

1884

## Annual Reports of the Selectmen and Supervisor of Schools of the Town of Manchester, 1883-4

Manchester (Me.)

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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Selectmen and Supervisor of Schools

OF THE

TOWN OF MANCHESTER.

1883-4.



AUGUSTA:  
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT.  
1884.



# Selectmen's Report, 1883-4.

## SCHOOL FUNDS.

Appropriated by Town,.....	\$750 00
Funds from State,.....	316 27
Balance from last year,.....	195 91
	<hr/>
	\$1262 18
Orders drawn after March meeting.....	57 75
	<hr/>
Balance .....	\$1204 43

## EXPENDITURES.

NO. DIST.	FUNDS.	EXPENDITURES.	BALANCE.
1.....	\$299 52	\$163 55	\$135 97
2.....	144 88	117 88	27 00
3.....	92 35	89 33	3 02
4.....	275 62	171 02	104 60
5.....	132 38	131 48	90
6.....	179 55	156 38	23 17
7.....	59 15	27 00	32 15
Parts.....	20 98		20 98
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	\$1204 43	Due School Districts..	\$347 79

## HIGHWAYS.

Appropriated in Labor.....	\$1000 00	
DISTRICT. SURVEYOR.	AMT. ASSIGNED.	UNCOL'C'D.
1 C. F. Hewins.....	\$102 67	\$ 3 90
2 F. J. Hewins.....	99 56	31 58
3 O. J. Foster.....	68 25	8 90
4 Mark Osborne.....	38 56	1 67

## HIGHWAYS—Concluded.

DISTRICT.	SURVEYOR.	AMT. ASSIGNED.	UNCOL'C'D.
5	R. T. Hopkins .....	\$46 01	\$0 80
6	J. T. Collins .....	34 40	3 50
*7	Philo Benson .....	26 03	
8	S. P. Bolden .....	18 52	1 93
9	J. C. Hartung .....	53 93	6 09
10	Joseph Fifield .....	96 05	4 87
11	Edwin Caldwell .....	76 30	93
12	J. C. Hewitt .....	71 46	
13	Albert Knowles .....	47 96	
14	J. E. Wing.....	68 12	12 38
15	L. R. Sanford.....	59 17	88
*16	W. H. Hill.....	41 25	
17	G. L. Fifield.....	24 15	

\*Bills not returned.

## SNOW BILLS.

Appropriated.....	\$350 00	
DISTRICT.	SURVEYOR.	AMOUNT.
1	E. L. Eaton.....	\$45 58
2	S. Kilbreth....	17 20
3	A. P. Wingate .....	49 60
4	B. R. Howard .....	21 85
5	L. Dearborn.....	16 02
6	J. L. Emery.....	6 02
7	J. L. Spear .....	37 41
8	S. P. Bolden.....	10 67
9	J. C. Hartung .....	31 12
10	G. N. Page.....	16 00
11	G. W. Cottle.....	62 60
12	E. F. Lyon.....	33 17
13	Albert Knowles .....	28 00
14	Charles Wing.....	23 42
15	L. R. Sanford.....	20 98
16	M. S. Fifield.....	28 15
17	G. L. Fifield.....	31 34
		<hr/>
		\$479 13
Excess.....		<hr/>
		\$129 13

SUPPORT OF POOR

Appropriation..... \$300 00

EXPENDED.

Mrs. L. M. Newell, for Ruel Smith..... \$51 00  
F. J. Hewins, medical attendance and funeral  
    expenses of Ruel Smith..... 20 35  
Mrs. Ann H. Cummings, for David Morgan (1qr.).. 27 50  
Wm. T. Wilder, " " " (3qrs.).. 78 00  
F. J. Hewins, care of tramps..... 2 00  
----- \$178 85  
Balance..... \$121 15

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Appropriation..... \$50 00  
Uncollected Highway Tax of last year..... 65 81  
Non-Resident " "..... 52 94  
----- \$168 75  
Total..... \$168 75

EXPENDED.

