Annual Reports of the Selectmen, Assessors, Overseers of Poor, Town Treasurer, Superintending School Committee and Chief Engineer of the Town of Winthrop, for the Year Ending March 12, 1888

Winthrop (Me.)
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OF WINTHROP,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 12, 1888.
ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, OVERSEERS
OF POOR, TOWN TREASURER,
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE
AND
CHIEF ENGINEER

OF THE

TOWN OF WINTHROP,

For the Year Ending March 12, 1888.

WINTHROP, ME.
PRESS OF THE BUDGET.
1888.
TOWN OFFICERS.

ELECTED MARCH 14, 1887.

MODERATOR.
W. H. PARLIN.

TOWN CLERK.
E. O. KELLY.

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEEERS OF POOR.
LEVI JONES. CHAS. D. WOOD. T. H. WHITE.

TREASURER.
JOHN M. BENJAMIN.

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.
A. R. CRAM. W. H. KEITH. L. T. CARLETON.

CHIEF ENGINEER.
C. A. WING.

ROAD COMMISSIONER.
C. H. GALE.

COLLECTOR.
A. C. CARR.

CONSTABLES.
A. C. CARR, Geo. W. GLIDDEN,
WALLACE E. BERRY, S. G. DAVIS,
E. W. WENTWORTH, Aug. THOMPSON,
J. L. METCALF.
REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

To the Citizens of Winthrop:—

Another year has passed, and the time has come when we are required by law to submit to you our annual report for the municipal year ending March 12, 1888.

By your direction at your last annual town-meeting, we were entrusted with much more work than usually devolves upon assessors, that of the assessment and apportionment of the tax for school property, as appraised by committee chosen by the town, Sept. 25, 1886. How well this work has been accomplished we leave for you to determine.

We have assessed the whole town the amount of appraised value of school property, $14,200, which, in addition to the Town Grants, etc., makes the percentage 2.54 per cent. We have remitted to the tax payers of each district the appraised value of their school property, which accounts for the wide difference in the rate of taxation in different sections of the town.

The case of Pittston vs. Winthrop pending in the Superior Court at the time of the last annual report was decided in favor of this town at the April term of Court, 1887, thus sustaining the position taken by the officers of the town.

We are still paying one dollar per week for the support of Miss Hope W. Briggs.

December 1st, we were notified that Miss Minnie Atkins had fallen into distress. We have arranged for her support at the present time at seventy-five cents per week.

December 5, we were notified that Philip Obie, one of our Canadian population, was in distress and too sick to be removed to the farm. We arranged with John Blueberry to support him for five dollars per month. We are still paying that amount.
VALUATION AND TAX.

Total amount of real and personal estate, $1,037,640.00
Amount of tax on same, rate being 25.4 mills, 26,356.05
Whole number of polls 578 at $3.00, 1,734.00
Number of dogs 89 at $1.00, 89.00
Percentage paid for collecting, 3½ mills per cent.

TOWN GRANTS.

Common Schools, $1,800.00
Support of poor and other town charges, 1,800.00
For highways, 3,500.00
Indebtedness, 1,000.00
Free high school, 250.00
Memorial day, 100.00
Village cemetery fence, 250.00
Water closet, village school, 75.00

$8,775.00

State tax, $3,100.81
County tax, 1,352.77
Appraisal of school property, 14,200.00
Overlayings, 661.47

$19,315.05

$38,090.05

Appraisal of school property remitted to the school districts, $14,200.00

Net amount of tax, $13,890.05

COMMON SCHOOLS.

Balance from last year, $307.69
Appropriation by the town, 1,800.00
Appropriation by the State, 971.56
Interest on school fund, 170.24

$3,249.49

Amount expended, 2,738.80

Unexpended, $510.69
FREE HIGH SCHOOL.

Appropriation by the town, $250 00
Amount due from the State, 250 00

Amount overdrawn,

Paid P. E. Russell for teaching, $396 00
For apparatus and books, 30 10
S. G. Davis for coal, 40 00
W. E. Berry, janitor’s services, 45 00

$611 10

TOWN FARM.

The town farm has been in charge of Mr. A. N. Remick and his estimable wife for the year past. They have given their usual satisfaction. We found at the farm the beginning of the year, Silas Pettingill, Rebecca Lambert, Samuel Torsey and wife. August 8, David B. Torsey, wife and seven minor children were taken to the farm, making a family of fifteen, including the superintendent and wife. The farm in addition has lodged and fed fifty-seven tramps.

