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Fort Fairfield, (Me.)

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FORT FAIRFIELD, MAINE,

-** TOWN OFFICERS ***

---- OF ----

-OF THE-

ANNUAL REPORT

1892-93.

FOR THE ---

Municipal Year Ending March 15, 1893.

Annual town meeting Monday, March 27th, 1893.

1893:LEADER JOB OFFICE, FORT FAIRFIELD.

2 1960

MAR

Did you know that

French Brothers

Were making a specialty of

* Ladies' Fine Boots and Walking Shoes? *

They have the

of the Hanson Quaker Boot! Ft. Fairfield.

One of the very finest Boots for ladies' wear there is made. If you do not believe it try them. Every pair fully warranted.

郑国中国际

A new and full stock of

Cottons and Hamburgs,

3

~ (1

That everybody is buying about NOW; also new and stylish Cotton Dress Fabrics of various kinds, and a nice new line of All-wool Dress Goods, now showing up at

FRENCH BROS.

Annual Report of the Town Officers

——OF THE——

For the year ending March 15, 1893.

The Selectmen of Fort Fairfield herewith submit their annual report for the Municipal Year ending March 15th, 1893:

Val	uatio	on,	Real	Personal	Total	No. of
the ye	9		Estate		Valuation	Polls.
March	15,	1889.	\$460,011	\$156,835	\$616,847	675
"	"	1890	464,158	148,160	612,918	705
66	- 66	1891	510,534	178,421	688,955	761
"	66	1892	541,550	181,190	722,740	831
		TT		TT	1000	

HIGHWAY TAX FOR YEAR 1892.

Amount raised by town,\$6,00000Amount of overlay on assessments,16390

\$6,163 90

No. of polls, 831. Rate, \$1.50 each. Rate per cent, 7 mills on the dollar. Supplementary Highway Tax, \$134-72



CASH TAX FOR YEAR 1892.

-[2]-

State Tax,	\$2,464	85
County Tax,	1,268	90
Common Schools,	2,800	00
l'aupers,	800	00
Town Expenses,	3,500	00
Interest on Town Debt,	1,300	00
R. R. Sinking Fund,	418	50
Free High School,	750	00
Repairs on Bridge,	300	00
Cash for Highways,	. 700	00
Free Text Books for Schools,	500	00

TICCICACIDORSION CHOORS		Not the
Fire Protection,	300	00
Memorial Day,	25	00
New School House in Village,	1,500	00
Finishing and furnishing, school house account,	1,500	00
Finishing Town Office,	100	60
Electric Lights,	300	00
Building Lockup,	300	00
	\$18,077	25
Overlay on assessments,	31	45
	\$18,108	70
Supplementary Tax for year 1892,	319	98
	\$18,428	68
Number of Polls, 831.		
Rate \$3.00 each.		

Amount of Poll Tax,\$2,493 00Rate per cent., 22 mills,NEW SCHOOL HOUSE ACCOUNT.Amount raised by town,\$1,500 00Amount overdrawn to balance and carried to
finishing and furnishing account,149 57

\$1,649 57

Amount expended as follows :Amount paid J. C. Rackliff for lot,\$100 00Amount paid H. S. Beckwith & Brooks on con-
tract to build School House,1,549 57

-[3]--

\$1,64957FIRE PROTECTION ACCOUNT.Amount raised by town,\$300Amount paid J. F. Hacker, treasurer of Frontier
Water Co.,\$300SCHOOL ACCOUNT.Amount raised by town,
Amount unexpended in year 1891,\$2,8001,16420

Amount received from State, Amount of Ministerial School Fund,

Amount expended as follows:

Amount expended to date,

Amount undrawn to balance,

\$7,562 64

\$6,303 10 1,259 54

\$7,562 64

HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

Amount assessed by town, Amount unexpended in year 1891, Amount received for tuitions, Amount received from State, Amount overdrawn to balance,

