

1900

Annual Reports of the Selectmen, Treasurer,
Auditor, School Committee, and Superintendent of
Schools, of the Town of Litchfield, For the
Municipal Year Ending February 20th, 1900.

Litchfield (Me.)

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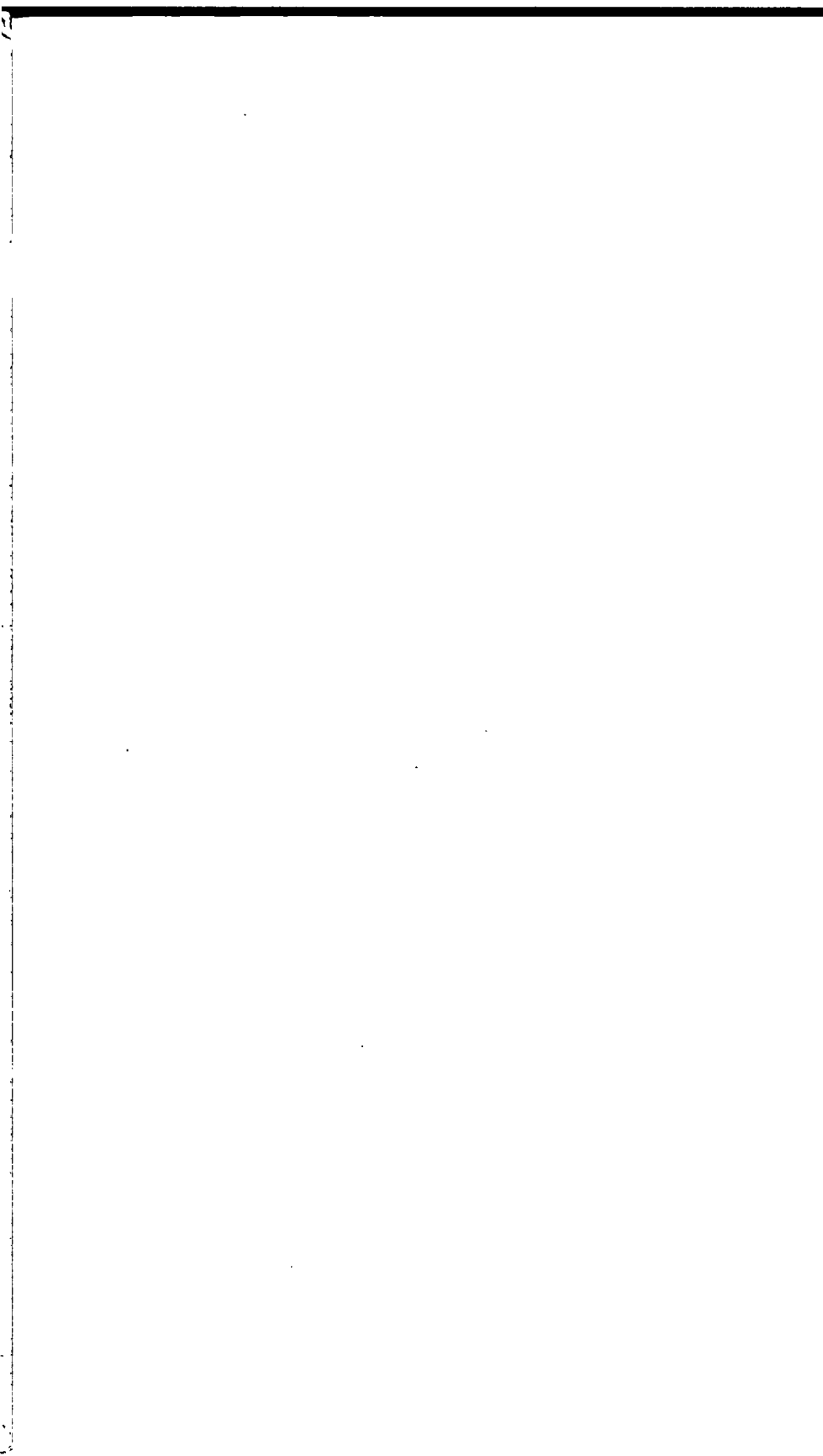
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ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN, TREASURER,
AUDITOR,
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
AND
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS,
OF THE
TOWN OF LITCHFIELD,

For the Municipal year ending February
20th, 1900.

(The Town of Litchfield incorporated Feb. 18, 1795.)

AUGUSTA:
PRESS OF CHARLES E. NASH,
1900.



TOWN WARRANT.

To ORRIN A. TRUE, Constable of the Town of Litchfield:

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town of Litchfield, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town House, in said town, on Monday, the fifth day of March, A. D., 1900, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:

Art. 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

Art. 2. To choose a Town Clerk for the ensuing year.

Art. 3. To attend to the reports of the Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor, Town Treasurer, Town Agent, Auditor of Accounts, Superintendent of Schools and School Committee.

Art. 4. To choose three or more Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor, a Town Treasurer, a Town Agent, a Committee or Auditor of Accounts, a Collector of Taxes, a Superintendent of Schools, one member of School Committee, one or more Truant Officers, a Road Commissioner, one or more Constables, Surveyors of Wood and Lumber, Fence Viewers and Field Drivers, a Pound Keeper, a Sealer of Weights and Measures, and all other necessary officers, agents and committees.

Art. 5. To vote a sum of money for Support of Schools.

Art. 6. To vote a sum of money for the purchase of School Books.

Art. 7. To vote a sum of money for School Supplies.

Art. 8. To vote a sum of money for the repairs of School-houses.

Art. 9. To vote a sum of money for the Support of Poor.

Art. 10. To vote a sum of money to pay part or all of the Town Debt.

Art. 11. To vote a sum of money to pay interest on Town Debt.

Art. 12. To vote a sum of money for Incidental Town Expenses.

Art. 13. To vote a sum of money for the repairs of Roads and Bridges.

Art. 14. To vote a sum of money for the observance of Memorial Day.

Art. 15. To vote a sum of money to pay the land damage and build the road around Lunt Hill as approved by the County Commissioners.

Art. 16. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen and Treasurer to hire money to pay the indebtedness of the Town.

Town Warrant (continued.)

Art. 17. To see what action the Town will take for running the Hearsce.

Art. 18. To see if the town will vote to unite with the town of Wales to maintain a union school at South Oak Hill.

Art. 19. To see if the town will vote to build a schoolhouse at the Plains, to take the place of the Cook, Brick and Grant buildings and raise a sum of money for the same.

Art. 20. To see if the town will vote to move the Earle schoolhouse or act anything thereon.

Art. 21. To see if the town will vote to instruct the Superintending School Committee to sell the North Oak Hill Schoolhouse.

Art. 22. To see if the town will vote how many schools shall be maintained the coming year and where they shall be located.

Art. 23. To see if the town will vote to discontinue the road leading from the Chas. T. Hall road across the stream to the old Buker place.

Art. 24. To see if the town will vote to establish a price on public watering tubs, and how many they will have.

Art. 25. To see if the town will vote to revise and establish prices to be paid for men and teams for labor on highway.

Art. 26. To see if the town will vote to allow Chas. E. Chase to build and maintain a cattle passage under the road at his farm.

Art. 27. To see if the town will vote to buy a set of Weights and Measures.

Art. 28. To vote a sum of money to pay Snow Bills for the present winter.

Art. 29. To direct how the valuation of 1900 shall be taken.

Art. 30. To direct how future Town Meetings shall be called, and what time in March, 1901, the next Annual Town Meeting shall be held.

Art. 31. To see if the town will vote a sum of money to be paid in premiums at the Litchfield Town Fair in 1900.

The Selectmen hereby give notice that they will be in session on the day, and at the place above named, from nine till ten o'clock in the forenoon, to receive evidence of the qualification of voters.

Given under our hands at Litchfield, this twenty-first day of February, A. D., 1900.

