

1884

# Annual Report of the Selectmen, Treasurer, and Supervisor of Schools, of the Town of Oxford, for the Year Ending, February 15th, 1885

Oxford (Me.)

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1884

Robinson J. P.



REPORT  
OF THE  
MUNICIPAL OFFICERS  
OF THE

TOWN OF OXFORD, MAINE.

→ 1885 ←

**H. N. BOLSTER,** So. Paris, Me.

DEALER IN

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, CROCKERY and GLASS-  
WARE, FLOUR, LIME, CEMENT, and HAIR. Also

Dealer in COUNTRY PRODUCE. A fresh stock of

LEAD and OIL, PAINTERS' SUPPLIES,

**Room Papers and Borders, Just**

Received! We have also just received a Carload of

**BRADLEY'S XL Super-phosphate of Lime, the best  
Commercial Fertilizer on the market.**

**Price, \$40.00 per ton**

Call and see us and try our prices and we can do you good.

---

INSURE WITH **W. J. WHEELER, SO. PARIS, ME,**

Agent for the following Life, Fire and Accident Insurance Companies:

**ROYAL, of Liverpool;**

**GUARDIAN, of London;**

**IMPERIAL, of London;**

**FIRE INS. Asso., of London;**

**FRANKLIN, of Phila.;**

**FIRE ASSO., of Phila.;**

**PENNSYLVANIA, of Phila.;**

**GERMAN AMERICAN, of N. Y.**

Losses promptly settled from this Office.

---

BUY YOUR

**BOOTS & SHOES**

—OF—

**W. A. FROTHINGHAM,**

Who carries the largest and best Fitting Stock at Lowest  
Prices, at the Old Stand,

**SOUTH PARIS, MAINE.**

---

**BEARCE & STEARNS,**

*Attorneys & Counselors at Law,*

**SAVINGS BANK,**

**NORWAY, ME.**

**H. M. BEARCE.**

**S. S. STEARNS.**

Special Attention given to Collections.

\*\*\* Send for a free Sample Copy of the \*\*\*

## \*Oxford\* County\* Advertiser\*

\*It contains all the local news of your town, full and\*  
\*complete. \$1.50 and \$2.00 per year. Sent four\*  
\*months on trial for FIFTY cents. Try this paper once!

Address: \*ADVERTISER, \* Norway, \* Maine.

✦ ANNUAL REPORT ✦

OF THE

**SELECTMEN, TREASURER,**

AND

SUPERVISOR ✦ OF ✦ SCHOOLS,

OF THE

TOWN ✦ OF ✦ OXFORD,

For the Year Ending, February 15th,

✦ 1885. ✦

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NORWAY :

Printed at the Oxford County Advertiser Office,  
1885.

# Town Officers.



WM. N. THOMAS, }  
CYRUS S. HAYES, } Selectmen.  
S. P. STUART, }

THOMAS BAKER, . . . . . TOWN CLERK.

GEO. H. JONES, . . . . . TREASURER.

FRANCIS HOLDEN, . . . . . COLLECTOR & CONSTABLE.

JOHN W. CHADBOURNE, . . . . . CONSTABLE.

REV. C. S. CUMMINGS, . . . . . SUPERVISOR.

## REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

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Full valuation for the year 1884.....\$427,795 00

### APPROPRIATED AND ASSESSED.

Amount raised to support poor and pay town charges.....	\$2,500 00	
Amount raised to support schools.....	1,500 00	
"    "    for Holmes Library...	80 00	
State Tax.....	1,937 03	
County Tax.....	555 73	
Delinquent highway.....	246 85	
Overlay.....	146 31	
Total assessment.....		\$6,965 92
Poll tax, \$3 00. Rate, .013 $\frac{1}{4}$ . No. of Polls, 351.		