Schedule of personal property at farm, March, 1887, $816 34
Cash in hands of superintendent, 33 29
Paid for family supplies,
  grain for stock, 299 10
  yoke of oxen, 172 50

$1,856 60

Received for yoke of oxen sold, $175 00
  cream from factory, 397 99
  pork sold, 100 06
  straw, 5 32
Due for cream from factory, 65 00
Cash in hands of superintendent, 6 49
Schedule of personal property at farm, 771 30

$1,521 16

Balance against the farm, 335 44
Salary of superintendent, $250 00

We have appraised the same stock at the farm a little over one hundred dollars lower than last year. We have made several additions to the farming tools—new spring harrow, etc., which, with the amount of new furniture and bedding purchased on account of our large increase in family, makes the showing rather unfavorable to the farm.

**SCHEDULE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT THE FARM.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 horse</td>
<td>$150 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 cows</td>
<td>315 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 shoats</td>
<td>80 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 tons hay</td>
<td>180 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 pounds middlings</td>
<td>2 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 ½ bushels meal</td>
<td>3 85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35 “ oats</td>
<td>17 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 ½ “ beans</td>
<td>5 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 “ roots</td>
<td>1 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 barrel apples</td>
<td>2 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 “ flour</td>
<td>5 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>¾ “ crackers</td>
<td>1 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400 pounds pork</td>
<td>36 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 “ ham</td>
<td>4 80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 “ lard</td>
<td>7 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 “ butter</td>
<td>2 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80 “ fresh pork</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 casks</td>
<td>3 00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SUPPORT OF POOR OFF THE FARM.**

Your board have endeavored to reduce the expenses for the support of the poor off the farm as much as possible, at the same time exercising charity and doing justice to those in need of assistance. Our foreign population have this year caused us quite an expense.

Mrs. Mary Williams who has been helped by the town for some time past, died Dec. 9, 1887.
Paid Maine Insane Hospital support of Lucy Smith, $129.94
City of Augusta, support Frost children, 21.00
John Blueberry, support Philip Obie, 10.00
support Hope W. Briggs, 26.00
supplies for Joseph Cyr, 16.39
Levi Jones & Co., supplies Wm. Frost, 2.00
J W. Foss, supplies D. B. Torsey, 7.84
D. T. Moody, wood " " 5.38
H. Haskell, " " " 3.00
Levi Jones & Co., supplies D. B. Torsey, 2.09
A. J. Crowell, supplies children D. B. Torsey, 4.75
H. Penniman, " " " 14.75
Amanda Bolduc, support Mary Pareux, 2.50
Mrs. S. C. Welch, support child A. Hammond, 43.00
H. Penniman, support Mrs. A. Hammond, 6.00
Town of Monmouth, medical attendance family of D. B. Torsey, 1886, 18.00
Levi Jones, pauper expense, 3.84
Mrs. Eunice Weston, support Annie Atkins, 9.75
E. D. Hutchins, support Mary Williams, 31.50
C. W. Taggart, med. attendance Mrs. S. McCully, 2.50
C. W. Taggart, " " Samuel Torsey, 4.50
C. W. Taggart, " " D. B. Torsey, 4.50
C. W. Taggart, " " Gilman Judkins, 14.00
Mrs. J. F. Moulton, support Gilman Judkins, 24.00

$407.23

We have received from town of Madison, for support and medical attendance Gilman Judkins, 38.00

Total support poor off the farm, $369.23

CURRENT EXPENSES.

