

1883

Annual Reports of the Board of Selectmen, Treasurer and Supervisor of Schools, of the Town of Topsham for the Year Ending February 17th 1883

Topsham (Me.)

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ANNUAL
REPORTS
—OF THE—
BOARD OF SELECTMEN,
TREASURER
—AND—
SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS,
—OF THE—
TOWN OF TOPSHAM,

For the year ending February 17th 1883.

1883.

Printed at the
HERALD BOOK AND JOB PRINTING OFFICE,
BRUNSWICK, MAINE.

APPROPRIATIONS and RECEIPTS.

Balance in Treasury. Feb. 18, 1882,	\$	165	00
Balance due town from Collectors, ditto.		10,454	13
State tax, 1882,	\$	3,691	91
County tax, 1882,		1,195	46
Town tax, 1882,		7,600	00
Overlay,		291	85
Uncollected highway tax of 1881,		109	24
Non-resident " " 1882,		59	75
Supplementary taxes,		199	94
Interest on back taxes,		83	38
		<hr/>	
	\$	13,291	53
Cash from state for Common Schools,		645	17
" " High School,		250	00
" " R. R. and Tele- graph tax,		33	96
Cash from town for interest on school fund,		33	36
" Towns for aid to paupers,		77	13
" Individuals for highway taxes of 1882,		144	61
" Temporary loans,		6,000	00
" All other sources (see Tr. report),		8	35
Outstanding orders, Feb. 17, 1883.		163	38
		<hr/>	
	\$	31,266	52

EXPENDITURES.

Outstanding orders, February 18, 1882,	\$	59	24
State tax, 1882,	\$	3,691	91
County tax, 1882,		1,195	46
		<hr/>	
	\$	4,887	37
Paid Common Schools,		2,051	56
High School, for teaching,		583	99
Poor, out of the House,		434	50
Town Farm,		304	00
Highways and Bridges,		1,299	36

Paid Abatements,	250 54
Fire Department,	397 57
Notes, (\$400 in orders).	660 00
Bonds,	5,050 00
Interest on notes,	241 67
Miscellaneous or contingent expenses,	1,176 20
Coupons, old and new,	767 00
Uncollected taxes due the town Feb. 17, 1883,	12,795 60
Balance in Treasury February 17, 1883,	807 92
	<hr/>
	\$ 31,266 54

HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

By Balance due Feb. 18, 1882,	\$ 83 99
Appropriation,	500 00
Cash from state,	250 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 833 99

PAID FOR TEACHING.

To A. M. Edwards, bal of last term,	\$ 83 99
" " for teaching,	250 00
" " " "	50 00
" " " "	25 00
" " " "	175 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 583 99

Due the High School,	\$ 250 00
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SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

By Appropriation,	\$ 1,800 00
Amount due from state,	619 18
Interest on town fund,	33 36
Balance of last year's account,	549 69
	<hr/>
	\$ 3,002 23
Debit amount brought over,	2,051 56
	<hr/>
Balance due schools,	\$ 950 67

BILLS PAID OF 1881.

Peter Baldwin, repairs on house,	\$ 6 00
Frank Trufant, " and care of house,	4 90
Thos. H. Sprague, his portion of school money,	6 00
Horatio S. Webber, teaching district 6,	58 50
E. D. Gould, repairs and supplies,	23 19
Joseph S. Coombs, wood,	12 72
A. B. Pendleton, services us supervisor,	31 28
" " " "	6 77
C. T. Patten, care and repairs of house,	1 67
Thomas Rogers, repairs and labor,	4 00
A. B. Pendleton, bal of services for '81,	10 85
John Furbish, supplies,	5 58
A. D. Alexander, wood, repr'g & cl'n'g,	21 50
	<hr/>
	\$ 192 96

BILLS PAID OF 1882.

D. L. Thompson, wood,	\$ 4 69
Edward Berry, repairs on H. S. house,	3 00
" " " on houses,	22 50
Thos. H. Sprague, school money for '81,	8 10
Charles T. Patten, cleaning house,	2 00
A. B. PFndleton, service as supervisor,	21 47
Mrs. Jennie Berry, cleaning 2 rooms,	7 00
Samuel Douglass, wood,	8 75
Bertrice S. Luce, supplies,	3 45
Jennie Berry, cl'ng Primary school room,	2 00
Eugene B. Earle, school money for '81,	10 50
Isaac S. Balcome, crayons,	54
Ernest L. White, cleaning horse,	2 00
A. B. Pendleton, services as supereisor,	10 00
U. A. Jack, cleaning house No. 8,	3 25
Jude Hyde, wood,	12 00
Peter Baldwin, repairs on houses,	6 50
Jacob Graves, wood,	9 00
A. B. Pendleton, services to May 1,	10 00