SAMUEL SMITH, } Selectmen
E. P. SPRINGER, } of
E. N. BAKER, } Litchfield.

Report of Selectmen.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Litchfield:

Your selectmen, assessors and overseers of the poor, herewith present their annual report for the municipal year, ending February 19th, 1900:

Valuation of 1899.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Resident real estate, | \$255,620 |
| Non-Resident real estate, | 33,740 |
| Resident personal estate, | 42,935 |
| Non resident personal estate, | 95 |
| | \$332,390 |

Number of polls, 273; amount assessed on each poll, \$3.00; rate of taxation on a dollar, 18 1-2 mills.

Appropriations for 1899.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|--|
| State tax for 1899, | \$1,026 64 | |
| County tax, | 418 91 | |
| Incidental town expenses, | 1,200 00 | |
| Support of poor, | 150 00 | |
| For repairs of highways, | 1,200 00 | |
| To pay snow bills of 1898 to 1899, | 1,500 00 | |
| Interest on town debt, | 140 00 | |
| For memorial services, | 25 00 | |
| Support of schools, | 1,000 00 | |
| For school books, | 50 00 | |
| For school supplies, | 75 00 | |
| For repairs on school houses, | 25 00 | |
| Fractional overlay, | 158 09 | |
| | \$6,968 64 | |

Schools.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Balance on book Feb. 21, 1899, | \$143 91 | |
| Amount raised by town, | 1,000 00 | |
| State school fund and mill tax, | 734 05 | |
| Received from town of Wales, | 48 89 | |
| | \$1,926 85 | |
| Amount expended, | | 1,928 01 |
| Overdrawn, | | \$1.16 |

Orders Drawn on the Treasury for Incidental Town Expenses.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Town officers' bills, 1898 : | | |
| S. H. Ring, for services as selectman, assessor and overseer of the poor, | \$76 21 | |
| John Purinton, same service, | 71 25 | |
| E. P. Springer, “ | 39 00 | |
| Miles H. Dustin, sup't of schools, | 63 50 | |
| Cyrus Kindrick, treasurer, | 21 50 | |
| C. A. Metcalf, clerk, | 11 90 | |
| | <hr/> | \$283 36 |
| M. H. Dustin, services from Feb. 18, to March 7, | 10 10 | |
| F. W. Libby, services on school com- mittee, | 6 50 | |
| E. N. Baker, services on school com- mittee, | 11 25 | |
| John Purinton, services from Feb. 20, to March 7, 1899, | 9 00 | |
| John Purinton, expenses for the year 1898, | 13 45 | |
| E. P. Springer, auditor of accounts, | 2 00 | |
| G. Roberts, Jr., for vaccine virus, | 7 50 | |
| Neil McDonald, cutting bushes, 1898, | 3 55 | |
| W. F. Dunham, printing town reports, 1898, | 24 50 | |
| Lyford Newell, labor on highway, 1897, | 3 40 | |
| F. D. Gilman, “ “ 1898, | 6 00 | |
| A. S. Gowell, lumber for highway, “ | 8 25 | |
| F. M. Babcock, “ “ “ | 1 20 | |
| Fred Goodwin, plank. “ “ | 2 72 | |
| Wm. Maxwell & Son, lumber and labor, Hattin bridge, | 5 00 | |
| S. H. Ring & Son, labor on highway, Hattin bridge, | 1 80 | |
| I. W. Gilbert, vaccine virus, | 9 50 | |
| O. A. True, posting warrants for town meetings, 1899, | 5 00 | |

| | |
|---|--------|
| Wm. F. Adams, care and running of hearse, 1899, | 6 00 |
| Cyrus Kindrick, expenses as treasurer, 1898, | 5 00 |
| Cyrus Kindrick, recording deaths, 1898, | 75 |
| J. F. Pierce, blank books and station- ery, 1899, | 7 60 |
| Ervin Cram, labor on highway, 1898, | 1 50 |
| C. T. Hall, " " " | 4 80 |
| O. A. True, enforcing dog law, 1899, | 8 50 |
| L. C. Cornish, legal services, 1899, | 10 00 |
| H. K. Morrell, labor on highway, 1898, | 2 00 |
| Wm. F. Adams, care and running of hearse, 1899, | 12 00 |
| E. P. Springer, expenses as selectman, 1898, | 8 50 |
| W. V. Town, help in running town line, 1899, | 2 13 |
| A. R. Bucklin, commissions collecting taxes, 1897, | 122 58 |
| A. R. Bucklin, abatement of taxes for 1897, | 7 60 |
| C. E. Nash, printing blanks, | 6 00 |
| A. R. Bucklin, taxes on real estate sold, | 104 68 |
| A. R. Bucklin, abatement of taxes of 1898, | 36 60 |
| S. J. Court, commissioners, on town line case between Litchfield and West Gardiner, | 82 51 |
| O. B. Clason, legal services on town line case, | 25 00 |
| I. W. Gilbert, certificates births and deaths, | 6 00 |
| Gardiner Roberts, services on Board of Health, | 7 35 |

| | | |
|--|----------|------------|
| I. W. Gilbert, services on Board of Health, | 4 50 | |
| I. W. Gilbert, for vaccinating, | 19 25 | |
| M. O. Edwards, certificates births and deaths, | 75 | |
| M. T. Newton, certificates births and deaths, | 2 00 | |
| Cyrus Kindrick, vaccinating, | 3 25 | |
| S. H. Ring, services as selectman, 1898, | 3 00 | |
| W. M. Hattin, use of drills in 1896, | 2 00 | |
| E. P. Springer, services as selectman, 1898, | 1 50 | |
| Samuel Smith, postage and express, 1899, | 2 00 | |
| Gardiner Water Power Co., release of liabilities of town on Buker road case, | 34 01 | |
| Wm. F. Adams, care and running of hearse, | 15 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$968 44 |
| By appropriation, | 1,200 00 | |
| Fractional overlay, | 158 09 | |
| Cash received for sale of town histories, | 160 00 | |
| “ “ “ sale of schoolhouses, | 17 50 | |
| “ “ “ tax deeds of 1897, | 29 66 | |
| “ “ C. H. Greene, license, | 6 00 | |
| “ “ State for dog license, | 76 66 | |
| “ “ State, R. R. and Tel. tax, | 40 36 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,688 27 |
| Balance carried to general fund, | | 719 83 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$1,688 27 |

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Orders drawn on the treasury for support of poor :

| | |
|--|---------|
| F. E. Lane, lodging and feeding tramps in '98 and '99, | \$42 00 |
| F. E. Lane, board and expense of Alonzo Gatchell, | 8 75 |

| | | |
|--|--------|----------|
| F. E. Lane, harness for town farm in 1897, | 7 00 | |
| Wm. F. Adams, burial of Sanford Goodwin, | 2 00 | |
| G. D. Sloman, repairs on town farm barn, | 3 50 | |
| Walter C. Knight, repairs on town farm barn, | 3 50 | |
| E. P. Springer, board and expense A. Gatchell, | 20 00 | |
| City of Hallowell for C. H. Wake family, Feb., '99, | 9 95 | |
| J. A. Libby, lodging tramps, | 1 00 | |
| E. J. Fish, fitting wood at town farm, | 7 50 | |
| J. E. Chase, supplies for C. W. Groves, | 10 73 | |
| J. E. Chase, lumber for town farm barn, | 3 00 | |
| Charles Campbell, supplies for C. W. Groves, | 9 75 | |
| City of Augusta, supplies for C. H. Ware family, | 5 41 | |
| A. R. Bucklin, clothing for Bertha M. Jordan, | 6 45 | |
| J. I. Varney, balance for board of Bertha M. Jordan, | 8 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$148 54 |
| By appropriation, | 150 00 | |
| Cash received for stock sold off the farm, | 75 00 | |
| Cash received for hay sold off the farm, | 12 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$237 50 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Balance in favor of town, | | \$88 96 |

TOWN FARM.

