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Annual Reports of the Selectmen and Supervisor of Schools of the Town of Palmyra 1884

Palmyra (Me.)

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ANNUAL REPORTS



OF THE

SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS

OF THE

TOWN OF PALMYRA.

1884.



NEWPORT, ME.
JUDKINS & MORRILL, PRINTERS
—1885.—

Department of Overseers of the Poor.

TOWN FARM.

Invoice of property on farm Feb. 16th. 1885.	
One pair of oxen,\$130 00	
Three cows \$90 00, one two-year-old \$18 00, 108 00	
Forty sheep \$3 00, 120 00	
Two swine \$18 00, forty-six hens \$23 00, 41 00	
	\$399 00
PRODUCTS OF FARM AND PROVISIONS.	

Ten and one-half tons of hay \$105 00
2 tons straw,
12 1-2 bush. corn 65c. 150 lbs. shorts 1 15 per hd. 9 85
22 bush. beans 1 85, 5 bush. peas 1 25, 46 95
14 bush, barley 60c., 25 bush, oats and peas 60c. 23 40
47 lbs. dried apple 5c., 5 galls. pickels 30c., 3 85
2 bbls, clear pork 20 00, 1 bbl hams &c. 18 00, 58 00
15 bush. potatoes 40c., 5 bush. vegetables 25c., 7 25
3 bbls soap 4 00, 33 lbs. spare-rib 8c., 14 64
25 lbs. beef 6c., 1 bush. buckwheat 75c., 2 25
240 galls, vinegar and cider,

27 lbs. butter 20c., 18 lbs. cheese,	
3 galls, mince meat 75c., 6 galls, molasses 35c., 4 35	
1 bbl. flour 5 25, 67 lbs. lard 10c.,	
Groceries spices &c.,	
Apples 1 20, 18 vinegar, meat and soap bbls., 14 70	
Bass boards and cedar shingles,	
\$311	76
Farming tools and household furniture,	25
Whole amount of property on farm Feb. 18 '84, \$1442	
Whole amount of property on farm Feb. 18 '85, 1095	
Decrease of property,	23
STOCK AND PRODUCE SOLD.	
1 pair oxen,	
24 lambs, 59 00 -168 lbs. wool, 22 ets. lb., 95 96	
I wool skin, beef, hams and pork, 9 81	
130 1-4 lbs. poultry, 11 18—170 doz. eggs, 40 62	
160 lbs. butter, 32 65—46 1-2 lbs. cheese, 4 66, 37 31	
Peas, barley and buckwheat, 8 12	
Vinegar, 8-13-calf skin and rags, 95, 9-08	
Board of Benjamin Stewart,	
Labor, 9 00—Tobacco, 50 ets., 9 50	
1 cow (sick),	
\$393	40
Due from B. Stewart for board,	00
	_
\$408	40
AMOUNT OF ALL BILLS OF PURCHASE.	
Sundries for use of farm, \$209.25	
Salary of Overseer,	
Whole expense,	

Deduct stock and products sold,)
Add decrease of property,	347 23
Balance against farm,	\$448.08
Number of paupers on the farm, 5.	
Average age, 80 years.	
Deaths during year, 1.	
Sick, 3.	
Insane, 2.	
PAUPER BILLS OUTSIDE OF FARM.	
Paid on acc't of L. F. Nason,	\$65 46
Town of Sherman on acc't Charles Hart,	$\dots 22 \ 25$
Town of Thorndike on acc't of Charles Maxim, .	
Town of Bridgewater on of acc't Mrs. Coole,	
B. F. Parkman, on acc't of Mrs. Berry,	
Dr. J. C. Manson, on account of Bowman Eldrid	ge, 22 00
On acc't of David Grant,	
Expense of burial of Geo. D. Davis,	18 25
	\$376 71
Deduct bills reported due last year,	45 50
	\$331 21
Due on acc't of Lizzie Sherwood,	25 00
Total expense of paupers outside of farm, Paid for paupers belonging to other towns.	356 21
on acc't of A. C. Crosby (Levant),	\$102 75
on acc't of Wesley C. Campbell (Pittsfield),	25 73
	\$128 48
Collected,	102 75
Due,	\$25 73

Selectmen and Assessors Department.

