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Annual Reports of the Selectmen and S.S. Committee of the Town of Skowhegan, For The Year Ending March 1, 1886

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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Selectmen & S.S. Committee

OF THE

TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1886.

Selectmen's Report.

VALUATION OF 1885.

	\$2,224,650
	2,454 00
7,711 96 2,370 66 3,700 00 2,000 00 900 00 700 00 500 00 1,000 00 625 00 1,800 00 945 76 105 00	\$22,358 38
s.	
1,080 00 14 00 8 00 12 98 25, 4 00 6 00 10 00 18 05 14 00 8 67 1 25 5 50	\$1,182 70
	2,370 66 3,700 00 2,000 00 900 00 700 00 500 00 1,000 00 625 00 1,800 00 945 76 105 00

STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.

Assessed for State and County Taxes, Paid E. C. Burleigh, State Treasurer, Paid A. O. Frederic, County Treasurer, \$10,082 62 \$7,711 96

2,370 66

\$10,082 62

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

1885. June 5.	Cash paid	d Isaac Dyer, Memorial Service	\$ 100	00
Sept.30.	11	Digging ditch across Park	9	00
Oct. 16.	"	Capt. H. M. Weston, rent of		
OCU. 10.		hall, in part,	37	50
Oat 17		Blanks, Smith & Mayo,		10
Oct. 17.	46		9	10
Nov.14.	••	Judge Buswell, locating south		00
37 0.		line Leavitt St.,		00
Nov.21.	**	For Aqueduct near depot,	12	00
Dec. 8.	11	Robinson Brothers. for target		
		ground,	8	00
Dec. 12.		For Vaccinations, Fred Var-		
		ney,	45	45
Dec.12.	6.6	Geo. S. Webb, for postage,		47
1886.				
Jan. 18.	٠.	Smith & Mayo, blanks,	9	25
Feb. 4.		Wm. Holbrook, Electric Light	~	2.,
reo. 4.		on bridge to Jan 4	9	00
73-3-10		on bridge to Jan. 4,	9	υυ
Feb.13.	••	Levi W. Weston, use of receiv-		
		ing tomb,	15	00
$\mathbf{Feb.15}$.	4.	Geo. Cushing. Electric Light on		
		bridge, to March 1st, '86,		45
Feb.15,	41	H. P. Thing, for tramps in 1884,		25
Feb.15-		Use of bull for 1884,	2	50
Feb. 15.	4.6	Alexander Weston, locating 2		
		roads.	5	00
Feb.15.	4.	C. K. Turner, burial of Napoleon	•	••
1 00.10.		Fournier's wife,	9	00
Feb.15.		Walton & Walton, services in C.	~	00
F CO, 1.7.		L. Rolf suit,	10	00
12ab 10			10	vo
Feb.16.	- •	Bixby & Buck, Books and Sta-	1.0	
		tionery,	13	80
Feb. 16.	4.4	Bixby & Bdck, school books for		
		poor,	6	66
Feb. 17.		Geo. S. Webb, recording births		
		and deaths.	6	96
Feb 17.	4.4	Geo. S. Webb, book for same,		85
Feb.17.		Capt. H M. Weston, rent of		
		hall to March 1, 1886,	37	50
Feb.17.	4.4	Asa Estes, care of Town Hall	٠.	•
1 00		past year,	4	00
Feb.18.	í		7	00
r C17, 10,	٠,	Geo. Cushing, school books for	_	c1
Wab 10		poor,	- 1	61
Feb. 18.	••	Daniel H. Clark, support of		• •
** 1 1		James Clark in 1884,	13	υo
Feb.18.	* *	Chas. F. McLellen, Aqueduct		
		tub, south side,	3	00

