1887

Annual Report of the Several Town Officers of the Town of Waterborough for the Municipal Year 1886-7, Closing February 28, 1887

Waterborough (Me.). Municipal Officials

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SEVERAL TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF WATERBOROUGH,
FOR THE
MUNICIPAL YEAR 1886-7,
CLOSING FEBRUARY 28, 1887.

WATERBORD:
J. W. & J. S. Sanborn, Printers.
TOWN OFFICERS FOR 1886.

Town Clerk,
CLARENCE H. KNIGHTS.

Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor,
RUEL W. RICKER,
JOHN H. CHASE,
GEORGE W. ROBERTS.

Treasurer,
FRANK W. BLAISDELL.

Town Agent,
ELBRIDGE SAWYER.

Supervisor of Schools,
FRANK H. HOBBS.

Auditor,
JOHN HARPER.

Collector and Constable,
JOSEPH C. ROBERTS.

Agent on Town Farm,
DARLIN P. KNIGHTS.
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS
AND
OVERSEEERS OF THE POOR.

We, the undersigned Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor, herewith submit our annual report for the municipal year beginning March 1st, 1886, and ending February 29th, 1887.

VALUATION OF THE TOWN FOR THE YEAR 1886.

Resident real estate, $142,116.00
Resident personal estate, 23,738.00

Total resident estate, $165,854.00

Non-resident real estate, $40,327.00
Non-resident personal estate, 346.00

Total personal estate, $40,673.00

Total valuation of estates, $206,527.00

Number of polls, 340; at $2.00, $680.00
Tax cast at 33½ mills on the dollar.

APPROPRIATIONS.

State tax, $1,404.96
County tax, 409.84
Town schools, 1,185.60
Support of poor, 600.00
Incidental expenses, 600.00
Town Bonds, 2,000.00
Interest on Bonds, 840.00
J. W. Brown Post, 50.00
Highway Tax, 2,500.00
Bridges, 200.00
Overlay, 273.83

Total, $10,064.23
Highway tax returned, $150.83

DISBURSEMENTS.
Whole number of orders drawn, 21; amounting to $7,904.12
Order No. 1 — Abatement of taxes.
Hobbs and Raymond, on tax of 1884, 10.00
Munroe Emery, on tax of 1884, .32
Perley D. Anderson, on tax of 1885, .90
Howard L. Thyng, on tax of 1885, 5.00
F. P. Johnson, error in Highway Tax returned, 2.16
David Kimball, poll, over 70, 2.00
Levi Hobbs, on taxes of 1880-81-82-83, 35.00
Heirs of Joseph Bean, on tax of 1886, 4.00
Elias Vittum, Blind, 3.50

62.88

Order No. 2 — School bills paid 1886 as per Treasurer's record.
District No. 1, Seth Carll, Agent, 197.17
“ 3, Sherman Young, “ 106.25
“ 4, Charles Pitts, “ 78.28
District No. 5, William E. Fox, Agent, 103.80
  " 6, Frank H. Hobbs, " 101.08
  " 7, J. F. Chadbourne, " 71.75
  " 8, J. M. Harper, " 46.00
  " 9, A. H. Chadbourne, " 132.50
  " 10, P. H. Anderson, " 480.51
  " 12, J. C. Roberts, " 168.75
  " 14, Darlin P. Knights, " 84.25
  " 15, C. H. Cook, " 70.90
  " 16, Elbridge Sawyer. " 168.64
Bradford Scribner, to Treasurer, Hollis, 27.22

$1,837.10

Order No. 3 — New Road from I. C. Smith’s to Ross’ Corner.

Bills prior to March 1st, 1886.

A. B. Ross and Son, labor, $2.50
Stephens B. Chick, labor, .75
Kimball and Smith, labor, 2.00
Stephen Chick, hauling plank, .75
A. H. Roberts, labor, 22.75
John Baker, labor, 7.88
J. T. Scribner, labor, 9.50
George Brock, labor, 1.25
Frank S. Libby, labor, 9.25
C. W. Smith, labor, 3.50

$60.13
Order No. 4 — New Road from L. C. Smith's to Ross' Corner.
Bills of 1886.