Paid J. E. Brainerd, services as Selectman, $100.00
J. E. Brainerd, appraising school property, 25.00
H. Penniman, services as Selectman, 100.00
Levi Jones, " " " 100.00
L. T. Carleton, " " " Supt. School Com., 56.00
Paid L. T. Carleton, attorney fees and expenses
Wayne road case, $41 00
B. R. Reynolds, services as town clerk, 20 00
W. S. Frost, loss of horse (vote of town), 38 00
W. H. Keith, services as Supt. School Committee, 14 25
W. H. Keith, committee in Lowell case, 3 00
Blinds for Town Farm house, 64 97
F. M. Wood, wood furnished W. R. Besse 1886, 5 50
J. A. Stanley, printing town reports, 35 00
A. N. Remick, Superintendent of farm, 250 00
L. T. Carleton, attorney fees and cost case Pittston vs. Winthrop, 19 86
Loring Short & Harmon, town order book, 10 50
A. R. Crane, services Superintendent School Com., 60 00
R. Alden, for harrow, 20 00
A. C. Carr, committee in Lowell case, 3 00
H. E. Gale, furniture for town farm, 18 55
W. E. Berry, care and repairs hydrants, 17 41
C. H. Gale, labor and drain pipe for farm 1886, 42 50
C. P. Hannaford, medicine and school books, 42 10
W. E. Whitman, abatement taxes on machinery, years 1885-86-87, as per vote of the town Mar. 1884. 26 92
A. C. Carr, abatement of taxes 131 99
A. C. Carr, " of Dist. No. 4, tax, 5 11
A. C. Carr, collecting taxes 1886, 178 61
A. C. Carr constable fees. 12 90

$1442 17

ROAD COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

Overdraft 1887, $68 73
Snow bills 1886-7, 1,986 52
Summer repairs, 1,521 23

$3,526 48

Amount appropriated Mar. 1887, 3,500 00
Amount overdraft, 26 48

$3,526 48
MEMORIAL DAY.

Amount appropriated by town, $100.00
Paid A. H. Frost Post, $100.00

REPAIRS ON WATER CLOSET.

Amount appropriated by the town, $75.00
Paid W. E. Berry for labor and material, $75.00

CEMETERIES.

Appropriation by town for fence, village cemetery, $250.00
Unexpended balance on hand, $11.51

Paid for lumber, $137.74
Labor, $94.52
Paint and other materials, $21.67

Total, $253.93

Amount unexpended, $7.58

BAILEYVILLE SIDEWALK.

Amount unexpended last year, $62.78
Paid C. H. Gale for labor, $62.78

BAILEY HILL.

Amount raised by loan as per vote of town, $200.00
Paid C. H. Gale for grading, $200.00

TOWN HALL.

Received for use of hall, $115.55
Paid for care of hall, $39.60
Leaving a net income of $75.95

which has been paid into the town treasury.

EXTENSION OF WATER PIPES.

In accordance with the vote of the town, passed March 26, 1887, we have raised by loan the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars, and have expended of that amount sufficient to lay about 375 feet of new pipe, and have erected a hydrant at the
grounds of the M. C. R. R., near the depot. We can say without a doubt, that we consider this a good investment for the town. The following account will show the expenditures for same:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount raised by loan</td>
<td>$350 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount expended for pipe and hydrants</td>
<td>$210 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; labor and materials</td>
<td>106 05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$316 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount unexpended</td>
<td>$33 55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GENERAL STATEMENT.**

**LIABILITIES.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount of water loan notes</td>
<td>$3,250 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; building loan</td>
<td>2,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Bailey Hill loan</td>
<td>200 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on bonds and notes, (estimated)</td>
<td>75 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bills of town officers, (estimated)</td>
<td>700 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snow bills, (estimated)</td>
<td>1,600 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding orders</td>
<td>1,531 83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsettled bills, (estimated)</td>
<td>100 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$9,456 83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RESOURCES.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due from A. C. Carr, collector</td>
<td>7,621 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; State of Maine</td>
<td>1,149 03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash on hand</td>
<td>271 86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance against the town</td>
<td>414 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$9,456 83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ABATEMENT OF TAXES.**