There being no paupers on the town farm in the spring of 1899, and receiving no favorable application to let the farm, the stock was sold and buildings shut up. The hay on the

place was let to James P. Springer to be cut on shares, each receiving one-half.

Some little repairs had to be made on the barn before it was considered safe to put the hay in. There is now in the barn about six tons of hay belonging to the town, and about six cords of wood in the shed. The farming tools and household goods now remaining are of small value.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Summer of 1899.

| | |
|--|---------|
| B. C. Allen, labor on highway, | \$11 77 |
| R. Hawkes, plank and stringers for Colby bridge, | 17 80 |
| F. D. Gilman, labor on highway with team, | 25 40 |
| A. D. Bartlett, sawing lumber for bridge, | 4 37 |
| F. D. Gilman, labor on Colby bridge, | 6 25 |
| E. T. Gray, " " " | 2 25 |
| A. C. Goodwin, " " " | 1 50 |
| Jesse T. True, plank for " " | 14 59 |
| Wm. L. Powers, labor with road machine, | 117 00 |
| D. I. Larrabee, labor on highway, | 8 00 |
| C. A. Norcross, " " | 3 75 |
| G. N. Thurlow, " " | 14 75 |
| Horace Gilpatrick, " " | 7 50 |
| J. W. Earle, " " | 21 90 |
| O. S. Call, " " | 2 03 |
| Charles N. Fogg, " " | 2 25 |
| Geo. E. Ricker, " " | 76 00 |
| R. S. Niles, " " | 5 10 |
| J. D. Powers, " " | 3 75 |
| Town of Richmond, one-third thoroughfare bridge, | 20 82 |
| W. E. Cunningham, labor on highway, | 3 50 |
| W. T. Woodbury, " " | 16 00 |

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| W. T. Woodbury, plank and labor, Horseshoe pond bridge, | 11 55 |
| F. D. Gilman, work with road machine, | 22 00 |
| F. D. Gilman, plank and labor on Plimpton and Woodbury bridges, | 15 59 |
| D. M. Webber, labor on highway, | 4 70 |
| Augustus Neal, " " | 6 52 |
| G. A. Hamlen, " " | 1 50 |
| Arthur Newell, " " | 3 00 |
| M. C. Rose, " " | 90 |
| F. J. Toothaker, " " | 2 70 |
| Llewellyn Blanchard, " " | 6 00 |
| A. M. Patterson, " " | 3 00 |
| Charles Farnum, " " | 22 30 |
| Walter Earle, " " | 2 70 |
| Fred Gayton, " " | 5 77 |
| J. F. Morrell, " " | 4 95 |
| H. F. Woodward, " " | 8 50 |
| W. Otis & Son, " " | 2 77 |
| Clement Douglas, " " | 3 25 |
| Lapham & Packard, " " | 10 62 |
| A. E. Googins, " " | 3 17 |
| F. O. Berry, " " | 18 00 |
| Wm. H. Potter, " " | 5 25 |
| F. W. Jordan, " " | 1 20 |
| R. W. Cunningham, labor on highway and building over culvert, | 30 00 |
| Emery E. Danforth, labor on highway, | 5 75 |
| Isaac McDonald, " " | 90 |
| Charles Adams, " " | 1 65 |
| Fred Ware, " " | 60 |
| Robert Niles, " " | 2 25 |
| Charles Larrabee, " " | 11 75 |
| E. L. Campbell, " " | 27 75 |
| J. L. Libby, " " | 24 50 |
| Horace Buker, " " | 12 62 |
| Edward Alexander, " " | 11 25 |

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|---|-------|
| E. N. Baker, labor on highway, | 19 50 |
| Arthur Bubier, " " | 50 |
| Earle Huntington, " " | 50 |
| D. N. Fogg, stringers for bridges, | 10 00 |
| G. D. Sloman, labor on bridge, | 2 00 |
| Pearson Preble, labor and material on highway, | 23 12 |
| G. N. Thurlow, labor on highway, | 4 08 |
| Wm. L. Powers, " " | 17 00 |
| Wm. Springer, " " | 1 28 |
| W. C. Knight, " " | 1 05 |
| Frank Peacock, " " | 9 50 |
| C. F. Bubier, " " | 24 65 |
| D. H. Potter, " " | 4 80 |
| Josiah Morrell, " " | 5 25 |
| C. F. Powers, " " | 4 95 |
| J. A. Huntington, " " | 3 53 |
| Elbridge McDonald, " " | 6 17 |
| R. E. Niles, " " | 4 50 |
| Wm. L. Powers, " " | 4 25 |
| J. D. Buker, " " | 3 50 |
| Fred M. Babcock, " " | 1 38 |
| Fred Danforth, " " | 3 00 |
| Frank Dow, labor and stringers, Mill bridge, | 8 00 |
| H. M. Hunkings, labor on highway, | 82 |
| Levi Harriman & Son, cutting bushes, | 10 00 |
| L. F. Dunn, plank and spikes for bridges, | 7 75 |
| Jesse T. True, plank and labor for highway, | 5 26 |
| Josiah Morrell, labor on highway, | 3 50 |
| C. E. Maloon, " " | 1 50 |
| J. W. Earle, " " | 4 00 |
| C. T. Hall, " " | 12 10 |
| J. A. Taylor, " " | 5 89 |
| F. J. Dunham, " " | 3 00 |

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|--|------------|
| E. N. Pinkham, labor on highway, | 3 00 |
| Roscoe E. Pinkham, " " | 3 45 |
| H. N. Jordan, " " | 7 80 |
| Foster Alexander, " " | 4 35 |
| N. J. Libby, " " | 2 40 |
| Nelson Danforth, " " | 90 |
| U. Atwood, " " | 3 60 |
| C. A. N. Waterman, " " | 4 01 |
| William Bubier, " " | 1 80 |
| L. E. Dennison, " " | 62 |
| H. P. King, " " | 5 29 |
| Edward J. Fish, " " | 1 50 |
| J. E. Chase, " " | 4 45 |
| M. W. Adams, " " | 7 50 |
| F. H. L. Sleeper, " " | 5 50 |
| A. L. Small, " " | 1 95 |
| F. W. Libby, " " | 3 00 |
| D. P. Adams, " " | 2 55 |
| Isaiah Douglas, " " | 1 60 |
| E. M. Douglas, " " | 5 85 |
| O. M. Douglas, " " | 2 55 |
| Samuel Smith, looking after repairs of roads and bridges, | 11 75 |
| E. P. Springer, service and labor on roads and bridges, | 13 00 |
| D. P. Adams, labor on highway, | 5 40 |
| H. W. Maxwell, plank, stringers and labor on bridges, | 22 05 |
| W. M. Hattin, labor on highway, | 16 40 |
| A. R. Bucklin, spikes for bridges, | 1 08 |
| G. M. Rogers, labor on highway, | 1 05 |
| G. W. Earle, " " | 2 83 |
| D. N. Fogg, plank and labor on bridges, | 15 98 |
| Amount expended for roads and bridges, | \$1,060 88 |
| By appropriation, | 1,200 00 |
| Amount unexpended, | \$139 12 |

SNOW BILLS.

For the winter of 1898-1899.