ASSESSMENTS.

Valuation of property 1884.	
Amount of real estate,	\$267 845 00
Amount of personal estate,	67 739 00
	\$335 584 00
AMOUNT OF MONEY ASSESSED.	
Amount raised for schools,	\$1016 80
Amount raised for town charges,	
Amount raised to expend on roads	300 00
Amount raised to pay for hearse,	350 00
Amount of State tax,	1433 31
Amount of County tax,	412 61
Amount overlayings,	211 37
Whole amount assessed	\$4624 09
No. of polls, 265.	
Amount assessed on polls,	530 00
Rate per cent., 12 2-10 mills.	
Delinquent highway tax of 1883,	1 08
Supplemental tax,	
ABATEMENTS.	
Paid Peter H. Lang, bills of 1882,	4 00
J. P. Longley, by vote of town,	
W. D. Mitchell, bills of 1883,	
Wallace E. Keene, order outstanding 1884,	
	\$49 26

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid John S. Spauldin	ο,		\$3 10
Geo. W. Hubbard	l,		13 35
H. B. Allen,		,	21 75
Alphonzo Brooks,			5 00
Due N. W. Goodrich,			
Paid Nelson A. Davis,.			
			\$286 73
TŌW	N OFFI	CERS' BILLS.	
Paid H. C. Webber, for	services	as selectman,	\$70 00
J. E. Smith,	44	11	33 75
M. Dyer,	- 44	**	36 75
John Q. Adams,	6.4	as Treasurer,	25 00
J. F. Harvey,	4.6	as Town Clerk,	10 00
Due Wilbur H. Miles	4.4	as Auditor,	3 00
Mrs. Belle M. Mac	ldocks a	s Supervisor,	55 00
			2000 50
			\$233.50

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

Paid C. R. McCrillis for services on farm 1883,
Town officers for blank books, stationery, stamps etc.,11 06
Geo. D. Waterhouse damage to horse, by vote of town 10 00
Treasurer for tax on Shaw and Dow land,
Geo. L. Brownell for new hearse,
For expense of free high school in No. 4,
N. B. Douglass moving andrepairing hearse, 51
" attending 12 funerals with hearse, 15 00
M. Dyer for moving hearse house, repairing same, 25 00
Judkins & Murch insurance on town house, 20 00
H. C. Webber, moderator, March, 1884, 1 50
F. M. Marsh for 3 grs. services on farm for 1884, 225 00
O. L. Soule for school books furnished Carr children, 88
" " Henry Morton
and W. B. Morrison per order of Supervisor, 2 15
W. D. Mitchell col. tax of '83 and warning meetings, 47 72
M. Dyer for setting stone post on town line, 1 00
D. Appleton & Co., for school books, 1 24
For taking care of town house and furnishing wood,
chimneys and cleaning,
Children victoring,
\$1203 26
Paid the several school districts, \$1368.58
Tald the several school districts,
RECAPITULATION OF EXPENDITURES.
RECATIONATION OF EXTENDITURES.
Paid pauper bills outside of farm, \$505.19
On roads and bridges,
Town officer's bills,
Abatements,
Miscellaneous bills. 1203 26
The several school districts, 1368 58
The several school districts,
\$3574 60
Amount of orders turned over and canceled, \$3574-60
Amount of the first of the firs

Treasurer's Report.

Dr.