C. S. Hutchinson, town tax, 1880, $300. Dist. No. 4 tax, 1880, $1 00
Warren A. Stevens, " 1881, 3 40
W. H. Davenport, " " 1881, 93
Geo. H. Haskell, " 1882, 3 00
I. M. Norcross, " " 3 00
A. L. Campbell, " 1883, 3 00
C. F. Davis, " " 3 00
Adolph Fortier, " " 3 00
Levi Peacock,  town tax, 1883, $ 00
I. H. Skillings, "  " 3 00
Edwin Cushman, "  " 1884, 3 00
A. H. Doughty, "  " 3 00. Dist. No. 4 tax, 1884, 58
Hiram Hammond, "  " 3 00
Amos Hammond, "  " 3 00
Chas. E. Hankerson, "  " 3 00 " " " " 58
Thos. Jenness, "  " 3 00 " " " " 58
Charles Laban, "  " 3 00 " " " " 58
I. H. Skillings, "  " 3 00 " " " " 58
J. H. Vinton, "  " 3 00 " " " " 58
Geo. B. Faraham, "  " 1885, 8 00
Chas. S. Glynn, "  " 3 00
Wyman Hanson, "  " 3 00
H. M. Hannaford, "  " 3 00
Thomas Jenness, "  " 3 00
Marcelle Lewis, "  " $ 00
J. McLaughlin, "  " 72
Isaac Murch, "  " 3 00
Marshall Ronco, "  " 3 00
W. C. Thurston, "  " 3 00
S. F. Wing, "  " 3 39
W. E. Whitman, "  " 6 50
W. E. Whitman, "  " 1886, 7 80
George Bayne, "  " 3 00
C. H. Collins, "  " 3 00
Chas. E. Glynn, "  " 3 00
Wyman Hanson, "  " 3 00
B. F. Haskell, "  " 3 00
Marcelle Lewis, "  " 3 00
Timothy O'Connor, "  " 3 00
G. T. Robbins, "  " 3 00
G. W. Tuttle, "  " 3 00
C. H. Welch, "  " 4 56
Winthrop Fact' y Co., "  " 1887, 14 92
W. E. Whitman, "  " 12 62
TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.
1888
Feb. 27. Cash Balance from last account, $1,984 12
Rec'd of A. C. Carr, Collector,
of State of Maine School Fund, 986 34
on loan for water pipe extension, 350 00
cash on sale of oxen, 175 00
of town of Madison for support of
Gilman Judkins, 38 00
on loan for grading Bailey Hill, 200 00
rent of Town Hall, 75 95
$9,782 39

EXPENDITURES.
Paid orders on account of support of poor, etc., $2,747 07
" " schools, 3,247 76
" " highways, 3,091 70
Memorial Day appropriation, 100 00
interest on loans, 216 00
State pensions, 108 00
Balance on hand, 271 86
$9,782 39

LIABILITIES:
Water loan notes outstanding, $3,250 00
Alms House loan note, 2,000 00
Loan for grading and repairing Bailey Hill, 200 00
Due for support of schools, 62 70
" " " poor, etc., 967 93
" " " highways, 608 80
Balance in favor of the town, 1,953 13
$9,042 06

RESOURCES.
Due from A. C. Carr, Collector, $7,621 17
" State of Maine, 1,149 03
Cash in treasury, 271 86
$9,042 06
The above "balance in favor of the town" will be reduced by the payment of outstanding orders and unliquidated claims, and the report of the Selectmen is referred to for an estimate of the amount required.

J. M. BENJAMIN, Treasurer.
Winthrop, Feb. 27, 1888.
We have examined the foregoing account and find it correct.
Respectfully submitted,

LEVI JONES,  
CHAS. D. WOOD,  
THO. H. WHITE,  
Winthrop.
ABSTRACT OF TOWN REPORT.

Art. 1. To choose a Moderator.
Art. 2. To choose all necessary town officers.
Art. 3. To raise a sum of money for support of schools.
Art. 4. To raise a sum of money for support of poor and other necessary town charges.
Art. 5. To raise a sum of money for highways.
Art. 6. To raise a sum of money to discharge indebtedness.
Art. 7. To raise a sum of money for Payson Tucker Hose Co.
Art. 8. To raise a sum of money for Free High School.
Art. 9. To raise a sum of money for street lights.
Art. 10. To raise a sum of money for Haskell burying ground.
Art. 11. To raise a sum of money to purchase hose.
Art. 12. To see if the town will move Sturtevant Hill school-house.
Art. 13. To raise a sum of money to put new floors in school-houses.
Art. 14. To raise a sum of money for improvement and care of cemeteries in town.
Art. 15. To choose one or more road Commissioners.
Art. 16. To allow a sum of money to H. V. Dudley for care of watering place.
Art. 17. To see if the town will instruct the Selectmen, to abate the taxes for a term of years, which may be assessed on any additions which C. M. Bailey's Sons & Co., may make to their present manufacturing business in town.
Art. 18. To raise a sum of money for Memorial day.
Art. 19. To see if the town will reduce the poll tax.
Art. 20. To see if the town will vote to divide the town into highway districts.
Art. 21. To see what method the town will adopt to have their taxes collected.
Art. 22. To hear reports of committees.
Art. 23. To allow accounts against the town.
REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The following report is respectfully submitted for the year ending March, 1888.