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| H. F. Woodward, | 18 07 |
| Charles S. Adams, | 7 05 |
| Charles P. Jordan, | 3 45 |
| Fred R. Neal, | 2 10 |
| Neil McDonald, | 5 67 |
| Elbridge McDonald, | 18 36 |
| M. S. Burton, | 2 70 |
| A. J. Taylor, | 4 80 |
| E. F. Ridley, | 5 94 |
| Walter Ridley, | 13 67 |
| W. E. Cunningham, | 17 10 |
| E. P. True, | 2 85 |
| F. E. Lane, | 9 87 |
| J. A. Huntington, | 12 97 |
| A. C. True, | 7 80 |
| Wm. M. Cunningham, | 5 90 |
| R. W. Cunningham, | 7 95 |
| F. H. L. Sleeper, | 19 45 |
| J. Libby, | 13 94 |
| Job F. Morrell, | 9 32 |
| Josiah Morrell, | 8 62 |
| Charles Peavey, | 2 25 |
| Fred Gayton, | 5 62 |
| William Springer, | 4 05 |
| C. A. Waterman, | 1 43 |
| H. P. King, | 7 35 |
| L. E. & F. L. Dennison, | 4 84 |
| William Bubier & Son, | 11 85 |
| William L. Powers, | 1 70 |
| D. N. Fogg, | 4 85 |
| M. B. Hutchins, | 4 30 |
| Samuel Williams, | 4 20 |
| Emery Metcalf, | 4 20 |
| Geo. E. Edgecomb, | 3 00 |
| J. E. Edgecomb, | 4 28 |
| F. Fogg, | 3 45 |
| Fred E. Edgecomb, | 7 78 |
| J. B. Stevens, | 7 05 |
| Augustus Howell, | 5 33 |
| F. T. Bailey, | 5 18 |
| S. L. Buker, | 15 20 |

Snow bills, 1898-1899, (continued.)

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| J. E. Jack, | 4 95 |
| Wm. W. Douglass, | 60 |
| E. S. Briery, | 13 52 |
| O. M. Douglas, | 6 55 |
| E. M. Douglas, | 12 07 |
| M. W. Adams, | 13 00 |
| L. U. Adams, | 2 70 |
| Willie Metcalf, | 2 55 |
| Wilber Tarr, | 4 48 |
| Ed. Alexander, | 38 |
| A. L. Small & Son, | 11 80 |
| H. W. Maxwell, | 13 50 |
| C. F. Powers, | 5 45 |
| Geo. H. Dingley, | 7 18 |
| E. W. Metcalf, | 3 13 |
| H. M. Hunkings, | 5 40 |
| Josiah Jones, | 1 65 |
| H. C. Allard, | 1 03 |
| Arthur Waldron, | 6 45 |
| W. H. Waldron, | 7 32 |
| Charles Webber, | 5 70 |
| Frank Wyman, | 2 18 |
| Prescott Keyes, | 5 10 |
| Willie Keyes, | 1 65 |
| E. E. Ring, | 4 95 |
| S. H. Ring, | 6 35 |
| Albert Stevens, | 8 30 |
| W. M. Hattin, | 2 53 |
| Wm. H. Potter, | 6 40 |
| J. A. Chase, | 5 48 |
| A. R. Bucklin, | 9 83 |
| David Y. Wright, | 6 83 |
| J. Merrill, | 1 20 |
| John I. Varney, | 19 39 |
| Walter Varney, | 11 25 |
| Edward Shorey, | 5 49 |
| C. F. Powers, | 1 43 |
| I. V. Mayo, | 75 |
| G. Roberts, Jr., | 1 35 |
| A. E. Earle, | 5 40 |
| John Purinton, | 14 57 |
| Elmer J. Purinton, | 6 98 |

Snow bills, 1898-1899, continued:

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| Charles Jack & Son, | 7 20 |
| O. M. Hatch, | 10 33 |
| F. W. Purinton, | 5 03 |
| E. L. Allen, | 4 80 |
| A. S. Gowell, | 7 79 |
| W. C. Bowley, | 6 92 |
| G. W. Newell, | 3 27 |
| Lyford Newell, | 5 65 |
| Charles Newell, | 3 17 |
| W. A. Gowell, | 6 59 |
| B. W. Berry & Son, | 19 75 |
| W. R. Buker, | 5 25 |
| H. Y. Wright, | 3 15 |
| B. L. Merrill, | 5 30 |
| Melvin Tibbetts & Son, | 7 35 |
| Effie Small, | 9 00 |
| B. W. Ridley, | 6 71 |
| F. S. Colby, | 1 95 |
| Frank Peacock, | 7 80 |
| Everett Wiles, | 1 58 |
| Aaron Peacock, | 4 20 |
| M. C. Rose, | 4 20 |
| A. Douglas, | 4 65 |
| E. M. Douglas, | 6 60 |
| A. J. Newell, | 6 60 |
| Geo. Hamlin, | 11 25 |
| Augustus Neal, | 6 30 |
| Arthur Neal, | 60 |
| W. T. Woodbury, | 14 00 |
| G. R. Wingate, | 1 30 |
| E. J. Fish, | 4 05 |
| A. J. Fish, | 3 15 |
| R. S. Niles, | 7 05 |
| D. H. Potter, | 3 00 |
| R. C. Bosworth, | 2 40 |
| A. S. Ashford, | 14 00 |
| Charles Higgins, | 53 |
| Norman Higgins, | 2 85 |
| Wm. F. Adams, | 60 |
| J. J. Perry, | 4 20 |
| C. E. Maloon, | 68 |
| G. A. Bosworth, | 3 00 |
| C. A. Metcalf, | 9 31 |

Snow bills, 1898-1899, (continued.)

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| F. E. Hutchinson, | 5 40 |
| Henry A. True, | 4 84 |
| Warren D. True, | 1 12 |
| H. M. Starbird, | 1 57 |
| O. A. True, | 2 25 |
| G. H. Palmer, | 2 55 |
| J. W. Tucker, | 12 99 |
| E. W. Small, | 14 27 |
| Oscar Blanchard, | 6 60 |
| F. C. Brown, | 1 98 |
| Wm. F. Merriman, | 1 50 |
| D. B. Stockham, | 8 03 |
| C. S. Ring, | 5 75 |
| J. C. Tufford, | 1 50 |
| C. W. Goodwin, | 8 82 |
| M. V. Town, | 1 27 |
| Fred E. Goodwin, | 5 24 |
| E. H. Ricker, | 2 69 |
| Frank Ricker, | 1 72 |
| Fred R. Neal, | 45 |
| E. N. Pinkham, | 10 05 |
| Roscoe Pinkham, | 5 62 |
| Nathan True, | 4 69 |
| E. M. True, | 2 07 |
| Merrill True, | 2 68 |
| A. B. Barrett, | 1 20 |
| W. H. Allen, | 5 24 |
| D. B. Allen, | 3 33 |
| B. C. Allen, | 3 30 |
| F. H. Nixon, | 4 42 |
| A. J. Tozier, | 4 05 |
| F. Blaisdell, | 4 65 |
| D. B. Allen, Jr., | 6 37 |
| Wm. F. Haines, | 18 79 |
| Lapham & Packard, | 13 37 |
| I. F. Lapham, | 3 45 |
| A. M. Patterson, | 6 95 |
| Llewellyn Blanchard, | 2 60 |
| F. J. Toothaker, | 6 60 |
| Thomas Webber & Son, | 13 10 |
| F. M. Babcock, | 17 05 |
| F. D. Gilman, | 24 35 |
| A. D. Bartlett, | 6 00 |

Snow bills, 1898-1899, (continued.)

