

1884

Annual Report of the Several Town Officers, of the Town of Gorham, from February 24, 1883, to February 24, 1884

Gorham (Me.).

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs>

Repository Citation

Gorham (Me.), "Annual Report of the Several Town Officers, of the Town of Gorham, from February 24, 1883, to February 24, 1884" (1884). *Maine Town Documents*. 2285.

<https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs/2285>

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Town Documents by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

327 2231

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE SEVERAL

TOWN OFFICERS,

OF THE

TOWN OF GORHAM,

FROM

FEBRUARY 24, 1883, TO FEBRUARY 24, 1884.



PERRY, BACON & CO.,
—TAG MANUFACTURERS—PRINTERS—
GORHAM, ME.

Warrant for Town Meeting,

MARCH 3, 1884.

*To Frederick D. Scamman, a Constable in the Town of Gorham, in
the County of Cumberland, Greeting:*

In the name of the state of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town of Gorham, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Town House, in said town, on Monday, the third day of March, 1884, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following articles, to wit:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a moderator to preside at said meeting.

ART. 2. To choose all town officers for the ensuing year.

ART. 3. To receive the selectmen's settlement with the town treasurer, and act on same.

ART. 4. To receive and act upon the report of the several town officers.

ART. 5. To see what sum of money the town will raise for the support of poor.

ART. 6. To see what plan the town will adopt to repair their highways, and what sum of money they will raise and assess for the same.

ART. 7. To see what sum of money the town will raise for support of bridges.

ART. 8. To see what sum of money the town will raise for support of schools.

ART. 9. To see what sum of money the town will raise for contingent expenses.

ART. 10. To see if the town will vote to raise two hundred and twenty-eight dollars and fifty-eight cents, to pay interest on Huston fund.

ART. 11. To see if the town will vote to allow such accounts as may be presented against the town, and raise money to pay such as may be allowed.

ART. 12. To see if the town will vote to allow C. W. Shaw to draw his proportion of school money for the year 1884, from school district No. 15, and allow him to pay the same to district No. 18, with the right to send his scholars to said district No. 18, during the year 1884.

ART. 13. To see if the town will vote to set off Samuel F. Dolly and his estate, from school district No. 2, and annex the same to school district No 1.

ART. 14. To see if the town will vote to set off Leander A. Dow and his estate, from school district No. 17, and annex the same to school district No. 1.

ART. 15. To see what sum of money the town will raise for the support of free high schools.

ART. 16. To see if the town will vote to enlarge the burying ground at White Rock, near M. T. Files', and fence it, and raise money for the same.

ART. 17. To see if the town will vote to buy a hearse for South Gorham cemetery, and build a hearse house, and raise money for the same.

ART. 18. To see what action the town will take in regard to their hearses being used in other towns.

ART. 19. To see if the town will vote to exempt all neat cattle three years old and under, from taxation, also any flock of sheep of the number of ten or under.

ART. 20. To see if the town will purchase a safe for town clerk's books and records.

ART. 21. To see if the town will vote to tax dogs for the ensuing year.

ART. 22. To see if the town will vote to accept the list of jurors as revised by the municipal officers.

ART. 23. To see if the town will vote to accept the report of the Selectmen upon the location of a road beginning at the southerly side of the road leading by Lysander Haywood's and Samuel Ridgway's, to Colman Harding's house, and raise and assess money to pay damages for the same.

ART. 24. To see if the town will vote to discontinue so much of the present road past Samuel Ridgway's to said Weeks road, as may become unnecessary if the town accepts the new road, as layed out by the selectmen.

ART. 25. To see if the town will vote to fence the burying ground near John M. Webb's at Little Falls, and raise money to pay the expense.

The selectmen give notice that they shall be in session for the purpose of revising and correcting the lists of voters, at the selectmen's office, at Gorham, at two o'clock in the afternoon, on Saturday, the first day of March, 1884.

Given under our hands this twenty-third day of February, 1884.

WILLIAM BUXTON, { *Selectmen*
 RUFUS A. FOGG, { *of*
 GEO. W. LOWELL, { *Gorham.*

Selectmen's Report.

MONEY RAISED AND ASSESSED, 1883.

For Support of Poor,	\$1,000 00
“ “ Roads,	1,000 00
“ “ Bridges,	800 00
“ “ Schools,	3,300 00
“ “ Contingent,	1,000 00
Interest on Huston Fund,	228 58
For two Hearse Houses.	200 00
“ Aldrich Case,	500 00
“ High Schools,	500 00
Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor,	
Samuel F. Bacon,	243 75
Rufus A. Fogg,	195 75
William Buxton,	181 05
Highway, C. H. Brackett,	12 60
Constable, F. D. Scamman,	25 00
Treasurer, Stephen Hinkley,	60 00
Clerk, W. H. Usher,	46 02
John H. Card, Auditor,	10 00
Team, Rufus A. Fogg,	48 00
Supt. Cemetery, G. D. Weeks,	15 00
School Committee, E. M. Wilson,	35 00
“ “ J. A. Hinkley,	25 00
“ “ N. M. Marshall,	25 00
To reduce Normal School Debt,	1,000 00
“ Interest on “ “ “	550 00
Collector's fee,	366 00

\$11,366 75

State Tax,	\$5,601 66
County Tax,	815 08
Overlay,	843 95
	<hr/>
Total,	\$18,627 44
Supplementary Tax,	145 48
	<hr/>
Total,	\$18,772 92
Value of Taxable Property,	1,229,525 00
Supplementary Valuation,	6,354 00
	<hr/>
Total	\$1,235,879,00
Number of Polls Taxed,	707
Supplementary Polls,	15
	<hr/>
Total,	722
Rate of Taxation, \$1.40 on \$100.00.	
Poll Tax, \$2.00.	

ORDERS DRAWN FOR SUPPORT OF POOR.

