

1877

Report of the Selectmen, and Superintending School Committee of the Town of Belgrade, for the Municipal Year Ending Feb. 24th, 1877.

Belgrade (Me.)

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REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF BELGRADE,

FOR THE

Municipal Year Ending Feb. 24th, 1877.



AUGUSTA:

D. M. LOCKE'S JOB PRINTING OFFICE.

1877.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT,

FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 24, 1877.

Paid, bills accrued prior to March 6th, 1876.

Paid C. A. Yeaton, for services as Selectman.....	\$108 25
C. B. Crowell " "	64 25
A. E. Faught " "	62 00
C. A. Yeaton, for cash paid out.....	10 25
J. C. Taylor, services as S. S. Committee.....	29 96
H. F. D. Wyman, " "	28 75
G. E. Minot, " "	32 75
J. H. Mosher, services as Constable.....	3 00
A. W. Sawtelle, " on town farm.....	113 50
M. A. Hersom, for clothing for J. Chandler..	5 00
S. Robinson, for keeping Hannah Trask.....	13 00
G. E. Minot, for use of hall one year.....	10 00
J. M. Savage, shoemaking.....	1 55
M. S. Downs, labor on Dunn road.....	5 33
Portland, on account of Prime family.....	49 50
Hartland, " T. Palmer.....	40 88
Mt. Vernon, " R. Foss.....	11 31
J. T. Fifield, for boots and shoes.....	6 00
G. H. Foster, for axe.....	3 00
Augusta, on account of Wilson Hawes.....	88 91
W. W. Springer, for medical services.....	10 00
Abatement of tax for 1874	164 82
J. S. Cummings, com. col. tax for 1874.....	66 61
John Ham, for attendance at court.....	3 25
Samuel J. Willman, for abatement of 1873 tax.....	5 25
Pittston, on account of Charles Hunt.....	6 00
C. Richardson, for pasturing oxen	7 00
David Farnham, attending court.....	3 25
Abatement of tax for 1873.....	7 47

Paid G. A. Farnham, for attending court.....	\$2 75
B. F. Mitchell, " "	3 50
William Hersom, labor on highway, 1875.....	2 23
G. A. Taylor, abatement of tax on horse.....	1 98
J. S. Cummings, tax collected on discount.....	136 16
" committee for collecting tax, 1875.....	93 05
Mt Vernon, on account of R. Foss' family.....	11 31
Avery Ellis, for use of bull for 1875.....	1 00
E. Bunker, labor on highway for 1875	1 50
West Waterville, on account of T. Trask's family.....	6 75
J. L. Heath, abatement of delinquent highway taxes.....	10 69
Total.....	<u>\$1,231 76</u>

The following Bills have been paid for the *Repairs of Roads and Bridges* the past year :

Paid for the repair of bridge in Henry Tibbett's district.....	\$15 25
Labor and material at Spaulding's mill.....	18 54
" " on Mt. Vernon bridge.....	32 15
" " on Belgrade "	23 16
Material for Chandler's mill bridge	97 23
Labor on Minot hill.....	63 61
" and material on Bickford hill.....	40 59
" " for the several districts.....	74 02
Breaking Narrows road.....	10 75
Total.....	<u>\$375 30</u>

The following Bills have been paid for *Support of Poor out of Poor-house* the past year :

Paid Charity O. Trask.....	\$15 00
M. J. Tirrell, on account of P Emmons.....	29 00
On account Thomas Trask's family.....	19 75
" R. Foss' family.....	37 00
" Julia Chandler.....	2 00
" Wilson Hawes' family.....	11 00
Bristol, on account of Charles Hunt.....	5 50
On account of D. Jewett.....	60 25
S. Robinson, on account of Hannah Trask.....	13 00
Eldred & Stuart, for clothing Hannah Trask.....	6 70
Hartland, on account of T. Palmer.....	36 49

Paid for keeping tramps.....	\$30 27
Lydia P. Mills, on account of Nancy Kahearl.....	7 51
John T. Fifield, for shoemaking.....	3 50
Total.....	<u>\$276 97</u>

Due and unpaid bills for *Poor not at Poor-house* :

Due Stephen Robinson, on account of H. Trask.....	\$13 00
Pauline Austin, for keeping Downs girl.....	20 00
Robert Foss, as per contract.....	4 00
M. J. Tirrell, for keeping P. Emmons.....	20 00
Total.....	<u>\$57 00</u>
Cost of Poor off farm.....	\$333 97