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### SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

Amount raised by town.....	\$1,500 00	
School fund mill tax (State).....	760 58	
		\$2,260 58
Apportioned to school districts:		
District No. 1 .....	\$100 00	
"    "    2.....	106 78	
"    "    3.....	754 16	
"    "    4.....	180 98	
"    "    5.....	124 04	
"    "    6.....	136 46	
"    "    7.....	165 98	
"    "    8.....	60 00	
"    "    9.....	35 00	
"    "    10.....	379 91	
"    "    11.....	114 20	
"    "    12.....	103 07	
		\$2,260 58

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### POOR NOW ON FARM.

David Cates, aged 85 years
Mrs. Cyrus Bessey, aged 64

## VALUE OF PROPERTY ON FARM.

Four oxen.....	\$275 00
Three cows.....	110 00
Eight two-year-olds.....	165 00
Three one-year-olds.....	60 00
Fifteen sheep.....	50 00
Twenty-six hens.....	10 00
Two swine.....	25 00
Hay, first quality, 14 tons.....	210 00
“ second quality 3½ tons.....	35 00
Furniture (as appraised last year).....	265 00
Farming tools (as appraised last year).....	375 00
Grain and provisions.....	179 80
Rolls.....	3 50
Candles.....	1 50
Shingles (16 M.).....	25 00
Lumber (3 M.).....	30 00
	<hr/>
Total value.....	\$1,819 80

## RECEIPTS FROM FARM.

Four steers sold.....	\$105 00
Two veal calves.....	7 50
One heifer.....	18 00
Wool.....	17 90
Lambs.....	18 00
Cow.....	20 00
Poultry.....	4 50
Pork.....	63 76
Sweet corn.....	55 71
Premium (on oxen).....	2 40
Pelts sold.....	2 40
Wood sold Denison.....	136 00
Paid on store bills.....	58 81
Horse sold.....	130 00
	<hr/>

\$639 98

## EXPENDITURES FOR FARM.

Superintendent's salary.....	\$250 00
Extra labor.....	157 10
Grass seed and superphosphate.....	26 73
Four pigs.....	10 00
Carding rolls.....	94
Iron sink, pipe etc.....	6 45
Repairing plows.....	2 55
Difference between cows.....	3 00
Pasturing steers.....	10 20
Grafting.....	3 65
Cutting wood.....	36 00



Blacksmithing.....	\$22 13
Medicine for poor.....	7 20
Meal and bran.....	58 89
Groceries and provisions.....	45 82
Filing saws.....	1 25
Sawing shingles.....	17 25
“ lumber.....	13 38
Digging graves.....	5 00
Coffin for Cyrus Bessey.....	11 50
Calf and shoats.....	41 00
Repairing pump.....	2 25
Coffin and robe for J. Dean.....	14 00
A. L. Hersey, medical attendance on poor..	20 50
King & Holmes' bill.....	135 42
Horse for farm.....	130 00
	<hr/>
Agg. Ex.....	\$1,032 21
Receipts from farm.....	639 98
	<hr/>
Cost of poor on farm.....	\$392 23

#### COST OF POOR OFF FARM.

S. P. Barker for daughter.....	\$45 25
Chas. E. Morey family.....	6 75
“ “ “.....	5 00
Insane Hospital (at Augusta) for Mrs. Morey and C. N. Staples (including coffin and robe for Staples.....	174 01
State Reform School (H. C. Whitehouse)..	25 00
Digging grave, etc., for C. N. Staples.....	4 00
Coffin and robe for Mrs. Wm. Stanley.....	12 50
Express and telegrams (C. N. Staples case)	10 80
A. G. Hinds for keeping tramps.....	3 00
J. G. Rowe, use of tomb for remains of L. Strout.....	1 00
F.H.Tilton, med. advice for Freeland Morey	3 00
Geo. W. Staples, digging grave for C. N. Bessey.....	2 00
C. H. Tobie, med. attendance on Stephen Chase's daughter.....	9 50
	<hr/>
	\$301 81

#### TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS, 1883.

Wm. N. Thomas as Selectman.....	\$ 12 75
G. S. Hayes “ “.....	9 00
Seth H. Faunce “ Collector.....	100 00
“ “ Constable.....	6 75
	<hr/>
	\$128.50

## TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS, 1884.

Wm. N. Thomas, Services as Selectman...	\$36 75	
C. S. Hayes, " " " ...	36 75	
S. P. Stuart, " " " ...	35 25	
Thomas Baker, " " Clerk .....	2 25	
Geo. H. Jones, " " Treasurer ...	30 00	
Rev. C. S. Cummings, services as Supervisor of Schools, .....	65 50	
Fraucis Holden, services as Collector .....	100 00	
	<u>          </u>	\$306 50

## RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR 1884.

Total assessment.....		\$6,966 50
State tax .....	\$1,937 03	
County tax .....	555 73	
For schools.....	1,500 00	
" F. Holmes Library....	80 00	
Abatements, (Taxes 1884).....	29 13	
	<u>          </u>	4,101 89
Available Taxes.....		\$2,864 61

## RECEIPTS OUTSIDE OF TAXATION.

Stock sold off the Farm.....	\$105 00	
Town of Minot for B. F. Lamb... ..	30 00	
" " Bethel " J. A. Buck.....	35 00	
Robinson M'f'g Co. bal. Highway tax 1884	52 73	
Merrill Brackett, Highway money.....	4 02	
	<u>          </u>	226 75
Available net resources.....		\$3,091 36

## PAID OUT FOR THE YEAR 1884.

Poor off the farm.....	\$ 301 81
Poor on the farm.....	392 23
Repairs ou highways and bridges.....	85 93
Balance town officers' bills 1883.....	128 50
Town officers' bills 1884.....	306 50
Town bonds taken up.....	1,650 00
Interest on debt.....	483 47
Town orders taken up.....	4,950 43
	<u>          </u>

\$8,298 87

## LIABILITIES.

Outstanding bonds.....	\$8,400 00
Accrued interest on same.....	126 00
Outstanding orders.....	332 46
Due school districts.....	380 65
	<u>          </u>

Total.....\$9,239 11

## RESOURCES.

Due from S. H. Faunce, Col. 1880.....	\$69 73
“ “ “ “ 1882.....	63 98
“ “ “ “ 1883.....	447 00
“ “ F. Holden “ 1884.....	2,545 39
Unpaid non-resident taxes turned in.....	488 35
“ tax titles.....	749 53
Due from Denison Paper M'f'g Co. for wood (estimated).....	132 00
Cash in treasury.....	1,653 99
	<u>3,149 97</u>
Debt above resources.....	\$2,979 14
“ “ “ Feb. 15th, 1884.....	4,158 71
	<u>\$1,179 57</u>

## TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

	Geo. H. Jones,	Dr.
To Cash in Treasury Feb. 15th, 1884.....		\$2,108 54
Rec'd of S. H. Faunce, Collector.....		3,695 31
“ “ “ “ tax deeds 1883.....		203 75
“ “ F. Holden, “ 1884.....		1,440 00
“ On non-resident taxes turned in by S. H. Faunce.....		443 87
“ Cost on non-resident taxes collected....		4 88
“ Non-resident taxes turned in by F. Holden, unpaid.....		488 35
“ of Jas. Danforth for tax deed, cost, etc..		44 08
“ “ A. H. Dunn for Non. Res. tax, cost, etc.,.....		7 87
“ “ Town of Bethel on acct. of J. A. Buck		35 00
“ “ “ “ Minot “ “ “ B. F. Lamb		30 00
“ “ E. R. Holmes for tax deed....		5 21
“ “ A. W. Potter, cost of adv. N. R. tax		30
“ Cash for stock sold off the farm.....		105 00
“ “ of State Treas. mill tax.....		760 58
“ “ “ Robinson M'f'g Co. bal. high- way tax 1884.....		52 73
“ “ “ S. H. Faunce for tax deed.....		50
“ “ “ Merrill Brackett highway money		4 02
		<u>\$9,429 99</u>

## CONTRA.

Amount paid out as per Vouchers.....	\$7,083 90
“ Tax deeds 1883, S. H. Faunce.....	203 75
“ Unp'd Non. Res. taxes, 1884, F. Holden.....	488 35
“ Cash on hand Feb. 16, 1885.....	1,653 99
	<u>\$9,429 99</u>

We have this day examined the accounts of G. H. Jones, Treasurer, and find them correct as above set forth.