Thaddeus P. Whitney, supplies &c., poor farm, 1882,	\$228 66
Mrs. Wm. Bragdon, care of Laura McKenney,	3 50
Simon B. Guthrie, shoes for " "	90
Thaddeus P. Whitney, services as superintendent,	75 00
Sarah Guptill, Care of Laura McKenney,	18 00
R. G. Harding, supplies for town farm,	31 52
N. Weston & Co., " " " "	6 13
Wilber F. Berry, cobbling " " "	3 25
A. F. Johnson, Beef " " "	4 08
Daniel Douglass, tin ware " " "	1 40
Allen & Johnson, bal. act. " " "	2 50
Dana A. Brackett, clothing " "	4 05
	<hr/>
	\$378 99
James L. Haynes, supplies for town farm, 1883,	9 87
Dr. Wm. P. Watson, for medical aid, Cushman family,	14 50
Insane Hospital, for Sarah Parkhurst,	26 56
Dr. O'Neil R. Straw, for medical aid, Christain family,	11 00

J. H. Cobb, for cow bought for town farm,		\$ 45 00
James L. Haynes, supt. of town farm,		87 50
Mrs. Geo. Floyd, for care of Mrs. Smith,		3 00
F. H. Freeman, supplies to Mrs. Walker,		9 02
William Buxton, cash to Mrs. Walker,		5 00
A. L. Dennison, horse rake for town farm,		26 00
Albion N. Waterhouse, mowing on town farm,		40 00
Insane Hospital, for Sarah Parkhurst,		30 57
M. C. Kimball, house rent for Todd of Freeport,		17 00
H. R. Millett, Insurance of town farm buildings,		30 00
Chas. Nichols, robe and casket,		16 00
James L. Haynes, supt. of town farm,		87 50
Mrs. Ivory Harmon, feeding and lodging tramp,		2 00
John L. Best, beef for town farm,		16 00
Hooper, Foss & Son, furniture for town farm,		34 25
P. & R. R. R., freight on furniture,		93
Brown Bros. for table &c.,		11 50
H. G. Files, stove &c. town farm,		7 00
Insane Hospital, for Sarah Parkhurst,		31 15
N. M. Marshall, professional services at town farm,		23 50
William E. Files, moving Dyer family,		2 50
Benjamin C. Gay, cleansing feather beds and furnishing new pillow ticks,		19 75
James G. Meserve, supplies to Laura McKenney,		23 45
James L. Haynes, supt. of town farm,		87 50
Mary Scott,		3 00
Insane Hospital, for Sarah Parkhurst,		27 32
John C. Card, supplies to Wm. Todd of Freeport,		52 00
Chas. Nichols, casket and robe,		14 50
John C. Card, supplies to James Christain,		6 00
Rufus A. Fogg, supplies to Laura McKenney,		9 18
Mrs. William Bragdon, care of " "		3 50
Joseph Ridlon, supplies to " "		21 70
Town of Buxton, for Alexander Harding,		44 31
Alexander Harding, supplies,		17 79
		<hr/>
Amount for year, 1883.		\$917 35
Less due from Windham,	\$ 5. 00	
" received from Freeport,	69. 00	74 00
		<hr/>
Cost for poor for year 1883.		843 35
Amt. of orders drawn for bills contracted previous to 1883.		378 99
Amount credited,		74 00
		<hr/>
Total		\$1,296 34

The Overseers of the Poor are most happy to say in this report, that there is a new house on the town farm in every way convenient and comfortable.

It is their opinion that the inmates are well cared for, and that the town will receive very much in return, in the way of labor from that unfortunate class of people, by having them made comfortable and happy.

We would recommend that the Superintendent of the farm be employed for a term of years, past experience, having proved, that but a few men are willing to commence any great improvement for so short a time as one year.

Average number of inmates at the poor farm during the year, eight.

Number of deaths the past year, three.

Amount of orders drawn on Huston Fund toward support of indigent persons for the year. \$170 24.

WILLIAM BUXTON,	}	<i>Trustees</i>
RUFUS A. FOGG,		
GEO. W. LOWELL,		
		<i>of</i>
		<i>Huston Fund.</i>

ORDERS DRAWN IN ACCORDANCE WITH A VOTE PASSED
AT A TOWN MEETING HELD JUNE 11, 1883, FOR
NEW BUILDINGS ON TOWN FARM.

Granville A. Leavitt, labor,	\$ 34 00
William Buxton, material,	137 85
Myron H. Goodwin, labor,	9 90
Edgar Dunnell, “	18 25
David F. Rolfe, “	40 00
Gertrude Libby, “	5 00
Geo. W. Lowell, lumber,	315 84
Asa Libby, labor,	45 00
Edward Files, “	52 00
T. Shackford, “	114 12
Wm. E. Files, “	53 38
David F. Rolfe, “	48 00
C. A. B. Morse, lime and cement,	11 60

J. Williams, labor,		\$ 59 25
H. B. Cloudman, " and lime,		61 65
Abram Tyler, "		25 00
Davis R. Small, "		94 50
Mrs. A. Lombard, "		1 50
Wm. E. Littlefield, "		21 15
Geo. W. Lowell, material,		270 84
R. G. Harding, "		28 37
Sewell Cloudman, labor,		147 38
Albert Lombard, iron work,		85
David F. Rolfe, labor,		22 00
Geo. C. Johnson, "		65 62
William Buxton, lime,		28 75
A. K. P. Libby, labor,		14 75
S. Hinkley, & Co., hair,		9 15
Byron Hamblen, labor,		21 00
Bradley Cram, "		68 00
C. A. B. Morse, lime and cement,		5 35
Levi Estes, carting,		53 10
George Chadbourne, labor,		53 75
A. N. Waterhouse, "		18 88
A. C. Hanson, "		18 00
H. G. Files, pump and chimney thimbles,		15 35
Goff and Plummer, lumber,		420 00
Joseph Ridlon, materials,		62 22
T. Shackford, labor,		27 50
John Billings, "		1 75
Edward Files, "		38 32
S. S. Waterhouse, board of men,		64 00
Asa Libby, labor,		67 00
Wm. E. Files, "		17 50
Edwin Crockett, "		7 50
B. Cram, "		20 50
Geo. W. Lowell, lumber,		4 77
Geo. W. Lowell, superintending building,		154 00
John C. Card, material,		12 57
R. G. Harding, "		3 86
John F. Libby, labor,		24 75
Total,		<hr/> \$2,915 37
Less cash received for stock sold,	\$ 9 27	
" stock furnished hearse houses,	15 05	
" " " bridges,	3 00	27 32
Total cost,		<hr/> \$2,888 05

ORDERS DRAWN IN ACCORDANCE WITH VOTE PASSED
AT MARCH MEETING, 1883, FOR HEARSE HOUSES
AT LITTLE FALLS, AND WHITE ROCK.

Geo. W. Lowell, material,	\$ 55 70
Edward Files, labor,	10 00
William Files, "	8 75
D. R. Small, "	13 50
R. G. Harding, hardware,	45
William Buxton, "	5 00
A. N. Waterhouse, labor,	17 50
Goff and Plummer, lumber,	62 34
Daniel Wescott, labor,	12 75
Asa Libby, "	10 00
E. O. Walker, "	4 37
Ivory Lord, "	7 50
John C. Card, hardware,	1 82
Joseph Ridlon, "	5 21
Geo. W. Lowell, self and horse,	5 25
	<hr/>
Total,	\$220 14
Less money received for old hearse houses,	21 00
	<hr/>
	\$199 14

ORDERS DRAWN IN ACCORDANCE WITH A VOTE PASSED
AT ANNUAL MARCH MEETNIG, 1883.

