

1874

Annual Statement of Accounts of the Town of Topsham, Commencing March 9, 1873, and ending March 7, 1874

Topsham (Me.)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs>

Repository Citation

Topsham (Me.), "Annual Statement of Accounts of the Town of Topsham, Commencing March 9, 1873, and ending March 7, 1874" (1874). *Maine Town Documents*. 3579.

<https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/towndocs/3579>

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Maine Town Documents by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

ANNUAL STATEMENT

OF

ACCOUNTS

OF THE

TOWN OF TOPSHAM,

Commencing March 9, 1873, and ending March 7, 1874.

1874,

TELEGRAPH STEAM PRESS, BRUNSWICK.

*To the Auditors on Accounts for the Town
of Topsham :*

The subscribers, as Selectmen, submit for your consideration the following statement of the Appropriations, Receipts and Expenditures, from March 9th, 1873, to March 7th, 1874.

APPROPRIATIONS AND RECEIPTS.

For State tax, 1873	\$4,404 98	
County “	1,299 48	
Debts and interest	3,000 00	
Poor and other expenses	2,000 00	
Schools	1,300 00	
Town High School	500 00	
Highways and bridges	1,000 00	
Androscoggin bridge, balance	754 66	
Overlayings	419 10	
Highway tax of 1872, committed	343 23	
Supplement tax, 1873	77 40	
Engine and fire department	300 00	
	\$15,398 85	
Loan on notes at 6 per cent. \$500 on acct. town high school	\$2,668 87	
Town farm, for stock sold and cash rec'd for labor	361 73	
Chas. Thompson's est., highway tax, '72	37 30	
Rent of toll house	21 00	
State School mill fund No. 1	463 10	
“ “ fund	157 46	
“ Town High School	300 00	
	\$4,009 46	
Due from C. E. White, collector 1867-8, in 1873	\$243 68	
Due from J. F. Whitney, coll'r 1869-70-71, in 1873	661 37	
Due from F. W. Dearborn, coll'r 1872-73, in 1873	7,520 93	
Orders outstanding March 6, 1874	25	
Interest on school fund	39 87	
	8,466 10	
	\$27,874 41	

EXPENDITURES.

Paid balance of State tax, 1872	\$2,784 14
State tax, 1873	2,481 00
County tax for 1873, in full	1,299 48
County Commissioners, bill on road at Little River	32 00
Town bond, not credited treas'r 1873	50 00

Savings bank tax, State, charged to treasurer, 1873	117 00	
Interest on note paid William Small by treasurer	81 35	
In'st paid by orders on outst'ng notes	800 73	
“ coupons and bonds, “	930 00	
Abatements on taxes “	445 63	
Notes paid	1,913 20	
Account town farm for poor	875 94	
Poor out of the house	150 42	
Schools	2,924 27	
Highways and bridges	1,020 83	
Fire department	296 82	
Discount for prompt payment of taxes	402 06	
Miscellaneous expenses	1,287 89	
Outstanding orders. March 8, 1873	378 35	
Due from C. E. White. March, 1874	164 85	
“ J. F. Whitney “	288 35	
“ F. W. Dearborn “	9,150 10	
		<u>\$27,874 41</u>

ORDER ACCOUNT.

By amount outstanding March 8, 1873	\$378 35	
“ issued from No. 1, March, to No. 311, March 7, 1874	8,204 59	
		<u>\$8,582 94</u>
To am't of orders paid by F. W. Dearborn	8,130 84	
“ “ J. F. Whitney	373 02	
“ “ C. E. White	78 83	
To am't outstanding for former Reports of March 8, 1873	25	
		<u>\$8,582 94</u>
By balance outstanding Mar. 7, 1874, brought down		25
No. 300, Feb. 24, 1874, to Sam'l Douglass	45 97	
No. 309, to B. Thompson	1 00	
		<u>46 97</u>
Excess of orders known		<u>47 22</u>
To balance of orders brought down for expenditures, March, 1875		<u>47 22</u>

TOWN HIGH SCHOOL.

By amount appropriated.

By assessment	\$500 00	
Loan	500 00	
	<u> </u>	\$1000 00

BILLS PAID.

Paid F. Hutchings, teaching	\$800 00	
Annie M. Tate, assistant	196 00	
Balance due	4 00	
	<u> </u>	\$1000 00

VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

By balance due March 8, 1873	\$67 05	
Amount apportioned	858 29	
	<u> </u>	\$925 34
Overdrawn		6 51
		<u> </u>
		\$931 85

BILLS PAID.

