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Annual Reports of the Town Officers of the Town of Skowhegan, For The Year Ending Feb 20, 1893

Skowhegan (Me.)

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< ANNUAL REPORTS 🗠

OF THE

TOWN * OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF

SKOWHEGAN

FOR

THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 20, 1893.

-+>+<+----

SKOWHEGAN: J. O. SMITH & Co., PRINTERS, 1893

OF THE

TOWN * OFFICERS.

OF THE

TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN,

FOR

THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 20, 1893.

skowhegan: J. O. Smith & Co., Printers, 1893.

TOWN OFFICERS,

TOWN CLERK. George S. Webb.

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR: WM. B. SNOW, LEVI C. EMERY, R. F. PARKER.

TREASURER:

ROLAND T. PATTEN.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

L. L. WALTON, FORREST GOODWIN, NATHAN FOWLER, JOHN H. MITCHELL, I. B. MOWER.

TOWN PHYSICIAN ·

DR. HOWARD C. TAGGART.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

GEO. CUSHING, W. H. WILDES, SAMUEL A. BICKFORD.

HEALTH OFFICER:

DR. J. N. MERRILL.

CONSTABLES:

SAMUEL A. BICKFORD, H. H. TUFTS, H. P. THING, GEO. A. FLYE.

> AUDITOR AND AGENT -SAMUEL W. GOULD,

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN:

We herewith submit the sixty-ninth annual report of the financial standing of the town.

Our roads are now in good condition generally in our town, considering the amount of money raised for building and repairing the same being two thousand less than in 1891. We should not raise, in our opinion, less than six thousand dollars for that purpose, being the amount which we recommended in our report of 1892.

The amount raised for culverts and bridges was not sufficient for the demand, we should recommend the sum of one thousand dollars for the ensuing year. We have re-built the bridge on South Side near Loran Allen's, which we now consider a permanent bridge for years to come. We have repaired the bridge across the Wesserunsett Stream, North Side, and have had the two bridges across the Kennebec river in the village thoroughly examined and had new timbers and new plank put in which was quite extensive and expensive.

We have built about 250 square yards of concrete side walk.

Our pauper population has been less than in former years as we have denied many who have called that have been furnished by our town who had no legal settlement here, although the question of paupers has caused much annoyance for the past year.

 Dr_{4} in age has been neglected for the past year on account of there being no appropriation. We would recommend an appropriation for sewerage.

The road laid out by the Selectmen known as Milburn street and accepted by the town at the March meeting in 1892 with the understanding that there was to be no land damages has not been built for the reason that when we come to run the side lines some of the parties living on the street claimed heavy.damages.

In the matter between Whittemore and the town of Skowhegan, in relation to the land known as the "Quarry lot" on the Notch road, referred to the Selectmen and town agent, we have to report that after a careful examination of the case, we would recommend the town to convey to Whittemore, the said lot, excepting therefrom the stone quarry with necessary rights of way to, from and around the same. There have been two deaths at the town farm the past year.

Mrs. Merrow, died April 15th 1892, aged 91 years, Mrs. Ricker died Dec. 4th, 1892, aged 84 years.

There has been on the town farm the past year an average of about eleven in number, overseer and wife making in all thirteen.

We spoke one year ago in our report of our efficient Overseers, Mr. and Mrs. Huntly who have had charge the past year and we still appreciate them for their faithfulness in their duties and manner in which they have cared and provided for the aged people at the town farm.

We have made some improvements on the farm and buildings. We have also added quite an amount to the farmings tools. Being unfortunate in the loss of our horse wedeemed it for the best interest of the town to replace it with a good one, making an additional expense, in all of about two hundred dollars.

The labors of the Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the poor, for the past year have been much more than in former years, partly on account of the new system of voting, and much more expensive on account of preparing voting precincts and salaries to clerks.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

I have examined the Receipts and Expenditures of the Selectmen, for the year ending Feb. 20th, 1893, and find them correct, with vouchers for all orders drawn.

Feb. 28, 1893.