Stephen Hinkley, treasurer,	\$ 60 00
G. D. Weeks, supt. cemeteries,	15 00
Wm. H. Usher, town clerk,	46 02
John H. Card, auditor,	10 00
William Buxton, selectman,	181 05
Rufus A. Fogg, "	195 75
Rufus A. Fogg, use of horse,	48 00
F. D. Scamman, constable,	25 00
F. D. Scamman, collector's fee in part for 1882,	100 00
John A. Hinkley, supt. school committee,	25 00
E. M. Wilson, " " "	35 00
N. M. Marshall, " " "	25 00
Samuel F. Bacon, selectman,	243 75
Lewis Libby, collector's fee in full for 1881,	229 16
Horace and John E. Merserve, widening road, 1881,	33 00
Interest on Huston fund,	228 58
Chas. A. Brackett, roads,	12 60
Frederick D. Scamman, collector's fee in part for 1882,	250 00
Thomas A. Foster, expert in Aldrich case,	100 00
	<hr/>
Total,	\$1,862 91

ORDERS DRAWN FOR CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

John Billings, guide boards,	1882, \$	3 87
John H. Card, recording deeds,		3 50
R. G. Harding, stationery,		27
G. D. Weeks, engineer and witness in Aldrich case,		35 00
Edwin Cressey, witness, Aldrich case,		10 44
Wesley Murch, " " "		12 99
Albert Cressey, " " "		11 19
A. W. Lincoln, medical services,		5 00
Chas. Hanson,		4 38
C. W. Shaw, repairing fence on Newcomb lot,		2 00
C. W. Shaw, watering trough,		3 00
John F. Libby, painting cemetery fence,		10 00
Perry & Bacon, printing town reports,		45 00
Andrew Flood, witness in Aldrich case,		6 18
David Patrick, " " " "		11 94
Julia Perkins, crossing land,		4 00
Geo. B. Emery, for pauper case, 1879,		59 64
		<hr/>
Bills contracted previous to 1883,	\$228	40
H. R. Millett, post office expense,	1883,	80
Arthur McLellan, burying glandered horse,		5 00
Chas. E. Odion, for glandered horse,		103 00
L. H. Bean, A. A. Dyer, and Arthur McLellan, for appraising glandered horse,		3 00
Enoch Mabry, watering trough,		3 00
A. J. Stackpole, " " "		3 00
Chas. L. Harmon, posts for guide boards,		4 20
J. H. Card, services, glandered horse case,		1 00
Franklin Stanwood, painting guide boards,		5 60
Lewis Libby, tax deed from B. D. McKenney,		7 26
Charles Brown, town books,		34 00
Geo. Chadbourne, repairing windows, town house,		3 00
Hoyt, Fogg & Donham, Maine Register,		1 25
Bradley Cram, labor on guide posts,		1 50
John Billings, " " " " and town house,		38 87
Geo. W. Lowell, shingles for town house,		110 95
Chas. Hanson, horse hire,		4 50
Lewis Libby, tax deeds,		2 50

Lewis Libby, tax sale and deeds,	10 48
Chas. Nichols, casket stools,	4 50
Richard H. Jose, damage in bridge case,	13 00
Marshall Irish, labor in selectmen's office,	4 75
Hoyt, Fogg & Donham, collector's book,	2 25
Dresser, McLellan & Co., bill paper,	1 25
R. G. Harding, paper, express bill and books,	5 70
T. Shackford, committee to examine town farm buildings,	3 75
W. S. Elder, " " "	5 00
Perry & Bacon, printing,	7 25
Samuel S. Waterhouse, crossing land,	2 00
Lewis McLellan, Farr boy,	4 20
H. R. Millett, paper and postage,	2 86
Franklin Stanwood, painting guide boards,	4 80
Portland Publishing, Co., advertising,	11 00
Reform School, board of Webster Farr,	9 00
Lysander Hayward, crossing land,	3 00
Perry & Bacon, printing,	3 00
Lewis McLellan, police services,	6 00
G. D. Weeks, engineer and auctioneer,	5 00
John C. Card, wood and sawing for office,	8 75
Joseph Ridlon, nails, glass &c.,	8 25
William H. Usher, paper,	1 38
J. M. Hopkinson, damage to sleigh,	2 50
Geo. W. Lowell, services as committee, and plans on town farm buildings,	20 50
Geo. W. Lowell, lumber for guide boards &c.,	11 17
Rufus A. Fogg, money paid out,	1 01
<hr/>	
Bills contracted during 1883,	\$494 78
Less due from state on glandered horse case,	89 60
<hr/>	
	\$405 18
Amount for year, 1882,	228 40
Amount due from state, horse case,	89 60
<hr/>	
Total,	\$723 18

ORDERS DRAWN FOR SUPPORT OF BRIDGES.

William F. Skillings, stone,	1882, \$	2 00
Daniel Libby, labor,		1 50
William H. Lombard, labor,		10 28
J. S. Leavitt, nails &c.,		2 33
Albert Riggs, plank and stringers,		10 36
C. E. Ward, labor,		11 60
John M. White, plank,		4 92
William F. Dudley, stone,		2 25
Knight Bros., plank,		3 59
William E. Files, labor,		1 40
Samuel Cressey, lumber,		10 50
Stephen Wescott, labor Dist. No. 50.		2 10
		<hr/>
Bills contracted previous to 1883,		\$62 83
		<hr/>
John T. Parkhurst, plank,	1883,	42 13
Lewis McLellan, labor and cash,		1 70
Knight Brothers, plank,		46 69
Henry D. Libby, timber and labor.		33 18
A. L. Hamblen, plank and labor.		44 80
M. C. Kimball, labor,		75
Asa Libby, " Dist. No. 28,		2 85
James Darby, " " "		2 25
Alston V. Whitney, " " "		2 25
Marshall Whitney, " " "		3 45
Daniel Johnson, stringers,		1 00
Asa Libby, labor on stone work Stephenson bridge,		6 00
F. C. Phinney, plank,		93 42
Goff & Plummer, plank, stringers and labor,	165	37
F. D. Scamman, lumber.		5 00
G. D. Weeks, stone work Stephenson bridge,		17 50
Knight Brothers, timber and labor.		5 02
F. D. Scamman, railing,		50
Joseph Ridlon, spikes and cement,		2 72
Geo. W. Lowell, planks, railing and cedar posts,		12 65
Geo. Skillings, labor,		3 60
Walter Skillings, " "		2 70
C. H. Watson, " "		2 40
C. E. Watson, " "		2 40
George Watson, " "		2 80
John F. Kimball estate of. labor,		3 50
		<hr/>
Amount expended for year 1883,		\$506 63
" " " " 1882,		62 83
		<hr/>
Total,		\$569 46

Fiscal Report of the School Districts in Gorham, for the year ending Feb. 23, 1884.