M. E. Mallett, teaching,	50 00
F. I. Brown, “	107 00
Affie M. Drinkwater, “	50 00
Nettie Alexander, “	50 00
Sandford Baldwin, care of house,	5 50
Mattie L. Tedford, teaching,	47 50
Abbie E. Hunter, “	50 00
E. J. Whitten, “	71 50
Carrie A. Williams, “	47 50
A. B. Pendleton, services for May,	11 25
“ “ “ June,	21 50
Lettie Plummer, teaching,	50 00
Jane S. Graves, “	50 00
A. S. Patten, “	50 00
I. E. Mallett, cleaning house,	2 00
A. B. Pendleton, services for July,	9 50
“ “ “ August,	8 00
Henry A. Cannon, labor on houses,	5 62
B. Reed, labor and material for houses,	13 00
Peter Baldwin, repairs on houses,	10 00
L. Larabee, repairing school furniture.	3 50
E. D. Gould, repairs, supplies, etc,	29 25
A. B. Pendleton, services to October 1,	23 40
Samuel Douglass, labor and material,	26 74
Abbie M. Tate, teaching,	25 00
Lillie S. Mallett, “	35 00
F. I. Brown, teaching Grammarschool,	115 50
Sanford Baldwin, care of room,	5 00
Mattie L. Tedford, teaching,	55 00
Frank Trufant, wood and cl'ning house,	19 13
Affie M. Drinkwater, teaching,	55 00
Kate M. Cox, “	24 00
Carrie E. Estes, “	55 00
Lettie Plummer, “	55 00
Clara A. Smith, “	30 00
I. E. Mallett, material and repairs,	9 25
A. B. Pendleton, service on schools,	10 00
Carrie A. Willams, teaching,	55 00

Peter Baldwin, fixtures and repairs,	6 50	
Harvey Stetson, table, chair, curt'ns, etc ,	14 80	
John Furbish, supplies,	12 04	
E. J. Whitten, teaching,	71 50	
Adams & Uniacke, supplies,	7 23	
Jane S. Graves, teaching,	55 00	
L. D. Snow, lime and cement,	4 01	
A. D. Alexander, wood,	17 75	
A. B. Pendleton, services as supervisor,	25 35	
A. W. Townsend, supplies,	1 88	
A. B. Pendleton, services to Feb. 1,	11 70	
Given & Stone, lumber for floor,	9 00	
E. J. Whitten, teaching,	77 00	
C. A. Williams, "	57 75	
		\$ 1,853 60
		<hr/>
Total,		\$ 2,05 56

HIGHWAYS and BRIDGES.

Amount appropriated, \$ 1,000 00

BILLS PAID OF 1881.

W. P. Walker, for our proportion of office rent for meetings of Bruns- wick and Topsham Bridge Com.,	\$10 00
Frank Trufant, labor,	3 32
Wm. H. Mallett, "	31 57
Lucius L. Barrel, "	3 87
E. D. Gould, "	13 43
Joseph S. Coombs, "	14 17
Jordan White, drawing plan of Cat- hance Bridge,	14 35
Josiah M. Staples, ledge and stone for Cathance Bridge,	25 00
William Barron, labor	22 50

William H. Haley, labor	1 06
Daniel A. Hall, balance of service as bridge commissioner,	42 00
George E. Stinson, labor, (overwork).	24 75
Rufus Thompson, (overwork),	4 33
Thomas Rogers, “	5 18
J. W. Curtis, labor,	6 22
William E. Haley, breaking roads,	2 00
William F. Atkinson, labor,	5 00
John Pitman, labor, for self and others,	20 94
William H. Haley, labor	3 30
Samuel Douglass, “	8 77
King Bridge Company balance due on New Iron Bridge,	88 59
Amos C. Allen, labor, self and others,	17 18
J. W. Rackley, “ “ “	21 85
Geo. S. Adams, “ “ “	15 71
Joseph S. Coombs, “ “	9 30
Daniel W. Johnson, “ “	18 13
Thomas H. Sprague, overwork,	16 35
Charles T. Patten, “	3 00
Susan T. and Humphrey Purinton, for years 1879-80, for labor,	6 05
Susan T. Purinton and son, labor, 1881,	8 80
Purinton & Beaumont, labor & material,	2 75
Wm. E. Graves, labor, self and others,	14 48
E. B. Earle, overwork,	10 14
John Graves, overwork, self and others,	18 58
D. S. Blake, “ “	16 13
F. H. Purinton, labor and material for New Bridge,	27 86
Bartholomew Reed, labor, self & others,	17 27
O. B. Merrill, labor and material,	12 56
Charles W. Purinton, overwork, self and others,	24 37
J. H. Whitehouse, overwork,	13 75
Albion S. Jack, “	5 83
Albion Tedford, breaking roads,	3 00

Richard Tarr & sons, breaking roads and overwork,	6 66
David Work, overwork,	2 41
Isaac T. Allen, “	3 00
M. P. Reed's Estate, “	5 52
Samuel Stockman, “	3 00
Isaac Mallett and sons, labor,	2 87
John L. Alexander, labor, self & others,	27 77
C. Dyer, cleaning snow from sidewalk,	50
	<hr/>
	\$ 685 17

BILLS PAID OF 1882.