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| E. T. Gray, | 4 42 |
| Richard Norris, | 2 40 |
| Levi Gray, | 2 25 |
| Bert Tucker, | 2 63 |
| David Cram, | 30 |
| F. E. Baker, | 3 30 |
| Joseph Meader, | 5 10 |
| F. N. Adams, | 2 25 |
| Joseph Goodwin, | 5 07 |
| E. Dow & Son, | 19 78 |
| C. T. & Henry Hall, | 17 72 |
| C. A. Norcross, | 9 42 |
| R. S. Maxwell, | 17 60 |
| F. W. Libby, | 23 11 |
| E. P. Springer, | 15 46 |
| Warren S. Jordan, | 3 38 |
| F. W. Jordan, | 2 18 |
| W. R. Godfrey, | 17 90 |
| Wm. Polly, | 7 90 |
| Fred Danforth, | 8 25 |
| Isaac Gayton, | 7 15 |
| E. E. Danforth, | 12 67 |
| Frank Campbell, | 10 77 |
| Charles Campbell, | 82 |
| Frank Danforth, | 90 |
| Ensign Danforth, | 18 00 |
| Geo. Danforth, | 27 14 |
| Frank Danforth, | 23 45 |
| Joseph Danforth, | 4 50 |
| John R. Hamilton, | 3 15 |
| Arthur Hamilton, | 1 95 |
| John L. Hamilton, | 2 85 |
| Geo. Dearborn, | 5 10 |
| S. Dearborn, | 2 10 |
| F. E. Mitchell, | 7 90 |
| Philip Larrabee, | 2 55 |
| Alanson Danforth, | 1 05 |
| J. H. Bowey, | 4 30 |
| H. N. Jordan, | 7 13 |
| Urial Atwood, | 4 43 |
| Foster Alexander, | 8 26 |
| C. Dailey, | 3 90 |
| Walden Otis & Son, | 10 98 |

Snow bills, 1898-1899, (continued.)

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| A. E. Googins, | 8 84 |
| S. P. Roberts, | 3 38 |
| G. D. Sloman, | 1 05 |
| Charles P. Jordan, | 90 |
| W. C. Knight, | 3 60 |
| Wm. Knight, | 2 02 |
| Sidney Knight, | 3 30 |
| Asa P. Smith, | 1 80 |
| D. T. Smith, | 1 35 |
| Andrew Bubier, | 2 95 |
| J. E. Chase, | 1 20 |
| E. L. Campbell, | 1 20 |
| A. H. Larrabee, | 3 15 |
| J. O. Brown & Son, | 2 27 |
| Wallace Stewart, | 3 86 |
| C. F. Bubier, | 8 63 |
| A. J. Huntington, | 4 80 |
| H. W. Buker, | 14 70 |
| G. E. Ricker, | 16 97 |
| S. T. Clark, | 4 02 |
| Alfrado Bubier, | 1 50 |
| Pearson Preble, | 4 72 |
| J. D. Powers, | 4 05 |
| F. J. Dunham, | 4 50 |
| Melvin Powers, | 52 |
| G. N. Thurlow, | 15 35 |
| D. I. Larrabee, | 4 95 |
| E. L. Campbell, | 25 92 |
| Emery Savery, | 4 27 |
| J. E. Chase, | 8 95 |
| J. W. Earle, | 7 65 |
| Henry Taylor, | 2 85 |
| Levi & Nelson Danforth, | 4 72 |
| Perley Perry, | 1 12 |
| Charles Campbell, | 1 50 |
| Charles Peavy, | 75 |
| Eben Morrell, | 19 20 |
| A. H. Powers, | 10 70 |
| C. T. Frost, | 1 65 |
| W. H. Dustin, | 5 40 |
| J. D. Buker, | 9 30 |
| F. J. Sloman, | 5 70 |

Snow bills, 1898-1899, (concluded.)

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Charles B. Larrabee, | 4 28 |
| Edward Ridley, | 1 65 |
| Walter Ridley, | 2 10 |
| Daniel Berry, | 1 50 |
| Bert Fogg, | 1 35 |
| E. W. Gatchell, | 20 90 |
| Oscar Blanchard, | 2 10 |
| H. F. Howard, | 2 70 |
| Walter Ridley, | 2 80 |
| A. H. Sprague, | 6 30 |
| E. W. Small, | 52 |
| Elmer Hodgkins, | 3 95 |
| R. S. Bosworth, | 37 |
| E. E. Danforth, | 9 26 |
| Levi Harriman & Sons, | 30 95 |
| F. T. Harriman, | 17 25 |
| Geo. E. Spaulding, | 8 80 |
| F. C. Weston, | 10 85 |
| Josiah Small, | 12 30 |
| Joseph Weston, | 13 50 |
| Thomas Gingrow, | 10 50 |
| Hiram H. True, | 4 08 |
| Isaac Gayton, | 3 30 |
| Samuel Danforth, | 7 50 |
| A. J. Elliott, | 6 00 |
| Bennie Benson, | 1 28 |
| Charles Adams, | 90 |
| Leslie Bosworth, | 2 70 |

 \$1,832 32

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| By appropriation, | \$1,500 00 |
| Paid from general fund, | 332 32 |

 \$1,832 32

TOWN DEBT.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Paid interest on town debt, | \$136 19 |
| Paid on note against town, | 65 00 |

 \$201 19

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| By appropriation, | \$140 00 |
| Paid from general fund, | 61 19 |

 \$201 19

MEMORIAL SERVICES.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Paid Libby Post No. 93, G. A. R., | | \$25 00 |
| By appropriation, | \$25 00 | |

SCHOOL BOOKS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Paid for school books, | | \$49 98 |
| Balance unexpended, | | 1 27 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$51 25 |
| By appropriation, | \$50 00 | |
| Received from old books sold, | 1 25 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | \$51 25 | |

SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|
| Paid for school supplies, | | \$76 59 |
| By appropriation, | \$75 00 | |
| Paid from general fund, | 1 59 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | \$76 59 | |

SCHOOLHOUSE REPAIRS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Paid for schoolhouse repairs, | | \$36 53 |
| By appropriation, | \$25 00 | |
| Paid from general fund, | 11 53 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | \$36 53 | |

SHEEP KILLED BY DOGS.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Paid for sheep killed by dogs, | | \$47 00 |
| By cash received from State, | \$47 00 | |

BURIAL OF SOLDIERS.

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Paid for burial of soldiers, | | \$70 00 |
| By cash received from State, | \$70 00 | |

RESOURCES FOR STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Assessed and committed to collector | | |
| for State tax, | \$1,026 64 | |
| Assessed and committed to collector | | |
| for county tax, | 418 91 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | | \$1,445 55 |

RECAPITULATION.

Resources for town expenses, exclusive of schools :

| | |
|---|------------|
| Balance on selectmen's book, Feb. 21, 1899, | \$3,948 60 |
| Amount committed to collector, June 20, 1899, | 4,523 09 |
| Amount received for sale of town histories, | 160 00 |
| for sale of stock on town farm, | 75 00 |
| for sale of schoolhouses, | 17 50 |
| for sale of hay on town farm, | 12 50 |
| for sale of school books, | 1 25 |
| peddler's license, C. H. Greene, | 6 00 |
| on tax deeds of 1897, | 29 66 |
| from State for dog licenses, | 76 66 |
| from State for sheep killed by dogs, | 47 00 |
| from State for R. R. and Tel. tax, | 40 36 |
| from State for burial of soldiers, | 70 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$9,007 62 |
| Paid out for incidentals, | \$968 44 |
| support of poor, | 148 54 |
| roads and bridges, | 1,060 88 |
| snow bills, | 1,832 32 |
| town debt, | 201 19 |
| school books, | 49 98 |
| school supplies, | 76 59 |
| schoolhouse repairs, | 36 53 |
| sheep killed by dogs, | 47 00 |
| memorial services, | 25 00 |
| burial of soldiers, | 70 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$4,516 47 |
| Balance on selectmen's books, Feb. 20, 1900, | 4,491 15 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$9,007 62 |

Respectfully submitted,

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| SAMUEL SMITH, | } Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor of Litchfield. |
| E. P. SPRINGER, | |
| E. N. BAKER. | |

Report of Treasurer.