Feb.18. Feb.18. Feb.18. Feb.18.	C. L. Rolf, damage for loss of horse, 1884, A. T. Hilton, damage of wagon, S. P. Penny, damage of wagon and hay, Notch road, BTF \$\frac{1}{2}20\$ Chas. H. Wheeler, damage to 3Tr wagon, Richard G. Chase, damage to BTF wagon, BTF 1-56)) :
	EXPENSE OF ROAD MACHINE.	
****	min min or word minding.	
1885. May 25. June 15. July 8. July 21. Sept. 21. June 3. July 25. July 25. Sept. 19. Oct. 16. Nov. 4. Dec. 12.	Paid B. F. Ford, 15 day's work, \$150 00 """ 1-2"" 75 00 """ 21-2" 25 00 """ 22 1-2" 25 00 """ Francis I. Estes, 27 1-2 day's work, 275 00 """ 23 1-2" 235 00 235 00 25 00 """ 5 day's work, 7 60 """ B. N. Foss, repairs road machine, 7 00 """ B. N. Foss, """ """ E. O. Blackden, """	
Jan. 18.	" J. W. Hobart, " " 22 00	
Albert Lav. A. F. & C. Samuel W. Hazen M. John M. John M. Sidney L. C. K. Tur Perley Go George E. R. O. High James W. S. A. Bick	Since of Breaking Roads in Winters of Street, \$2 20	
1885. July 6. (EXPENSE OF CULVERTS. Cash paid W. H. Weston, Dis. No. 12,	
July 15.	south,	

-				
Oct. 3.	" H. H. Gilman	, culvert near W.		
000. 17		's,	28 37	
Oct. 3.	" I. C. Doroth	y, Dis. 15, north,	45 50	
Nov.15.	" F. G. Penny.	plank for Dis. No.		
1.01.10.		l,	4 87	
Nov.25.		ainard, lumber in		
1101.201		istricts,	41 81	
Dec. 5.		Buzzell, Dis. 14.		
Dec.			2 55	
	20111,			\$170 64
				W-10 01
				
כו	EPAIRING BRIDGES A	CROSS KEXNER	EC RIVE	·π
11	ELAIMING BRIDGES A		120 161 4 1	
1885.				
	letters on bridges,		1 50	
	. Hight, 33 3-4 M. shingle		64 12	
	G. Coffin, 14 1-4 M. shingl		24 52	
" Oti	s B. Friend, shingling	and natching	21 .,2	
1701	200f,	ma patenna	55 - 10	
	arles Luce,		67 50	
CII				
" н.	H. Gilman,as per bills,	• • • • • • • • • • • •	519 11	A=24 44
				\$731 85
				·
	EXPENSE OF LAND	D DAMAGE ON I	ROADS.	
			•	
1885.				
June 15.	Mrs. Phebe Dinsmore,		\$15 00	
44	John Farnham,		140 00	
4.4	Samuel Robinson,		40 00	•
	Frank Wyman,		40 00	
	Harriet Jennings,		80 00	
••	Sheldon Reed,		50 00	
			60 00	
44	R. H. Merrill,			
46	Mrs. Vina Coburn,		60 00	
	Elbridge Herrin,		40 00	
	John A. Dealy,		50 00	
4.	Paid County Commission	mers	39 50	
				\$614 50
	CASH EXPE	NSE ON ROADS.		
1885.				
June	Amos C. Tobey, work or	1 Tobey Hill,	\$50.00	
"	Abel Patten, work on No		110 50	
6.6	Royal F. Holt, work in I			
	north		18-90	
" 24.	Oscar Williams, work in		100	
	north,		22 - 50	
July 1.	Nathan Merrill,		3 00	
Oct./3.	Amos C. Tobey, Russell	NUBU,	200 00	
Oct.,6.	Isaac C. Dorothy, Dis. N	0. 15, north,	4 50	
1886.	01 TT T		21 ==	
Jan. 13.	Chas. H. Loomis. Dis.	No. 11, north,	24 75	
Jan. 13.	Weston & Brainard, Dis		372 85	
Feb.24,	H. H. Gilman		112 00	
				\$ 919 00

TOWN OFFICER'S BILLS.