Frank S. Libby, labor, $3.35
J. T. Scribner, 24.50
I. C. Smith, 33.00
John C. Chick, 2.00
Ruel W. Ricker, 8.90
B. F. Davis, 5.25
Heirs of Thomas P. Roberts, labor, 3.00
J. N. Roberts, labor, 6.00

$ 86.00

Order No. 5 — Roads and bridges.
Bills prior to March 1st. 1886.

H. Guptil, nails for bridges, $1.60
Horace P. Thing, bridge plank for 1885, 16.90
Joseph A. Hobbs, labor in District No. 18, 3.00
Joseph Chase, labor on highway, 2.25
S. S. Carll, 19.81
Charles Carpenter, 1.50
Seward Durgin, 1.50
J. C. Batchelder, 12.50
Mark Walton, labor on bridge, .50
P. H. Ricker, labor repairing wash-out, .88
Will Bradford, labor on bridges, 4.00
J. M. Chadbourne, bridge plank, 1885, 28.62
Nathaniel Gile, labor in Dis. No. 2, 4.80
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C. W. Smith</td>
<td>Winter taxes of 1884-5</td>
<td>31.08</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. C. Andrews</td>
<td>Repairing wash-out</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. H. Jellison</td>
<td>Labor on highway</td>
<td>1.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Chadbourne</td>
<td>Bridge plank and labor</td>
<td>8.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph A. Hobbs</td>
<td>Labor in Dist. No. 18</td>
<td>2.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rice Smith</td>
<td>Labor on highway 1883</td>
<td>1.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathaniel Gile</td>
<td>Labor on highway</td>
<td>8.17</td>
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<tr>
<td>C. W. Smith</td>
<td>Bridge plank and railings</td>
<td>63.26</td>
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$218.09

**Order No. 6 — Roads and bridges. Bills of 1886.**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Charles and Onville Knights</td>
<td>Labor on highway</td>
<td>11.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dennis Johnson</td>
<td>Bridge plank</td>
<td>5.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herbert E. Carpenter</td>
<td>Bridge plank and labor on Stimpson’s bridge</td>
<td>12.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Horace P. Thing</td>
<td>Bridge plank to Oct. 8th, 1886</td>
<td>16.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles S. Day</td>
<td>Labor on highway</td>
<td>9.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Chadbourne</td>
<td>Bridge plank</td>
<td>7.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaiah McLucas</td>
<td>Labor on highway</td>
<td>7.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ruel W. Ricker</td>
<td>Repairing wash-out Dist. No. 1</td>
<td>3.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sherman Young</td>
<td>Hauling bridge plank</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyrus Libby</td>
<td>Bridge plank</td>
<td>9.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arthur C. Bradeen</td>
<td>Putting up railing near Edgecomb’s bridge</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. H. Chase</td>
<td>Plank and labor on bridges</td>
<td>13.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. C. Roberts</td>
<td>Labor on highway</td>
<td>3.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

105.49
Order No. 7 — Incidental Expenses.

Bills prior to March 1st, 1886.

George H. Emery, damage to horse, near Ross' Corner, 5.00
R. W. Ricker, indorsement on town order, 60.00
John Hanscom, printing town reports, 1885, 24.00
Joseph A. Hobbs, services as Truant officer, 1885, 4.00
Joseph A. Hobbs, services in procuring approval of school ordinances by Judge of S J Court, 3.00
Alfred F. McKenny, injuries received on highway, 10.00
Dr. J. T. G. Emery, vaccinating 216 persons, 54.00
Dr. L. W. Leighton, 48 " 12.00
E. B. Hanson, services as Town Agent, 1885, 2.50
Warren C. Downs, services as Auditor, 1885, 3.00

$177.59

Order No. 8 — Incidentals of 1886.