	Collected	of town of Lev			
				ree high sch	
	1.6	State Treas		11	
		of products of			
	44 44				
	44 44				
		Lot in Poo	ler cemet	tery,	5 0
		t Town Hall,			
	" Nor	resident taxes	, 1883,		106 8
		er H. Lang on o			
	w.	D. Mitchell,	6.4	1883,	286 2
	" sam	e	6.6	1884,	1688 6
	Hired to p	pay for hearse,.		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	380 0
					\$3789 1
		C_{R}			
		eipt for orders			
Cash	paid for re	ecording tax de	ed,		. 5
		v			

J. Q. ADAMS,

Treasurer.

FUNDS OF THE TOWN.

Due from Peter H. Lang, collector of 188	32,
W. D. Mitchell, collector of '83	3 '84, 936 89
Amount of Non-resident tax returned trea	asurer, 178 41
Due from town of Pittsfield,	25 73
Tax deed on Shaw & Dow lar	id, 26 44
In hands of overseer of farm,	59 45
School books on hand, cost,.	56 68
Due from State school fund a	nd mill tax, 535 68
In treasury,	214 06
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
	\$2064 71
LIABILITIES OF THE	
Due school fund order in hands of treasu	rer, \$1163 33
Hired money to pay for hearse,	380 00
Interest to Feb. 29th, 1885,	11 70
F. B. Marsh, on farm last qr. service	e, 75 00
Belle M. Maddocks, Supervisor,	55 00
W. D. Mitchell, collector of 1884,	
D. D. Stewart, for legal services, (e	stimated)25 00
The several school districts	375 06
On road job N. W. Goodrich,	
On acc't of Lizzie Sherwood,	25 00
Wilbur H. Miles, auditor,	3 00
Wallace E. Keene, order outstanding	g, 2 92
	\$2173 35
Deduct funds,	
reduct lunds,	2001
Balance against the town,	8108 64
We the undersigned herewith submi	t the foregoing report
for 1884.	
П. С.	WEBBER, \ Selectmen
	SMITH, of
M. D'	YER. / Palmyra.
Palmyra, Me. Feb. 21st. 1885.	
I hereby certify that I have carefully and vouchers from which the foregoing	report is made. I find

I hereby certify that I have carefully examined the accounts and vouchers from which the foregoing report is made. I find the books well kept in a plain and systematic manner, and the expenditures well vouched for and I see no reason to doubt that the exhibit here made is correct both as to the expenditures of this year and the present financial standing of the town.

Palmyra Feb. 21st. 1885.

WILBUR H. MILES, Auditor.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS,

For the School Year ending April 1st. 1883

\$1016.80
535.68
69.80

Total,

\$1622.28

Whole number of scholars,

341.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

Summer term taught by Miss Ada Merrifield, of Plymouth. She seemed to be a teacher who required each scholar's answers to exactly coincide with definitions from the text-book. On account of illness, she was excused one week before the term under other circumstances would have expired; thus dispensing with a closing examination, and, perhaps, not allowing a just estimate of her services. Her patience with the smaller pupils was untiring, and they made rapid progress in reading and spelling.

Fall term taught by Miss Kate M. Davis, of this town. Her results in the school-room were beneficial, as a good teacher's efforts must be, when attended by the hearty support of the parents. A word of praise should justly be extended to these pupils for the excellent care taken by them of their new school house. A good black-board having been supplied in building, it is utilized for marking purposes rather than the seats, doors or windows.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Summer term taught by Addie F. Foster, of this town, and was her first attempt at instructing and disciplining in the school room. As this school demanded an unlimited supply of the lat-

ter, it was a hard school for an inexperienced teacher. At the close of the term the improvement in behavior was the most promising feature of the school. This teacher having labored thus persistently, and the good effects of disciplining a school were beginning to be realized educationally, she was secured for the succeeding term.

The fall term would have been one of much prosperity; but owing to an over-drawn apportionment the preceding year, the school was shortened thereby. The conduct of the Agent was highly commendable, having taken such action with other parents, as should furnish the amount of fuel needed without reducing this year's apportionment.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Summer term taught by Miss Etta Parkman, of this town. This school was under good instruction, and the scholars made good improvement. It having been a small school, there was ample time for a thorough drill.

