1904

Eleventh Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Mechanic Falls and the Report of the Superintendent of Schools, for Fiscal Year Ending February 29, 1904

Mechanic Falls (Me.)

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ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF MECHANIC FALLS.

AND THE REPORT OF THE

Superintendent of Schools.

For Fiscal Year Ending February 29, 1904.

Incorporated March 22, A. D. 1893.

MECHANIC FALLS, MAINE:

LEDGER PUBLISHING COMPANY,

1904.
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MECHANIC FALLS, MAINE:
LEDGER PUBLISHING COMPANY,
1904.
TOWN OFFICERS.

Clerk and Treasurer,
C. M. HUTCHINS.

Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor,
FRANCIS H. COBB, ERNEST K. HOLBROOK,
JOHN E. SAUNDERS.

Collector,
L. W. MASON.

Town Agent,
J. M. LIBBY.

Superintendent of Schools,
J. M. LIBBY.

School Committee.
E. F. BRADFORD, J. K. DENNING, F. L. WATERMAN.

Trustees of Public Library.
J. M. LIBBY, LIZZIE J. BUTLER, E. F. BRADFORD.

Librarian,
LIZZIE JEWETT-BUTLER.

Board of Health,
C. B. RANKIN, A. V. HATHAWAY, M. N. ROYAL.

Auditor,
F. E. TUFTS.

Town Physician.
LEROY O. COBB.

Chief Engineer,
E. E. JORDAN.

1st Assistant Engineer,
H. C. RAWSON.

2d Assistant Engineer,
H. L. JEWETT.

Road Commissioner.
S. D. JORDAN.

Constables,
L. W. MASON, DENNIS S. PERKINS, D. L. COUSENS,
B. F. HASKELL, J. A. CROOKER,
C. O. RUSSELL.
To the Citizens of Mechanic Falls:

The municipal officers of the town for the fiscal year ending Feb. 29, 1904, respectfully submit the follow report under their appropriate heads for your information and consideration.

Assessors' Report.

FOR YEAR 1903.

Valuation of property and number of polls as taken April 1st, 1903.

Amount of real estate of resident owners, $435,105 00
Amount of real estate non-resident owners, 298,985 00

Total valuation of real estate, $734,090 00

Amount of personal property of resident owners, $65,677 00
Amount of personal property of non-resident owners, 21,335 00

Total valuation of personal property $87,012 00

Grand total of property, $821,102 00

Rate of taxation $20.40 per $1,000.
Poll tax rate $3.00.
Number of polls taxed, 427,
Number of polls untaxed, 68.
Assessments.

For State tax, $2,401.97
County tax, 1,052.74
Common schools, 2,200.00
Free high school, 800.00
Support of the poor, 1,000.00
Contingent fund, 500.00
Officers salaries, 600.00
Sinking fund, 1,000.00
Payment of interest, 800.00
Collectors' commissions and abatements, 600.00
Lighting streets, 1,248.00
Hydrant rental, 1,680.00
Support of fire department, 400.00
Support of public library, 300.00
Repair of highways and bridges, 2,000.00
Text books, 200.00
Apparatus and school furnishings, 50.00
Repairs, school houses, 100.00
Graduating exercises, high school, 25.00
Purchase of snow plows, 200.00
State roads, 200.00
Memorial Day observance, 50.00
Deficiency in highway account, 385.02
Deficiency in fire department, 76.74

$17,869.47

Overlay in assessing, 160.71

Total amount committed to L. W. Mason for collection, $18,030.18
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Average Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horses</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>59 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two year-old colts</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>40 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cows</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>25 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxen</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>72 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three-year-olds</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>22 06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two-year-olds</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>16 48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-year-olds</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>9 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>2 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swine</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>9 47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Abatements Allowed.**

**TAXES OF 1898.**
- Jacobs, Charles E., inability to pay, $2 50

**TAXES OF 1899.**
- Ellsworth, A. S., inability to pay, $2 50
- Ryerson, L. C., " " " 2 50

**TAXES OF 1900.**
- Burnham, Cyrus, whereabouts unknown, $4 13
- Benson, J. W., inability to pay, 3 00
- Harris, Simeon, paid in Mass., 3 00
- Littlefield, Wm. E., whereabouts unknown, 3 00
- Morton & Dyer, worthless, 23 63
- Noyes, John Q., sickness and inability to pay, 3 00
- Spiller, Joshua S., physical disability, 3 00

$42 76
TAXES OF 1901.

Benson, Jabez W., inability to pay, $3 00
Clement, C. H., worthless, 9 14
Cunningham, Geo., whereabouts unknown, 3 00
Dresser, Dana E., error in valuation, 89
Edwards, Jesse L., worthless, 3 00
Hasey, James M., error in valuation, 89
McCann, Wm. A., error in valuation, 3 35
Mayberry, Frank E., inability to pay, 3 00
Noyes, John Q., sickness and inability to pay, 3 00

$29 27

TAXES OF 1902.

Bancroft, Geo. E., paid in Norway, 3 00
Chase Merritt & Co., by agreement, 89 00
Faunce, Lowe E., not of age, 3 00
Hallett Toothpick Co., overvaluation, 6 67
Hooper, John, worthless, 3 00
Hilborn, Chas. L., deceased, 3 00
Lacerte, Eugene, out of State, 3 00
Loud, C. F., never found by collector, 3 00
Murphy, James, never found by collector, 3 00
Mechanic Falls M'tf'g. Co., by vote of town, 50 06
Mechanic Falls Water Co., by contract, 20 03
Smith, Wm. F., inability to pay, 3 00
Shannon, Alex., error in listing, 56

$190 32

TAXES OF 1903.

Dresser, F. F., error in listing, 51
Report of Overseers of the Poor.

Town's poor assisted as follows:

**John and Nellie M. Bicknell.**

Paid Geo. D. Trundy, rent, $60 00
  Eva Bicknell, care of sister, 16 00
  L. J. Morton, milk, 20 49
  F. L. Keen, hauling wood, 2 00
  H. L. Pulsifer, milk, 1 65
  L. Gower, butter, 7 68
  A. A. Woodsum, supplies, 7 01
  I. F. McCann & Co., supplies, 8 90
  Merrill & Denning, medicine, 2 10
  W. G. Pulsifer, medicine, 15 70

$141 53

**E. W. Records.**

Paid C. A. Corey, board, $76 71

**Alfred Waterhouse.**

Paid Mrs. A. B. Emery, board, $120 00
  A. A. Woodsum, clothing, 3 80

$123 80

**N. Lufkin.**

Paid J. S. Merrill, burial expenses of
  Mrs. Lufkin, $23 25
  A. A. Woodsum, clothing, 7 35

$30 60

Wm. H. Smith.