\$1,066 84

Amount expended as follows :\$1,06684Amount expended to date,
INTEREST ACCOUNT.\$1,06684Amount raised by town,
Amount unexpended in year 1891,
Amount overdrawn and carried to town expense account,\$1,3000014190

\$1,444 06

--[+]---Amount expended as follows: \$1,444 06 Amount paid on interest by treasurer, MEMORIAL DAY. \$25 00 Amount raised by town, Amount expended as follows: Amount paid H. O. Perry, Q. M. of Kilpatrick \$25 00 Post, G. A. R., RAILROAD SINKING FUND. Amount raised by town from 1878 to 1891, \$5,859 00 418 50 Amount raised by town for year 1892,

1	Amount	unndrawn	to balance	\$0,211	90

FINISHING AND FURNISHING SCHOOL HOUSE ACCOUNT.

Amount raised by town,	\$750	00
Amount unexpended in year 1891,	. 5	49
Amount overdrawn to balance, and carried to		
town expense account,	49	59

\$805 08

Amount expended as follows:		
Amount paid Wm. II. Libby for grading		
school house lot,	\$10	63
Amount paid Union Foundry Co. for stoves,	18	51
Amount paid C. P. Railway Co., freight,	47	30
Amount paid the U. S. School Fur. Co., for seats,	305	00
Amount paid Adams M. F. G. Co.,	24	00

Amount paid C. D. Cutts for stoves for school h., 82 72 Amount paid H. Stevens & Co., for lumber, 4 79 Amount paid H. S. Beckwith & Brooks, labor, 153 87 Amount paid J. F. Hacker, 8 69 149 57

Amount overdrawn on school house account,

\$805 08

FREE TEXT SCHOOL BOOK ACCOUNT.Amount raised by town,\$500 00Amount received from text books sold,25 40

--[5]---

Expended as follows :.Amount paid American Book Co.,\$161 69Amount paid Boston School Supply Co.,5 00Amount paid Lock, Shewell & Sanborn,54 25Amount paid Lee & Shepherd,12 00Amount paid W. P. Adams,67 84Amount paid Ginn & Co.,69 30

Amount paid Wm. Ware & Co.,	114	58
Amount paid W. C. Burpee,		06
Amount undrawn to balance and carried to town expense account,	26	68
	\$525	40
BRIDGE ACCOUNT.	H C	
Amount raised by town,	\$300	00
Amount undrawn in the year 1891,	30	23
	\$330	23
Amount expended as follows:		
Amount paid Stephen Crock, labor,	\$6	00
Amount paid Wheeler Daggett, labor,	6	25
Amount paid W. A. Haines, lumber,	162	90
Amount paid M. Munson, lumber,	35	42
Amount paid C. E. Hoit Jr., labor,	2	50
Amount paid R. F. Sirois, labor,	14	00

- -----

\$525 40

Amount paid James Haley, labor,15 00Amount paid W. H. Pool, labor,11 00Amount paid L. K. Cary & Co.,4 05Amount paid J. S. Hall,14 64Amount undrawn to balance and carried to58 67

\$330 23

IIIGHWAY CASH ACCOUNT.

-[6]-

Amount raised by town,\$700 00Amount unexpended in year 1891,312 08Amount overdrawn and carried to town expense account,40 75\$1052 83

Expended as follows:Amount expended on the Strickland road,,541 25Amount expended on the Base line road,100 00Amount expended on the George Clark cross

road,	30	00
Amount expended on the West Limestone		
road,	46	00
Amount expended on other roads,	335	58
	\$1052	83
LOCKUP ACCOUNT.		
Amount raised by town,	\$300	00
Amount received from lumber sale,	4	00
Amount undrawn to balance and carried to		
town expense account,	45	07
	\$349	07
Expended as follows:		
Amount paid H. S. Beckwith & Brooks,	\$291	28
Amount paid W. H. Libby.	13	25

Amount paid C. D. Cutts,14 64Amount paid L. K. Cary & Co.,16 05Amount paid Burpee & Knight,2 35Amount paid B. J. Gray,2 50Amount paid Caleb Bartlett,9 00

\$349 07

TOWN OFFICE ACCOUNT.