John Knight, breaking roads,	\$ 9 00
Wm. H. Mallett, ditching Main St.,	32 25
Wm. E. Graves, plank for sidewalk,	34 48
Calvin Dyer, work on bridge & roads,	8 50
Frenchman, by W. H. Mallett, labor,	3 00
Robert M. Curtis, labor,	6 75
Howland Bros., lumber,	142 52
T. H. Staples, labor,	11 00
Wm. E. Merrow, “	12 81
A. C. Haley, “	2 50
Jordan White, “	7 56
Wm. H. Mallett, “	67 70
Z. H. Noyes, labor, stone and turf &c,	74 30
Bowdoin Paper Co., labor and ashes,	25 90
Obed B. Merrill, labor and material,	67 81
C. H. Colby, plank for Long Bridge,	47 43
Joseph Dufresne, blacksmith work,	2 51
William P. Merrill, overwork,	44 67
H. P. Thompson, hauling oyster shells,	9 00
Samuel Stockman, labor,	4 50
	<hr/>
	\$ 614 19
	<hr/>
	\$1,299 36
Appropriation,	1,000 00
In excess of appropriation,	<hr/>
	\$ 299 36

The bills of expense of the New Iron Bridge being now all in the net cost of the same is \$6,679 97.

ROADS and BRIDGES.

In the earlier part of the year a controversy arose on account of a claim to a portion of Main Street, occupied by sidewalk, in front of land of C. Flagg. The selectmen being unable to ascertain any satisfactory record of the laying out of said street, felt it to be their duty to petition the County Commissioners to re-locate and define the limits thereof, according to law, so as to prevent future litigation. A hearing was had and the street was run out by G. D. Parks, Esq., under the direction of the County Commissioners, and a certified copy of their doings has been filed at the Selectmen's office. Damages were allowed to the Griffin heirs of \$50, provided the town concluded to use the land for which it was allowed. No others were considered damaged by the Commissioners. The cost of the proceedings and erecting suitable monuments &c., will be found among the foregoing expenditures.

An effort has been made to have the larger bridges maintained by the county, under a new law yet to be enacted, a measure of relief sorely needed by this town. We were obliged to expend a large sum on the sidewalks and streets this year, on account of their dangerous condition at the opening of spring. Some of the larger bridges have been complained of as unsafe, and a considerable appropriation in money will be needed the coming year.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

By balance due Feb. 18, 1882,	\$ 224 74	
appropriations for 1882,	300 00	
		\$ 524 74

BILLS PAID.

D. A. Haskell, for ground rent,	\$ 10 00	
J. H. Smith, clerk for monthly meetings,	40 25	
Eliot Barnes & Co., new hose,	206 00	
J. H. Smith, clerk, meetings and fires,	63 75	
Androscoggin Fire Co., meetings and stewardship,	30 25	
American Ex. Co., cost on new hose,	1 95	
Androscoggin Fire Co., for monthly meetings, including stewardship, to Feb. 8,	31 00	

H. P. Thompson, coal for engine house,	14 37	
	<hr/>	\$ 397 57
Balance due Department,		\$ 127 17

The new hose (300 feet in all) asked for last year, was purchased and was declared satisfactory to the company, by the officers.

MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNTS.

BILLS PAID OF 1881.

W. E. Graves, cash to lawyer for service on division of Main Street Bridge,	\$ 56 05	
Uriah A. Jack, service as Selectman, balance to March 5, 1882,	15 25	
Alpheus L. Graves services as Selectman for same, and same date as above,	2 00	
C. H. Small Collector, for discount for early payment of taxes (omitted in its proper place),	1 99	
C. E. Haskell, salary as Treasurer,	50 00	
Washington Gilbert, legal service in the Curtis case in 1878,	60 00	
County of Sagadahoc, costs in laying out the Goodwin road in 1877,	138 30	
	<hr/>	\$ 323 59

BILLS PAID OF 1882.

F. C. Whitehouse and H. P. Thompson, auditing accounts,	\$ 10 00
Edward Berry, preparing hall for town meeting,	1 00
A. W. Townsend, ledger for assessors,	1 10
C. E. Haskell, wood for office,	1 75
Collins P. Thompson, watering privilege,	3 00
A. G. Tenney, printing town reports,	33 33
W. E. Graves, Town Agent, expense in case of Bowdoin vs. Topsham Pollard case,	76 12

W. E. Graves, Town Agent, cash paid witnesses, in same case as above	45 96
W. E. Graves, Town Agent, cost of suit of Bowdoin vs. Topsham,	138 22
Dresser, McLellan & Co., blank books,	3 64
C. E. Haskell, cash for blanks and envelopes,	1 00
John Knight, damage to carriage on highway,	1 50
U. A. Jack, cash for year book,	1 25
U. A. Jack, service in part as Selectman,	30 00
Chas. E. Haskell, assisting in Selectmen's office,	54 75
A. G. Tenney, printing voting list,	8 00
H. P. Thompson, rent of Selectmen's office to August 24, 1882,	30 00
W. E. Graves, Town Agent, service in Pollard case in April,	9 50
John Knight, damage to cart,	2 00
Calvin Dyer, filling cistern,	1 00
Alpheus L. Graves, service in part as Selectman,	45 44
Chas. E. Haskell, cash paid for wood for office,	4 00
County of Sagadahoc, cost of laying out Main street,	62 34
Daniel S. Blake, service as Selectman to Dec. 16, 1882,	47 25
Alpheus L. Graves, service in part,	24 51
A. W. Townsend, supplies for office,	4 30
Sag. Ag. & Hort'l society, rent of hall,	20 00
I. E. Mallett, wood for office,	3 00
C. H. Small, posting warrants and tramps,	13 50
U. A. Jack, service as Selectman to date,	33 15

Geo. D. Parks, written opinion on town doings,	6 00	
Chas. E. Haskell, services at Selectmen's office, from Aug. 1 st, to Feb. 17th,	34 60	
Chas. H. Small, commission as Coll.,	\$ 101 40	
	<hr/>	852 61
		<hr/> \$ 1,176 20

NOTE ACCOUNT.

