1899

Annual Reports of the Board of Selectmen Treasurer, and Superintendent of Schools of the Town of Greene, for the Year Ending March 1, 1899

Greene (Me.).

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ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TREASURER,
AND
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
OF THE
TOWN OF GREENE.

For the Year Ending March 1,
1899.

LEWISTON, MAINE:
PRINTED AT THE JOURNAL OFFICE.
1899.
ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TREASURER,
AND
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OF THE
TOWN OF GREENE,
For the Year Ending March 1,
1899.

LEWISTON, MAINE:
PRINTED AT THE JOURNAL OFFICE.
1899.
TOWN OFFICERS.

CLERK.
WILLIAM SPRAGUE.

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, AND OVERSEERS OF POOR.
H. H. COBURN. C. M. WASHBURN.
J. F. WILKINS.

TREASURER.
E. L. MOWER.

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.
Z. A. GILBERT.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.
C. W. LARRABEE. F. L. RACKLEY.
E. B. PARKER.

ROAD COMMISSIONER.
GEORGE E. FOSS.

CONSTABLE AND COLLECTOR.
C. S. STETSON.
BOARD OF SELECTMEN.

Valuation of Town, April 1, 1898.

Resident real estate, $200,600.00
Non-resident real estate, 29,740.00
Resident personal estate, 40,468.00
Non-resident personal estate, 1,185.00

Total valuation, $271,993.00

ASSESSMENTS.

State tax, $857.13
County tax, 436.58

$1,293.71

RAISED BY THE TOWN.

Current expenses and support of poor, $600.00
For breaking roads in winter of '97-'98, 800.00
Repair of roads and bridges, summer of 1898, 800.00
To purchase road machine, etc., 275.00
Common schools, 1,000.00
School books, 40.00
Repairs on school-houses and supplies, 100.00
Memorial Day, 15.00
Overlayings, 148.36

$3,778.36

Total commitment to collector, $5,072.07

Rate of assessment, .017. Number of polls, 225. Poll tax, $2.00. Paid for collecting, .015.
LIST OF ORDERS.
DRAWN IN FAVOR OF