S. W. GOULD, AUDITOR.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

ASSESSMENT FOR 1892.

| Repairs on Highway, | | \$ | 5,000 | 00 | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|--------|--------|-----|-----------------|-------|
| Bridges and Culverts, | | | 1,000 | 00 | | |
| Bridges and Culverts, | | | 1,000 | | | |
| Support of Poor and to defray Expenses, | | | 6,000 | 00 | | |
| " " Schools, | | | | | | |
| •• •• High School, | | | 500 | | | |
| • Text Books, | | | 250 | 00 | | |
| Repairing Cemeteries, | | | 100 | 00 | | |
| Evening School, | | | 200 | | | |
| Interest on Debt, Bond due May 1st, 1892, | | | 800 | 00 | | |
| Bond due May 1st, 1892, | | | 3,200 | 00 | | |
| Memorial Day, | | | 100 | 00 | | |
| Refunded to J. P. Oak over paid on Tomb. | | | 103 | 35 | | |
| Overlayings, | | | 1,741 | 08 | 10 107 | |
| | | - | | - 4 | \$40,167 | 11 |
| VALUATION | | | | | | |
| Real Estate, | -8 | 2,06 | 32,900 | 00 | | |
| Personal Estate, | | | 19,697 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | \$3,21 | 12,597 | 00 | | |
| Rate \$11.40 per \$1,000 on \$3,212,597 | | • | 36,623 | e1 | | |
| | | | 3,297 | | | |
| 1319 Polls at \$2 50 each, | | | 246 | | | |
| 219 Dogs. | • • | | | | \$40,167 | 11 |
| | | | | | P1 0,107 | |
| SUPPLEMENT. | AL. | | | | | |
| 77 Polls at \$2,50 each. | | | 192 | | | |
| Real Estate, | 3 | 3,050 | 34 | 77 | | |
| Personal Estate. | 11 | ,700 | 133 | 38 | | |
| | | | | | a 900 | 1 0 5 |

----- \$ 360 65

RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR 1892-1893.

| 1892. | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Feb. 20, Cash on hand, | \$ 9,791 | 93 |
| One year interest on R. R. Bonds, | 14 | |
| Sales from Farm, | 283 | 38 |
| Licenses for Circuses, | 35 | 00 |
| " " Auctioneer, | | 00 |
| of Bangor for Wm. Delany, | 7 | 50 |
| " Fairfield, J. McMann, | 24 | 00 |
| " Concord, | 103 | 12 |
| " Patient at Insane Hospital, | 25 | 35 |
| Non-Resident Taxes for 1891, | 1,563 | 88 |
| Concrete Walks and Abutters, | 369 | 48 |
| S. A. Bickford Collector, | 39,301 | 53 |
| State of Maine for Free High School, | 250 | 00 |
| " Mill Tax, | 3,398 | 75 |
| " " Railroad Tax, | 819 | 04 |
| " " Pensions Paid, | 336 | 00 |
| For surrender of Tax Deeds, redeemed on account | | |
| of Tax 1890, | 35 | 51 |
| Refunded from Village Corporation on account of | | |
| Tax Titles of 1891, | 3 | 56 |
| Cash of Superintending School Committee, | 165 | 49 |
| " on Concrete Walk, | 20 | 00 |
| " James Buzzell for sale cemetery lots, | 16 | 00 |
| " Temporary Loan at Bank, | 2,000 | 00 |
| " S. A. Bickford, collection on abatements of | | |
| 1891, | 33 | 90 |
| - | | \$58,599 42 |

EXPENDITURES FOR 1892-93.

