

1915

Annual Report of the Municipal Officers of the Town of Monson for the Year 1915-1916

Monson (Me.)

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Annual Report, Monson, Maine,

Year 1915



63

28-2

12

76

54

21

137-4

140

5480

3770

4250

50

4250

1538

2712

330

255

125

890

47

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7-6

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21

1214

44

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557



Annual Report
OF THE
MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

OF THE TOWN OF



MONSON



FOR THE YEAR

1915 - 1916



FOXCROFT:
Fred D. Barrows, Printer,
1916.

Municipal Officers of the Town of Monson for 1915.

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF POOR:

W. A. BRAY, W. W. PULLEN, E. H. FLINT

TOWN CLERK:

W. HARRY HUGHES

TREASURER:

F. M. HESCOCK

TAX COLLECTOR:

A. L. BROWN

SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

L. A. THOMAS A. L. BRAY, A. L. BROWN

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS:

H. M. PULLEN

AUDITOR:

H. M. PULLEN

TOWN AGENT:

P. W. KNIGHT

ROAD COMMISSIONER:

E. H. FLINT

BOARD OF HEALTH:

E. T. HESCOCK, DR. H. W. SAMPSON,
DR. F. L. VARNEY

SEALER:

F. M. HESCOCK

Annual Town Warrant.

To A. L. BROWN, a Constable of the town of Monson, in
the County of Piscataquis :

GREETING:

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town of Monson, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at Masonic Hall, in said town of Monson, the twentieth day of March, A. D. 1916, 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 choose all other necessary town officers for the ensuing year.
- Art. 4 To see what sum of money the town will raise for the support of schools.
- Art. 5 To see what sum of money the town will raise for the support of poor.
- Art. 6 To see what sum of money the town will raise for the repairs and maintenance of roads and bridges and how the same shall be expended.
- Art. 7 To see what sum of money the town will raise to defray all incidental town charges and for miscellaneous purposes.
- Art. 8 To see what sum of money the town will raise for care of sidewalks and how the same shall be expended.

- Art. 9 To see what sum of money the town will raise to pay interest.
- Art. 10 To see what sum of money the town will raise for free text books.
- Art. 11 To see what sum of money the town will raise for superintendent of schools salary.
- Art. 12 To see what sum of money the town will raise and appropriate for free high school and how the same shall be expended, and to authorize the school committee to make a contract with the trustees of Monson Academy.
- Art. 13 To see what sum of money the town will raise for apparatus and supplies.
- Art. 14 To see what sum of money the town will raise for repairs on school houses.
- Art. 15 To see what sum of money the town will raise for Memorial Day services.
- Art. 16 To see if the town will vote "yes" or "no" on the question of appropriating and raising the money necessary to entitle the town to State aid, as provided in Section 20, of Chapter 130, of the Public Laws of 1913.
- Art. 17 To see if the town will appropriate and raise the sum of \$533 for the improvement of the section of State aid road as outlined in the report of the State highway commission, in addition to the amount regularly raised for the care of ways, highways, and bridges; the above amount being the maximum which the town is allowed to raise under the provisions of Section 19, of Chapter 130, of the Public Laws of 1913.

- Art. 18 To see whether the town will vote to raise money, and what sum, for the maintenance of state and state aid highways during the ensuing year, within the limits of the town, under the provisions of section 9 and 18, of Chapter 180, of the Public Laws of 1913.
- Art. 19 To see if the town will charge interest on all taxes remaining unpaid Sept. 15, at 6 per cent.
- Art. 20 To see if the town will collect all poll taxes before July 15, 1916.
- Art. 21 To see what sum of money the town will raise for street lights for the ensuing year.
- Art. 22 To see if the town will vote to raise a sum of money for the benefit of the Monson Free Public Library.
- Art. 23 To see if the town will authorize the superintending school committee to use their discretion in regard to maintaining schools in those districts where there are less than the required number of scholars.
- Art. 24 To see if the town will raise a sum of money to be paid the Monson Band for evening concerts.
- Art. 25 To see what sum of money the town will raise for fire department.
- Art. 26 To see if the town will vote to erect and install more lights on Morton street.
- Art. 27 To see what sum of money the town will raise for a sidewalk from the Homer road to the Dennis Weeks' house.