L. B. Jennings, labor for E. P. Wardwell, 1897, $4 50
C. S. Stetson, part pay collecting taxes, 1897, 50 00
L. O. Cobb, reporting births and deaths, 2 00
Lewiston Journal Co., town reports, 16 00
Loring, Short & Harmon, blank book, 2 25
J. Caswell, board of Mrs. Additon, 9 00
D. B. Wiley, labor on roads, 1897, 6 08
George E. Fogg, labor and material, roads, 1898, 50 00
M. C. Wescott, shoveling snow, 2 55
Z. A. Gilbert, labor on roads, 1897, 12 80
George W. Parker, difference between cows, 9 50
C. S. Stetson, pay-roll account of snow bills, 807 85
L. O. Cobb, medical attendance Mrs. Additon, 6 00
William E. Longley, Memorial Day expenses, 15 00
Ginn & Co., school books, 12 25
Thompson, Brown & Co., school books, 2 20
Leach & Shewell, school books, 3 80
Nancy E. Patten, cleaning school-house, 2 00
C. H. Mitchell, road machine and repairs, 212 00
George E. Fogg, cash paid for labor and material, roads, 50 00
George E. Fogg, cash paid for labor and material, roads, 100 00
E. A. Beal, wood for school, 1 50
L. J. Hanscome, teaching, 63 00
Leander Patten, carrying scholars, 27 00
Frances C. Wright, teaching, 63 00
Viola B. Beal, teaching, 63 00
W. L. Mower, teaching, 63 00
Ada L. Rose, care of school-house, 2 25
Lucy E. Dorman, teaching, 63 00
C. A. Pierce, labor on roads, summer, 12 00
Selden Richardson, repairs, etc., school-houses, 43 50
H. L. Prescott, part pay account of Mrs. Additon, 15 00
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<tr>
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<td>Wendall M. Daly</td>
<td>Scholar</td>
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<td>C. F. Proctor</td>
<td>Scholar</td>
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<td>George E. Fogg</td>
<td>Part Pay as Road Commissioner</td>
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<td>Elijah Stevens</td>
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<td>Frank Smith</td>
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<td>L. W. Sawyer</td>
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<td>W. S. &amp; J. F. Wilkins</td>
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<td>J. S. Weymouth</td>
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<td>Fred Peare</td>
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<td>B. A. Coburn</td>
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<td>Charles Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>L. Wright</td>
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George E. Mendall, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $7.50
H. L. Prescott, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 63
L. D. Manson, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 11.25
E. B. Parker, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 4.50
H. A. Wentworth, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.88
William E. Longley, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 12.66
Russell Moore, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 5.19
William K. Moore, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 13.93
Lester Fogg, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 30.25
Horace Fogg, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 6.25
James Griffin, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 2.25
S. Sullivan & Son, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 8.30
A. K. P. Mower, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 38
Philip Mower, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.93
William H. Hodgkins, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 2.38
Alton Hodgkins, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 40.00
B. C. Davis, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.25
A. B. Moulton, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.25
Esther A. Mower, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 3.50
A. F. Stuart, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.50
John Keene, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.03
John Knowles, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 2.00
Murray Bros., repairs on road machine, 7.74
M. B. Sanborn, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.50
J. B. Gould, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 18.63
Alanson Rose, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 21.63
C. A. Pierce, breaking roads, winter, 1897 and 1898, 1.74
A. I. Clark, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 2.70
L. B. Jennings, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.00
Ed. A. Mower, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 63
D. B. Wiley, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 20.75
George W. Parker, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 10.75
Frank Binnette, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 5.13
L. C. Parker, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.25
I. N. Parker, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.25
W. E. Rose, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 63
William Sawyer, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 63
S. M. Adams, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $2.50
J. M. Caswell, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 5.67
Jedediah Caswell, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 3.17
W. W. Caswell, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 6.00
S. R. Sylvester, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 9.43
Alton Lane, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 5.70
E. W. Ray, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 10.58
Daniel Ray, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 3.93
A. M. Ray, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 2.38
Elisha A. Beal, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 7.5
O. W. Larrabee, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 4.05
F. E. Howe, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.00
E. A. Gorman, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 6.3
Edgar Rose, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 7.76
George Barr, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.88
Eugene A. Beal, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 6.17
Carville & Wiley, plank for culverts, 1898, 4.63
Leon Pettingill, plank for culverts, 1898, 5.30
Ellis Richardson, cutting bushes, roads, 1898, 6.25
F. B. Parker, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 21.25
C. A. Pierce, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 5.49
John Gray, plank for culverts, 1898, 1.82
Thomas F. Stevens, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.50
Madison Sprague, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 3.84
J. F. Goss & Sons, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 6.51
F. L. Rackley, repair road machine and labor on roads, summer, 1898, 5.25
Fred P. Spofford, blacksmithing, 90
S. B. Rackley, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 12.00
Earl Richardson, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 2.25
A. B. Parker, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 7.50
Herbert F. Sprague, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 9.00
H. A. Stevens, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 35.00
B. K. Alden, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 8.75
Z. A. Gilbert, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 9.27
Wendall M. Daly, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 3.00
O. O. Allen, labor on roads, summer, 1898, 1.80
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<td>John Seguin</td>
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<td>Ginn &amp; Co.</td>
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<td>Wood for schools</td>
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<td>Leander Patten</td>
<td>Wood for schools</td>
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<td>L. W. Longley</td>
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<td>Winter work, 1897-8</td>
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<td>Leander Patten</td>
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<td>Lucy E. Dorman</td>
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<td>Mina M. Coburn</td>
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<td>D. B. Wiley</td>
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<td>Florence Rose</td>
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<td>Lorey Patten</td>
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<td>Lucy M. Herrick</td>
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<td>J. W. Moulton</td>
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<td>Mrs. George E. Parker</td>
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<td>Mrs. A. Nichols</td>
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E. L. Mower, nails for school-house, $0.60
E. L. Mower, services as treasurer, $3.00
F. L. Rackley, repairs on school-house, $7.25
C. C. Foss, janitor’s service, $3.00
C. S. Stetson, pay-roll account of snow bills, 1897-8, $22.35
Ad. W. Fogg, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $2.13
B. G. Hill, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $3.56
Edward Hatch, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $2.00
F. T. Hill, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $2.00
Stephen Sylvester, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $1.12
Lester Fogg, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $1.75
Fred Richardson, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $1.50
Almon W. Fogg, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $1.75
Carville & Wiley, plank for culverts, $3.98
Ellis Richardson, cutting bushes, roads, $1.64
M. B. Sanborn, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $3.36
M. B. Fogg, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $3.80
Merton A. Fogg, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $1.95
C. M. Washburn, board of Hattie Stevens, $5.00
George E. Parker, services on board of health and tramp constable, $4.50
H. H. Coburn, blankets for farm, record book, etc., $5.77
C. S. Stetson, service as ballot clerk, $1.50
W. E. Rose, service as ballot clerk, $1.50
C. S. Stetson, abatement tax bills, 1897, $37.37
Mrs. M. T. Daggett, board of W. G. Rogers, $10.50
Sawyer Bros., clothing for Madison Peare, $6.25
C. S. Stetson, services as constable, $17.00
C. S. Stetson, balance due for collecting tax of 1897, $22.54
Eddy Rackley, care of school-house, $1.00
C. M. Washburn, plows for road work, $6.00
William R. Moore, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $5.00
A. F. Stuart, labor on roads, summer, 1898, $4.33
Sawyer Bros., cloth for farm and supplies to school, $3.62
C. M. Washburn, service as selectman, etc., $28.50
J. F. Wilkins, service as selectman, etc., $24.37
H. H. Coburn, service as selectman, etc., $51.25
William Sprague, services as clerk and for postage, $14.85
Bertha V. Works, janitor and carrying scholars, $5 25
H. L. Prescott, board, etc., Mrs. Additon and Mrs. Stevens, 82 78
H. L. Prescott, overseer on farm, 25 00
J. K. Briggs, wood for Eaton’s fire, 6 00
Z. A. Gilbert, repairs and supplies for schools, 8 81
Z. A. Gilbert, service as superintendent, 50 25