Sumner A. Patten, E. F. Danforth, Miss Lizzie Miller,	$ \begin{cases} S. S. Committee, \dots \\ 53 \overline{70} \\ 44 \overline{50} \end{cases} $	
Abel Prescott, S F Steward, John Weston,	Selectmen and Assessors, $\begin{cases} 250 & 00 \\ 115 & 00 \\ 115 & 00 \end{cases}$ Collector,	
Samuel A Bickford, George S. Webb, Tr	Collector,	\$ 1 196 1 7

PERSONS HELPED BY TOWN WITH THE AMOUNT PAID FOR EACH.

EACH.	
Sumner Steward	\$ 163 94
John C. Foster	117 38
Edward P. Morrill	71 81
Elbridge Nicholas	58 05
Joseph Lewis	43 41
Lucy Foster	55 - 01
John Cluky	1 50
Levi Groder	12 - 25
Augustus Roderick	10 50
Augustus Vigue	14 48
Theo. Pooler	1 50
John Groder	2 00
John Lassau	1 00
Bobert Ireland	57 50
Frank Cone and family	80 31
Mary Goodness	12 00
Charlotte Blackden	19 46
George Doloff	52 00
Lombier	25 - 50
John McMann	5 50
John Provo	19 75
John Lambert's children	11 00
Alfred Austin	38 - 25
Hiram Steward	99 49
Thomas Chilcot	236 05
Wm. Mitchell	27 00
James Clark	55 30
Deborah Priest	130 00
Mrs. O'Neil (for daughter)	30 00
Frank Rowe	7 00
Cyrus Allard	10 00
Will Stearns	$\frac{5}{100}$
Hannah Ireland	37 99
John Willey	2 00
Mrs. Robert Kendall	43 68
Jennie Cowett	24 83
Mrs. Isaac Gage	50 00
Joseph Dore jr	$\frac{3}{62}$
Benjamin Davidson	41 - 63
Horace Clark	75
Mrs. Thomas Boyce	30 00
James Dutell	30 00

Levi Priest	10 50 4 19 9 00 5 50 10 37 4 58 78 00 6 00 37 00 5 00 40 00 \$1,948 48 TOWNS. 1 25
James A. Gibbs, Carroll	8 67
Margaret Smith, Bingham	4 00 5 50
Lydia McMann, Fairfield Nathaniel Allenbee, Frankfort	5 50 7 75
Nathaniel Allehoee, Flankford	
SUPPORT OF POOR. DR. FARM ACCOUNT.	
Overseer and wife 's salary	\$250 00
Paid for supplies	333 69
Paid for insurance	
Stock and supplies on hand March 1, 1885	. 1,006 57 ———— \$1612 76
CR. By sales from Farm	\$180 77
Stock and supplies on hand March 1 1886 Balance against Farm	1,159 85 272 14
Darance against Farm	272 14
Number of weeks board of Poor 412, or incl Family 620, at a cost exclusive of investment in Fa week or including Overseer and Family 44 cents per Expense of Poor off the Farm Expense of Poor on the Farm	arm of 66 cents per week. \$1,948 48 272 14
Expense of Poor last year	\$2,220 62 \$1,917 09
Expense of Look last year	Φ1,σ11 Oσ
SCHOOLS.	
Amount assessed for schools,	\$3700 00
School Fund and Mill Tax from State, Balance due Districts last year	1975 85
Balance due Districts last year,	509 64
Amount paid the several Districts,	\$5672 52
Balance due " " "	512 97
	\$6,185 49

BRIDGES AND CULVERTS.