| Paid | for Electric Lights, | 39 | 66 | | |
|------|-----------------------------------------------|--------|----|---------|--|
| " | Stationery, Janitor and general expense, | 259 | 15 | | |
| " | Rent of Armory, | 175 | 00 | | |
| ** | for Printing bills, | 78 | 50 | | |
| | " Repairing Cemeteries, | 50 | 50 | | |
| •• | " Unsettled Accounts 1891, | 360 | 85 | | |
| ** | " Town Poor outside of Town Farm, | 1,016 | 77 | | |
| ** | Town Officers Bills, (see detailed statement) | 2,391 | 58 | | |
| •6 | on account Target Grounds. | 10 | 00 | | |
| " | for Recording Deaths, Births and Marriages, | 65 | 00 | | |
| " | out on Highways, | 5,747 | 29 | | |
| • • | ** Bridges and Culverts, | 1.207 | 11 | | |
| • • | Sup. School Com. for support of Schools, | 11.728 | 35 | | |
| | J. P. Oak, bal. due on Tomb, per vote of | | | | |
| | Town, | 103 | 35 | | |
| ** | on account of Tramps, | 23 | 25 | | |
| | out on Snow Roads | 881 | 41 | | |
| | " for Memorial Day, | 100 | 00 | | |
| •• | Maine Insane Hospital. | 919 | 60 | | |
| | for Bond due May 1, 1892, | 3,200 | 00 | | |
| " | Overseer's Salary on Town Farm, | 350 | 00 | | |
| ** | Interest on Borrowed Money, | 752 | 66 | | |
| | State Tax, | 11.077 | 93 | | |
| " | County Tax. | 3,094 | 75 | | |
| ** | Abatements and Overtaxation 1891 and 1892, | 791 | 30 | | |
| • • | State Pensions, | 336 | 00 | | |
| | Expenses on Town Farm, | 812 | 11 | | |
| " | Watering Tubs, | 21 | 00 | | |
| | Maine Industrial School, | 39 | 00 | | |
| | Insurance on Park School House, | 97 | 50 | | |
| | Damages, | 8 | 00 | | |
| " | Tax Deeds in Treasurer's hands, | 90 | | | |
| | Bounty on one Bear, | 5 | 00 | | |
| Tem | porary loan at Bank, | 2,000 | 00 | | |
| | • · · · · · · · · | | | 47,833 | |
| Cash | on hand, | 100 | | 10,765 | |
| | | | | s58-599 | |

\$58,599 42

TOWN OFFICERS BILLS.

| Wm. B. Snow, Selectmen, Assessors Levi C. Emery, and R. F. Parker, Overseers, | \$500 350 200 | 00 | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------|----|
| Dr. H. C. Taggart, Town Physician, | 50 | 00 | | |
| S. W. Gould, Auditor and Town Agent, | 20 | 00 | | |
| George Cushing, W. H. Wildes, S. A. Bickford, | | 00 00 00 | | |
| A. K. Butler, Superintendant of Schools, | 633 | 33 | | |
| J. N. Merrill, Health Officer, | 30 | 00 | | |
| R. T. Patten, Treasurer, | 40 | 00 | | |
| Wardens, Election Clerks and Warden Clerks, | 70 | 00 | | |
| S. A. Bickford, Collector of Taxes, | 463 | 25 | | |
| ·· ·· Posting Warrants, | 5 | 00 | | |
| - | | | \$2,391 | 58 |

SUPPORT OF POOR ON TOWN FARM.

| Stock and Supplies on Farm Feb. 20, 1892, | |) 80 | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------|------|---------|----|
| Overseer's Salary, | 35 | 0 00 | | |
| Supplies and Expenses, | 81 | 2 92 | | |
| | | | \$1,743 | 72 |
| Sales from Farm. | | 3-38 | | |
| | | | | |
| Bangor for Tramp, | | 7 50 | | |
| Stock and Supplies on hand Feb. 20, 1893, | | 6.18 | | |
| 625 weeks Board of Inmates and Overseer's | family, | | | |
| at 82^2_3 cents per week, | 51 | 66 | | |
| | | | \$1,743 | 72 |

LIST OF POOR NOT ON TOWN FARM.

| Ames, Elijah | 822 | 41 |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----|-----------|
| Allard, A. H. | 1 | 71 |
| Blanchett, Mrs. Peter | 153 | 38 |
| Boyanton, Willie | 5 | 50 |
| Clukey, Mrs. Amelia | 23 | 00 |
| ·· John | 112 | 59 |
| Cayford, Joseph, | 14 | 66 |
| Clark, James | 56 | 60 |
| Dickinson, Geo. E. | | 00 |
| Dore, Joseph | 13 | |
| Davis, Mrs. M. S. (Refunded by Concord) | | 75 |
| Fish, Danville T (To be refunded by Anson) | | 23 |
| Goodrich, John M. | 78 | 00 75 |
| Galena, Frank | 39 | |
| Groder, Mrs. Levi | | 00 |
| John | 16 | |
| Jewell, Mrs. D. S. | 39 | |
| Murray, Phillip | 144 | |
| " Mrs. Daniel | 13 | |
| McMahan, John (\$24.00 Refunded by Fairfield) | 52 | |
| Marco, Levi | | 50 |
| Pooler, John | 16 | 75 |
| Parks, Kate | 21 | 74 |
| Stearns, Truman | 10 | 00 |
| Steward, Thomas | 23 | 50 |
| Taylor, Wm. | 2 | 01 |
| Targy, Joseph | 31 | 65 |
| Veagne, Mrs. Lucy | 68 | 10 |
| · Frank | 3 | 83 |
| - | | ×1,016 77 |