COMMON SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

Est'd amt. due for tch'g winter schools	Overdrawn Feb. 23, '84.	Bal. unexp'd Feb. 23 1884	Total amount exp'd since Apr. 1, 1883.	Amt. trans'fd to oth. Dist.	Expended for bills contract- ed since Apr. 1, 1883.	Expended for bills contract- ed prior to Apr. 1, '83.	Resources for fiscal yr. from Apr. 1 1883.	Amt. trans'fd fr. oth. Dist.	Amount appropriated.	Amount apportioned.	Bal. unexp'd Apr. 1, 1883.	Overdrawn Apr. 1, 1883.	Amt. expended to Apr. 1, '83.	Balance unexpended Feb. 24, 1883.	Overdrawn Feb. 24, 1883.	District No.
	299 11		1880 37		1356 47	523 90	1581 26		1206 13	1206 13	375 13		103 89	\$479 02		1
		32 08	147 17		142 92	4 25	179 25		105 65	105 65	43 75			43 75		2
		8 35	216 65		216 65		225 00		162 87	162 87						3
		25 68	218 69		218 69		244 37		180 48	180 48	9 37		20 25	29 62		4
192 00		221 38	146 71		123 21	23 50	368 09	8 80	255 31	255 31	93 98		230 83	324 81		5
		77 90	95 10		92 10	3 00	173 00		61 63	61 63	87 75			87 75		6
			160 00		160 00		160 00		70 43	70 43	45 32			45 33		7
		13 44	461 30	8 80	203 25	249 25	474 74	22 01	189 28	189 28	229 74			229 74		8
		54 71	166 94		146 44	20 50	221 65		154 07	154 07		43		6 22	\$ 43	9
		17 25	189 75		189 75		207 00		127 66	127 66	6 22			6 22		10
		70 00	130 90		128 40	2 50	172 53		92 45	92 45	32 53		11 00	43 53		11
	7 52	41 63	168 25		168 25		160 73		105 62	105 62		4 27				12
		14 65	200 35		200 35		215 00		180 48	180 48	42			42		13
		5 01	155 25		155 25		160 26		79 23	79 23	24 58		30 00	54 58		14
		105 00	70 10	8 20	61 90		218 83		118 85	118 85	43 83		16 62	60 45		15
		208 00	425 15		194 00	231 15	952 43		449 00	449 00	503 43			503 43		16
		150 00	69 31		69 31		216 55		220 10	220 10		18 45		101 55		17
		150 00	155 25		140 00	15 25	319 33	8 20	255 31	255 31	11 13			11 13		18
			22 01				22 01		22 01	22 01		1 18				19
			22 01													19
			39 01		3966 94	1073 30	6272 03	39 01	713 60	713 60	1507 19	24 33	532 59	2021 33	5 88	5 88

FREE HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

1	18 00		18 00		500 00	16 00	534 00		300 00		300 00	234 00				
5	17 00		17 00				17 00					17 00				
9	53 90		53 90		250 00	3 30	307 20		239 25		239 25	67 95				
	888 90		88 90		750 00	19 30	858 20		539 25		539 25	318 95				

W. Rock.	9	Wm. W. Davis.	35	Ungraded.	Miss Sarah C. Kemp.	21		18		40		\$ 6 50
				"	Mr. Horatio S. Card.		15		11		50	35 00
				Free High.	Mr. Willis Kemp.	51		45		55		55 00
					Miss S. C. Kemp.							8 00
Winship.	10	John Morton.	29	Ungraded.	Miss Alice Mayberry.	16		14		45		7 00
				"	Miss N. L. Cloudman.		21		15		80	6 50
†Whitney.	11	Wm. E. Files Jr.,	21	"	Miss L. M. Wescott.	12		9		40		5 50
				"	Mr. Everett E. Files.		17 14		14 12		40 40	35 00
So. Gor.	12	Lewis J. Libby.	24	"	Miss Clara B. Allen.	13		10		40		5 62½
				"	Mr. W. F. Pillsbury		18		13		77	30 00
Wescott.	13	Frank L. Whitney	41	"	Mr. Geo. A. Libby.	23		16		40		24 00
				"	Mr. Everett E. Files.		31		21		60	40 00
Allen.	14	Albert Riggs.	18	"	Miss Emma A. Files.	8		5		40		5 50
				"	" "		6		4		70	6 00
Nason.	15	E. F. Manchester.	27	"	Miss Annie E. Files.	20		17		40		6 00
				"	Mr. V. W. Carl.		20		19		60	35 00
†L. Falls.	16	Richard Willis.	102	"	Miss R. E. Webb.	56 59		44 51		50 50		8 00
				"	Mr. A. B. Jordan.		51		44		80	52 00
†Mosher.	17	W. M. Twambly.	50	"	Miss Emma L. Mabery	15		11		40		6 00
				"	Mr. H. P. Walker.		19		17		75	40 00
Gt. Falls.	18	D. P. Parker.	58	"	Miss S. E. Brackett.	32		28		40		7 00
				"	Mr. F. H. McDonald.		35		32		40	36 00
				"	" "		41		39		60	50 00
Hurricane.	19	Jas. E. Warren.	5									

*Fall term of High and Grammar Department in this district was a Free High School.

†Length and average attendance of winter schools in these districts, estimated. Terms not yet closed.

‡Wages of male teachers reckoned by the month; that of female teachers by the week.

The scholars of the High School in Dist. No. 1, have themselves, by a series of entertainments, raised \$51 15, which amount has been expended for physiological charts, a model, a set of minerals, also the American Universal Cyclopedia.

This district (No. 1.) last fall put steam heating apparatus into its school rooms at an expense of \$544 00.

The much abused school-house in District No. 13, has now ceased to trouble your Committee.

It was burned to the ground on the night of Jan. 25, the winter term having closed that very day. A singular coincidence!

Should that district now heartily and speedily unite in rebuilding, the town will be the gainer, and the district eventually no loser.

JOHN A. HINKLEY,	}	<i>Superintending</i>
N. M. MARSHALL,		<i>School</i>
GEO. P. PLAISTED,		<i>Committee.</i>

Tabular Statistics of the Schools in Gorham, for the year ending March 1, 1884.