7

Amount raised by town,

\$100 00

\$100 00

Expended as follows :Amount paid H. S. Beckwith & Brooks,\$12 00Amount paid Roderick Powers,34 70Amount paid W. A. Haines,14 30Amount pajd H. Stevens & Co.,11 65Amount paid L. K. Cary & Co.,18 34Amount paid Wm. Small & Co.,3 18

3 90 Amount paid J. S. Hall, Amount undrawn to balance and carried to 93 1 town expense account, \$100 00 PAUPER ACCOUNT. \$800 00 Amount raised by town, Amount received from town of Caribou for 13 00support of Mrs. John Daly, \$813 00 Expended as follows: \$6 90 Josephine Moreau, 59 85 Arthur Murphy, Moses Cox's girl, 90 1 38 95Georgie Cox,

Mrs. John Daley, John McGath, Patrick Murphy, Miss S. J. Pearsons, Mrs. Alex Morreau, — McDougald, Miss Ellen Murphy, burial expenses,

[8]		
Miss Blanche Russell,	64	00
Miss Annie Russell,	4	50
Octave Sirois,	3	65
Vetel Santimore	2	00
John McFadgen,	5	00
Mrs. John Buber,	1	50
	\$314	61
Amount unexpended and carried to town farm account,	499	39

\$814 00

TOWN FARM ACCOUNT.

Amount undrawn in year 1891,\$361 50Amount received for produce sold off of farm,34 92Amount unexpended on pauper account,499 39

\$895 81

Expended as follows:

Amount paid W. A. Harlow for wood, \$35 00 5 50 Amount paid W. H. Boynton for soap, 11 15 Amount paid S. Everett for seed and labor, 80 00 Amount paid Jesse Kennedy, line fence, 5 00 Amount paid W. H. Haynes, labor, 3 18 Amount paid C. E. Hoit, labor, Amount paid William Small & Co., supplies 12 28 12 00 Hmount paid F. H. Haines, labor, Amount paid Fred M. Haines, labor, 2 00 26 00 Amount paid Thurlough & Richards, supplies 4 50 Amount paid J. B. A. Rediker, labor, Amount paid A. D. Sawyer, professional ser-29 00 vices, Amount paid J. C. Rackliffe for cupboard, 5 00 7 15 Amount paid C. D. Cutts for supplies,

Amount paid J. A. Bridges for trucking,	2	50
Amount paid H. N. Goodhue for supplies,	22	27
Amount paid Scates & Co. medicine,	26	75
Amount paid L. K. Cary & Co., supplies,	6	40
Amount paid Jesse Kennedy, labor,	10	00
Amount paid Haynes & Harlow, wood,	25	00
Amount paid J. F. Hacker, cash and supplies,	222	45
Amount paid Jesse Kennedy, wood,	10	00
Amount paid Palmer & Holmes, medicine,	1	95
Amount paid A. C. Cary, supplies,	5	80
Amount paid H. Knight & Co.,	3	64
Amount paid H. N. Goodhue,	5	25
Amount paid Haynes & Harlow,	32	25
Amount paid S. Grant, board of S. J. Pearsons,	11	25
	\$638	27
Amount undrawn to balance and carried to		
town expense account,	257	54
	\$895	81
TOWN EXPENSE ACCOUNT.		
Amount raised by town,	\$3,500	00
Amount unexpended in the year 1891,	903	83
Amount for blanks sold,	1	81
Amount received on tax deeds,	277	87
Amount received for license for circus,	10	00
Amount overlay on assessments for 1892.	31	45

-[9]--

Amount unexpended on town officer's account,193Amount unexpended on free text book account,2668Amount undrawn on bridge account,5867Amount undrawn on town farm account,25754

\$5,069 78

Expended as follows :

