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Annual Report of the Town Officers of the Town of Burnham For the Year Ending Feb. 28, 1891

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Annual Report

— OF THE —

TOWN OFFICERS

— OF THE —

Town of Burnham

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

February 28, 1891.

— o —

DEXTER :
GAZETTE PUBLISHING COMPANY.,
1891.

Annual Report

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TOWN OFFICERS

— OF THE —

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FOR THE YEAR ENDING

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GAZETTE PUBLISHING COMPANY.
1891.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

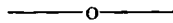
SCHOOLS.

Amount raised by the town.....	\$ 773 60
State school fund and mill tax.....	564 25
Amount underdrawn for the year 1889.....	163 50
Received from the town of Troy for the year 1890	18 00
Detroit " 1890	17 00
	\$1536 35

ACCOUNT WITH THE SEVERAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS FROM MAR. 1, 1890, TO FEB. 28, 1891.

District.	Amount of money.	Amount expended.	Amount undrawn.	Amount overdrawn.
No. 1	\$ 156 55	\$ 152 81	\$ 3 74	
2	196 34	163 01	33 33	
3	160 37	148 19	12 18	
4	94 92	99 69		\$4 77
5	202 52	200 47	2 05	
7	250 64	210 15	40 49	
8	103 35	94 32	9 03	
9	184 30	179 44	4 86	
10	187 36	186 23	1 13	
	\$1536 35	\$1434 31	\$106 81	\$4 77

Number of scholars in town, 300.
Amount per scholar, \$4.4595.



POOR FARM ACCOUNT.

DR.

To paid C. B. Cookson for one year's labor	\$180 00
Chas. E. Sherman, supplies.....	30 36
R. Gilmore, supplies.....	29 52
H. M. Cole, supplies.....	35 82
E. S. Goodwin, supplies.....	30 07
Hiram McAllister, supplies.....	8 18
G. F. Sherman, blacksmith bill....	1 60
John Baselor, " "	1 00
H. M. Cole, fertilizer.....	5 25
one pair oxen.....	65 00
	\$ 386 80

\$ 386 80

Property reported on hand, Mar. 1, 1890,.	534 00
Farm and farming tools.....	1435 00
25 cords of wood.....	50 00
	<hr/>
	2019 00
	<hr/>
	\$2405 80

CR.

By sold one pair oxen.....	\$110 00
one cow and calf.....	30 00
three lambs.....	9 00
39½ lbs. wool.....	9 87
20½ bush. oats.....	8 87
one-half ton hay.....	5 00
one sheep.....	5 00
23 bush. potatoes.....	17 25
24430 lbs. hay at \$9 per ton.....	109 93
two calves.....	11 92
butter	43 00
eggs	15 06
potatoes.....	3 18
Chas. Cookson's boy's board.....	30 00
	<hr/>
	\$408 08

Handwritten:
 202.40
 12.10

 214.50
 163.50

 51.00

Property on hand, Feb. 28, 1891 :

By 8 sheep.....	40 00
3 cows.....	90 00
1 yearling heifer.....	10 00
2 oxen.....	90 00
22 hens.....	11 00
2 swine.....	18 00
11 tons hay.....	99 00
30 bush. potatoes.....	22 50
15 " small potatoes.....	3 75
15 " corn	12 00
15 " oats	9 00
3 " beans	7 50
provisions on hand.....	22 50
	<hr/>

\$435 25

Brought forward.....	\$ 435 25
Farm and farming tools.....	1435 00
25 cords wool on hand.....	62 50
	<hr/>
	\$1497 50
Cost of poor to balance acct.....	64 97
	<hr/>
	\$2405 80

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EXPENSE OF POOR OFF THE FARM.

Paid city of Rockland, supplies furnished T. R. Lindsay and family.....	\$ 35 00
town of Brooks, supplies furnished to John Dodge's children.....	9 57
Maine Insane Hospital, support of Burtrem Perkins	125 48
Maine Insane Hospital, support of Rosilla Blaisdell	53 00
for taking her to hospital and getting her home	17 60
	<hr/>
	\$240 65
Cost of poor on the farm.....	64 97
	<hr/>
Total cost of poor.....	\$305 64

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TOWN HALL, STORE AND LAND.