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL OFFICERS

| Thomas Tucot. | | \$159 | 23 | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|-------|----|
| John C. Foster, | | 184 | 02 | | |
| Edward P. Morrill. | 1111 (AMARKAN AMARKAN A | 152 | 51 | | |
| Mary W. Boyce, | The second prove the se | 99 | 29 | | |
| Joseph Burnor, | The latitude is that all all | 38 | 01 | | |
| Support of Patient, | (Refunded) | 25 | 35 | | |
| 1 1 1 1 1 1 | | 145 | 86 | | |
| Mrs. M. A. Davis, | (Refunded by Concord) | 99 | 37 | | |
| • D. S. Jewell, | an a ser as protestant a | 15 | 96 | | |
| | | | | \$919 | 60 |
| Whole amount paid out | for the support of Insane | 919 | 60 | | |
| Refunded. | | 124 | 72 | | |
| | • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • | | | | |
| Balance by our Town, | | | | 794 | 88 |

SUPPORT OF INSANE AT HOSPITAL.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

| Laura A. Richardson, | | 2 | \$39 00 |
|----------------------|--|---|---------|
|----------------------|--|---|---------|

APPROPRIATIONS.

For Schools:-

| Balar | ice (| lue, i | unexper | wheel i | in 1891, | 5 | 1.118 | 98 | |
|-------|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------|
| Vote | of 1 | l'own | (March | 1892 | 1 | | 6.000 | 00 | |
| • • | ** | | • • | | Free High | schools, | 500 | 00 | |
| 6. | | " | | | Text books | | 250 | 00 | |
| | | | | • • | Evening S | chool, | 200 | 00 | |
| Amo | | | State s | | | | 3.398 | 75 | |
| | | " | " fi | ee II | igh school, | | 250 | | |
| Cash | of S | supt. | School | Com | nittee for be | ooks and | | | |
| | uitie | | ··· · | | | | 165 | 49 . | |
| | | | | | | | | —11, 883 | 22 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Town | ord | ler is | sued by | Sele | etmen, | | 11.728 | 35 | |
| Balar | ice i | (nex) | pended, | | | i state e | 154 | | |
| | | | 1 | | 51 (B) | | | \$11,883 | 22 |

FOR HIGHWAYS: Paid out on Highway, \$5.747 29 Less amount received for Concrets Walks, Abutters and Materials sold, 368–23 _____ 5,379 06 Appropriation by Town, 5,000 00 _____ Overdrawn. 379 06 FOR BRIDGES AND CULVERTS: Paid out for Bridges and Culverts, _____ \$ 1,207 11 Appropriation by Town, 1,000 00 _____ Overdrawn, 207 11 FOR SNOW ROADS: Appropriation by Town, 1,000 00 881 41 Expended. ____ \$118 59 Unexpended, FOR CEMETERIES: s = 100 00Appropriation by Town, . 50 50 Expended, -----49 50 Unexpended, LIABILITIES. \$ 14,450,00 Powered Monur

| Borrowed Money, | 5 14,400 | 00 |
|-----------------------------------|----------|------------|
| Maine Insane Hospital (Estimated) | 200 | 00 |
| " Industrial School " | 30 | 00 |
| R. E. Lyon Cemetery Deposit, | 100 | 00 |
| Accrued Interest (about) | 400 | 00 |
| | | 815,180,00 |

RESOURCES.

