

1886

Forty Second Annual Report of the Selectmen, Auditor, and Supervisor of Schools, of the Town of Searsport, For The Municipal Year 1886

Searsport (Me.)

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[No. 9 OF PRINTED REPORTS.]

→ FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT ←

OF THE

SELECTMEN

AND

SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS

OF THE

TOWN of SEARSPORT,

FOR THE

MUNICIPAL YEAR 1886.

BELFAST :
GEO. W. BURGESS, PRINTER.
1887.

THE WARRANT.

STATE OF MAINE.

To WM. B. SAWYER, a constable of the town of Searsport, in
the County of Waldo, Greeting :

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town of Searsport, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town House in said town, on Monday, the 14th day of March, instant, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, to wit :

- 1st. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
- 2nd. To choose a Town Clerk for the ensuing year.
- 3rd—4th. To see if the town will accept the report of its officers as printed.
- 5th. To choose three or more Selectmen.
- 6th. To choose Assessors of Taxes.
- 7th. To choose Overseers of the Poor.
- 8th. To choose a Town Agent.
- 9th. To choose a Town Treasurer.
- 10th. To choose a Superintending School Committee or Supervisor.
- 11th. To choose School Agents.
- 12th. To choose an Auditor of Town Accounts.
- 13th—24th. To choose other town officers.
- 25th. To see if the town will continue the Free High School during the present year, and how much money it will raise therefor.
- 26th. To see how much money the town will raise for the support of schools.
- 27th. To see what action the town will take in regard to school books.
- 28th. To see how much money the town will raise for the support of the poor, and other town expenses.
- 29th. To see how much money the town will raise to repair the highways, and whether in labor or money, and how much to allow per hour for men, oxen and horses.

- 30th. To see if the town will vote to stop the digging of clams to be consumed out of town, and to see what action the town will take in regard to licensing the sale of clams in town.
- 31st. To see if the town will raise fifty dollars for a Memorial Service May 30, 1887.
- 32nd. To see how much money the town will raise for the Sears Library.
- 33rd. To hear the report of the Fire Department.
- 34th. To see if the town will vote to pay members of the Engine Co. and Fire Wards \$3 each—not to exceed sixty-three members; said money being payable to the Clerk of the Engine Co. in a gross sum on or before January 1, 1888.
- 35th. To see if the town will instruct the Selectmen to purchase another road machine.
- 36th. To see how much discount the town will allow to those who pay their taxes on or before the first day of July next, and how much to those who pay on or before the first day of Jan., 1888.
- 37th. To see what discount the town will allow to those who pay their highway taxes on or before the first day of June next in cash to the surveyor.
- 38th. To see if the town will accept the list of jurors as made out by the Selectmen, Treasurer and Town Clerk.
- 39th. To see how much money the town will raise to pay discount on taxes.
- 40th. To choose a Collector of Taxes.

The Selectmen hereby give notice that they will be in session at their office on Saturday, the 12th instant, at one o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of revising and correcting the list of voters.

Given under our hands at Searsport, this 4th day of March, A. D. 1887.

MARLBORO PACKARD,	} Selectmen of Searsport.
I. N. HARRIMAN,	
J. A. COLSON,	

REPORT.

Assessors' Doings.

Valuation of Real Estate,	\$430,032	
" " Personal Estate,	547,780	
	<hr/>	
Total,		\$977,812
Number of Polls,	441	
Rate of Taxation,	.0156	

The following amounts were assessed on the inhabitants of Searsport and the non-residents owning real estate therein:

For support of Common Schools,	\$2,000 00	
" " " a Free High School,	500 00	
" the Sears Library,	49 00	
" roads and bridges,	2,500 00	
" road breaking the past winter,	800 00	
" support of the poor, and other ex- penses,	2,500 00	
" discount on taxes,	1,500 00	
" bills of F. A. Davis, L. M. Sargent, and Mark Ward,	150 00	
" memorial service,	50 00	
	<hr/>	
	\$10,049 00	
For County Tax,	1,863 08	
" State "	3,942 58	
" overlay,	722 10	
	<hr/>	
	\$16,576 76	
For Supplemental Tax,	96 89	
	<hr/>	
		\$16,673 65

ABATEMENTS.

To Joseph Field, Treasurer for 1885, the following taxes :

Willis H. Nickerson's tax of 1882,	22	
.. .. " .. " 1883,	24	
.. .. " .. " 1884,	22	
	—	68

The above were abated on account of being wrongly taxed.