The following bills have been paid for *Poor of other towns* the
past year :

Paid Readfield, on account of Joseph C. Gordon..	\$127 57
Eldred & Stuart, on account of George M. Skillings.....	18 64
Total.....	<u>\$146 21</u>
Due from the town of Readfield.....	127 57
“ “ Lexington.....	18 64
“ “ “ on old account.....	33 00
Total due.....	<u>\$179 21</u>

Cost of *Poor at Poor House* the past year :

Paid Henry Huff, for horse hire.....	\$14 40
Eldred & Stuart, for supplies.....	77 15
C. Richardson, “ 	57 67
Joseph Merrow, “ 	78 97
A. Hammond, “ 	86 00
Henry Huff, one-half year's salary.....	112 00
For coffin for Lydia Holmes.....	10 00
four pigs.....	13 00
G B Staples, for oxen	145 00
For cow	25 00
S. F. Crooker, M. D.....	5 50
A. E. Faught, for wood.....	25 00
A. Ellis, for use of bull.....	2 00
.....	<u>\$651 69</u>
Received from sale of oxen.....	180 00
Total cost on farm.....	<u>\$471 69</u>

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Paid Horace North, for blank books.....	\$11 00
For moving C. Hunt and family.....	30 46
Dudley & Cresey, for damage.....	110 00
For separator.....	119 06
J. L. Heath, for use of wagon.....	3 00
S. S. Committee, Sanford fund.....	8 67
Expenses to Camden, on account of W. O. Kahearl.....	9 50
L. W. Bachelder, damage to sleigh.....	10 00
Charles Safford, " ".....	1 25
F. G. Yeaton, services as Constable.....	6 00
T. A. Chick, for printing blanks.....	2 00
For recording mortgage.....	50
Expenses to Hartland.....	8 20
Mortgage on T. Palmer's farm.....	102 85
For stationery and stamps.....	2 85
D. L. Page, for work on graveyard.....	6 00
	<hr/>
	\$431 34

The following sums have been received into the Treasury the past year, exclusive of loans :

Cash in Treasury, March 1, 1876.....	\$699 40
Received of A. Yeaton, Collector of 1873.....	50 00
“ J. S. Cummings, “ 1874.....	792 66
“ “ “ “ 1875.....	4,485 53
“ from sale of oxen.....	180 00
“ “ non-resident tax of 1874 and 1875.....	215 14
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$6,422 73

RESOURCES.

Due from J. S. Cummings, tax of 1875.....	\$885 00
“ Andrew Yeaton, “ 1876.....	7,372 06
“ G. J. Page, guar. P. Smith.....	125 00
“ non-resident tax.....	154 68
“ State school fund.....	815 02
“ town of Readfield.....	127 57
“ “ Lexington.....	51 64

RESOURCES—Concluded.

One separator.....	\$75 00
Mortgage of Palmer farm in Hartland.....	102 85
	<u>\$9,708 82</u>
Inventory of stock, provisions, &c., on town farm.....	696 40
	<u>\$10,405 22</u>
Cash in treasury.....	386 09
	<u>\$10,791 31</u>
Total resources.....	\$10,791 31

LIABILITIES.

Whole amount of outstanding Treasury Notes.....	\$17,667 00
“ “ “ Town Orders.....	118 35
“ “ due the several School Districts.....	644 34
“ “ interest due, March 1, 1877.....	545 34
	<u>\$18,975 03</u>
Due Benjamin & Allen.....	\$23 39
Stephen Robinson.....	13 00
W. W. Springer.....	15 00
J. C. Mosher, town clerk.....	4 00
Pauline Austin.....	20 00
Robert Foss.....	4 00
M. J. Tirrell.....	20 00
J. C. Taylor, School Com., estimated.....	30 00
H. F. D. Wyman, “ “.....	30 00
J. S. Cummings, “ “.....	30 00
G. J. Page, services as Selectman.....	75 00
B. F. Mitchell, “ “.....	65 00
C. H. Wyman, “ “.....	57 65
Henry Huff, one-half year's salary.....	113 00
	<u>\$19,375 07</u>
Total.....	\$19,375 07

The following were the assessments for the year 1876 :