Fall term continued by Miss Parkman with more pleasing and satisfactory results; she seems especially adapted to a small school.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

Free High School taught by B. P. Hanson and Belle M. Maddocks, of this town. This school was fully sustained by donations from parents, pupils, friends and teachers. As this school brought together the advanced scholars, the rogues and the smaller ones, it was somewhat difficult to govern in some respects. There was a diversity of school-books used; this caused a great amount of classes and proved a hindrance in discipline. Though Mr. Hanson may not have succeeded in maintaining his usual success as an instructor, he endeavored earnestly to do so.

Summer, fall and winter terms taught by Belle M. Maddocks. I have no praises to speak of this inefficient teacher. The pu-

pils of this school were as easily governed as any in town. In nearly every case they evince evidence of good home discipline and when scholars enter the school-room self-governed, as in this district, the parents have a rightful reason to expect good improvement from their pupils, should a competent teacher be employed. If the year's expenditure has been a failure, the teacher is at fault; if a success, it is wholly owing to the good efforts of the pupils and parents.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

Summer term taught by Miss Belle Mains, of Newport. Miss Mains was an industrious teacher, whose earnestness for her pupils might, by small scholars, be termed severity. Her work was very satisfactory, and I think each scholar will appreciate the thorough drill and remember the energetic admonitions for future industry.

Fall term taught by Miss Annie M. Millett, of this town. Miss Millett, with her pupils, produced good results. They were disposed to look clearly at the point under consideration, and gave satisfactory explanations.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

Summer term taught by Miss Cora Matthews, of St. Albans. Miss Matthews was one of those teachers to whom a thorough education, attended with good ability, has caused her to rank in our town as more than an "average teacher." She has proved herself very worthy of the confidence of the parents, for whose children she has labored so earnestly.

Winter term taught by Miss Matthews. There was no time lost at the commencement of this term. Teacher and pupils commenced work harmoniously, and there was much practice brought before them. These pupils were industrious workers.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Summer term taught by Miss Lutie A. Hilton, of Hartland. Miss Hilton worked industriously for the educational interest of the pupils under her charge. She was well rewarded by the interest they displayed in granting her every wish to energize them to cope with lessons severe or otherwise, in the former case she was accurate in producing such insinuations and suggestions as would render more easy the intricate places and instill right principles for future consideration.

Fall term continued by Miss Hilton with the general satisfaction rendered in previous terms.

Winter term continued by F. L. Stinson, of West Pittsfield. Though he has taught in this town previously it has never been with more satisfaction. As a disciplinarian his schools are among the best. One error in this district is the irregularity in attendance.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Summer term taught by Miss Kate M. Davis, of this town. Miss Davis sought earnestly to bring her school up to a high standard. One meritorious feature of it, was the efforts put forth by pupils and teacher in writing (a branch of no secondary importance.) The pupils, at each visit, were among the first in town, in regard to a quiet, orderly school.

Winter term taught by Miss Rose N. Stackpole, of Plymouth. Miss Stackpole possessed the rare faculty of gaining the good will of her pupils. This term brought out an increased number, yet they still composed a quiet school.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

Summer term taught by Miss Alice M. Tibbetts, of this town. The closing examination showed good improvement, good discipline being one of the principal merits. This teacher seemed to lead her scholars by kindness rather than force; thereby gaining

their affection and continuing prosperously till the close.

Winter term taught by the same teacher. When I visited this school at its opening, I found teacher and pupils still united in their efforts, with increased numbers; owing to a mistake between the teacher and myself as to the length of the term, I did not visit it at its close, (the agent gave sufficient notice.) Miss Tibbetts having taught successfully in other districts as well as this, we have sufficient reasons to expect this school throughout the term was as successful as the former.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

Summer term taught by Miss Anna Patten, of this town. Miss Patten has had charge of this school at previous terms and this alone bespeaks the confidence of the parents in educational results. Her methods of instruction were well adapted to the school. Her work was thorough, and she was interested in maintaining her well earned reputation.