NAME OF DISTRICT.	Number.	Agent.	No. of scholars per census.	Schools.	Teachers.	Whole Attendance				Aver. Attendance				No. days in school.				‡Teach's wages including board.		
						Spring.	Summer.	Fall.	Winter.	Spring.	Summer.	Fall.	Winter.	Spring.	Summer.	Fall.	Winter.			
*Village.	1	Cyrus Abbott.	274	High and Grammar.	Mr. W. W. Curtis. Miss A. L. Goodwin.	59	46	57	54	49	39	47	48	50	45	50	50	\$80 00 10 00		
Model Dept. at Normal School.				Primary.	Mrs. C. R. Cressey. Miss M. G. Weeks.	54	67	59		43	59	51		41	50	45	50	10 00 10 00		
				Intermediate.	Miss Rosie Chute.	40	35	31	31	36	31	29	29	50	42	50	45			
				Primary.	Miss Mary B. Stevens Miss Bessie Reed.	12	19			9	15			20	22		50	40		50
Flag Mead.	2	Wesley Murch.	24	Ungraded.	Miss Carrie L. Gilky.	14	15			13	13			55	60			6 00		
Fort Hill.	3	M. C. Kimball.	37	"	Miss L. F. Kimball. Mr. G. F. F. Roberts.	23				20			20	40		80		6 00 35 00		
Fogg.	4	M. C. Burnell.	41	"	Miss E. F. Maxfield. " Mary E. Alden.	25	29			21	24			40	55		40	6 00 7 50		
West Gor.	5	G. M. Thompson.	58	"	Miss Mary B. Cobb. Mr. F. I. Whitney.	29	30			22	26			40	25		80	6 00 48 00		
Smith.	6	F. Bartlett.	14	"	Miss Annie L. Staniels.	8	9			8	8			45	45			5 00		
Horton.	7	Isaac L. Johnson.	16	"	Miss Ella F. Johnson. Mr. Chas H. Johnson.	5				4				40		70		5 00 30 00		
Blake.	8	John L. Higgins.	43	"	Miss Georgia Cobb. Mr. Geo. P. Plaisted.	30				21				60		60		5 50 40 00		

ORDERS DRAWN FOR SUPPORT OF ROADS.

Sewell Cloudman,	\$ 7 45	Wm. H. Osborne,	\$ 1 05
G. M. Bradbury,	1 95	Rufus A. Fogg,	9 87
Samuel Cressey,	70	M. C. Burnell,	1 14
Harvey W. Murch,	5 20	Lewis & Alvin Lombard,	3 97
Osmon K. Cobb,	5 00	William Cressey,	14 77
E. W. Gupstill,	1 50	William Littlefield,	5 72
Chas. Graffam,	4 50	John Shorey,	1 53
J. M. Hopkinson,	2 50	Emeline Cressey,	4 12
A. K. Plummer,	3 20	Sarah Cressey,	5 27
Frank C. Harding,	6 90	Charles Alden,	3 26
Allison Libby,	8 39	James W. Libby,	5 10
Wesley Murch,	12 00	Robert B. Meserve,	1 73
Chas. A. Brackett,	11 93	Henry Stanwood,	26
Mark Mosher,	11 52	Leonard C. Grouard,	11 19
Joseph E. Libby,	4 38	Samuel Cressey,	5 74
Major Plaisted,	6 17	S. R. Clement,	2 00
Geo. P. Plaisted,	1 25	R. J. Elder,	6 17
Chas. M. Moody,	3 55	Freeman Richardson,	3 18
James G. Meserve,	7 68	Wilber F. Berry,	3 79
Richard Willis,	8 15	Isaac Gilkey,	1 55
Wm. L. Larrabee,	5 20	Levi Estes,	1 83
Tyng Libby,	3 00	Levi Estes,	10 50
A. K. Plummer,	3 30	Robert Cobb,	4 25
Chas. H. Brackett,	1 00	Geo. H. Douglass,	62
Knight Brothers,	2 50	Mark Newcomb,	1 00
James Deering,	6 33	Charles Newcomb,	1 05
Samuel Graffam,	82	Geo. Blake,	2 10
Lewis J. Libby,	67	Edmund Flood,	6 79
G. M. & C. H. Bradbury,	10 23	Freedom Douglass,	4 20
William Bartlett,	5 47	Freedom Douglass Jr.,	13 60
Chas. T. Roberts,	8 40	Horatio Blake,	30
A. M. Allen,	5 54	John S. Files,	8 65
Arthur M. Hamblen,	5 56	I. Nason estate of,	57
Daniel Palmer,	12 52	Chas. A. Nason,	1 56
D. F. Files,	4 22	Uriah & Rebecca Nason,	3 29
C. T. Roberts,	25 10	Roswell Ward,	1 47
A. J. Stackpole,	6 15	Henry Plaisted,	1 17
Henry W. Wescott,	1 95	A. Lombard,	1 89
Joseph R. Hanson,	45	Geo. M. Thompson,	1 79
Daniel Files,	2 37	E. T. Smith,	2 00
Alvah & Horace Libby,	3 50	James Perkins,	75
Benj. S. Benson,	5 77	A. McLellan,	3 00
Alvah McDonald,	1 50	L. A. Dow,	4 16
A. S. Shurtleff,	1 05	Chas. E. Jordan,	21 82
Chas. H. Osborne,	6 46	James L. Jordan,	45
Jere. J. Osborne,	1 53	Simon J. Lewis,	1 97