- Art. 28 To see if the town will authorize the selectmen to make necessary repairs for the lockup, and raise money for the same.
- Art. 29 To see if the town will vote to install a water-system and toilet rooms in the village school buildings and raise money for the same.
- Art. 30 To see if the town will vote to move the Vinton school building to a place on Will Champion's or Chas. Jackson's farm, and raise money for the same.
- Art. 31 To see what action the town will take in regard to the sewerage system, said system to extend from the residence of W. H. Eldridge to the pond; and raise money for the same.
- Art. 32 To see if the town will vote to accept the names, selected by the selectmen, for the juror box.

The selectmen will be in session at Masonic Hall, on Monday, March 20, A. D. 1916, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon for the purpose of revising the list of voters.

Given under our hands this tenth day of March.

W. A. BRAY,	}	Selectmen of Monson, Me.
W. W. PULLEN,		
E. H. FLINT,		

Report of Selectmen.

Valuation April 1, 1915.

Real estate, resident,	\$142,270.00
Real estate, non-resident,	119,400.00
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Total real estate,	\$261,670.00
Personal estate, resident,	\$49,240.00
Personal estate, non-resident,	33,015.00
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Total personal estate,	\$82,255.00
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Grand total valuation,	\$343,925.00
 Raised by town at annual meeting,	 \$9,282.86
State tax for 1915,	1,775.71
County tax for 1915,	308.23
Overlay,	93.95
	<hr/>
Total amount,	\$11,460.75
Number of polls, 381 at \$3.00	
Rater per cent. .03	

Raised by town March 22, 1915.

Common schools,	\$1,800.00
Support of poor,	500.00
Roads and bridges,	2,000.00
Incidental,	1,200.00
Interest on town debt,	250.00
Free text books,	300.00
Salary of superintendent of schools,	175.00
Free High School,	1,000.00

Apparatus and supplies,	264.86
Repairs on school houses,	100.00
Memorial Day,	35.00
State aid road,	533.00
Street lights,	400.00
Public library,	100.00
Monson Band,	25.00
Fire department,	400.00
Painting town building,	50.00
Sidewalk,	50.00
Grade work in cemetery,	100.00
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	\$9,282.86
Raised by town,	\$1,200.00
Unexpended, 1914,	79.14
Raised by town for painting,	50.00
	<hr/>
	\$1 329 14

Officers' Bills and Incidental Expenses.

W. A. Bray, 1st. selectman,	\$125.00
W. W. Pullen, 2d selectman,	85.00
E. H. Flint, 3rd selectman,	60.00
W. Harry Hughes, clerk,	10.00
F. M. Hescok, treasurer,	40.00
Dr. H. W. Sampson, board of health,	10.00
E. T. Hescok, board of health,	3.00
Dr. F. L. Varney, board of health,	7.00
John E. Jackson, fire warden,	28.50
W. H. Fogg, fire warden,	30.00
A. L. Brown, moderator,	3.00
L. A. Thomas, school committee,	25.00
Arthur L. Bray, school committee,	25.00

A. L. Brown, school committee,	25.00
F. M. Hescok, sealer,	5.00
Hudson & Hudson, legal advice,	3.20
Horace Pullen, auditor,	6.00
W. A. Bray, paid express,	.72
Thomas W. Burr, town reports,	34.00
J. E. Jackson, night watch, 1914,	5 00
Doric Lodge, hall rent,	10.00
W. A. Bray, expense to Augusta, State road,	12.97
W. H. Fogg, investigating Akerson case,	2 00
Loring, Short & Harmon, town books,	12.15
Straw & Martin, insurance,	5.00
W. R. Hughes, ballot clerk, 1914,	4 00
David Cowan, night watch,	7.00
Alonzo Steward, painting town house,	49.65
Eugene Vielle, night watch,	4.00
W. H. Fogg, night watch,	7.00
W. H. Fogg, sheriff services,	1.30
E. T. Hescok, collecting dog taxes,	2.00
L. A. Thomas, clearing cemetery,	56.00
W. A. Bray, pauper case in Guilford,	3.00
F. A. Libby, night watch,	7.00
Stanley Stevens, night watch,	5 00
Straw & Martin, insurance,	21.20
E. R. Haines, making deeds,	4.00
Thomas W. Burr, blanks,	5.70
Straw & Martin, insurance,	5.96
E. T. Hescok, truant officer,	3.25
W. Harry Hughes, births and deaths,	9.17
L. A. Thomas, labor in cemetery,	3.75
R. M. Hescok, board of health supplies,	6.50
I. E. Bodge, night watch,	7.00

