

1896

Annual Report of the Selectmen, Assesors and Overseers of the Poor, Supervisor of Schools, of the Town of Peru, for the Year Ending Feb 20, 1896

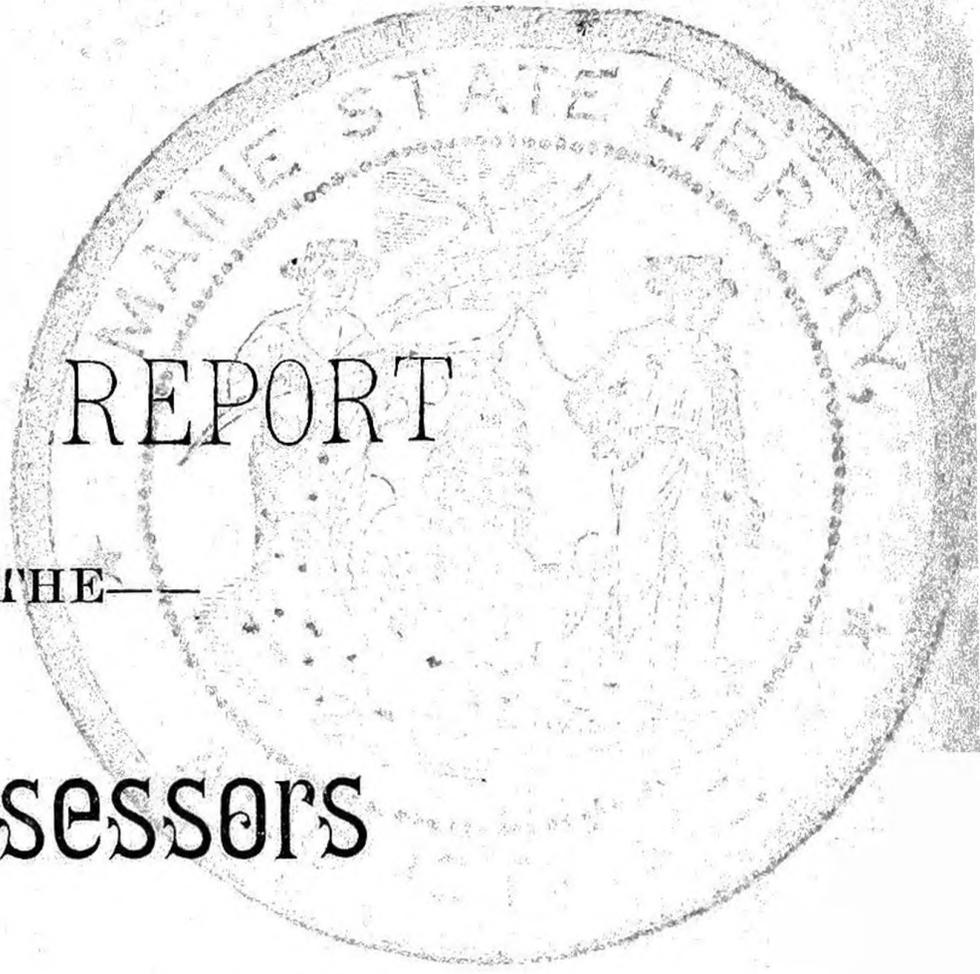
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ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

Selectmen, Assessors

and Overseers of the Poor,

—AND—

❖ SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS ❖

—OF THE—

Town of Peru,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 20.

1896.

O. M. Richardson, Steam Book and Job Printer.

Canton, Maine.

1896.

TOWN OFFICERS.

Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor.

OSROE L. KNIGHT,

ALBERT S. HOLMAN,

GEO. L. ROWE.

Treasurer.

WM. S. WALKER.

Town Clerk.

S. F. ROBINSON.

Supervisor of Schools.

A. M. CURTIS.

Collector of Taxes.

JOS. A. ARNOLD.

Board of Health.

M. HALL,

O. O. TRACY,

CHAS. A. HALL.

Truant Officer.

JOS. A. PUTNAM.

15931

REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

The selectmen of the town of Peru submit the following report for the year ending Feb. 20, 1896:

Total valuation.....	\$183,107 00
Valuation of town farm property.....	818 00
Valuation on which tax was assessed.....	\$182,289 00
We have assessed a highway tax of	1,500 00
at a percentage of .00725 on the dollar,	
and 183 polls at \$1.00 each.	