F. Augustus Files,	\$ 13 13	C. H. Watson,	\$ 12 30
Edward Files estate of,	4 03	Isaac L. Johnson,	14 87
Wm. E. Files,	1 73	Ansel Stone,	9 15
James Day,	22	Daniel Taggart,	2 52
Mark Newcomb,	75	Willis B. Kemp,	20
James Frost,	1 05	E. O. Walker,	6 78
Albert Riggs,	16 89	A. N. Purinton,	6 12
James Thomas,	3 00	Caleb H. Murch,	3 15
R. B. Meserve,	34 00	Amos S. Davis estate of,	2 40
Marshall Irish,	1 54	John H. Irish,	7 54
Chas. J. Libby,	1 51	Wm. E. Files Jr.,	23 51
Clarence E. Ward,	4 63	Wm. S. Whitney,	1 65
John M. Webb,	2 40	J. S. Whitney,	3 67
W. S. Libby,	11 25	Thaddeus P. Whitney,	1 95
S. S. Waterhouse,	3 00	Edward Files,	5 85
Wm. H. Lombard,	9 33	Lewis M. Shaw,	30
Sewell Cloudman,	7 14	William Metcalf,	2 10
Frederick Purinton,	4 57	Foxwell C. Deering,	2 03
Daniel Wescott,	6 95	H. L. Bachelder,	4 94
Benj. F. Irish,	44	Levi S. Phinney,	5 68
E. M. Wilson,	3 32	J. G. Clements,	3 07
H. B. Johnson,	9 53	Freeman H. Farris,	2 10
Daniel C. Libby,	46	N. E. Warren,	1 23
Phineas I. Libby,	2 00	Lewis Douglass,	6 75
Jere. N. Libby,	2 23	A. L. Hamblen,	2 00
John F. Libby,	1 92	Geo. Stokes,	5 40
William Wescott,	9 68	M. C. Kimball,	7 53
Benj. Irish,	71	Stephen Wescott,	6 00
John Frink,	30	A. W. Rowe,	8 10
William F. Dudley,	3 67	Edwin Hall,	1 95
Samuel C. Hoyt,	86	A. K. P. Wood estate of,	1 80
John N. Newcomb,	4 22	Reuben Wescott 2d,	3 99
William Libby,	4 66	Orrin Wescott,	7 30
Alston V. Whitney,	2 25	John & W. F. Libby,	5 50
Wm. F. Skillings,	3 48	Edward Falkner,	4 80
Marshall Whitney,	7 33	Rufus A. Fogg,	41 55
Asa Libby,	5 55	Daniel W. Davis,	3 83
S. B. Sawyer,	58	F. W. Fairbanks,	2 25
Matthew Johnson,	10 34	Geo. Patrick,	8 50
William H. Johnson,	2 80	Geo. W. Crockett,	11 85
Albion F. Johnson,	3 84	Fred H. Johnson,	21 14
Geo. Skillings,	7 05	Albert Lombard,	1 00
Joseph Skillings,	5 10	C. E. Wescott,	7 56
Abial Rounds,	1 65	Joseph F. Fogg,	3 30
David Sturgis,	1 50	Lysander Hayward,	1 16
J. F. Kimball estate of,	7 05	Robie Whitney,	5 91

Daniel Johnson,	6 37	R. Barbour,	2 27
Stephen Wescott,	10 30	John Hopkinson,	32
Geo. T. Blake,	2 77	A. K. Plummer,	4 80
Edward Libby,	7 12	Clark Dyer,	1 50
W. G. Purinton,	8 00	Robert Meserve,	11 21
G. Plummer,	4 03	Knight Brothers,	24 25
Frank H. Brown,	2 92	A. L. Hamblen,	5 45
W. W. Davis,	3 07	M. F. Parker,	4 00
Antonio Lopez estate of,	1 08	James Gray,	4 67
David Patrick,	8 50	D. F. Libby,	1 42
A. N. Waterhouse,	3 57	G. E. Files,	82
A. N. Waterhouse,	1 50	Edgar Bodge,	22
D. F. Libby,	1 00	Otis Purinton,	75
L. A. Dow,	16 20	Harvey W. Murch,	1 35
E. F. Manchester,	4 65	M. T. Files,	75
H. W. Manchester,	4 50	Freeman Hicks,	2 30
Geo. W. Heath,	75	B. St. P. Gerard,	17 45
David Warren,	6 45	Lucretia Mayberry,	10 60
Reuben M. Bangs,	2 40	Freeman Richardson,	2 00
Emily Frink,	1 85	R. J. Elder,	5 95
John P. Frink,	75	Samuel Cressey,	3 25
Howard Small,	3 33	Moses Fogg,	5 15
A. W. Rowe,	10 60	T. B. Falkner,	3 66
R. G. Harding,	6 99	Liberty Moulton,	2 00
J. S. Leavitt Jr.,	1 80	George Skillings,	4 40
W. & Chas. Murch,	30 72	Walter Skillings,	1 80
John Devine,	29	Frank Skillings,	1 50
James Warren,	9 55	C. H. Watson,	90
Albert Cressey,	6 09	C. E. Watson,	1 65
E. H. & H. F. Cloudman,	38 30	Geo. Watson,	1 57
S. B. & E. T. Cloudman,	35 65	A. Rounds,	50
H. M. Jordan estate of,	19	David Sturgis estate of,	2 70
J. W. Jordan,	30 48	John F. Kimball, " "	1 05
E. & C. Hawkes,	10 79		
Total,			\$1,373 39
Amount for 1881,		\$ 13 21	
" " 1882,		793 87	
" " 1883,		566 31	
			\$1,373 39

RECORD OF TAXES ABATED IN THE TOWN OF
GORHAM BY THE ASSESSORS FOR 1883.

William G. Purinton,	1882,	error in assessment,	\$ 1 83
Almond Parker,	1881,	paid tax in Raymond,	2 00
Dana A. Brackett,	"	property not in town, Apr. 1.	7 20
Clarence Cook,	"	no such man in town,	2 00
T. A. Johnson,	"	not collectible.	2 00
Ephriam H. Raud,	"	left the state,	2 00
A. H. Chadbourne,	"	not a resident,	2 00
Patrick Cochran,	"	not collectible.	2 00
Edwin Skillings,	"	left the state,	2 00
Rufus I. Sherman,	"	not collectible,	2 00
James C. Jewett,	1883,	not in town,	2 00
C. Eugene Wescott,	"	error in assessment,	1 68
Allison Libby,	"	infirm,	2 00
Cyrus Cressey,	"	error in assessment,	5 60
Ivory P. Lowe,	1882,	error in valuation,	1 00
Walter E. Libby,	1880 and 1881,	poor,	5 00
Frank W. Mayberry,	1882,	left town Aug. '81,	2 00
John B. Carruthers,	"	" " " Mar. '82,	2 00
Lewis J. Frink,	"	" " " " "	2 00
E. M. Day,	"	not in town,	2 00
Henry Cloudman,	"	" " "	2 00
Joseph G. Bodge,	"	left town, Mar. '82.	2 00
Jonathan S. Files,	"	age,	2 00
Chas. Cash,	"	not in town,	2 00
Geo. Watson,	"	age,	2 00
Alfred Libby,	"	"	2 00
Frank W. Smith,	"	left town Dec. '81,	2 00
Walter E. Libby,	"	" " "	2 00
Reuben B. Kenney,	"	not in town Apr. 1, '82,	2 00
Orrington Berry,	"	" " "	2 00
Willard Deguoio,	"	not in town, Apr. 1, '82.	2 00
Lorenzo Davis,	"	not in town,	2 00
John A. Meserve,	"	left town,	2 00
Chas. A. Moses,	"	not in town Apr. 1, '82,	2 00
Jason Morse,	"	not able to pay,	2 00
Benjamin Fogg,	"	taxed twice,	8 87
Nelson Shaw,	"	" " "	2 00
Alonzo J. Moses,	"	error in valuation,	1 07
Chas. T. Irish,	"	left town in, '81,	2 00
Eugene Wight,	"	error in valuation,	1 42
Nicholas L. Burnham,	"	left town,	2 00
Lafayette Clemons,	"	" " "	2 00
William L. Chase,	"	belongs in Portland,	2 00
Fred Cash,	"	not in town,	3 00
John Cannell,	"	invalid,	2 00
Amos F. Field,	"	not able to pay,	2 00