R. W. Ricker, interest on Town order, dated Feb. 24. 1883, 72.18
F. H. Hobbs, services as Supervisor 1886, 50.00
Joseph L. Smith, damage to himself and team near Cook place, 10.00
Joseph A. Hobbs, posting truant ordinances and serving as school guardian, 1886, 5.00
R. W. Ricker, services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, 50.00
R. W. Ricker, postage and stationery, 2.00
Charles Knights, repairs on Town-house, 7.00
McLellan and Mosher, valuation book 1886, 9.17
Joseph C. Roberts, cleaning Town-house after March meeting 1886, 3.00
J. W. & J. S. Sanborn, printing school ordinances, 5.00
J. C. Roberts, services as constable 1886, 10.00
J. C. Roberts, collector 1886, discount on taxes paid before Dec. 1st, 1886 as per vote of Town, 246.33
F. M. Higgins, services in sending Calvin Day to Soldiers’ Home, and legal advice, 3.00
R. P. Tapley, legal advice, 1.00
George W. Roberts, services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of Poor, 45.00
McLellan & Mosher, book and stationery, 6.50
J. H. Chase, services as Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, 60.00
J. H. Chase, glass and material to repair Town house, 3.61
J. B. Scribner, digging pit to bury cattle, 5.00
Prescott Thing, butchering cattle at J. B. Scribner’s 3.00
Biddeford Times, advertising non-resident taxes, 13.00
Frank W. Blaisdell, interest on money to pay bond, 24.10
" " " postage, stationery and blank receipts, 3.75
" " " collecting non-resident taxes, 20.00
" " " services as Treasurer, 1886-7, 40.00

$697.64

Order No. 9 — Poor on Town Farm.

Bills prior to March 1st, 1886.

J. H. Chase, goods furnished Town Farm from April 1st, 1885, to April 1st, 1886, 187.15
Darling P. Knights, services as agent on Farm from Oct. 1st, 1885, to April 1st, 1886, 100.00

287.15
Order No. 10 — Poor off Town farm.
Bills prior to March 1st, 1886.

A. B. Ross and Son, goods furnished Betsey Chick and Lydia Williams, $3.85
Henry R. Thing, wood to Betsey Chick and Lydia Williams, 2.00
Curtis S. Carll, goods to John Avery, 9.50
Stephen B. Cook, wood to Mrs. Chick and Williams, 1.00
H. Guptil, goods to George Jellison from March 12th, 1885, to Jan. 1st, 1886, 23.46
H. M. Littlefield, wood to Mrs. Chick and Williams, 1.50
Warren C. Downs, supplies to George Jellison for Jan. and Feb. 1886, 9.43

$50.74

Order No. 11 — Poor on Farm. Bills of 1886.

Dr. J. M. Plaisted, Medical attendance to Calvin Day, 15.15
J. H. Chase, goods from April 1st, to Oct. 1st, 1886, 161.73
George Williams, two pigs, 4.00
Darlin P. Knights, services as Agent from April 1st, to Oct. 1st, 1886, 100.00
Moves and Sherman, sawing and planing boards, 2.00
Nathan Graffam, blacksmith work, 4.23

$287.11

Order No. 12 — Poor off Farm. Bills of 1886.

Curtis S. Carll, goods to John Avery, 19.66
Warren C. Downs, goods, to George Jellison from Mar. 1st, to Aug. 30th, 1886, 32.67
Warren C. Downs, goods to George Jellison from Sept. 1st, 1886, to Feb. 19th, 1887, 32.55
Dr. J. A. Southwick, medical attendance to Thomas Hunscomb, 3.00
R. W. Ricker, wood for George Jellison, 1.75

Order No. 13 — John W. Brown Post G. A. R., to George V. Mills Quartermaster, 50.00

Order No. 14 — Abatement of taxes to J. C. Roberts, Collector, 1885.
Henry Bean, poll, away, 2.00
Maurice Boudro, " " 2.00
Frances Bailey, " " 2.00
Henry O. Berry " " 2.00
Heirs of Thomas Bond, error, .36
Thatcher Emery, away, 2.00
Ivory Grant Jr., " 2.54
D. W. Hubbard, " 2.00
Wilbur T. Henderson, " 3.80
Levi Jellison, " 3.50
Daniel Laurell, " 2.00
James Lombard, " 3.08
Charles G. McKenny, " 2.00
Charles Nason, " 2.54