Amount paid J. S. Fall, constable fees,	\$5	00
Amount paid Stevens & Jones, stationery,	4	50
Amount paid W. A. Johnston, snowing bridge,	5	00
Amount paid H. M. Orriss, printing reports,	20	00
Amount paid Henry Dean, land damage,	5	00
Amount paid George Tyler & Co., cutter for		
road machine,	16	50
Amount paid F. W. Osborn, constable fees,	15	00
Amount paid J. H. Murphy, M. D., scarlet		
fever case,	7	00
Amount paid W. S. Teague, services as police,	181	50
Amount paid John Lundy, land damage,	46	0Ò
Amount paid Miles F. Dorsev, land damage,	10	00
Amount paid Magill Brothers, voting booths,	31	15
Amount paid C. H. Ellis, printing,	11	75
Amount paid Mrs. E. Francis, funeral ex-		
penses of husband,	32	50
Amount paid John Christian, lighting bridge,	15	00
Amount paid W. H. Estabrook, constable fees,	8	00
Amount paid A. D. Sawyer, M. D., scarlet		
fever case,	5	00
Amount paid A. C. Paul, stationery,	8	50
Amount paid J. A. Bridges, trucking,	22	45
Amount paid J. A. Bridges, services as police,	ŝ	00
Amount paid C. D. Cutts, handcuffs, etc.,	10	10
Amount naid Fort Fairfield Water Co. water		

---[10]---

Amount paid Fort Fairneid Water Co., water11 00for school house,11 00Amount paid H. W. Perry, recording marriages, births and deaths,28 35Amount paid J. F. Hacker for rent of hall28 35Amount paid J. F. Hacker for rent of hall71 98Amount paid J. F. Hacker, John Fisher estate,75 21

Amount paid S. W. Ames, wood for office,	4	00
Amount paid R. L. Baker, furniture for office,	16	00
Amount paid J. F. Hacker, abatement on taxes,	232	17
Amount paid D. J. Bell, M. D., for reporting		
births and deaths to town clerk,	12	00
Amount paid A. D. Sawyer, M. D., for report-		
ing births and deaths to town clerk,	12	25
Amount paid H. M. Orriss, printing,	2	00
Amount paid James Dorsey, constable fees,	3	00
Amount paid W. H. Eestabrook, abatement		
on taxes for year 1890,	439	81
Amount paid W. H. Estabrook, abatement on		
taxes for year 1889,	21	49
Amount paid W. H. Estabrook, commissions		
for collecting taxes for years 1888 and		
1891,	317	01
Amount paid W. H. Estabook, commissions		
for collecting taxes for year 1890,	- 219	87
Amount paid W. H. Estabrook for land sold		
for taxes,	616	80
Amount paid L. S. Osgood, constable fees,		00
Amount paid J. H. Murphy, M. D. for for re-		
porting births and deaths to town clerk,	11	75
Amount paid F. P. Grant, ballot clerk,		00
Amount paid L. N. Richards, election clerk,		00
Amount paid E. L. Houghton, election clerk,		00
A second part is is including the second clerk,	0	00

-[11]-

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Amount paid N. H. Martin, election clerk,3 00Amount paid A. C. Cary, amount paid out for<br/>cleaning privy,1 30Amount paid C. E. Hoit, member of Board of<br/>Health,20 00Amount paid A C. Cary, member of Board of<br/>Health,25 00
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__[12]__ Amount paid E. E. Scates, member of Board 25 00 of Health, . Amount paid J. F. Hacker, Treasurer and col-150 00 lecting taxes, 150 00 Amount paid S. W. Ames, Selectman, 150 00 Amount paid C. E. Hoit, Selectman, 300 00 Amount paid R. L. Baker, Selectman, 300 00 Amount paid H. W. Trafton, Supervisor, 20 00 Amount paid H. W. Perry, Clerk, 10 00 Amount paid W. T. Spear, Auditor, Amount of discount made by Treasurer as man weather aff the man at the amount of adding of

1,301	41
35	43
\$5,069	78
\$319	98
31	43
\$351	41
\$40	75
179	78
49	59
45	57
	35 \$5,069 \$319 31 \$351 \$40 179 49