Winter term taught by Miss Edith Furbush, of this town. The closing examination showed the beneficial effects of a teacher whose education was equal to the needs or wants of the school. She interested her pupils in many recitals of topics wholly new, pleasing and instructive.

DISTRICT NO. 11.

Summer term taught by Miss Annie M. Millett, of this town. Miss Millett labored with her pupils to make them self-reliant. One common error into which teachers are apt to fall, is in reciting the greater part of each answer, and should the scholar succeed in answering the last word or phrase, it passes along satisfactorily. She strove earnestly to avoid this error, by questioning till a definite answer could be obtained.

Winter term taught by Miss Etta Parkman, of this town. Miss Parkman has taught two terms in district number 3 previously mentioned, and she succeeded in interesting herself in her school and scholars for their improvement.

DISTRICT NO. 12.

Summer term taught by Miss Jennie Mahoney, of this town. Miss Mahoney gave good satisfaction. This was a small school. She gained the good will of her scholars readily, and governed them in this manner.

Winter term taught by the same teacher. Her work during this term was as satisfactory as the former, and a general review showed lessons well memorized.

DISTRICT NO. 13

Summer term taught by Miss M. A. Thomas, of this town. Miss Thomas has taught many terms in this district, and yet her services are required and regarded as the best. Her experience exceeds that of any other teacher and the time passed by her in the school-room, embraces years rather than terms.

Fall term taught by the same efficient teacher. At the closing examination, I was informed she had accepted a school in Aroostook county, because better remuneration had been offered for her worthy services. Can you in district number 13 allow a teacher to be taken from you, whose ability, judgment and education have been so successfully and earnestly utilized in producing such good results? Perhaps a better teacher can be secured than Miss Thomas; but should you succeed in obtaining one whose knowledge of dispositions and the training of children from the Alphabetarian to the Algebrarian should produce better results, she may well be regarded as the model educator.

Winter term taught by Miss Emma A. Smith, of this town. Miss Smith succeeded in gaining the confidence of these pupils, some of which lack that self-reliance which insures, on their part, the best of success. But at the closing examination a marked improvement was noticeable in this one important point. Scholars who had dreaded an investigation of their term's work, produced good explanations; and understandingly regarded them as possessions of their own.

DISTRICT NO. 14.

Summer term taught by Miss Maggie Bachelder, of this town. Miss Bachelder caused each scholar's lessons to be well conmitted; thus laying a good foundation for a successful term. The vacation that occurred during the term was detrimental to her best efforts. The illness of the teacher caused a few days at the close of the term to be excused. The supplementary register showed a good amount of work completed and reviewed.

Winter term taught by Albert Lyford, of St. Albans. His educational ability assured me during examination that he was one of those educators who would prove a most successful instructor, and so I found him. I think I only express the sentiments of the parents and scholars, when I report it as not being inferior to any winter term taught there, unless by those of more experience.

DISTRICT NO. 15.

Summer term taught by Miss Mary Furbush, of this town. This was her first attempt at teaching. As this school was one of the smallest in town and composed of small scholars, an unsurpassed amount of work could not be expected.

Winter term taught by Miss Lillian McFarland, of this town, who was another inexperienced teacher. Like her predecessor she evinces good evidence of a successful teacher. I visited this school directly after a severe storm, and all the scholars were not present, but such as were passed a very creditable examination for scholars thus small and young.

CONCLUSION.