$89.63
Freeman Nason, poor, 2.00  
John Spenser, poor, 2.00  
Hiram Thing Jr., away, 3.30  
Orrin Tuttle, poor, 2.00  
Frank Temple, 2.00  
Living Lane, Saco, error, 9.00  
Elias Vittum, blind, 3.78  
I. P. Hamilton, away, 2.00  

Order No. 15 — To J. M. Harper, Collector, 1884.  
Ivory Earl, poll, over 70, 2.00  
David Kimball, " " 2.00  
John Thing, " " 2.00  
George Boothby, away, 2.00  
Daniel Laurell, " 2.00  
Stillman Maddox, " 2.00  
Charles E. Libby, highway, 1.50  
B. P. Hamilton, error, 1.65  
George Kimball, away, 2.00  

Order No. 16 — To Frank W. Blaisdell, Treasurer,  
Abatement on non-resident taxes.  
Benjamin Leavitt, error in highway tax, 5.42  
Silas I. Roberts, on tax deeds, 1.58  
James Rhodes, poor, 1.08  
J. C. Batchelder, or owner, on tax of 1884-5, 12.90  

Order No. 17 — To J. B. Scribner, expenses incurred  
in consequence of the execution of the orders of the  
Commissioners on diseased cattle, 197.56
Order No. 18 — George P. Chase, Joseph Chase, Alonzo J. Bradeen, Appraisers of damage at J. B. Scribner's, 24.00

Order No. 19 — Town bonds and interest, June 1st, 1886.
Saco National Bank, Town bond, $2,000.00
Interest June 1st, 1886, 480.00
Interest Dec. 1st, 1886, 420.00

Order No. 20 — Levi Hobbs, guardian for Will Clough's boy, 60.00

Order No. 21 — For highway tax receipts to March 1st, 1886, 617.07

RECAPITULATION.

Incidentals, 1,156.70
Decoration, 50.00
Support of poor, 714.63
Roads and bridges, 469.71
Support of schools, 1,837.10
Town bonds and interest, 2,900.00
Abatements, 158.91
Highway tax receipts, 617.07

$7,904.12

TOWN FARM MARCH 1st, 1887.
4 cows, 1 pair oxen, 1 two year old heifer, 20 hens, 2 shoats, 5 tons hay, 25 bushels corn on cob, 3 bushels beans, 6 bushels oats, 3 bushels barley, 20 lbs. dried apples, 200 lbs. pork, 20 bushels potatoes, 20 lbs. lard, 20 gallons vinegar.
Number of inmates, 5, viz: Thomas Webster, Noah Deshon, Mary Hoyt, John Taylor, Mrs. Silas Brown.

RUEL W. RICKER, Selectmen, Assessors
J. H. CHASE, and Overseers of Poor
GEO. W. ROBERTS,
TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

Resources in Treasury March 1st, 1886, $5,519.20
Total receipts for the year ending March 1st, 1887, 9,696.16

$15,215.36

DISBURSEMENTS.

Total amount of Town orders paid, $8,084.12
Resources March 1st, 1887, 7,131.24

$15,215.36

Dr.

To resources in Treasury March 1st, 1886, $5,519.20
Received State school fund of 1885, 644.23
" of D. P. Knights for pasturing, 14.00
" A. W. Tucker " " 8.00
" C. B. Johnson, rent of Brown place, 2.00
Received commitment of taxes to J. C. Roberts 8,300.26
collector, 1886,
Received of J. H. Chase difference between cattle, 7.50
" State pension for Clough boy, 60.00
" State school fund 1886, 660.17

$15,215.36
By paid Town order No. 3, 1883, $180.00
   "   "   " orders of 1886, 7,904.12
   --------------- $8,084.12