\$315 69

Amount undrawn on supplemental tax,

\$35 72

[13]		
RESOURCES AND LIABILITIES.		
RESOURCES.		
Amount due from W. H. Estabrook, collector		
of taxes for year 1888,	26	40
Amount due from collector of taxes for year		
1890,	261	95
Amount due from collector of taxes for year		
1891,	824	63
Amount due from collector of taxes for year	•	
1892,	5,382	59
Amount of tax deeds, estimated,		00
	105	

Amount due from the Free High School,	125	00
Amount of cash in treasury,	2,045	31
	\$10,205	88
LIABILITIES.		
Amount outstanding orders,	674	12
Amount Railroad Sinking Fund,	6,277	50
Amount commissions and abatements,	800	00
Amount due on town farm,	400	00
Amount outstanding bills,	\$250	00
	\$8,401	$\overline{62}$
Amount of assets over liabilities to balance,	1,804	26
	\$10,205	88
BONDED DEBT.		
Amount of railroad bonds,	\$13,950	00

Amount of bond to B. Gathercole, Amount of balance due on town farm, Amount of ministerial school fund,

Amount less resources,

Amount net indebtedness,

\$18,979 37 1,804 26

\$17,175 11

EXPLANATIONS.

--[14]--

The question is oft times asked, and we think very properly asked, "Where is the Rail Road Sinking Fund?" Inasmuch as the time is drawing nigh and it is now even at the door when this question has got to be answered in a more substantial manner than by asking and answering questions, we think it advisable to submit the following statement to the tax payers of this town for their consideration.

Up to this date there has been assessed and placed in the hands of the collectors of taxes of the sinking

fund,\$6,27750There is now in the hands of the collectors of
taxes unpaid taxes amounting to6,49557Also there has been deposited with the town
treasurer tax deeds amounting to1,60000

Total amount of unpaid taxes,\$8,09557Deducting the amount of the sinking fund
therefrom,6,27750

\$1,818 07

Here, gentlemen, you will find the R. R. Sinking Fund. Now in view of the fact that in the year 1895 said bonds will fall due, would it not be well for the town to take action that will compell the delinquent tax payers or non tax payers to come to time? With the view to bring about this result we respectfully call your attention to the three following articles in the town warrant, to wit: Articles No. 25, 26 and 30. We submit the proposition whether it would not bring about a better result in the payment of taxes if the town should adopt or pass resolutions in accordance therewith. All of which is respectfully submitted. March, 15, 1893.

> S. W. AMES, C. E. HOIT, R. L. BAKER, Selectmen of Fort Fairfield.

-[15]--

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

In presenting my report as Auditor, I first invite attention to the financial condition of the town at the close of the municipal year ending March 15, 1892 as shown by my report for that year. The liabilities of the town at that date were as follows:

Amount outstanding orders, \$750 45 Amount due R. R. Sinking Fund, 5,859 00 542 00Amount due on Town Farm, Amount commissions and abatements, estimated 800 00

Amount outstanding bills estimated,	250	00
Amount floating debt,	\$8,201	45
BONDED DEBT.		
Amount R. R. Bonds,	\$13,950	00
Amount B. Gathercole note,	3,000	00
Amount M. and S. Fund,	$1,\!629$	37
Amount C. E. Hoit note temporary loan	1,000	00
	\$19,479	00
Floating debt brought down,	8,201	45
Total indebtedness,	\$27,780	82
RESOURCES.	*	
RESOURCES MARCH 15, 1892.		
Amount due from W. H. Estabrook, Collector		

1888, \$26 40 Amount due from W. H. Estabrook, Collector, 1889,*205 40 Amount due from W. H. Estabrook, Collector, 1890,1,051 51 Amount due from W. H. Estabrook, Collector, 1891,7,389 77