Amount of notes outstanding at last report, Feb. 18, 1882,	\$ 4,727 28	
Amount given during the year,	6,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 10,727 28

NOTES PAID.

One-tenth of four " Bridge Notes,"	\$ 400 00	
One demand Note,	260 00	
	<hr/>	660 00
Amount outstanding Feb. 17, 1883,		<hr/> \$ 10,067 28

BOND ACCOUNT.

Old Bonds (issue of 1867) outstanding at beginning of year, Feb. 18, 1882,	\$ 10,000 00	
Bonds paid during the year,	5,050 00	
	<hr/>	
Amount due in five years	4,950 00	
New Bonds (issue of 1881) sold,	8,450 00	
	<hr/>	
Total now outstanding,	\$ 13,400 00	

INTEREST.

Interest paid on Notes,	\$ 241 67	
Coupons paid,	767 00	
	<hr/>	1,008 67
Deduct interest received on taxes,		83 38
Balance,		<hr/> \$ 925 29

At the Annual Town Meeting, March 6, A. D. 1882, it was *Voted* To authorize the Selectmen to hire a sufficient sum of money to meet the present liabilities of the town, and voted five thousand be raised to meet accruing demands.

The meeting adjourned to meet at the Selectmen's office, to transact any unfinished business that may then and there appear, on the last Saturday of March, at 2 o'clock P. M.

At an adjourned meeting, held at the Selectmen's office on Saturday the 25th day of March, 1882, it was

Voted, To re-consider the vote whereby the town voted to raise the sum of five thousand dollars, for the purpose of payment of accruing demands, and substitute the following vote, viz: *Voted*, That the Selectmen be authorized to hire the sum of six thousand dollars, for the payment of demands due the present year, including the Bonds due in July next, and that two thousand, dollars of the six thousand dollars, be assessed the present year and the balance, four thousand dollars, be hired at the lowest rate of interest obtainable by Bonds or otherwise.

Voted, That the Selectmen take counsel in regard to the legality of re-considering the vote passed March 6, 1882, on Article 9th, at an adjourned meeting of the Annual Town Meeting, held on Saturday, March 25, 1882, and all proceedings thereon. If said votes are regarded as not legal, then they are to be governed by the former vote in making up their assessments for the year 1882.

The opinion of counsel (given in writing) was, " The adjourned meeting was the continuation of the original meeting, Vide. *Canton vs. Smith*, 65 Me., reports 203. It is competent for the town at an adjourned meeting to re-consider a vote passed at the former or original meeting, *Cassidy vs. Bangor*, 61 Me., 434. Hence the vote passed at the meeting, on the last Saturday of March, is the vote in force "

In accordance with this decision the Selectmen hired \$5,000 of Sagadahoc County and \$1,000 of individuals, as per note account, at an annual interest of 4 per cent.

ABATEMENT ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for abatements and discounts,		\$ 500 00
Paid D. L. Smith,	9 67	
David H. Green,	1 29	

Given Jameson, on land ex- empted by law,	5 55
Jacob Merryman,	8 24
Milbry Nowell, non-resident, tax twice committed,	7 85
Estate of James McKeen,	10 00
A. F. Woodward and wife,	1 93
Edgar L. Hunter,	7 70
Elbridge Randall,	187 61

This abatement was given on account of the taxes on the sum of \$3,000, money and securities, for which Mr. Randall was taxed for each of the years, 1879, '80 and '81, which sum Mr. Randall declared upon his honor that he never possessed, over and above his debts, during those years but for which he had been doomed.

E. C. & G. F. Mallett, for 2 years,	7 70
H. P. Mallett on real estate 1 yr.,	3 00

————— \$ 250 54

TOWN FARM.

—Dr.—

To inventory Feb. 18, 1882, as follows:

Stock,	262 00
Supplies.	406 33
Utensils and furniture,	319 73

————— \$ 988 06

BILLS PAID,

Chas. Ward, bal. on last year's s'vice,	100 00
Isaac S. Balcome, for stove,	24 00
Charles Ward, salary in part,	25 00
Charles Ward, " "	25 00
Charles Ward, " "	75 00
Charles Ward, " "	25 00
Charles Ward, " "	30 00

————— \$ 304 00
\$ 1,292 06

Bills paid by Mr. Ward (see farm book)

493 21

Due Mr. Ward for bal. of salary,

70 00

————— \$ 1,855 27

—Cr.—

By inventory taken Feb. 17, 1883, as follows:—	
Stock,	\$ 269 00
Utensils and Furnitnre,	342 78
Supplies,	414 17
	————— \$ 1,025 95
Amount of products sold, (see farm book),	481 17
37 tramps,—76 meals,	19 00
	————— \$ 1,526 12
Balance against the Farm,	\$ 329 15

TOWN FARM REMARKS.