WM. N. THOMAS,	}	<i>Selectmen of Oxford.</i>
C. S. HAYES,		
S. P. STUART,		

We would respectfully represent, that, three thousand dollars (3,000.00) of the Bonded Debt has been called; sixteen hundred and fifty dollars (1,650.00) of the same has been paid; interest on five hundred dollars (500.00) of the remainder ceased Jan. 1st, 1885 and the interest on the balance ceases March 15th, 1885.

We have hired no Superintendent for the Town Farm, as the question of disposing of the farm has been agitated. The former Supt. (Mr. Records) remains on the farm, awaiting the action of the Town.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. N. THOMAS,	}	<i>Selectmen of Oxford.</i>
C. S. HAYES,		
S. P. STUART,		

Oxford, Feb. 15, 1884. .

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### LIST OF TOWN ORDERS DRAWN.

FROM FEB. 15, 1884, TO FEB. 15, 1885.

No. of Orders, Old Series.	
147, A. L. Faunce, driving hearse.....	\$41 13
148, F. W. Sanborn, advertising non-resident taxes for 1882.....	5 00
149, Wm. M. Brooks, balance due as Supervisor of Schools.....	37 40
150, H. K. Pratt, boarding teacher Dis. No. 7.....	30 00
151, Bertie N. Phillips, teaching school " ".....	72 00
152, F. B. Waterman, labor on highway.....	15 00
153, G. W. Bates, teaching school Dis. No. 10.....	96 00
154, G. E. Bennett, care of school " ".....	5 00
155, R. Gilbert, wood. and boarding teacher, District No. 10.....	41 00
156, Helen A. Johnson, teaching school Dis. No. 5.....	33 00
157, G. W. Richards, " " " ".....	16 50
158, H. M. Eaton, sawing lumber for farm....	10 33
159, Geo. W. Thomas, labor on highway.....	5 00
160, S. P. Barker, care of Daughters.....	6 25
161, S. H. Faunce, services as constable for 1883 .....	6 75
162, C. H. Tobie, medical attendance Maud Buck.....	15 75
163, King & Holmes, supplies furnished John A. Buck..	10 00
164, Wm. N. Thomas, balance due for services as Selectman for 1883.....	12 75