G. W. Cottle, labor on highway..... \$11 75  
" " " for road scraper..... 7 00  
F. J. Hewins, stone for culvert in No. 11..... 10 00  
" " " " " " " " " " " 1..... 7 12  
" " " labor on highway..... 10 80  
Albert Knowles, stone for culvert in No. 12... 2 00  
" " materials and labor in No. 11... 7 00  
" " labor on highway..... 17 00  
C. W. Richards, labor on highway..... 3 12  
J. C. Hartung, " " "..... 16 37  
R. T. Hopkins, " " "..... 9 65  
John Prescott, " " "..... 3 50  
Lewis R. Sanford, " " "..... 12 05  
G. F. Wing, " " "..... 1 39  
Edwiu Caldwell, materials and labor..... 7 77  
----- \$126 52  
Balance..... \$ 42 23

## INCIDENTAL CHARGES.

Appropriated..... \$275 00

## EXPENDED.

S. P. Bolden, damages on highway.....	\$ 3 50.
F. J. Hewins, stage in Town Hall .....	15 00
O. L. Dresser & Co., "Town Officer".....	3 00
Badger & Manley, printing reports .....	12 00
Horace North, blank books. ....	4 00
J. G. Sampson, wood for hall. ....	2 00
Wm. Torrence, care of hearse .....	3 00
G. H. Kilbreth, Town Clerk.....	5 00
Baker, Baker & Cornish, attorneys' fees, 1882-3...	9 00
J. G. Sampson, Constable .....	5 00
" " " Collector's commissions.....	65 01
I. W. Hawkes, services as Selectman, &c.....	43 50
Albert Knowles, " " " .....	33 25
F. J. Hewins, " " " .....	36 25
I. W. Hawkes, Supervisor of Schools.....	33 00
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	\$272 51
	<hr/>
Balance .....	\$ 2 49

## TOWN DEBT AND INTEREST.

Appropriated..... \$425 00

## EXPENDED.

Paid on Sanford notes .....	\$300 00
Interest on " " .....	95 80
2 years' interest on Fifield note.....	61 74
Interest on Hammond note.....	28 50
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	\$486 04
	<hr/>
Excess. ....	\$ 61 04

## GENERAL SUMMARY.

## APPROPRIATIONS.

Schools,.....	\$750 00
Support of poor, .....	300 00
Roads and bridges, .....	50 00
Incidental charges, ....	275 00
Breaking snow,.....	350 00
Town debt and interest,.....	425 00
	<hr/>
	\$2150 00
State tax, .....	1166 60
County tax,.....	425 07
	<hr/>
	\$3741 67

## MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.

School fund and mill tax, 1883, .....	\$316 27
Overlay, .....	60 45
Uncollected highway tax of 1883, .....	65 81
Non-resident highway tax, .....	52 94
Rent of hall, .....	10 00
	<hr/>
	\$505 47
	<hr/>
Total, ....	\$4247 14

## EXPENDITURES.

Assigned to schools,.....	\$1066 27
Support of poor,.....	178 85
Roads and bridges, .....	126 52
Incidental charges, .....	272 51
Breaking snow,.....	479 13
Town debt and interest,.....	486 04
Abatements,.....	83 91
Balance on State tax of last year,.....	1112 20
Paid " " " 1883, .....	300 00
" " County tax,.....	425 07
	<hr/>
	\$4530 50
	<hr/>
Excess, .....	\$283 36



## TREASURER AND COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

J. G. Sampson in account with the town of Manchester.

## DR.

To cash from collector of 1880-1-2-3, .....	\$4097 13
“ “ treasurer of 1882, .....	56 84
Rent of hall, .....	10 00
School funds from State, .....	334 08
	<hr/> \$4498 05

## CR.

Paid selectmen's orders, .....	\$1364 11
“ school orders, .....	1028 39
“ overseers' orders, .....	178 85
“ on State taxes, .....	1412 20
“ County tax, .....	425 07
Cash on hand, .....	89 43
	<hr/> \$4498 05

## GENERAL STATEMENT.

## NOTES OUTSTANDING.

Abigail Sanford, (at 6 per cent) .....	\$400 00
John Hammond, (at 6½ per cent) .....	300 00
William Fifield, (at 6½ per cent) .....	475 00
John Whitten, (at 5 per cent) .....	450 00
	<hr/>
Town debt, .....	\$1625 00
Due on State tax, .....	\$866 60
Due school districts, .....	347 79
Outstanding bills (estimated) .....	75 00
	<hr/> \$2914 39

## ASSETS.

School fund due from State, .....	\$316 27
Cash in hands of treasurer, .....	89 43
Uncollected taxes of 1881, .....	12 99
“ “ 1882, .....	467 31
“ “ 1883, .....	2001 94
	<hr/> \$2887 94

