

1904

Annual Report of the Officers of the Town of Bethel for the Year Ending, January 31st, 1904

Bethel (Me.)

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF BETHEL

FOR THE

Year Ending, January 31st,

1904

BETHEL, MAINE

THE NEWS PUBLISHING COMPANY

1904

Town Officers.

Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of Poor:

S. B. TWITCHELL, C. E. BARKER, F. J. RUSSELL.

Clerk,

L. T. BARKER.

Treasurer,

W. W. HASTINGS.

Collector,

F. J. TYLER.

Truant Officer,

F. J. TYLER.

Superintending School Committee:

SUSAN B. TWITCHELL, C. F. ABBOTT, N. F. BROWN.

Superintendent of Schools,

H. H. HASTINGS.

Board of Health:

G. L. STURDIVANT, M. D., Chairman,

C. M. KIMBALL,

E. C. PARK, Secretary.

Auditor,

CALVIN BISBEE.

Town Agent,

A. E. HERRICK.

Annual Report, Year 1903.

To the Citizens of the Town of Bethel:

The Annual Report of your town officers is hereby respectfully submitted.

Assessors' Report.

Valuation of property and number of polls taken April 1st, 1903, and subsequently through the year.

Value of real estate, resident owners,	\$574,175	
Value of real estate, non-resident owners,	83,985	
		<hr/>
Total valuation of real estate,		\$658,160
Value of personal property, resident owners,	\$169,928	
Value of personal property, non-resident owners,	6,317	
		<hr/>
Total valuation of personal property,		\$176,245
		<hr/>
Grand total of property,		\$834,405

Rate of taxation, \$18.00 per thousand dollars.

Poll tax rate \$2.00.

Number of polls taxed, 540.

Number of polls not taxed, 70.

Assessments.

State tax,	\$2,359 26	
County tax,	1,412 30	
Support of Schools,	2,200 00	
Repair of School houses,	250 00	
Text Books,	250 00	
Repair of Roads and Bridges,	4,000 00	
Support of Poor,	1,200 00	
Town Officers' Salaries,	1,000 00	
Miscellaneous expenses,	500 00	
Interest on Bonds,	1,200 00	
Extension of Sewer system,	500 00	
State road,	500 00	
Repair of Brick school house,	125 00	
Memorial Day observance,	35 00	
		\$15,531 56
Overlay in assessing,		479 50
Supplementary assessments,		66 66
		<hr/>
Total amount committed to F. J. Tyler for collection,		\$16,077 72

Extracts from Assessors' Report to State Assessors for the
Year 1903.

LIVE STOCK.

	No.	Ave. Value.
Horses,	616	\$60 24
Colts, 3 to 4 years old,	13	75 46
Colts, 2 to 3 years old,	28	57 32
Colts, under 2 years old,	29	36 38
Cows,	730	20 14
Oxen,	44	44 55
Three-year-olds,	164	17 93

LIVE STOCK—Continued.

	No.	Ave. Value.
Two-year-olds,	204	13 05
Yearlings,	298	10 00
Sheep,	655	3 00
Swine,	170	7 58

ALL OTHER KINDS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXED.

	Value.
Bank Stock, 109 Shares,	\$10,900 00
Trust Companies' Stock, 20 Shares,	1,700 00
Water Companies' Stock,	12,500 00
Money at Interest,	15,800 00
Stock in Trade,	39,775 00
Logs and Lumber,	6,100 00
Wood and Bark,	430 00
Bicycles, 8,	105 00
Carriages, 106,	4,420 00
Musical Instruments, 103,	7,435 00
Furnished Products in mills,	1,600 00
Materials in Stock,	1,000 00
Machinery,	4,900 00

Abatements Allowed.

TAXES OF 1900.

Ames, Geo. C., poll, left town,	\$2 00
Bennett, John, poll, considered worthless,	2 00
Ceverzo, George, poll, considered worthless,	2 00
Verrill, Edward A., poll, left town,	2 00
Verrill, Virgil G., poll, left town,	2 00
Verrill, Emmons, poll, left town,	2 00
Small, L. Linn, error in valuation,	6 60
	<hr/>
	\$18 60

TAXES OF 1901.

Bartlett, Lindon U., error in valuation,	\$4 88
Bennett, John, poll, unable to pay,	2 00
Burgess, Walter A., poll, left town,	2 00
Cross, Tallyrand, poll and personal, con- sidered worthless,	2 88
Clark, Roscoe C., poll paid in Saco,	2 00
Clark, Irving M., poll paid in New York,	2 00
Cyckles, Wm. C., poll, left town,	2 00
Carver, Edward, poll, left town,	2 00
Carver, Ariel, poll, unable to pay,	2 00
Filmore, Gordon, poll, left town,	2 00
Flanders, Perley A., poll and personal, left town,	2 70
Grover, Dana A., poll paid in Portland,	2 00
Goodwin, E. P., poll, left town,	2 00
Hodsdon, Victor, poll paid in Mexico,	2 00
Long, Edward, poll, left town,	2 00
London, Douglass, poll and personal, worth- less,	2 70
Mills, Claude, poll paid in Portland,	2 00
Moore, Geo. S., poll, left town,	2 00
Spear, Fred, poll, left town,	2 00

 \$43 1

TAXES OF 1902.

Aldrich, Geo. C., poll, left town,	\$2 00
Bartlett, J. Madison, heirs of, unable to pay,	5 40
Bartlett, Geo. S., poll, left town,	2 00
Barnett, Amos, poll, not of age,	2 00
Bennett, Mrs. Fernando, unable to pay,	2 70

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Bennett, Geo. H., poll paid in Mason,	2 00
Brown, E. Foye, personal, error,	1 71
Cummings, Randall, poll, deceased,	2 00
Campbell, John, poll, left town,	2 00
Crawford, Enoch C., poll and personal, un- able to pay,	2 90
Carroll, Geo. W., personal, left town,	1 22
Gardner, Arthur, poll, left town,	2 00
Green, Fred B., poll, paid in Portland,	2 00
Herrick, Geo. M., poll, paid in Greenwood,	2 00
Jordan, Fred L., poll, left town,	2 00
Johnston, Alexander, poll, paid in R. I.,	2 00
Lapham, Geo. F., not able to pay,	6 86
Lapham, Elmer S., personal, deceased,	27
Lapham, Jared J., poll, deceased,	2 00
Lapham, William, poll, not of age,	2 00
London, Douglass, poll, considered worth- less,	2 00
Mason, Ernest C., poll, paid in Greenwood,	2 00
Moore, Geo. S., poll, left town,	2 00
Spearin, Mart, poll, not of age,	2 00
Swan, Marcus E., poll not able to pay,	2 00
Shultz, Frank A., poll and personal, left town,	2 72
Swain, Edwin F., poll, paid in Hanover,	2 00
Sampson, Frank, poll, left town,	2 00
Tyler, Alonzo L., poll, not able to pay,	2 00
Tubbs, Geo. T., poll, not able to pay,	2 00
Waterhouse, Lafayette, Jr., poll, left town,	2 00
Bell, Guy, poll, worthless,	2 00
Coffin, Frank F., poll, left town,	2 00
Cummings, David, poll, not of age,	2 00
Goddard, George, poll, error,	2 00
Harrington, M. W., poll, not found by col- lector,	2 00

Lawrence, Charles, poll, left town,	2 00	
Philbrook, Lyndon I., poll, not of age,	2 00	
Record, Solomon, real estate taxed twice,	8 10	
Young, Asa L. real estate, error in valuation,	5 40	
Sanborn, Albert B., poll, paid in Greenwood,	2 00	
Stevens, Aurelius S., poll and personal, un- able to collect,	10 55	
		\$109 83
		\$171 59

Discount on taxes as allowed by F. J. Tyler
according to the vote of the town.