Almond W. Hanscomb,	“	invalid,	2 00
John Lowell,	“	“	2 00
Freedom Meserve,	“	horse taxed in Scarborough,	1 28
B. Manchester,	“	not able to pay,	6 74

\$ 120 69

**RECORD OF TAXES ABATED IN THE TOWN OF GORHAM
BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN FOR 1882, AFTER
REPORT WAS MADE FOR THAT YEAR.**

Chas. H. Blake, for 1880, error in assessment, on personal property,			\$ 44
Andrew Bodge, for 1880, “ “ assessment,			2 00
George Brown, “ “ gone from town,			2 00
Arthur M. Drown, “ dead,			2 00
Frank Cook Jr., “ worthless,			2 00
Patrick Cochran, “ not collectible,			2 00
James L. Drown, “ cannot collect,			50
Edward M. Day, “ not a resident,			2 00
Josiah Harding, “ gone from town,			2 00
Thomas A. Johnson, 1879 & 1880, poor,			3 50
William H. McNulty, 1880, gone,			2 00
Michal Milan, “ “ from town,			2 00
Chas. A. Oakes, “ not collectible,			2 00
Geo. Patrick Jr., “ “ in town,			2 00
Chas. A. Stickney, “ dead,			2 00
Jacob B. Saunders, “ moved from town,			2 00
Henry Patrick, “ out of state,			2 00
Byron G. Coburn, “ sick,			2 00
Chas. M. Cloudman, 1881, error,			2 00
Clarence E. Dunn, “ sickness and death,			2 00
Alonzo Davis, “ no such man,			2 00
John Day, “ poor, feet gone,			2 00
Edward M. Day, “ gone south,			2 00
Josiah Harding, “ not in town,			2 00
Benj. Manchester, “ not able to pay,			6 84
Albert Merrill, “ “ in town when tax committed,			2 00
Geo. H. Marsh, “ sick,			2 00
Chas. E. Oakes, “ not in town,			2 00
Rufus I. Sherman, “ moved from town,			2 36
Mary E. Smith, “ railroad stock not taxable,			1 44
Chas. A. Stickney, “ dead and horse dead,			4 02
David Jameson, “ unable to pay,			2 00
John Jose, “ error,			2 00

Fred H. Johnson,	1881, error in valuation,	1 44
Walter E. Libby,	“ taxed twice,	2 00
Harlan P. Libby,	“ non-resident,	2 00
Wm. H. McNulty,	“ impossible to collect, gone,	2 00
Hermon S. Whitney,	“ paid tax in Windham,	3 44
Melville H. Ridlon,	“ failed to collect,	2 00
John Lindsey,	“ error in valuation,	144 00
Nathan Lane,	“ paid tax elsewhere,	2 00
Samuel H. Fuller,	1880, not collectible.	1 42
W. & C. R. Milliken,	“ paid elsewhere,	2 61
E. J. Kenney,	1881, not able to work,	2 29
Osgood Nason,	“ poor,	2 00
Ansell Pray,	“ tramp,	2 58
Chas. A. Abbott,	“ gone,	3 08
Joseph W. Brackett,	“ old and poor,	1 76
James H. Blake,	1880, error in assessment,	2 00
A. W. Hanscomb,	1881, sick,	2 00
Geo. H. Jewett,	1879, error,	1 00

\$ 250 72

By Cash paid, viz:	Cr.
Orders for support of Common Schools.	5,572 83
" " Free High "	539 25
" " Roads.	1,373 39
" " Bridges,	569 46
" " " Poor.	1,296 34
" Money voted.	2,083 05
" Contingent expenses.	723 18
" New Town Farm Buildings.	2,915 37
" Abatements.	371 41
Interest on Town Bond,	30 00
" Normal School Loan.	610 00
Normal School Loan. Note No. 3.	1,000 00
State Pensions.	36 00
	<hr/>
	\$17,120 28
Cash on deposite and in my hands.	1,507 69
	<hr/>
	\$18,627 97

STEPHEN HINKLEY, *Treasurer.*

GORHAM, FEB. 25. 1884,

Examined and found correct.

WILLIAM BUXTON.	} <i>Selectmen</i>	
RUFUS A. FOGG,		<i>of</i>
GEORGE W. LOWELL,		<i>Gorham.</i>

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF
GORHAM FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY, 24, 1884.
INDEBTEDNESS.

Balance due school districts,	\$ 997 30
" " Free High Schools previous to 1883,	88 90
" " " " " " for 1883,	210 75
Outstanding bond, (war loan),	500 00
Interest on same to April 1, 1884.	15 00
Normal School loan,	12,000 00
Interest on same to March 1, 1884,	120 00
Due Municipal Officers—estimated,	1,000 00
Other outstanding bills—estimated,	750 00
Snow bills and other highway bills—estimated,	350 00
State tax, 1883,	5,601 66
County tax, 1883,	815 08
Huston Fund note,	3,889 75
Notes for New Town Farm Buildings,	2,000 00
Interest on same to March 1, 1884,	37 50

\$28,375 94

RESOURCES.

Due from F. D. Seaman, on Town Tax, 1882,	533 39
" " " State Tax, 1883,	5,601 66
" " " County "	815 08
" " " Town "	8,825 24
Due from Windham, on account of Poor,	5 00
Due for non-resident taxes,	5 36
Due on account of tax deeds,	50 77
Due from State, School Fund and Mill tax,	1,450 16
" " " for diseased horse, killed by order of selectmen,	89 60
" on Lewis J. Libby's note,	26 44
Huston farm, with new buildings,	6,000 00
Cash in Treasurer's hands,	1,507 69
	\$24,910 39
Balance of Indebtedness,	3,465 55

\$28,375 94

Balance of Indebtedness, Feb. 24, 1883,	\$4,485 01
Balance of Indebtedness, Feb. 24, 1884,	3,465 55

Decrease of Indebtedness the past year. \$1,019 46

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. WATERMAN, *Finance Committee.*

GORHAM, Feb. 25, 1884.

Having examined the books and accounts of the town for the year ending February 24, 1883, I find the payments properly vouched, the books and accounts correctly kept and accurately balanced, and for further details would refer to the fore-going reports of your Selectmen, Treasurer and Finance Committee.

JOHN H. CARD, *Auditor.*

GORHAM, Feb. 26, 1884

REPORT

OF THE

Superintending School Committee.

To the Citizens of Gorham :

In compliance with law, the following annual report of the Public Schools of Gorham, is respectfully submitted :

GENERAL STATISTICS.