Mr. Charles Ward and wife have managed the Town Farm again this year to good advantage. The inmates appear to have been as well taken care of, as the conditions of the buildings would permit. Their accounts have been examined quarterly and found neatly kept and correctly rendered, and we were well satisfied with the appearance of the stock and other property at the last appraisal. Some radical changes are needed in that part of the buildings occupied by the poor, also in the method of heating the same. But little more wood ought to be cut on the farm for heating purposes, as about all that now growing thereon is valuable timber. We think a change to coal burning will be necessary very soon, unless the town should purchase a wood lot.

The names of those supported at the farm the past year, are Joseph Brown, Rebecca J. Haley, Margery Doughty, Wildes O. Hunter, and Mary Pollard a few weeks, since which she has taken care of herself. Those assisted out of the house were C. J. Colby, Mrs. D. Flagg, Mr. Humphrey Thompson, Miss Lucy Foy and O. F. Staples; and of other towns, H. L. Metcalf, Seth Fuller, Wm. Gardner, Lyman Tripp and Mary Mutty, an alien.

POOR OUT of the HOUSE.

BILLS PAID OF 1881.

Chas. T. Patten, wood to Mrs. Flagg,	\$ 5 50
Benj. T. Roberts, sawing wood for same,	1 00
Wildes P Walker, house rent for H.	
L. Metcalf, of Hallowell,	8 00
	————— \$ 14 50

BILLS PAID OF 1882.

Insane Hospital board of C. A. Colby and O. F. Staples,	48 18
U. A. Jack, expense to Boston in the Pollard case,	8 25
C. E. Haskell, wood to Mrs. Flagg,	5 00
Wm. H. Rideout, supplies to H. L. Metcalf,	14 00
D. L. Thompson, milk to same,	2 10
Geo. M. Lee, M. D., medical aid to Seth Fuller,	5 50
E. W. Johnson, medicine, H. L. Metcalf,	3 00
B. T. Roberts, sawing wood, Mrs. Flagg,	1 00
S. M. Foy, support of Lucy Foy,	19 60
Wm. H. Rideout, supplies to S. Fuller,	46 00
G. M. Lee, attendance on " "	1 25
Town of Bowdoin, support, of Mary Pollard,	38 69
B. T. Roberts, sawing wood Mrs Flagg,	50
Insane Hospital. board of C. A. Colby,	27 28
Town of Bowdoin, balance due on Mary Pollard,	80
B. T. Roberts, sawing wood, Mrs. Flagg,	50
S. Stockman. wood for Mrs. Flagg,	12 50
B. T. Roberts, sawing wood, Mrs. Flagg,	50
Insane Hospital, board of C. A. Colby,	26 72
S. M. Foy, board of Lucy Foy,	19 60
Insane Hospital, board of C. A. Colby,	30 05
Mary Nelson care of Wm. Gardner, of Richmond, in last sickness,	6 55
Horace Staples supplies to Wm. Gardner,	7 11
H. Stetson, coffin for Wm Gardner,	10 00
H. Snell agent, for R. R. ticket to Mary Mutty, passage to Waterville,	3 07
Frank E. Roberts, boots for Mary Nelson, in attendance on Wm. Gardner,	1 50

I. E. Mallett, wood to Lyman Tripp,	3 00	
John Rolfe, supplies to Wm. Gardner,	4 00	
A. Mitchell, medical aid to Wm. Gardner,	5 00	
H. P. Thompson, coal to Lyman Tripp,	3 75	
A. L. Graves, support of H. Thompson, 59 weeks, to Feb. 17, 1883,	59 00	
		420 00
		\$ 434 50

COLLECTORS' ACCOUNTS.

Due from J. F. Whitney, Feb. 18, '82,	138 21	
Amount paid during the year,	10 00	
		\$ 128 21
Balance,		
Due from C. H. Small, Feb. 18 '82,	10,315 92	
Am't committed for year 1882,	8,404 16	
		\$18,720 08
Amount paid during the year,	6,052 69	12,667 39
Total am't of taxes due town Feb. 17, '83,		\$12,795 60

TREASURER'S REPORT.

C. E. Haskell in account with Town of Topsham.

— Dr. —

To cash in Treasury Feb. 18, '82,	\$ 165 00
Highway taxes of 1882 received,	144 61
Cash for error in settlement of highway acct. with D. W. Johnson,	2 35
City of Lewiston, on pauper acct,	50 03
City of Hallowell " " "	27 10
Loan from Sagadahoc County,	5,000 00
Loans from individuals,	1,000 00
Sale of old bridge stuff	1 00
J. T. Oxnard, auctioneer's license,	5 00
State school fund and mill tax,	645 07
" for High School,	250 00
" R R and Telegraph tax,	33 96

Interest on town school fund,	33	36	
J. F. Whitney, ex-collector, (1876),	10	00	
C. H. Small, collector for 1882, all taxes committed since 1876,	6,052	69	
			\$13,420 17

— Cr. —

By Town orders paid,	7,035	25	
Notes paid,	260	00	
Coupons of 1867,	468	00	
“ 1881,	299	00	
Bonds of 1867,	5,050	00	
Bal. in Treasury, Feb. 17, '83,	307	92	
			13,420 17

Sums on which the Town is now Paying Interest.