At 5 per cent.,	\$443 98	
At 3 per cent.,	24 74	
		\$468 72

Report of Overseers of Poor.

Town Farm Statement.

EXPENDITURES.

Appraisal of farm and personal property, January 31, 1903,	\$3,264 76	
No. of Order.		
1074, A. J. Hayes, oxen,	115 00	
—, A. W. Bean, on salary,	66 50	
1100, A. W. Bean, on salary,	75 00	
—, C. Bisbee, supplies,	83 49	
—, Supplies purchased and paid for by A. W. Bean,	219 77	
863, L. A. York, services at burial of Mrs. Tyler,	3 00	
1125, C. C. Farwell, moving goods,	2 00	
1148, F. J. Russell, supplies,	16 50	
—, Due A. W. Bean, salary to February 1, 1904,	155 30	
Total,		\$4,001 32

TOWN FARM RECEIPTS.

Appraisal of Feb. 1, 1904,	\$3,377	50	
Oxen sold,	180	00	
Produce sold from farm,	241	31	
Credit on C. Bisbee's bill,	33	65	
January cream check, estimated,	9	00	
	<hr/>		
Total receipts,	\$3,841	46	
Total expenditures,	4,001	32	
	<hr/>		
Balance against farm,	\$159	86	

Five persons are being supported at the farm when this report closes, viz:—William Cook, Moses Robertson, William Macomber, Mrs. Dorcas Goodnow, and Mrs. Melinda Bean.

Poor Not on Farm..

GEORGE E. BUCK AND OTHERS.

No. of Order.			
1115, Town of Norway,	\$63	48	
1137, Town of Paris,	10	00	\$73 48

JOHN ESTES' FAMILY.

1193, Town of Woodstock,			10 69
Total,			\$84 17

Lock-up and Tramp Account.

F. J. Tyler, care and feed for 67 tramps,	\$16	75	
F. J. Tyler, care of E. W. Ethridge,	2	75	
	<hr/>		
	\$19	50	

LOCK-UP AND TRAMP ACCOUNT.—Continued.

Paid F. J. Tyler rent of Court Room, 4 courts,	4 00	
	<hr/>	
Paid F. J. Tyler order 1173 to balance account,		\$15 50
Order 799, C. F. Lord, keeping tramps,		2 00
“ 1218, H. C. Barker, keeping tramps,		4 60
		<hr/>
Charged to poor bills,		\$22 10

Poor at Insane Hospital.

Daniel F. Bean,	\$158 99	
Elbridge H. Fifield,	142 40	
Mellen A. Cross,	140 46	
Irene Needham,	130 46	
Ethan W. Ethridge, R. R. fare, etc.,	20 81	\$593 12
Paid by Clarence E. Barker as guar- dian of Daniel F. Bean,		100 00
		<hr/>
Total expense to the town,		\$493 12
Order 813, J. A. Twaddle, M. D., medical attendance at Town Farm from '98 to '02 inclusive,		\$48 00

Total Expenses of the Poor.

Balance against the Town Farm,	\$159 86	
Poor not on the farm,	84 17	
Poor at the Insane Hospital,	493 12	
J. A. Twaddle's bill,	48 00	
Tramps,	22 10	
		<hr/>
Total,		\$807 25

Poor of Other Towns.

Aid furnished C. W. Willey,	\$28 64
Paid by the town of Norway.	
Aid furnished Elisha Hodgkins,	18 50
Due from the town of Gray.	

Poor of Milton Plantation.

All of the bills for the care of the poor of Milton Plantation contracted until December 1, 1903, amounting to \$491.49, have been refunded to the town by the State.

Bills for the poor of Milton Plantation since December 1, have been paid by the town of Bethel, as follows :

No. of Order.	
1138, J. W. Stewart, M. D., taking Mrs. Ida L. Parker to Augusta,	\$36 00
1141, George W. Ryerson for care of Hopkins boy, 2 months,	12 00
1143, W. C. Brooks, Jr., for goods furnished Geo. Parker's family,	17 86
	<hr/>
Due from the State,	\$65 86

Report of Selectmen.

We herewith submit an account of the bills paid for the extension of the sewer system.

No. of Order.

926	E. H. Smith,	\$ 20 55
927	T. H. Durell,	15 75
928	George H. Seavey,	12 00
929	Austin Jodrey,	10 50
930	E. W. Littlehale,	15 75
931	G. L. Smith,	15 75
932	A. G. Smith,	10 87
943	T. H. Durell,	9 20
944	Ivory Seavey,	3 00
945	George H. Seavey,	7 50
947	E. W. Littlehale,	8 75
958	A. L. Smith,	6 25
959	G. L. Smith,	7 00
960	E. H. Smith,	11 02
963	Austin Jodrey,	7 50
987	John P. Coburn,	11 90
1033	Woodbury & Purington,	6 30
1041	David Taylor,	4 12
1042	O. N. Pynes,	7 00
1043	Carl Swan,	7 50

1044 E. B. Heath,	2 25
1045 E. H. Smith,	19 75
1046 John P. Coburn,	14 54
1047 T. H. Durell,	13 47
1048 O. N. Pynes,	5 60
1049 George H. Seavey,	9 30
1050 Charles Coburn,	7 50
1051 Austin Jodrey,	5 00
1052 W. E. Littlehale,	13 47
1057 M. Heath,	1 80
1081 Hastings Bros.,	206 30
1097 T. H. Durell,	1 75
Part of 1172, N. F. Brown,	8 45

\$ 507 39

It was voted at the last annual Town Meeting to raise \$500 for the purpose of extending the Sewer System. Accordingly, during the last summer, pipe was laid the length of Summer street to connect with the sewer on Mechanic street, also the length of Spring street to connect with Main street. Broad street sewer was extended, and also a branch from Main street was laid across the street to connect with Chapman street.

The Sewer System as far as it is at present completed extends the length of Broad street, down Church street as far as Park street, and the length of Park street; the length of Main street; from the Brick Schoolhouse down High street; the length of Mechanic street through Railroad street to Main street; the length of Spring and Summer streets, also a branch from Main street across to Chapman street.

State Road.

No. of Order.

962 T. H. Durell,	\$ 10 50
985 Ivory Seavey,	6 98
991 John P. Coburn,	15 00
992 Ivory Seavey,	7 27
993 T. H. Durell,	5 85
994 Eugene B. Heath,	6 00
995 Clarence Annis,	6 60
996 F. E. Kendall,	7 37
997 Chas. R. Cross,	25 00
998 Geo. H. Seavey,	18 00
999 Geo. L. Smith,	18 75
1001 I. M. Coburn,	43 75
1002 W. E. Littlehale,	21 75
1003 Chas. R. Cross,	11 06
1004 Lafayette Littlehale,	13 50
1006 Chas. Pool,	22 75
1008 F. E. Kendall,	1 00
1009 Austin Jodrey,	18 75
1010 E. H. Smith,	65 52
1011 L. U. Bartlett,	37 55
1012 H. M. Farwell,	7 00
1015 Fred L. Chapman,	45 50
1020 F. J. Russell,	33 25
1036 L. U. Bartlett,	10 00
1061 D. R. Smith,	20 00

 \$478 70

Refunded by the State,

200 00

Miscellaneous Expenses.