DR.

To washing hall.....	\$ 3 00
2½ cords wood and fitting same.....	6 75
glass and setting same.....	50
G. F. Sherman, taking care of hall....	10 00
E. S. Goodwin, oil, globes and fixtures	8 65
A. W. Fletcher, making lease of land..	25
paid town treasurer to balance acct....	64 85
	<hr/>

\$94 00

CR.

By received from Good Templar Lodge...	\$17 00
“ “ shows	13 00
“ “ dances	7 00
“ “ sociables	3 50
“ “ P. of H.....	11 50
“ “ E S Goodwin, rent of store	36 00
“ “ G F Sherman, rent of land	3 00
“ “ A W Bickford, “	3 00
	<hr/>
	\$94 00
Abatement of taxes for the year 1889.....	\$ 33 54
Amount of tax deeds collected.....	\$167 54
Interest collected on same.....	28 32
	<hr/>
	\$195 86
School books paid for by the town for 1890.....	\$115 13

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MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

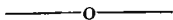
Paid Gazette Publishing Co., for printing town reports for 1889.....	\$ 12 00
Loring Short & Harmon, books and stationery	12 35
Sewall Cole, driving hearse.....	18 00
C. B. Gilmore, “	2 00
H. M. Cole, cash expenses for 1890.....	11 35
Parks Bros., damage on highway.....	5 00
Hamlin, Johnson & Co., road machine.....	210 00
freight on same.....	10 13
freight on repairs for road machine.....	2 60
express “ “	1 00
	<hr/>
	\$284 43

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REPAIR OF ROADS AND BRIDGES.

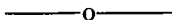
To paid John S. Whitten for labor on road.....	\$ 6 00
G. E. Berry, “ “	6 00
C. B. Gilmore, “ “	13 50
F. M. Lassell, “ “	7 50
Wm. Coffin for labor on road machine 30 days at \$1.50 per day.....	45 00

Brought forward.....	\$78 00
To paid G. E. Berry for hauling plank for Carver bridge	1 50
	<u>\$79 50</u>



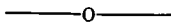
CASH PAID BY TREASURER.

Paid interest on Clinton Gore R. R. bonds	\$105 00
interest on town orders.....	113 16
interest on town bonds.....	107 00
express on casting for road machine.....	1 00
freight bill on casting for road machine.....	2 60
	<u>\$328 76</u>



TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

Henry M. Cole, Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of poor.....	\$75 75
G. Twitchell, Jr., Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor.....	54 00
William Coffin, Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor.....	40 50
A. D. Millett, Treasurer	20 00
Wm. H. Merrill, Supervisor of Schools.....	27 30
A. W. Fletcher, " "	20 00
Geo. W. Bickford, Town Clerk.....	5 00
E. D. Bickford, Constable for the year 1890.....	3 00
Wm. R. Whitten, Collector of Taxes for year 1890	67 97
G. E. Berry, Town Agent.....	10 00
C. E. Sherman, Auditor of Accounts.....	1 50
	<u>\$325 02</u>



CURRENT RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR.

Amount raised by the town.....	\$1078 30
State tax.....	461 81
County tax.....	405 18
Rent on hall, store and lands	64 85
Dividends on B. & M. H. L. R. R. Co. stock	120 00

Brought forward.....	\$2130 14	
Interest on old tax deeds.....	28 32	
State Treasurer telegraph tax.....	16 00	
Received of Chas. L. Whitten.....	200 00	
Interest on Warren Harding note.....	75	
		\$2375 21
Total expenses for the year.....	\$2335 41	
Receipts more than expenses		\$39 80

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CURRENT EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR.

Cost of poor.....	\$ 305 64
Abatement of taxes	33 54
Repairs of roads and bridges	79 50
Interest paid on debt.....	325 16
Miscellaneous bills.....	284 43
Town officers' bills.....	325 02
State tax	461 81
County tax	405 18
Paid for school books.....	115 13
	\$2335 41

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LIABILITIES.

