

1873

# Annual Report of the Town Officers of Fort Fairfield For The Year Ending March 15, 1873

Fort Fairfield, (Me.)

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## TOWN OFFICERS,

OF

### Fort Fairfield.

MAR 2 1880

For the Year ending March 15, 1873.

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PRINTED AT THE  
"NORTH STAR" JOB PRINTING OFFICE  
CARIBOU, ME.  
1873.

# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE SELECTMEN OF FORT FAIRFIELD,

### FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 15, 1873.

#### ASSESSMENTS.

State Tax.....	\$1,595.20
County Tax.....	692.00
Town Tax.....	2,729.63
	<hr/> \$5,016.83
Real Estate Valuation .....	\$167,333.00
Personal Estate Valuation.....	66,330.00
	<hr/> \$233,663.00
Number of Polls, 377. Poll Tax, \$2.	
Number of Dogs, 98. Dog Tax, \$1.	
Rate of Taxation, 18 mills on \$1.	

Number of Oxen.....	171 ;	Average Valuation, \$26.00
Cows .....	597 ;	" " 16.60
3 yr. olds.....	191 ;	" " 15.11
2 yr. olds.....	304 ;	" " 8.06
1 yr. olds.....	259 ;	" " 4.12
Horses.....	340 ;	" " 51.71
Colts.....	122 ;	" " 31.30
Sheep.....	1,493 ;	" " 1.95
Swine.....	513 ;	" " 4.88

#### PAUPER EXPENSES.

For N. Dee and wife.....	\$173.43
Chas. Rediker.....	80.07
Wdo. Willett.....	30.40
H. Cormier.....	59.87
O. Cyrway.....	36.75
F. Warren.....	37.31
Flanery girl.....	12.00
Wdo. Everett .....	2.25
P. Bolier.....	3.46
Pettengill children.....	249.53
Crabb children.....	18.80
Vasser family .....	40.93
T. Bolier .....	46.72
J. Larrigan.....	20.00
D. Weston.....	53.29

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\$864.81

Less due from the State for support of	
N. Dee and wife .....	\$173.43
do. do. H. Cormier.....	59.87
do. do. O. Cyrway.....	36.75

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\$270.05

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\$594.76

The pauper bill of 1871 included in the foregoing, amount to.....	65.70
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\$529.06

*viz.* for Dee and wife \$35.00, and paid F. Smith for boarding the Pettengill girl, \$30.70.

It will be seen by the above that the actual expenses the past year for support of the Poor belonging to this Town are \$529.06. To this should be added the expenses of Jane Parsons. The Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Sangerville have notified us that "the sums expended for her support" March 7th, 1873, "are \$24.50," and we are requested "to remove or otherwise provide for her." She is very sick

### SCHOOLS.

We assessed for support of Schools ..... \$1,510.40  
 There was paid from School Fund to Town  
   Treasurer by A. W. Hoyt ..... \$41.98  
   and by I. Hacker ..... 168.35

\$210.33

The Bank Tax for 1872 due from the State ..... 292.67  
 And the Mill Tax due Jan. 1st, 1873 ..... 861.15

The whole amounting to ..... \$2,874.55  
 has been apportioned and credited to the several School Districts in Town, according to the number of scholars in each.

### TOWN ORDERS DRAWN.

To Treasurer of School Fund, int. on Orders ..... \$28.57  
 A. W. Hoyt, for bal. due for covering bridge, 10.04  
 W. T. Sleeper for printing Town Reports ..... 12.00  
 B. Cummings, Att'y's fees & trip to Houlton, 22.40  
 Parsons, Waite and D. Ross, soldiers' money, 72.41  
 G. H. Shaw and others, Paupers' bills, ..... 864.81  
 J. S. Averell, for collecting taxes, 1871 ..... 280.67  
 J. S. Averell for abatement of taxes, 1871 ..... 86.07  
 J. S. Averell, for abatement of tax on lot 11,  
   taxed twice ..... 3.06  
 J. Bryant, for labor on road complained of, 94.50  
 G. Garrison and others, hauling stones to  
   bridge ..... 262.50  
 L. K. Cary, for funnel for Town House, ..... 8.33  
 W. Small, School Books, (order Supervisor), 9.64  
 Orders for School Districts ..... 1936.43  
 L. V. Towle, for services as Selectman ..... 41.50  
 B. Cummings, " " " " ..... 46.75  
 I. Hacker, " " " " ..... 75.00  
 H. W. Hyde, " " Town Clerk ..... 10.63  
 O. M. Ellis, abatement of Taxes, 1870 ..... 154.51  
 O. M. Ellis, Collecting Taxes, 1870 ..... 378.78  
 I. Hacker & Son, Bridge expenses, 28.00 and  
   Stationery 11.21 ..... 39.21  
 E. Knight, services as Supervisor of Schools, 60.00  
 E. Knight, for a Plan of the Town ..... 6.00

## LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Due to School Districts.....	\$1277.95
Outstanding Orders .....	1220.50
State Tax of 1872, unpaid.....	650.05
County Tax of 1872, unpaid .....	392.00
Claims unsettled, estimated .....	50.00
Due J. S. Averell, when 1872 Tax is collected,	250.80
J. S. Averell, abatement on Tax Bills, '72,	75.00
O. M. Ellis, when bal. of 1870 Tax is col.,	12.00
C. Herrin, Attorney's fees in the action	
Orintha True <i>vs.</i> Ft. Fairfield,	15.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,943.30

## RESOURCES OF THE TOWN.

In hands of Town Treasurer.....	\$825.41
Due from O. M. Ellis, Collector in 1870 .....	289.85
J. S. Averell, Collector in 1872. ....	4269.61
State, Bank Tax, 1872 .....	292.67
State Pensions .....	96.00
State for support of State Paupers;	
<i>viz.</i> N. Dee and wife .....	\$293.43
Henry Cormier .....	59.87
Octave Cyrway .....	36.75
	<hr/>
	390.05
J. Buber, Collector of Sarsfield, say..	300.00
on sub. for building Aroostook Bridge.....	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$6613.59

Assets over Liabilities \$2670.29.

Besides the money due from the State for the support of State Paupers there is due this Town for money sent to Gen. Hodsdon \$1000. There is also due from the State or Monroe Heirs six or eight hundred dollars for our Ministerial and School Lands in the West Half of "Plymouth Grant," all of which we have no doubt will eventually be paid. The General Government, we learn, paid to Monroe, now deceased, proprietor of the West Half of Plymouth, the full value of the following river Lots in the West Half of Plymouth belonging to this Town; *viz.* Lots 34, 35, 36, 37 and 38. We have written to the agent of Monroe Heirs to know if the money he received for these Lots would be paid to the Trustees of the School Fund, but have not received an answer. If he refuses to pay, some action should be taken at once to secure what belongs to the Trustees.

### Report of Treasurer of School Fund.

There is now in the hands of the Treasurer, a note against R. Powers, dated July 8, 1869, for \$8.00

A. R. Powers, "	Oct. 2, 1868, "	160.00
F. & C. V. Ellis, "	May 7, 1869, "	20.00
L. & H. Stevens, "	Nov. 2, 1868, "	170.00
H. W. Hyde, "	May 26, 1868, "	77.00
F. M. & J. H. Fur-		
bush, "	Mar. 22, 1872, "	154.00
L. V. Towle, "	Aug. 1, 1872, "	60.00
D. Dudley, "	Aug. 1, 1872, "	180.00
T. B. Crummett, "	Sept. 13, 1870, "	150.00
Town Order, "	Aug. 25, 1862, "	33.33
Town Order, "	Mar. 16, 1872, "	409.58

The whole fund on interest is ..... \$1421.91

I have deposited with Town Treas., interest, ... \$168.35

and now have in my hands interest money .... 40.97

There is interest now due on R. Powers' note,  
 .48, on A. R. Powers' note, 20.00, on  
 L. & H. Stevens' note, 10.20, on H.  
 W. Hyde's note, 4.62, and on Ellis'  
 note, 8.00, amounting to... 43.10

There are two other demands; one a note signed by  
 Hiram Hoyt for \$5.00, and an account against Corne-  
 lius Estes for \$30.00, both "outlawed."

ISAAC HACKER, TREASURER.

## REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER,

March 13, 1873.

Henry W. Hyde Town Treasurer, in account with the Town  
of Fort Fairfield, for the Municipal Year, 1872.