By due from I. N. Deering, school Dist. No. 3, 1879, 15.44
   "   "   J. M. Harper Collector, 1884, 50.42
   "   "   J. C. Roberts   "   " 1885, 640.40
   "   "   "   "   "   " 1886, 3,078.29
   "   "   tax deeds and taxes on same, 426.18
   "   "   non-resident taxes prior to 1885, 374.74
   "   "   "   "   "   " of 1885, 111.91
   "   "   State school fund 1886, 660.17
   "   "   State on account of Scribner’s cattle, 177.24
   "   "   A. W. Tucker. pasturing, 8.00
   "   "   T. S. Batchelder, on note, 30.00
   "   "   Cash to balance, 1,558.45
   ---------------- $15,215.36

Amount of bonded debt of town, after paying appropriations for 1886, $12,000.00

F. W. BLAISDELL, Treasurer.

WATERBOROUGH, MARCH 1st, 1887.
Examined and approved Feb. 8, 1887.

JOHN HARPER, AUDITOR.
ACCT. WITH THE SEVERAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS,

For the year ending March 1st, 1887.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>No Dist.</th>
<th>Amt. due March 1, 1886</th>
<th>Dist. Amt. Approp'd for 1886</th>
<th>Amount paid Dist. 1886</th>
<th>Bal. due March 1, 1887</th>
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<td>Dis. No. 1</td>
<td>$78.16</td>
<td>$228.31</td>
<td>$197.17</td>
<td>$109.30</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 3</td>
<td>54.14</td>
<td>117.92</td>
<td>106.25</td>
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<td>93.13</td>
<td>78.28</td>
<td>15.98</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 5</td>
<td>25.56</td>
<td>98.66</td>
<td>103.80</td>
<td>20.42</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 6</td>
<td>29.93</td>
<td>104.72</td>
<td>101.08</td>
<td>33.57</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 7</td>
<td>54.36</td>
<td>144.96</td>
<td>71.75</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 8</td>
<td>157.66</td>
<td>79.36</td>
<td>46.00</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 9</td>
<td>23.70</td>
<td>167.16</td>
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<td>58.36</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 10</td>
<td>226.51</td>
<td>322.54</td>
<td>480.51</td>
<td>68.54</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 12 Ov'dr'n 12.45</td>
<td>163.53</td>
<td>168.75</td>
<td>168.75</td>
<td>Overd'n 5.22</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 14</td>
<td>14.18</td>
<td>91.60</td>
<td>84.25</td>
<td>21.53</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 15</td>
<td>70.90</td>
<td>73.48</td>
<td>70.90</td>
<td>73.48</td>
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<td>Dis. No. 16</td>
<td>51.89</td>
<td>146.77</td>
<td>168.64</td>
<td>30.02</td>
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<td>B. Scribner</td>
<td>13.59</td>
<td>13.63</td>
<td>27.22</td>
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$801.71 | $1,845.77 | $1,837.10 | $810.38
REPORT OF THE

SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS.

DISTRICT No. 1. Seth Carli, Agent.

The summer and fall terms were taught by Miss Lottie Bradford of Shapleigh. Both terms were very satisfactory, the scholars acquitting themselves in such a manner as to show that the work had been well done.

The winter term was taught by Frank H. Hobbs of this town. By his request I visited the school.

The order was very good, and the mode of instruction was excellent, tending to lead the scholars to think and reason for themselves. The scholars made good progress in their studies, and both parents and scholars were well pleased with the school.

J. L. Sanborn.

DISTRICT No. 3, Sherman Young, Agent.

Summer and winter terms were both taught by Miss Maud Johnson of this town. This is a very pleasant school, and Miss J has given perfect satisfaction, her pupils showing more than a common degree of advancement.
DISTRICT NO. 4, CHARLES PITTS, AGENT.

Summer term was taught by Miss Lizzie E. Moulton of Limerick. Miss Moulton is a graduate of Limerick Academy, and those who attended her school made good progress in their studies.

Winter term taught by Miss Susie Hayes. This is Miss Hayes' second term in town this year. The result of this term is but a repetition of her former terms.

DISTRICT NO. 5, W. E. FOX, AGENT.