The following report shows the amount of money received and paid out during the municipal year ending February 20, 1900, also a statement of the town debt and the amount due from the collector :

| | |
|--|------------|
| Cash in treasury, Feb. 20, 1899, | \$149 58 |
| Received from A. R. Bucklin, collector, | 6,691 93 |
| from C. A. Metcalf, dog licenses, | 91 00 |
| money paid on tax deeds, | 29 66 |
| State school fund for 1898, | 746 80 |
| of State treasurer, R. R. and Tel. tax, | 40 36 |
| from State treasurer, burial of soldiers, | 70 00 |
| from C. S. Green, peddler's license, | 6 00 |
| from State treasurer, for sheep killed by dogs, | 47 00 |
| from State treasurer, refunded dog licenses, | 76 66 |
| for town histories sold, | 160 00 |
| for hay sold off town farm, | 12 50 |
| for old school books sold, | 1 25 |
| from Town of Wales, tuition, | 48 89 |
| from stock sold off poor farm, | 75 00 |
| from schoolhouses sold, | 17 50 |
| | \$8,264 13 |

And paid out as follows :

| | |
|---|---------|
| State treasurer, for dog licenses, | \$91 00 |
| Balance State tax, 1898, | 800 52 |
| For burial of soldiers, | 70 00 |
| sheep killed by dogs, | 47 00 |
| deficient dog tax, | 1 00 |
| State treasurer, refunded dog licenses, | 76 66 |
| memorial services, | 25 00 |
| interest on town order, | 1 59 |
| old orders, | 910 10 |
| support of poor, | 117 06 |

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| For school supplies, | | 62 43 |
| interest on town debt, | | 134 60 |
| town note paid, | | 65 00 |
| school books, | | 49 98 |
| schoolhouse repairs, | | 34 50 |
| on county tax, | | 200 00 |
| roads and bridges, | | 990 78 |
| support of schools, | | 1,587 83 |
| incidental expenses, | | 867 93 |
| snow bills, | | 1,832 32 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$7,965 30 |
| Cash to balance, | | 298 83 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$8,264 13 |
| Due from A. R. Bucklin, collector, 1898, | \$56 82 | |
| Due from A. R. Bucklin, collector, 1899 tax, | 5,323 05 | |
| Due from State Treasurer, school fund and mill tax, 1899, | 734 05 | |
| Cash in treasury, Feb. 20, 1900, | 298 83 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6,412 75 |
| Outstanding notes and interest, | \$3,384 04 | |
| Due on State tax, | 949 98 | |
| Due on county tax, | 218 91 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4,552 93 |
| Balance in favor of town, | | \$1,859 82 |

CYRUS KINDRICK, Treasurer.

Litchfield, February 20, 1900.

Auditor's Report.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Litchfield :

Your Auditor having made a careful examination of the books and accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer, for the municipal year ending February 19, 1900, present the following report :

The Selectmen's accounts show that for all orders drawn on the Treasurer, they have proper vouchers on file, and all orders paid by the treasurer are correctly charged on his books, and the books are correctly balanced and agree.

The Treasurer's book shows that he had—

| | | |
|--|------------|----------|
| Cash on hand, February 20, 1899, | \$149 58 | |
| Received during the year, | 8,114 55 | |
| | \$8,264 13 | |
| Has paid out during the same time, | | 7,965 30 |
| Leaving cash in the treasury, February 19, 1900, | | \$298 83 |

I have also examined and allowed the several town officers' bills up to the present date as follows :

| | | |
|---|--|---------|
| Samuel Smith, services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, | | \$88 50 |
| E. P. Springer, for same service, | | 62 00 |
| E. N. Baker, " " | | 49 50 |
| Cyrus Kindrick, Town Treasurer, | | 21 50 |
| C. A. Metcalf, Town Clerk, | | 11 60 |
| M. H. Dustin, Supervisor of Schools from Feb. 18, 1899, to March 6, 1899, | | 12 00 |
| M. H. Dustin's bill as Supervisor of Schools from March 6, 1899, to Feb. 13, 1900, | | 79 00 |
| H. M. Starbird, Auditor, | | 4 00 |

H. M. STARBIRD, Auditor.

Litchfield, February 20, 1900.

Report of Schools.

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Litchfield :

Your Superintendent respectfully submits the following report of the condition of our schools for the year ending February 20, 1900 :

| Resources. | |
|--|------------|
| Balance unexpended, February 20, 1899, | \$99 18 |
| Amount raised by town, | 1,000 00 |
| School fund and mill tax, | 734 05 |
| Received from town of Wales, tuition, | 48 89 |
| Total, | \$1,882 02 |
| Expenditures. | |
| Paid for support of spring schools, | \$530 00 |
| fall schools, | 501 75 |
| winter schools, | 471 70 |
| Paid for conveyance of pupils during year, | 230 80 |
| tuition to W. Gardiner for two years, | 20 00 |
| janitor's services, | 21 75 |
| fuel, | 82 64 |
| Total, | \$1,858 64 |
| Balance unexpended, | \$23 38 |

NAMES OF PUPILS NOT ABSENT ONE-HALF DAY.

Corner school. Spring term: Amy Taylor, Bertha Gilpatrick, Edith Campbell, Vera Howatt, Louise Howatt, Carl Taylor, Perley Campbell, Maxey Kindrick, Perley Morrell, Onslow Campbell, Percy Earle, Alvin Fogg. Fall term: Amy Taylor, Edith Campbell, Josiah Morrell, Lawrence Knight, Maxey Kindrick, Perley Campbell, Perley Morrell, Percy Earle, Fred Huntington, Onslow Campbell, Alvin Fogg. Winter term: Lawrence Knight, Maxey Kindrick,* Alvin Fogg,* Percy Earle,* Onslow Campbell,* Walter Knight, Mattie Knight.

* Not absent during year.

Statistics.

| TERMS. | NAMES OF SCHOOLS. | NAMES OF TEACHERS. | Number of Pupils Registered. | Average Number. | Length of Term in Weeks. | Wages. | Number of Schools taught before. | Number of Visits by Citizens. |
|--------------|-------------------------|---|------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| SPRING TERM. | Corner. | Cora E. True, | 24 | 22.5 | 10 | \$6 00 | 22 | 15 |
| | Lowell. | George M. Rogers, | 18 | 13 | 10 | 6 00 | 15 | 19 |
| | Willard. | Neva M. Hall, | 31 | 27 | 10 | 6 25 | 21 | 8 |
| | Whittier. | Nellie M. Ham, | 19 | 17 | 10 | 6 00 | 10 | 10 |
| | Washington. | Mabelle F. Purinton, | 18 | 16 | 10 | 5 50 | 1 | 6 |
| | Longfellow. | M. H. Dustin,* | 26 | 23 | 10 | 6 00 | 23 | 10 |
| | Farrin. | R. S. Bosworth, | 27 | 23 | 10 | 6 00 | 19 | 9 |
| | Holmes. S. Oak Hill. | Sarah L. Hutchinson. Claribel Higgins, | 10 11 | 9 9.6 | 10 10 | 5 50 5 50 | 8 4 | 4 14 |
| FALL TERM. | Corner. | Cora E. True, | 23 | 21 | 9 | 6 25 | 23 | 12 |
| | Lowell. | G. M. Rogers,† | 14 | 12 | 9 | 6 25 | 16 | 23 |
| | Willard. | Sara L. Rogers,† | 31 | 27.5 | 9 | 6 50 | 9 | 10 |
| | Whittier. | Nellie M. Ham, | 21 | 17.5 | 9 | 6 25 | 11 | 3 |
| | Washington. | Mabelle F. Purinton, | 21 | 18.5 | 9 | 5 75 | 2 | 6 |
| | Longfellow. | M. H. Dustin,* | 24 | 22 | 9 | 6 25 | 34 | 11 |
| | Farrin. | R. S. Bosworth, | 21 | 18 | 9 | 6 25 | 20 | 7 |
| | Holmes. S. Oak Hill. | Neva M. Hall, Claribel Higgins, | 9 17 | 8 13 | 9 9 | 5 75 5 75 | 22 5 | 8 7 |
| WINTER TERM. | Corner. | Cora E. True, | 20 | 17 | 4‡ | 6 25 | 24 | 4 |
| | Lowell. | G. M. Rogers,*† | 14 | 13 | 9 | 6 25 | 17 | 16 |
| | Willard. | Sara L. Rogers,*† | 31 | 27 | 9 | 6 50 | 10 | 39 |
| | Whittier. | Nellie M. Ham, | 22 | 15 | 9 | 6 25 | 12 | 8 |
| | Washington. | Helen P. True, | 15 | 12 | 9 | 6 25 | 10 | 9 |
| | Longfellow. | M. H. Dustin,* | 26 | 20 | 7.8‡ | 6 25 | 25 | 10 |
| | Farrin. | R. S. Bosworth, | 21 | 14 | 9 | 6 25 | 21 | 17 |
| | Holmes. S. Oak Hill. | Neva M. Hall, Claribel Higgins, | 10 13 | 9 8 | 9 8‡ | 5 75 5 75 | 23 6 | 8 2 |

* 25 cts. a week additional wages for holding State certificate.