Appropriation, No. of Order.		\$500 00
852	News Publishing Co., printing town reports,	\$ 57 00
878	C. L. Swan, bal. due for small pox camp,	10 00
895	Bethel Savings Bank, rent of hall and office,	60 00
907	D. S. Hastings, surveying on town line,	17 00
919	Geo. W. Harden, work on town line,	7 50
946	Alice M. Barker, copying,	8 00
989	F. J. Tyler, corporation tax,	5 70
1024	G. R. Wiley, books and stationery,	13 65
1096	Dr. G. L. Sturdivant, supplies for Board of Health,	10 85
1117	Dr. G. L. Sturdivant, disinfecting after diphtheria,	41 00
1133	Dr. I. H. Wight, reporting vital statistics,	8 75
1139	A. W. Grover, services in State Aid pension cases,	10 25
1149	F. J. Russell, cash expenses,	4 71
1204	G. R. Wiley, stationery, etc.,	7 38
1212	News Publishing Co., printing and advertising,	21 05
1223	F. J. Tyler, collecting sewer dues,	3 00
1227	Dr. G. L. Sturdivant, reporting vital statistics,	7 00

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REPAIRS AT CORN SHOP.

No. of Order.		
1055	Silas F. Littlehale,	\$ 13 25
1069	Gilbert Tuell,	13 07
1071	Edmund Merrill,	19 00
1079	S. B. Twitchell,	8 75
	Part of 1034, E. Libby & Sons,	82 73
	Part of 1104, Hiram Twitchell,	21 20
	Part of 1172, N. F. Brown,	8 46
		\$ 166 46
	Total miscellaneous expenses	\$459 30

Water Service.

No. of Order.		
1185	Bethel Water Co., water for fountains, as by vote of the town,	\$225 00

G. A. R.

Appropriation for Memorial Day observance,	\$35 00
Paid to Brown Post by order 916.	

Orders Drawn for Repair of Highways, 1903.

Appropriation,	\$4,000 00	
No. of Order.		
830	John Carlton,	\$ 4 15
831	E. H. Smith,	6 60
832	Elliot Rich,	2 10
833	Charles D. Purington,	1 95
834	Charles A. Capen,	2 80

No. of Order.

835	C. H. Kimball,	7 95
836	C. L. Sanborn,	6 50
837	Perley N. Bartlett,	5 40
838	D. N. Blake,	4 45
839	A. B. Tyler,	3 15
842	Fred Spear,	4 35
843	H. H. Hutchins,	10 80
844	I. H. Wilson,	13 55
850	C. L. Mills,	6 00
856	Geo. W. Harden,	2 30
857	C. E. Barker,	4 00
858	E. Libby & Sons,	18 16
859	John Rollins,	2 50
860	A. P. Mason,	2 55
861	Seth L. Mason,	10 10
862	W. M. Brown,	9 75
866	N. A. Stearns,	9 15
867	G. H. Seavey,	23 45
868	H. O. Blake,	19 32
869	E. H. Smith,	13 44
870	Geo. L. Smith,	7 50
871	J. M. Bartlett,	17 50
872	H. R. Godwin,	2 25
873	C. O. Moore,	6 00
875	R. F. Cross,	5 50
876	Geo. D. Morrill,	39 15
879	M. E. Swan,	7 50
880	M. E. Swan,	3 38
883	S. MayConnell,	3 60
885	J. M. Bartlett,	5 65
886	B. W. Kimball,	6 45
887	Farnum Estes,	1 35
888	Fred C. Bean,	15 75
889	Wm. L. Farwell,	4 70

No. of Order.

890	C. L. Abbott, Jr.,	11	25
891	S. B. Osgood,	1	95
892	R. E. Emery,		75
893	J. O. Estes,	3	21
894	A. Van Den Kerckhoven,		75
897	E. H. Smith,	51	17
898	W. E. Littlehale,	13	55
899	Geo. L. Smith,	19	62
900	F. J. Russell,	9	75
901	Good Roads Machinery Co.,	10	00
902	R. L. Paine,	4	50
903	O. W. Ellingwood,	6	75
904	L. U. Bartlett,	52	00
908	C. F. Abbott,	4	50
909	W. H. Hutchinson,	7	65
910	L. D. Grover,	7	80
911	Freeland Bennett,	9	00
912	C. E. Barker,	8	88
913	E. H. Smith,	50	94
914	Geo. L. Smith,	13	50
915	W. E. Littlehale,	26	25
917	Stahl Bros.,	9	00
918	Geo. W. Harden,	1	50
920	F. E. Kendall,	43	40
921	Charles Pool,	44	25
924	L. U. Bartlett,	98	77
925	L. U. Bartlett,	13	23
931	A. M. Bean,	9	70
932	Porter Farwell,	23	60
933	D. C. Swett,		64
934	T. R. Chase,	1	80
935	B. G. Whitman,	3	70
936	Joe Fleet,	3	15
937	V. P. Adamson,	7	95

No. of Order.

938 R. R. Maybery,	6 75
939 C. C. Eames,	1 50
940 Vear W. Bean,	3 00
941 F. J. Russell,	24 53
948 W. R. Eames,	12 55
949 L. G. Grover,	10 67
950 Charles McInnis,	1 42
951 J. H. Swan,	6 30
952 C. M. Kimball,	7 50
953 F. B. Howe,	75
954 G. K. Hastings,	17 00
955 Geo. L. Smith,	3 45
956 E. H. Smith,	11 33
957 A. G. Smith,	6 29
961 I. S. Morrill,	41 13
964 Kendall & Whitney,	30 38
965 C. E. Barker,	16 20
966 W. B. Baker,	3 00
967 F. F. Bean,	4 25
968 H. H. Hastings,	2 00
969 J. Lyman Davis,	1 35
970 B. G. Whitman,	27 62
971 T. R. Chase,	7 05
972 Charles Dunham,	7 95
973 F. E. Kendall,	16 50
974 Chas. Pool,	16 50
976 C. L. Abbott, Jr.,	21 20
977 Geo. D. Morrill,	37 20
978 Levi N. Bartlett,	5 70
979 N. W. Barker,	3 20
980 E. A. Barker,	3 00
981 Hiram Twitchell,	9 27
982 G. K. Hastings,	1 05
983, C. M. Kimball,	3 00

No. of Order.