On the first day of April, 1887, there were, according to the enumeration made by us, 580 school children in town.

For the support of the schools during the year the sum of $3,749.49 was placed at our disposal, and was derived from the following sources, viz.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unexpended balance from last year</td>
<td>$307.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriated by town</td>
<td>$1,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mill tax, etc.</td>
<td>$971.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest on fund</td>
<td>$170.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appropriated by town for High School</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from State for same</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$3,749.49</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In all the schools but one there have been three terms, a summer term of nine weeks, a fall term of eleven weeks, and a winter term of ten weeks; thirty weeks in all. The fall term of the Norcross School was continued fifteen weeks, and there was no winter term.

UNGRADED SCHOOLS.

EAST WINTHROP.


WINTHROP CENTRE.

Lettie M. Smith, teacher. Summer term, No. scholars, 27, average attendance, 26. Fall term, No. scholars, 33, average
attendance 31. Winter term, No. scholars, 28; average attendance, 24.

SNELL SCHOOL.

Summer term, Della V. Neal, teacher, number scholars, 30; average attendance, 25. Fall term, Etta H. Johnston, teacher, number scholars, 40; average attendance, 30. Winter term, Beecher Putnam, teacher, number scholars, 32; average attendance, 25.

WEST WINTHROP.

Summer term, Louise B. Lacroix, teacher, number scholars, 20; average attendance, 17. Fall term, Louise B. Lacroix, teacher, number scholars, 16; average attendance, 12. Winter term, Fred W. Newell, teacher, number scholars, 18; average attendance, 12.

NORCROSS SCHOOL.

Summer term, Anna L. Bearce, teacher, number scholars, 13; average attendance, 12. Fall term, number scholars, 12; average attendance, 10.

MT. PISGAH SCHOOL.

Summer term, Mabel S. Robbins, teacher, number scholars, 9; average attendance, 8. Fall term, number scholars, 10; average attendance, 8. Winter term, number scholars, 8; average attendance, 6.

GRADED SCHOOLS.

PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Emma L. Robbins, teacher. Summer term, No. scholars, 68; average attendance, 63. Fall term, No. scholars, 74; average attendance, 63. Winter term, No. scholars, 65; average attendance, 53.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.

Summer term, Hattie N. Weston, teacher, No. scholars, 51; average attendance, 45. Fall term, Katie A. Hegarty, teacher, No. scholars, 50; average attendance, 46. Winter term, Katie A. Hegarty, teacher, No. scholars, 53; average attendance, 46.
GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

Abby C. Morse, teacher. Summer term, No. scholars, 38; average attendance, 34. Fall term, No. scholars, 36; average attendance, 34. Winter term, No. scholars, 34; average attendance, 33.

HIGH SCHOOL.

Mr. F. E. Russell, teacher. Whole number attending school during the year, 27.

In all but one of the ungraded schools, the teachers of former years were employed during the whole or a part of this year. At East Winthrop, Miss Hoxie, a graduate of the Hallowell Classical Academy, and an accomplished teacher, was employed one term, and Miss Celia Robbins, whose labors in former years were highly appreciated, two serving the remainder of the year. The Snell School was taught in the summer term by Miss Neal, a teacher of excellent reputation; the fall term by Miss Johnston, a graduate of the Farmington Normal School, of whose zeal and devotion to her work we can speak in the highest terms, and in the winter term by Beecher Putnam, of Colby University, who did admirable work. In all the other ungraded schools the teachers of preceding years continued their work during this year, and the advantages of retaining the same teachers a succession of terms, were now more apparent. The school at Winthrop Center, under the care of Miss Smith, maintained its high standing, and the Norcross School, taught by Miss Bearce, and the school on Mt. Pisgah, taught by Mabel Robbins, made decided progress. Miss Lacroix did excellent work during the summer and fall terms in the East Winthrop School, and Fred Morrill, of Bates College, in the winter term, proved himself to be a first-class teacher.