DRIDGES AND CULVERIS.	
Amount assessed for Bridges and Culverts, Amount expended, Balance unexpended,	\$500 00 \$170 64 329 36
	
ROAD MACHINE WORK.	
Amount assessed for, Overdrawn.	\$1,000 00 106 60
Paid B. F. Ford, running Machine, "F. I. Estes, "" "For repairs on Machines,	
Tot reputs on Machines,	\$1,106 60
BREAKING ROADS.	
Amount assessed for Breaking Roads, for 1884-5 Overdrawn,	\$900 00 512 45
Amount expended for Breaking Roads,	\$1,412 45
Amount assessed in Cash for Roads, Amount expended for Roads, Amount unexpended,	\$1,800 00 \$919 00. 881 00 \$1,800 00
REPAIRING BRIDGES ACROSS KENNEB	EC RIVER.
Amount assessed for repairs. Overdrawn,	\$700 00 31 85
Amount expended for Bridges,	\$731 85 \$731 85
LAND DAMAGES ON ROADS.	
Amount assessed for Damages on Road, Amount paid out for same. Balance unexpended,	\$625_00 \$614_50 10_50
•	
Miscellaneous Expenses, Abatements on S. A. Bickford tax bills for 1885,	\$449 40 \$280 40
LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.	
Due the several School Districts, "Insane Hospital estimated, "Town of Brunswick " Embden, " Corinna " Balance in favor of Town.	\$512 97 104 00 150 00 30 00 10 00 3,773 15 \$4,580 1 ₂

RESOURCES.

Due from the Town of Bingham	\$4 00
Maine Central Railroad bonds	200 00
Due from the Town of Starks	64 70
" " " Bingham	4 00
Cash in Treasury	4,307 42
•	

ESTIMATE FOR THE COMING YEAR TO BE RAISED

Support of Poor and Town Expenses	\$2000 00
Bridges and Culverts including Skowhegan Bridges	600 00
Breaking Snow Roads	400 00

We recommend that the town raise \$4000 in money to run the Road Machines and for Highways, and raise no Highway Tax. Together with such other sums as the town may vote under the specific articles in the warrant.

ABEL PRESCOTT, S. F. STEWARD, JOHN WESTON. Selectmen of Skowhegan

ANNUAL REPORT

-OF THE-

Superint'g School Committee

For the year Ending March 1, 1886.

The Committee respectfully submit the following as their report for the year ending March 1st, 1886.

FINANCIAL.

Amount designated by vote of town for support
of Schools,\$3,700 00
Amount received from State Fund and Mill Tax,1,975 85
Amount received from State for High Schools, 250 00
Total for Support of Schools, \$5,925 85
STATISTICAL.
Number of Scholars in town April 1st, 1885,
Number in Village District, 923
Number of different scholars attending school in
Village District,
In all other Districts,
Total number scholars attending school, 798
Number of different Teachers employed,36
Male teachers employed, 3
Female teachers employed,
Number of School Districts,
Number of different terms of school in town the past
year, 63

VILLAGE SCHOOLS.

District No. 1.

Mr. Taylor continues as Principal of the High School, and Mrs. Caro M. Palmer as Assistant. These teachers continue to deserve the words of commendation which have been given them, for so many years, in these reports.

At the close of the school year Miss L. Maria Knight resigned the position of Principal of the First Grammar School. This position which was so ably filled by Miss Knight is now held by Miss Sadie Hight, a teacher of experience and success. Under her leadership and instruction the school is prospering. Miss Dora Cleveland retains her position as Assistant in this school and by faithfulness in her work she has secured the affection of her pupils and the approbation of the Committee.

Much to the regret of all, Miss Annie Ward resigned her position in the Second Grammar School at the close of the fall term. This vacancy was filled by the promotion of Miss Alice Emery. The pupils of this school were under excellent discipline and had done thorough work. Miss Emery is fully sustaining the good reputation of the school.

There have been no changes of teachers on the north side. Miss Mae Pollard remains with the Intermediate School on Leavitt Street. Under her direction the classes are doing good work.

Miss Helen Blackden, Miss Addie Swain and Miss Zetta Pierce are the teachers of the Primary Schools and are laboring faithfully and successfully for the improvement of these scholars.

At the close of the school year Miss Dora Pollard retired from the Intermediate School, south side, and Miss Annie Hoxie was selected to take her place. She is doing good work and has secured the confidence and respect of her pupils.