† 25 cts. a week additional wages for holding Summer School certificate.

‡ Closed on account of sickness.

Lowell school. Spring term: Nellie Powers, Gertrude Allard, Delma Small, Harold Webber, Harry Allard. Winter term: Gertrude Maxwell, Gertrude Allard, Nellie Powers, Ray Small, Delma Small, Harry Allard.

Willard school. Spring term: Ethel Toulouse, Sallie True, Mabel Tucker, Mary Tucker, Mabel True, Herman Small, Richard Tucker, Elmer Tucker, George Googins. Fall term: Maude Lane, Mildred Tucker, Birdina Barrett, Mary Tucker, Walter Lane, Richard Tucker, Merton Barrett, Elmer Tucker, Herman Small. Winter term: Sallie True, Maude Lane, Ethel Woodman, Mabel Tucker, Mildred Tucker, Ruth Lapham, Mary Tucker,* Bert Tucker, Ralph Tucker, Walter Lane, Richard Tucker,* Fred Tucker, Georgie Googins, Herman Small.*

Whittier school. Spring term: Inez Gowell. Fall term: May Bailey, Georgia Gowell, Ina Gowell, Ethel Newell, Eva Weston, Roy Weston, Ollie Palmer.

Washington school. Spring term: Birdina Gilman, Clea Gilman, Raymond Gilman, Hazel Ricker, Carl Goodwin, Richard Norris, Willie Nixon. Fall term: Birdina Gilman, Clea Gilman, Raymond Gilman, Lillian Goodwin, Carl Goodwin. Winter term: Clea Gilman.*

Longfellow school. Spring term: Willard Ashford, Helen Blanchard, Genevieve Dustin, Florence Libby. Fall term: Clement Webber, Willie Buker, Leland Buker, Lester Webber, Clarence Webber, Clifton Dustin, Eva Webber, Florence Libby. Winter term: Eddie Libby, Willard Ashford, Clifton Dustin.

Farrin school. Spring term: Lizzie Larrabee, Lena Larrabee, Nettie Bubier, Elton Ricker. Fall term: Charles Larrabee, Everett Ricker, Lena Larrabee, Frances Larrabee. Winter term: Lizzie Larrabee, Everett Ricker, Elton Ricker.

Holmes school. Spring term: Leonard Merrill, Mertie Colby, Mina Colby, Lewis Peacock, Florence Merrill, Carrie Peacock. Fall term: Lewis Peacock, Leonard Merrill, James Colby, Minnie Peacock, Mertie Colby, Mina Colby, Carrie Peacock. Winter term: James Colby, Minnie Peacock, Lewis Peacock,* Carrie Peacock* (aged four).

South Oak Hill School. Spring term: Elsie Burke,

* Not absent during year.

Nellie McDonald, Irving Danforth. Fall term: Nellie McDonald, Nellie Hall, Irving Danforth. Winter term: Nellie McDonald,* Irving Danforth,* Roy Danforth.

On account of whooping cough the attendance was very irregular during the winter term. Except in the schools closed because of sickness, we have had twenty-eight weeks of school, two weeks less than last year. The town raised two hundred dollars less money, and we have run one more school. The maintenance of a large number of schools, or the "cutting down expenses" by raising less school money, will shorten our school year. We hired the pupils (six in number) carried from the Grant to the Willard school for the year at a cost of \$119. Your Superintending School Committee hired the pupils of the North Oak Hill and Hall districts carried to the Longfellow school at a cost of \$91.30 for the year. We find, by consulting the registers, the names of fourteen different pupils that were conveyed from the North Oak Hill and Hall districts. The average number was nine.

We have run nine schools this year. The committees of Wales and Litchfield agreed to maintain a union school at South Oak Hill for the year. We think it would be for the interest of both towns to establish the school as prescribed by law.

The cost of conveyance has been considerable, and, by the building of one schoolhouse and the moving of another, could all be done away with. By that plan of consolidation recommended by your school committee, no scholar would have over $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to walk to school. It has been about thirteen years since this town changed from the district to the town system. If at that time our schools had been reduced to ten, with an average of twenty-five pupils to a school, we should have saved over five thousand dollars, or would have had that amount to lengthen our schools. We are unable to understand why the intelligent people of this town allowed new schoolhouses to be located as they have been in the past. The people of the east part of the town have just as much right to demand new school buildings, one located near Ring's corner and another in the vicinity of Mr. Frank Bailey's, as the people of the west part have to retain the location of the Corner, Earle, and Farrin buildings as they are.

* Not absent during year.

We have pupils in this town who walk 1 1-2 miles to school, and children from those homes have always had the same distance to walk. Now if it is necessary to have the limits of school districts 1-2 mile each side of the school building, let us build three or four more schoolhouses and use all parts of the town alike. But if it is better to have the limits 1 1-2 miles each way from the schoolhouse, and thus have larger schools with less cost, fewer and better buildings, and less apparatus and fuel to buy, then let us consider and act on the recommendations of the Superintending School Committee.

Many changes have taken place in the social life and conditions of our town within the last fifty years. Once we had nearly twice the population and three times the number of pupils, that we now have. Our schoolhouses were all filled. Many pupils attended school until 21 years of age. Now all is changed; boys and girls leave school at an early age, flock to the cities, and very often settle there. The "old folks" are left on the farm to pass the remainder of their days. The farms decrease in value. With pupils growing scarcer, farms decreasing in value, and population becoming less and less, we have struggled about as long as we can to maintain the number of schools we formerly had. It shocks us to have the old schoolhouse shut up or sold. Our fathers and perhaps grandfathers attended school there and the old building seems a part of us. It is no wonder that people feel that their property decreases in value when the school is "taken from them."

From a late Massachusetts report we take the following: "People are coming to see that educational advantages are not represented by the number of near-by schoolhouses. From one of the annual reports of Dr. Harris, United States Commissioner of Education, we quote as follows: 'It has been frequently demonstrated and is generally conceded that it would be better both on economical and on pedagogical grounds to unite the many small and weak schools of a township, dispersed over a large extent of territory, into a few strong well-equipped and well-conducted graded schools located at convenient points.'"

Your superintendent would prefer for his children to go 1 1-2 miles to a school, the statistical report of which read as follows: Whole No. of pupils, 34; average, 30; length of school, 10 weeks; wages, \$8.00 per week; No. of terms taught before, 20, than to have them go 1-4 of a mile where

the record showed the following: Whole No., 3; average, 3; length of term, 6 weeks; wages, \$4.50; No. of terms taught before, none. You will not have to trace the records of this town far back to find the latter named conditions.

In the location of school buildings in the future it will be advisable to place them, as far as practicable, a distance of three miles from other school buildings.

CONVEYANCE OF PUPILS.

As before stated in this report, by two changes in the location of our schools the conveyance of pupils could at the present be done away with.

But if pupils continue to decrease in number, perhaps in a few years conveyance may be necessary where some of our largest schools now are. There are advantages and disadvantages resulting from conveyance.

SOME ADVANTAGES.

Larger and longer schools.

Better buildings, appliances, etc.

Better teachers and better wages. Wages that will cause them to feel that their work is considered of more value than that of a mere, uneducated day-laborer, and that teaching is a profession to be secured by much labor and expense.

