

1873

Reports of the Selectmen and Superintending School Committee, of the Town of Albion, for the Year Ending March 1, 1873.

Albion (Me.).

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REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN

AND

Superintending School Committee,

OF THE

TOWN OF ALBION,

For the Year ending March 1, 1873.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

Present Financial Condition.

The undersigned, Selectmen of the town of Albion, submit the following report:—

Liabilities.

Due several School Districts.....	\$167 47	
D. G. Mudgett, (estimated).....	10 00	
		\$177 47

Resources.

In hands of Francis Shorey, Treas. and Col.....	\$622 46	
Due from Town of Freedom.....	175 04	\$797 50
		\$620 03
Balance in favor of the town.....		

Detailed Report of Financial Transactions of the Town.

Receipts.

From former Treasurer.....	\$661 12	
Tax bills for 1872.....	6,536 92	
State Bonds sold.....	\$2,492 00	
School mill fund.....	412 98	
Savings Bank tax.....	140 37	
Stock and produce sold from town farm.....	315 18	
R. C. Whitcomb's tax of '71, which was abated.	1 88	
		\$10,560 45

Expenditures.

State Tax for 1872.....	\$2,169 78	
County tax for 1872.....	574 65	
Paid for support of schools.....	1,544 27	
Blank books and stationery.....	5 93	
Selectmen's bills.....	177 83	
Superintending School Committee's bills in part.....	52 76	
Abatements on money taxes.....	31 50	
Abatement of highway tax worked out...	3,841 66	
Making Dock road.....	341 00	
Making Dean hill road, in part.....	200 00	
Repairs on Dock bridge.....	63 09	
Plank for bridges.....	29 45	
Repairs of highway.....	59 25	
Francis Shorey, Col. & Treas. per centage.	53 99	
" " for paying State Pension.	4 00	
Geo. W. Kidder, Town Clerk.....	10 00	
G. B. Wood, for use of pound.....	2 00	
Thomas Carr, damage to horse.....	87 50	
T. B. Nichols, damage to horse.....	3 00	
Appropriated for tomb.....	100 00	
Printing reports of 1871.....	13 00	
O. O. Crosby, survey of road.....	1 50	
F. Shorey, notifying extra town meeting.	1 00	
Repairs on town house.....	2 00	
Repairs on hearse.....	2 00	
Repairs on burying ground fences.....	9 45	
Erecting guide boards.....	8 35	
Pauper expenses for Freedom.....	175 04	
Support of Poor.....	372 97	
S. H. Bradstreet, Auditor.....	1 00	
In hands of Collector and Treasurer.....	622 46	
		<u>\$10,560 45</u>

Town Officer's Bills.

A. H. Hammond, Selectman, Assessor and over- seer of Poor.....	\$84 45	
Same, cash expenses.....	3 75	
" for horse and carriage out of town.....	9 75	
James Whitaker, same offices.....	39 50	
Same, cash expenses.....	2 20	
" for horse and carriage out of town.....	4 00	
W. R. Skillin, same offices.....	32 50	
Same, cash expenses.....	1 70	177 85
D. G. Mudgett, S. S. Committee, (estimated)..	10 00	
Otis Meader, ".....	26 20	
Wm. A. Varney, ".....	26 56	62 76
Francis Shorey, Collector and Treasurer.....	53 99	
G. W. Kidder, Town Clerk.....	10 00	
S. H. Bradstreet, Auditor.....	1 00	
		<u>\$305 60</u>

Town Farm.

Inventory of Stock, Produce and Provisions on Town Farm, March 1, 1873.

2 oxen, \$225; 3 cows, \$100; 21 sheep, \$80;	\$405 00	
1 swine, \$15; 12 tons hay, \$144; 10 bush. corn, \$10;	169 00	
20 bush. barley, \$15; 4 bush. beans, \$12; 75 bush. potatoes, 30;	57 00	
2-3 bbl. flour, \$7; 6 bbls. cider, \$18; 1 bbl. vinegar, \$4;	29 00	
2 bbls. soap, \$8; 325 lbs. of pork, \$40; 85 lbs. dried apples, \$6;	54 00	
35 lbs. lard, \$6; 15 lbs. butter, \$4.20; 4 lbs. sugar, \$50;	10 70	
4 gallons molasses, \$2;	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$726 70

Articles sold from Town Farm, from March 1, 1872, to March 1, 1873.