DR.

To cash in Treasury, March 16, 1872,...	\$1194.71
To cash of State Treas., Sch. Fund, '71,	65.56
To cash of School Agent Village Dis- trict, (tuition).....	5.50
To cash of J. S. Averell, interest on tax bills of 1871.....	55.87
To cash of Treasurer Ministerial and School Fund.....	168.35
To cash of State Tr., Sch. Mill Tax, '72,	861.15
To cash and orders of O. M. Ellis, Col- lector 1870, \$1901.16 ; less dis- count voted by Town, \$259.90,	1644.26
To cash and orders of J. S. Averell, Col- lector, 1871, \$2967.32 ; less dis- count voted by Town, \$23.00 .....	2944.32
To cash and orders of J. S. Averell, Collector, 1872 .....	747.22
To cash of I. Hacker & Son, (effects of Swede, deceased).....	63.15
	<u>\$7750.00</u>

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By cash paid Pensions, 1872, .....	\$96.00
" " " balance State Tax, 1871...	1291.60
" " " County Tax, in part, 1872,	300.00
" " " State Tax, in part, 1872..	945.15
" " " Express bill.....	1.80
" " " Soldiers orders,.....	72.41
" " " Town orders.....	4216.35
" " " Interest .....	1.37
" Amount in Treasury March 15, '73,	<u>825.41</u>

\$7750.00

H. W. HYDE, TREASURER

Fort Fairfield March 15 1872.

FORT FAIRFIELD TOWN REPORT.

REPORT OF SCHOOLS.

**District No. 1.**—*Summer Term.*—BY ANNIE S. TRAFTON. The school was well governed, and well instructed. Average of attendance, 71 per cent.

**District No. 2.**—*Summer Term.*—BY MARTHA J. FINLAND. Average of attendance 71 per cent.

*Winter Term.*—By the same teacher. Miss Finland is improving as a teacher. Both were well managed and profitable.

**District No. 3.**—*A Graded School. Junior Department.*—*Summer Term.*—BY MARTHA J. FISHER. Lack of government lessened the usefulness of the school.

*Winter Term.*—BY ANNIE S. TRAFTON. The instruction was much better than the government.

*Senior Department.*—*Summer Term.*—BY ELLEN A. CUMMINGS. It was an excellent school. Average of attendance 53 per cent.

*Winter Term.*—BY HATTIE C. RING. Critical and thorough instruction was the prominent characteristic of the school.

**District No. 4.**—*Summer Term.*—BY JULIA A. TOWNSEND. The school was well governed, and well instructed. Average of attendance 69 per cent.

*Winter Term.*—BY ELLEN A. CUMMINGS. This was a model school. Several advanced scholars came from other districts to share its advantages. Average of attendance 81 per cent.

**District No. 5.**—This district expect to build a school house next summer.

**District No. 6.**—*Summer Term.*—BY LUCY J. CURRIER. It was a very good school. Average of attendance 70 per cent.

*Winter Term.*—P. MARY HOWLAND. She has good natural and acquired qualifications for teaching. Her school was a success.

**District No. 7.**—*Summer Term.*—BY ROSA A. THURLOUGH. A very good school. Average of attendance 55 per cent.

*Winter Term.*—By the same teacher with similar success.

**District No. 8.**—*Winter Term.*—BY NELLIE E. THURLOUGH. The instruction was good, and the government excellent. Average of attendance 72 per cent.

~~Last summer the district built a school house, and~~  
~~the fire, supposed to be the work of an incendiary.~~

**District No. 9.**—*Winter Term.*—BY JULIA A. TOWNSEND. The school was quiet and orderly. I was much pleased with its appearance.

**District No. 10.**—*Summer Term.*—BY MARY E. DORSEY. The school was well managed and profitable.



**District No. 11.**—No school for want of a school-room.

**District No. 12.**—*Summer Term.*—By MRS. MARCIA P. SAMPSON, assisted by her late husband who was then rapidly sinking by consumption. No school in town has made greater improvement. Average of attendance 80 per cent.

**District No. 13.**—*Summer Term.*—By ROSE A. HALEY. The school was very well organized, but a number of the district were not satisfied with the teacher, and a knowledge of this rendered the school less profitable than it would otherwise have been. Average of attendance 54 per cent.

