sum of money for support of Schools.
- ART. 4. To grant a sum of money for support of Poor, &c.
- ART. 5. To grant a sum of money for repair of Highways, and to determine in what manner the money shall be raised and expended.
- ART. 6. To see what measures the town will adopt to break out the roads the coming winter.
- ART. 7. To see if the town will grant a sum of money to discharge the present indebtedness of the town or any portion thereof.
- ART. 8. To see if the town will vote to tax dogs.
- ART. 9. To see if the town will vote to set off D. W. Atkinson and W. S. Macomber from School District No. 9 to School Dist. No. 8, in Wayne.
- ART. 10. To see if the town will authorize school agents to employ teachers.
- ART. 11. To see if town will vote to set off William F. Lacroix from School District No. 5, to School District No. 6.
- ART. 12. To choose and instruct committees.
- ART. 13. To see if the town will vote to make a discount on taxes.
- ART. 14. To allow accounts against the town.

SCHOOL REPORT.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Summer Term.—HELEN M. KEMPTON, *Teacher.*

MISS KEMPTON is a young lady of good qualities, disposed to do all in her power for the good of her scholars. Her efforts here were attended with very good success. If, in any respect she erred, it was in doing too much, being too indulgent, helping her scholars too much, not throwing them quite enough upon their own resources, allowing them to call upon her too much for assistance. Work never should be done for scholars that they can do themselves. Discipline is the great end sought in our schools, and this can be secured only by work, and submission to good, wholesome authority.

Winter Term.—E. F. FLOYD, *Teacher.*

A report of this school can be given no better than in the words of one of the parents of the district; "I would rather give seventy-five dollars a month for such a school, than to have two months for the same money of ordinary school." Mr. Floyd knows how to keep a school, and he keeps it. He does not get the order reversed, instead of keeping the school, let the school keep him. Government here was just what it should be. Teaching was admirable. There was no surface work. He took his scholars into the dissecting room, and there cut and carved until he laid bare the elements of his subject. This is what is wanted. Knowledge gained in this way will be abiding.

An additional term of school is now in session in this district, being kept by MARTHA A. WHEELER. It has been visited once and found in an orderly, promising state. Miss Wheeler's reputation as a teacher is a pretty good surety for the prosperity and success of the school.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Summer Term.—NANCIE M. WOODWARD, *Teacher.*

This school, at first visit, was found in an orderly, healthy, prosperous state, and there were unmistakable evidences, at the close, that it had continued so throughout. Miss Woodward has the happy faculty of running the machinery of a school effectively, and yet quietly and easily. It is with teaching as with every thing else, some work a great deal harder in doing the same thing than do others.

Winter Term.—LEWIS T. HOPKINS, *Teacher.*

This school is large, and the teacher was young, and experience has taught most emphatically that, under such circumstances, there is a chance for confidence to be a little wavering. Whether it was so or not, in this case, is not necessary to say, for experience proved that there was no occasion for any such thing. Mr. HOPKINS brought to his school maturity and manliness. His bearing among his scholars was winsome, and yet commanding, very essential elements in a teacher. The exercises of examination were very interesting, especially so considering there was no special preparation for them. Mr. Hopkins does not believe in "getting up" an examination. He presented his school just as they had come through the term, thus showing how they had worked ordinarily. The first class in reading and the class in analysis, deserve special notice. It would be hard for any scholars in our common schools to do better.

DISTRICT No. 3.

Summer Term.—EMAGENE WHITE, *Teacher.*

It is not a small thing to take a school of forty scholars, with all the marks of various kinds of training, if, in no case, we have reason for saying any thing further, and carry it through a term of three months, coming out in the right place and in the right way. If Miss White did this thing last summer at East Winthrop, she won a golden medal, whether she got it or not. And she did it. And why she did it, more particularly, was because she has that thing so essential in all undertakings, and especially, in all undertakings to keep school, NERVE. It is easy for any one to keep school who was made for it. And the best evidence that one is qualified to do a thing is, he can do

it. This was a good school. Every thing went straight. And, why it was so, was because it was foreordained in the mind of Miss White that it should so be.

Winter Term.—H. W. RING, *Teacher.*

It is easy to give the report of a school when you can write success at the end of it. But when it is otherwise, though it may be easy in one respect, in another it is not easy. Mr. Ring's school was not a success. Two reasons underlie this fact, either of which is sufficient warrant for the fact. First, his system of government was faulty, being divided between himself and his school; second, he was too inexperienced in school-keeping to attempt to keep so large a school. School-keeping must be learned, like every thing else, and teachers should begin with small schools, and work towards large ones gradually. Without entering into particulars further, it is enough to say, this school came to a premature end. Mr. Ring is a young man of good spirit, and, with a different school, and some improvement in his system, would undoubtedly do well.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Summer Term.—ELLA A. RAMSDELL, *Teacher.*

This school, at the first visit, was found in good order and promising. Miss Ramsdell is modest in her ways in a school-room, nothing flaming about her, but sometimes the most modest and unassuming are found among the most progressive. The examination exercises were interesting, evidencing the fact that time had not been spent in vain. The school may be reckoned among the fair.