Paid I. A. Denison, supplies, $22 62
  Perkins & Waterhouse, wood, 7 50
  Geo. O. Goodwin & Co., wood, 16 25
  S. L. Hawley, clothing, 4 00
  L. W. Thurston, milk, 2 41
  Merrill & Denning, medicine, 75 23
  W. G. Pulsifer, medicine, 29 65

$157 66

C. A. Foster.

Paid H. H. Marshall, milk, $1 77
  Mrs. A. W. Kesten, nursing, 1 62
  A. L. Soule, rent, 28 00
  Poland Paper Co., rent, 23 35
  Geo. O. Goodwin & Co., wood 18 13
  Merrill & Denning, medicine, 3 85
  W. G. Pulsifer, medicine, 11 65

$ 88 37

Sam. Knights.

Paid C. F. Kimball, rent, $20 00
  Dennett Cotton, board and care, 89 31
  A. A. Woodsum, supplies, 75
  F. H. Cobb, 1 20
  Dr. E. F. Bradford, medical attendance, 2 00
  L. P. Cates, clothing, 1 69
  S. L. Hawley, clothing, 1 45
  W. G. Morton, bedding, 2 00
  O. B. Dwinal, clothing, 5 25
  F. A. Golderman, shoes, 1 50
Lucy A. Hunnewell.
Paid A. V. Hathaway, wood, 14 25
D. Cotton, wood, 1 50
Fred Waterhouse, wood, 4 88
Geo. O. Goodwin & Co., wood, 5 25
Geo. Moore, fitting wood and carrying in, 70
Mrs. Chas. Elie, nursing, 5 00
Merrill & Denning, medicine, 2 25

Mrs. J. Bancroft.
Paid A. V. Hathaway, wood, 3 50
Fred Waterhouse, wood, 3 25
Geo. O. Goodwin & Co., wood, 5 25

D. S. Churchill.
Paid Town of Gray, funeral charges, 27 45
E. K. Holbrook, burial expense, 6 00
Town of Gray, medical attendance, 3 00

Isabella Poland.
Paid Town of Gray, medical attendance, $12 00

Mrs. O. D. Holt.
Paid F. A. Golderman, Ag't., rent, $68 01
Fred Ireland.

Paid Geo. O. Goodwin & Co., supplies, 5.32
A. A. Woodsum, supplies and clothing, 12.08
W. D. Towne, supplies, 1.06
Hawkes & Whitney, wash boiler, 1.00
W. G. Pulsifer, medicine, 50

$19.96

A. R. Thurlow.

Paid town of New Gloucester, supplies, $19.97

H. L. Rogers.

Paid Town of Paris, supplies, rent and medical attendance, $89.50

John B. Rand.

Paid State Insane Asylum, board, $98.22
Supplies, 2.45

$100.67

W. S. Gookin.

Paid C. B. Rankin, medical examination, $2.00
F. A. Millett, expense to Augusta, 11.62
E. K. Holbrook, expense to Augusta, 7.05
F. A. Golderman, Shoes, 2.75
L. P. Cates, clothing, 3.61
O. B. Dwinal, clothing, 10.00
F. H. Cobb, express on clothing, 30
Maine Insane Asylum, board, 34.28
" " " " supplies, 85

$72.46
TRAMPS.

Paid F. H. Cobb, care of, $9.30
D. L. Cousens, care of, 20.00

= $29.30

Total expenses for poor of the town, $1,240.97
Unexpended from 1902, $116.67
Appropriation, 1,000.00
Amount overdrawn, 124.30

= $1,240.97

Paid for Poor of Other Towns.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rumford</td>
<td>Mrs. J. K. P. Simpson</td>
<td>$58.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford</td>
<td>J. M. Abbott</td>
<td>60.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>E. W. Grant</td>
<td>10.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rome</td>
<td>O. A. Grant</td>
<td>2.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Augusta</td>
<td>Rose Tripp</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray</td>
<td>Mary E. Crooker</td>
<td>28.66</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

= $195.32

Rec’d for Poor of Other Towns.

Received from other towns on account of support of their poor.

| Town of Rumford,  | $63.17 |
| City of Augusta,  | 35.00  |
| Town of Gray,     | 24.41  |
| Town of Poland,    | 31.68  |
| Town of Oxford,    | 50.25  |

= $204.51
The amount expended the past year in assisting the poor has been larger than for a number of years. This is accounted for in part by the severe cold weather of past winter, causing a larger expenditure for fuel.

In September Walter S. Gookin was committed to the Maine Insane Hospital at Augusta. By reference to the report it will be seen that he has been to an expense of $72.46 up to the present time. In a letter from Dr. Sanborn a few days ago, referring to him he said, "I feel very hopeful that after the weather becomes warmer Mr. Gookin may be in a suitable condition to receive a trial at home. He is quiet and well disposed yet still somewhat morbid."

John B. Rand is still in the Hospital at Augusta. Dr. Sanborn in writing of him says: "Mr. Rand is offering us no unnecessary trouble and is quietly disposed. He is however, very morbid indeed, and if inclined to be unmanageable would be a dangerous person about home or at any almshouse. I do not believe an experiment outside of the hospital in an attempt to care for him would be successful."

It will be noticed that there is quite an additional expense in the account of W. H. Smith over the previous year. Mrs. Smith has been under the physicians care almost constantly for the entire year, thereby causing a large outlay for medicine which could not be well avoided; she is still confined to her bed at the present time. The young son has been sick for several weeks.

In bringing to your notice the case of Harry L. Rogers we would say, that in the summer he moved from Lewiston to Poland and in the fall to Paris. In November he called on the overseers of the latter place for assistance, which was rendered. In December we went to Paris to make arrangements for moving the family here; we found Rogers sick and he was confined to the house for a period of five weeks. After his recovery we
again made an attempt to remove them here, but, owing to the
delicate condition of Mrs. Rogers deemed it advisable to let
them remain until such time as it would be prudent for her to
undertake the journey.

Tramps have been unusually plenty the past season, we
having accommodated about seventy.

At this point it may be well to refer to the services of our
town physician, who we feel has attended to the needs of our
dependent ones in a satisfactory manner. There has been an
unusual amount of sickness among the poor the past year, and
by reason of having a physician by contract a large amount has
been saved thereby, notably in the Smith case.

Highway Account.

REPORT OF ROAD COMMISSIONER.

Appropriation for the year 1903, $2,000 00
" " deficiency, 1902, 385 02
Amount overdrawn, 120 55

$2,505 57

EXPENDITURES.