F. L. Varney, vital statistics,	5.00
Dr. J. L. Potter, vital statistics,	.50
Dr. H. W. Sampson, vital statistics.	5.75
Clark Towne, watering tub,	3.00
E. R. Haines, making deed,	1.00
F. M. Hescock, stationery and postage,	2.47
A. L. Brown, commission on 1915 taxes.	343.25
Unexpended,	183.15
	<hr/>
	\$1,329.14

Town Poor.

Raised by town,	\$500.00
Unexpended,	180.24
	<hr/>
	\$680.24
Apr. 21. Goods to Hamilton family,	\$ 32.00
30. " Swanson "	29.58
June 17. Wood for Hamilton family,	4.50
17. Cash to "	6.00
17. Goods "	36.27
July 2. Cash "	3.00
8. Rent for "	6.15
Aug. 16. Rent for Swanson family,	30.00
Sept. 3. Goods to "	61.07
Sept. 9. Wood to Hamilton family,	7.00
9. Burial expenses of Peter Akerson,	48.00
Oct. 12. Goods to Swanson family,	18.25
20. Wood to "	42.17
Jan. 22. Rent for Hamilton family,	16.85
Feb. 25. Goods to Swanson family,	62.11
29. Moving Hamilton family,	10.00

29. Medical treatment, Hamilton		
	family,	34.00
Mar.	1. Rent of Swanson family,	30.00
	1. Rent for Mrs. Mary Norton,	60.00
	Tramps,	36.75
	Unexpended, 1915,	106.54
		<hr/>
		\$680.24
Sidewalks.		
	Raised by town,	\$50.00
	Unexpended,	50.00
		<hr/>
		\$100.00
	Expended in 1915,	\$64.60
	Unexpended in 1915,	35.40
		<hr/>
		\$100.00
Street Lights.		
	Raised by town,	\$400.00
	Unexpended in 1914,	84.51
		<hr/>
		\$484.51
	Expended in 1915,	\$420.97
	Unexpended in 1915,	63.54
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		\$484.51
Fire Department.		
	Raised by town,	\$400.00
	Unexpended in 1914,	41.35
		<hr/>
		\$441.35
	Expended in 1915,	\$387.88
	Unexpended in 1915,	53.47
		<hr/>
		\$441.35

Memorial Day.

Raised by the town,	\$35.00	
Expended in 1915,		\$35.00

Free Public Library.

Raised by town,	\$100.00	
Expended in 1915,		\$100.00

Monson Band.

Raised by town,	\$25.00	
Expended in 1915,		\$25.00

Grade Work in Cemetery.

Raised by town and not expended,		\$100.00
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State Aid Road.

Amount for 1915,	\$1,066.00	
Due from State, 1914,	62.85	
		<hr/>
		\$1,128.85
Expended in 1915,	\$1,042.29	
Unexpended,	86.56	
		<hr/>
		\$1,128.85

Maintenance of State Road.

Appropriated by selectmen,	\$ 58.73	
Received from the State,	199.47	
		<hr/>
		\$258.20
Expended in 1915,		\$258.20

Highways.

Raised by town,	\$2,000.00	
Unexpended,	132.25	
Maintenance due from State,	45.00	
		<hr/>
		\$2,177.25

Harry Kirk,	\$ 8.00
George Graffam,	1.75
"	5.70
Johu Evans,	7.00
Ralph Wyman,	10.50
John Williams,	10.50
E. H. Flint,	90.00
Frank Flint,	17.50
Charles Erickson,	12.00
Arthur Bjork,	12.25
George Graffam,	7.45
"	5.25
George Jennie,	12.00
J. D. Draper,	8.00
C. D. Draper,	11.00
Arthur Bjork,	28.45
Axil Erickson,	26.70
John Evans,	7.50
George Jennie,	35.50
I. E. Bodge,	110.00
George Graffam,	27.15
P. W. Knight,	81.15
F. P. Steward,	14.80
Tom Leeman,	80.00
Axil Erickson,	17.25
Charles Jackson,	14.95
Arthur Heggstrom,	26.00
Frank Libby,	38.00
John Williams,	14.00
Arthur Bjork,	15.75
George Jennie,	9.00