Bonds due Oct. 31, 1891, 4 per cent.....	\$2675 00	
“ Nov. 9, 1894, “	1000 00	
“ Nov. 9, 1892, “	600 00	\$4275 00
Orders due Aug. 18, 1889, 4 per cent.....	500 00	
“ Oct. 7, 1889, “	50 00	
“ Aug. 3, 1891, “	425 00	
“ Dec. 14, 1890, “	600 00	1575 00
Orders on demand not on interest.....		314 50
Interest on town bonds.....	119 04	
“ “ orders	129 14	
Interest on Clinton Gore R. R. bonds...	382 50	
Due the several school districts	102 04	
Due Wm. R. Whitten, collector of taxes for the year 1890.....	67 97	

Brought forward.....	\$6650 69
Clinton Gore R. R. bonds	2000 00
Due C. B. Cookson, for labor on town farm	45 41
Due the town of Pittsfield for expense in taking Rosilla Blaisdell to Augusta Hospital	12 50
Bill paid hospital	18 50
Bond due Nov. 8, 1892	100 00
“ Nov. 8, 1891	200 00
“ Nov. 8, 1893	300 00
	\$9641 60

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RESOURCES.

Dur from W. R. Whitten, collector for 1890	\$1240 90
Due from A. D. Millett, Treasurer.....	1301 28
Due from Sarah Sayward note.....	11 75
Due on tax deeds in Treasurer's hands	184 35
Due on tax deeds in Selectmen's hands,	69 61
Due from Chas. L. Whitten.....	400 00
20 shares stock in B. & M. R. R. Co.....	2000 00
Town Hall, store and water power	500 00
Farm and farming tools.....	1435 00
Stock and produce on the farm	435 25
Due for dividends on B. & M. R. R. Co. stock.....	30 00
Due for hay sold off town farm.....	109 93
Due for C. B. Cookson, for boy's board on farm	26 68
Due for State treasurer bounty on crows	18 70
Due from G. E. Berry for money received from Fred A. McAllister for use of mowing machine.....	6 93
Road machine.....	220 00

Brought forward	7990 38	
School books on hand.....	115 13	
		\$8105 51
Excess of liabilities over resources		\$1536 09
		\$9641 60

HENRY M. COLE, } Selectmen
 G. TWITCHELL, JR., } of
 WM. COFFIN, } Burnham.

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I hereby certify that I have examined the accounts of the town and believe them to be correct.

CHAS. E. SHERMAN, Auditor.

75 2 7 3 3

Report of the Supervisor of Schools.

In pursuance of this report, your appointed Supervisor of schools of the town of Burnham, qualified by law Sept. 6th. 1890, respectfully submits the following as his final report of the public schools of the said town for the year ending February 28th. 1891.

The State book law of 1890, is explicit in its import, and makes provisions for towns to furnish text books free of charge to the pupils to a reasonable extent, sufficient to meet the deficiency and lack of uniformity in books throughout the State, and in pursuance of the provisions of the law books are to be loaned to pupils for their special benefit with certain restrictions appertaining to care and prudence, to hold teachers accountable for the exercise of due care for and return of the books owned by the town; to make pupils feel their responsibility for the proper care of books furnished them for use, as they cost money and must be paid for by the tax payers of the several towns.—Hence to hold supervisors, teachers and parents accountable for the whereabouts, safety and good usage of them while in the hands of the scholars. By not fully understanding the full import of the said law, and hoping that the same might be repealed soon or signed by a majority of the towns in the State, sufficient to ostracize it and thereby compel its repeal at the next session of the Legislature. Burnham neglected at its annual town meeting last March to appropriate a sufficient sum of money with which to buy the books, thus the town left us without particular information by which to guide and instruct us in our line of duty.