165,	C. S. Hayes, balance due as Selectman 1883.....	\$9 00
	New Series.	
1,	Frankie C. Tuttle, teaching school Dis. No. 6.....	44 50
2,	John Stevens, supplies furnished district No. 2.....	5 00
3,	Ella H. Haskell, teaching school district No. 3.....	72 00
4,	Clara E. Elliot, " " ".....	72 00
5,	Alice A. Weber, " " ".....	90 00
6,	New Gloucester supplies furnished C. Morey.....	6 75
7,	Annie S. Parker, teaching school district No. 1. . .	60 00
8,	A. H. Dunn, boarding teacher district No. 1.....	12 91
9,	Geo. F. Walker, wood furnished dis. No. 3.....	47 50
10,	New Gloucester supplies furnished Charles E. Morey	5 00
11,	Belle A. Boynton, teaching school district No. 8... .	60 00
12,	Wm. N. Thomas, boarding teacher " " . . . .	21 00
13,	Franklin Sargent, repairs on school house dis. No. 7	1 50
14,	Geo. J. Parrott, wood, glass, etc., district No. 3....	7 15
15,	Insane Hospital, care of Mrs. Morey and Staples....	41 01
16,	Thos. Baker, coffin and robe for J. Dean.....	14 00
17,	Dennett Cotton, labor on highway.....	5 00
18,	H. W. Cov, wood furnished school Dis. No. 10. ....	21 53
19,	J. S. Martin, " " " " " 11.....	8 00
20,	State Reform School, Harry C. Whitehouse.....	25 00
21,	Geo. J. Parrott, repairs & supplies, school dist. No. 3.,	26 90
22,	A. W. Harris, supplies furnished district N. 2. ....	3 15
23,	F. W. Sanborn, printing reports for 1884. .... .	26 50
24,	S. H. Elden, labor on highway.....	14 50
25,	Geo. R. Paine, digging grave for J. Deane.....	3 00
26,	S. F. Briggs, horse for farm.....	130 00
27,	A. T. Stone, wood, school district No. 12 . . . . .	4 50
28,	Wm. Faunce, repairs on school house dis. No. 12... .	5 00
29,	Franklin Sargent, wood district No. 7.....	10 00
30,	Fred Brooks, labor on farm.....	10 00
31,	Chas. A. Richards, cash paid for wood cut on farm.	26 00
32,	Wm. N. Thomas, for phosphate and grass seed	
	for farm.....	26 73
33,	Fred Brooks, labor on farm.....	10 00
34,	R. Gilbert, repairs on school house district No. 10.. .	5 50
35,	Hiram Gilbert, care of town house, digging grave etc	9 00
36,	Joseph Frye, abatement on taxes year 1883.....	7 21
37,	Maine Insane Hospital, care of Staples and Morey.. .	56 33
38,	Fred Brooks, labor on farm.....	10 00
39,	Aphia J. Parsons, teaching school District No. 1....	24 00
40,	Henrietta M. Holmes, teaching school district No. 6	36 00
41,	Nellie L. Andrews, " " " No. 3	64 00
42,	Clara E. Elliot " " " " " " " " " " " "	64 00
43,	Sarah A. Leonard, " " " " " " " " " " " "	80 00
44,	S. P. Barker, care of daughter.....	13 00
45,	Agnes Morton, teaching school district No. 12.....	20 00
46,	E. S. Webber, boarding teacher " ".....	10 40
47,	Mamie C. Jones, teaching school district No. 11....	40 00
48,	Belle A. Boynton, " " " No. 10... .	75 00
49,	Hattie M. Leach, " " " No. 7....	30 00

## SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

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Most of the teachers have had about average success. The question of what text-books to use has caused some irritation. I found in the spring that part of the scholars in five or six districts had Harper's and others Warren's geography. As there are two books in each series, there were four classes in different kinds of geography, and sometimes two classes in each kind. This confusion was brought about by the Supervisor last year, who adopted Harper's in place of Warren's, but did not compel those to exchange books who were not willing so to do. I have tried to bring about uniformity again, by explaining the situation in the schools, and persuading the scholars to get Harper's book, as that must be the text-book until the five years are past. Where any have held out against changing, I have forbidden the teachers to hear their lessons from Warren's. This has been successful in most cases. I do not feel at all to blame for being obliged to take this stand, as I did not adopt Harper's book. But as it has been adopted, it must be used for five years. There was no great necessity for superseding Warren's geography. It is a good book; so is Harper's. The secret of the whole iniquitous business of changing text-books, is in yielding to the desires of book agents, who have nothing but their own interests in view.

Although I have made no change, I have adopted two or three books (not at the solicitation of any agent, however) that were needed in the schools. There was no book of Nature for the young; and I adopted Hooker's Child's Book of Nature, after consulting the teachers of our State Normal School. If the younger scholars will try it, they will find it adding interest to the monotony of "reading, writing and arithmetic."

It has been a matter of interest to me to find the reason why so little real progress is made in arithmetic in most of our schools I conclude, from observation, that one great cause is that there is not enough mental analysis. The rules are learned and the examples worked out by them. By this process the mind is not fed nor stimulated. By mental analysis rules are discarded, and the mind is exercised to think and reason. To give one illustration take the following: If 15 is five per cent. of a number, what is the number? The rule says, "divide the number denoting the base by that denoting the per cent., and extend the division to hundredths." Accordingly, the scholar divides 15.00 by .05, and gets 300, or the result. But he cannot

tell why. By analysis he would work it out thus: If 15 is 5 per cent. of a number, 1 per cent of it must be one-fifth of 15, or three, and 100 per cent., or the whole number, must be one hundred times 3, or 300. There has not been an Intellectual arithmetic in any school the past year. I have adopted Greenleaf's. It's general use will revolutionize the study of arithmetic in our schools. There has been no text-book on book-keeping, and I have adopted Bryant & Stratton's. More care in the selection of agents is needed in some of the districts.