C. F. Bradford,	7.80
Frank Lombart,	19.00
J. W. Tarr,	82.00
Herman Clough,	7.20
Richard Williams,	3.60
George Graffam,	13.55
W. H. Eldridge,	22.30
W. L. Dauphinee,	15.45
Charles Bennett,	11.80
I. E. Bodge,	60.00
Johnson Brothers,	4.50
Maine Slate Company,	9.75
N. and A. Huff,	29.75
E. H. Flint,	270.00
W. W. Pullen,	10.85
John Perry,	2.00
R. J. Jones,	10.50
A. C. Gilbert,	4.50
Heggestrom,	11.00
W. R. Thombs,	3.60
Wm. Thomas,	22.75
Ruel Dyer,	26.25
Chas. Holmquest,	4.00
W. A. Bray, material,	17.70
Chandler Watson,	5.25
Levi Flint,	7.20
John Williams,	5.25
P. A. Johnson,	10.50
George Graffam,	1.75
Maurice Labree,	24.50
Tom Mountain,	17.50
Frank Lombart,	10.50

Frank Libby,	12.00
P. W. Knight,	22.95
C. and H. Braiser,	21.00
Gardiner Hilton,	27.00
Arthur Heggstrom,	8.75
Otto Christenson,	5.20
J. W. Tarr,	48.00
David Price,	2.65
E. D. W. Copeland,	12.00
F. H. Labree,	7.00
E. H. Flint,	44.00
W. H. Eldridge,	44.20
H. Grover,	83.50
Nels Nelson,	3.00
Chas. Sanborn, Jr.,	2.00
E. H. Frost,	8.00
A. W. Farrar,	11.85
M. O. Wyman,	8.00
I. E. Bodge,	25.00
J. W. Tarr,	4.00
W. W. Pullen,	4.20
W. S. Macomber,	2.00
M. A. Bragdon,	2.00
E. H. Flint,	12.00
P. W. Knight,	4.00
C. C. Town,	4.00
Edw. Copeland,	7.50
George Wentworth,	3.75
Charles A. Jackson,	7.00
O. S. Arnold,	8.00
John Heggstrom,	2.00
Monson Maine Slate Company,	1.75

F. J. Stanchfield,	4.00
State Highway maintenance,	45.00
Appropriated for maintenance,	58.73
Unexpended, 1915,	93.82
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	\$2,177.25

Recommendations.

Incidental,	\$1,200.00
Town poor,	500.00
Street lights,	350.00
Public library,	100.00
Monson Band,	25.00
Memorial Day,	35.00
Fire Department,	100.00
Interest,	300.00

Interest Account.

Raised by town,	\$250.00
Unexpended in 1914,	22.06
Interest from A. L. Brown, 1915 taxes,	33.64
Interest on deposits,	7.33
Overdrawn,	23.82
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	\$336.85
Expended in 1915,	336.85

Abatements.

A. L. Brown, 1915,	\$61.50
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

LIABILITIES.

Monson Academy Loan at 4 per cent.,	\$3,925.00
School fund at 4 per cent.,	854.10
Order No. 521 (1913) S. L. Greeley,	500.00
Order No. 533 (1913) Mrs. Nettie F. Pullen,	1,250.00
	<hr/>
	\$6,529.10

RESOURCES.

Due from State on highway,	\$ 45.00
“ paupers,	61.07
Cash in treasurers's hands,	1,978.75
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	\$2,084.72

TOWN PROPERTY.

Estimated value of engine house and lot,	\$1,300.00
Estimated value of old engine,	100.00
new engine,	2,000.00
hearse,	200.00
Estimated value of road machines and tools,	250.00
Estimated value of hose, pipe and hydrants,	900.00
Estimated value of two safes,	200.00
old heating plant,	100.00
hose tower,	400.00
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	\$5,450.00
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Total resources,	\$7,535.72
Total liabilities,	6,529.10
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Resources in excess of liabilities,	\$1,006.62

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. BRAY,	}	Selectmen of Monson.
W. W. PULLEN,		
E. H. FLINT,		

TREASURER'S REPORT.