W. S. Noyes, sawing wood and care of house	11 50
George L. Richardson, for lock	1 30
B. T. Roberts, sawing wood	8 63
C. F. Noyes, care of house	6 00
Jos. F. Drinkwater, labor	8 51
D. F. Potter, books and expense of schools	102 10
M. Swasey, black-boards	11 00
Purinton & Hall, lumber	2 25
John B. Larrabee, labor and material	20 34
E. S. Whitten, teaching	64 00
Ruth T. Cushing, teaching	64 00
Geo. Robinson, care of house	2 00
W. S. Noyes "	4 00
Brown and Berry, labor	3 50
Thomas Whitehouse, labor	11 25
Given and Stone, repairs	121 77
D. F. Potter, material	4 45
John B. Larrabee, labor	1 00
George Tedford, care of town high school	12 00
Ruth T. Cushing, teaching	96 00
C. F. Noyes, care of house	3 00

David H. Flagg, labor	90	
George L. Richardson, stoves, etc.	46 13	
Alvah Mallett, wood	30 00	
E. J. Whitten, teaching	96 00	
Solomon Davis, setting glass, etc.	10 86	
Ira Leland, paid for cleaning house	1 75	
Given and Stone, repairs	75	
B. T. Roberts, sawing wood	10 25	
A. H. Mallett, wood	22 50	
Purinton & Hall, lumber	16 91	
E. J. Whitten, teaching	34 00	
B. T. Roberts, sawing wood	4 25	
J. W. Antone, care of house and fires	2 00	
B. G. Dennison, apparatus for school	2 95	
Ruth T. Cushing, teaching	64 00	
	<u> </u>	\$931 85

DISTRICT NO. 1.

By balance due March 8, 1873	\$30 09	
Amount apportioned	66 11	
	<u> </u>	\$102 20

BILLS PAID.

A. A. Plummer, teaching	\$75 00	
Balance due	27 20	
	<u> </u>	\$102 20

DISTRICT NO. 3.

By balance due March 8, 1873	\$105 53	
Amount apportioned	144 16	
	<u> </u>	\$249 69

BILLS PAID.

Chas. Ward, for wood	\$12 00	
Wm. E. Graves, material	4 50	
Louisa C. Atkinson, teaching	15 00	
Martha Curtis, "	19 50	
E. B. Earl, proportion of s. m.	8 20	
P. P. Simmons, teaching	90 00	
Balance due	100 49	
	<u> </u>	\$249 69

DISTRICT NO. 4.

By balance due March 8, 1873	\$64 04	
Amount apportioned	122 81	
	<hr/>	\$186 85
Balance overdrawn		12 65
		<hr/>
		\$199 50
		<hr/>

BILLS PAID.

Eliza Hardie, board of teacher	\$30 00	
Thomas Rogers, wood and insurance	15 00	
L. A. Rogers, teaching	140 00	
Geo. M. Patten, for wood	14 50	
	<hr/>	\$199 50
		<hr/>

DISTRICT NO. 5.

By balance due March 8, 1873	\$18 45	
Amount apportioned	105 12	
	<hr/>	\$123 57
		<hr/>

BILLS PAID.

Alice V. Norwood, teaching	\$24 00	
C. W. Purinton, supplies	2 58	
Hattie E. Cobb, teaching	84 00	
Balance due	12 99	
	<hr/>	\$123 57
		<hr/>

DISTRICT NO. 6.

By amount apportioned		\$176 09
		<hr/>

BILLS PAID.

Amount overdrawn March 8, 1873	\$15 76	
Geo. R. Powers, board of teacher	27 00	
Jennie M. Swett, teaching	30 00	
Lewis T. Hopkins, "	70 00	
Balance due	33 33	
	<hr/>	\$176 09
		<hr/>

DISTRICT NO. 8.

By balance due March 8, 1873	\$48 56	
Amount apportioned	44 85	
	<hr/>	\$93 41

BILLS PAID.

Oria A. Jack, teaching	\$35 00	
Balance due	58 41	
	<hr/>	\$93 41

DISTRICT NO. 9.

By balance due March 8, 1873	\$15 30	
Amount apportioned	119 31	
	<hr/>	\$134 61

BILLS PAID.