There have been thirty-four terms taught during the present school year. Three males and nineteen females were employed. There are no failures to report, and best of all, no reports of scholars who have been expelled for any misdemeanors. Your schools have been in a prosperous condition—not all sharing an equality—for, wherever a teacher has been employed, whose thoughts, interests and energies have been wielded in his or her school,

there has been one of exceeding prosperity. As teachers we are not faultless; and as parents let us not be fault-finding. One evil which should receive your careful attention and about which the teachers find some fault is the condition of our school books. Perhaps there is not a parent who is aware that in our schools could be found four or five treatise on spelling; two on book-keeping; four on geography; four on arithmetic, and as many on history and different editions of Greenleaf's Algebra. You have been paying \$1.25 for an Algebra which is certainly inferior to one now at your option for 80cts. I think sixteen or eighteen years have been long enough to use the National Spelling-book. It is certainly deficient in modern pronunciations and words of more recent usage D. Appleton & Co. are asking you through their Agt. to adopt their series for another five years; also are wishing to introduce an introductory fourth reader and an elementary history thus making seven books in the series. The exchange price between an old third or fourth reader and the introductory fourth is twenty-five cents; or the elementary history, twentyseven cents; said Agent acknowledged "the step is too broad from the third reader to the fourth," and the above mentioned books are designed to complete the series. I do not see much benefit that could result as a whole by adopting such series in our ungraded schools for the succeeding five years, then only have two new books, and those only benefiting scholars from the ages of eight to twelve years. There is no justice in expecting our teacher to do the work of the books, and an exchange of books is sometimes essential in keeping us dull teachers along with those of better ability.

Kind Citizens:—Inasmuch as I have been the object of your kind forbearance this school year, you have my sincere thanks, and with them, these reports are

Respectfully submitted,

Belle M. Maddocks, Supervisor.

No. of Dis.	AGENT. AGENT.	No. Registered.	Average No.	Length of school.	Board per week.	Price per week.	Amount of money apportioned.
1	W. B. Mflls, S. 8	7	5	9	.75	\$3 00	\$84 00
	F.	10	8	9	.75	3 00	42.00
2	S. Phinney, S. 23	12	11	8	\$1 87 1-2	2 50	95 00
	F.	13	10	7	1 87 1-2	3 00	01.00
3	C. A. Leavitt, S. 10	9	7	8	1 50	2 00	84 00
	F.	6	5	11	1 50	3 00	150.00
4	J. F. Harvey, S. 44	32	27	6		*6 00	176 00
	F.	32	28	8		*6 00	
-	W. W.	25	-	11	1 10	*7 00	91.00
5	J. C. Millett, S. 7	5	4	8	1 45	2 00	84 00
o	F.	6	4	13	1 45	2 25	199 00
6	L. B. Hanson, S 33	18	15	9	95	3 12 4 50	132 00
7	N. Davis, W. S. 53	32	25	13	1 00	4 00	212 00
		33	29	8	1 17	4 00	212 00
	F. W.	27	22	12	2 00	7 00	
8	N. T. Sinclair, S. 24	13	11	8	1 50	2 75	98 00
0	W. 1. Shidan, S. 24	19	18	9	1 50	4 00	30 00
9	C. A. Dyer, S. 26	17	10	9	1 00	3 00	104 00
•	W.	23	21	8	1 50	5 00	101 00
10	N. B. Furbush, S. 19	10	9	10		*4 00	92 00
	F	10	7	13	1 00	3 00	
11	C. B. Cowan, S. 14	6	5	6	1 50	2 25	88 00
	w.	8	7	12	2 00	2 50	33.5
12	S. Farnham, S. 20	7	6 1-2	10	1 19	2 00	93 28
	W.	8		13	1 13	2 75	
13	G. W. Varney, S. 23	23	22	8		*5 00	92 00
	F.	23	20	8		*5 50	-
	W.	25	21	8	1 00	5 00	La Lie
14	S. M. Davis, S. 23	15	11	7	1 40	3 00	92 00
	W.	23	20	9	2 25	5 50	last on
15	G. Whitten, S. 9	4	4	6	1 01	2 51	84 00
	F.	. 6	4		1 40	2 50	
16							8 00
17	1						4 00