This district was again fortunate in securing the services of Miss Lizzie Sawyer of Limerick, to teach both terms.

This school is composed of small scholars, but one thing very noticeable was that the entire school could pass a good examination in Geography, Grammar, History, Physiology and Arithmetic.

These branches being taught orally, the class was styled the "bookless" class.

DISTRICT NO. 6, F. H. HOBBES, AGENT.

Summer term was commenced by Miss Lillian Libby of this town, but on account of sickness was obliged to leave the school at the close of the second week. Miss L has taught this school before, and always gave good satisfaction. The term was finished very satisfactorily by Miss Flora Boothby of Limerick.

Winter term was taught by Lilla A. Abbott of this town. Mrs. Abbott has always met with success in this and other towns where she has taught; and this proved like her former terms, very successful.

DISTRICT NO. 7, J. FRANK CHADBOURNE, AGENT.

Summer term was taught by Miss Mary Chase of this town. Miss Chase is one of those teachers who can always find something to do, and is willing to do it. This never fails to make a school a success.
Winter term was taught by Nathan Clough of this town. Was very favorably impressed with the school at the commencement; being unable to visit it at its close, I am not prepared to state the degree of advancement attained. Mr. Clough taught here last year, and gave, as I have ascertained, perfect satisfaction. So I have no hesitancy in judging that this term was equally as satisfactory to both pupils and parents.

---

**District No. 9, A. H. Chadbourne, Agent.**

Spring and fall terms were taught by Miss Hattie Moulton of Limington. Visited each term twice. The advancement was very good, and I think Miss M was liked by both parents and scholars.

Winter term was taught by E. C. Clark. This was his first attempt at teaching. He tried hard for the advancement of his school, and his labors were rewarded with success.

---

**District No. 10, P. H. Anderson, Agent.**

Spring term was taught by Miss Cora Smith of this town. Miss Smith is a graduate of Limerick Academy, and her educational ability is unquestionable. There was some fault found with the order, but when we remember that there were forty-nine names registered, the average attendance forty-one, and the ages of the scholars ranging from four to fifteen years, we can very readily see that the amount of labor required of the teacher must be very great.

Fall term of eight weeks was commenced by Mrs. Albert Langley. After teaching four weeks, Mrs. Langley resigned her position as teacher, as the labors of the school were too great in connection with her domestic duties, and the school was finished by John F. Lord of this town.

Winter term was taught by George Davis of Parsonsfield, a teacher
of experience and ability, assisted by Miss Annie Anderson of Limington. Excellent order has been maintained, and in the employment of two teachers, the district have made a move in the right direction, as no teacher ALONE can do justice to themselves or their pupils.

District No. 12, J. C. Roberts, Agent.
Spring term was taught by Miss Susie F. Hayes of Limerick. This is Miss Hayes' second year as teacher of the summer school, and the result of this term, as before was satisfactory.

Winter term was taught by Edgar M. Chick of Limington. This was also Mr. Chick's second year in the school as winter teacher. Visited the school at the commencement, was not notified of the close, so cannot make a report of the progress of the school.

District No. 14, D. P. Knights, Agent.
Both terms were taught by Miss Lillian Sawyer. Visited summer school at commencement and close. Was well pleased with the advancement made. I visited the winter school but once, as the term was brought suddenly to a close by the sickness of the teacher, not giving the agent opportunity to notify your Supervisor.

District No. 15, C. H. Cook, Agent,
This school is now in session, taught by Miss Mary Chase of this town.

District No. 16, Elbridge Sawyer, Agent.
Summer term taught by Miss Nettie V. Johnson. This was Miss Johnson's first attempt at teaching, but the school did good work under her instruction.
Winter term taught by Levi Hobbs of this town. Mr. Hobbs is a teacher of much experience, and is known throughout town as a first class teacher, and it is needless to say that the school was a success.

GENERAL REMARKS.