SOME DISADVANTAGES.

Risk to the health of children, because of long rides in cold and in stormy weather.

Associations in carriage and during noon intermission at schoolhouse.

Injury to health, because of cold dinners hastily eaten.

Long absence of young children from home.

Profane, tobacco-using or intemperate drivers, who might be employed because of low bids.

The advantages named above will also nearly all disappear if we do not give our teachers apparatus to work with, or if we hire cheap, inexperienced teachers.

The schools of this town will be just as good as the people demand, or just as poor as they will tolerate.

TEXT BOOKS.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Amount raised by town, | \$50 00 |
| Received for books damaged and sold, | 1 25 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total, | \$51 25 |

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Paid Edward Babb & Co., | \$14 02 |
| Ginn & Co., | 4 57 |
| American Book Co., | 31 39 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total, | \$49 98 |
| Balance unexpended, | \$1 27 |

We have purchased about 50 supplementary readers, 22 arithmetics, 20 geographies, etc. We shall be obliged to comply with the law requiring us to teach the evil effects of narcotics and alcoholic drinks, and shall have to buy physiologies for the smaller pupils. We advise the purchase of about 30 copies of Stetson's History and Civil Government of Maine.

REPAIRS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Amount raised by town, | \$25 00 |
| Balance unexpended, 1898, | 55 09 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total, | \$80 09 |
| Paid Simon Clough for shingles, | 19 25 |
| Henry Dustin, trucking and labor, | 15 25 |
| A. F. Tinkham, nails, | 2 03 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total, | \$36 53 |
| Balance unexpended, | \$43 56 |

We had one side of the Willard house and one side of the South Oak Hill building shingled, and made a few other small repairs. If a union school is established at South Oak Hill, that building needs thorough repair inside, new floors, new wainscoting, desks and blackboards.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| Amount raised by town, | \$75 00 |
| Paid for supplies, | 76 09 |
| | <hr/> |
| Overdrawn, | \$1 09 |

The supplies were blackboards, writing books, crayon, examination and drawing papers, book stamps, freight, express, postage, pails, brooms, glass, etc. We put in hyloplate blackboards at the Lowell school, and one board 12x3 at the Corner school. One more slab of the same size will make sufficient board room for that school. The Farrin needs new boards. Hyloplate makes the best and cheapest

board that we can get. We would advise the putting in of a few boards each year till we get our schoolhouses well supplied. No one thing helps a teacher and pupils so much as good blackboards.

TEACHERS AND THEIR WORK,

We employed ten different teachers during the year. Six taught in the same school for the three terms. All had had some experience before, and many have taught in town for several years. We have had no failures. Our teachers are doing better and more faithful work. By more faithful work we mean, they are having the pupil do more work for himself, make up lost lessons, walk, sit, stand and conduct himself properly toward his schoolmates and superiors.

We find that the teacher who teaches for the good of the pupil and not to please the parent, is subject to unjust criticism from some parents, who seem to think there is a royal road to learning and that it is the teacher's duty to transport their boy or girl thither in a palace car. It pleases us to be able to say that a majority of the parents help and co-operate with the teacher.

GRADING.

We heartily endorse the action of the Superintending School Committee recommending the grading of our schools. We have endeavored to have each teacher use the Course of Study and especially to have the smaller pupils do a certain amount of number work, much writing, etc. We have had all schools for the past two years do the same work in geography. We think the method could be carried out in all studies. It would cause some trouble and hard feelings at first, for some pupils would have to be "put back." But if carefully outlined and firmly carried out on the part of superintendent and teachers, at the end of the year the results would be such that no one would be dissatisfied. In order to carry on the work successfully it will be necessary for teachers and superintendent to meet once a month.

S. I. L. M.

We have six leagues in town. Washington, Lowell, Whittier, Longfellow, Willard and Holmes. This work is fully explained in a pamphlet issued by the Educational Department, which we will gladly procure for anyone interested.

We think the leagues are a benefit to our schools. Until fully established and understood by the people, the continu-

ation of them will require considerable push on the part of the superintendent and teachers.

CONVENTIONS.

We have had one teachers' convention in the past year, at which a number of parents were present. We think anyone acquainted with the work carried on, will recommend the continuation of them.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Education in a narrow sense is what a child gets from text books. In a broader sense it is the development of the child mentally, physically and morally, and continues as long as life itself.

Every school might have the name of its league placed on the schoolhouse.

Less than six years ago it was no uncommon thing for a teacher to spend a whole term trying to teach a pupil his letters. Now it is a common occurrence for a pupil to read half through the primer in one term. A few years ago a pupil five or six years of age that could write was considered a prodigy. Now we have many scholars of that age that can read readily and can write anything they can read.

By willfully misconstruing, misjudging and misrepresenting the work of a Superintendent, by unjustly criticizing and predicting ruin and disaster if he departs from the old ruts, a half dozen people in any town can cripple the work of any superintendent that town may elect.

Our school money is not a pension fund to be divided among all hands without regard to the value received.

The backward school should not be used term after term to "break in" young teachers. It may take the school years to recover from the effects. A backward school needs one of the best teachers.

"Young teachers must have a chance." Yes, certainly they must and it is right that they should have. If they cannot afford to take a Normal School course, there are training schools for teachers where for a small amount of money they can learn methods and get actual practice in teaching.

Many thanks are due Hon. A. M. Spear for the fine flag presented the Whittier school. We still have three schools without flags; a chance for some other public-spirited man.

Six teachers are taking twelve educational papers; an average of two each.

Several teachers have purchased dictionaries and encyclopedias in the last year.

The word method of teaching reading, vertical writing, and, we hope, the S. I. L. M., have come to stay. We expect to see in the future the school savings bank, clay and pulp map modeling, additions to our school libraries, and good bookcases in every schoolhouse.

CONCLUSION.

We have labored four years, as we think, for the good of our schools. Under our successor we hope they may flourish as never before. There is much work for a Superintendent to do. Upon him, to a great extent, depends the welfare of our schools. We wish to thank the people for their help and encouragement. We have formed many pleasant acquaintances, which we hope may long continue.

Respectfully submitted,

M. H. DUSTIN,

Superintendent of Schools.

February 17, 1900.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLVES OF SUPERINTENDING
SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

We respectfully submit the following recommendations and resolves, which, we think, will lessen the cost of our schools, help our teachers to prepare themselves better for their work, and make our schools more potent for good.

We recommend that the town of Litchfield unite with Wales in the support of a union school at South Oak Hill.

We recommend that a new schoolhouse be built at Litchfield Plains in a suitable location to take the place of the Cook, Brick and Grant buildings.

We recommend that the pupils residing between Mr. Gilpatrick's and Mr. Bowie's be put into the Corner school, and that the Earle schoolhouse be moved so as to accommodate the remainder of the Earle, the Hall and part of Oak Hill.

We recommend that the Superintending School Committee be instructed to sell the North Oak Hill schoolhouse.

We recommend that a sum of money be raised for repair of South Oak Hill schoolhouse, and for painting the Berry schoolhouse.

We recommend the grading of our schools and a monthly meeting of teachers.

We resolve that all teachers holding a State certificate shall receive twenty-five cents per week in addition to the regular wages. Also that any teacher holding a certificate showing that she has attended a Summer School for Teachers during the summer of 1900, shall receive twenty-five cents per week additional wages during the remainder of the year.

An examination of teachers will be held at the Longfellow school building on Saturday, March 24th, at 9 A. M. All persons, except holders of State certificates, desiring to teach in town are requested to be present. Applicants will be examined in the following subjects as required by law: Reading, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, history, geography, civics, physiology, nature studies, and theory and practice of teaching.

No postponement.

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| FANNIE TRUE, | } Superintending | |
| E. N. BAKER, | | . School |
| F. W. LIBBY, | | Committee. |

February 15, 1900.