| 2 M: | tine | Central Rail Road Bonds, | | 5 200 | ()() | | |
|------|------|----------------------------------|-----------|-------|------|---------|----|
| Non | -Res | ident Taxes 1892 uncollected not | paid into | | | | |
| | th | e Treasurer, | 1000 a. 2 | 1,060 | 55 | | |
| Tax | Titl | es in hands of Treasurer, | | 90 | 53 | | |
| Due | from | n Town of Anson, | | 14 | 23 | | |
| | | Philander Whittier, | | 12 | 00 | | |
| | ••• | State of Maine Bounty on Bear, | | 5 | 00 | | |
| • • | " | State of Maine Rent of Armory. | | 100 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | \$1,482 | 31 |

| Town Farm, | 2,700,00 |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Austin Farm, | 300 00 |
| Lot on North Street, | 500 00 |
| Cemetery lot on Parkman Hill, | $500 \ 00$ |
| Lot on Pine Street, | $500 \ 00$ |
| Stone Quarry on Notch Road, | $150 \ 00$ |
| Six Tenths Coburn Park, | 5,000,00 |
| Personal Property as per Schedule returned by | |
| II. II. Gilman, | $1.115\ 50$ |
| | $1.115\ 50$ |

ESTIMATES FOR 1893-94.

| Interest on Debt. | 700-00 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Payment of Bond due May 1, 1894. | 3,200,00 |
| For Bridges and Culverts. | 1,000 00 |
| " Highways | 7,000 00 |
| " Snow Roads. | 2,000 00 |
| Support of Poor and Town Expenses. | 6,000-00 |

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLIAM B. SNOW Selectmen LEVI C EMERY, of R. F. PARKER. Skowhegan.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Of Receipts and Expenditures, for the year ending Feb. 20, 1893.

RECEIPTS.

| Balance in Treasury March 2, 1892, | | | \$9,791 | 93 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------|----|---------|----|
| From S. A. Bickford, Collector on account of tax for | | | | |
| 1892, | 39,301 | 53 | | |
| From S. A. Bickford collected on account of abatements | | | | |
| for 1891. | 33 | 90 | | |
| From S. A. Bickford, on account of Non-Resident taxes | | | | |
| for 1891, | 1,063 | 08 | | |
| Realized on Real Estate sold for non-payment of taxes | | | | |
| for 1891, | 77 | 29 | | |
| Collected on account of Non-Resident Taxes for 1891, | 423 | 51 | | |
| For surrender of tax deeds redeemed by original owners, | | | | |
| on account of tax of 1890, | 35 | 51 | | |
| Refunded by Skowhegan Village Corporation on tax | | | | |
| title of 1891, | 3 | 56 | 40,938 | 38 |
| | | | | |
| Ever Course of Manual | | | | |
| FROM STATE OF MAINL: | 250 | | | |
| For Free High School, | 250 | | | |
| Refunded on State Pensions, | 336 | | | |
| School Fund and Mill Tax, | 3,398 | | . 800 | - |
| Railroad and Telegraph Tax, | 819 | 04 | 4,803 | 79 |
| | | | | |
| FROM OTHER TOWNS: | | | | |
| Concord, support of Mrs. Davis, | 5103 | 12 | | |
| Bangor, expenses of Will Delaney, | | 50 | | |
| Fairfield, support of John McMann and wife, | | | 134 | 62 |
| - minerity output of January and and and | | | | |
| Amount forwarded, | | ; | 555,668 | 72 |

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| Amount bro't forward, | | | \$55,668 | 72 |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----------|----|
| FROM SKOWHEGAN SCHOOL COMMITTEE: | | | | |
| Use of books from other towns, | ₩34 | 25 | | |
| Sale of school books, | 14 | 50 | | |
| Support in part of school in Whiting District, | 95 | 32 | | |
| Tuition from Cornville, | 21 | 42 | 165 | 49 |
| | | | | |
| LICENSES : | | | | |
| One Auctioneer's license, | 2 | 00 | | |
| | | | 25 | 00 |
| Three Circus licenses, | 35 | 00 | 37 | 00 |
| | | | | |
| Miscellaneous: | | | | |
| Sales from Town Farm, \$ | 283 | 38 | | |
| Support of Patients at Insane Hospital, | 25 | 35 | | |
| James Lumsden & Co., concrete walk, | 20 | 00 | | |
| Interest on two M. C. R. R. Bonds, | 14 | 00 | | |
| James F. Buzzell, sale of Cemetery Lots, | 16 | 00 | | |
| Temporary loan, | 2,000 | 00 | 2,358 | 73 |
| | | | 58,229 | 94 |

EXPENDITURES.

| Paid Geo. L. Beal, State Treas., State Tax for 1892 | 11,077 93 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Paid Geo. Cushing, County Treas., County Tax for 1892, | 3,094 75 |
| Paid State Pensions, | 336 00 |
| Paid Bounty on Animals, | 5 00 |
| Paid on Town Orders, | 32,950 65 |
| Balance in Treasury, | 10,765 61 |
| | 58,229 94 |

ROLAND T. PATTEN, TREASURER.