Overdraft for year 1902, $ 385 02
H. H. Wescott, labor, 1 50
Frank O. Mayberry, labor, 7 20
H. L. Dennen, crossing land in winter, 5 00
F. A. Martin, labor, 6 75
Wm. Joyce, labor, 6 00
C. E. Morrill, labor, 40 25
E. D. Dudley, labor, 55 00
Amos Tilton, labor, 138 73
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Woodsum</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>78.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. J. Morton</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred A. Jordan</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>384.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Chaplain</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Harris</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>30.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. C. Herrick</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geo. Rand</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>7.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. B. Rand</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. S. Fish</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. C. Chipman</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>87.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. D. Jordan</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>23.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland P. &amp; M. Co.</td>
<td>lumber</td>
<td>80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. B. Black</td>
<td>repairs road machine</td>
<td>10.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. H. Milliken</td>
<td>bridge plank</td>
<td>28.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. O. Wilson</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis Mains</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>78.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. H. Judkins</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>52.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Frank Haskell</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>146.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horace Moore</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>80.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. F. Bray</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>44.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. E. Harlow</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. C. March</td>
<td>“</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saunders Brothers</td>
<td>repairing tools, etc.</td>
<td>13.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alonzo Buck</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland Paper Co.</td>
<td>labor and material</td>
<td>156.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Keston</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard Seal</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dustin Martin</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>57.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Russell</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>22.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. Campbell</td>
<td>labor</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. H. Cobb</td>
<td>paid freight</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkes &amp; Whitney</td>
<td>material and tools</td>
<td>39.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. L. Davis</td>
<td>painting bridge</td>
<td>23.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
James P. Grant, labor, 50 40
F. J. Farris, 59 75
John Fessenden, 27 37
F. E. Rowe, lumber, 7 16
J. E. Estes, labor, 2 88
A. A. Shorey, labor, 1 00
C. L. Hackett, labor, 75 37
J. B. Poland, labor, 12 25
W. S. Waterhouse, cement, 45
Geo. O. Goodwin & Co., lumber, 22 03
John Stanton, labor, 29 25
J. W. Penney & Sons Co., sewer pipe, 80
J. K. Denning, labor, 4 00
Robert Meggett, labor, 8 25
H. J. Jordan, labor, 59 60
A. L. Fobes, labor, 2 00
L. J. Morton, labor, 50
A. S. Bray, labor, 10 80
F. D. True, labor, 38 00
A. Taylor, labor, 75
L. A. Bailey, storing road machine, 2 00

$2,120 55

$2,505 57

Respectfully submitted,

S. D. JORDAN.

Fire Department.

Amount overdrawn in 1902, $ 76 74
Appropriation, 400 00
Amount overdrawn, 19 01

$495 75

**EXPENDITURES.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overdraft for 1902,</td>
<td>$76 74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. E. Jordan, chief engineer, salary,</td>
<td>$25 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. S. Jewett, first assistant engineer, salary,</td>
<td>15 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. C. Rawson, second assistant engineer, salary,</td>
<td>6 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Ireland, cleaning vault,</td>
<td>1 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland Paper Co., telephone box,</td>
<td>12 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hose Co., No. 1, fire and practice,</td>
<td>139 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hook and Ladder Co., fire and practice,</td>
<td>89 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Eastman &amp; Co., perfection nozzle,</td>
<td>50 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkes &amp; Whitney, supplies,</td>
<td>13 72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Farris, Wood,</td>
<td>10 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Waterhouse, sawing wood,</td>
<td>1 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. E. Jordan, supplies,</td>
<td>1 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. M. Mayberry, supplies,</td>
<td>1 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merrill &amp; Denning, chemicals,</td>
<td>5 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. J. Weston, coal and supplies,</td>
<td>25 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanic Falls W. &amp; E. L. &amp; P. Co., electric lights,</td>
<td>21 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$495 75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There have been three fires and three alarms in the past year and one call to Page’s Mills. The property of the department is in first class condition.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. JORDAN.
Chief Engineer.
Officers' Salaries.

Appropriation for year 1903, $600 00
Overdrawn, 64 00

$664 00

EXPENDITURES.

Overdrawn in 1902, $ 32 00
H. E. Thurston, moderator, 5 00
C. M. Hutchins, clerk, 2 00
F. H. Cobb, selectman, 160 00
E. K. Holbrook, selectman, 80 00
J. E. Saunders, selectman, 70 00
C. M. Hutchins, treasurer, 75 00
M. N. Royal, board of health, 10 00
C. B. Rankin, 15 00
A. V. Hathaway, 10 00
L. O. Cobb, town physician, 30 00
A. E. Sawyer, truant officer, 10 00
J. M. Libby, Supt. of schools, 100 00
J. M. Libby, town agent, 50 00
F. E. Tufts, auditor, 15 00

$664 00

Lock-Up Account.

Mechanic Falls W. & E. L. & P. Co., for lighting, $ 50
Geo. O. Goodwin & Co., wood, 3 25
A. V. Hathaway, wood, 1 62
D. L. Cousens, pail, 25

Amount to contingent fund, $5 62

Commissions and Abatements.

Unexpended 1902, $ 72 83
Appropriation 600 00

$672 83

Abatements, $281 51
L. W. Mason, collector's commission, 262 89

$544 40
Balance unexpended, 128 43

$672 83

Memorial Day.

Appropriation, $50 00
Paid A. A. Dwinal Post, No. 3, G. A. R., 50 00

Hydrant Rental.

Appropriation, $1,680 00
Paid Mechanic Falls Water Co. for use of water July 1, '03 to July 1, '04, $1,660 00
Balance contingent account, 20 00

$ 1,680 00
Twenty dollars was allowed on account of two disabled hydrants.

### Street Lighting.

**Appropriation,** $1,248.00

Paid Mechanic Falls Water & Electric Light & Power Co., 1,248.00

**Incidentals.**

Unexpended from 1902, $53.80

**Expenditures.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Gould, cleaning vaults</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. L. D. Simpson, cleaning school houses</td>
<td>12.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ledger Publishing Co., printing school rolls</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. G. Morton, duster</td>
<td>8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanic Falls W. &amp; E. L. &amp; P. Co., supplies</td>
<td>75.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. S. Merrill, shades</td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. M. Libby, express charges etc.</td>
<td>5.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$287.00

Balance unexpended, 25.10

$53.80

### Firemen’s Building.

**Expenditures.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid F. R. Conant, lumber</td>
<td>$8.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. G. Cole, labor and material</td>
<td>29.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. L. Meserve, trucking</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
J. L. Keen, repairing roof, 1 25
Poland Paper Co., lumber, 8 40
F. H. Cobb, paid freight on lumber, 25
Charles Harris, painting extension, 2 70
A. J. Weston, lumber, 30 18
H. E. Chandler, mason work, 10 50
B. Keston, tending mason, 2 70
Hawkes & Whitney, hardware, 17 92
Mechanic Falls Brick Co., bricks, 4 28
J. L. Keen, labor, 9 50
L. J. Morton, grading, 1 75

Amount to contingent fund, $129.51

Public Library.

Unexpended from 1902, $118.07
Appropriation, 300.00
Received from State, 35.10
" " Ignoramus Club, 20.00

$473.17

EXPENDITURES.

Mechanic Falls W. & E. L. & P. Co., lights, $ 25.08
Lizzie J. Butler, librarian, 50.00
Loring Short & Harmon, books, 225.48
J. A. Bucknam & Co., insurance, 15.50
Geo. B. Files, books, 18.00
American Library Co., books, 6.38
Poland Paper Co., rent, 65.00
E. D. Cole, janitor, 7.50
Trustees' Report.

The trustees of the public library make the following report for the year just closed:

Balance on hand from 1902, $118 07
Appropriation, 300 00
Received from the State, 35 10
Received from Ignoramus Club, 20 00

EXPENDITURES.