Total amount of orders drawn, $4,605 70

CURRENT EXPENSE AND SUPPORT OF POOR.

Expended for poor and current expenses, $712 07
Appropriation, 600 00
Received from Webster, for support of Eaton, 120 00
Received for grass, Hawse place, 2 00
Error in Field’s bill, 42
Town of Belgrade, account William H. Bragg, 20 75
On tax deeds, 8 52
Overlay, 148 36

--------- $900 05

Unexpended, $187 98

ROADS, WINTER WORK 1897-98.

C. S. Stetson, pay-roll No. 1, $807 85
C. S. Stetson, pay-roll No. 2, 120 45
C. S. Stetson, pay-roll No. 3, 22 35
Paid town orders, 31 52

$982 17

Appropriation, $800 00
Overdrawn, 182 17

$982 17

ROADS, SUMMER WORK, 1898.

Cash paid by George E. Fogg, road commissioner:
To M. Wescott, labor, $27 13
Roy Stoddard, labor, 12 50
S. A. Stewart, labor, 2 50
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Labor Charge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E. Dorr</td>
<td>$12.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. A. Stevens</td>
<td>27.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Smith</td>
<td>21.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Libby</td>
<td>3.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lester Fogg</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russell Moore</td>
<td>7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph Ellmes</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. J. Haley</td>
<td>11.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guy Pollard</td>
<td>6.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Smith</td>
<td>8.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alton Hodgkins</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendell Daly</td>
<td>5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. H. Day</td>
<td>6.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. T. Fitzgerald</td>
<td>9.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Labbie</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. P. Wardwell</td>
<td>1.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For blasting material, spikes, etc.,</td>
<td>3.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs road machine</td>
<td>3.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cr.**

- By town orders to George E. Fogg, $200.00
- Paid town orders (see List of Orders), 765.43

**Total paid for summer work, 1898,** $965.43

**Bills of 1897, summer work,** $46.13

**STATEMENT BY ROAD COMMISSIONER.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Labor Area</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor in Samuel Adams district</td>
<td>$30 08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor in Hooper district</td>
<td>24 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor in College road, fill near bridges</td>
<td>81 68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor in E. W. Ray district</td>
<td>25 84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor on Leeds line road and to Greene Depot</td>
<td>105 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor on Depot district</td>
<td>145 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor on Sprague district</td>
<td>12 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor on C. H. Brett district</td>
<td>28 88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor from Corner school-house to Jenness four corners</td>
<td>106 77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total, $561 36**
The road machine with two men and six horses, run ten days, cost $9.00 per day,
With four horses and two men, 3½ days, cost $7.50 per day,
With four horses and two men, 4½ days, cost $7.00 per day,
Total, $145 87
Balance expended in small amounts in different districts, $258 20
Total, $965 43

GEO. E. FOGG,
Road Commissioner.

ROAD MACHINE.
Expended for machine and repairs, $231 64
Unexpended, 43 36
Appropriated, $275 00

SCHOOLS.
Salaries of teachers and tuition, $1,052 50
Transportation of scholars, 352 00
Janitors’ service, 26 80
Fuel, 50 00
Appropriated by the town, $1,000 00
Received from school fund and mill tax, 481 49
Unexpended from last year, 91 93
Unexpended, $92 12

REPAIRS ON SCHOOL-HOUSES.
Repairs on school-houses and supplies, $132 22
Appropriation, $100 00
Overdrawn, 32 22
$132 22
SCHOOL BOOKS.
Expended, $39 55
Unexpended, 45
--------- $40 00
Appropriated, $40 00

MEMORIAL DAY.
Expended, $15 06
Appropriated, 15 06

DEBT AND INTEREST.
Paid on interest account, $122 00
No appropriation.