2 oxen, \$250; 3 calves, \$15; 13 lambs, \$48.75;	\$313 75	
2 sheep, \$7; 69 lbs. wool, \$41.40; hemlock bark, \$16.03;	64 43	
30 bushels apples, \$4.20; 1 bbl. cider, \$5.70; poultry, \$4;	19 90	
Eggs, \$9; pasturing, \$5; 181½ lbs. butter, \$51.75;	65 75	
5½ bush. beans, \$18.37; 47 lbs. dried apples, \$4.70;	23 07	
	<hr/>	\$480 90

Support of Poor in Poor House, from March 1, 1872, to March 1, 1873.

Paid W. Murray, balance of salary of 1871.	\$30 00	
W. Murray, salary to March 1, 1873.	300 00	
For 1 pair oxen, \$200; store bills, \$101.13.	301 13	
“ 2 pigs, \$6; use of bull, \$3; blacksmith bill, \$9.50;	18 50	
For grass seed, \$9.90; stove kettle, .55c.;	10 45	
	<hr/>	\$660 08

Balance against the Town Farm. \$179 18

Support of Poor out of Poor House.

Daniel Lancaster and wife.	\$13 12	
James Lancaster.	20 05	
John Austin.	7 50	
Mrs. Nancy Marden.	21 00	
Mrs. Lemuel Handy.	16 24	
George C. Brown and family.	17 11	
Mrs. Cynthia Davis.	48 24	
Josiah Danforth and family.	50 53	
	<hr/>	\$193 79

Total expense of Poor. \$372 97

In this report, no mention is made of the State Bonds lying in the hands of the Treasurer, amounting to \$3,000.00.

An action is pending in the Supreme Court against the town of Freedom, for pauper supplies furnished Henry S. Cookson and family, residents of that town.

A. H. HAMMOND, JAMES WHITAKER, WM. R. SKILLIN,	}	SELECTMEN OF ALBION.
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AUDITOR'S REPORT.

I have examined the bills of the Selectmen for 1872-3, and find them properly vouched and correctly cast.

S. H. BRADSTREET, Auditor.

Report of the Superintending School Committee.

District No. 2.—F. W. Metcalf, Agent.

Summer Term, taught by Miss Julia A. Gilman of Albion. We visited this school the third week, and found Miss G. doing a good work. This school was characterized by good order and perfect lessons. Miss G. being obliged to close her school prematurely, on account of ill health, we were not notified, and consequently did not visit it at the close; but we were informed by members of the district that she gave entire satisfaction. We would recommend to *any* agent wanting a first-class teacher to call on Miss Gilman.

Winter Term—by Miss Caro. M. Young of China. This district was *very* fortunate in securing the able and efficient services of this teacher, whose reputation as a teacher of youth is already established, and consequently needs no encomium from us—her works will ever be appreciated by those who are fortunate enough to receive her instruction. At our first visit we found everything in perfect order; both teacher and pupils working harmoniously together; therefore we anticipated a profitable term. We were not disappointed at the closing examination on finding that the school, under her skillful management, made rapid progress, and that the same

feeling of love and friendship still existed between teacher and pupils. We also met most of the parents, who were there to witness the closing examination. All seemed perfectly satisfied, and united in awarding to the teacher that praise which was so justly her due. We would only add, we wish all our schools could receive just such instruction as this one has the past year, and would recommend that this district secure the services of Miss Young again, if possible.

District No. 3.—Ralph J. Whitaker, Agent.