Books, $249 86
Rent, 65 00
Lighting, 25 08
Librarian, 50 00
Insurance, 15 50
Janitor, 7 50
Supplies, 1 76
Fuel 7 25
Balance unexpended, 51 22

$473 17

J. M. LIBBY.
LIZZIE JEWETT-BUTLER,
Trustees of the Public Library,
Librarian's Report.

It is always a pleasant thing when making an annual report to be able to state that there has been progress, and this is the case in our statement for the year 1903.

We have 1749 volumes in the library and about one hundred volumes ordered, which will be ready during March. These are divided among the departments of literature, history, biography, fiction and books for the younger readers. Timely books on Germany, Russia and Japan, and other topics of special interest at present, are included in this order.

Cards have been issued to 1076 borrowers, and the average circulation each week is two hundred. Fines have purchased six new books.

The department of local history grows very slowly, bound volumes of our local paper are given each year by the editors of the Ledger, to whom also, we are indebted for a volume of the annual reports of the town of Mechanic Falls from 1893 to 1903 inclusive, which is a valuable addition to our reference department. The "I. C." gives each year three books on special subjects and a year's magazines on that topic.

Miss Nettie Grant has acted as assistant librarian in an acceptable manner during the illness and enforced absence of the librarian.

The usefulness of the library would be greatly increased, if the teachers in the public schools would inform the librarian concerning the special topics of study for each term, as lists and bulletins of the contents of the library could be made, thus rendering the reference books of greater value in school work. In many towns the teachers find this method of value, and both school and library are made more useful to pupils and students.

Another method of usefulness would be for citizens who take several magazines to donate, at least one (after reading) to the
library. These magazines could be bound at small expense and would add much important literature to the list for collateral reading by students.

The librarian wishes at this time to thank all who have, by personal visits and kindly advice, helped to lighten the pleasant work of each week. We desire also to pay a tribute to that member of the Board of Trustees who has been called to a "higher life." Dr. E. F. Bradford, by his words of commendation and encouragement, his excellent taste in the solid literature of the day, and his manly qualities was an able and valued co-worker and friend. We know that he is reading from the Book of Life, messages of untold beauty and light, and believe that his good influence will remain forever with us.

The first paragraph in this report told of progress. A library that does not grow is a dead library. A good library gives more clean, wholesome pleasure than any other public institution, for the amount invested. It should be given generous appropriations and will give generous returns. It is one of the silent forces of the community. Because the benefits from the library do not at once become discernable to us, let us not doubt that we are dealing with the most powerful force known to man, and that results, mighty and infinitely reaching beyond material facts that we can observe, are sure to follow. Good reading leads many away from distasteful environments, up toward a higher plane of enjoyment, of happiness, of hope and of well doing, and is one of the greatest aids toward making good citizens, and good citizenship makes a good town.

It is the aim of your library officials to purchase the best books in all departments and to that end the library lists and methods of the best librarians everywhere are studied and copied so far as our appropriations will allow. That our little library may become an important factor in the intellectual and
moral growth of our town, the hearty support and co-operation of every citizen is earnestly desired.

Respectfully submitted,
LIZZIE JEWETT-BUTLER,
Librarian.

High School.

Unexpended 1902, $ 2 50
Appropriation, 800 00
Rec’d from State, 250 00

$1,052 50

EXPENDITURES.

Paid H. H. Stuart, teaching, $ 685 00
Harriet Lord, 90 00
Hazel Donham, 30 00
Gertrude Moody, 230 00

$1,035 00

Balance unexpended, $17 50

Graduating Expenses, High School.

Appropriation, $25 00
Paid H. H. Stuart, 25 00
Common Schools.

Balance from 1902, $148.59
Appropriation, 2,200.00
Mill tax, 1,234.73

EXPENDITURES.

Nancy Bucknam, teaching, $120.00
Mollie Bucknam, 84.00
Carrie Perkins, 28.50
Geneva Hutchins, 208.00
Charlotte Bridge, 246.00
Susie L. Fitz, 385.00
Hortense Bradford, 244.00
Matilda Fitz, 200.00
Beth C. Lewis, 64.00
Annie Pulsifer, 255.00
Inez Decker, 72.00
Annie Lafarriere, 150.00
Lillian S. Haskell, 54.00
Hattie Spiller, 24.00
Henrietta Rowe, 186.00
Effie Wayne, 6.00
Jordan & Saunders, transportation, 202.80
Charles Tenney, transportation, 60.00
D. F. Bray, transportation, 216.60
A. E. Sawyer, janitor, 96.00
H. N. Whittle, 140.00
Frances Mains, 44.00
C. B. Foster, 6.00
R. W. Goodwin, fuel, 24.00
A. J. Weston, 270.87

Total $3,583.32
Adrian Walcott, fuel, 1 00
J. K. Denning, " 63 00
S. N. Haskell, " 9 00
Geo. E. Moore, fitting wood, 6 25
H. N. Whittle, " " 6 25
Francis Mains, " " 5 00

$3,477 27
Balance unexpended, 106 05

$3,583 32

Repairs.

Balance unexpended in 1902, $174 03
Appropriation, 100 00

$274 03

EXPENDITURES.

Paid C. W. Austin, fixing doors, $ 75
H. N. Whittle, putting in glass, 70
Chas. Harris, painting school house, 4 90
A. M. Martin, building coal bin, 9 30
R. G. G. Wright, labor placing seats, 14 00
W. S. Waterhouse, lime, cement etc., 21 38
C. H. Walker, labor on school house, 4 50
Robert Meggett, labor on school house, 5 25
C. A. Conant, painting High school building, 88 00
I. L. Meserve, hauling gravel, 4 65
C. A. Conant, painting blackboards, 7 50
J. M. Abbott, labor on school house, 1 05
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C. B. Cummings &amp; Sons, cement</td>
<td>1 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. W. Austin, labor on school house</td>
<td>1 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland Paper Co., lumber</td>
<td>1 51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. E. Sawyer, labor</td>
<td>11 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. N. Whittle, labor</td>
<td>5 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. F. Bradford, express on furnace grate</td>
<td>1 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Central Iron Co., furnace grate</td>
<td>2 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. E. Chandler, mason work</td>
<td>10 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. W. Penney &amp; Sons, material, and labor</td>
<td>12 87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkes &amp; Whitney, material</td>
<td>8 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. E. Leach, repairing roof</td>
<td>2 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. J. Morton, labor</td>
<td>1 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Woodsum, tending mason</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. B. Cummings &amp; Sons, lime and cement</td>
<td>4 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanic Falls Brick Co., brick</td>
<td>5 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fred Waterhouse</td>
<td>1 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otis N. Bailey, putting on outside windows</td>
<td>2 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geo. A. Whitney &amp; Co., wire cloth</td>
<td>4 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. N. Whittle, labor and material</td>
<td>1 63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Lewiston, desks</td>
<td>17 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. W. Penney &amp; Sons Co., repairing water pipe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland P. &amp; M. Co., lumber</td>
<td>1 05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. E. Sawyer, labor</td>
<td>2 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. L. Hackett, hauling gravel</td>
<td>1 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mechanic Falls Water C., repairing water pipe</td>
<td>2 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkes &amp; Whitney, material</td>
<td>3 62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance unexpended,</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$272 54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$274 03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Text Books.