Abbie E. Hunter, teaching	\$20 00	
Louisa F. Cone, "	44 00	
B. Reed, for wood	13 75	
Samuel Douglass, board and wood	45 97	
Balance due	10 89	
	<hr/>	\$134 61

DISTRICT NO. 11.

By amount apportioned	\$83 83	
Overdrawn. March, 1874	14 74	
	<hr/>	\$98 57

BILLS PAID.

Amount overdrawn, March 8, 1873	\$9 01	
A. D. Alexander, for wood	10 00	
Edith Small, teaching	15 00	
W. Nevins, "	50 00	
David Thompson, for wood	14 56	
	<hr/>	\$98 57

DISTRICT NO. 12.

By balance due March 8, 1873	02	
Amount apportioned	122 86	
	<hr/>	\$122 88

BILLS PAID.

Thomas E. Tuttle, teaching	\$73 86	
Balance due	49 02	
	<hr/>	\$122 88

ENGINE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT.

By amount appropriated. \$300 00

BILLS PAID.

C. H. Small, for monthly pay, 1873.	\$50 00	
A. S. Chase, one month's care of engine.	1 25	
C. E. Haskell, for rent of land	10 00	
A. Q. & C. Goud, material.	2 27	
Purinton & Hall, lumber	9 22	
John B. Larrabee, labor on house	15 80	
Ed. Berry, three months' care of engine	5 00	
C. H. Small, pumping out cistern.	6 00	
Ed. Berry, three months' care of engine.	5 00	
Wm. Barron, for wood.	3 50	
Given & Stone, repairs.	1 00	
Samuel E. Curtis, material and repair of house	6 75	
H. S. Cary, for payment of Company to March, 1874.	170 25	
C. E. White, material.	4 78	
" S. T. Purinton, fire.	6 00	
		<hr/>
Balance due.		\$296 82
		3 18
		<hr/>
		\$300 00
		<hr/>

TOWN EXPENSES.

Paid Benjamin Thompson, town agent.	\$12 50
E. Griffin, care of hearse.	6 00
F. Stinchfield, damage on road	7 00
A. G. Tenney, printing accounts	45 60
Wm. Flye, bal. of services of Selectmen.	12 15
Scribner and Haskell, Auditors on accounts.	9 00
I. P. Tebbetts, on ac't from '61 to '67.	132 50
S. R. Libby, " "	68 65
Wm. Flye, on health committee.	2 00
C. W. Purinton, as Selectman.	11 00
J. F. Whitney, Commissioner.	15 90
C. H. Small, as constable	9 00
C. W. Wilson, town clerk.	20 00
Eben Colby, labor on road.	6 00
D. F. Potter, S. S. Committee.	49 25
John Crowley, damage to sleigh.	30 00
A. D. Wheeler, School Com.	12 00
Dresser and McLellan, books for office.	16 62

Paid Sampson Colby, constable.....	2 00
E. F. Brown, silver badges.....	9 00
Dr. Jos. McKeen, health committee.....	4 00
C. H. Small, enrolment of men.....	19 50
Wm. M. Marks, printing reports.....	11 00
Maxwell & Jameson, blacksmithing.....	3 00
Dr. Jos. McKeen, health committee.....	2 00
Ira Leland, School Committee.....	29 25
" horse hire for do.....	24 80
C. E. Scribner, on ac't '61 to '67.....	17 25
W. S. Whitney, supplies for office.....	2 06
A. F. Spollet, varnishing hearse.....	6 00
Thos. Whitehouse, labor on cistern.....	4 25
E. B. Putnam, printing list of voters.....	7 00
Colby, Chaney & Smith, sign boards.....	3 75
Thos. Whitehouse, labor on cistern.....	12 33
O. Brawn, stopping fire at Jewett's.....	12 00
S. Wilson, " ".....	6 00
N. Whitmore, " ".....	3 00
John Atkins, " ".....	6 00
Chas. Thompson's heirs, rent of office.....	30 00
J. H. Purinton, services as Selectman.....	124 24
Putnam and Giveen, on ac't of suits.....	100 00
George Barron, " ".....	28 00
C. H. Small, repairs on toll house.....	1 50
David work, services as Selectman.....	36 32
J. H. Purinton, " ".....	19 00
Alonzo Ward, labor at Jewett's fire.....	3 00
H. Rogers, Rufus Rogers' estate.....	4 79
C. W. Purinton, serv's as Selectman.....	60 00
R. P. Whitney, supplies for office.....	75
B. T. Roberts, sawing office wood.....	2 00
J. F. Whitney, expense bankrupt court.....	10 25
T. U. Eaton, rent of fair house.....	15 00
C. H. Small, cost on taxes committed.....	12 00
F. W. Dearborn, as collector and treasurer.....	183 29
B. Thompson, damage to wagon.....	1 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,287 89

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

By amount appropriated.....	\$1000 00	
Highway tax of 1872, committed.....	348 23	
" " Chas. Thompson's estate.....	37 30	
		<u>\$1,380 53</u>

BILLS PAID.