The selectmen, however, took the initiative and commenced the good work by instructing my predecessor, Dr. Merrill, to buy in the markets, text books of the same series then in use throughout the town sufficient to meet the wants of the pupils and fulfill the mandates of the State book law then indelibly engrafted in our statutes, without which initiative the town would not be able to draw its State school fund, and with it the municipality would move with accuracy and harmony. Now we have bought the books and have paid for them and they are in the hands of the pupils, and we are not accused of treason, our State school fund has been collected, our teachers paid and we are happy.

We have paid out \$115.13 for the necessary supply of school books the past year.

Dr. Merrill during his term of office bought of the several publishers.....133 books
 A. W. Fletcher bought.....162 “

Total.....295 “

Distributed by Dr. Merrill through the several districts.. 64

By A. W. Fletcher.....176

On hand Feb. 28, 1891..... 55

Total.....295

The present supervisor distributed books throughout the town as follows :

District No. 1.....19

“ “ 2.....39

“ “ 3..... 7

“ “ 5.....10

“ “ 7.....15

“ “ 8.....13

“ “ 9.....27

“ “ 10.....26

“ “ 10 for use in high school.....20

Total.....176

There are nine districts in town and there are 300 scholars in town. The school books used in town are the same series as were adopted by vote of the same three years ago and are generally liked, viz. Raub's series of readers, Harper's geographies, Barnes' history of the United States, Raub's series of arithmetic, Comprehensive speller, Greenleaf's algebra, Meservey's book keeping, Raub's English grammar and Davigilson's elementary physiology. For the amount of money raised for the support of schools, state school fund and the amount of money apportioned to each district in town the past year, see the selectmen's report in this pamphlet.

No. female teachers employed in summer term of schools, 9

“ “ “ fall “ 5

“ “ “ winter “ 5

male “ “ “ “ 4

No. of terms of schools taught during the year, 23.

No. of visits to schools made by A. W. Fletcher during his term of office, 20. Dr. Merrill had supervision of summer terms of schools and A. W. Fletcher had supervision of the fall and winter terms. The term of schools throughout the town are now closed except the unexpired term in District No. 7, and the High School in District No. 10. District No. 7 school will continue four and one-half weeks and the high school ten weeks.

DR. MERRILL'S REPORT.**DISTRICT NO. 1.**

Summer term taught by Miss Luvilla Busford. Length of term 9 weeks; wages of teacher, \$3.50 per week; board, \$1.39. Good order was maintained and fair progress made in the studies.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Summer term, Mattie E. Jones teacher. Length of term 5 weeks; wages, \$3.50; board, \$1.75. School was visited but once.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Summer term, Miss Mitchell, of Troy, teacher. School visited but once. Register not returned yet. Good order was maintained at visit.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Summer term, Bertha Phillips, of Pittsfield, teacher. Length of term, 6 weeks; wages, \$2.50; board, \$1.48. Good methods for maintaining order and imparting instruction were adopted with success.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

Summer term, Mrs. Etta Goodwin, Clinton, teacher. Length of term, 7 weeks; wages, \$4.00 per week; board, \$1.75. Good order was maintained and much good work done in their books by the scholars.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Summer term, Addie R. Kimball, teacher. Length of school 7 weeks; wages, \$3.00; board, \$1.65. Miss Kimball taught a good term of school.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Summer term, Mildred Doe, teacher. Length of term, 7 weeks; wages, \$2.50; board, \$1.50. The examination showed that good progress had been made by the pupils.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

Summer term, Annie Berry, teacher. Length of term, 6 weeks; wages, \$4.50; board, \$1.70. The final examination showed that a very satisfactory amount of work had been done during the term.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

High School, teacher, Herbert Powers. Term ten weeks; wages including board, \$40 per month. Those who availed themselves of this opportunity enjoyed a good term of school. Summer term, Annie Murray, teacher.

Length 6 weeks ; wages, \$4.50 ; board, \$1.58. This was one of the most successful terms in town.

A. W. FLETCHER'S REPORT.

FALL TERMS OF SCHOOLS.

District No. 3—Bertha M. Nason, teacher, term continued 7 weeks with good success. G. Twitchell Jr., agent.

District No. 4—Bertha M. Phillips teacher, Alonzo Emery, agent. This term continued 12 weeks and was very profitable as Miss Phillips is one of our best teachers.