Appropriation, $200 00

**EXPENDITURES.**

Amount overdrawn from 1902, $36 18
D. C. Heath & Co., $38 50
Ginn & Co., 76 12
Edward E. Babb & Co., 7 20
Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 2 98
Silver, Burdette & Young, 90
Rand, McNally & Co., 22 00
Atkinson & Mentzer, 4 35

$152 05

$188 23

Balance unexpended, 11 77

$200 00

Furnishings.

Unexpended for 1902, $36 22
Appropriation, 50 00
Book Rentals, 52 00

$138 22

Amount overdrawn, 12 39

$150 61
EXPENDITURES.

A. L. Chipman, printing cards, $ 1 75
G. B. Smith, diplomas, 3 00
Merrill & Denning, supplies, 68 29
W. G. Pulsifer, supplies, 37 40
Poland Paper Co., 24 56
Ledger Publishing Co., printing programmes, 12 50
Hawkes & Whitney, supplies, 3 11

$150 61

Interest.

Unexpended from 1902, $338 21
Appropriation, 800 00
On taxes collected by L. W. Mason, 256 09
Amount overdrawn, 51 70

$1,446 00

Paid interest on town bonds, series A., $976 00
  " " " " " " B., 70 00
  " " " " " " C., 262 50
  " " " " temporary loans, 137 50

$1,446 00

Snow Plows & Road Machines.

Amount appropriated, $200 00
Amount to contingent account, 4 80

$204 80
EXPENDITURES.

Paid A. B. Black, two side walk plows, $130 00
J. L. Holden, road breaking machine, 70 00
Freight on plows, 4 80

$204 80

State Roads.

Amount appropriated for 1903, $200 00
received from State, 100 00

$300 00

EXPENDITURES.

A. E. Harlow, labor, $4 50
D. Woodsum, 7 50
J. P. Grant, 17 50
D. Harris, 15 00
Francis Mains, 12 00
J. Campbell, 4 50
A. G. Herrick, 5 62
Fred Jordan, 38 50
D. Martin, 18 00
B. F. Haskell, 39 00
C. O. Russell, 14 25
A. Tilton, 4 00
I. H. Judkins, 3 75
Fred Farris, 2 00
C. L. Hackett, 5 25
Clark Goodwin, 5 00
To the Selectmen of the town of Mechanic Falls:

We would call the attention of the householders of the town, to the state law, which requires them to report the following diseases to the Local Board of Health:

- Diphtheria or membranous croup.
- Scarlet fever.
- Typhoid fever.
- Measles.
- Whooping-cough.
- Cerebro-spinal meningitis.
- Small pox.
- Cholera.
- Typhus fever.
- Pulmonary tuberculosis or consumption.

There have been reported to the Board the past year, three cases nuisance, eight cases of scarlet fever, and one case of measles, one case of typhoid fever and one case of diphtheria. No deaths have occurred from any of the above cases.

Respectfully submitted,

A. V. HATHAWAY.
C. B. RANKIN, M. D.
M. N. ROYAL.

Board of health.
To the citizens of the town of Mechanic Falls:

I have the honor to submit the following report of the business of the town, so far as concerns matters which have found their way into the courts, the year past.

The case of Anna B. Merrill vs. C. R. Pulsifer brought in the Supreme Judicial Court for Androscoggin County, was the first in which the town was interested.

The plaintiff claimed that in the settlement of matters between herself and the defendant, she had paid or allowed to him the amount of three years taxes, with interest and cost of sales, assessed on her homestead, and that he received from her a deed of the premises, he agreeing as a part of the consideration of said deed to pay the taxes to the town.

He afterwards claimed that some informality existed in the proceedings of the Collector of taxes, or other town officers, which rendered the sales for taxes, and the tax deeds given by the collector of taxes, invalid. He refused to pay the town the amount which the plaintiff claimed to have allowed him, in settlement, for that purpose. This suit was brought by the town in the name of the plaintiff, but for the benefit of the town, and was settled by the defendant by full payment of claims. The sum collected and paid to the town was $127.08.

The case of Oxford vs. Mechanic Falls was brought by the town of Oxford to recover for pauper supplies furnished to one Dorothy Verrill, who for several years had worked for William Everett in this town, as a hired servant.

From the best evidence obtainable we felt convinced that her pauper settlement was not in this town, and we have not yet been satisfied to the contrary. It is not improbable that the town may have further trouble on account of this pauper.
The case was tried at the last October term, Oxford County, and resulted in a verdict for Oxford, to which exceptions were taken, and may be allowed and filed before April 1st, to take the case to the Law Court. There being no claim that her settlement is in Oxford, and she having left that town, there seems to be small reason to continue the litigation further. However the matter is in position to be carried forward or to be dropped, as the town may desire.

The case of Marston vs. Schultz was a complaint, under the Bastardy Statute, against the defendant, in which case the overseers of the poor of this town appeared by proper proceedings, as provided by statute, to prevent a settlement of the same by the parties, until the town should be properly secured by bond, against liability of the support of the mother and child.

The marriage of the parties to the action seems to have ended the litigation, and at the same time to have changed the pauper settlement of two persons from this town to another.

Charges for the years work are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merrill vs. Pulsifer</td>
<td>10 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxford vs. Mechanic Falls</td>
<td>25 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marston vs. Schultz</td>
<td>15 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$50 00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully,

J. M. LIBBY.

Town Agent.
Town Bonds.

SERIES "A"

Amount bonds issued, $26,200 00
Bonds, purchased, $1,200 00
Proceeds of bonds dated July 1, 1904, 14,934.48
Amount from sinking fund, 8,965.52

$25,100.00

Amount bonds unpaid, $1,100 00

SERIES "C"

Amount bonds issued, $15,000 00
Premium on bonds, 4.50

$15,004.50

Paid advertising in Lewiston Journal, $7.02
" " Portland Press, 7.50
" " Boston Journal, 38.00
" Printing bonds, 17.00
Balance to bond account series A., 14,934.48

$15,004.50

Sinking Fund.

Amount depositd in Chapman National Bank, $4,000 00
" " Lewiston T. & S. D. Co., 3,000 00
" " Shoe and Leather Bank, 800 00
Interest on deposits, 1,287 00
Order to Treasurer February 1904, 1,000 00

Amount to bond account series A., 8,965 52

Balance in fund, 1,121 48

Contingent Fund.

Unexpended from 1902, $ 30 98
Appropriation, 500 00
Tax overlay 1903, 160 71
License fees collected, 25 00
Received from Sam. Knight building, 3 00
Grass sold, 2 25
Hydrant rental, 20 00
State road, 99 13

$841 07

EXPENDITURES.