M. Nowell.....	7 46
W. S. Alexander.....	4 50
A. L. Whitehouse.....	13 34
J. E. Tedford.....	7 00
O. S. White.....	12 33
W. E. Tate.....	2 26
O. Brawn, \$1.68 (25) do do \$1.50.....	1 18
E. B. Earl.....	20 00
J. W. Curtis.....	4 50
Albion S. Jack.....	8 76
".....	41 50
Oliver Brawn.....	3 33
H. W. Preston.....	6 13
O. Brawn.....	1 41
Thos. Rogers.....	15 00
Daniel S. Blake.....	15 20
Rufus Patten.....	34 23
David Work.....	18 68
Edward D. Gould.....	15 36
John L. Whitehouse.....	13 69
Oliver Brawn.....	5 83
Moses C. Barnes.....	12 34
Robert O. Hunter.....	15 35
Charles A. Clough.....	51 35
Jacob Graves... ..	1 24
W. S. Alexander.....	1 50
Geo. L. Wilson.....	36 69
Nathaniel Ward.....	2 00
Joseph P. Curtis.....	42 39
Rufus Thompson.....	15 07
Holman Weymouth.....	28 03
Cyrus E. Mustard.....	31 88
Wm. H. Mallett.....	9 50

E. Hardie.....	4 30	
J. P. C. Fall.....	21 00	
H. W. Green.....	4 52	
J. F. Whitney.....	28 04	
Geo. A. Cary.....	13 64	
Thos. H. Sprague.....	34 46	
Eben Colby.....	15 21	
Geo. R. Powers.....	30 11	
Maxwell & Jameson.....	26 88	
Purinton & Hall.....	72 42	
O. Brawn, jr.....	9 50	
J. S. Drinkwater.....	2 85	
I. E. Mallett.....	16 20	
John B. Larrabee.....	33 00	
Jacob Graves.....	16 86	
F. M. Hunter.....	3 30	
Z. H. Noyes.....	7 00	
Edward Berry.....	3 00	
Jonathan S. Hawey.....	4 61	
D. H. Flagg.....	7 50	
".....	7 00	
A. L. Whitehouse.....	10 00	
O. Brawn, jr., §3.50. O. Brawn, jr., §5.17.....	8 67	
J. F. Blondell.....	4 00	
David Thompson.....	1 50	
Geo. A. Rogers.....	2 50	
Otis F. Thompson.....	1 50	
John B. Larrabee.....	4 00	
Calvin Dyer.....	2 00	
A. W. Woodward.....	1 50	
David H. Flagg.....	25 00	
Purinton & Hall.....	60 78	
J. F. Whitney.....	10 37	
E. White.....	5 00	
		<hr/>
		\$1,020 83
Balance due, highways and bridges.....		359 70
		<hr/>
		\$1,380 53
		<hr/>

NOTE ACCOUNT.

To amount outstanding, March 8, 1873,	\$10,805 42
---------------------------------------	-------------

NOTES GIVEN.

August 2, 1873, one note	\$100 00	
Oct. 18, " "	225 00	
" 20, " "	468 75	
Nov. 1, " "	500 00	
" " "	150 00	
" 12, " "	360 00	
" 26, " "	300 00	
Dec. 13, " "	100 00	
Feb. 28, 1874, two notes,	425 00	
Mar. 15, 1873, one school fund note,	40 12	
	—————	2,668 87
		<u>\$13,474 29</u>

NOTES PAID.

Sept. 24, 1873, one note to Wm. Small, jr.	\$413 20	
Dec. 6, " " Benj. Thompson,	500 00	
" " " Emeline Matthews,	500 00	
Jan. 10, 1874, " Rob't S. Merryman,	100 00	
" " " Oscar Williams,	400 00	
	—————	\$1,913 20

Amount of notes outstanding March 1, 1874,	\$11,561 09
--	-------------

BONDS.