The following is the Report made to the town by the Special Committee, appointed by the Selectmen to look into the matter of increased facilities for schools:

TO THE SELECTMEN OF SKOWHEGAN .:-

Fully appreciating the honor of our appointment, and realizing well the importance of the matter, the undersigned accepted with great reluctance the more than thankless task which you imposed upon us.

In order to make ourselves thoroughly understand the situation and become conversant with the facts, we at once entered upon a personal inspection of our village schools, all of which, with two unimportant exceptions, we visited and examined the registers of each. It is a remarkable fact that, notwithstanding the recent enlargement of the Leavitt street school house and the erection of the Park building, our schools at the time of our visit seemed to be over crowded, at least many of them were beyond their proper capacity. To be sure, in some of the primary schools there was room for a few more scholars, and in the Park building there was one vacant room, or one used only for an evening school, but in the spring that will be used, as we learn, for the massing in one school of a sufficient number of ungraded scholars, now out of school, to fill it, which seems to us to be a very sensible thing to do. We found also the school house on West Front street unoccupied. but we learn that there are truant children enough in the village to fill it when they are gathered in as they will be in time to come. In the high school building we found, especially in the high school proper, many more pupils than the room was ever intended to accommodate, or, in other words, many more pupils than desks, chairs having been put in the aisles for some 18 or 20 scholars to sit in, which greatly detracted from the otherwise good order of the school. Viewed only from an economical stand-point, it would seem to some that this school might continue in the same way, but that is impossible, because of the changed conditions at the beginning of the next term. It must be remembered that new scholars are coming into all the schools; that promotions from the lower fill the higher. The hardest problem, therefore, for the committee to solve is, what shall be done with the large number to be promoted to the grammar and high school, none going out this year, to say nothing about the indefinite number that may come in from out of the town under the Coburn bequest. This is the grave difficulty with which our school committee is confronted at the present time.

We do not hesitate to say—and we believe the facts show it—that the high school building, cannot accommodate all who will wish to, and naturally should, enter there the next term. It is said by some that this is an exceptional year and this influx is spasmodic. With poor teachers and under the old method of supervision, ample room to accommodate all desiring to attend school would undoubtedly be found in a very short time, but with our present efficient corps of teachers we do not believe the occasion is spasmodic. Having this in view that our children must be provided for, we fail to see how the accommodation can be improved only by an expenditure of money— a sum sufficiently large to increase the seating capacity of the present high school structure, or to erect a new one of larger dimensions. We do not believe in any retrogressive steps in this matter. It is better to be a little way ahead of the times than to be any behind. However undesirable it may be to vote away our money, we know that the children must be educated, for that is the boast of our New England civilization.

Starting then with the fact staring us in the face that our high school building is too small to accommodate in a proper manner all the scholars we wish to send there, and that the town has outgrown the capacity of the building, we come to the conclusion, however unwelcome the fact may be, that larger and more suitable accommodations must be provided in some way, cost what they may.

Two methods have been suggested to meet the exigency of the case, each having been somewhat considered. First, it is proposed, and it seems to be the most feasible, perhaps, because it requires less money, to enlarge the present high school building on the rear of the lot. This plan would be the cheaper of the two suggested, as but three walls would need to be constructed. But here we are confronted with a serious difficulty, two in fact, which cloud the undertaking and suggest grave doubts as to the advisability of doing anything there. Sometime, and in the near future, it is believed the water power in front of the high school building will be utilized for manufacturing purposes, and when that is done the hum of the machinery will drive from the island the high school. We therefore believe it unwise to enlarge the present structure by such an expenditure as will be required if undertaken. Another serious difficulty which cannot be overcome is the small and unsuitable lot on which the building now stands. Should an addition be made sufficiently large to accommodate all attending the high and grammar schools, the play ground, now altogether too small, would be completely spoiled for that purpose. Play and recreation for school children are essentials in school life. Well do we remember one of our own early lessons, not so well comprehended then perhaps as