We feel pleased to say that our schools for the past year have been quite successful, that the class of teachers employed (although some of them have been teachers with no former experience) and the work done, will compare favorably with that of preceding years. Would that we might say more. In teaching, as in all other work, this is, or should be, an age of progression. It is not enough that a teacher may be able to perform the most difficult problem in arithmetic or algebra, or that he can locate without a moment's hesitancy any city or town, but, having this knowledge, can he impart it to others in such a manner as to awaken an interest on the part of the pupil to retain and apply what he has already learned, and a desire to attain still more? Take for instance a class beginning the study of English Grammar, ranging in age from ten to thirteen years. It is the hour for recitation. The class reluctantly take their places. Mechanically the questions are read from the book by the teacher.

The scholars are supposed to know the answers given in the book, that is, to have memorized them. But what do they know of them? They say they "cannot see any sense in studying grammar" and who can blame them? Nothing has been done to awaken a single original idea, and when the class is dismissed the pupil takes his seat with a feeling of relief. In a few days the lesson is forgotten.

You may ask, who is to blame and how shall we remedy it? In answer to the first, I will use this illustration. One of our agents has been fortunate in his selection of teachers, another agent with intentions equally as good is less fortunate; his school is practically a failure.
The Supervisor or S. S. committee may well be pleased with one and displeased with the other, but under the present system he is in fact powerless. At the commencement of another year a new agent is chosen, perhaps he has a friend he wishes to aid. It may be the unsuccessful teacher of the preceding year, and he not knowing of the failure of this friend employs him, and the one who labored faithfully, and with success, finds that his labors have not been appreciated, and that he must look elsewhere for employment.

Is it any wonder that the teacher who can make the school a success, should feel that it is unnecessary and useless for him to try and put forth any extra exertion.

In answer to the second: under our present system it is difficult to remedy it. But it may be very much improved by the agents being more particular in their choice of teachers, and not think in hiring a teacher, that no responsibility rests upon the agent for the success of the school.

Too frequently do we find it the case that the agents will employ a teacher at a small salary, thinking that they are doing the district a great favor, as they will thus lengthen the term of school.

Have we not all learned by experience that a short term, taught by a faithful and successful teacher, is of far more benefit than a long one taught by the cheap, unsuccessful teacher.

Benefit might also be derived by more frequent visiting of the schools by the parents, as this would not only encourage the pupils, and show them that they are interested in them, but would in many instances save the teacher from much censure, as the parent would see that in many cases where some trouble detrimental to the success of the school has arisen, the proper place to locate the blame, and by advice to, or co-operation with the teacher, make a success of what would otherwise be a failure.
And now allow me to say to teachers that although our state laws are such as to make it necessary that we teach Physiology in regard to the use of stimulants and narcotics, we as teachers are in duty bound to be more faithful in this direction; for as "The twig is bent the tree is inclined," and we by teaching our pupils the danger before they become addicted to the use may save many a mother's tears, and many a man from a drunkard's grave.

Our legislature is making strenuous efforts to make the series of text books universally the same in the state. Not knowing whether it will become a law, I will speak of the matter as it exists in our town at present. I have found in my visits to the different schools, two who have a tendency to resist the exchange of readers. As they were not adopted by myself, but by my predecessor, I did not feel like enforcing the exchange after finding the amount of opposition. Thinking perhaps the matter is not thoroughly understood, I will explain. The Franklin's Advanced Readers were adopted for a term of five years. This means of course the exclusion of all others for that length of time, unless otherwise voted by the town. After the time of exchange has expired, if we are using any other series than the one adopted, the publishers can oblige us to remove them from the school and use theirs, thus obliging us to buy new books instead of exchanging our old ones for them, and by so doing receive a fair price for our old books. This is the standing of the matter at the present time, and we should all give it due consideration, and see if it would not be for our interest to accept the exchange, instead of being driven by the publishers to the buying of new books.

Thanking you for the courteous manner in which I have been received in my visits throughout town, and hoping that we may labor still harder in the future for the advancement of our schools, I will subscribe myself

Your obedient servant,

F. H. Hobbs, Supervisor of Schools.
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<th>No. of district</th>
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<th>Average attendance</th>
<th>No. of weeks in term</th>
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