Amount outstanding March 1, 1874,	\$15,000 00
" town debt, paying interest,	\$26,561 09
	<u>—————</u>

INTEREST ACCOUNT.

Int. paid on notes by orders, by Treasurer,	\$800 73
“ note to Wm. Small, “	81 35
“ coupons for bonds,	930 00
	<hr/>
Total amount of interest	\$1,712 08

DISCOUNT.

Paid F. W. Dearborn, collector,	\$402 06
	<hr/>

TOWN FARM—POOR IN THE HOUSE.

Stock on farm, March 8, 1873,	\$546 00
Supplies do do	232 06
Utensils and house goods do	331 10
	<hr/>
	\$1,109 16
Paid Dr. J. McKeen	4 50
C. E. White, supplies	18 29
J. F. Blondell, services	12 00
O. M. Waite, balance of services, 1873	56 60
J. F. Blondell, supplies	30 78
David Work, for oxen, 1873	15 00
Nath'l Ward, use of bull, 1873	50
J. P. Curtis, use of sleds, 1873	5 00
J. F. Blondell, services	13 00
Samuel Knight, for hay	66 22
C. W. Purinton, seed	4 50
J. F. Blondell, services	25 00
A. Q. & C. Goud, supplies for Waite	13 00
J. F. Blondell, supplies	10 80
Purinton & Hall, lumber	2 50
F. Berry, for coffin	12 00
J. F. Blondell, services	12 50
W. B. Purinton & Co., meal, &c	13 76
J. F. Blondell, supplies	26 00
J. F. Blondell, services	12 50
Daniel Elliot, for coat	8 00
J. F. Blondell, services	25 00
Willis S. Whitney, supplies	23 38
W. B. Purinton & Co., meal. &c	8 06
J. F. Blondell, services	25 00
W. S. Whitney, supplies	5 05

Paid J. F. Blondell, services	25 00	
J. F. Blondell, supplies	42 32	
Thompson & Blondell, ploughing	7 50	
W. B. Purinton & Co., meal, &c	18 22	
A. J. Whitehouse, labor	6 50	
D. & C. E. Scribner, meal, &c	32 09	
J. F. Blondell, services	25 00	
J. F. Blondell, services	25 00	
W. B. Purinton & Co., meal, &c	7 23	
David Thompson, 2 pigs	7 00	
R. P. Whitney, supplies	24 78	
H. B. Coffin, meat	1 35	
J. F. Blondell, services	25 00	
George L. Richardson, stove, &c	9 94	
Daniel Elliot, blankets.	8 00	
J. F. Blondell, services	25 00	
W. B. Purinton & Co., meal &c,	6 41	
R. P. Whitney, supplies	12 76	
H. P. Mallett &c. balance supplies	9 77	
C. E. White, " "	29 16	
Purinton & Hall, " lumber	2 15	
J. F. Blondell, services	25 00	
D. & C. E. Scribner, shorts	11 19	
John Crowley, beef	9 17	
	<hr/>	\$875 94
		<hr/>
		\$1985 10
		<hr/>

Cr.

By stock on farm	\$268 50	
supplies	421 50	
utensils and house goods	287 30	
	<hr/>	\$977 30
cash for two oxen sold	\$190 00	
one cow	37 00	
59 1-2 lbs. wool	18 96	
O. M. Waite, cash paid Treasurer	37 00	
board and lodging of strangers	10 00	
supplies to George W. Farrin	10 00	
150 rods new fence	112 50	
	<hr/>	\$415 46
balance		592 34
		<hr/>
		\$1,985 10
		<hr/>

PAUPERS, OR POOR OUT OF THE HOUSE.

Paid Henry Morang, board of Lucy Fogg	\$39 00	
town of Cape Elizabeth, funeral expenses and nursing of Nancy Octavia Owen, etc.	72 00	
Dr. Jos. McKeen, medical attendance, Ruth Mitchell	6 00	
H. Staples, house rent	10 00	
H. P. Mallett, supplies to	5 92	
Betsey A. Cannon, care of	3 00	
Dr. Jos. McKeen, medical attendance on strangers	2 50	
F. Berry, Coffin for Mr. Harding	12 00	
		\$150 42
amount of orders drawn on treasury on acct. of town farm		875 94
amount paid for poor in and out of the house		<u>\$1,026 36</u>

LIABILITIES.

