

1870

Annual Reports of the Selectmen, and Sup't. School Committee of the Town of Rumford, for the Year Ending February 19, 1870

Rumford (Me.)

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A N N U A L R E P O R T S

OF THE

S E L E C T M E N ,

— AND —

S U P T. S C H O O L C O M M I T T E E

OF THE

T O W N O F R U M F O R D.

F O R T H E Y E A R E N D I N G F E B R U A R Y 1 9,

1870.

M E C H A N I C F A L L S :

P R I N T E D A T T H E A N D R O S C O G G I N H E R A L D O F F I C E .

1870.

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

OF THE

S E L E C T M E N ,

—AND—

SUP'T. SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF RUMFORD,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 19,

1870.

MECHANIC FALLS:

PRINTED AT THE ANDROSCOGGIN HERALD OFFICE.

1870.

APR 3 1947



Wm. K. Moody, Printer.



REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR, ENDING FEBRUARY 19, 1870.

APPROPRIATED AND ASSESSED.

State Tax,		\$1998.03
County Tax,		327.38
Support of Schools,		1375.00
Support of Poor,		800.00
Current Expenses of Town,		1600.00
Overlayings,		179.13
Delinquent Highway Tax,		53.00
		\$6332.54
Total committed for collection,		\$6332.54
Whole number of Polls,	267,	
Amount of Real and Personal Es-) tate, Resident and Non-resident, }		\$182618.00
Poll Tax \$3.00	Rate of Tax, .03	

APPROPRIATIONS FOR SCHOOLS.

Amount raised by vote of Town,		\$1375.00
Interest on Town School Fund,		178.95
Received from State School Fund,		40.05
		\$1594.00

APPORTIONED AS FOLLOWS.

DISTRICT.	NO. OF SCHOLARS.	APPORTIONMENT.
No 1	24	\$76.80
" 2	33	105.60
" 3	27	86.40
" 4	38	121.60
" 5	39	124.80
" 6	33	105.60
" 7	56	179.20
" 8	65	208.00
" 9	54	172.80
" 10	20	74.00
" 11	27	86.40
" 12	50	160.00
" 13	29	92.80
	495	\$1594.00

Rate per Scholar, \$3.20
 Per centage added to district No. 10, \$10.00

TOWN FARM.

NAMES OF PAUPERS SUPPORTED ON THE FARM.

John Abbott, aged 91, supported for the year.
 Esther Abbott, " 71, " " "
 David Silver, " 39, " " "
 Mahitable Eaton, Died June 15th, 1869. 2½ months.
 John Clement, " Dec. 8th, " 3 "
 Samuel B. Bodwell, " 2 "

SCHEDULE OF STOCK, PROVISION, &C., ON THE FARM.

Oxen,	2	Beans, bushels,	1½
Cows.	2	Potatoes, "	50
Heifers, 3 years old,	2	Oats, "	65
Steers, 2 " "	2	Pork, lbs.	300
Yearlings,	2	Hams, "	75
Sheep,	10	Butter, "	30
Shoats,	2	Lard "	8
Horse,	1	Corn, & Rye Meal, bbl.	1
Flour, barrels	2	Soap, "	¾

We find the overseer has fed and clothed the Poor on the Farm, kept farming tools in good repair, bought new articles (including grindstone) for the use of Farm to the amount of \$13.00, paid School District Tax and all bills, with the exception that the Town has paid \$20.31, for Labor in shingling and for shingles to shingle the house. and also \$3.00 assessment of Insurance Co. The Town has received into Treasury \$35.00, being boot between oxen on Farm. The Overseer paid by Town.

PAUPER BILLS OFF THE FARM.

Paid Emely Mc'rillis,	\$48.41	
" Medical attendance for same,	17.00	
" Nurse for same,	9.00	
		<hr/>
		\$74.41
Paid Mandana Andrews,		40.00
" Hazen Richardson for boarding S. B. Bodwell	\$4.00	
" Medical attendance for same,	1.50	
		<hr/>
		5.50
Paid Medical attendance for Sarah Hardy,		10.00
" Town of Andover for Chas. K. Wyman,		34.53
" For boarding John Clement,	\$41.00	
" Medical attendance for same,	14.00	
" Funeral charges, " "	27.20	
		<hr/>
		82 20
Paid for F. S. Leavitt's family,	\$21.58	
" Medical attendance for same,	11.17	
		<hr/>
		32.75
Paid Samuel Merrill,		10.00
		<hr/>
		\$289 39

TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF POOR.

J. K. Martin,	(estimated)	\$60.00
P. M. Putnam,	"	55.85
G. W. Perry,	"	33.36
Collecting Taxes,	"	80.00

TREASURER.