Balance against the town, .....	\$26 45
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Amount of inventory, .....	\$261,169 00
Number of polls,....	138
Rate on cash valuation,.....	13½ mills

The action of the County Commissioners in the case, Taber Lyon, *et als.*, brought before them last year, made it necessary that a careful revision of our town valuation should be made, and an examination of the town books by them and by the Hon. Joseph Baker of Augusta, convinced us that several changes in the manner of keeping these books were necessary. This revision and these changes involved considerable extra labor, but we believed it important in the interest of the town that the work should be done. We have also substituted a cash in place of a fractional valuation, and call attention to the fact that while our taxes this year were assessed upon a cash valuation of \$261,169.00, the State and County taxes were assessed at Augusta on a town valuation of \$291,300.00.

Respectfully submitted,

I. WARREN HAWKES, } *Selectmen*  
 ALBERT KNOWLES, } *of*  
 FRANK J. HEWINS, } *Manchester.*

MANCHESTER, Feb. 25th, 1884.



# Supervisor's Report, 1883-4.

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## DISTRICT NO. 1—CHARLES WING, Agent.

A Spring Term of seven weeks was taught by Lillian F. Ellis, of Canton, an experienced and capable teacher. This school appeared well at my first visit and gave promise of a profitable term. Unfortunately measles broke out among the pupils, the teacher was attacked with the same disease and compelled to close her school without examination. Whole number of pupils, 27; average, 20.

### *Fall Term—Miss Mellie O. Small, Teacher.*

This was a very satisfactory term. The teacher merits praise for faithfulness, and for tact in controlling and interesting the large number of roguish pupils under her charge. Several of the scholars made excellent progress in their studies. Two boys who had completed "Steele's Fourteen Weeks Course in Physiology" in a single term deserve especial mention. They passed a splendid examination. Length of School, ten weeks; whole number, 30; average 25.

A Winter School was commenced by Miss Lizzie Rankin of Hiram, who, after eight days, had leave to withdraw.

Jan. 7th the school was re-opened under the charge of Nellie A. Rogers of Winthrop. Miss Rogers had previously taught eight terms of school in this town; and has an established reputation as a fine scholar, and a teacher well qualified to interest and instruct her pupils. The school is now in progress with a registered attendance of twenty-four.

## DISTRICT NO. 2—OTIS J. FOSTER, Agent.

The summer pupils in this district were again placed under the care and tuition of May H. Wingate, who acceptably filled the position of teacher one year ago. Mrs. Wingate was devoted to the interests of

her scholars, and the closing examination and record of attendance gave evidence that this too had been a profitable term. Length of school, seven weeks ; whole number, 13 ; average, 12.

*Winter Term—Lizzie E. Bass, of Wilton, Teacher.*

There has been a considerable change in this school within a few years. It has increased in size and embraces a large percentage of roguish, rollicking children—full of life and mischief—requiring both tact and patience to control them and to teach the erratic “young ideas how to shoot.” Miss Bass proved equal to the task, and by faithful and conscientious discharge of her duties merited the approval of those among whom she labored. Most of the pupils appeared interested in their studies, and passed an excellent examination. Map drawing was an interesting feature of the school exercises. Length of term, twelve weeks : whole number, 17 ; average, 15. Five pupils not absent a half-day.

DISTRICT NO. 3—JAMES MYERS, Agent.

*Spring Term—Carrie A. Thompson, Teacher.*

Well might the teacher of this little school have exclaimed : “The lines have fallen unto me in pleasant places.” With two intelligent and studious young ladies as pupils, the eight weeks of school glided happily by ; but whether so large an expenditure of money upon so small a school was profitable to the district is still an open question.

*Fall Term—Lena A. Mitchell, Teacher.*

This was her first experience, and a decided success. Miss Mitchell is an excellent scholar, clear and correct in her explanations, and won the confidence and esteem of parents and pupils. This little school embraces a few scholars who rank among the very best in town. Length of term, ten weeks ; whole number, 5 ; average, 4.

DISTRICT NO. 4—B. R. HOWARD, Agent.

A Spring Term of nine weeks was taught by Linda E. Osborne of this town. It was a quiet orderly school. The average attendance was good, and fair progress was made by the pupils in their studies. Whole number, 13 ; average, 11.

A Fall Term of eight weeks, taught by the same teacher, was of the same general character as the preceding. The attendance was smaller; 8 registered, average 7. Five of these pupils were not absent a half-day; a surprising record for this district.