To J. H. Kneeland, Collector, on the following taxes :

On Norman Dunbar's tax of 1883, the discount was abated on account of absence,		6 41
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Also the following taxes of 1885 :

Hervey Carr's poll tax on account of non- residence,	3 00	
On James A. Carter's tax on account of sickness and poverty of the old people,	5 71	
Cyrus H. Carver's tax on account of being in the Insane Hospital,	9 37	
C. Frank Carver's tax on account of claim- ing non-residence that year,	12 22	
John S. Colcord's Heirs' tax on account of being a widow and unable to pay,	8 15	
Clifton Curtis' poll tax on account of non- residence,	3 00	
Joseph P. Curtis' poll tax on account of non- residence,	3 00	
On Michael Felker's tax on account of loss of stock,	2 59	
Jeremiah R. Ford's poll tax on account of sickness,	3 00	
Richard L. Larrabee's poll tax on account of death,	3 00	
Charles A. Lowe's poll tax on account of non-residence,	3 00	
Perez Rich's tax on account of death,	3 26	
William H. Staples' poll tax on account of non-residence,	3 00	
	—	\$62 30

Also the following taxes of '86 :

Henry M. Bennett's poll tax on account of non-residence,	3 00	
James W. Ford's Heirs' tax on personal property on account of non-residence,	6 24	
Edwin L. Matthews' tax on account of death,	4 25	
Lewis B. Park's poll tax on account of non- residence,	3 00	
Wilton J. Randall's poll tax on account of death,	3 00	
Warren B. Woodman's poll tax on account of non-residence,	3 00	
	<hr/>	\$22 49

Also the following taxes of '86 :

To J. Herbert Colcord on account of loss of vessel,	3 08	
To Rufus W. Fowler on account of being wrongly taxed,	7 00	
To J. C. Nickels on account of over valuation,	63 34	
	<hr/>	\$73 42
Total abatements,		<hr/> \$165 30

SCHOOLS.

No. of District.	Underdrawn last year.	Overdrawn last year.	School Fund.	Orders drawn.	Balance underdr'n.	Balance overdr'n.
1	105 41		368 08	446 19	27 30	
2	12 07		544 32	515 76	40 63	
3, 4, 5		31 67	1089 47	1045 58	12 22	
6	10 08		105 68	111 61	4 15	
7	41 26		186 32	198 58	29 00	
8	30		206 48	214 10		7 32
9	128 44		186 16	255 33	59 27	
10	23 51		105 64	94 28	34 87	
11	103 31		105 64	206 60	2 35	
12	17 05		45 36	57 99	4 42	
Free high school,			500 00	500 00		
	441 43	31 67	3443 15	3646 02	214 21	7 32
					7 32	
Balance due the districts.					206 89	

SEARS' LIBRARY.

De Wolfe, Fiske & Co., for books as per vote of town,	\$49 00	
Phineas Pendleton, for rent of room,	50 00	
Geo. F. Smith, for blank book, &c.,	85	
John Sullivan and wife, for cleaning room,	4 68	
Ada E. Ridley, for cleaning room,	2 50	
" " " " repairs on books,	3 00	
" " " " services as librarian to April 4, 1886.	25 00	
		\$135 03

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

No. of District.	Breaking.	Labor and Material.	Total.
1	\$13 00	\$171 44	\$184 44
2	6 90	45 05	51 95
3	28 95	435 46	464 41

No. of District.	Breaking.	Labor and Material.	Total.
4	34 93	287 36	322 29
5	17 75	127 58	145 33
6	3 60	113 15	116 75
7	27 72	63 26	90 98
8	22 84	33 55	56 39
9	8 90	34 90	43 80
10	45 21	61 17	106 38
11	102 10	75 29	177 39
12	60 08	21 58	81 66
13	63 25	40 34	103 59
14	75 55	62 85	138 40
15	53 88	25 00	78 88
16	96 92	53 28	150 20
17	40 27	43 55	83 82
18	99 45	56 34	155 79
19	106 25	79 55	185 80
20	15 55	56 95	72 50
21	28 62	50 20	78 82
22	56 95	128 25	185 20
23		55 55	55 55
	<u>\$1,008 67</u>	<u>\$2,121 65</u>	<u>\$3,130 32</u>