Calvin Howe,	(estimated)	\$37.50
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CLERK AND CONSTABLE.

Henry M. Colby,	(estimated)	\$16.00
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SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Waldo Pettengill,	(estimated)	\$20.25
L. A. Thomas,	"	21.75
J. N. Irish,	"	20.00

\$344.71

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

In accordance with vote of Town we have expended in the Several highway districts, and drawn from Treasury, the sums set against said districts as below :

George H. Cummins',	District,	2 64
Joseph W. Elliott's,	"	88 00
Chas. F. Richardson's,	"	30.19
Wm. W. Farnum's,	"	47.10
Timothy O. Colby's,	"	12 00
A. M. Elliott's,	"	71.75
J. T. Hall's,	"	67 00
John Swain's,	"	50.75
Chas. F. Wheeler's,	"	32.49
Levi Moody's,	"	27 00
Marcus F. Knight's,	"	220 00
John H. Howe's,	"	115 00
Simeon F. Frost's,	"	105 27
M. N. Lufkin's,	"	60.28
Samuel Steven's,	"	25.00
John Twombly's,	"	10.00
H. H. Wyman's	"	34.49
Thomas F. Smith's	Including work on Howe Hill,	85.34
We have also paid for boating over Swift River,		40.35
Total Expended,		\$1124 65

TREASURY.

TOWN OF RUMFORD, IN ACCOUNT WITH CALVIN HOWE, TREASURER.

DR.		1869.
Feb. 18.	Bal. in Treasury,	\$1893.50
April 24,	Money from Town School Fund,	183.26
June,	Tax Committed to C. F. Wheeler,	4007.13
Feb. 11,	School money from State for 1869,	37.70
" "	" " " " " " 1866,	32 66
" "	Cash Rec'd from Sale of State Bonds,	800 00
" "	" " on Note given to Martha L. Abbott,	260.00
" 12,	Boot between Oxen on Town Farm,	35 00
" 15,	Cash from sale of Swift River Bridge Timber,	38.00
		\$7287 25

CR.

Paid Interest on Town Note,	\$127 50
Abatement of Taxes for 1868,	125.77
Interest paid by Treasurer for borrowed money,	12 60
Express Bill on State Bonds & Cash paid for Stamps,	7.95
Repair of Roads and Bridges,	1124.65
Supports of Schools & Poor & Current Expenses of Town.	2274.89
In hands of C. F. Wheeler, (Collector.)	2895.21
	<hr/>
	6568.57
Bal. in Treasury,	\$718 68

EXHIBIT OF TOWN NOTES.

DATE.	RUNNING TO.	WHEN DUE.	AMOUNT.
1 Note, Dec. 25, 1863, T. Walker,	in 7 years,		\$1000.00
	Interest paid to Dec. 25, 1868		
1 " Dec. 26, 1863, Dolly K. Hastings	" 6 "		1000.00
	Interest paid to Dec. 26, 1869.		
1 " Dec. 25, 1863, Chas. H. Kimball,	" 6 "		225.00
	Interest paid to Dec. 25, 1868.		
1 " Dec. 18, 1864, Clarisa Howe,	" 3 "		250 00
	Interest paid to Dec. 18, 1869.		
1 " Dec. 28, 1863, Clarisa Howe,	" 4 "		400.00
	Interest paid to Dec. 28, 1869.		
1 " Dec. 18, 1864, David G. Glines,	" 3 "		475 00
	Interest paid to Dec. 18, 1869.		
1 " March 6, 1867, John Godwin,	" 3 "		700.00
	Interest paid to March 6, 1869.		
1 " March 6, 1867, Calvin Howe on demand,			582.27
	Interest paid to March 6, 1869.		
1 " March 23, 1867, L. P. Newton on demand,			400.00
	Interest paid to March 23, 1869		
1 " Oct. 20. 1869, Martha L. Abbott.			260.00
			<hr/>
			\$5292.27
	Interest Due on above Notes	\$174.44	

RECAPITULATION.

RESOURCES.

Balance in Treasury,	\$718 68
In hands of Collector,	2895.21
State of Maine Bonds rec'ned at par } accrued Interest not reconed, } In Timothy Walker's hands being } Overpaid by Treasurer. }	6000.00 60.00
	\$9673.89

LIABILITIES.