We have assessed a State tax of.....	\$652 48
A county tax of.....	279 81
Voted by town to defray town charges	1,500 00
Voted by town for support of schools..	600 00
Voted by town for repair of school houses	150 00
Deficient highway of 1894.....	195 32
With an overlay of.....	112 95
Total amount committed for collection.....	\$3,490 56
Percentage of assessment .017 on the dollar.	
183 polls at \$1 each.	

TOWN FARM ACCOUNT.

Names of inmates:

Seth Jenne,

Lenora P. Knight.

Expenditures.

Services of superintendent, Sumner		
H. Knox	\$200	00
B. L. Rowe, merchandise	87	86
C. E. Knox, merchandise	31	61
W. S. Walker, merchandise	24	10
S. N. Knox, merchandise	23	00
Paid for two pigs	5	00
Paid for one cow	31	50
Paid for 21 hens	10	50
Paid for lumber, etc.	20	80
Paid Jas. W. Gowell for work	16	50
Paid for seed corn, planting, etc.	3	62
Paid S. N. Knox for ice and use of creamery	10	60
Paid for all other merchandise and ex- penses	90	46
Total	\$554	95

Receipts.

Received for keeping horse	\$3	50
Received for board of Sadie Leadbetter	10	00
Received for cream	100	39
Received for corn	27	94
Received for two calves	7	50
Received for eggs and poultry	15	84
		\$165 17
Balance against farm	\$389	78

Schedule of stock, etc. on town farm:—Two oxen, four cows, two shoats, sixteen hens, twelve tons of hay, one ton straw, forty bushel potatoes, twelve bushels oats, eight and one-half bushels beans, one barrel pork, fifty pounds fresh meat, fifteen gallons soap, twenty-five pounds lard, one-half barrel flour, two gallons molasses, three pounds butter, one-half bushel

peas, tea, coffee, spices, fifty bars soap and two thousand shingles.

Expense of Poor off of Farm.

Paid for support of Wm. M. and Lenora P. Knight.....	\$228 62
Expense of F. J. Wing's family.....	30 50
Paid for support of A. F. Casey and family	37 67
Paid for support of Gardiner Lovejoy for the year 1894.....	30 00
Paid for committing Etta Lord to in- sane hospital.....	18 40
Paid for removing Lenora P. Knight from Augusta to Peru.....	11 20
Paid for support of J. E. C. Poland....	10 67
Paid A. K. P. Trask for keeping tramps	2 10
Paid town of Oxford for support of Geo. Poland's family	12 00
Due town of Mechanic Falls for support of Geo. Poland's family.....	60 00
	\$441 16
To which add balance against town farm ..	389 78
	\$830 94

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

We have expended on roads and bridges, unpaid bills of '94.....	\$60 34
Paid for building road and bridge near Wilson Stillman's.	78 47
Paid on roads and bridges in all other places	364 27
Total	\$503 08

SCHOOLS.

Amount raised by town for support of schools	\$600 00
Amount apportioned from State.....	566 57
Interest on permanent school fund.....	34 38
Amount raised by town for repair of school houses.....	150 00
Unexpended balance 1894.....	284 32
	\$1,635 27
We have expended for support of schools including repairs and furnish- ings	
	\$1,359 82
Balance unexpended.....	275 45
	\$1,635 27

ABATEMENTS.

We have granted the following orders of abatements of taxes:

Wm. S. Walker, treasurer for non-resi- dent tax.....	25 66
Frank E. Brown	1 00
John Baldwin	1 00
Henry Bishop.....	1 00
Thomas Cayton.....	2 00
John Cownhig.....	1 00
James Dwyer.....	1 00
P. A. Flanders.....	1 00
Frederick King.....	1 00
Lewe Load.....	1 00
Levi Miller.....	1 00
George D. Norton.. .	3 74
Charles Pelky.....	1 00
George Wilson.....	1 00

James Yeomans.....	1 00	
S. A. Skillins.....	1 00	—————
		\$44 40

Abatements for 1893.