French & Co., for points and sections for machine,	26 75
Levi Trundy, for plank, boards, &c.,	118 94
A. T. Quimby & Co., for nails, &c.,	4 62
M. Packard, for cedar for sidewalk sleepers,	11 50
E. W. Seavey, for use of watering trough,	3 00
F. A. Wentworth, for clay for town's use,	6 00
Also for town well :	
B. W. Kinney, for pump and boring well,	88 20
S. George, for fencing street, &c,	1 25
M. Packard, for stone and trucking,	9 50
Timothy Porter, for labor,	3 20
A. P. Sweetser, for labor,	4 65

E. J. Wentworth, for labor and sand,	1 50	
F. M. Eastman, for watering trough,	32 50	
		<hr/>

\$140 80

\$3,441 93

Received of Mary A. Nichols, on account
of drain in front of house in Dis-
trict No. 3,

\$100 00

Total expense of Roads and Bridges,

\$3,341 93

STREET LIGHTS.

L. M. Sargent, for glass for lantern,	\$ 20
W. A. Wood & Co., for oil,	17 66
G. W. Young, for care of lamps,	66 00
J. L. Hamilton, for care of lamps,	5 00
	<hr/>

. \$88 86

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

C. O. Sawyer, clerk, as per vote of town,	\$189 00
C. O. Sawyer, clerk, coal, furnishing, &c.,	33 81
A. T. Quimby & Co., for paint, &c., for engine house,	18 95
D. N. Treat, for painting engine house,	19 10
American Fire Hose Co., for leading hose,	98 46
	<hr/>

\$359 32

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

W. B. Sawyer, Q. M. of Freeman McGilvery Post, as per vote of town,	\$50 00
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TOWN FARM.

Store bills,	\$456 24
Labor,	42 00
Pasturing,	4 00

Fertilizer and seed,	32 45	
J. R. Park, for cow,	35 00	
Dr. Hopkins, for medical services,	8 00	
L. M. Kneeland, for services as overseer to Jan. 1, '87,	276 54	
	<hr/>	\$854 23
Received from B. O. Sargent, Guardian, for board of Andrew Sawyer,	40 00	
Received from Mark Ward, for a yoke of steers,	50 00	
Due from I. N. Harriman, for 41819 lbs. hay sold in April, '86,	25 13	
	<hr/>	\$115 13
Balance against the Farm,		\$739 10

L. M. Kneeland's account as Superintendent stands as follows :

Received from sale of butter and milk,	\$155 12	
“ “ “ “ eggs,	47 09	
“ “ “ “ calves,	12 50	
“ “ “ “ pork,	29 31	
“ “ “ “ beef,	5 83	
“ “ “ “ poultry,	8 50	
“ “ “ “ cow's hide,	3 60	
“ “ “ “ beans,	2 95	
“ “ “ “ potatoes,	1 10	
“ “ “ “ pigs,	101 50	
	<hr/>	\$367 50
Paid store bill,	\$173 76	
“ for labor,	81 00	
“ “ blacksmithing,	13 78	
“ “ new frame for mowing machine,	8 50	
“ “ stock animals,	10 00	

Paid for pasturing calves,	3 00	
“ “ tramps,	4 00	
	<hr/>	
	294 04	
Balance allowed by Superintendent in settling for services to Jan. 1, '87,	73 46	\$367 50
	<hr/>	

Inventory of Stock, Produce, &c., Feb. 24, '87.

4 tons pressed hay,	\$48 00	
22 tons loose hay,	220 00	
3 tons straw,	18 00	
18 bush. mixed grain,	9 00	
50 bush. oats,	20 00	
100 bush. beets,	20 00	
45 bush. potatoes,	22 50	
4 bush. beans,	6 00	
6 cows,	210 00	
2 two-year-olds,	45 00	
3 yearlings,	30 00	
2 calves,	10 00	
5 hogs,	73 00	
2 shoats,	10 00	
50 hens,	17 25	
75 lbs. beef,	5 25	
325 lbs. pork,	26 00	
180 lbs. ham,	18 00	
50 lbs. lard,	4 50	
Flour and stores,	4 00	
Barrel and vinegar,	3 50	
	<hr/>	\$820 00

TOWN'S POOR, NOT ON FARM.

The Bowen family, supplied in Belfast,	\$36 00
Dr. Davis, for medical attendance on Net- tie Bunker, as per vote of town,	75 00

L. M. Sargent, for casket for Nettie Bunker, as per vote of town,	22 00	
Herman H. Davis, supplied in Rockland,	10 30	
Dr. Hopkins, physician to town's poor,	17 00	
	<hr/>	\$160 30

Add for Foreign Paupers.