Town Notes,	\$5292.27
Interest on Town Notes,	174.44
Outstanding Orders,	292.78
Due School Districts,	742.53
Town Officers Bills,	344.71
Due Overseer on Town Farm,	100.00
Miscellaneous Bills Estimated,	145.00
	\$7091.73
Balance in favor of Town,	\$2582 16

We find quite a large sum in the the Collector's hands, owing in a great measure to the great scarcity of money ; and we will here most respectfully suggest and recommend that the Town vote a discount to all tax-payers who pay their taxes at proper time.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

J. K. MARTIN,	}	Selectmen, Assessores.
P. M. PUTNAM,		and
G. W. PERRY,		Overseers of the Poor.

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

DISTRICT NO. 1.

L. B. PEABODY, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in the District, 24. The Summer term was taught by Miss Hattie Ray. This was Miss Ray's third term. The order improvement and attendance of her school were excellent and we recommend her as one of the best teachers. 12 scholars were present at our first visit and 10 at our last.

The Winter term was taught by Mr. Henry Smith, seven weeks. The whole number attending school, 19 ; average No., 15. This school was visited but once, as the Committee were not notified of the time of closing. The school appeared well at the first visit and we learn that Mr. Smith gave good satisfaction.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

GEORGE H. WEBBER, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District, 34. The Summer term was taught by Miss Hattie Elliott, eight weeks. Whole number attending school, 25; average number, 22. This was Miss Elliott's first school. The order was good and also the improvement; and we think that she will make a successful teacher.

The Winter term was taught by Mr. Charles Fox. This school has not been visited but once at the time of making this report—at the first visit the school promised to be a good one.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

CHARLES CARTER, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District, 27. The Summer term was commenced by Miss Carter of Peru. After teaching three or four weeks, she saw fit to quit the school. The school was not profitable. The term was finished by Miss Sarah Farnum in a satisfactory manner.

The Winter term was broken and pieced again. Sale of Hartford and Smith of Hanover, teachers, respectively. Sale failed and Smith did'nt. Ink might be wasted and much might be said, but we'll waste no ink and say no more—except that the school was not profitable.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

WM. PUTNAM, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District, 38. The Summer term was under the charge of Miss Clara Adams, her first school. A lack of order was observable, but the advancement was all we could ask.

The Winter term was taught by Miss Addie M. Lovejoy. Miss Lovejoy failed also in order, although we consider that the confusion was partly attributable to the uncomfortable schoolroom. The improvement was good.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

THOMAS SMITH AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District, 39. The Summer term was taught by Miss Maggie Hoyt, 10 weeks. There seemed to be a lack of energy on the part of this teacher. The order was fair, but the improvement was not quite what we had hoped to see. Whole number attending school, 17; average, 13.

The Winter term was taught by Mr. Charles Jennings. This school is keeping and has not been visited but once at the making of our report. The School appeared well at the first visit, and we hear Mr. Jennings well spoken of as a teacher, by the District.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

OBED TAYLOR, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District, 33. The Summer term was taught by Miss Orisa Knapp. Miss Knapp is one of our successful teachers, her order was perfect and improvement excellent.

The Winter term was begun by Mr. James Elliott who kept three weeks when some trouble arose and the committee were called in to settle the matter. After an examination Mr. Elliott concluded that it was for the interest of the District that he should quit. The term was finished by Mr. L. A. Thomas who taught seven weeks. Mr. Thomas is one of our best teachers.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

JOEL DURGIN, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District, 56. The Summer term was taught by Miss Emma Brown, ten weeks. This was Miss Brown's second term in the District, which speaks well for her success the first term. This term a lack of order was observable, improvement fair. Whole number attending school, 31; average number, 25.

The Winter term is being taught by Miss Mae. Smith. The school to continue twelve weeks, is now keeping, and has been visited but once, as yet. Miss Smith is well liked by the scholars and parents, and we expect to find the progress good.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

RUFUS HOWE, AGENT—Whole number of scholars in District, 65. The Summer term of ten weeks was taught by Mrs. M. E. Eaton, 38 scholars were present at the first visit and 18 at the last visit. The order was perfect, and improvement excellent, of those present at the close of the term. The somewhat novel complaint made of this teacher was that she made the scholars study too hard. Which is a fault that may be safely imitated, we think, without injury to our schools.

The Winter term was commenced by Mr. Waldo Pettingill but in consequence of sickness the school was brought to a close. We consider the district particularly unfortunate in losing the services of so excellent an instructor. Length of school, 6 weeks. Whole number attending school, 55; average, number, 50.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

PHINEAS ABBOTT, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District, 54. The Summer and Winter terms were both taught by Miss N. Nellie Howe. Miss Howe gave perfect satisfaction both to the committee and district. Her order was good, and the improvement excellent. The district may congratulate themselves in being so fortunate as to secure her services for the year.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

J. T. HALL, AGENT.—Whole number scholars in District, 20. Miss Helen Hatch taught this school through the Summer session in a very satisfactory manner to all. The term was brief and the school small, but interesting and profitable.