984	O. A. Buck,	18	27
986	E. E. Chase,	3	75
988	J. P. Coburn,	20	45
1000	Geo. H. Seavey,	3	75
1005	W. E. Littlehale,	1	50
1007	Chas. Pool,	1	50
1013	H. M. Farwell,	6	50
1014	James S. Bartlett,	23	50
1016	Fred L. Chapman,	3	50
1017	John Coolidge,	3	50
1018	Joseph Holt,	6	62
1019	J. O. Estes,	3	75
1021	F. J. Russell,	5	81
1022	L. Littlehale,	1	50
1023	F. J. Philbrook,	2	00
1027	Bethel M'f'g. Co.,	75	92
1029	H. E. Walker,	2	25
1030	T. B. Kendall,	3	80
1031	I. M. Coburn,	11	00
1032	I. H. Wilson,	3	75
Part of 1034, E. Libby & Sons,		110	98
1035	Fred L. Chapman,	6	42
1037	S. B. Twitchell,	12	00
1039	F. J. Russell,	102	10
1040	N. W. Bennett,	6	75
1053	A. W. Bean,	3	30
1054	John F. Howe,	4	70
1056	E. B. Heath,	2	25
1062	E. B. Heath,	1	50
1063	W. E. Littlehale,	5	70
1064	Herman Mason,	5	00
1065	J. L. Oliver,	2	85
1066	W. W. Chase,	3	00
1067	Geo. H. Goodnow,	3	10

No. of Order.		
1070	E. H. Smith,	3 25
1073	Herrick Bros.	5 80
1075	T. H. Durell,	4 00
1076	W. E. Littlehale,	9 75
1077	E. B. Heath,	9 00
1078	S. B. Twitchell,	43 50
1080	I. M. Coburn,	17 50
1082	W. D. Hastings,	10 93
1083	N. A. Stearns,	4 65
1084	L. H. Tyler,	69 50
1085	L. D. Grover,	2 25
1086	Frank A. Brown,	2 00
1087	Frank Cummings,	60 35
1088	R. T. Clough,	20 10
1090	C. G. Blake,	3 80
1091	D. C. Estes,	6 60
1092	H. F. Maxim,	30 76
1093	G. H. Swan,	15 00
1095	Geo. H. Seavey,	9 00
	Part of 1104, Hiram Twitchell,	10 77
1105	E. B. Barker,	50
1111	Geo. W. Mason,	19 03
1113	Good Roads Machinery Co.,	185 00
1118	J. S. Hutchins,	18 50
1119	V. P. Adamson,	4 50
1120	B. W. Kimball,	1 50
1121	Wm. C. Chapman,	96 03
1122	F. J. Russell,	22 00
1123	W. M. Brown,	6 00
1124	J. A. Chapman,	8 00
1126	F. E. Kendall,	15 00
1127	John Pool,	27 75
1128	F. E. & A. J. Howard,	2 77
1129	Seth L. Mason,	7 75

No. of Order.		
1130	G. B. Mills,	15 15
1131	I. M. Coburn,	15 50
1132	A. S. Chapman,	20 40
1134	G. L. Blake,	8 40
1135	C. Caswell,	2 00
1136	D. N. Blake;	3 50
1140	A. W. Grover,	8 65
1142	Wm. L. Farwell,	2 03
1146	A. C. Frost,	4 30
1147	I. M. Coburn,	7 00
1150	J. H. Carter,	1 95
1151	S. B. Twitchell,	6 33
1152	S. B. Twitchell,	28 00
1154	Hastings Bros.,	67 55
1156	J. O. Estes,	86
1157	H. F. Maxim,	4 39
1160	D. C. Estes,	4 25
1161	Eliot I. Estes,	5 55
1162	G. K. Hastings,	1 80
1163	C. M. Kimball,	3 90
1164	J. H. Swan,	4 80
1165	F. B. Howe,	1 80
1166	V. P. Adamson,	7 95
1167	A. W. Bean,	4 80
1168	Samuel Mayconnell,	8 70
1169	A. M. Bean,	9 90
1170	Porter Farwell,	14 40
1171	A. R. Merrill,	10 00
	Part of 1172 N. F. Brown,	5 56
1174	Martin A. Stowell,	14 00
1178	Eliot Rich,	9 30
1180	Fred C. Bean,	13 44
1181	G. H. Swan,	16 65
1182	J. M. Bartlett,	14 55

No. of Order.

1183	H. O. Blake,	2 33
1184	J. H. Swan,	1 90
1189	H. E. Bartlett,	2 00
1190	Eli W. Barker,	20 00
1191	H. N. Upton,	3 75
1192	C. O. Moore,	7 50
1196	Joseph Holt,	7 57
1197	C. A. Capen,	2 25
1198	W. W. Chase,	9 90
1199	Seth L. Mason,	6 75
1201	C. L. Swan,	\$6 00
1202	Vear Bean,	\$1 42
1203	Hiram Twitchell,	3 75
1206	E. E. Whitney,	2 00
1207	F. L. Edwards,	20 50
1208	N. A. Stearns,	8 85
1209	Frank Cummings,	17 75
1210	James Hodgkins,	12 64
1211	A. J. Peare,	18 58
1213	W. A. Farwell,	1 50
1214	A. P. Mason,	1 80
1215	E. P. Grover,	6 50
1216	H. M. Verrill,	4 50
1217	A. B. Grover,	21 40
1220	John F. Coolidge,	5 10
1221	C. L. Davis,	\$19 50
1222	F. J. Tyler,	10 20
1225	R. T. Clough,	8 30
1226	J. Dana Bartlett,	1 80
1228	I. H. Wilson,	7 00
1229	Freeland Bennett,	6 30
1230	C. F. Abbott,	4 80
1231	W. D. Mills,	10 70
1232	E. S. Mason,	4 15

TOWN REPORT.

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No. of Order.		
1233	C. F. Shaw,	\$ 2 98
1234	C. L. Abbott, Jr.,	35 80
1235	G. B. Mills,	10 05
1236	Charles Dunham,	90
1237	Eli W. Barker,	1 00
1238	W. E. Littlehale,	1 50
1239	J. S. Chapman,	1 25
1240	W. R. Eames,	5 60
1241	O. A. Buck,	6 60
1243	S. B. Twitchell,	12 20
1244	T. B. Kendall,	3 00
1245	A. L. Whitman,	20 25
1246	C. E. Barker,	4 35
		<hr/>
		\$3,212 74
Highway bills not paid (estimated)		88 00

Liquor Agency.

L. T. BARKER, AGENT.

DR.

To liquors purchased to Feb. 1, 1904,	\$2,115 14
“ U. S. license,	31 25
“ freight and cartage,	15 80
“ fixtures,	1 15
“ salary to Feb. 1, 1904,	160 56
	<hr/>
	\$2,323 90

CR.

By cash received from sales,	\$2,170 21
“ liquors and casks on hand,	362 49
	<hr/>
	\$2,532 70
	<hr/>
Net profit,	\$208 80

Schools.

Appropriation by the town,	\$2,200 00	
Received from the State,	1,385 58	
" " Milton,	100 00	
" " the State for tuition,	8 25	
" " School Fund,	25 00	
Unexpended last year,	202 18	
	<hr/>	\$3,921 01
Superintendent's orders paid,		\$3,971 22
		<hr/>
Overdrawn,		\$50 21

BOOKS AND SUPPLIES.

Appropriation,	\$250 00
Superintendent's orders paid,	307 47

REPAIR OF SCHOOL HOUSES.

Appropriation,	\$250 00
Superintendent's orders paid,	191 05

REPAIR OF BRICK SCHOOL HOUSE.

Appropriation,	\$125 00
Expended,	77 17

TUITION AT ACADEMY.

No. of Order.		
1068 F. E. Hanscom,	\$155 50	
1098 F. E. Hanscom,	229 00	
1107 Town of Norway,	6 00	
1109 Charles F. Abbott,	6 00	
1108 F. E. Hanscom,	56 00	
	<hr/>	\$452 50
Refunded by the State,		226 25

Ministerial and School Fund.