W. Grinnell & Son's bill for keeping tramps,	3 25	
	<hr/>	\$163 55

INSANITY.

Support of James C. Hanson at hospital,	\$132 30	
" " Addison Warren " "	120 12	
" " Charles L. Smart " "	62 52	
Expense of removing Charles L. Smart from hospital,	10 00	
	<hr/>	\$324 94

INCIDENTAL.

Printing report of 1885,	\$19 00	
Town books and blanks,	14 65	
Stationery, registering letters, &c.,	5 85	
Wood for office, library, and town house,	6 15	
W. U. Telegraph bills,	1 62	
W. B. Sawyer, for paint, labor &c., on town house,	3 00	
Joseph Field, for freight, trucking, &c.,	2 33	
Grinnell & Shute, for team two days,	3 00	
James G. Pendleton, Town Agent, for amount paid W. H. Fogler on set- tlement with Isaac P. Horr,	10 00	
H. W. Davis, for injuries to horse, on the highway,	25 00	
Mark Ward, for injuries on the highway, as per vote of town,	50 00	

J. H. Kneeland, for settlement of taxes of '84, except the tax of Royal G. Waterhouse, which amounts to \$37 64.	45 71
D. Appleton & Co., for school books,	82 20
Harrison Hume, for school books,	118 26
	<hr/>

\$386 77

TOWN OFFICERS.

J. H. Sullivan for services as Moderator,	\$5 00
Robert Porter for auditing accounts of '85,	6 00
W. B. Sawyer, for services as Constable,	6 00
J. H. Kneeland, for error in settlement of taxes of '83 last year,	1 80
J. H. Kneeland, for balance for collecting taxes of '84,	21 95
J. H. Kneeland, in part for collecting taxes of '85,	275 00
Joseph Field, for services as Clerk,	25 00
E. B. Sheldon, for services as Treasurer,	60 00
A. F. Sweetser, for services as Supervisor,	84 50
M. Packard, for services as Selectman, &c.,	175 34
I. N. Harriman, for services as Selectman,	100 00
J. A. Colson, " " " "	110 00
	<hr/>

\$870 59

Collector's and Treasurer's Doings.

On settlement with J. H. Kneeland, Collector for the years 1883-4-5-6, we find his account to stand as follows :

Balance due the town March 1, '86,	\$1684 68	
Amount of State tax assessment,	3942 58	
" " County tax assessment,	1863 08	
" " Town " " "	10771 10	
" " Supplemental tax assessment,	96 89	
	<hr/>	\$18358 33
Paid E. B. Sheldon, Treasurer,		16467 23
		<hr/>
		\$1891 10

Uncollected taxes of 1884, consisting of Royal G. Waterhouse's, amount- ing to	\$37 64	
Uncollected taxes of '85,	326 10	
" " " '86,	1527 36	
	<hr/>	\$1891 10

On settlement with Joseph Field, Treasurer for '85, we find his account to stand as follows :

RECEIPTS.

Balance due the town Feb. 27, '86,	\$519 04	
Mill tax and School Fund for '85,	943 15	
State Pension Scrip for '85,	123 00	
Cash of E. B. Sheldon, Treasurer,	49	
	<hr/>	\$1585 68

DISBURSEMENTS.

Town orders of '85,	\$385 50	
" " " '86,	134 03	
Cn State Tax of '85,	1066 15	
	<hr/>	\$1585 68

Assets.

School books in the hands of Geo. F. Smith,	\$274 57	
Balance due from J. W. Smart for steers,	40 00	
Due from I. N. Harriman, for sale of 4189 lbs. hay in April, '86,	25 13	
Due from J. H. Kneeland as Collector, (less about \$235 for collecting,)	1891 10	
Due from E. B. Sheldon as Treasurer,	52 83	
Due from the State for Mill tax and School Fund,	966 26	
	<hr/>	\$3249 89

Liabilities.

Outstanding orders of '86,	\$1252 33	
Due the several school districts,	206 89	
Due on State Tax,	1322 59	
	<hr/>	\$2781 81
Balance to the town's credit,		\$468 08

We would respectfully recommend that the town raise for the ensuing year—for schools, \$2000; for a free high school, \$500; for the Sears Library, \$100; for the poor and other town expenses, \$2500; for the highways, \$3000 in money; and for road breaking, \$500.

Respectfully submitted,

MARLBORO PACKARD,	} Selectmen of Searsport.
I. N. HARRIMAN,	
J. A. COLSON,	

R E P O R T

—OF THE—

SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS,

For the Year Ending March 1, 1887.