DISTRICT No 1.—Otis Perkins, agent. Amount of money, \$100 00. Number of scholars, sixteen. This is a union district, and there is money in addition to the above coming from the town of Poland. The summer term was taught by Apphia J. Parsons. Her ability and success are about average. She is energetic in the school; and with normal training might be very efficient.

The winter term still in session, is taught by Annie S. Parker. See report for district number twelve, fall term.

DISTRICT No. 2.—Hiram Strout, agent. Amount of money, \$106 78. Number of scholars, eighteen. Summer term of nine weeks taught by Gertrude M. Stuart. Miss Stuart was sick during the term; so the school which began early in May, did not close until late in August. This was her first school, and is a difficult one for a beginner. She was very anxious to succeed, and worked hard. She had a little more than average success of young, inexperienced teachers, which is very good for this place.

Fall term of twelve weeks, taught by Susie S. Thurlow. Miss Thurlow did fairly well, perhaps as well as she could. She is too moderate for this school. It needs a teacher who can give out lessons judiciously, and see that they are learned every day. A teacher like Miss Moulton, who taught the Fall term at number six, would be the means of an intellectual resurrection in this school.

DISTRICT No. 3.—Geo. J. Parrott, agent. Amount of money, \$754 16. Number of scholars, one hundred and eighty-five. There have been three terms of school in this district of eight, nine, and eight weeks, respectively. The primary school during the year has been taught by Clara E. Elliott. Miss Elliott has had excellent success in this school. She has the faculty of pleasing the children; and teaching them so as to preserve the natural tone of voice in reading and speaking. The unnatural, stilted voice in which the children read in some of our schools, is proof of incompetent training. The intermediate school has been taught during the year by Nellie L. Andrews. I do not know where a better teacher could have been selected for this school. The order was perfect, the progress very marked. I have not seen anything in her methods of instruction where-in I could suggest an improvement.

Grammar School. The spring term was taught by Sara A. Leonard, a teacher of large experience. This is a difficult school. Miss Leonard taught very acceptably. She makes the

hard places easy for the scholars, because she thoroughly understands their difficulty, and has the faculty to remove it.

The fall term was taught by Abby M. Thompson. Miss Thompson realized shortly after beginning the school that it was a greater task to govern it than she anticipated. I think she did the best she could, but the school was too hard for her to teach with pleasure to herself or profit to the school.

The winter term was taught by B. G. Hall. Mr. Hall has a faculty to govern well; and taught the school very successfully. The order was hardly as good at the close of the term as at first, but was a marked advance on the fall school. The teacher gained the good will of the scholars; and considering the mixed state of affairs in this room, he did excellently well.

DISTRICT No. 4.—James Danforth, agent. Amount of money, \$180.90. Number of scholars, thirty-eight. Spring term of eight weeks was taught by Nettie Kimball. This was the first school she ever taught. The scholars were quiet and orderly and the advancement made about average for schools presided over by teachers with no previous experience or special normal training.

The Fall term of fifteen weeks was taught by Mamie C. Jones. The attendance was irregular and the average very low for the number registered. There were but few present at the examination on account of bad traveling. See report of district number eleven Summer term.

DISTRICT No. 5.—George W. Richards, agent. Amount of money, \$124.04. Number of scholars, twenty-four. The Summer and Fall terms were taught by Helen A. Johnson. A school is fortunate that gets a good teacher and keeps her through the year. Therefore this school has been fortunate this year. The order was good. The school-room was kept neat and had a cheerful appearance. The progress in studies was above the average.

DISTRICT No. 6.—J. F. Fuller, agent. Amount of money, \$136.46. Number of scholars, twenty-six. District number eight was united with this district this year for school purposes. Therefore the whole amount of money is \$196.46. The Spring term was taught by Henrietta M. Holmes. Miss Holmes felt a deep interest in the school and succeeded well. She was generally liked by scholars and parents.