Amount due on State tax, 1873	\$1,923 98	
Notes outstanding	11,561 09	
Orders outstanding	46 97	
Due schools	262 47	
Bills estimated	250 00	
Bonds outstanding	15,000 00	
		<u>\$29,044 51</u>

RESOURCES.

Amount due from C. E. White, for tax of 1867-8	164 85	
Amount due from J. F. Whitney, for tax of 1869-'70-'71	288 35	
Amount due from F. W. Dearborn, for tax of 1872-'73	9,150 10	
By school fund for State mill tax No. 2, '74	469 46	
By savings bank, State fund	315 10	
State, for town high school	198 00	
Outst'g bills due from Wm. Whitten	15 34	
“ “ S. A. Perkins	2 56	
“ “ Wildes P. Walker	1 00	
“ “ J. H. Purinton	2 50	
		<u>\$10,607 26</u>
Excess of liabilities, or net town debt to Mar. 6, 1874	18,437 25	
		<u>\$29,044 51</u>
Decrease of town debt since March 8, 1873		<u>\$2,171 85</u>

The Selectmen recommend the following sums to be raised the ensuing year :

Common Schools	\$1,300 00
Town High School	500 00
By loan for the same	500 00
Highways, in labor	2,000 00
" in cash	500 00
Poor and other expenses	2,000 00
Debts and interest	3,000 00

DAVID WORK,) Selectmen
 CHAS. W. PURINTON, } of
 JOS. H. PURINTON,) Topsham.

TOPSHAM, March 9, 1874.

We have examined the foregoing accounts, and compared them with the books, orders and bills, and find them correct.

DAVID SCRIBNER, } Auditors.
 CHAS. E. HASKELL, }

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The only important change in our school system for the past year has been, in addition to the District Schools, both rural and village, the introduction of a higher grade of school than the town has heretofore sustained.

At our last annual meeting in March, 1873, the town appropriated one thousand dollars for the purpose of establishing a Town Free High School, in pursuance of the action of the Legislature of the same year, the State pledging to pay "one half the amount actually expended for instruction in said school, not exceeding five hundred dollars."

By the provisions of the statute, the duty of oversight in this matter was devolved upon the school committee, who, in accordance with the vote of the town, undertook the work of securing a suitable building for holding such a school, of providing the necessary apparatus, and of raising the required means for the incidental expenses.

It was thought advisable that the amount appropriated for this object should be wholly used for instruction, and no part of it be devoted to any other use. It became necessary, therefore, to consider the ways and means for running the proposed high school without drawing upon the one thousand dollars. This could be done only through voluntary donations, or by the assessment of a tax, or from the action of the village district, assuming the whole responsibility. Accordingly at the annual meeting of the village district, in April, it was voted that whatever sum was needed for the purpose aforesaid should be defrayed by the district, and also that the high school building and apparatus belonging to it should be at the service of the S. S. Committee for this end. By the generosity of the village district, thus liberally providing the ways and means, the Committee were able to carry out the wishes expressed by the town, and to secure the whole appropriation for the high school for the single and exclusive use of instruction. To estimate in full the liberality of the village district, besides the free use of the high school building and the apparatus of the same, it became necessary in the outset to make needed repairs for obtaining a recitation room for the accommodation of the classes of the assistant teacher, so that, with two rooms, there might be two recitations conducted at the same time. This was done

at a cost of nearly two hundred dollars. The apparatus being deficient for the purpose, there has been expended for globes, blackboards, dictionaries &c., more than one hundred dollars. The full amount expended by the village district for the free high school has been three hundred, seventy-two dollars and six cents — besides the free use of the school building and grounds.

It will be seen, therefore, that while the village by its local position enjoys advantages, arising from such a school within its limits, beyond those citizens living at a distance, and who find it somewhat inconvenient to avail themselves of its privileges, yet the pecuniary burden of maintaining the school is freely assumed by the village in consideration of this fact, and it may be confidently asserted that what has been done, through the generosity of the district, during the past year, will be repeated so long as the Free High School is continued.

The committee have found it necessary, in order to encourage the largest possible admissions to the high school, without opening the door too wide, to make the terms of admission such as will discourage no applicant, and at the same time will stimulate those in the district schools to put forth more effort to qualify themselves to go up higher. These terms have been made known to the agents of the several districts, and placed in the school houses for the use of both teachers and pupils.