**District No. 14.**—*Summer Term.*—By CARRIE M. SMITH. I visited the school June 15. It was fully organized and appeared well. I have also heard that it gave general satisfaction. Average of attendance 65 per cent.

Rumor says that Miss Smith has been teaching in that district since the close of the summer term, Sept. 15. The agent has not notified me of such school, nor has she been certificated therefor.

*Spring Term.*—By ROSE A. HALEY. The school is now in session, and I hope for a profitable term.

**District No. 15.**—*Summer Term.*—By MRS. MARTHA J. BISHOP. Average of attendance 69 per cent.

*Winter Term.*—By the same teacher. Average of attendance 64 per cent.

Both schools were alike profitable, and satisfactory to the district.

**District No. 16.**—*Summer Term.*—By ALICE L. TRAFTON. She is a persevering and energetic teacher. Although a few were dissatisfied, yet I consider this one of our most profitable schools.

**District No. 17.**—*Summer Term.*—By MERCIE E. KNIGHT. The instruction in geography and arithmetic was good, and in grammar, extra. Average of attendance 86 per cent. So high an average is an honor to both teacher and scholars.

*Winter Term.*—By MARY L. COCHRANE. She is one of our best qualified teachers, having a faculty to govern, a tact to teach, and a liberal supply of energy. Before the close of the school she became Mrs. Kearney; and on the whole my expectations were not fully realized.

**District No. 18.**—*Winter Term.*—By FRANK H. GOUD. This is his first effort, and his success indicates a hopeful future in this calling.

**District No. 19.**—*Summer Term.*—By LAURA E. STERLING. Considering the obstacles to be overcome, she was successful beyond my most sanguine expectations. Average of attendance 70 per cent.

**District No. 20.**—*Summer Term.*—By IDA M. BLAISDELL. This school was prosperous for several weeks; but by sickness the number of scholars was reduced to two or three, and I advised its discontinuance without an examination.

**District No. 21.**—*Summer Term.*—BY MRS. NETTIE E. REDIKER. This was a small school and appeared well. I understand it gave general satisfaction.

**District No. 22.**—No school. A school-house is under contract.

### SUMMARY.

We have had 29 public schools, during the past year, taught by 22 teachers—one male, and 21 females. Of these 17 reside in town, and 16 have attended our High School.

There is a manifest improvement in our schools. They have been longer and more efficient than heretofore.

**OUR HIGH SCHOOL.**—The well-being of our district schools is so inseparably connected with this institution that its future prosperity is of paramount importance to every neighborhood in town.

To this school we look for thoroughly qualified teachers who shall disseminate knowledge, and create a deeper interest in popular education.

This institution has been dependent on tuition for its support. But through the liberality of the Legislature, we may now make its blessings free to all our youth. By raising \$200 we secure as much more from the State to defray the expense of instruction, and make it a *Free* as well as a *High* School.

If any one thinks we are unable to pay such a tax, I ask him to consider that the "mill tax" has lessened the school tax of this town to the amount of \$378.80; and, at the same time it gives us \$481.20 more for the support of schools than we should otherwise have had. Surely, if we were able to pay \$378.80 more school tax last year, than is required of us this, we can now raise \$200 which is but a little more than one-half the sum taken from our burden by the "mill tax." We cannot afford to do without this bounty, so liberally offered by the State. Our children, and our neighbors' children, demand it at our hands; and, if we refuse to secure to them the blessings of a *Free* High School they will live to curse our memories, I mean the memory of our penuriousness, and to mourn that the days are not past when "the fathers shall eat sour grapes and the children's teeth be set on edge."

Let us give our children knowledge, for the unprincipled "sharpener" and the midnight robber cannot wrest it from them.

Let us, by our votes, open the avenues to science so that our youth may come, without money, and without price, to share its blessings. Let us cheerfully usher in, and joyfully welcome the day when we can say with the poets,—

"Our needful knowledge, like our needful food,  
Unhedged, lies open in life's common field  
And bids all welcome to the vital feast."

Respectfully submitted,  
ELBRIDGE KNIGHT, SUPERVISOR.

Fort Fairfield, March 15, 1873.