Summer Term—by Miss Maria Mudgett of Albion. Although this school is small, yet Miss M. succeeded in creating an interest, on the part of the scholars, the result of which was a commendable advancement in the different branches pursued. We think this school was profitable, and would be glad to meet Miss M. in a larger school at some future day.

Winter Term—by Miss Mary Billings of Clinton. Miss B., by her genial nature, succeeded in winning the respect of her scholars, and governing her school by love rather than through fear, and her method of teaching being thorough and practical, we think she made her school profitable.

District No. 4.—S. H. Bradstreet, Agent.

Summer Term—by Miss Gage of Benton. This was Miss G.'s first attempt at teaching, and we are sorry to say she lacked that energy and confidence, so essential to a teacher, consequently this school was not what we could wish.

Winter Term—by Mr. Roscoe L. Worthing of Palermo. We found at our first visit, that this teacher has the "root of the matter" in him; that his method of instruction was after the most approved style, and that in his government he had adopted the most modern plan; consequently we anticipated good results. The school is now in session, and although we were unable to visit it a second time before making this report, yet we understand he has given entire satisfaction.

District No 5.—James J. Varney, Agent.

Summer Term—by Miss Lillie V. Dilling of Freedom, who is an active and energetic, as well as a thorough and systematic teacher, under whose charge the scholars manifested an interest seldom seen in any school, which could but result in their rapid improvement. We hope more of our scholars may receive the benefit of her instruction.

Winter Term—by Mr. Frank P. Whitaker. Mr. W. being young and a scholar in the district we had some misgivings in regard to his success, but at our visit in the first half of the school, we found the scholars apparently interested, and the teacher laboring to the best of his ability to promote the welfare of the school, which is now in session. Circumstances beyond our control, prevented our visiting this school the second time before making our report, yet as near as we can learn, Mr. W. has given satisfaction, and with increased years and experience, we shall expect to see him take a favorable position among our teachers.

District No. 6.—Francis M. Bessey, Agent.

Summer Term was taught by Miss Louise E. Varney of Albion, and a member of the district. Miss V. is a young teacher; this being her first attempt at teaching. She entered this school with a *desire* to be successful and to benefit those under her instruction; and by laboring hard with this end in view we think she was successful. As far as we know she gave satisfaction.

Winter Term was under the instruction of Miss Emma Spencer of Albion. Although Miss S. is a young teacher, she seems to engage in the work of teaching with energy and understanding, determined to win success in the profession she has chosen. Owing to the severity of the weather the last of the term, the scholars were somewhat irregular in attendance.

At the closing examination we found only six scholars present; all of whom acquitted themselves with much credit to both teacher and pupils.

District No. 7.—Levi Key, Agent.

This district has had but one term the past year as usual, and in our opinion, that is one more than it should have, for reason of its being so small—there being but ten scholars in the district—making the school uninteresting for both teacher and scholars; and creating the necessity of hiring teachers of the cheapest grade when under such circumstances, it would be next to impossible, for a first class teacher to make the school profitable; for these reasons, with many others we would recommend that this district be discontinued, and divided between two or three other districts as will best convene the inhabitants. The term for the past winter has been under the charge of Mr. Bert Hussey of Albion, with as much interest and improvement as could be expected under the circumstances, which, in our opinion were but *very little*.

District No. 8.—Benjamin Abbott, Agent.

Summer Term—by Miss Angie Libby of Troy; A first class teacher, under whose charge the scholars made a decided improvement. We hope to meet her again in the school room.

Winter Term—by Mr. Orrin Chalmers of Albion. There was a degree of interest manifested in this school on the part of teacher and scholars which reflected credit upon both. We consider this term a success.

District No. 9.—Washington Drake, Agent.

The school had but one term, which was under the instruction of Mr. J. R. Plummer of Palermo. We visited this school at the commencement of the term, and found it small, numbering about twenty scholars. Mr. P. seemed to be laboring hard for the benefit of his scholars, and they in turn striving to profit by his instruction—order *very good* and recitations *prompt*. The closing examination showed that the school had made good improvement, and the teacher had not labored in vain.