March 1, 1916.

To cash on hand,	\$1,767.46
Guilford Trust Co., Inst. on deposits,	7.33
Guilford Trust, money hired,	2,000.00
Town clerk, dog tax,	86.00
Fred Jarvis, pool room license,	10.00
Edw. Johnson, bowling alley license,	5.83
Supt. schools, supplies sold,	2.47
Town of Willimantic, use sealer outfit,	1.00
Monson Academy heating,	63.75
Int. on school fund,	34.16
Mrs. Dore, lot in cemetery,	12.00
Henry Warriener, lot in cemetery,	12.00
Orman Steward, "	12.00
Mrs. Parsons, "	12.00
Wm. Hughes, Jr., "	12.00
Mrs. Anderson, "	12.00
State Tr., dog tax refunded,	48.84
public library,	10.00
State pensions,	210.00
paupers,	11.46
railroad and telegraph tax,	19.00
equalization fund,	225.00
common school fund,	810.46
school fund and mill tax,	1,319.66
Free High School,	500.00
State roads,	708.56
A. L. Brown, 1915 taxes,	11,503.79

\$19,416.37

	Cr.	
By Paid Orders,		\$15,044.58
Monson Library Association,		10.00
State pensions,		210.00
State Tr., State tax,		1,775.71
dog tax,		86.00
Bal. due on 1914 dog		
tax,		3.00
County Tr., county tax,		308.23
Guilford Trust Co., revenue		
stamps,		.20
in bank,		878.49
in safe,		1,100.16
		<hr/>
		\$19,416.37

Report of Superintendent of Schools.

To the Superintending School Committee and Citizens of Monson:

I am pleased to submit to you for your consideration my second annual school report. The work in general has been marked by a very satisfactory degree of success. This has been greatly aided by the co-operation of teachers, pupils, parents, and school officials. However, I believe that this work of co-operation could and should be made far more extensive on the part of some. The standards of a community depend to a tremendous degree upon the success and efficiency of its schools, and the success and efficiency of the schools depends to a considerable degree upon YOU.

ACADEMY.

Very good progress has been made in the Academy this year. At the opening of the fall term Miss Mansfield was elected as first assistant to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Strout. Mr. Foss, Miss Mansfield, and Miss Pullen are loyal and hard working teachers, ever striving to raise the standards of the school and to help pupils in all phases of their work. A good spirit is manifested by the pupils toward their work and all activities connected with the school. I am pleased to submit a more complete report of the school by Principal Foss.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

It has been necessary to make but one change in the teaching force of the village schools this year. At the opening of the fall term Miss Cole was elected as principal of the grammar school. Her training and experience has well prepared her for the rather difficult position which she is so ably filling. The discipline problem of the whole building and on the school grounds has greatly improved and the attitude of all pupils toward their work is much better. In all the grades the work is being marked by the usual good standard of success. Considerable interest is shown by the pupils of the upper grades in the talks given by some of the men of the village on business and current day topics. The willingness on the part of all those who have given these talks has been greatly appreciated, and we hope that this line of work may be made more extensive in the future.

In the rural schools very good work has been accomplished under the directions of Miss Blanchard, Miss LeClair and Miss Arnold. All the rural schools have been well supplied with globes and maps. In these schools the number of weeks has been increased to 36 in order that the school privileges of the town may be equalized.

In music and drawing very good work has been accomplished under the supervision of Miss Marsh.

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS, AND EQUIPMENT.

During the summer vacation the grade building was painted and other minor repairs made on the inside. Some of the rooms need to be calsomined and varnished this year. The first grade room in the Academy building was calsomined and the desks scraped and varnished, thereby greatly improving the appearance of the room. The final payment on the

piano is being made this year and for this a great deal of credit is due all the teachers of the grades. The rural school buildings need to be painted and calsomined inside during the coming summer. There is an article in the warrant relative to moving the Vinton school-house to a place nearer the center of that neighborhood, thus making it possible to abolish the work of conveyance. At the present time the cost of conveyance for pupils in that district is about \$175. You can readily see that the annual expense would be considerably decreased after the cost of moving. A lot has been offered free if the town votes to have the building moved.