The Fall term was taught by Ella F. Moulton. Miss Moulton has some faults and many virtues as a teacher. Some of her methods of government and punishment were improper, but they were evils that she may correct. As to her methods of instruction I can find no fault. She inspires the scholars with the idea that the lessons must be learned. The examination was as good as any and in some cases the best in town. If the idea of schools is to wake up the mind and train it, even against its will, this term was a success.

The Winter term now in session is taught by Clara R. Blaisdell of Bates College. The school appeared well the first week.



I presume the examination will be satisfactory. Miss Blaisdell has a fine education.

DISTRICT No. 7.—A. M. Paine, agent. Amount of money, \$165.98. Number of scholars, thirty-eight. Summer term of ten weeks taught by Hattie M. Leach. Miss Leach is fairly equipped to teach a small school. She is quiet in manner and lacks the peculiar energy so much needed by a teacher to make the school anything more than ordinary. She is conscientious in the school-room and succeeds as well as any one with her endowments.

Fall term of twelve weeks taught by Mr. B. M. Pratt. Mr. Pratt is well known in town. The school was small the first time I visited it, and on account of bad traveling it was very small at the last visit—only ten scholars being present. Therefore I am unable to give much of a report. But as the teacher is so well known as having been successful perhaps none is needed.

DISTRICT No. 8.—A. Witham, agent. Amount of money, \$60.00. Number of scholars, five. There has been no school in this district as it was united with number six for this year for school purposes.

DISTRICT No. 9.—Amount of money, \$35.00. Number of scholars, seven. This is a part of a district, the school being under the direction of the town of Hebron.

DISTRICT No. 10.—R. A. Gilbert, agent. Amount of money \$379.91. Number of scholars ninety-three. The school in this district has been taught very successfully during the year, with the exception of three weeks, by Belle A. Boynton. The Summer term was a little more than average for a school of this kind.

Miss Mabel L. Perham began the Fall term but finding the school more difficult to govern than she expected and not being of very strong constitution nor will, she concluded to retire at the end of the third week. Miss Boynton then took charge again and did extremely well. She succeeded in all respects better than in the Summer. The order has been good. She has not granted the scholars the privilege to "speak" during school hours, and whispering has been unlawful. The progress has been slow and quite thorough. No one but the teacher can realize the perplexity of teaching a school made up of four nationalities and forty shades of temperament, of all ages and sizes that we usually find in a common school and studying everything from the primer to physiology and algebra. The school needs grading. The district has voted to raise twenty-five hundred dollars to build a school-house and the money is partly collected. Plans have been drawn for a neat, pretty, convenient building that will be an ornament to the village and enhance the value of all property in the district, besides giving ample accommodations to the school. Two terms of graded school under competent teachers would be far more profitable

than three long terms can possibly be under the present arrangement.

DISTRICT No. 11.—John E. Burns, agent. Amount of money \$114.20. Number of scholars twenty. The Summer term of eight weeks was taught by Mamie C. Jones. Miss Jones did very well with this school. She was interested and the term was profitable.

The Fall term was taught by F. B. Andrews, who is so well known that comments are unnecessary. He manifested a good degree of interest in the welfare of the school, tried different methods of illustration and had his usual success.

DISTRICT No. 12.—Freeman Brown, agent. Amount of money \$103.07. Number of scholars seventeen. Summer term of eight weeks was taught by Agnes G. Morton. This was her first effort in the line of teaching. The attendance was irregular and small on the average. The school was not a success. Perhaps more age and experience will develop ability now latent in the teacher. If nothing had prevented a full and regular attendance the term would have been far more beneficial.

The Fall term of ten weeks was taught by Annie S. Parker. This experienced teacher has ability to govern and teach very successfully. The term was in every sense a success. I think one of the best methods of securing regular attendance and of uniting the factions that sometimes exist in school districts is to employ teachers of Miss Parker's stamp and ability.

I thank the people of the town for the confidence they had in me in committing the schools to my care.

C. S. CUMMINGS, SUPERVISOR.

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