One school fund note, 5 per cent.,		667	28
One Note,	5	“	200 00
“	4	“	400 00
“	4	“	600 00
“	4	“	5,000 00
Four Bridge notes,	5	“	3,200 00
Old Bonds,	6	“	4,950 00
New Bonds,	4	“	8,450 00
			<u>\$23,467 28</u>

The amount of interest on the above will require (the coming year) \$1,078 36.

CHARLES E. HASKELL, *Treasurer.*

Uncollected Taxes due the Town Feb. 17, 1883.

For the year 1876,	\$	128	21
“ 1877,		319	57
“ 1878,		535	96
“ 1879,		889	29
“ 1880,		2,100	29
“ 1881,		3,041	00
“ 1882,		5,087	91
Amount of int. charged to Collector,		693	37
			<u>\$12,795 60</u>

TABLE

Showing a statement of the net debt of the town with the number of taxable polls and rate of taxation for the past ten years :

YEAR.	DEBT.	TAX ON \$1 00.	POLLS.
1873	\$ 20,609 10	20 mills.	346
1874	18,437 25	30 mills.	357
1875	15,681 53	18½ mills.	366
1876	14,588 68	20 mills.	361
1877	10,712 10	20 mills.	348
1878	7,356 09	15 mills.	381
1879	11,687 67	17¾ mills.	377
1880	9,046 91	22 mills.	379
1881	13,219 26	18½ mills.	375
1882	12,893 70	20 mills.	357
1883	11,675 64		

TOWN LIABILITIES.

Old Bonds	\$ 4,950 00
New “	8,450 00
Notes,	10,067 28
Accrued interest,	300 00
Due schools,	1,200 67
Due Fire Department,	127 17
Unpaid outstanding orders,	163 38
Bills estimated,	400 00
	\$25,658 50

TOWN RESOURCES.

Uncollected taxes,	\$ 12,795 60
Due from state for schools,	619 18
“ city of Lewiston,	210 00
“ town of Richmond,	45 16
“ individnals,	5 00
Cash in Treasury at close of year,	307 92
	\$ 13,982 86
Excess of Liabilities,	\$ 11,675 64
Town Debt reduced,	1,218 06

Appropriations Recommended for 1883.

For Common Schools,	\$ 1,500 00
Highways and Bridges, one-half money,	3,000 00
High School,	500 00
Poor and other expenses,	1,500 00
Abatements,	500 00
Debts and Interest,	2,500 00
Fire Department,	200 00

ALPHEUS L. GRAVES, } *Selectmen, Assessors,*
 URIAH A. JACK, } *and Overseers of the*
 DANIEL S. BLAKE, } *Poor of Topsham.*

The Auditors of the town of Topsham have examined the accounts of Receipts and Expenditures presented by the Selectmen, as Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor, for the year to, and including, February 17th, 1883, and find them neatly and correctly kept and properly vouched.

The accounts of the Treasurer, Charles E. Haskell, have been examined and found correct. His statement shows in condensed form the transactions for the year.

F. C. WHITEHOUSE, } *Auditors*
 H. P. THOMPSON, }

Topsham, Maine, February 22nd, 1883.

TOWN AGENT'S REPORT.

To the Inhabitants of Topsham :—The case, town of Topsham vs. city of Lewiston, for the support of Charles E. Coombs and family, tried last year and carried to the law court by defendants on exceptions, has been reported in favor of Topsham.

The case, town of Bowdoin vs. Topsham, for the support of Porter Pollard and his wife Mary. We were sued by the town of Bowdoin in October, 1881,—had trial April 1882,—verdict in favor of Bowdoin for as much of the account as was incurred in support of Mrs. Pollard within two years. This case turned upon the point whether they had received aid in 1878, thus preventing their gaining a residence in Bowdoin.

The case, Hezekiah Curtis vs. town of Topsham, which had previously been carried up to the law court by plaintiff, has been decided in favor of Topsham. For expenses of above see report of Selectmen. All of which is respectfully submitted.

Topsham, February 19th, 1883.

W. E. GRAVES,
Town Agent.

REPORT OF SCHOOL SUPERVISOR FOR 1882

FELLOW CITIZENS:—The Report of your Supervisor is of the same date as that of your Selectmen; and is most respectfully submitted.

According to the Report of your Selectmen, February 18th, 1882, there was then due, as available for the use of schools of 1881, \$549 09. There was, subsequently, paid from this to schools of said year \$192 96; leaving thereof, that might be applied to the maintainance of schools the year now closing, \$356 73.

Available for the Common Schools of 1882, as per vote of the town, on the 6th of March last, \$1,800 00: Mill Tax Apportionment, \$619 18: the interest of the Town Fund, \$33 36; and the aforesaid \$356 73, the sum of \$2,809 27. The town on the same day voted \$500 for our Free High School; to which the state has added \$250 more. Grand total for all our schools, for the year \$3,557 27.

The High School and Primary School Houses have had repairs somewhat more than ordinary during the year. The cellars of each have been thoroughly cleaned out, and the cellar wall of the former pointed inside and outside. The wall maps of both Grammar and High School rooms have been put into proper condition. School House No. 4, has been specially repaired within, and a teacher's table and another chair put into the same. School House No. 9 has been raised 10 inches, and the underpinning reset, and new door steps have been placed, as an accompaniment. The repairs commenced on School House No. 5, in 1881, have been completed, and a fence to the yard will doubtless be made this spring. A good fence has been made to the yard of School House No. 12. Ordinary repairs have been made in the case of all the rural school houses. Thus the value of our school house property has been, on the whole, increased.