State tax.....	\$1,734 25
County tax.....	880 73
Town tax, to defray town charges.....	6,000 00
“ support of schools.....	1,600 00
Overlayings on same.....	64 51
	<u>\$10,279 49</u>
Total assessments.....	\$10,279 49
Delinquent highway tax.....	114 72
	<u>\$10,394 21</u>
Total commitment.....	\$10,394 21

Whole amount of liabilities of town.....	\$19,375 07
“ of resources “	10,791 31
Liabilities above resources.....	<u>\$8,584 76</u>
Treasury notes bearing interest less than last year.....	\$87 42

Names of Paupers at Town Farm the past year :

I. Bickford	1 year.
Samuel Damren	1 “
Edwin Damren.....	1 “
Doreas Hawes.....	1 “
Willie Smith.....	1 “
Lydia Libby.....	1 “
Ida Kahearl.....	2 weeks.
Angie and Ada Hawes.....	4 months each.
Lydia Holmes.....	3½ “
James Hamilton.....	½ “
Jerry Downs.....	10 “
Charles Hunt.....	2½ “
Isabelle, Samuel and Lilla Hunt.....	3½ “ each.
Lucy, Sarah and Elsie Jewett.....	4½ “ “
Ellen and James Jewett.....	4½ “ “
Thomas Jewett.....	4½ “
Phebe Jewett.....	1½ “
David Jewett.....	1 “

GILMAN J. PAGE, }
 BENJ. F. MITCHELL, } SELECTMEN
 CHARLES H. WYMAN, } OF
 BELGRADE.

BELGRADE, February 24, 1876.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Town of Belgrade in account with JOHN S. MINOT, Treasurer, for the year ending
February 23, 1877.

DR.	To paid Treasury Notes.....	\$15,025 42
	Interest.....	1,121 38
	Town orders.....	3,259 39
	School orders.....	2,579 09
	Treasurer's commissions.....	45 00
	Cash in the Treasury	386 09
		<u>\$22,416 37</u>
CR.	By Cash in the Treasury, March 1, 1876.....	\$699 40
	Received of Andrew Yeaton, collector of taxes for 1873.....	50 00
	“ Jos. S. Cummings “ “ 1874.....	792 66
	“ “ “ “ 1875.....	4,231 24
	“ State Treasurer, school fund and mill tax.....	877 76
	“ Cash by hands of Selectmen.....	180 00
	“ Andrew Yeaton, collector of taxes for 1876.....	407 17
	For non-resident tax for the years 1874 and 1875.....	215 14
	From different persons, and gave Treasurer notes.....	14,963 00
		<u>\$22,416 37</u>

JOHN S. MINOT, TREASURER.

Report of Superintending School Committee.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Summer Term, under the direction of Abbie E. Knowles of Manchester, who labored with a zeal and skill worthy of her calling to make her school profitable, interesting and happy, the results of which were appreciated by pupils, parents and your committee.

In Fall, taught by Herman H. Adams of this town, who entered upon and continued his labors with much zeal. Upon examination, the desired point had not been attained. The teacher was very indulgent and labored hard, doing work and explaining what the pupils should have been drilled to perform. This district has a number of good, practical pupils, who should be encouraged and helped by giving them more schooling.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Summer Term, taught by Jessie Whitehouse of this town, being her first attempt, in which she succeeded quite well.

In Winter, under the charge of James Tibbetts of this town, in which a fair degree of advancement was made. This district is to be commended for the regular attendance of its pupils.

DISTRICT No. 3.

The Summer term of this school was commenced by Miss Carrie Goodhue, but on account of sickness she was obliged to leave after teaching two weeks. The remainder of the term was taught by Miss Inez Cummings of this town. As we were not informed of the time of closing this school, it was visited but once; therefore, cannot report the progress made.

There was a Fall Term of school in this District, also taught by Miss Cummings. The order of this school was not what it should have been, and at the examination we did not find that advancement had been made, which we had hoped to find.

In Winter, taught by Mr. H. E. Dyer of New Sharon. At our first visit, the school bid fair to be a successful one; but as it

progressed, there seemed to be a lack of interest on the part of both teacher and scholars, which we were sorry to see, and which never fails to injure the usefulness of a school.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Summer Term, taught by Miss Abbie E. Knowles of Manchester, in an acceptable manner, manifesting the same zeal and interest as in her other schools. Scholars under good control, some of the noteworthy features being the special attention given to intellectual arithmetic and analysis.