[16]		
Amount tax deeds, estimated,	1,600	00
Amount cash in treasury,	1,896	
Total available resources,	\$12,169	39
Liabilities, March 15, 1892,	\$27,780	82
Resources, March 15, 1892,	12,169	39
Net indebtedness, March 15, 1892,	\$15,611	43
LIABILITIES, MARCH 15, 1893.		
Amount outstanding orders,	\$674	12
Amount due R. R. Sinking Fund,	6,277	50
Amount due on town farm,	400	00

Amount commissions and abatements, estimat-		
ed,	800	00
Amount outstanding bills, estimated,	250	00
	\$8401	62
BONDED DEBT.		
Amount R. R. Bonds,	\$13,950	00
Amount B. Gathercole note,	3000	00
Amount M. and S. Fund,	1,629	37
	\$18,579	37
Floating debt brought down,	8,401	62
Total indebtedness,	\$26,980	99
RESOURCES MARCH 15, 1893.		
Am't due from W. H. Estabrook Coll., 1888,	\$26	40
Am't due from W. H. Estabrook Coll., 1890,	261	95

Am't due from W. H. Estabrook Coll., 1891,82463Am't due from W. H. Estabrook Coll., 1892,5,38259Am't tax deeds, estimated,1,60000Am't cash in Treasury,2,04531Am't due from State on acc't Free High School,12500

Total available resources,

\$10,265 88

Total indebtedness March 15, 1893, Available resources March 15, 1893,

Net indebtedness, March 15, 1893, \$16,715 11
It will be observed that while the total indebtedness was reduced \$799.93 during the year, yet owing to a decrease in available resources, the net indebtedness increased \$1,103.-68.

The town order account stands as follows:Am't old orders outstanding Mar. 15, 1892\$750Am't orders drawn during year,16,95273

Total am't old and new orders,

\$17,703 18

\$26,980 99

10,265 88

Paid on old orders during year,\$467 19l'aid on orders drawn during year,16,561 87

Total am't paid on old and new orders, \$17,029 06

Amount of outstanding orders, \$674-12

From such examination of the town books as I have been able to make, I believe the foregoing to be a correct statement of the financial condition of the town at this time. Fort Fairfield, March 13, 1893.

W. T. SPEAR, Auditor.

*Erroneously reported last year, as \$214.20.

Treasurer's Report.

CASH RECEIVED.

In treasury March 3, 1893.\$1,896 31From temporary loan,4000 00From circus license,10 00From lumber sold,4 00From town of Houlton, account Mrs. Lowrey,13 00From town clerk (blanks sold),1 81

-[18]--277 87 From tax deed, 35 40 From Supervisor, text books sold, 22 00From Supervisor, tuition Free High School, 97 76 From treasurer of school fund, 100 00 From Cogswell for rent of town farm, 34 92From produce sold from town, From State Treasurer, State pensions, 216 005 00 From State Treasurer, bounty on bear, $125 \ 00$ From State Treasurer, Free High School, 3,500 68 From State Treasurer, School Fund, 205 40From W. H. Estabrook, Col. for 1889, 753 93

From W. H. Estabrook, Col. for 1890,753 93From W. H. Estabrook, Col. for 1891,6,565 14From taxes of 1892,11,744 68

CASH PAID OUT.

State pension,	\$216	00
Bounty on bear,	5	00
State tax for 1892,	2,464	85
County tax for 1892,	1,268	90
Interest on bond to B. Gathercole,	180	00
Interest to treasurer of school fund,	97	76
Interest on R. R. Bonds,	837	00
Bond to C. E. Hoit,	1,000	00
Interest on Hoit bond,	61	80
Temporary loan,	4,000	00
Interest on temporary loan,	99	70
Note to J. A. Woodson (town farm),	100	00
Int. on note to J. A. Woodson to June, 1893.	67	75

Town order, Interest on town order, In treasury,

\$29,608 90

\$29,608 90

Fort Fairfield, March 9, 1893.

J. F. HACKER, Treasurer.

----[19]---

Report of Supervisor of Schools.

I herewith present for your consideration the following report of the schools:

SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

Amount raised by vote of town, Amount received from State, Amount of M. & S. Fund, Amount unexpended in 1891,

EXPENDED.