Miss Stella Foster was chosen to fill the vacancy caused by the promotion of Miss Emery, in the Second Primary, south side. Miss Foster is a graduate from our High School, and though her experience has not been large she gives promise of making a successful teacher. Miss Mary Smith retains her position in the First Primary on Front Street, and is doing her work thoroughly as in former years.

Miss Helen Hoxie has the Primary School on Mechanic Street, in place of Miss Annie Hoxie who was transferred. Miss Hoxie is a teacher of experience and enthusiasm and is sustaining her former good record.

NORTH-District Schools.

District No. 2.

Spring term of 7 weeks, taught by Miss Cora A. Cain.

Whole number attending school, 15. Average 14.

Fall term was under the instruction of the same teacher. Length of school, 10 weeks. Whole number in attendance, 17. Average, 14.

These were very profitable schools.

District No. 3.

Summer term of 8 weeks, taught by Miss Allie F. Burrill.

Whole number in attendance, 17. Average, 15.

Same teacher kept fall term of 10 weeks. Whole number in attendance, 14. Average, 9. This was Miss Burrill's first effort at teaching. She was interested in her work and was fairly successful. Experience will put her among our best teachers of district schools. Better discipline and a more thorough drill of her pupils in the different departments of study would have given better results.

District No. 4.

Length of summer term, 6 weeks. Number of scholars in attendance, 11. Average, 9. Winter term is now in session, and is under the direction of Miss Annie E. Barbeau, who also kept the summer term. Miss Barbeau is among our best teachers. She maintains good order and has the respect and confidence of her pupils.

District Nos. 5 and 6.

Fall term taught by Attie E. Gifford. Whole number attending school, 12. Average, 10. Length of term, 13

weeks. We were pleased with the appearance of this school at both of our visits. The pupils made good improvement, especially in reading.

District No. 7.

Summer term, 8 weeks. Number in attendance, 21. Average, 19. Teacher, Miss Alice E. Chase. Winter term was under the management of the same teacher. Length of school 12 weeks. Number in attendance, 19. Average, 17. Both terms of school were very profitable.

District No. 8.

Fall term of 12 weeks taught by Miss Emma G. Smith. Whole number of scholars, 5. Average, 4. This was Miss Smith's first effort at teaching and she made it a success.

District No. 9.

Summer term of 8 weeks, taught by Miss Hattie J. Friend. Number in attendance, 25. Average, 22. With better discipline this would have been a very profitable school. The kindest feelings seemed to exist between teacher and pupils, and as Miss Friend had a happy faculty of instructing, the school on the whole was quite a success.

The winter term of 8½ weeks was taught by Mr. Edward C. Keith. Whole number attending, 22. Average, 19. Mr. Keith is a good teacher, clear in his explanations and thorough in his drill. The school, however, lacked discipline, which

materially interfered with its success.

District No. 11.

Summer term of 8 weeks, taught by Miss Attie E. Gifford. Number attending school, 21. Average, 13. Miss Gifford

gave good satisfaction.

The winter term of 10 weeks was taught by Miss Addie Wells. Number attending school, 17. Average, 16. Miss Wells entered upon her duties with the best intentions and tried hard to make the school a success. The order, however, was not good, and the pupils were not thoroughly drilled in their studies. With more experience we know of no reason why Miss Wells will not succeed well as a teacher.

District No. 12.

Summer term of 10 weeks, taught by Miss Cora A. Cain. Whole number attending school, 15. Average, 11.

The winter term of this school is now in session and under the supervision of Miss Cain. I visited this school at its beginning and found 24 pupils in attendance, and the indications were favorable for a very profitable term.

The parents in this district manifest a becoming interest in educational matters, as shown by frequently visiting their schools, by keeping their school house in good repair and by

effort they make to secure first-class teachers.