The Winter term was commenced by Miss Emma Brown, who taught $4\frac{1}{2}$ weeks when sickness compelled her to leave the school. The term was finished by Mr. Randall L. Taylor. The school appeared well at the closing visit.

DISTRICT NO. 11.

ASA PALMER, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District, 27. The Summer school was taught by Miss Mae. Kimball. At the time of each visit the school appeared well and we found nothing to condemn, but much to approve. The advancement, perhaps, was not all it might have been, yet fair. Whole number attending school, 23; average number 14. Length of term, 10 weeks.

The winter term was taught by Mr. Lewis Adams. The district were well satisfied with him as a teacher, but the committee at the last visit did not find that improvement in the school which they had hoped to see

DISTRICT NO. 12.

SOLOMON SILVER, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District 50. The Summer term was taught by Miss Belle Elliott, 11 weeks. Whole number of scholars attending school, 35; average number, 30. Miss Elliott did justice to her school. The advancement was good and order fair.

The Winter term of 14 weeks was taught by Mr. J. N. Irish. This District showed their good sense by hiring a faithful servant for the second time, and the result was a profitable term, and a good school.

DISTRICT NO. 13.

FRANK DELANO, AGENT.—Whole number of scholars in District, 29. Miss Sarah Farnham taught in Summer. Her school was visited but once for the reason that the notice of its close came too late. At the beginning, the prospect was fair for a profitable term. We have heard favorable reports, and believe them.

The Winter term was taught by Mr. Thurston. The Winter term was not visited but once by reason of the sickness of the committee. At the first visit the school appeared well and as this is the gentleman's second term in the district, it speaks well of his success.

On the whole, our schools for the year have been of medium excellence. We have been so fortunate as to secure some very good teachers in town, and likewise we have had some who were poor. We would recommend to those who shall have the duty of engaging teachers for the coming year, that they engage them early as the best class of teachers are almost invariably engaged early in the season.

SCHOOLHOUSES.—Our schoolhouses have been very much improved the past year. Districts No. 2 and 7 have each erected new and commodious houses that are well arranged and an honor to the town. Districts No. 5 and 11 have thoroughly repaired their houses so that each of them is comfortable. Districts No. 6, 8 and 12 had good houses at the commencement of the year, though the house in District No. 8 should be warmed in a better manner. The remainder of the houses in town are in poor condition. The

houses in Districts No. 1, 9 and 10, we think might be repaired at small expense, in such a manner as to make them sufficient for their several Districts. But the houses in the remaining Districts, No. 3, 4 and 13, should be entirely built anew the coming Summer. They are a disgrace to the several District in which they are situated, and ought not longer to be tolerated.

SCHOOL BOOKS.—The committee have adopted a uniform series of text books for use in town with the exception of Grammer. And shall allow no books to be introduced into our schools that conflict with our established series. In times past there have been several instances where the teachers have introduced into some particular schools text books that were favorites of their own.

The result has been that the committee were unjustly blamed by the parents for making an unnecessary expense, whereas they knew nothing about it till the change was completed. The law provides that the Superintending School Committee shall establish a uniform series of text books which shall be used for a term of five years from the time of their introduction, unless the Town shall vote to change in a shorter time. If the Committee cause or allow a change to be made in a less time they are liable to a fine of \$500.

Now what we ask and shall require of parents is that they shall buy only such books as we shall recommend and have introduced; which are as follows :

The National Series of Readers, by Parker & Watson ;
 The National Elementary Speller by Parker & Watson ;
 Greenleaf's Primary, Elementary, & Practical Arithmetics ;
 Greenleaf's Elementary & Higher Algebras ;
 Warren's Primary & Common School Geographies.

WRITING.—The study of penmanship is one that is neglected very much in our schools. In many of those visited there were but few who wrote at all and that but once each week. Now we recommend that all scholars from those that read in the second reader and upward, to those who are perfect writers, be supplied with writing books. For the older scholars and better writers, procure those with printed copies, but for the smaller ones, buy cheap books without copies and let the teacher write the models.

LANGUAGES.—The question whether the Languages should be allowed to be taught in our town schools or not, was presented to us for decision. And it was decided by your present Committee that it could not be allowed in school hours, for the reason that it would divert too much of the teachers time from the more necessary branches.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WALDO PETTINGIL, } S. S. Committee
 LEWIS A. THOMAS, } of
 J. NELSON IRISH, } Rumford.