The Treasurer of the Trustees of the Ministerial and School Fund submits the following report :

There are in my hands notes secured by mortgages on real estate on which there is due	\$1,769 27
Deposit at Bethel Savings Bank	82 99
	<hr/>
	\$1,852 26

Amounts have been paid to the different societies as follows :

Universalist,	\$11 00
Methodist,	11 00
Congregationalist,	11 00
Baptist,	8 50
Union,	8 50
	<hr/>
	\$ 50 00
Paid to the School Fund,	25 00
	<hr/>
	\$75 00

All of which is submitted,

S. B. TWITCHELL, *Treasurer.*

Town Officers' Bills Paid for 1902-1903.

Appropriation,	\$1,000 00
S. B. Twitchell, Selectman,	\$155 10
C. E. Barker, “	92 25
F. J. Russell, “	76 77
W. W. Hastings, Treasurer,	50 00
H. H. Hastings, Superintendent of Schools,	135 00

S. B. Twitchell, Treasurer of Ministerial and School Fund,	6 00
A. E. Herrick, Town Agent,	15 00
L. T. Barker, Town Clerk,	30 90
G. L. Sturdivant, Health Officer,	10 00
C. M. Kimball, " "	5 00
E. C. Park, " "	5 00
F. J. Tyler, Constable,	5 00
F. J. Tyler, Truant Officer,	5 50
F. J. Tyler, services as constable for en- forcing dog law,	5 00
H. H. Bean, Collector,	56 02
F. J. Tyler, Collector,	225 00

\$877 54

Town Officers' Bills, Due 1903-1904.

S. B. Twitchell, services as Selectman,	\$167 70
C. E. Barker, " " "	72 75
F. J. Russell, " " "	54 70
H. H. Hastings, services as Superinten- dent of Schools,	125 00
W. W. Hastings, services as Treasurer,	50 00
S. B. Twitchell, Treasurer of the Min- isterial and School Fund,	6 00

\$476 15

Contingent Fund.

DR.

To Balance in Fund Feb. 1, 1903,	\$1731 57
“ License fees,	12 00
“ State railroad and telegraph tax,	17 85
“ Overlay of 1903,	479 50
“ Rent of corn shop,	125 00
“ Interest on bank account,	164 70
“ Bal. of Miscellaneous acct. 1903,	40 70
“ “ “ Town Officers’ “ “	122 46
“ “ “ Poor “ “	392 75
“ “ “ Highway “ “	700 00
“ “ “ State Road “ “	21 30
“ State Road expense returned,	200 00
“ State acct. Milton paupers,	65 86
“ Town of Gray acct. E. Hodgkins,	18 50
“ Agency, profit on liquors,	208 80
“ Old road machine sold,	10 00
“ Rent acct. Chair Factory,	2 83
“ Plank sold,	8 00
“ Sewer rates paid,	312 00
	<hr/>
	\$4,633 82

CR.

By abatements allowed, 1900-'01-'02, \$	171 59
“ discount on taxes, 1903,	468 72
“ excess of sewer appropriation,	7 39
“ tuition paid,	226 25
“ water service,	225 00
“ insurance on brick schoolhouse,	75 00
“ “ “ town farm buildings,	45 00
“ bonds paid and taken up,	2,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$3,218 95
	<hr/>
Balance in fund February 1, 1904,	\$1,414 87

In the above account we have \$312.00 paid for sewer connections. There is due \$227.00 from those who have also connected, making a total of \$539.00.

Financial Standing of the Town.

LIABILITIES.

Bonds bearing interest at 4 per cent.,	\$28,000	00
Interest on bonds to Feb. 1, 1904,	93	33
Orders outstanding,	330	14
Town officers' bills due,	476	15
Bills outstanding, estimated,	88	00
		\$28,987 62

ASSETS.

Cash in Treasurer's hands,	\$4,822	82
Due from F. J. Tyler, collector,	5,595	59
Due from the State for aid furnished the poor of Milton Plantation,	65	86
Value of town farm and personal prop- erty,	3,377	50
Investment in corn shop,	2,500	00
Investment in lock-up,	500	00
Road machines, snow roller, sidewalk plow and other tools,	400	00
		\$17,261 77

S. B. TWITCHELL, } *Selectmen.*
 C. E. BARKER, } *of*
 F. J. RUSSELL, } *Bethel.*

I hereby certify that I have examined the foregoing account of the Selectmen of the town of Bethel for the year ending Feb. 15, 1904, and believe them to be correctly cast and properly avouched.

W. W. HASTINGS, *Treasurer.*

Treasurer's Report.

DR.

To balance on hand, Feb. 15, 1903.	\$1926 42
To cash received as follows :	
Norway, account of Chas. H. Willey,	33 14
Lincoln, " " Tom Kneeland,	16 39
Albany, town line,	6 00
Gray, burial of Hodgkins child,	18 50
Milton, schools,	100 00
H. H. Hastings, books sold,	8 58
H. H. Hastings, tuition,	8 25
Poor Farm, oxen sold,	180 00
American Realty Co., bridge damage,	113 42
F. J. Russell, plank sold,	8 00
Kendall & Whitney, discount on bill,	61
Clarence Barker, account of Daniel F. Bean,	100 00
Clarence Barker, road machine sold,	10 00
Hotels, license,	2 00
S. B. Twitchell, circus license,	10 00
S. B. Twitchell, Ministerial Fund,	25 00
S. B. Twitchell, Bethel Chair Co., dividend,	2 83
H. F. Webb Co., rent of corn shop,	125 00
L. T. Barker, dog license,	137 00

To State Treasurer, warrant 774,	234 78
" " dog license,	105 63
" " State roads,	200 00
" " Free High Schools,	226 25
" " Milton paupers,	144 19
" " Support of paupers,	112 82
" " State Aid,	240 00
" " R. R. & Tel. tax,	17 85
" " School Fund & Mill Tax,	1,385 58
L. T. Barker, liquors sold,	2,137 00
H. H. Bean, taxes,	892 22
F. J. Tyler, taxes,	14,711 22
Residents, sewer,	129 00
Chapman National Bank, interest on bal- ances,	58 48
Dr. Sturdivant, small pox,	7 00
To amount in Chapman National Bank from sale of Chair Factory,	3,000 00
To accrued interest on same to October, 1903,	293 47
	<hr/>
	\$26,726 63
Due from State for porcupines killed,	\$61 50
	CR.
By cash paid as follows :	
coupons	1,180 00
Taking up Bond No. 3,	500 00
" " " " 4,	500 00
Insane Hospital,	574 02
Newry, taxes,	4 73
Dog licenses,	137 00
Check book and express,	3 00
" stamp,	12 00
Insurance on Poor Farm buildings,	45 00
" " Brick school house,	75 00

TOWN REPORT.

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State Aid,	240 00
Porcupine bounties,	61 50
County Tax,	1,412 30
State “	2,359 26
Cancelled orders,	14,797 00
Stamps,	.3 00
By amount in Chapman National Bank from sale of Chair Factory,	3,000 00
Accrued interest on same to Oct. 1903,	293 47
Cash to balance,	1,529 35
	<hr/>
	\$26,726 63

W. W. Hastings, *Treasurer.*

We hereby certify that we have examined the foregoing accounts of W. W. Hastings, Treasurer of the town of Bethel, for the year ending Feb. 15, 1904, with vouchers therefor, and we believe them to be properly avouched and correctly cast.

S. B. TWITCHELL,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
C. E. BARKER,	
F. J. RUSSELL.	

of
Bethel.

Report of Board of Health.