In the village building there is a great need for some complete changes in the outbuilding arrangements. An article has been placed in the warrant covering this need and we strongly urge that you will consider it favorably. The health of your boy and girl demands it. I will not take time and space here to state to you the full plans but complete information will be given by the committee at town meeting.

Any information in regard to the financial expenditures for the schools will be gladly given at town meeting. Our schools cost considerable each year but I do not believe that we can curtail the expenses without injury to them. I have carefully studied the school situation for the coming year and am confident that the weekly expenses will be approximately as follows: Teachers' wages, \$87.00; janitors' wages, \$8.00; conveyance, \$12.00; tuition, \$2.00; fuel, \$11.00; total weekly expenditures, \$120.00.

I recommend that the following appropriations be made for school purposes for the coming year:

Common Schools,	\$1,900.00
Text books,	300.00
Supplies,	175.00
Repairs,	150.00
Superintendent,	185.00
High Schools,	1,000.00
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Total,	\$3,710.00
Total amount raised 1915,	\$3,639.86

Respectfully submitted,

HORACE M. PULLEN,

Superintendent of Schools.

Expenditures for Teachers.

William Skelton,	Grammar	14	\$15.00	\$210.00
Idona Cole,	"	22	14.00	308.00
Bernice Fogg,	5th and 6th	36	11.00	396.00
Bertha Steward,	3d and 4th	36	11.00	396.00
Esther Johnson,	2nd	36	11.00	396.00
Violet Pennington,	1st	36	11.61	418.00
Helen Marsh,	M. and D.	36	6.00	216.00
Madeline LeClair,	Long	34	6.50	221.00
Ruth Larson,	Burma	12	7.00	84.00
Helen Arnold,	"	22	7.00	154.00
Marion Thayer,	Vinton	12	7.00	84.00
Elizabeth Blanchard,	"	22	7.00	154.00

Common Schools

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated by town,	\$1,800.00
State Common School Fund,	810.46
State Mill Fund,	1,319.66
State Equalization Fund,	225.00
Interest on School Fund,	34.16
Overdraft March 1, 1916,	837.47
	<hr/>
	\$5,026.75

EXPENDITURES.

Teachers' wages,	\$3,037.00
Fuel,	325.76
Janitors' wages,	296.90
Conveyance,	445.05
Tuition,	64.20
Overdraft March 1, 1915,	854.84
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	\$5,026.75

High School Account.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated by town,	\$1,000.00
Received from State,	500.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,500.00

EXPENDITURES.

Paid Treasurer, Monson Academy,	\$1,500.00
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Text Book Account.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated by town,	\$300.00
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EXPENDITURES.

Expended for books,	\$223.15
Overdraft March 1, 1915,	11.33
Unexpended March 1, 1916,	65.52
	<hr/>
	\$300 00

Supply Account.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated by town,	\$264.86
Supplies sold,	2.47
From Rural School Account,	38.98
	<hr/>
	\$306.31

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for supplies,	\$216 45
Overdraft March 1, 1915,	89 86
	<hr/>
Unexpended March 1, 1916,	\$306.31

Repair Account.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated by town,	\$100.00
Unexpended March 1, 1915,	95.43
Overdraft March 1, 1916,	22.80
	<hr/>
	\$218.23

EXPENDITURES.

Expended for labor and material,	\$218.23
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Superintendent's Account.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated by town,	\$175.00
Unexpended March 1, 1915,	12.83
	<hr/>
	\$187.83

EXPENDITURES.

Expended,	\$164.61
Unexpended March 1, 1916,	23.22
	<hr/>
	\$187.83

Monson, Maine, March 1, 1916.

TO MR. H. M. PULLEN, Supt. of Schools:

I herewith present to you my second annual report as Principal of Monson Academy.