These facts lead us to say that in our judgement the high school building should not be enlarged, because at the best it would be but a

temporary improvement, but if the town has outgrown its present school accommodations, it will be the better policy to abandon the building for the high school, use it for a grammar school as long as possible, or till driven from the island and in the mean-time erect on some more suitable and eligible lot, away from the noise and bustle of machinery and business, on the best lot that can be had, of ample size-a modern structure adequate to the wants and pride of our thriving village and town. The taxpayers may not feel disposed to go to this expense now, but we submit whether its postponement may not be the evil thereof and lead us into a worse dilemma. When the teachers having in their care the education of our youth, who ought to be, and we believe are in touch with the better school methods, and our school committee who give their time to the town and are watching with patient and jealous care the progress of our children, "view with alarm" the future condition of our high school, unless some satisfactory relief is offered, it becomes evident to us that their fears for the prosperity of the school are well grounded, and that any delay in the matter will be to the great injury of our scholars who desire to enter our high school in the years to come, and tend to lower its present standard for excellence.

Fortunately for the boys and girls of Skowhegan they are blest with good school privileges. Our school committee have been untiring in their efforts to raise the standard of our schools to high rank, and in their zeal have accomplished much. We believe the schools of Skowhegan compare favorably with those in any village in Maine, and this is one of the causes that create the over-crowded condition of our high school at the present time; but in view of the fact that it is "open to the public free of tuition," not only to the boys and girls of our town, but to all outside the situation as now existing is one not pleasant to contemplate, for unwelcome as the fact may seem and is, our high school building cannot accommodate all the pupils that will wish to go there at the beginning of the next school year. The school committee, much better prepared than we are to go into details, foresee the difficulty in having more scholars than seats, and through them our attention has been called to it. In our investigation we have endeavored to faithfully perform our duty and have also endeavored to state the facts as we find them to exist. Respectfully submitted, W. R. G. ESTES.

I. P. MERRILL, A. H. LANG, M.B. HESELTON, R. L. MITCHELL, S. F. STEWARD,

E. D. PACKARD.

Coburn Charity Bequest.

RECEIPTS.

| 189 | 2. | | |
|------|-----|---------------------------------------------|--------|
| Feb. | 22, | Cash on hand, \$ | 53 50 |
| Apr. | г, | Me., Central R. R. Bonds Int., on \$10,000, | 350 00 |
| May | | Dividend on 25 Shares Hall Stock, | |
| July | | " " 24 " 1st National Bank, Fairfield, | |
| " | г, | " " 6 " 1st National Bank, Portland, | 18 00 |
| Oct. | Ι, | Me., Central R. R. Bonds Int., on \$10,000, | 350 00 |
| Nov. | | Dividend on 25 Shares Hall Stock, | |
| Jan. | ι, | " " 24 " 1st National Bank, Fairfield, | 96 00 |
| Jan. | Ι, | ' " 6 " ist National Bank, Portland | 18 00 |

\$1,119 50

PAYMENTS.

| 1892. April " | г, | | | Bank, Portland,\$ | | |
|-----------------------|----|--------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|----------|
| July | | | " | | - | |
| | | ** | ** | | 250 | |
| 1893. Jan. Feb. | Ι, | " Cash on | " hand, | | 250 19 | 00 00 |

\$1,119 50

FUND AS INVESTED FEBRUARY 22, 1893.

| Description of Security. | Cost. | Carried at | Par Value. |
|--------------------------------------------|----------|---------------|---------------|
| Maine Central R. R. Bonds, Reg. 7s, 1912, | \$13,200 | \$12,328 | \$10,000 |
| *Shoe and Leather Bank, Auburn, 16 shares, | 1,840 | 1,740 | 1,600 |
| First National Bank, Fairfield, 24 shares, | 2,832 | 2,832 | 2,400 |
| First National Bank, Portland, 6 shares, | | 600 | 600 |
| Skowhegan Hall Association, 25 shares, | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 |
| | | | |
| | \$20,975 | \$20,000 | \$17,100 |
| | | | |

*The Shoe and Leather Bank, according to the Cashier's Statement, will pay no dividend till January 1st, 1894. R. B. SHEPHERD, Treasurer.