Ledger Publishing Co., printing town report, $54 45
R. W. Goodwin, wood for selectmen's offices 3 25
J. A. Bucknam & Co., insurance on hose house. 76 50
D. S. Perkins, rent of selectmen's office, 30 00
D. S. Perkins, rent of hall annual meeting, 15 00
D. S. Perkins, rent of hall special meeting, 7 50
Mechanic Falls W. & E. L. & P. Co., lighting selectmen's office, 6 00
W. G. Pulsifer, blank books, 10 15
Maine Register for 1903-4, 2 00
J. A. Bucknam & Co., insurance on Elm Street school house, 76 50
W. B. Beal, recording deeds, 5 50
Ledger Publishing Co., printing dog licences, 2 25
" " " " bond circulars, 3 75
" " " " letter heads, 2 25
For witness fees and costs in Verrill case, 55 50
Geo. O. Goodwin & Co., wood, selectmen's office, 3 50
A. V. Hathaway, wood, selectmen's office, 1 75
Hawkes & Whitney, supplies, board of health, 1 85
P. R. Cobb, horse hire, 4 25
J. A. Jones, Civil Engineer, for services, 48 00
F. O. Purington, expenses paid case of Marston vs. Schultz, 25 00
Williamson & Burleigh, preparing tax forms year 1900, 3 00
H. J. Jordan, watering tub, 3 00
A. S. Bray, watering tub, 3 00
D. L. Cousens, services as constable July 4 and labor day, 5 50
J. Alton Crooker, services as constable July 4 and labor day, 5 50
L. W. Weston, services of constable labor day, 2 00
Merrill & Denning, chemicals board of health, 5 36
" " " use of telephone, 1 60
Hawkes & Whitney, shovel for office, 10
F. H. Cobb, cash paid for postage, stationery, etc., 11 36
F. H. Cobb, cash paid for R. R. fares and use of teams, 6 45
F. H. Cobb, cash paid for broom etc., 33
W. G. Pulsifer, for stationary, 27
Physicians reporting births and deaths, 14 50
C. M. Hutchins, for postage, express etc., 6 25
C. M. Hutchins, recording births and deaths, 14 85
C. M. Hutchins, administering oaths, 80
C. M. Hutchins, porcupine bounty, 25
J. W. Colley, use of dumping ground, 5 00
Paid freight on snow plows, 4 80
Firemen’s building, repairs and building over chimney, 129 51
Lockup, supplies, 5 62
Dog licenses, town’s part, 31 89

Balance in fund, $695 89

Financial Standing.

Amount of bonds outstanding, Series A, $1,100 00
Amount of bonds outstanding, Series B, 2,000 00
Amount of bonds outstanding, Series C, 15,000 00
Outstanding town orders, 206 74

Cash in treasury, $2,555 27
Sinking fund, 1,121 48
Due from town of Hebron, 6 25
“ “ “ Rumford, 67 44
“ “ “ Oxford, 9 90
“ “ “ Bethel, 3 92
“ “ “ Otisfield, 3 00
“ “ “ Poland, 39 57

$18,306 74
Recommendations.

Common schools, $2,000 00
Free high school, 800 00
Support of poor, 1,200 00
Roads and bridges, 2,000 00
Contingent fund, 600 00
Sinking fund, 700 00
Interest, 600 00
Officers' salaries, 700 00
Abatements and commissions, 600 00
Hydrant rental, 1,680 00
Electric lights, 1,264 00
Fire department, 400 00
Library, 300 00
Memorial Day, 50 00
Text books, 300 00
Apparatus and furnishing, 200 00
Repairs, 100 00

Remarks.

The financial transactions of the town during the past year have been much larger than ever before. Orders have been drawn to the amount of $56,051.08. We made a strenuous effort to have all bills against the town presented and paid, even writing to parties outside the town who had bills against us to send them by the first of March. The only one that we know of who has failed to do this is the Maine Insane Hospital, for three months board of Rand and Gookin. We even called by telephone the third day of March for their bill, but up to the present writing—March 7th—it has not been received. Consequently the deficiency in the pauper account will be the amount of their bill more than shown—probably about $70.

The town bonds that were issued in 1893 matured July 1, 1903. Provision was made for the payment of these bonds at your last annual meeting by the issuing of $15,000, 3 1/2 per cent., 15 year bonds, the proceeds to be used toward taking up the bonds of 1893 and the balance for that purpose to be taken from the sinking fund. $25,100.00 of this old issue have been paid, leaving $1,100.00 that have not been presented for payment. It will be noticed however that there is in the sinking fund enough to pay them and leave a balance in the fund of $21.48.

Since the bonds of 1893 were issued there has been appropriated by the town and assessed for the sinking fund $11,800.00. Of this amount $10,000.00 has been placed in the fund, leaving $1,800.00 in the treasury. There is now in the treasury $3,676.75 and we would recommend that $1,000.00 be
drawn at once and placed in that fund.

For your information we would say that your collector has collected during the year $18,176.55—something more than the assessment for the year—and shows a smaller amount of taxes uncollected for year than in any year since we became a town.

There has also been been received for old tax deeds $541.17.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. COBB,
E. K. HOLBROOK,
J. E. SAUNDEBS,
Selectmen of Mechanic Falls.

Treasurer's Report.

C. M. Hutchins, treasurer, in account with the Town of Mechanic Falls.

DR.

To balance on hand March 1, 1902, $1,832 32
Cash received account sewer, 395 00
Collector on account 1898 tax, 38 62
  " " " 1899 tax, 43 53
  " " " 1900 tax, 107 60
  " " " 1901 tax, 808 12
  " " " 1902 tax, 3,531 98
  " " " 1903 tax, 13,646 70
  " " " interest on taxes overdue, 256 09
Tax deeds, 541 17
H. H. Stuart et als. book rental, etc, 52 00
Ignoramus Club, rent, 20 00
State, account free high school, 375 00
" " Mill tax, 1,234 73
" " Public library, 35 10
" " Dog licenses refunded, 111 11
" " State pensions, 384 00
" " Burial soldiers, 70 00
" " Roads, 100 00
Lewiston Trust and Safe Deposit Co., for bonds, 15,004 50
Temporary loans, 11,000 00
Town clerk, dog licenses, 143 00
F. H. Cobb, licenses granted, 25 00
" " " Sam. Knights building sold, 3 00
" " " Grass sold, 2 25
City of Augusta, 35 00
Town of Poland, 31 68
" " Rumford, 63 17
" " Gray, 9 41
" " Oxford, 50 25
J. C. Hopkins, 74 50
Sinking fund, 10,087 00

CR.

By cash paid town orders, $56,051 08
" " State pensions, 384 00
Balance on hand, 3,676 75

$60,111 83

Respectfully submitted,

C. M. HUTCHINS, Treasurer.

I have examined the books and vouchers of the treasurer, also the books, vouchers and accounts of the selectmen, and find them correct.

March 14, 1904. F. E. TUFTS, Auditor.
Vital Statistics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March 1, '96, to March 1, '97</th>
<th>Births</th>
<th>Marriages</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; '97, &quot; &quot; &quot; '98,</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; '98, &quot; &quot; &quot; '99,</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; '99, &quot; &quot; &quot; '00,</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
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## IN MEMORIAM.