District No. 10.—Cyrus Shaw, Agent.

Summer Term—by Mrs. Rachel J. Whitaker of Albion. This was Mrs. W.'s first effort at teaching. We think she gave universal satisfaction.

Winter Term—was commenced by Mr. Ellory Crosby of Albion, also a new beginner. Some little acts of insubordination on the part of a few of the scholars at the first of the school created some dissatisfaction among the parents, which, however, we think was *entirely uncalled for*, but we think Mr. C. succeeded in reducing this school to a good wholesome state of discipline and maintaining good order to the last. Mr. C. informed us that tardiness and absence were the greatest difficulties he had to contend with, in consequence of which the improvement was not quite what it otherwise *could* have been. On account of other engagements, he closed his school at the end of nine weeks, when it was again put in operation in charge of Mr. Enoch Y. Shaw; with what success we are unable to state. This school is in session at the time of making report.

District No. 11.—Daniel Wentworth, Agent.

Summer Term—by Miss Celestia Worthen of Albion. This teacher spared no pains to make this term a successful one. The scholars all seemed to respect their teacher and disposed to maintain good order and harmony in the school room. The closing examination reflected much credit to teacher and scholars. We like Miss W.'s method of teaching, being thorough, systematic and practical, and do not hesitate to pronounce her one of our best teachers.

Winter Term—by Miss Ida Learned of Benton. Order very good. Improvement fair. We think Miss L. gave satisfaction although we could but think, with a *little* more energy she might have advanced her pupils *more*.

District No. 12.—Alvah G. Thompson, Agent.

This district has had but one term; which was under the charge of Miss Lillie V. Dilling, with success as in No. 5.

District No. 13.—J. Moody, Agent.

There has been but one term in this district, which was under the charge of Miss Julia F. Worthing of Palermo, whom we found busy with her four scholars, the whole number in the district, as we are informed. As this school was visited but once, we are unable to state the result, but for reasons assigned in No. 7, we think the improvement could not be very great. And for the same reasons we would recommend that this district be discontinued.

District No. 14.—Geo. Wiggin, Agent.

Summer Term—by Miss Emma Drake of Palermo. We think Miss Drake made a slight mistake in adopting teaching as a profession. She did not meet with as good success in this school as we wish she might.

Winter Term—was taught by Mr. Webster Mudgett, of Albion. We think Mr. M. evinced a *desire* to benefit his pupils, and although we visited his school but once we feel safe in reporting it a success. Mr. M. is a young teacher, this being his second term; but we will venture to predict that with more experience he will become an able teacher.

In submitting this our annual report of the schools under our charge, we would say, that while most districts have been fortunate in the selection of teachers, it is to be regretted, that *some* have been so *unfortunate* as to obtain the services of teachers who were incompetent to fill that position profitably. Occurances of this kind have been few the past year, it is true, and to guard against them entirely, should be the object of all interested. Your Committee have labored to the best of their ability, to select teachers who would do honor to their calling; but we are human and likely to err; we can examine a candidate in regard to his literary qualifications, but as to his capacity for government, it is a matter of conjecture, which time alone can prove, and it is frequently the case, that the character of the school is not full developed until after our first visit, when perhaps some apparently trivial thing will happen, which the teacher fails to cope with successfully, and which renders the school unprofitable for the remainder of the term, while the committee know nothing about it, until their last visit, when it is too late to remedy it. In conclusion, we would suggest that parents do not lay the entire blame upon the Committee, for we think *they* could do much toward counteracting the evils above mentioned, by visiting their schools often, and promptly notifying the Committee of any unhealthy symptoms, that may exist in their school. Parents will you see to it, that you *do your duty faithfully* in this respect? Let us meet you at our several visits, if no more, and show by your presence, that you are not indifferent to the welfare of your offspring, and are unwilling to entrust your dearest interests *entirely* to the hands of strangers.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DENNIS G. MUDGETT,	} S. S. COMMITTEE.
OTIS MEADER,	
WM. A. VARNEY,	
	OF
	ALBION.