The Primary school has been managed with marked ability during the year. To achieve success in a school composed of so large a number of small scholars, requires tact of no ordinary kind, as well as unceasing zeal; and Miss Robbins' management
of the school has been satisfactory to us, and, so far as we know, to the parents. Miss Weston, who did excellent work in the Intermediate school, resigned at the end of the first term, to accept a more lucrative position elsewhere, and was succeeded by Miss Hegarty, a graduate of Coburn Classical Institute. Under her faithful and energetic management, the scholars completed the course of study prescribed for the year, and passed a satisfactory examination. The results of the year’s work in the Grammar School have not been entirely satisfactory. The first two terms, good order was maintained and fair progress made, but in the winter term, for causes that need not be stated, and for which the teacher cannot possibly be held responsible, the advancement of the scholars was not as rapid as it should have been, and the first class failed to complete the course of study necessary for promotion to the High School. There is, however, ample time for those who failed to make up the deficiency and pass an examination, so as to enter the High School at the commencement of the next term. The committee are as anxious to promote scholars, as scholars are to be promoted, but are firm in the opinion, that it would be doing injustice to the scholars and to the schools, to promote those who are not qualified to enter upon a higher course of study. We regard Miss Morse as a competent teacher, and believe under favorable circumstances, she would do satisfactory work.

The High School has been in a transition state during the year. According to the plan indicated in our last report, the grade of this school has been raised one year, making it in reality as well as in name a high school. The number of scholars has been unusually small; and the reason for this lies mainly in the fact that no class was admitted to the school from the Grammar School at the commencement of the year. The school has been admirably managed by Mr. F. E. Russell, and in respect to scholarship occupies a higher position than ever before. We are confident that the High School will, if the funds necessary for its support are provided, do a much better work not only for the village but for the town, than it has ever
done, and that parents will find it not only more economical, but advantageous in other ways to patronize it, than to send their children out of town for the purpose of acquiring such an education as they need to prepare them for the business of life.

For the first time, certainly, within ten years, a class graduated from the school this year, having completed the course of study, and received certificates of their graduation. The class was composed of three young ladies, viz., Gertrude Bishop, Hattie Gordon, and Olive Robbins. At the graduation exercises, which were held in the evening, and largely attended, all the members of the class spoke, and the under-graduates competed for prizes offered by some of our public-spirited citizens, for excellence in reading, declamation and writing. Olive Robbins won the prize of $5.00 offered by Hannah J. Bailey for excellence in reading, and the prize offered by Dr. A. P. Snow, of an elegant volume of "Home Library," for the best essay. George Woodward won the prize offered to the boys for excellence in declamation, and Grace Gatchell, a similar prize offered to the girls. The exercises of the evening were varied, participated in by a large number, and seemed to be appreciated by a very large audience.

The school house in the Norcross neighborhood is unfit for use. The house on Sturtevant hill might be moved to a central location and accommodate all in that part of the town. The Snell school house has been repaired at an expense of nearly $100 during the year.

Between thirty and forty French children have attended school during a part of the year, and probably a larger number will attend the year to come. As most of these children attend the primary school, and the school is crowded already, it is evident that we shall be obliged to provide for them another schoolroom.


Winthrop, Feb, 24, 1888.
CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT.

To the Citizens of Winthrop:

I herewith submit my third annual report of the condition and workings of the Fire Department for the municipal year ending March 12, 1888.

The village has been entirely exempt from fire, with one exception only, for which we feel very grateful.

To the apparatus of last year has been added about three hundred and seventy-five feet of pipe and one hydrant,—the pipe connecting with the main pipe at hydrant No. 9, and extending westerly to the west side of the street leading by the passenger-depot on the east side, to hydrant No. 10, located between passenger-depot and baggage-room building. Also one double hose coupling to connect the two hydrants in the Mill Company’s yard, which will connect the pump in the lower mill with the main pipe of the water-works in case of an emergency. One length of hose, the rubber lining of which near one end had become broken, was sent to Boston and repaired, and is again in good condition.

May 14th. Tested water-works, the frost being out of the ground, putting water through all the hydrants, and found all parts in good working condition.

July 2d. Again tested the same, and found to be all right.

The department continues to be worked by “Payson Tucker Hose Co.,” now numbering 26 good men, Wallace E. Berry, foreman, succeeding W. E. Whitman, who served the company and the public the past year very promptly and satisfactorily, to whom on my part I extend my thanks for his readiness to promptly and cheerfully answer all reasonable calls, and in saying this I believe I am but bespeaking the feelings of the company.