The number attending the high school at first was small, and for the first term demanded the instructions of only one teacher; but at the opening of the Fall term, an assistant was called for, which opened the way for a division of the school into two sections, one in charge of the principal, the other in charge of the assistant, so that we have already two classes corresponding to the first and second years of the ordinary course of study in schools of this grade.

It is by no means entertained by the committee that, as now existing, the high school has reached a position worthy of the name—far less that it is in any sense a success. It is the day of small things. The school is in its gristle. It has a good deal of chaotic material to be worked up into shape and order. It is but a beginning—a starting point. The goal lies in the future, to be reached only by persistent and continuous labor. With the generous aid of our citizens, it will in time repay all its costs.

In regard to the District Schools, it is the desire of the committee to emphasize the idea, and to impress the same upon all, that, with the establishment of the Free High School, they sustain to it the relation of feeders. They are the quarries from which the rude material is to be taken for the better culture afforded in a school of a higher grade. As yet, this relation is new, and but imperfectly understood. Of the seventy pupils who have during the year entered the high school, and for a longer or shorter time received its instructions, only twenty-five per cent. were from out of the village,

or from the rural districts. But, in time, it will be a much larger proportion, provided the system as at present existing is continued. It is safe to predict that the majority of scholars, on leaving the district schools, will no longer graduate in them and enter at once upon active life, but will seek admission to the highest sources of knowledge. To this end we need to popularize the idea that our district schools are a lower round in the ladder of popular education, and so convenient for climbing up to a higher elevation—the high school and college. It will be one object of the committee to impress this fact strongly upon all our people, that one of the principal reasons, underlying the statute establishing Free High Schools, is to stimulate the schools of lower grade to better work and nobler aims. The aggregate gifts of the State to our Free High Schools for the past school year will be nearly fifty thousand dollars, which sum may be regarded as a premium upon intelligence—a bounty offered for improvement in popular education.

STATISTICS.

CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLS.

DIS. NO. 1. Agent, John H. Whitehouse. Whole number of scholars, 13. No summer term.

WINTER TERM. Teacher, Alvah A. Plummer. Wages, \$25 per month. Length of school 12 weeks. Number attending, 10; average, 10.

DIS. NO. 3. Agent, Lewis Thompson. Whole number of scholars, 35. SUMMER TERM. Teacher, Miss Louise C. Atkinson. Wages, \$2 50 per week. Number attending, 10; average 8. Length of school, six weeks.

WINTER TERM. Teacher, P. P. Simmons. Wages, \$30 per month.—Number attending, 20; average, 14. Length of school, 12 weeks.

DIS. NO. 4. Agent, George M. Patten. Whole number of scholars, 29. No summer term.

WINTER TERM. Teacher, Lincoln A. Rogers. Number attending, 21; average, 15. Length of school, 12 weeks. Wages, \$30 per month.

DIS. NO. 5. Agent, Charles W. Purinton. Whole number of scholars, 24. SUMMER TERM. Teacher, Miss Alice V. Norwood. Number attending, 16; average, 15. Length of school, 8 weeks. Wages, \$3 per week.

WINTER TERM. Teacher, Miss Hattie E. Cobb. Length of school, 14 weeks. Number attending, 17; average, 17. Wages, \$6 per week.

DIS. NO. 6. Agent, George R. Powers. Whole number of scholars, 44. SUMMER TERM. Teacher, Miss Jennie M. Swett. Wages, \$2 50 per week. Length of school, 10 weeks.

WINTER TERM. Teacher, Lewis T. Hopkins. Number attending, 33; average 27. Length of school, 8 weeks. Wages of teacher, \$35 per month.

DIS. NO. 8. Agent, Otis S. White. Whole number of scholars, 7. No Summer Term.

WINTER TERM. Teacher, Miss Ori A. Jack. Number attending, 11; average, 11. Length of school, 8 weeks. Wages per week, \$3.

DIS. NO. 9. Agent, Samuel Douglass. Whole number of scholars, 28. **SUMMER TERM.** Teacher, Miss Abbie E. Hunter. Number attending, 15; average 13. Length of school, 4 weeks. Wages, \$2 50 per week.

WINTER TERM. Teacher, Miss Louie F. Cone. Number attending, 17; average, 13. Length of school, 11 weeks. Wages, \$4 per week.

DIS. NO. 11. Agent, David Thompson. Whole number of scholars, 18. **SUMMER TERM.** Teacher, Miss Edla Small. Number attending, 7; average, 7. Length of schools, 6 weeks. Wages, \$2 50 per week.