During the year ending Jan. 30, 1904, we have been visited by a number of contagious diseases scattered over the entire year, although none of them have assumed such proportions as to be termed "epidemic." During the spring of 1903, we had isolated cases of measles, mumps, whooping-cough, and chicken-pox, but with care in shutting up each case we avoided a general spreading of the disease.

During the months of October and November a number of cases of diphtheria appeared in the east part of the town, and it became necessary to close the school during the greater part of those months, but every case was promptly quarantined, and with the able assistance of the attending physicians, we were able to stamp it out early. Five houses were infected, and these were strictly quarantined and fumigated. The schoolhouse was also disinfected.

With the advantages offered by the State Laboratory of Hygiene in rendering free bacteriological examinations of any suspected case, it should be easy to exclude such a disease from our midst except in isolated cases. When a person complaining of sore-throat is able to detect a single white or grayish patch on the tonsils or in any part of the throat, it is the duty of such person to report at once to a physician or to the Board of Health and allow of a thorough examina-

tion and quarantine until a report from the bacteriologist decides as to the presence or absence of the bacillus of diphtheria. Appliances for sending "swabs" can be obtained at G. R. Wiley's drug store, and the only expense is for express charges to Augusta.

Small-pox again made its appearance among us on Jan. 29, 1904, and required prompt action in quarantining. Three cases developed simultaneously in as many different houses, two of which were public boarding houses, and this meant many strings to pull. Three places were immediately quarantined and all persons who had been directly exposed were held as suspicious. Fumigation and vaccination were applied and only one new case has developed at this writing, Feb. 16. The source of all the cases was easily traced to a lumbering camp in Riley Plantation, and under direction of Dr. Young of the State Board of Health, this camp was quarantined and twenty-one men successfully vaccinated. One more case has developed in this camp and was isolated at once. We are hoping that no more cases will appear.

In the light of experience gained in these strenuous days, we are able to emphasize our points of last year in regard to the prompt reporting of any contagious disease to the Board of Health (Secretary E. C. Park) and in this way protecting our homes and our families from disease in this form, save our town the expense of an epidemic and avoid closing a schoolhouse during the school year.

We congratulate the citizens on their good judgment in still extending the sewer system in our village. It is the trading center of our town and its health and prosperity means the health and prosperity of the entire town. To the visitor the town and its public sentiment is judged by the appearance of its principal center and its public institutions. Just as important as this is the sink drain and cess-pool to

each farmer. The man who enjoys a good sink drain and a dry cellar at home is the man who helps on the sewer in his village. The man who wallows in the mud and cannot smell a stinking cess-pool at home does not see why his beautiful village should enjoy a sewer system.. Then let the good work continue!

Anyone wishing for copies of the Health Laws of the State of Maine can get the same by applying to Mr. Park.

Respectfully submitted,

GARDINER L. STURDIVANT, *Chairman,*

E. C. PARK, *Secretary,*

C. M. KIMBALL, *Member.*

Superintendent's Report.

The following report of the schools of the town for the past year is respectfully submitted to the citizens for their consideration.

Financial Statement.

School Fund.

DR.

To balance due from last year,	\$ 231 65
“ amount appropriated by town,	2,200 00
“ school fund & mill tax,	1,385 58
“ tuition, Fryeburg Academy Grant,	8 25
“ “ Milton Plantation,	100 00
“ Ministerial and School fund,	25 00
	<hr/> \$3,950 48

CR.

By paid teachers :

No. of Order.

11 Amy Bartlett,	\$ 6 00
37 Ethel M. Richardson,	75 00
38 Amy Bartlett,	50 00
39 Lester F. Bean,	70 00

No. of Order.

42	Angie M. Abbott,	60 00
43	Edith D. Abbott,	65 00
45	Hester M. Kimball,	70 00
46	Addie L. Horr,	55 00
49	Grace M. Chapman,	60 00
52	Jane H. Gibson,	90 00
56	Eva V. Twaddle,	75 00
57	Ruby Clark,	75 00
58	Bessie E. Andrews,	65 00
59	Ruth M. Bean,	70 00
61	Maud L. Russell,	60 00
99	Hester M. Kimball,	63 00
102	Jane H. Gibson,	108 00
103	Eva V. Twaddle,	90 00
104	Ruby Clark,	90 00
105	Ethel M. Richardson,	90 00
106	Bessie E. Andrews,	77 00
107	Ruth M. Bean,	84 00
108	Addie L. Horr,	78 00
109	Florence E. Skillings,	66 00
110	Lester E. Bean;	84 00
111	A. Agnes Brooks,	66 00
112	Fannie A. Swan,	63 00
113	Maud L. Russell,	84 00
114	Angie M. Abbott,	72 00
141	Ruby Clark,	60 00
142	Ethel M. Richardson,	60 00
143	Florence Skillings,	44 00
146	Angie M. Abbott,	48 00
155	Maud Russell,	46 00
156	Addie L. Horr,	52 00
157	Ruth M. Bean,	56 00
159	Eva V. Twaddle,	60 00
160	Lester E. Bean,	56 00

161	Jane H. Gibson,	72	00
168	Hester M. Kimball,	63	00
169	Fannie A. Swan,	44	00
173	Bessie E. Andrews,	63	00
177	A. Agnes Brooks,	58	50
			\$2,843 50

By paid for conveying pupils :

No. of Order

3	Seth Mason,	\$20	00
7	C. L. Swan,	8	00
21	A. R. Merrill,	8	00
24	James Hodgkins,	5	00
32	James Hodgkins,	15	00
40	C. C. Bryant,	33	33
41	A. S. Chapman,	35	00
47	James Hodgkins,	18	50
48	A. B. Richardson,	25	00
51	T. B. Burke,	25	00
53	V. P. Adamson,	10	00
60	L. N. Bartlett,	25	00
62	Hattie Foster,	20	00
63	C. L. Swan,	10	00
69	M. R. Coburn,	17	50
98	V. P. Adamson,	7	00
101	Sam MayConnell,	10	00
115	A. S. Chapman,	42	00
116	A. B. Richardson,	30	00
117	T. B. Burke,	30	00
118	Moses Coburn,	21	00
122	L. N. Bartlett,	30	00
123	James Hodgkins,	48	00
124	Alfred W. Bean,	10	00
125	Hattie E. Foster,	30	00
126	C. C. Bryant,	33	33

No. of Order.

129	James Hodgkins,	12 50	
140	A. B. Richardson,	20 00	
145	A. S. Chapman,	28 00	
153	James Hodgkins,	11 50	
154	T. B. Burke,	10 00	
158	Elliott Rich,	10 00	
164	Geo. E. Ryerson,	20 00	
165	M. R. Coburn,	14 00	
174	Glen Mason,	16 00	
			\$ 708 66

By paid for fuel :

No. of Order.

14	Geo. H. Swan,	\$16 00	
17	H. C. Andrews,	6 50	
33	Herbert Downs,	2 00	
34	C. F. Abbott,	8 50	
77	E. E. Chase,	8 00	
96	M. O'Reilly,	10 00	
120	I. A. Wilson,	2 00	
128	Frank Cummings,	3 25	
130	S. O. Grover,	1 75	
131	D. A. Coffin,	9 50	
135	C. L. Abbott,	13 75	
136	John Hapgood,	18 00	
150	H. C. Andrews,	7 50	
166	H. N. Upton,	9 00	
171	H. F. Maxim,	9 62	
178	Hastings Bros.,	49 50	
			\$ 174 87

By paid janitors:

No. of Order.