There have been some changes in the curriculum this year, an attempt having been made to make the English course more practical. At the present time no Latin is required in this course. It is so arranged that a pupil may, if he wishes to do so, take one commercial subject each year during the full course. The experimental work in Household Chemistry and the work in Local History Government are proving to be both popular and practical. We have been handicapped in our laboratory work because of the somewhat crowded conditions and the lack of pure running water. It is hoped that both of these conditions will soon be improved.

Some attempts have been made to divide the work of the teachers into departments, as it is well known that much better results can be obtained in this way. The Principal has the Sciences and Mathematics, including the commercial branches; Miss Mansfield the Latin, French and Ancient History; Miss Pullen, the English and all of the History except Ancient History.

The total enrollment for the fall term was 20 boys and 23 girls, making a total of 43. The average attendance was 41.24, or approximately 96 per cent.; 14 pupils were not absent one-half day; 6 others were absent one day or less. Nearly all cases of absense have been caused by sickness or other unavoidable reasons. One of the boys who entered the Academy as a sub-freshman, left at the close of the fall term to go to work. Not a single pupil doing regular secondary school work has left thus far this year. I feel that credit for this remarkably good record is largely due to the increased interest which the pupils are taking in their studies and the interest and cooperation of parents. I wish at this time to thank the parents for their

assistance in the matter of furnishing written excuses for the absense of pupils. This system helps the Principal and the pupils more than most parents realize.

The students are distributed among the classes as follows: 9 Seniors; 12 Juniors; 12 Sophomores; 5 Freshmen and 4 Sub-Freshmen.

The two most serious needs of the school are better prepared entering classes and more home study. As it is not within my power to overcome either of these defects, they are rather delicate subjects for me to handle. I will not attempt to offer a solution for the former, but the solution of the latter is easy. If every parent who has a boy or girl in the Academy would see that he, or she, spends at least two hours in the preparation of his school work, at home, each day, the problem would be solved at once. I wonder if the majority of parents know that the almost universal cause of pupils leaving high school before the completion of their course, is a failure to do passing work, and that in nearly every case the reason for this failure can be traced to a lack of systematic home study. I would say here to the parents, if your boy or girl brings home a deficiency report it will be worth your time to talk with the principal about it. I can truthfully say that I have never seen students work more industriously than the majority of the students in Monson Academy are working at the present time, while they are in the school room. But even if they make the most of every minute of the time spent there, they are unable to properly prepare their lessons. More than this, every boy and girl of high school age needs just the kind of training which systematic home study offers, because the man or woman, who remains educated must study all through life. Of course all parents fully realize that this matter is wholly within their jurisdiction and I am confident that they will co-operate with the teachers in some plan to improve this condition. A special

"premium" is being placed on good conduct, effort, etc., believing, as we do, that a thorough knowledge of Latin or Physics, is of little value compared with the development of individual characteristics of honesty, industry and other traits which make respectable and respected citizens.

I wish to thank all who are endeavoring in any way to make Monson Academy measure up to its possibilities for usefulness.

Respectfully submitted,

MAURICE C. FOSS, Principal.

Auditor's Report.

Monson, Me., March 4, 1916.

I have this day examined and audited the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer of the town of Monson for the year ending March 1, 1916, and find the same to be correct.

H. M. PULLEN, Auditor.

INDEX.

Town Officers.....	3
Annual Town Warrant.....	4
Report of Selectmen.....	8
Town Poor.....	11
Sidewalks, Etc.....	12 and 13
Highways	13
Recommendations.....	17
Liabilities and Resources.....	18
Town Property.....	19
Treasurer.....	20
Superintendent of Schools.....	22
Common Schools.....	23
Teachers	26
High School.....	27
Repair Account.....	28
Maurice C. Foss, Principal.....	29



$$\begin{array}{r}
 1 \\
 63 \\
 28-2 \\
 12 \\
 7-6 \\
 14 \\
 4 \\
 7 \\
 4 \\
 10 \\
 1-1 \\
 \hline
 1385 \\
 63
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 138-5 \\
 140 \\
 \hline
 5520 \\
 13887 \\
 \hline
 19407 \\
 1538 \\
 \hline
 17869 \\
 150 \\
 \hline
 2869
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 8 \overline{)14017} \\
 \underline{8} \\
 60 \\
 \underline{56} \\
 4 \\
 17 \\
 \underline{5} \\
 85
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