LIABILITIES.
Notes bearing interest, $4,046 00
Interest due March 1, 1898, 254 92
Due for collecting taxes of 1898, 76 08
Bills outstanding other than snow bills
(estimated), 110 00
--------- $4,487 00

RESOURCES.
Cash in treasury, $16 80
Due on tax deeds, 97 63
James Unwin woodland, 50 00
Due from state, account of dog license
(estimated), 75 00
Due from Collector, bills of 1898, 1,930 75
Due from Lewiston, on account of Madison Peare, 6 25
--------- $2,176 43

Liabilities above resources, $2,310 57

Respectfully submitted,

H. H. COBURN,
C. M. WASHBURN,
J. F. WILKINS,
Selectmen of Greene.
TREASURER'S REPORT
For the Year Ending March 1, 1899.

1898.
Cash from Treasurer of 1897, $552.77
March 23d, cash from C. M. Washburn, 42
April 15th, cash from State Treasurer on account of dog licenses, 78.53
April 19th, cash from William Sprague on account of dog licenses, 83.00
Aug. 12th, cash from Tax deeds, 8.52
Nov. 9th, cash from town of Belgrade, 20.75

1899.
Feb. 1, cash from E. Beal, grass on Hawse place, 2.00
Feb. 14, cash from State Treasurer on account State aid, 192.00
Feb. 14, cash from State Treasurer on account railroad and telegraph tax, 6.22
Feb. 17th, cash from State Treasurer on account school fund and mill tax, 481.49
Feb. 25th, cash from town of Webster, on account Eaton, 120.00
Cash from C. S. Stetson, Collector, bills of 1897, 1,679.31
Cash from C. S. Stetson, Collector, bills of 1898, 3,141.32

$6,366.33
EXPENDITURES.
1898.

Cash paid State tax, $857.13
County tax, 436.58
On account State aid, 192.00
State Treasurer on account
dog licenses, 83.00
Interest on Town Treasurer's
notes, 122.00
Town orders, 4,658.82
Cash in Treasury to balance, 16.80

$6,366.33

Respectfully submitted,

E. L. MOWER,
Treasurer of Greene.
REPORT OF
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

In accordance with the law, the Annual Report of the Superintendent of Schools is hereby submitted:

OFFICERS.
Superintending School Committee—O. W. Larrabee, 1 year; F. L. Rackley, 2 years; E. B. Parker, 3 years.
Superintendent of Schools—Z. A. Gilbert.
Whole number of scholars in town April 1, 1898, 196.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUND</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Raised by town,</td>
<td>$1,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Received from state,</td>
<td>481 49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unexpended last year,</td>
<td>91 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Received from town of Leeds for tuition of scholars (balance),</td>
<td>42 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,616 17</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENDITURES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teachers' wages, Lane school,</td>
<td>$182 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hill,</td>
<td>182 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprague,</td>
<td>147 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patten,</td>
<td>182 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain,</td>
<td>182 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cummings,</td>
<td>174 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total paid for teaching,</td>
<td><strong>$1,049 00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrying scholars,</td>
<td>349 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janitor service,</td>
<td>27 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood for school-houses,</td>
<td>56 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,482 80</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexpended</td>
<td><strong>$133 37</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MISCELLANEOUS.

Cleaning school-houses, $6 00
Supplies—crayons, brooms, pails, etc., 2 64
Postage, express, etc., 3 77

$12 41

BOOKS.

Appropriation, $40 00
Expended for geographies, arithmetics, algebras and copy books, 39 58
Unexpended, $0 42

REPAIRS.

Appropriated by town, $100 00
Painting, $43 50
Lumber, etc., for Patten school-house, 23 49
Shingles and laying same, Mountain house, 14 67
Laying floors, mason work, brick, lime, lead, stove pipe, etc., 44 70
Curtains, glass, lock, etc., 1 65

$128 01

Overdrawn, $28 01

Superintendent's service, 50 25

SCHOOL-HOUSES.