1	Sadie E. Mason,	4 00
6	Lawrence Clifford,	3 00

No. of Order.

9	Lester E. Bean,	5 20
12	Lillian M. Buck,	2 00
15	W. D. Mills,	5 00
18	Ralph King,	1 25
19	Ralph Blake,	2 50
22	A. J. Stearns,	4 75
50	Grace M. Chapman,	2 50
54	H. C. Andrews,	40 00
68	Maud Downs,	2 00
70	Guy Bartlett,	3 50
71	I. W. Inman,	2 00
73	Annie L. Heath,	12 50
74	R. E. L. Farwell,	1 21
76	C. F. Abbott,	2 00
82	Cora Millett,	5 00
83	Ida A. Hutchins,	6 50
91	Mrs. W. L. Farwell,	2 00
93	Mrs. Geo. D. Morrill,	2 00
94	Mary E. York,	2 00
95	John H. Howe,	1 50
97	Mrs. J. H. Swan,	5 00
100	Ceylon Kimball,	3 00
119	H. C. Andrews,	60 00
121	J. C. Cushman,	3 00
132	Lawrence Clifford,	3 00
144	F. D. Skillings,	4 00
147	Angie Abbott,	2 00
149	H. C. Andrews,	50 00
152	Wallace Farwell,	4 00
167	Elbert R. Briggs,	5 00
170	F. A. Swan,	2 00

No. of Order.

175 Glen Mason,

2 00

 255 41

Cost of schools,

\$3,982 44

Excess,

 \$31 96

Books and Supplies.

DR.

To appropriated by town,

\$250 00

“ unexpended last year,

1 09

“ books sold,

8 58

 \$259 67

CR.

By paid for books and supplies :

No. of Order.

2 H. H. Hastings,

\$13 38

2 G. P. Bean,

9 72

13 Milton Bradley Co.,

83

20 Ginn & Co.,

73 89

24 Ginn & Co.,

11 38

25 E. C. Rowe,

8 00

28 Maynard Merrill & Co.,

31 37

31 Suffolk Ink Co.,

56

35 I. A. Wilson,

1 00

36 F. L. Shaw,

3 50

64 J. L. Hammett Co.,

7 49

65 Benj. H. Sanborn Co.,

2 40

66 C. D. Heath & Co.,

94

72 Maynard Merrill Co.,

31 70

79 Loring, Short & Harmon,

4 00

86 Llewellyn Barton,

4 50

TOWN REPORT.

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87	Benj. H. Sanborn Co.,	3	14	
88	Ginn & Co.,	12	06	
89	Rand, McNally & Co.,	2	40	
92	Houghton, Mifflin & Co.,	62	14	
133	Benj. H. Sanborn Co.,	2	88	
134	American Book Co.,	2	40	
137	E. E. Burnham,		50	
138	L. C. Hall,	1	52	
174	G. R. Wiley,	4	50	
179	News Publishing Co.,	10	65	
				306 85
				<hr/> \$47 18
	Excess,			

Repairs.

DR.

To appropriated by town, \$250 00

CR.

By paid for repairs :

Excess last year, \$ 80 01

No. of Order.

4	Hastings Bros.,	24	91
8	Stephen E. Abbott,		50
10	C. C. Eames,	3	00
16	W. D. Mills,	1	00
23	Ruth M. Bean,	1	50
26	Bethel Mf'g. Co.,	10	00
27	I. A. Smith,	1	50
30	I. A. Smith,	1	50
44	Angie M. Abbott,	1	15
54	H. C. Andrews,	2	25
80	Gilbert Tuell,	20	80

85 H. C. Andrews,	16 50	
90 J. S. Chapman,	19 75	
127 C. L. Abbott, Jr.,	36 68	
148 Hastings Bros.,	7 26	
151 H. C. Andrews,	2 00	
162 N. F. Brown,	24 75	
172 H. F. Maxim, rent of room for a school on Bird Hill,	16 00	
	<hr/>	271 06
		<hr/>
Excess,		\$21 06

BRICK BUILDING.

DR.

To appropriation for Brick Building,	\$125 00
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CR.

No. of Order.

67 I. A. Smith,	\$ 2 00	
75 T. B. Kendall,	3 50	
81 Gilbert Tuell,	6 36	
84 H. C. Andrews,	10 77	
139 H. E. Bartlett,	2 00	
163 N. F. Brown,	52 54	
	<hr/>	77 17
		<hr/>
Unexpended,		\$47 83

Tuition in Secondary Schools.

DR.

To amount appropriated by town,	\$500 00
“ received from the State,	226 25

	CR.	—————	\$726 25
By paid F. E. Hanscom :			
Spring term,		\$155 50	
Fall term,		285 00	
By paid treasurer of town of Norway,		12 00	
		—————	452 50
Balance,			<u>\$273 75</u>

Schools.

From the foregoing statement it will be seen that the amounts available for the support of schools, for general repairs, and for the purchase of books and supplies have been overdrawn. While no attempt will be made to justify the overdrafts, a few words in explanation, merely to dispel any hasty conclusion that the cost of the schools is unduly increasing, may not be amiss.

In the matter of the support of schools, a comparison of the amount available for this past year with the amount available for the next previous year will show that there was a falling off in the State School Fund and Mill tax of nearly two hundred dollars. It will also be noticed that the amount paid teachers is a little larger than the year before in consequence of the extra term of school on Bird Hill. Then too, during the past year, for the first time conveyance has been provided for children in the Chandler Hill district at an expense of rising one hundred dollars—quite a serious drain on funds unexpectedly short. It was seen, after the receipt of the State Funds, that in spite of close figuring we should run close to the wind, but it seemed too bad and unwise to curtail the length of the school year.

In the repair account we were handicapped at the start with an adverse balance of some eighty dollars, and we have not succeeded in quite wiping it out. A little more was attempted than ought to have been attempted. But we are now well fixed up and the tax-payers shall have no cause for complaint on the repair account score in the near future.

For books and supplies insufficient money was raised. Ever since I have had to do with the management of the schools it has been my aim to get along and keep the books up on an appropriation of two hundred fifty dollars—a dollar per scholar of the average number in attendance, but it has been a losing struggle. Not to be wondered at. In round numbers there are enrolled in the public schools of the town each year three hundred boys and girls; this year two hundred and ninety-five. It is consequently seen on a moment's reflection that we have been appropriating a little rising eighty cents per child, for books and supplies which includes chalk, pencils and ink.

Should anyone be disposed to think that there is extravagance in the book line, let him recall the time when he bought school books himself, for his children. Let him also understand that a school book is no longer looked upon with reverence or handled with the greatest care, to be laid aside with other choice books, as a memento and reminder of school days; and that books are made now-adays to sell and not to last and endure, and be handed down from the oldest even to the youngest in the family. In the main, the children are as careful with their books as could be expected, and the teachers diligent in looking after them, but now and then a school, now and then a boy or even girl, that handle books savagely. A dollar per child for the whole number enrolled is not excessive.

Of the money appropriated for repairs at the Brick Building we have a generous balance. The changes contemplated have been made; furnaces thoroughly overhauled, cold air boxes put in, the registers cut down and lowered to the floor. These changes have made it possible to keep the basements comfortable and warm, no trouble having been experienced from freezing pipes and closets. The lowering the registers to the level of the floors was surely an agreeable change for the children, and rendered the rooms more comfortable in a cold winter. In spite of the change, school had to be closed two days during the winter term, but it must be remembered that the cold was cruel and bitter, the wind howling a gale; and schools all over the State were closed on those days. The balance left over is sufficient to

make some needed repairs on the closets.