In Winter, taught by Mr. Stephen H. Knowles of Manchester. This is a very small school, there being but six scholars present when visited. Mr. Knowles is young and inexperienced, and perhaps succeeded as well as most young teachers. The school made some advancement under his management.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Summer Term, taught by Miss Alice Dunn of this town, being her first effort, in which she manifested an aptitude to teach, which we hope will be cultivated. In thorough drill and interest the school ranks well.

Fall Term, taught by Ida A. Porter of Mt. Vernon, in which she succeeded well.

In Winter, taught by Elmira S. Hutchinson of Readfield, being a teacher of large and successful practice, whose reputation as a teacher needs no commendation from your committee. The money of this district, we think, has been well expended.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Summer Term, taught by Miss Angie Dolloff of Mt. Vernon, in which she manifested but little interest in the school, as a whole, a portion of the school receiving but little attention. If her time was well spent, it was on a select few.

Fall Term, taught by Nettie Yeaton of this district, in which she did well. This school was composed of an unusual number of small scholars.

Winter Term, now in progress, by the same teacher. School small, but shows a good degree of improvement.

DISTRICT No. 7—HIGH SCHOOL.

Fall Term, under the direction of Emily F. Williams of Readfield, who, having taught a term of high school and the last term of town schooling, ought to be fully prepared and understand how

to supply all the demands of her station. The school numbered some thirty scholars, all of whom were orderly—order being that in which this teacher excels. We think this school gave satisfaction. We commend this district for the interest manifested in its pupils.

Winter term, taught by the same teacher. This school was small, but was conducted by Miss Williams with her usual ability and success. As this teacher has taught so many schools in town, and her services commended in former reports, we feel that we can say nothing that will add to her well earned reputation as a teacher.

DISTRICT No. 8.

No Summer Term.

In Winter, taught by Mr. A. W. Knowles of Manchester. This is the third term that Mr. Knowles has had charge of this school. This was a very successful term, and the teacher deserves much credit for the faithful manner in which he has labored in this district. The proficiency made in writing and arithmetic was creditable to both teacher and scholars.

DISTRICT No. 9.

Summer Term, taught by Miss Winslow of Manchester. Found this school moving along quietly, the teacher endeavoring to do her best. Some very good pupils in this school, although young. The school appeared more restless at the second visit. Many of the classes had gone over considerable ground for a short time, but we fear the instruction was not made as critical and practical as is desirable, many teachers failing in these particulars.

Winter school still in progress, under the charge of Miss Abbie E. Knowles of Manchester. Knowing the standing of this school, as well as teacher, have not visited it yet. Some weeks longer to keep. Have no doubt of a profitable result.

DISTRICT No. 10.

Miss May A. Morrill had charge of the Summer term of this school, and being young and inexperienced, there was not as much improvement as was desirable. We feel this young teacher strove to make her services beneficial to the District.

Winter term taught by Mr. Charles O. Farnham of Kent's Hill, who had never assumed the perplexing duties of pedagogue before, but seemed very desirous to do his whole duty. There was not that interest manifested when the school was visited that was

necessary to insure the best results, many of the scholars appearing restless and inattentive; but we were happy to learn soon after, a decided change came to the school, and we trust good proficiency was made. This is a good school, having enjoyed the benefit of good teachers in the past. We believe it for your interest to hire no teacher that is not known to be able to teach a good school. The quality, not its length, should be our estimate of a school.

DISTRICT No. 11.

Spring and Fall Terms taught by Annie K. Pillsbury of Palmyra. The first term was visited but once, being closed without our knowledge. First visit in Fall term, found the teacher pert and independent; pupils uneasy. We found it necessary to speak plain and pointed. Second visit found a very desirable change had taken place. The teacher had evidently labored and succeeded in faithfully performing her duties. The scholars were quite studious and happy.

The Fall Term was a success. Your committee deem the demands of this district, in connection with the aptitude of the pupils, should be answered by more schooling.

DISTRICT No. 12.

The Summer Term was taught by Miss Julia Williams of Solon. This school was conducted in an orderly and systematic manner and was a very profitable term. Miss Williams is one of our best teachers, as she has a love for the business and her manner of teaching is simple and comprehensive.

In Winter, the school was in charge of Mr. Chas. D. Austin of this town, whose services, we think, were profitable to the school and satisfactory to the district.

DISTRICT No. 13.

No Summer school.