District No. 5—Etta M. Goodwin teacher, E. D. Bickford, agent. This term of school continued 5 weeks and was both profitable and interesting to the district.

District No. 9—Miss Annie M. Berry, teacher, S. S. Jones, agent. This term of school continued 6 weeks and the teacher had good success.

District No. 10—Miss Annie W. Murray, teacher, Henry Dorrathy, agent. This term of school continued 6 weeks and was profitable and interesting. Miss Murray is one of our best teachers and always has good success in her schools, has tact and ability to explain and will make her mark as a teacher in the future.

WINTER TERMS OF SCHOOLS.

District No. 1—Gershom Twitchell Jr., teacher, Albert Chandler, agent. This session of school lasted 10 weeks and was very profitable as Mr. Twitchell is a man of tact and ability and has come to the surface, has taught more terms than any other man in Burnham.

District No. 2—H. L. Rand, teacher, Ernest Ames, agent. This term was in session 12 weeks, with fair success. Good order was maintained when I made my visits and the school was orderly enough to suit me, but some of the neighbors complained of the price of his labors ; said the price should have been \$22.50 per month, instead of \$25 per month, which he asked and collected. In the absence of the agent, who moved away, we had to do the best we could and be guided by justice. He claimed that the former price was too meagre for his services in so large a school, with so many scholars in attendance. The school was a success as far as I know.

District No. 3—Mildred E. Doe, teacher, Gershom Twitchell Jr., agent. The session of this school was 12 weeks, and was a model school.

District No. 5—K. B. Piper, teacher, E. D. Bickford, agent. This term of school was in session 10 weeks and under the instruction of an able teacher, who makes teaching a profession. He has several certificates of merit

which he obtained in the west. He has taught several schools in California and of all teachers he is the best. He is bright and brilliant in the school room, has a faculty of pouring in knowledge and drawing out ideas. At the examination he answered his 10 questions rapidly and accurately.

District No. 7—Addie R. Kimball, teacher, Myal D. Reynolds, agent. This term continued 10 weeks, under the instruction of an able teacher, but was booked for a longer term. The balance of the term of four weeks and one-half, is now being taught by Miss Annie L. Morse, of Dixmont, also with good success.

District No. 8—Miss M. Lillian Dolge, teacher, G. Maloon, agent. This profitable session of school of 13 weeks was instructed by the best scholar in town, a young lady who always attains success at teaching, and all youths who graduate from her schools have marked ability, and the most of them become eminent teachers. Her mathematics are correct, her grammar perfect, her reading is eloquent.

District No. 9—Miss Alice Hodglen, teacher, S. S. Jones, Esq., agent. This term of 11 weeks was taught by an able teacher, one whom the scholars loved and respected. The school evinced great proficiency, and I thought the term to have been a profitable one.

District No. 10—J. E. Cook, teacher, Henry Dorrathy, agent. This term of 10 weeks, was taught by an expert teacher of quite extended experience and of a high standard of scholarship, a self made man of tact and ability, who has already made his mark in the world and is on the main road to fame as a musician and teacher of public schools. The scholars made great proficiency in their studies and the teacher was praised by the whole district. Mr. Cook is now teaching the high school in the same district in this village.

I recommend the introduction and reading of practical economy in our town schools; of all the sciences political economy is one of the most important. It is the foundation of public and private prosperity; hence, every person who is to be a citizen of this Republic should have a good knowledge of the elementary principles of practical economy. It should be one of the prescribed studies in the public schools, but it has seldom been taught outside of high schools and academies. It has always been considered a most intricate subject, and hence, to be attempted only at the close of a long course of study; but it does not seem possible that a science of such importance can be too difficult for common people to understand.

In conclusion I will remark that I have met with no

trials during my term of office and have received the hearty co-operation of the citizens of the town, and as one of the co-operators I think I am quite a veteran in the position, having had practical experience in school supervision for the past thirty years.

All of which I respectfully submit :

ABNER WHITING FLETCHER,
Supervisor of Schools.