John Records.....	6 28
Stephen Bowley.....	2 26
Robert Cable.....	4 52
Simeon Cutting.....	3 04
Geoffery Gorenny.....	3 64
John Gaugloff.....	5 28
Howard Farrar.....	1 00
Royal Small.....	2 55
	—————
Total	72 97

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Paid W. S. Walker for blank books.....	6 00
Paid D. W. Goding for trip to Augusta.....	16 21
Paid H. J. Binford for returns of death and birth.....	50
Paid Henry Rowe, rent of hall.....	10 00
Paid Henry Rowe, housing road machine.....	1 00
Paid S. N. Knox, use of bull, 1894.....	1 00
Paid for repair on road machine.....	8 75
Paid for shoeing oxen.....	1 25
Paid town of Rumford for surveying town line..	5 50
Paid Wm. A. Burgess labor on town line.....	1 25
Paid Daniel Fletcher for error in tax bills of '93	6 34
Paid Albert D. Park, Register of Probate.	1 00
Paid Loring, Short & Harmon for order book...	2 30
Paid O. L. Knight.....	4 05
Paid A. S. Holman.....	3 00
Paid G. L. Rowe	1 00
Estimated cost of printing this report...	10 50

Paid interest on orders taken up.	210	69
Paid A. K. P. Trask for hay.	13	00
Paid A. K. P. Trask for screen doors.	2	50
		<hr/>
		\$305 74

TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

S. F. Robinson, town clerk.	\$11	77
W. S. Walker, treasurer.	25	00
W. S. Walker for funding orders.	4	50
O. L. Knight, selectman, assessor, etc.	50	00
A. S. Holman, selectman, assessor, etc.	33	00
G. L. Rowe, selectman, assessor, etc.	38	25
A. M. Curtis, supervisor of schools, est.	80	00
J. A. Arnold, collector of taxes.	90	57
A. A. Eastman, board of health.	4	50
M. Hall, board of health, estimated.	5	00
O. O. Tracy, board of health.	5	09
Charles A. Hall, board of health.	3	00
Joseph A. Putnam, truant officer.	5	00
		<hr/>
		\$355 68

CURRENT EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR.

Expense of poor for 1895	\$830	94
Expended on roads and bridges.	503	08
Orders of abatements of taxes.	72	97
Incidental expenses	305	74
Town officers' bills.	355	68
Interest accrued during the year.	194	00
Interest on permanent school fund.	34	38
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		\$2,296 79

Credits.

Amount voted by town to pay charges	\$1,500 00
Overlay	112 95
Deficient highway of 1894.....	195 32
Received from State on account of dog tax of '94.....	47 95
Received from town of Rumford....	2,000 00
	\$3,856 22
Balance in favor of the year.....	\$1,559 43

STANDING OF THE TOWN.**Liabilities.**

Orders outstanding bearing interest at 4 per cent	\$4,750 00
Interest due to Feb. 20, '96.....	139 00
Orders not on interest.....	91 96
Due the schools.....	275 45
Bills due, orders not drawn.	
Town Officers bills.	355 68
A. S. Hazelton's percentage for collecting tax of 1894.....	103 69
Due S. N. Knox, overseer of town farm.....	150 00
Due the town of Leeds for the support of F. J. Wing and family.....	15 50
Due the town of Mechanic Falls for support of Geo. Poland's family	60 00
Estimated cost of printing this report.....	10 50
Due for rent of Union hall.....	10 00
	\$5,961 72
Total liabilities.....	\$5,961 72

Resources.

In the hands of the treasurer.....	\$3,809 16
Due from State for pensions.....	48 00
Town farm and stock.....	818 00
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	4,675 16
Indebtedness above means to pay..	\$1,286 56

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

Wm. S. Walker, Treasurer of Peru for 1895.

Dr.

1895.

Feb. 16, to amount due on tax bills of 1893	\$223	92
Feb. 16, to amount due on tax bills of 1894	3,622	72
Feb. 16, to tax deeds on hand	232	52
Feb. 16, to cash on hand	683	47
Feb. 16, to amount due from State on school money	179	79
Feb. 16, to amount due from State for pensions	72	00
Mar. 4, to check from town of Milford	22	00
June 20, to amount of Joseph A. Arnold's bills for 1895	3,490	56
June 22, to amount received from town of Rumford	2,000	00
Feb. 16, to amount received from State, dam- age by dogs	12	50
May 8, to check received from town of Bruns- wick	57	80
May 8, to amount received from S. F. Robin- son, dog tax	51	00
July 23, to orders for refunding	1,100	00
Feb. 11, '96, to amount received from State for refunding dog tax	47	95

Feb. 11, '96, to amount received from State treasurer, school money	566 57
	<hr/>
	\$12,362 80

Cr.