To the citizens of the town of Searsport:

In accordance with law, I submit the following report of the condition and progress of the schools of this town during the municipal year just ended.

Absence in the earlier part of the year prevented some of the school visits which I should have made, and in one or two cases later, failure to receive notices from agents misled me. From the visits, however, that were made, and from the reports handed in by the different teachers, together with information derived from other sources, the following observations are made:—

DISTRICT No. 1. (HARBOR DISTRICT.)

Jas. R. Park, Agent. Average attendance: Spring, 38; Fall, 39; Winter, 34.

The spring and fall terms of 10 weeks each were under the charge of Miss Kate C. Towle, an energetic and experienced teacher, and one who was thoroughly interested in her work. Here, as in other schools where she has taught, progress was made and general satisfaction given.

The winter term of ten weeks was taught by Mr. Judson B. Bryant, who gave his best efforts for the benefit of his pupils.

The same difficulties that have been noticed in former years, still exist. The large attendance of scholars differing so much in age, makes it difficult to maintain the good order and attention to study that are essential to the best work. Another consequence, the large number of daily recitations (30 or more each term) of necessity cripples the efforts of both teacher and scholars.

DISTRICT NO. 2. (NICHOLS DISTRICT.)

D. E. Richards, Agent. Average attendance, Primary School: Spring, 23; Fall, 22; Winter, 19. High School: Spring, 20; Fall, 19; Winter, 22.

The spring term of 9 weeks in the Primary was taught by Miss Charlotte E. Carver, and the fall and winter terms of 10 weeks each, by Miss Caroline G. Packard. Miss Carver continued to give the satisfaction that was expressed in the last report, while Miss Packard, though this was her first experience, showed herself adapted to the position.

In the High School the spring term was taught by Miss Hattie Bates, whose ability and earnestness in her management of the school, merited better results than followed her work. Miss Carver was transferred to this school in the fall, and taught that and the succeeding term. Both scholars and teacher seemed interested in their work, and it can be well said that the time was profitably employed. Good order has been maintained throughout the whole year.

DISTRICTS NO. 3, 4 AND 5. (UNION DISTRICT.)

B. O. Sargent, Agent. In all of the schools of this district except the Third Primary, (Gordon schoolhouse) there have been 26 weeks of school, divided as follows: Spring, 7 weeks; Fall, 10; Winter, 9. The Third Primary, which the district voted to re-establish, was maintained for two terms of 9 weeks each, both of which were taught by Miss Florence J. Gilmore. The attendance was small, (7 in the spring, 5 in the fall), and, though Miss Gilmore endeavored to make the school a success, circumstances make it hardly expedient to continue it.

During the whole year the Intermediate school has been taught by Miss Emma F. Mortland, the First Primary by Miss Margaret B. Sweetser, and the Second Primary by Mrs. Mary R. Perkins, and both teachers and scholars are to be highly commended for the interest they have shown in the performance of school duties, and for the uniformly successful results attained by them.

Average attendance, Intermediate: Spring, 45; Fall, 47; Winter, 34. First Primary: Spring, 22; Fall, 26; Winter, 18. Second Primary: Spring, 18; Fall, 22; Winter, 19. High School, average attendance: Spring, 44; Fall, 47; Winter, 47. The first two terms and a part of the third were conducted as a Free High School, the remaining time as a District High School. Mr. O. D. Sewall acted as principal during the spring term, and was assisted by Miss Rosalia A. Larrabee. The term closed near the first of June and I was unable to visit the school for the reasons

already given, but favorable reports have been made of the management and progress of the school.

Having been in charge of the school during the fall and winter terms, I can appreciate the difficulties that have been experienced by successive supervisors and grading committees. It is only for the thorough grading of such a school, and the rigid adherence to that classification, that the best work can be done. Marking out a course of study is not hard, but putting into operation such a system is a work of some difficulty, — a work that cannot be fully effected in one year. If the district, however, should adopt some plan and for several years persevere in carrying it into effect, there is no reason why a suitable grade should not be established and maintained.

With this end in view, it has been the endeavor to arrange the classes so that whatever action the district may take, the school may be in condition to take advantage of it. A plan will be submitted for the consideration of the district, at its annual meeting.

The aid rendered by Miss Jennie Barbour, the assistant teacher of the fall and winter terms, deserves recognition and approval in this report.

DISTRICT NO. 6. (SARGENT DISTRICT.)