The situation in the Bethel-Milton district, so-called, is trying; and in my judgment the school there should be discontinued for the present. The population has shifted and changed so that during the past year there has been in attendance at that school from Bethel one scholar. To school that scholar has cost the town above one hundred dollars. With some compunctions of the conscience the school has been run during the whole year, but it seemed highly unfair to stop it, Milton having had no previous notice and having made no preparation for such change. However, not to have any trouble on this point again, I took the liberty to suggest to Milton's board of assessors in ample time for them to adapt and adjust themselves to changed conditions at their annual meeting, that Bethel would, in all probability, discontinue the school the coming year. Of course it is for the voters to say, but it seemed unfair to continue the present status longer unless the voters so decide with eyes wide open. No harm will have been done should it be decided to continue the school, and we will have been eminently fair if the school is stopped.

Three schools have been small, have not averaged eight; Bird Hill, Swan's Hill, and North Bethel. Bird Hill was a necessity. Our school at Walker's Mills, was crowded to the doors, and the Greenwood authorities could not accommodate them at Locke's Mills. Conveying Swan's Hill scholars to Middle Intervale in the summer and fall terms would be a feasible arrangement and can be done another year, the Middle Intervale school having lost three or four scholars. But in winter such an arrangement would be highly impracticable. The weather is too cold and inclement, and short distances rapidly become long, in winter. From North Bethel it is a long way, some five miles, and the saving that would ensue to the town has not seemed sufficient to justify the change.

Subsequent to the last annual meeting, a law was passed by our State legislature requiring a town not supporting and maintaining a free high school, to pay the tuitions of such youths, resident therein and desiring to attend secondary schools, as are fitted to do secondary school work—the

State to refund to each town one-half the sum of money so paid, but not exceeding two hundred fifty dollars. As the said law took effect at once on approval, it became necessary to call a special town meeting to raise or appropriate money with which to pay said tuitions. Five hundred dollars was appropriated from money then in the treasury to obviate a new and extra levy. Four hundred fifty-two dollars and fifty cents have been paid out: twelve dollars to the treasurer of the town of Norway, tuition of one scholar for two terms; the balance to Gould's Academy. Two hundred twenty-six dollars and twenty-five cents have been received from the State, leaving in the hands of our treasurer with which to pay the tuitions for the present term—two hundred seventy-three dollars and seventy-five cents—an amount sufficient and ample.

By all those who believe that secondary school instruction should be placed within the reach of all, whether rich or poor—provided at the public expense—the law was hailed with delight, even though its unexpected and sudden coming took away the breath. Next to having a free high school of our own it was gladly welcomed, and with the common schools and secondary schools working together for the same end—the better preparation of our boys and girls for intelligent citizenship—great good can but result. With the secondary schools out of the highways and byways searching for *numbers, numbers*, unmindful of age, preparation, or fitness, and the common schools with a healthy standard of preparation and fitness set before them, something to arouse their ambition and stimulate enthusiasm and honest endeavor,—something to which they may look up, at which they may aim—“*a star to which to hitch their wagon*”, new life and new vigor will come to pupil and teacher alike. Before we know it the time will be at hand when it will not be considered ludicrous or foolish to expect a boy to know something when he graduates from the common schools—to expect the common school studies to be mastered in the common schools, the absolutely only schooling the large majority of boys and girls have.

For the payment of tuitions in secondary schools, at the present outlook, five hundred dollars will be needed.

For the purchase of books and supplies three hundred dollars will be none too much.

For repairs one hundred dollars should be raised. There is a small deficit. A new shed, the material for which is all ready on the ground, must be built for the Flat house; and then the incidentals.

Three years since twenty-five hundred was raised for the support of schools. Since that time twenty-two hundred. With the Bethel-Milton school discontinued and the contemplated consolidation of schools for two terms in the year, twenty-two hundred dollars might do for the coming year, even with this year's stipend from the State. Everything considered, however, I would recommend the twenty-five hundred dollar appropriation.

The character and progress of the schools for the past year, and the faithfulness of the teaching corps may speak for themselves this time. The parents in the several sections of the town know even better than I, what has been done.

To the citizens, from whom the privilege and prerogative of electing a school superintendent has been taken, my heartiest thanks is hereby given for their past cheerful and almost unanimous support. My appreciation of their confidence has been keen and full. And more than ever this year am I indebted to the school committee for direction and guidance.

Respectfully,

H. H. HASTINGS, *Supt. of Schools.*

Warrant For Town Meeting.

To F. J. Tyler, a constable in the town of Bethel, in the County of Oxford.

GREETING: In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby requested to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town of Bethel, qualified to vote in town affairs, to meet in Odeon hall, in said town on the 7th day of March at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:

- Art. 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- Art. 2. To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year.
- Art. 3. To hear and act on the report of the several town officers.
- Art. 4. To choose Selectmen for the ensuing year.
- Art. 5. To choose Assessors for the ensuing year.
- Art. 6. To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.
- Art. 7. To see what discount will be made on all taxes paid before a certain date, and to fix that date.
- Art. 8. To see if the town will vote to charge interest on all taxes unpaid at a certain date, and to fix that date.

- Art. 9. To establish the method for collecting taxes for the ensuing year.
- Art. 10. To choose a collector for the ensuing year.
- Art. 11. To choose a Road Commissioner or Commissioners for the ensuing year.
- Art. 12. To establish the price per day that the Road Commissioner shall receive for his services.
- Art. 13. To choose one member of school committee.
- Art. 14. To choose all other necessary town officers.
- Art. 15. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise for the support of schools for the ensuing year.
- Art. 16. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise for the purpose of building and repairing school houses.
- Art. 17. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise to purchase text books for the ensuing year.
- Art. 18. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise for the purpose of paying tuitions in Secondary Schools.
- Art. 19. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise for the repairs of roads and bridges for the ensuing year.
- Art. 20. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise for the support of the poor for the ensuing year.
- Art. 21. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise for town officers.
- Art. 22. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise for miscellaneous expenses.

- Art. 23. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise to pay on the town debt and interest.
- Art. 24. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise to extend the sewer system.
- Art. 25. To see how much money the town will appropriate for the permanent improvement of the State road.
- Art. 26. To see if the town will vote to maintain for the ensuing year schools at Bird Hill, Swan's Hill, and North Bethel.
- Art. 27. To see what sum of money the town will vote and raise to expend on the road leading from Locke's Mills to Hanover to cover up the sand.
- Art. 28. To see if the town will vote to discontinue that part of the old Swan Hill road which is on the Joseph Fleet farm and extending from the gate at Porter Farwell's pasture to the County road leading from Ira Bean's to Bean's Corner.
- Art. 29. To see what sum of money the town will vote to Brown Post No. 84, G. A. R., for the proper observance of Memorial Day.

Hereof fail not, and have you there this warrant with your doings thereon.

Given under our hands this 22nd day of February, 1904.

S. B. TWITCHELL,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
C. E. BARKER,	
F. J. RUSSELL.	

of
Bethel.

The Selectmen will be in session at their office March 5, 1904, at two o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of revising the list of voters.