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<tr>
<th>Date of Dth.</th>
<th>Name.</th>
<th>Place of Dth.</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Mar. or Sin.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 11,</td>
<td>William T. Everett.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>Widow.</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 4,</td>
<td>Sarah Moore.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>Widower.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; 5,</td>
<td>Loring L. Farrar.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; 11,</td>
<td>Florilla A. Young.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot; 13,</td>
<td>Josiah J. Bucknam.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot; 14,</td>
<td>John H. Thorpe.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot; 27,</td>
<td>Inf. of W. H. Edwards</td>
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<td>Widower.</td>
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<td>May 3,</td>
<td>Charlotte B. Cobb.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Married.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 8,</td>
<td>Simon Libby.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot; 9,</td>
<td>Herbert F. Jordan.</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>&quot; 21,</td>
<td>Wilfred W. Herrick.</td>
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<td>Sept. 8,</td>
<td>Chas. Henry Cushman</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<td>Oct. 1,</td>
<td>Chas. F. Jackson.</td>
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<td>&quot; 7,</td>
<td>Sarah W. Bridge.</td>
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<td>66</td>
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<td>&quot; 19,</td>
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<td>&quot; 13,</td>
<td>Sarah A. Hollbrook.</td>
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<td>&quot; 14,</td>
<td>Fidelia Russell.</td>
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<td>&quot; 15,</td>
<td>Inf. of Bert Bangs.</td>
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<td>&quot; 30,</td>
<td>Martha A. Davis.</td>
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<td>Feb. 8,</td>
<td>Enoch F. Bradford.</td>
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<td>&quot; 27,</td>
<td>Inf. of F. M. Davis.</td>
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</table>

### Died in other Towns and States and recorded in Mechanic Falls.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name.</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Mar. or Sin.</th>
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<tr>
<td>May 5, '03</td>
<td>Lizzie R. Buckland.</td>
<td>Milwaukee, Wis.</td>
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<td>&quot; 22,</td>
<td>Eva M. Daniels.</td>
<td>Minot.</td>
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<td>&quot; 29,</td>
<td>Hannah S. Littlefield.</td>
<td>Lynn, Mass.</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>Single.</td>
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<td>Nov. 3,</td>
<td>Tommie Fielding.</td>
<td>Pejepscot.</td>
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<td>Widow.</td>
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<td>Dec. 23,</td>
<td>Gelia Luella Gerry.</td>
<td>Lynn, Mass.</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>Widower.</td>
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<td>Jan. 22, '04</td>
<td>Ralph M. Fessenden.</td>
<td>Portland.</td>
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<td>&quot; 22,</td>
<td>Dudley B. Holt.</td>
<td>Buxton.</td>
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<td>Feb. 22,</td>
<td>Susan M. Holt.</td>
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<td>&quot; 25,</td>
<td>Harriet L. Dennen.</td>
<td>Monmouth.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Report of Superintendent of Schools.

To the town of Mechanic Falls;

I herewith submit my report as superintendent of schools for the year just closed.

The school year has been one, generally speaking, of interest and profit to all concerned, and I have to return my sincere acknowledgements and thanks for the cordial sympathy and support extended by the great majority of our citizens towards the maintenance of the high character and standing of our schools in all departments. A few have seen fit to exercise the undoubted prerogative of American citizenship, to find fault and criticize; in most cases with bad reason and worse judgement. If the same amount of energy had been expended in an honest attempt to better the condition of the schools, instead of indulging in unjust and indiscriminate criticism, a much better state of affairs might have resulted to the schools and the community alike. I am assured that the cultivation of a more intimate acquaintance with, and knowledge of our teachers and scholars, and the work of the schools, would disarm much of the unfair and unmerited fault-finding.

The education of our youth is a cause in which all ought to unite in bestowing every best effort and earnest consecrated labor.

Our town is doing its best to keep pace with the highest requirements of the times in educational lines, and it is gratifying to note that when scholars come to us from other towns and cities, they readily find their proper places in the corresponding grades of our schools.
The high school for the past year has been under the principalship of Mr. Herman H. Stuart. This is Mr. Stuart's second year in this school, and his labors have proved eminently satisfactory to the school officers. There has been a large increase in the number of scholars attending this school over the previous year. The students have all displayed a commendable zeal in their work, and a good degree of interest has been maintained. Mr. Stuart is a thorough disciplinarian; a zealous and painstaking instructor, who earns and receives the cordial respect and confidence of his pupils. The school has been somewhat unfortunate from the fact that several changes in the position of assistant have occurred during the year. Miss Lord, who taught in this place during the spring term, secured a more satisfactory position during the summer vacation, and did not return. The place has been filled by temporary appointment until the employment of Miss Gertrude Moody, the present assistant, whose services have proved very satisfactory.

It is a source of gratification to note that, while but one student graduated from the high school last year, the graduating class of the present year numbers ten. The graduates of our high school, who take the college preparatory course are admitted to the freshman class in the several colleges of our state, upon certificate and without passing examination. This fact of itself, is sufficient to show that our high school is maintaining a high standard.

I desire to call attention to the fact that, of the total enrollment of forty-two pupils, substantially one-half of the number are not residents of this town, but come from our neighboring towns, Poland and Minot. The scholars from our sister towns, assist greatly in creating and maintaining the interest of the school. They are all model students, thorough-going and painstaking in their work and appreciate the advantages which
they receive as students in our high school. The large expense which the town assumes in maintaining a good high school ought, in some fair and equitable way be divided among the three towns whose scholars receive the advantages of the school, and I believe that if our neighbors would abandon the idea of attempting to maintain free high schools in their rural communities, and join with us, by adding a small appropriation from each town to the sum which we annually appropriate, we might be enabled thereby to greatly increase the efficiency of our high school to the material advantage of all concerned.

Several of the school officers of our adjoining towns have already expressed their desire to cooperate in such movement, and to influence favorable action in this direction by their towns.

**GRAMMAR SCHOOL.**

Our grammar school had an enrollment of sixty scholars, and an average attendance during the last term of fifty six, among whom there are some of the brightest and most capable intellects to be found in any of our schools, but possibly the circumstance that frequent changes have occurred in the teachers of this school, and perhaps the fact that they may have brought up with them, from the intermediate grade, which for a long time had maintained a low level of discipline, some lax notions of school government, has tended to retard the desired advancement of this school in some degree.

The scholars of this school are capable of a very high grade of work, and it is confidently expected that another term will witness a radical change in the discipline and work of this department.

Miss Lafarrier, who was the principal in this school, secured a better position in Hallowell, and resigned her place during the last term. Miss Matilda Fitz, who had been her assistant, was chosen to fill her place temporarily, and Miss
Beth Lewis was elected assistant. Miss Lewis has since resigned, and some new arrangement must be made for the coming term.