On account of the coldness of last spring and of this winter, in connection with the greater length of the terms, there has been much more fuel than usual consumed. An additional supply, beyond what had been calculated upon, will have to be put into the school houses to meet the demand of the ensuing spring term. It has been found so difficult to get good wood,

after spring opens, that a supply has been, customarily, procured in advance for that term.

The question has been brought to my attention, more than once, concerning the use of fuel, purchased from the School Fund, for other purposes than for schools. My presumption has been that, for merely occasional if not a little frequent use, in the case of gatherings tending to enlighten and to improve society, the town would make no special objection. On the other hand, I have presumed that relative to the continuous occupancy of a school room, twice or three, or more times a week, it would be more in conformity with the desire and intention of the town, to have the fuel for the occasions furnished otherwise than from the School Fund. If I have answered accordingly, I trust you will consider me as having so done from sincere and honest convictions of what should be most appropriate.

The endeavor of your Supervisor has been to have the terms as long as practicable, without leaving a balance against the schools. The design, at the beginning of the school year, was to afford to each school in town, thirty-three weeks of time, viz. to the village schools, three terms of eleven weeks each: and to the rural schools, a spring term of ten weeks, a fall term of eleven weeks and a winter term of twelve weeks. This rule will have been followed, in most of the schools. The presence of diphtheria has broken in upon the full execution of this plan, in the case of some of the schools, during the fall and winter terms. Schools Nos. 5 and 6, interrupted by sickness in the fall, may consistently enough be allowed to continue a week or so beyond the date of our annual meeting, to compensate in part at least, the loss they sustained. Sickness in school No. 1 has had to do with its close one week sooner than was anticipated.

There has been considerable diminution in the number attending some of our schools, within a few years. Some may have decreased one-fourth, others one-third, and others one-half. Similar differences, in various periods of time, occur in all our towns throughout the state. It is very sorrowful to add that five of the pupils of school No. 5, died of diphtheria last fall, leaving only seven to attend this winter term. Certain schools are small at best attendance. But the scholars thereof, in general, could not be well accommodated by consolidation of two or more schools into a large one. The expense of supporting these small schools differs comparatively little from that of supporting the large schools. And thus there may seem to be a waste of some of our school funds. However, the few, in the

instance of a small school, must have as fair an opportunity to secure a good education, as the many, in the instance of a large school. The time for advantageous and convenient consolidations does not appear to have yet arrived, and we could not equalize wholly the conditions of pupils, if we would.

The teachers have been, in general, well cultured, experienced, efficient, successful. It has not, however, been practicable most readily, in every effort, to secure such teachers, though some have done better than was anticipated—some better than ever before—yet some have not done as well as was expected. It may prove to have been as proper, in respect of the latter, to have let them go through with their term, and to have others of more culture, larger experience, and of more tact afterward employed in their stead. It is not wholly unwise, on the part of a teacher, in the instance of a failure to manage some particular school advantageously, to resign in the first part, or in the middle, of a term. That same teacher may have superior success, even, somewhere else in the course of events. And here it may be said that the time may not be remote, when those having a normal school training will be more in demand in Topsham, as also elsewhere, to teach, not only our larger, but our smaller schools. At any rate, it is coming to be believed all over our land, that a good and thorough normal school training is important for teachers of our common schools. Individuals residing in town have been mostly employed as our teachers, and will, doubtless, continue to be. If gentleman teachers shall be thought better suited to some of our larger schools next winter, than lady teachers, there is reason to conclude that they can be had without any particular difficulty. Our Grammar School has prospered under Messrs. F. I. Brown and F. W. Alexander. Our Free High School has been a decided success under the efficient services of Mr. A. M. Edwards. A class of several of this school will graduate at the close of next summer term; some of whom, it is to be hoped, will yet distinguish themselves in this or in other towns of the state, as teachers of the young.

Our school houses need many small repairs every year. Several of them ought, ere long, to be repainted. It will be practicable to attend to some of them, in this regard, during the ensuing year. School House No. 11 is not sufficiently central to all who must attend school therein, if any where. What the expense of moving it to amore fitting place would be, cannot yet be determined. A special appropriation by the town might be required in order to make the change. There are some families

belonging to Schools Nos. 4 and 9 that are not so well com-
moded, as to a school, as is desirable. Their case seems de-
serving of consideration either by the town, or by the Supervi-
sor. There is a necessity for another school room in the vil-
lage. The children now have to be passed too soon from the
Primary to the Grammar School. And none ought to pass from
the Grammar into the High School without more extended
preparations. Graduates from the High School, to compare
best with the graduates from many other High Schools, should
have larger acquisitions, in coming than in past years. Another
story to the Primary School House, suited to an Intermediate
School would meet the want, and enable to make the improve-
ment suggested above. It would not, probably, be a very ex-
pensive undertaking, thus to add another to our village school
rooms. I commend the matter to the town, desiring them to
take into consideration the propriety of an appropriation for
the object.