Paid teachers' board, $395 \ 45$ Paid for fuel, $167 \ 41$ Paid for repairs on school houses, 241 95Paid for care of school houses, building fires, etc., Paid for school supplies, 45 00Paid town of Easton, tuition, 1,256 30 Unexpended to balance account,

\$2,800 00 3,500 68 97 76 1,164 20 \$7,562 64

\$3,771 80 Paid teachers' wages, 1,368 45 316 28

\$7,562 64

HIGH SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

Amount raised by town, Amount received from State, Amount received for tuition, Amount unexpended in 1891, Amount overdrawn in 1892,

\$1,066 34

EXPENDED.

Paid George H. Stoddard, Paid H. F. Kalloch, Paid Miss Flora Rackliff, Paid Miss Mary E. Merrill,

\$1,066 34

-[20]		
FREE TEXT BOOK ACCOUNT.		
Amount raised by town,	\$500	00
Amount received for books sold,	35	40
	\$535	40
EXPENDED.		
Amount paid for books,	\$498	72
Amount unexpended,	36	68
	\$535	40

tory. While the unexpended balance must be largely reduced by the payment of outstanding bills which properly belong in this year's business, still the real balance after these bills are paid will be considerable. One week has been added to the length of the schools this year, and with economical management the terms ought to be still further lengthened next year. The amount overdrawn in the High School account, \$50.36, is apparent only. As may be seen from the Auditor's report, \$125 is still due this account from the State. With this amount paid, the account would show an unexpended balance of \$74.64,

The most economical expenditure of our school money cannot be accomplished until the present large number of small schools is reduced by combining, whenever it is practical, two or more of them into one. Such a combination would not only result in a saving of money and a consequent increase of the length of the school year, but the schools thus united would be greatly benefitted by the change. A school of twenty-five or thirty pupils is far more interesting and profitable than one of ten or twelve. Improvements and repairs of a considerable extent ought to be made upon the school buildings next year. Quite a number of the houses need painting and some of them still lack wood sheds. But chiefly I recommend that modern seats be provided for those schools which are still unprovided with them. This is not merely a matter of convenience—it is question of the health and well-being of the pupils. I know of no more prolific cause of round shoulders and weak eyes in pupils than the old straightback seat.

--[21]--- *

The Foster schoolhouse is unfit for a school in its present condition. It should be finished this year. I recommend that the building be moved from its present position to some point near the road from the Page district, so that when that road is built the two schools may be united, to the great advantage of both. The schoolhouse upon the Ridge road, so called, is also unlit for school purposes in its present condition. This building must either be finished, or a cross road built near the Foss schoolhouse, and the schools united. These two schoolhouses are less than one hundred rods from each other, and it is evidently a waste of school resources to maintain them both so near together. The expense of a road to connect the two would be less than the cost of one term of school, and both schools would be benefitted by the union. The schoolhouse in the Ed Murphy district is too small for the number of pupils who attend. It should either be enlarged or replaced by a new one. The condition of the village school is greatly improved by the construction of the new schoolhouse. This building relieves the former crowded condition of the village school, and affords a better chance to grade them. Each of the lower grades in the village numbers about thirty-five pupils. Your attention is directed to the large number of pupils in our town who are not attending school. Of 1511

pupils in this town at the last enumeration, only 963 were in attendance during any part of the year, and but 690 were in attendance at any one season. That is, more than onethird of the pupils of the town did not attend school at all during the year, and less than one-half were in attendance at any one time.

-[22]---

A more lively interest in school matters, on the part of the people generally, and a better enforcement of our truant laws, are necessary, if this condition of things is to be improved. It is a lamentable fact that many of our citizens care more for the small pittance which their children can earn, than for the advancement of their educational interests. Such, if they cannot be reasoned with, should be

compelled to send their children to school.

The character of the work done in the schools has been generally satisfactory. The teachers, as a rule, have been earnest in their work, and with few exceptions, good work has been done. The High School has maintained its former high standard and has demonstrated beyond any question its right to become a permanent and prominent part of our school system. The value of the school to our town cannot be overestimated. Its influence is felt in all parts of the town and its benefits extend to all the people.