**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.**

This is our largest school in point of numbers. The total enrollment for the last term was eighty six, and the average attendance eighty. The scholars occupy one room, and are under the principalship of Miss Susie L. Fitz, with Miss Hortense Bradford as assistant. This school, which for several years past has not maintained a satisfactory standing, has now become one of our very best schools. The discipline and work of the school are in every way satisfactory to the school board. Miss Fitz has certainly accomplished a most radical and salutary change in this department.

**PRIMARY SCHOOLS.**

The Water Street primary school has been under the instruction of Mrs. Annie Pulsifer, with Miss Henrietta Rowe as assistant. This school has made good progress under the present instructors. Miss Rowe has tendered her resignation and it will be necessary to secure another assistant for the next term.

**ELM STREET PRIMARY.**

Miss Geneva Hutchins, who was head teacher in this school, secured a more desirable situation in the schools at Rumford Falls, and resigned her position during the last term, and Miss Charlotte Bridge who had been her assistant was elected to fill the vacancy, with Miss Lillian Haskell as assistant. Both of these teachers have performed their duties in a most acceptable manner.
In the resignation of Miss Hutchins we lost one of our very best teachers in this grade of work, and we can but congratulate the school board of Rumford Falls in having secured her services.

PIGEON HILL SCHOOL.

This school was discontinued by operation of law, not being able to maintain the average attendance required by the statutes. The scholars from this section of the town have been transported to the village schools, and at a saving of expense to the town. Miss Inez V. Decker taught during the spring term of this school previous to its discontinuance before the succeeding fall term, and the school made very satisfactory progress under her instruction.

SUMMARY.

The total expense for instruction in the high school for the year has been $1035.00.
The largest enrollment of scholars was 42
The average attendance of scholars, 33
The average cost per scholar for instruction was $31.36

COMMON SCHOOLS.

The total expenditures for teaching in all the grades below the high school for the year was $2326.50
Number of different teachers employed in these grades during the year 16.
Whole number scholars enrolled in schools, 290.
Average attendance for the year 238.
Cost of fuel for all the schools, $385.37
Cost of janitor service, 286.00
Cost of transportation, 479.40
EXPENDITURES.

The expense of maintaining the different departments of the school work is stated in the various accounts given in the report of the selectmen and need not be further repeated here.

In closing this report I desire to make due acknowledgment of my appreciation of the earnest endeavors of each and all of the teachers, who have by precept and example labored incessantly for the highest good of our youth. My thanks are hereby tendered to the members of the school committee, each of whom has rendered most loyal and valuable service to the cause of education in our midst.

The school board has been deprived of its chairman by the recent death of Dr. E. F. Bradford and in recognition of his amiable, discreet and exemplary character, his fidelity to duty, his unimpeachable integrity, his sturdy loyalty and devotion to every good work, and especially of his constant and devoted services to the educational interests of our community, his associates join with me in this brief testimonial to his most estimable qualities of heart and brain.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. LIBBY.

Superintendent of Schools.
Warrant for Town Meeting.

To L. W. Mason, a Constable of the Town of Mechanic Falls in the County of Androscoggin and State of Maine,

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the said town of Mechanic Falls, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at Perkins Hall, in said town, on the twenty-first day of March A. D., 1904, at nine 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 act upon the report of the town officers.

Art. 4. To choose a board of selectmen, assessors, overseers of the poor, a town treasurer, town agent, a member of the board of school committee, two trustees of the public library, a truant officer, a road commissioner and all other necessary town officers for the ensuing year.
Art. 5. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the support of common schools for the ensuing year.

Art. 6. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the support of a free high school for the ensuing year.

Art. 7. To see what sum of money the town will vote to expend for a free high school for the ensuing year.

Art. 8. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the repair of highways and bridges for the ensuing year.

Art. 9. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the support of the poor for the ensuing year.

Art. 10. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the contingent fund for the ensuing year.

Art. 11. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for town officers’ salaries for the ensuing year.

Art. 12. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the sinking fund for the ensuing year.

Art. 13. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the payment of interest for the ensuing year.

Art. 14. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for abatements and collector’s commissions for the ensuing year.

Art. 15. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the observance of Memorial Day for the ensuing year.
Art. 16. To see if the town will grant and raise the sum of $1,264.00 for lighting streets.

Art. 17. To see if the town will grant and raise the sum of $1,680.00 for hydrant rental.

Art. 18. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the support of the fire department for the ensuing year.

Art. 19. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the support of the public library and purchase of books for the ensuing year.

Art. 20. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the purchase of text books, apparatus and furnishings for schools for the ensuing year.

Art. 21. To see what sum of money the town will grant and raise for the repairs of school houses for the ensuing year.

Art. 22. To see if the town will grant and raise the sum of twenty-five dollars to defray the expense of graduating exercises of the high school for the ensuing year.

Art. 23. To see if the town will vote to determine the time when the commitment of taxes shall be made and at what time taxes shall be payable and that interest shall be collected from and after such time.

Art. 24. To see if the town will agree on an abatement to those who voluntarily pay their taxes to the collector or treasurer at certain periods and the times within which they shall be so entitled.
Art. 25. To choose a collector of taxes and fix his compensation.

Art. 26. To see if the town will authorize the town treasurer, with the approval of the selectmen, to borrow such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town charges.

Art. 27. To see if the town will vote to have sixteen additional street lights along Main Street from corner of Pine to the Jewett place, so called. (By request.)

Art. 28. To see if the town will grant and raise the sum of $120.55 to liquidate the deficiency in the highway account, and $124.30 to liquidate the deficiency in the pauper account.

Art. 29. To see if the town will vote to grant and raise the sum of $200 for a state road as provided by Chapter 285 of the public laws of 1901.

Art. 30. To see if the town will vote to construct a sidewalk on Main St., commencing near the shoe factory to connect with the sidewalk opposite the home of Amos Tilton. (By request.)

Art. 31. To see if the town will vote to have two additional street lights on Marshall St., near Maple Grove Cemetery. (By request.)

Art. 32. To see if the town will vote to fence the school house lot on Water St. (By request.)

Art. 33. To see if the town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to change the location of Maple St., from the land of Evie M. Tilton to land of Geo. F. Lunt. (By request.)
ART. 34. To see if the town will vote to authorize the town treasurer to make and execute a quit-claim deed in behalf of the town, releasing its right in and to real estate held by it by tax deed upon payment of taxes, interest and costs.

ART. 35. To see if the town will vote to acquire by purchase, or otherwise, the property of the Mechanic Falls Manufacturing Company, known as the shoe factory and its appurtenances, and to raise money for that purpose. (By request.)

The Selectmen give notice that they will be in session for the purpose of correcting the list of voters in said town and hearing and deciding on applications claiming the right to have their names entered upon said list at the Selectmen's office, at two o'clock in the afternoon, Saturday, March 19, A. D. 1904, also at eight o'clock on day of said meeting.

Given under our hands at Mechanic Falls this twelfth day of March, A. D. 1904.

F. H. COBB,
E. K. HOLBROOK,
J. E. SAUNDERS,
Selectmen of Mechanic Falls.

Erratum.

The signatures of the overseers of the poor were inadvertently omitted after their report on page 13.