WINTER TERM. Teacher, Wilson Nevens. Number attending, 15; average, 13. Wages, \$25 per month. Length of school, 8 weeks.

DIS. NO. 12. Agent, Jordan White. Whole number of scholars, 29.—No summer term.

WINTER TERM. Teacher, Thomas E. Tuttle. Number attending, 12; average, 8. Length of school, 12 weeks. Wages, \$25 per month.

VILLAGE DISTRICT.

Agents, S. S. Committee. Whole number of scholars, 242.

Primary school, No. 1. **SUMMER TERM.** Teacher, Miss Emily J. Whitten. Length of school, 8 weeks. Number attending, 45; average, 37. Wages, \$5.00 per week.

FALL TERM. Same teacher. Number attending, 36; average, 32. Length of school, 12 weeks. Wages, \$5.00 per week.

WINTER TERM. Same teacher. Number attending, 30; average, 27. Length of school, 8 weeks. wages, \$5.00 per week.

Primary school, No. 2. **SUMMER TERM.** Teacher, Miss Ruth T. Cushing. Length of school, 8 weeks. Number attending, 40; average, 32. Wages, \$5.00 per week.

FALL TERM. Same teacher. Length of school, 12 weeks. Number attending, 36; average, 30. Wages, \$5.00 per week

WINTER TERM. Same teacher. Length of school, 8 weeks. Number attending, 34; average, 27. Wages, \$5.00 per week.

TOWN FREE HIGH SCHOOL.

SUMMER TERM. Teachers—Principal, Freedom Hutchinson, A.B.; Assistant, Miss Annie M. Tate. Wages, \$82 per month and \$5 per week. Number attending, 37; average, 30. Length of school, 8 weeks.

FALL TERM. Same teachers. Same wages. Length of school, 12 weeks. Number attending, 46; average, 37.

WINTER TERM. Same teachers. Same wages. Length of school, 12 weeks. Number attending, 45; average, 39.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS.

In the ten districts into which the town is divided, there have been during the school year 17 schools, taught by seven males and ten females. In four districts there has been but one term of school. — in Nos. 1, 4, 8 and 12. In five districts, two terms — in Nos. 3, 5, 6, 9 and 11. In the village district, three terms. In all the schools of the town there have been 219 weeks of instruction, but, as reported last year, very unequally distributed — viz., in No. 8 a child has had but eight weeks of schooling for the year. In Nos. 1, 4 and 12, but 12 weeks. In No. 11, but 14 weeks. In No. 9, but 15 weeks. In Nos. 3 and 5, but 18 weeks. While in the village district each scholar has had 28 weeks, and in the free high school 32 weeks. And here it may be well to say that this disparity can be removed whenever the town shall vote to substitute for the present district system the town system; and here is one good reason appealing with great force to every citizen for a change, which shall put every child on the same equality of privilege as to the quantity of instruction, and the committee would repeat their judgment that this change would secure to all entire impartiality. The whole number of scholars in town, as reported by the several agents, is 469. Number attending school — winter, 253; summer, 200. Per cent. of average attendance. 48. Compensation to male teachers will average \$36 per month; to female teachers, \$3.50 per week.

In all the districts in town there are good school-houses, except in No. 8. The inhabitants of district No. 12 have erected a new one during the year at a cost of \$700. The teachers in the rural districts have manifested a good degree of zeal in their responsible tasks, and have met with corresponding success. The school in No. 4 is deserving of special mention as in all respects an exceptional school, showing on the part of the teacher excellent tact for his work. Misses Whitten and Cushing, of the village primaries, managed their respective schools with their customary interest. Mr. Hutchinson and Miss Tate, of the Free High School, were unremitting in their endeavors to mould the various material under their charge, and if they failed to achieve the best results in every instance, it was not due to any lack of devotion to their work. The committee would make honorable mention of the generosity of Messrs. R. O. Linsley and W. P. Walker in offering prizes to those pupils of the high school who excelled in scholarship, deportment and attendance, which were awarded at the close of the winter term.

For the current year, 1874-5, the town will receive from the State \$784.56 for school purposes, and from the town school fund, \$40.04.

It is advised and recommended that in addition to our ordinary appropriation, as required by law, which is 80 cents per capita, there be also appropriated (\$1,000) one thousand dollars for the continuance of the Free High School.

Respectfully submitted for the Committee,

D. F. POTTER, Secretary.

TOPSHAM, MARCH 12TH, 1874.