In Winter, taught by Mr. John F. Spaulding of this town. This teacher is young, but with practice (which is essential to success) we doubt not he will become a first-class teacher. Quite a number of the larger scholars were absent at the time of our last visit. From what we could learn, we think the school has made fair progress.

DISTRICT No. 14.

Summer Term, under the care of Miss Hattie M. Cummings of this town. This is quite a large, hard school, composed of many small, mischievous, restless scholars, and it wants a teacher with much firmness, as well as a good stock of patience. Miss Cummings did as well, perhaps, as a majority of young teachers would, fair progress being made.

Winter Term of thirteen weeks taught by Mr. H. F. D. Wyman, a member of your committee. This school has been large and a majority of the scholars punctual and regular in attendance, many missing not more than one-half day the entire term. This district has some fine scholars, and if they receive the advantages they deserve, will find a place among the first in town. A few were kept from attending regularly by sickness, and thereby lost the most of the term; and yet a few, (we are sorry to say) we fear were absent many times from indifference.

DISTRICT No. 15.

The past three terms have been taught by Mr. John Downs of this town, and we are happy to say, with the best results. Mr. Downs has brought the school from a low condition and placed it on a good foundation, by persevering, patient effort. His methods are thorough and practical. The scholars passed an examination that reflected credit upon themselves, as well as their teacher. We trust this district will look well to its interests, and secure the services of Mr. Downs as long as his services are so signally beneficial.

DISTRICT No. 16.

Miss Florence Yeaton of this town has taught the schools in this district the past year, with very general acceptance. Most of the scholars passed a good examination at the close of the school.

DISTRICT No. 17.

In Summer, taught by Miss Hattie M. Taylor of this town, and although this teacher has had but little experience in teaching, she succeeded well in this school. Some of the small scholars showed a great degree of improvement in reading.

Winter school taught by John E. Downs of this town. This school has somewhat longer to keep, but judging from what we know of his ability, we have no fears but this will be a good school.

DISTRICT No. 18.

Spring and Fall Terms taught by Ellura E. Braley of this town, being her first efforts, which she entered and continued her labors with unwearied zeal. We think no school in town has made more visible progress.

There being an article in the warrant calling the next annual March meeting, to see if the town will vote to unite school district No. 2 of Rome with district No. 11 of Belgrade, we believe both districts would be benefited thereby, as the expense of one school would be saved and the scholars have the benefit of a longer term of schooling.

Thus, fellow townsmen, have we briefly laid before you the standing of your schools as we have found them at the time of making our visits during the past year; and we have endeavored to do so in an impartial manner, striving to do justice by all concerned. As will be seen by the foregoing, your schools for the most part have been satisfactory to your committee and to the districts; while a few have not come up to that standard of excellence which we had a right to expect. And what is the cause of failure? In the first place, school agents do not take that pains in selecting teachers which they should, too many thinking they have done a good thing for the district by hiring a teacher for small pay, thereby securing a long term of school, and that here their responsibility ends.

Agents should seek to obtain the services of good teachers, those that have a reputation if they can get them, if not, those that have had the advantages of a training in school work. Our Normal Schools are yearly sending out teachers whose services ought to be secured in our town schools, because they have been trained to the business of teaching, and bring with them the "adopted experience" of the best educators of the State. We are well aware that an agent cannot at all times secure the services of a good teacher; and the fact of a candidate for teaching having answered all the questions asked him by the committee, and obtained his certificate, is not a sure indication that the close of the school will show that it has been a profitable term. And here comes in the duty of parents. Do you manifest an interest in your school by questioning your children in relation to their studies,

and endeavor to assist them through the many difficulties which surround their school life, thereby making them feel that you are interested in their welfare? When your children return from school at night, and bring their books with them and gather around the evening lamp for study, you may safely conclude you are having a good school. But if on the other hand they show no love for improvement at home, absent themselves from school on the most trivial excuse, and look upon it as a task to go to school, be assured that the affairs of your school need enquiring into.

The education of our children is something that all should feel an interest in, whether they have children of their own or not; and the money expended for the support of our town schools, should not be looked upon as thrown away, but to be returned with interest, not in dollars and cents, but in the satisfaction of seeing the children of our town growing up to manhood and womanhood qualified by a liberal education to fill the responsible and lucrative stations on the world's broad stage, that only the educated are sought to fill.

J. C. TAYLOR, } *S. S. Committee*
H. F. D. WYMAN, } *of*
JOS. S. CUMMINGS, } *Belgrade.*