A Winter Term was commenced Dec. 10th by James T. Collins of this town. He had taught the last winter school to good satisfaction. Twenty-one pupils were registered, and the school opened favorably. Gradually the attendance fell off, until only two scholars remained, and the teacher abandoned his task after a term of less than eight weeks duration. No sufficient reason for the conduct of the scholars has been given. One of the parents assigned ill health as the cause, but the appearance of the children about their homes did not indicate either local disease or "general debility." Thirty-nine scholars in this district drew school money; above is the school record. May the parents read it with shame.

#### DISTRICT NO. 5—S. A. THURSTON, Agent.

The past has been a successful school year in this little district. The Spring and Fall Terms of eight weeks each were taught by Vesta E. Kelly, of Rome. Miss Kelly was an experienced teacher, perfectly at home in the school room, and so discharged her duties as to win the esteem of her pupils and the confidence of their parents.

Whole number in Spring Term, 9; average, 6. Whole number in Fall Term, 10; average 9.

The Winter School, numbering but six pupils, was taught by Abbie Keene of Sidney. The scholars made excellent progress under her instruction and were very thorough—the improvement in reading was especially marked. The interest of the pupils may be inferred from the teacher's remark at the close of the school: "Not one of my scholars has been absent an hour for the term." Length of school, seven weeks.

#### DISTRICT NO. 6—WM. H. LYON, JR., Agent.

A Summer Term of nine weeks was taught by Stella M. Phillips of Belgrade. There were six weeks of school, commencing May 21st, then five weeks vacation, followed by the remaining three weeks. This arrangement was not calculated to produce a very interesting

school examination. Pleasant relations appeared to exist between teacher and pupils, and fair progress was made. Whole number in attendance, 14 ; average, 10.

The Winter Term was taught by Gardiner M. Knowles of this town, who successfully guided the school through three terms last year. Mr. Knowles is entitled to credit for his success among the pupils of his own district ; and if this examination was hardly as satisfactory as that of one year ago, it was evident that the confidence of the scholars in their teacher, and their enjoyment of school life, had not waned in the least. Length of term, ten weeks ; whole number, 22 ; average, 18.

#### DISTRICT NO. 7—NATHANIEL GILMAN, Agent.

The venerable school-house in this district was again opened, and three sturdy boys guided through a nine weeks' term by Jennie Brainerd of Readfield. It was a very quiet school, especially during the "threshing season" when I visited it the first time. I believe Miss Brainerd endeavored to discharge her duties faithfully and there were evidences of improvement on the part of her pupils.

In submitting my report of the schools for the past year, I realize that it is impossible to give satisfaction to all parties in town. A Supervisor makes his estimate of the character of each school from what he sees and hears in the school-room, and not from neighborhood gossip. Circumstances trivial in themselves may have occurred, which have given an unfavorable impression of a teacher or school, and a verdict of censure has thus been hastily formed which the general character of the school work would not sustain. Our schools have averaged well, although hardly equal to those of last year. Two schools have been closed—an unusual record for this town. I have been called in once to settle a school trouble. The circumstances of this case were unfortunate, but it was evident that the teacher must be sustained in the position she had taken or the usefulness of the school would be seriously impaired, if not ruined. Four teachers have been obtained through the "Wilton Agency ;" three of these proved satisfactory. I believe it will be better for school officers to keep a sharp lookout for good teachers, and secure their services early without the help of any agency. Competent teachers and a healthy home influence are needed to elevate the character of our public schools. *All* admit the

need of the former, *many* overlook the latter. No observing teacher can be long in the schoolroom without forming a very correct estimate of the home life of each individual pupil. We will look only at one side of the picture. Look into those homes where each pupil connected with our schools spends a portion of these long winter evenings in preparing some recitation for the coming day; where the parents by questions and conversation manifest an interest in the work in which their children are engaged; where gossip prejudicial to the teacher and school is discouraged and the young are taught that respect and deference which is due to their superiors. Follow these pupils to the schoolroom, and tell me if you do not find with them studious habits, correct recitations, ready obedience to the teacher's authority—in short all that makes the good scholar. There may be exceptions to this as to all other rules, but they are very rare. Then while we vote liberal supplies for our public schools, and manifest in many ways our interest in them, let us not forget that the question of their success or failure is largely determined by the home life and home training of our children.

Respectfully submitted

I. WARREN HAWKES, SUPERVISOR.

MANCHESTER, Feb. 25, 1884.