The school work, both in the High School and the other schools can be greatly aided by an intelligent interest in them on the part of parents and citizens generally. The hearty co-operation of the parent is necessary to the best work of the teacher.

More frequent visits to the schools by the parents would serve to awaken their interest more fully in the school work, and would be a source of encouragement to the teachers which would greatly aid them in their efforts. United efforts will accomplish the best results in educational as well as other matters.

Respectfully submitted, H. W. TRAFTON, Supervisor.

March 15, 1893.

--[23]---Abstract of Warrant.

ART. 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

2. To choose all necessary town officers.

3. To raise money for support of schools.

4. To raise money for town expenses.

5. To raise money for support of paupers.

6. To raise money for interest on town debts.

7. To raise money for Free High School.

8. To raise money for Rail Road Sinking Fund.

9. To raise money for repairs on bridges.

10. To raise money for finishing and furnishing Schoolhouses.

11. To raise money to finish and furnish schoolhouse in Daniel Nichols' district.

12. To raise money to finish and furnish the schoolhouse in H. L. Foster district.

13. To raise money to build a schoolhouse in the Edward Murphy district.

14. To raise money to be expended on the highways, in cash.

15. To raise money to be expended on highways, in statute labor.

16. To raise money for free text books for schools.

17. To raise money for fire protection.

18. To raise money for Memorial Day,

19. To see if the town will vote to sell the old lockup to W. A. Haines.

20. To see if the town will vote to lease the land on the town lot to W. H. Pool and others on which their office now stands.

21. To authorize selectmen to renew loans falling due the ensuing year.

22. To see if the town will vote to instruct and authorize the selectmen to abate all taxes assessed upon all potatoes in the storehouses and cellars in the village of Ft. Fairfield on the first day of April, 1893, awaiting shipment.

-[24]-

23. To see what sum of money will raise to be expended upon a system of sewerage in the village the coming year.

24. To vote a discount on all taxes paid before certain dates.

25. To see if the town will vote that interest shall be paid on all unpaid taxes after a certain date.

26. To see if the town will vote to fix a date when all unpaid taxes shall be paid.

27. To see if the town will elect the Treasurer, collector of taxes.

28. To raise money to repair buildings on town farm.
29. To see if the town will vote to abate taxes on the Amasa Howe mill for year 1892.

30. To see if the town will vote to instruct the treasurer to have all tax deeds put upon record as soon as the time expires that he is to hold the same for payment.

31. To see if the town will vote to accept report of selectmen of road laid out on petition of Samuel Everett and others, land damage awarded \$300.

32. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise to pay land damage on road as reported in Article 31.

33. To see if the town will accept the report of selectmen of a road laid out on the application of Patrick Campbell and others.

34. To see if the town will vote to instruct the selectmen to have all obstructions removed from the streets.
35. To see if the town will vote to pass an ordinance to stop fast driving and racing on Main street from Gellerson's corner to the Boundary Line, and impose a fine of not less

than \$2 nor more than \$10 for each violation.

86. To see if the town will vote to deed a strip of land 16 feet wide off the northern side of the town farm to the society known as the Friends.

-[25]-

37. To see if the town will vote to accept deeds of dedication of the following right of way, to wit: A deed from Mrs. Blanche Rackliff, F. W. Burns and F. A. Crummett, for a road on the dividing line of land of said Rackliff and Burns, and across land of Crummett to connect with the Samuel Everett road; also a deed of J. F. Hacker and others of a right of way known as Blaine street; also a deed of right of way from F. W. Burns, John S. Smith and others, from the Fort Hill road past the Congregational church to the north line of F. W. Burns' village lot.

Annual Town Meeting Monday, March 27, at 10 o'clock A. M. The selectmen will be in session at the town office Saturday, March 25, also at Memorial Hall Monday, March 27, 1893, to revise the list of voters.



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