SOUTH-District No. 2,

The summer term of 8 weeks was taught by Miss Helen M. Hoxie, with an attendance of 13 and average of 12. Too much could not be said in praise of this term's work. The scholars did their work well and co-operated with the teacher

in making it almost a model school.

Miss Rosalind Pierce taught the fall term. Length of term, 7 weeks. Attendance, 13; average, 11 1-70. There was not enough concert of action in this school to make it entirely profitable. The teacher labored hard for the best interest of her pupils, but yet the school did not appear as well at the last visit we made as it ought to have appeared.

The winter school in this district is in progress at the present time under the management of Mr. Charles Leighton

and promises to be a profitable term.

District No. 3.

The summer term was taught by Miss Carrie B. Leighton. Attendance, 5; average, 5. There was fair progress made and Miss Leighton seemed to have the good-will of her scholars.

The fall term of 8 weeks was under the care of Miss Nettie M. Holway. Attendance, 6; average, 5.1. The work

seemed to be done in quite a thorough manner.

Mrs. Delia A. Weston taught the winter school of 8 weeks. Mrs. W. is a teacher of considerable experience and made the term a very successful one. The scholars were interested and made excellent progress.

District No. 4.

Miss Alice M. Fletcher taught the only school for the year in this district. The agent was very fortunate in securing Miss Fletcher to take charge of the school. The progress was very marked and the discipline good.

District No. 5.

Summer term 8 weeks. Attendance 9; average 8. Taught

by Miss Lucy A. Dinsmore. Very good progress was made in studies, but there was a little laxness in the deportment of some of the scholars which took away much from the profitableness of the school.

Miss Ella Nash taught the winter term. Though the numbers dropped off yet those remaining in attendance made good

progress and appeared interested in their work.

District No. 6.

Both summer and winter terms were taught by Miss Olive A. Harris. Summer term: Attendance, 14; average, 12.5; length of term, 8 weeks.

Winter term: Attendance, 22; average, 17; length of term, 11 weeks. Both terms were successful, though the

winter term was somewhat broken up by sickness.

District No. 7.

This school was taught by Miss Mary C. Allen. Atten dance, 10; average, 9; length of term, 9 weeks. We never visited a school where the scholars were apparently more interested than in this school. Miss Allen is an accomplished teacher and cannot fail to make scholars interested.

District No. 8.

Both summer and fall terms were taught by Miss Alice Fletcher. Summer term: Attendance, 11; average, 106; length of term, 9 weeks.

Winter term: Attendance, 11; average, 10.6; length of term, 9 weeks. Good interest was manifested and the terms

were very successful.

District No. 9.

The only school for the year is now in progress under the care of Miss Olive Harris, From Miss Harris' past success we judge that this school will be one of profit.

GENERAL COMMENTS.

We feel that we shall not trespass too much upon your time, if, after the brief statement we have made regarding the progress of the several schools, we speak of some things which do not pertain strictly to any one school in very great prominence.

A few districts have had poorer schools this year by employing teachers who were not competent to teach that particular school. We wish that the agents would be careful and make all investigations possible before engaging their teachers, see that your teacher has the proper governing power for your school. If she is a stranger to you don't engage her till you find her recommended by some one besides herself. If she has never taught and you are not perfectly satisfied that she will succeed well let some other district give her the first trial. You want a good teacher for your school every term. When your school has been brought up to a high standard by good teachers don't let it fall but continue with the best. Make your schools shorter if necessary but keep the standard high.

Some of the school houses are much out of repair. We noticed one, where, as we sat near the stove, on looking up at the ceiling we found the plastering off in many places, and from where we sat, we could see through between the laths into the attic above and out through the roof into the open air. The door to the dressing room was off, the outside door was held closed with the aid of the broom, the inner door kept closed by a chip being placed under it. On this particular day the scholars seemed to be too cold to do a good day's work. Give the scholars a comfortable, warm, well ventilated, attractive school room and a good teacher, if you expect good results and they, on their part, will not disappoint you.

E. F. DANFORTH, S. A. PATTEN, LIZZIE D. MILLER.