According to the best estimate I can now form, the funds
available for the school year 1882, will meet all the school ex-
penses thereof. The overplus, if any, can be devoted to the
use of our schools the ensuing year, unless the town decides
otherwise.

It is desirable to have the same appropriations by the town
for the schools for 1883, as were made at your last annual meet-
ing, for 1882, viz: \$1,800 for the Common Schools and \$500 for
the Free High School.

I thank my Fellow Citizens for the confidence they have re-
posed in me, and the aids they have rendered me as their School
Supervisor, in the past. It will be proper for them to elect
whom they deem best adapted to the duties of the office for the
year to come. I am ready, however, to serve them still, and
with increased carefulness and fidelity.

THE WESTERN SCHOOLS.

No. 1. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Carrie A. Williams,
10 weeks, wages per week, \$4 75. Registered, 6—Average, 5.9.
Fall term, Miss Carrie A. Williams, 11 weeks, wages per week,
\$5 00. Registered, 6—Average 5.79. Winter term, Miss
Carrie A. Williams, 11 weeks, wages per week, \$5 25. Regis-
tered, ——Average, —.

No. 8. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Mattie B. Tedford, 10
weeks, wages per week, \$4 75. Registered, 3—Average, 3.
Fall term, Miss Carrie E. Estes, 11 weeks, wages per week,

\$5 00. Registered, 5—Average, 3. Winter term, Affie D. Snow, 12 weeks, wages per week, \$5 25. Registered, ——Average, —

No. 12. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Lettie Plummer, 10 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 15—Average, 12. Fall term, Miss Lettie Plummer, 11 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 14—Average, 12. Winter term, Miss Mary L. Whitney, 12 weeks, wages per week, \$5 50. Registered, ——Average, —

THE CENTRAL SCHOOLS.

No. 3. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Abbie E. Hunter, 10 weeks, wages per week \$5 00. Registered, 10—Average, 9.20. Fall term, Miss Lillie Mallett, 7 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 8—Average, 7. Winter term, Miss Abbie E. Hunter, 12 or 13 weeks, wages per week, \$5 50. Registered, ——Average, —

No. 11. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Mamie E. Mallett, 10 weeks, wages per week, \$4 75. Registered, 9—Average, 7.2. Fall term, Miss Mattie B. Tedford, 11 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 8—Average, 7.22. Winter term, Miss Mamie E. Mallett, 12 weeks, wages per week, \$5 25. Registered, ——Average, —

No. 5. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Alice S. Patten, 10 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 13—Average, 11. Fall term, Miss Kate M. Cox, 4 4-5 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered 10—Average, 9.41. Winter term, Miss Nettie Alexander, 13 or 14 weeks, wages per week, \$5 50. Registered, ——Average, —

THE EASTERN SCHOOLS.

No. 6. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Jane S. Graves, 10 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 28—Average, 22. Fall term, Miss Jane S. Graves, 11 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 22—Average, 17. Winter term, Miss Kate M. Cox, 10 weeks, wages per week, \$5 50. Registered, ——Average, —. Mr. Horatio S. Webber, 2 weeks, wages, \$7 00. Registered, ——Average, —.

No. 4. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Affie M. Drinkwater, 10 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 27—Average, 24.44. Fall term, Miss Affie M. Drinkwater, 11 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 25—Average, 22.05. Winter term,

Miss Affie M. Drinkwater, 12 weeks, wages per week, \$1 50. Registered, — —Average, —

No. 9. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Nettie Alexander, 10 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 20—Average, 14.36. Fall term, Miss Abbie M. Tate, 5 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 18—Average, — Miss Clara A. Smith, 6 weeks, wages per week, \$5 00. Registered, 23—Average, 14. Winter term, Miss Georgia A. Meserve, 12 weeks, wages per week, \$5 50. Registered, — —Average, —

THE VILLAGE SCHOOLS.

PRIMARY. Teacher, Summer term, Miss Emily J. Whitten, 11 weeks, wages per week, \$6 50. Registered, 51—Average, 43. Fall term, Miss Emily J. Whitten, 11 weeks, wages per week, \$6 50. Registered, 63—Average, 44.2. Winter term, Miss Emily J. Whitten, 11 weeks, wages per week, \$7 00. Registered, — —Average, —

GRAMMAR. Teacher, Summer term, Mr. F. I. Brown, 11 weeks, wages per month, \$42 00. Registered, 31—Average, 28. Fall term, Mr. F. I. Brown, 11 weeks, wages per month, \$42 00. Registered, 28—Average, 23. Winter term, Mr. F. W. Alexander, 11 weeks, wages per month, \$42 00. Registered, — —Average, —

HIGH SCHOOL. Teacher, Summer term, Mr. A. M. Edwards, 11 weeks, wages per month, \$90 90 10-11. Registered, 35—Average, 31. Fall term, Mr. A. M. Edwards, 11 weeks, wages per month \$90 90 10-11. Registered, 28—Average, 25. Winter term, Mr. A. M. Edwards, 11 weeks, wages per month \$90 90 10-11. Registered, — —Average, —.

(The Registers of the winter term not returned at the date of this Report.)

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

A. B. PENDLETON,
School Supervisor.

Topsham, February, 17th, 1883.