I.

CENSUS.

School Census of Gorham, Apr. 1. 1883 :

Number between the ages of 4 and 6,	101
" " " " 6 and 16,	529
" " " " 16 and 21,	287

————— 917

Population of Gorham—Census of 1880, 3,233

II.

DISTRICTS AND SCHOOLS.

Number of School Districts,	19
" " " supporting Graded Schools,	1
" " " " Ungraded " "	17

District having greatest number days school.

District No. 1, 195 days.

" least " " school,

District No. 6, 90 "

Average number days school for each District, 126 3-4.

Number of terms taught during the year :

Common Schools,	46
Free High " "	2

————— 48

Number terms taught by male teachers,	20
“ “ “ “ female “ , excluding as- sistants in Districts Nos. 1 & 9,	28
Average length of Spring Schools in days,	50
“ “ “ Summer “ “ “	43
“ “ “ Fall “ “ “	47
“ “ “ Winter “ “ “	63

III.

SCHOOL HOUSES.

Number School Houses containing more than one room,	2
“ “ “ “ only one room,	16
“ “ “ “ in good condition,	8

IV.

TEACHERS.

Number different teachers employed for year :	
“ male, 14, female, 21,	35
“ “ teachers employed in Summer Schools,	2
“ female “ “ Winter, “	5
Highest salary pd. male teachers per month, including board,	\$80 00
Smallest “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “	24 00
Average monthly salary for all male teachers for year, “	46 59
Highest salary pd. female teachers per week, including “	10 00
Smallest “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “	5 00
Average weekly salary for all female teachers for year, “ “	7 18

V.

PUPILS.

Whole number attending Spring Schools,	165
Average “ “ “ “	137
Whole “ “ Summer “	517
Average “ “ “ “	425
Whole “ “ Fall “	415
Average “ “ “ “	360
Whole “ “ Winter “	520
Average “ “ “ “	430
Whole “ different pupils enrolled for year,	693
Per cent. of number enrolled to whole number per school census,	76
Average number attending, for year,	456

Per cent. of average attendance	
to whole number scholars in town,	50
" " " " enrolled,	66

[In these totals the pupils who attend the model schools connected with the Normal School are included.]

VI.

SCHOOL APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES.

COMMON SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

Balance due to Districts Feb. 24, 1883.	\$2,015 45
Amt. raised by town for Common Schools,	3,300 00
" due from State, being Town's proportion of school fund and mill tax for 1883.	1,450 16
	<hr/>
	\$6,765 61
Paid for teaching, in schools reported last year. \$	937 00
" " " " " " " " this "	3,515 75
	<hr/>
	4,452 75
" " Fuel, Repairs, Supplies &c.,	1,120 08
	<hr/>
	\$5,572 83
Balance due to Districts Feb. 23, 1884.	1,192 78
	<hr/>
	\$6,765 61

FREE HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

Balance forward from previous years,	88 90
Amount raised by Town for Free High Schools,	500 00
" rec'd from State for " " "	250 00
" " for tuitions,	19 30
	<hr/>
	\$858 20
Paid for teaching in District No. 9.	239 25
" " " " " " " " 1. fall term,	300 00
	<hr/>
	\$539 25
Balance unexpended Feb. 23, 1884.	318 95
	<hr/>
	\$858 20

[The spring term of Free High School, now in session in Dist. No. 1. will exhaust the appropriation voted for that district last year.]

While our schools for the past year have, in most cases, compared very favorably with, and in some instances shown marked improvement upon those of previous years; yet compared with what the public schools of Gorham ought to be, their condition, even now, is not entirely satisfactory.

No one can visit the various schools often without being convinced that the material to work upon is here. The children, to a great extent, appear bright, intelligent, "alive and quick" to learn.

Many of the teachers have proved efficient, showing unmistakable evidence of suitable training, practical knowledge of, and a sincere love for their profession.

A few, but far too few of the school-houses are comfortable, convenient and attractive.

None of the schools are sufficiently supplied with apparatus. Some have not even a map.

A graded course of study is pursued in but one district.

May we remember then that there should exist a more general and a deeper interest in school affairs, founded upon a more intimate acquaintance with their present condition, and an unselfish desire for their improvement which would demand reform, or at least result in the adoption of any wise suggestions from those whose duty it is to suggest.

We are not sure that the public sentiment of this town is, as yet, ready to abolish the district, and adopt the town system; but we are certain that, under the present state of things, satisfactory results cannot generally be obtained.

The town should, at least, reduce the number of its districts.

A step was taken in this direction the past year by your Selectmen and School Committee, in suspending the school in Dist. No. 19, and transferring its scholars to Dist. No. 9.

Under the district system, how can our schools be improved? In many ways. We mention a few:

1. Let all good citizens attend district meetings.
2. Provide neat, comfortable school rooms.
3. Furnish them with the necessary school appliances.
4. In many cases pay better salaries.
5. Hire the best teachers and retain them.
6. Require your children to attend school regularly.
7. Visit the school yourselves.

8. Sustain the teacher.

The town at its last annual meeting appropriated seven hundred and fifty dollars for the support of Free High Schools; five hundred to be expended in Dist. No. 1, and two hundred and fifty, in Dist. No. 9.

In the latter district the school was held in the fall: in the former, one term was also held in the fall; a second commencing Feb. 18, will be reported next year. Both these schools are of decided benefit to the sections of the town in which they have been established. The yearly appropriations for them should be continued.

The High School in District No. 1. graduated its first class June 29, 1883. The names of these graduates are as follows;

Horatio Smith Card,
Ida May Hamblen,
Fred Charles Harding,
Hattie Maybelle Haynes,
George Francis Fabyan Roberts,

Especial reference is made to these pupils as they are the first to receive diplomas from any of the public schools of this town.

The following votes were passed at last annual meeting: "Voted-- That any excess over 80 per cent., per capita raised for school purposes be paid to the smaller districts, for the better equalization of the schools."

"Voted-- That the matter be left with the Superintending School Committee."

To your Selectmen and School Committee, who constitute a joint board in the appropriation of school funds, these votes seemed somewhat contradictory. Your committee did not believe it just to withdraw so much money (especially from District No. 1, whose graded schools require a large appropriation,) but acting upon the spirit of the first vote above given we apportioned as therein directed, the whole amount (\$713 60) to the best of our judgment. In so doing, we specially remembered those unfortunate districts whose school-houses possessed neither map nor globe, and at the same time did not forget others more fortunate in this respect, but whose teachers desks sadly needed a Webster's Unabridged: and yet, with that special assistance, thus far but four districts have so used any of their money; No. 15, taking a set of Camp's Outline Maps, Nos. 5, 11 and 13. Dictionaries.