WOMAN'S AID SOCIETY.

SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING

FEBRUARY 21, 1893.

| Numbe | erof | meeting | s of | the E | Executive Board, 2 | 7 |
|-------|------|-----------|--------|--------|---------------------------------------------------|---|
| •• | " | money | order | s vot | ted by the Executive Board, and signed by | |
| | | by the | Presi | lent a | and Secretary, | 3 |
| ** | "" | | | | | |
| ** | | " | ** | with | n money, (\$431.65) 2 | 5 |
| " | " | | | | wood, (12 ¹ / ₂ cords) | 8 |
| " | ** | 66 | ** | "" | boots and rubbers, (40 prs.) | 8 |
| •• | ** | ** | ** | ** | dry goods and groceries, | 0 |
| We | have | e paid th | ie boa | rd of | f two persons, one the full year, and one for nin | e |

months, also house rent of one family the full year.

The following articles of second-hand clothing contributed by residents of the town have been distril uted:

| Suits of clothes, (four new) | 6 | Boots and rubbers, (pa | urs) | 17 |
|------------------------------|-----|------------------------|------|-----|
| Sheets, (new) | 5 | Cloaks and jackets, | | 16 |
| Pillow cases, (new) | 3 | Dresses, | 1994 | 17 |
| Quilts and comforters, | 5 | Skirts, | | 15 |
| Blankets, | 3 | Shirts, | | 12 |
| Hose and leggins, (pairs) | 41 | Pants, | | 12 |
| Undervests, | 11 | Coats, | | 7 |
| Drawers, | 24 | Vests, | | 6 |
| Shirt-waists, | 3 2 | Blanket wrapper, | | . I |
| Hats and caps, | 16 | | | |

MARY E. PAGE, Secretary

WOMAN'S AID SOCIETY.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT TO THE TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN BY THE TREASURER OF "SKOWHEGAN WOMAN'S

AID SOCIETY."

| 1893. | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------|----|
| Feb. 23. By cash balance Feb. 1892, | 5 161 31 | | |
| " " interest from Coburn fund, | I,000 00 | | |
| | | \$1,161 | 31 |
| To paid 153 orders voted by the Executive Board of the | | | |
| Society and signed by the President and Secretary, | | | |
| the items of which will be shown in the report of | | | |
| the Secretary of the Society, | 1,025 67 | | |
| Cash balance to new account, | 135 64 | | |
| | | \$1,161 | 31 |
| | | | |

MARY W. VARNEY, Treasurer.

Coburn Library Fund.

RECEIPTS SINCE NOV. 7, 1892.

| Receive | d No | ov. 7, 1892 from former Treasurer, | 268 | I 2 | |
|----------|------|---------------------------------------------------|-----|------------|--------|
| " | rei | its of Library Parlors, | 94 | 00 | |
| " | ren | nts from sale of cards, | 50 | 00 | |
| Dividen | d o | n 20 shares First National Bank, Portland, | 60 | 00 | |
| Interest | on | \$7,450, St. Paul and Taylor's Falls R. R. Bonds, | 260 | 75 | |
| " | " | 3,000 Mexican Central R. R. Bonds, | 60 | 0 0 | |
| ** | • • | 2,000 Little Rock & Ft. Smith R. R. Bonds, | 70 | 00 | |
| ** | 4 | 2,000 Maine Central R. R. Bonds, | 60 | 00 | |
| | | - | | | 922 87 |

EXPENDITURES SINCE NOV. 7, 1892.

| Paid Librarian, | 6 | 5 00 | |
|-----------------------------|------|------|-------|
| " New Books, | | 8 39 | |
| " Skowhegan Water Co., | I | 2 50 | |
| " Electric Lights, | 4 | 660 | |
| " Binding Books, | I | 7 05 | |
| " Repairs, | I | o 99 | |
| " Janitor, | 2 | 5 00 | |
| " Wood and Coal, | 5 | 8 07 | |
| " Sundries, | I | 3 35 | |
| Cash on hand Feb. 18, 1893, | . 40 | 5 92 | |
| | | \$92 | 22 87 |

Investments same as last year.