Wm. P. Sargent, Agent. Average attendance: Spring, 10; Fall, 9. The spring term of 8 weeks was taught by Miss Amanda K. Matthews, the fall term (8 weeks) by Miss Ma Belle Fletcher, and under both gratifying progress was made. The condition of the school reflects credit upon all those interested.

DISTRICT NO. 7. (PORTER DISTRICT.)

Mark Ward, Agent. Average attendance: Spring, 15; Fall, 19; Winter, 17.

The spring term of 9 weeks and the fall term of 6 weeks were taught by Miss Carrie Gray, and under her charge the best of order was maintained. This, and the thorough instruction given, made the terms most prosperous.

During the winter term of 9 weeks, taught by Miss Desire Carver, the school showed the same endeavor to maintain its excellent record of the previous terms, and with praiseworthy results.

DISTRICT NO. 8. (MATTHEWS DISTRICT.)

Wilbert Ellis, Agent. Average attendance: Spring, 18; Fall, 15; Winter, 22.

Miss Luella H. Parsons taught the spring term of 8 weeks, and residents of the district give favorable reports of the work accomplished.

The fall term of 8 weeks was successfully completed by Miss Addie M. Marden, and the winter term of 12 weeks by Mr. D. W. Billings. In the latter term the school was enlarged by the attendance of a class of older scholars, whose interest and application to work, as well as the advancement made, are certainly creditable.

DISTRICT NO. 9. (NORTH SEARSPORT DISTRICT.)

James L. Dow, Agent. Average attendance: Spring, 16; Fall, 16; Winter, 23.

This school during the past year has well sustained the reputation it has won in former years. In order, diligence, and in the work done, it is surpassed by no other school in this town, — a showing that does honor to all concerned in bringing about this result.

Miss Velzora J. West taught both the spring term of 7 weeks and the fall term of 6 weeks, while the winter term, which was planned to be 10 weeks in length, was under the instruction of Mr. Henry E. Greeley. There is cause for regret that Mr. Greeley, after keeping the school for five weeks, was unable to complete the term, for it bade fair to be successful and of advantage to the school.

DISTRICT NO. 10. (DODGE DISTRICT.)

Horace E. Robbins, Agent. Average attendance: Spring, 8; Fall, 10. Spring and fall terms of 8 weeks each were taught by Miss V. Etta Robbins, and the school, though consisting of smaller scholars, took an active interest in their studies, and worked to advantage.

DISTRICT NO. 11. (ROULSTONE DISTRICT.)

Wm. A. Gray, Agent. Average attendance: Spring, 9; Winter, 7.

Miss Datie B. Matthews taught both terms of 8 weeks each, and the appearance of the school showed that it was under excellent management and that the time was being profitably employed.

DISTRICT NO. 12.

The same arrangement exists in this district as heretofore. The scholars attend the school in the adjoining Belfast district, and the school money apportioned to these scholars is at the disposal of the agent of that district.

The number of scholars in the town is still diminishing, — being now 580, a decrease of 62 in the last four years, and, in consequence, the income derived from the State fund and tax is becoming less each year.

The amount raised by the town at its last annual meeting was \$2000, with an additional sum of \$500 for the support of a Free High School. This gives an average of \$3.45 per scholar of Common School money, or, including the High School money, of \$4.31. With this amount there have been maintained 38 terms of school, aggregating 332 weeks, an average of about $8\frac{3}{4}$ weeks per term.

The text-books in use during the year are, in the main, the same that were adopted in 1881 and have been used continuously since that time.

Several considerations make it desirable that a change should be made in some of the books used. Especially would I urge the substitution of some other Arithmetic for the one now in use. The need of a book better adapted to the age, advancement and general requirements of our scholars, must be evident to anyone who has thoroughly examined this work. Should it be deemed expedient by the town, a change in the series of readers would meet with approval and promote the school interests.

Thanks are due to those who have shown their interest in local school matters by visiting the different schools and observing the methods of instruction and discipline and the results secured thereby, showing what advantage is taken of the school privileges which are so liberally provided.

A continuation of the encouragement and support of the parents is solicited. If each one will take care that his children are regular and punctual in attendance, one of the greatest obstacles to the success of the schools will be removed. The withdrawal of home influence from the scholars while at and in school can bring no benefit to the scholar, and on the other hand must be a cause of detriment to the school.

In closing, I would express my appreciation of the assistance and favor of those with whom I have been drawn into association in this work.

Respectfully submitted.

A. F. SWEETSER, Supervisor of Schools.