1896.

Feb 14, by amount due on tax bills of 1894...	\$839 71
Feb. 14, by amount due on tax bills of 1895...	2,469 45
Feb. 14, by tax deeds on hand.....	262 10
Feb. 14, to orders and receipts turned over...	8,505 64
Feb. 14, to amount due from State for pen- sions	48 00
Feb. 14, to cash on hand to balance.....	237 90
	<hr/>
	\$12,362 80

All of which is respectfully submitted.

OSROE L. KNIGHT,	} Selectmen of Peru.
ALBERT S. HOLMAN,	
GEORGE L. ROWE,	

TRUANT OFFICER'S REPORT.

My attention has been called to nine cases of wilful truancy, to which I immediately attended. I hope that at our next annual meeting, measures will be taken to elect a truant officer who fully realizes the outgrowth of truancy, and who, also, is so situated in business that he can attend to such cases without delay; for by so doing we may improve the Nation.

JOSEPH A. PUTNAM, Truant Officer.

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR.

As supervisor of schools I submit the following report.

Fellow Townsmen :—As supervisor of schools of the town of Peru for the past school year, I hardly feel myself equal to saying just what should be said in this report. While I believe that the present school system is beneficial to the majority of schools, still there are questions that come up in rural towns like our own, that are difficult to act upon intelligently ; one of those being the suspending of schools in certain small districts. I do not believe it to be profitable to support a school of less than ten pupils, still it is impossible to convince the residents of said districts that it is for their interests to do so, and consequently we do not get the hearty co-operation that we should were it otherwise.

In order for our schools to reach a high standard, it is the duty of every citizen to encourage and co-operate with both teacher and pupils. Our public schools have been the source of much of our prosperity and have a world-wide reputation, and if they are to continue their great work the citizens of every community must give some of their time and influence to making them equal to that work and worthy of the

age and State. Every true citizen should realize that it is his duty to take an interest in the school of their neighborhood, to aid and encourage the teacher and to be slow to censure.

I believe paying such salaries to teachers as will secure the best, for by so doing I think we are gainers in the end, and I also believe that we should make our school rooms comfortable and attractive.

Repairs of School Houses.

At the last annual town meeting the town voted to raise \$150 to be used for necessary repairs. By using that amount I have made, in some cases, a decided improvement, while in others it just about keeps them from going back.

Free High School.

I earnestly hope that the town at its next annual meeting will take some action in regard to the establishing of Free High schools, for I think that one at West Peru and one at East Peru would be of great benefit to the scholars in town.

School Books.

By action of the town at its last annual meeting, authorizing the adoption of new text books, I, by the advice of the committee, have made introductory terms with the American Book Company, which I think are highly satisfactory.

The School Houses

in town are, with few exceptions, in fair repair. One of the marked exceptions is No. 2 and I think the town should take some action in regard to this at its next annual meeting.

Summary.

In reviewing the school year just closed it is with pleasure that I can say that I regard it, taken as a whole, as a very prosperous one.

The duties of the past year have been more numerous and arduous than usual, owing to the change of text books and the overseeing of repairs on school houses. Now, as is customary, I will speak of the different schools in town as they appeared to me, and will try to do so without favoritism or prejudice.

East School.

Both summer and winter terms of this school were taught by Ada E. Gerrish, who never teaches in a district but what her services are wanted again. She gains the good will of her pupils and her schools are among the best.

Center School.

Summer term of this school, to which some of the scholars from the Waite district were conveyed, was taught by Jennie M. Hopkins. This was Miss Hopkins second experience as a teacher, and I think she met with very fair success. Fall term was taught by Bertha L. Goggin. Miss Goggin is a young teacher, but has already established a good reputation.

West School.

Summer term taught by Mary E. Crockett. Winter term taught by Joseph A. Putnam. I have always considered both of these teachers among the best and their experience in this school verifies the fact.

Dickvale School.

Summer term taught by Florilla L. Phinney. Winter term by Mary E. Crockett. Both of these teachers are too well known to admit of any comments from me.