Winter Term.—A. M. ROLLINS, *Teacher.*

Mr. Rollins took hold of his work as though it was well settled in his mind what he had to do, and that he intended to do it. With this to start upon, it could not be difficult to presage the result. He carried his school along smoothly, prosperously, satisfactorily. The scholars evinced plainly that they were interested in their school. The exercises of examination gave proof that they had been striking at principles in their studies. The department of the school was very commendable.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Summer Term.—ISADORE HUBBARD, *Teacher.*

That it is something more to keep a school than to take the place of a school-keeper, was well demonstrated here, if never before. Miss Hubbard is a young lady of good education and accomplishments, kindness of feeling, worthy of very high respect. But, notwithstanding all this, she failed in her attempts at school-keeping. This was her first school. It was seen at first visit that the school was on a ruinous course, and the teacher was so informed, and advice given for improvement. Improvement was attempted, but not proving successful, the school was closed. The cause of failure was inexperience, especially in self-reliance, and in the stern side of things, which every one who *keeps* a school must meet. Kindness of feeling is a very commendable thing, but in school-keeping kindness must be stern as well as tender.

Winter Term.—C. E. MCGAFFEY, *Teacher.*

This school, at first visit, was found in a state that forbade fear and inspired confidence. The atmosphere was healthy. It was easy to see that the teacher understood just what she was doing, that she was not experimenting, and especially that the idea was fully her own that the school was hers, that she shared its ownership with no one. And the scholars seemed to see it in the same light. It does not take scholars long to learn what a teacher is, and intends to do. Miss McGaffey had a pretty hard task, but she performed it satisfactorily.

DISTRICT No. 7.

Summer Term.—MAY NORCROSS, *Teacher.*

Miss Norcross is one of our own teachers, tried and approved. A school seems to go itself where she is at the head. And so it is where one is adapted to school-keeping. This is Miss Norcross' native district, and it is not always safe for one to attempt to keep school in a native district, but it seems to make no difference in this case. No scholars could be more respectful and obedient than they were here. And they made good advancement in their studies. Miss Norcross has kept this school before, and it is to be hoped she will keep it again.

Winter Term. — B. F. SLEEPER, *Teacher.*

This school opened well, and seemed to have a fair future before it. But what Mr. Sleeper would have done cannot be known, for, on account of ill-health, he was obliged to leave the school. It was taken and carried through by Miss Norcross, the same teacher of the summer term; with what results it is hardly necessary to say, after what has already been said of the summer term. All was well. The exercises of examination were praiseworthy.

DISTRICT No. 8.

Summer Term. — MAY NORCROSS, *Teacher.*

There were five scholars in this school, the oldest thirteen, the youngest five years of age. To keep such a school requires a great deal of patience. But Miss Norcross has this element, and so all went well. Considering the size of her school, she certainly could not make a very great show of studies. But what there was to see was good. Some in that little school are well advanced for their years.

DISTRICT No. 9.

Summer Term. — H. AUGUSTA STEVENS, *Teacher.*

This was a term of only five weeks, and so it can be seen that it is not possible to say much of it. No teacher can work many wonders in a school in five weeks. The school went well for the time. All was pleasant and prosperous. Miss Stevens seems to have good qualifications for a teacher.

Winter Term. — NELLIE TURNER, *Teacher.*

Miss Turner kept the winter term of this school last year. And it certainly speaks well for her that she was engaged to keep it again this winter. It speaks well for the district, also, showing that they know when they have a good teacher. To call Miss Turner a good teacher is but saying just what should be said. Our teachers are a truly noble class of persons, and they should be respected and praised, especially when they richly deserve it. This school was visited

but once, because of bad traveling, and it was not necessary to visit it again, unless for personal enjoyment in seeing how easily a school will go when electrified by a wide-awake teacher.

DISTRICT No. 10.

Summer Term.—ABBIE E. WHEELER, *Teacher.*

Miss Wheeler kept this school the summer before with entire satisfaction to all concerned. In this term, also, she was completely successful. The scholars of this school are all small, just of those years when they should especially have good culture and influence. And though quite young herself, Miss Wheeler seems well adapted to move among such scholars as teacher. She is one of our most promising teachers.

Another school-year's work is done, and hereby is submitted the report. And although I may not feel that I do it with entire satisfaction, yet I do feel that there is reason for gratitude that we have come through the year as well as we have. Our school-work is a great work, and a work in which we need not hope to do other than make haste slowly. So it has been and so it must continue to be. Great improvements may be made, as there have been, in the means and processes of education, which would seem at first view to obviate the old tread-mill way of getting on, but the second, sober thought brings us face to face with the fact that we have still the same old fashioned material to work upon, and that all the inventions and devices of men can never make that fast which nature has decreed shall be slow. But our schools are growing. Though much growth may not be seen in a term, or in a year, as the terms and the years are added one to another, the growth is developed, and stands out in bold relief. It is interesting to observe this growth, as one can who follows the terms into years, and the years into a multiplication of years.

In most cases, the past year, our teachers have done well. Two have made failures. For this no one may be directly chargeable. Such cases may be expected sometimes. Still something may be learned from these cases. Inexperience and want of adaptation were

the grand causes of these failures. And to this fact I would call the attention of School Agents, requesting them not to throw the burden of passing upon the external qualifications of candidates for teaching upon the Supervisor. It is the duty of Agents to judge of the natural qualifications of applicants, and to learn the extent of their experience, and then, if they are not satisfied, let them say so, and not engage them and send them to the Supervisor.

There is one other thing I wish to simply hint at, and that is the state of some of our school-houses. School-houses are educators, as well as the teachers and books that are in them. They should therefore be comfortable, pleasant, and attractive. Parents would not keep their children in such rooms at home as they oblige them to occupy week after week, and month after month, in some cases at school. Hardly too much can be done in this direction. The matter is an important one, and should receive prompt attention. Make the school-houses good educators, and we shall have better schools.

But I forbear. Gathering encouragement and strength from the past, let us work on, feeling that our work is not in vain.

A. BRYANT, *Supervisor of Winthrop.*