Knox School.

Both summer and winter terms taught by Bertha E. Hopkins. The fact of Miss Hopkins serving in both terms of this school proves that her efforts were appreciated, and I cheerfully recommend her to my successor.

Foot of Pond School.

Summer term taught by Nellie M. Castle. On account of illness of the teacher the school was cut short. Miss Castle is one of our good teachers and was having good success in this school.

Winter term taught by Marcia V. Hall. Mrs. Hall is one of our old and successful teachers, and in this school fully sustained her reputation. Discipline perfect.

Head of Pond.

Summer term suspended. Fall term taught by Grace L. Johnson. Miss Johnson is a young teacher, but manifests a great interest in her work, and with experience may become one of our best teachers.

Ridge School.

Summer term was under the instruction of Ellen C. Babb, who is an experienced teacher and one of ability, but owing to sickness in her family the term was shortened and it was somewhat detrimental to the interests of the school. Winter term taught by Clara E. Curtis. This was her second term in this

district. I supposed that her services were appreciated, but I found that after the school had been in session a short time there was some dissatisfaction. I inquired into the matter, and came to the conclusion that either there were some unruly pupils or else the teacher had been too sparing of the rod. I think it was partly both, but truly my sympathies were with the teacher. If scholars are sent to school to learn and wish to learn they can learn.

Respectfully submitted.

A. M. CURTIS, Supervisor.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Teacher.	School	Term	No. of weeks.	Regular Attendance.	Average Attendance.	Pay per term.	Board per term.	Conveying Scholars.	Wood and fitting	Care of houses.	Total.	Grand total.
Ada E. Gerrish.....	East.	Summer.	10	19	16	\$50 00	\$17 50	\$1,009 61
Ada E. Gerrish....	East.	Winter.	10	23	21	50 00	20 00	.....	7 00	4 00	148 50
Jennie M. Hopkins ...	Centre.	Summer.	10	15	13	30 00	15 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bertha L. Goggin.....	Centre.	Fall.	10	14	11	35 00	15 00	.....	3 50	1 50	100 00
Mary E. Crockett.....	West.	Summer.	10	35	29	50 00	20 00	.....	7 00	.....	.....
Jos. A. Putnam	West.	Winte ,	10	40	35	75 00	25 00	.....	9 84	7 00	193 84
Florilla L. Phinney...	Dickvale.	Summer.	10	24	22 .5	50 00	17 50	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mary E. Crockett.....	Dickvale.	Winter.	10	19	16 1-3	50 00	20 00	.....	7 87	2 00	147 37
Bertha E. Hopkins.....	Knox.	Summer.	10	10	9	30 00	15 00	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bertha E. Hopkins.....	Knox.	Winter.	10	12	9	35 00	15 00	.....	4 50	4 00	104 50
Ellen C. Babb.....	Ridge.	Summer.	9	16	14	30 80	13 20	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clara E. Curtis	Ridge.	Winter.	11	18	14	44 00	15 40	.....	3 00	2 00	98 40
.....	Head of Pd.	Summer.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$25.	.....	.....	.....
Grace L. Johnson.....	Head of Pd.	Fall,	8	8	7	16 00	8 00	.....	.....	.....	49 00
Nellie M. Castle	Foot of Pd.	Summer.	10	22	16	40 00	17 50	.....	.....	.....	.....
Marcia V. Hall	Foot of Pd.	Winter.	10	23	19 5	50 00	20 00	.....	7 00	4 00	138 50
.....	Waite.	Summer.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14 50	.....	.....	.....
.....	Waite.	Winter.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15.	.....	.....	29 50

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES.

Total expenses of schools from table on opposite page.....	\$1,009 61
Books and express	185 65
Crayons, brooms, etc.....	4 03
Cost of labeling books.....	7 25
	<hr/>
Expenditures for schools during the year ..	\$1,206 54
Unexpended balance for support of schools....	237 52
	<hr/>
	\$1,444 06
Unexpended balance from last year..	\$243 11
Interest on permanent school fund.....	34 38
Appropriated by town.....	600 00
Received from State.....	566 57
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	\$1,444 06

Respectfully submitted.

A. M. CURTIS, Superintendent.

The committee recommend that the town raise \$150 for repairing school houses the coming year.