Only six of the school-houses in town were occupied the past year, namely, Lane, Hill, Sprague, Patten, Mountain and Cummings. Of those occupied, the Mountain and Patten were put in thorough repair from the appropriation made by the town, and will need no more attention, under good usage, for several years. The Lane house is in good condition. A new blackboard was placed across the entire rear end of the school room, which is a great improvement in the winter time from the former roasting of scholars behind a hot stove. The Hill school-house is in good repair and comfortable for the scholars so far as is possible in so small a com-
pass. The Sprague house is in bad condition and unfit to be occupied in cold weather for school purposes. Indications are that there will be scholars enough in this section of the town to require a school for an indefinite time to come. This being the case a new school-house will soon have to be provided for their accommodation. A large number of the scholars in this school are small at the present time, and for that reason the parents prefer to have their school in the warm season of the year. For this reason your superintendent and school committee recommend that the house be made to do service a year or two longer and until the scholars get large enough to require a winter school. A school in the Cummings house, though not large, seems to be a necessity and likely so to continue. Repairs on the house are an absolute necessity. A new floor is needed, the walls should be sheathed to the windows, new and modern desks and seats provided, and the building painted throughout. The cost of this renovation would be light. For the purpose an appropriation of $150 is recommended.

SCHOOLS.

Lane School.—Alice M. Bishop, teacher, summer and fall terms. Viola V. Beal, winter.

Hill School.—Lucy E. Dorman, teacher throughout the year.

Sprague School.—Viola V. Beal, teacher, summer and fall terms.

Patten School.—Frances E. Wright, teacher throughout the year.

Mountain School.—W. E. Mower, teacher, summer term. Lucy M. Herrick, fall term. Mina M. Coburn, winter term.


A summer and a fall term of nine weeks each and a winter term of eight weeks was given each school, with the exception that the fall term of the Sprague school was extended to
twelve weeks, and the winter term cancelled on account of
the inconvenience of the many small scholars attending
school in the snow and cold of winter.

TEACHERS.

In the employment of teachers the policy has been, so far
as practicable, to secure teachers of experience and of well-
known reputation for efficient work. This course received
the endorsement in full of the school committee and your
superintendent. In doing this we have without doubt dis-
appointed the young teachers of our town who were appli-
cants for positions. But every one of these young teachers
and their parents will under deliberate consideration agree
with us in that the schools placed in our charge are for the
benefit of the scholars, and not for the benefit of the teachers
employed. Age, experience and advance education are qual-
ifications fitting teachers for their important duties, whatever
the grade of the school placed in their charge. The success
of the schools of the town during the year, the harmony at
all times prevailing between teachers and parents and schol-
ars, and the gratifying progress made by the pupils, are
evidence of the wisdom of the course chosen. There are now
plenty of teachers seeking a charge, so that a superintendent
need employ only those who have been proved in their work
if he so chooses.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

The schools are now very well supplied with school books.
All of them are not such as your present Superintendent
would select, yet it is quite true, book agents to the contrary
notwithstanding, that the particular kind of text-book used
is of far less importance than the efficiency with which it is
taught. Hence your Superintendent will do the schools far
better service in searching for good teachers than in listening
to the pleas of agents for an exchange of books. There will,
however, be a call every year for a few new books of some
kind, certainly copy-books if no others. Hence a small
appropriation for this purpose should be made each year. At this time twenty-five dollars will probably be enough to meet all necessities for the year.

SUPERVISION.

Efficient supervision is an indispensable aid to successful school results. Our town is open to a measure of criticism for indifference to the needs, in this and other directions, of our schools. This has not come from any lack of appreciation of the importance of education, but rather from the fact that our school officers have failed to forcibly bring forward at the annual meetings the wants of the schools, and thereby impress upon the citizens of the town the necessity of the aid needed. The voters of the town have never manifested any unwillingness to grant all the aid shown by the school officers as necessary to the success of the school work and to the comfort of the scholars attending.

Efficient supervision is of first importance in every feature of common school work. I venture to raise the question whether we—all of us—as citizens of the town have not been neglectful of our duties in the selection of school officers. For a person to place at the head of the schools it is a duty we owe to the children given to our charge to select the individual best qualified for this most important position in town. Then he should not be stinted in time to be given to the work, nor in compensation, and should be required to give to the schools all the attention their highest success calls for. Thus entirely unhampered in his duties he should be held responsible for the efficiency of the work carried on. Having selected the right man and installed him in his place he should be continued, like our judges, during good behavior and efficient service. With a clear ideal in mind, through systematic work continued without interruption, the schools could thus be gradually led up to a standard of efficiency heretofore beyond reach. If you want better school work in town it is in your hands to take the steps leading to that end.
CONCLUSION.

The number of weeks schooling provided the past year (26) from the money available is enough to bring out fairly satisfactory results, provided the schools are placed in competent hands. There have a great many scholars in the past gone out from the old-fashioned school-houses to positions of honor in the world with but two terms of school a year, of three months each. A somewhat larger sum is left unexpended than was carried over a year ago. The money raised for schools last year ($1,000) no doubt will be sufficient to furnish a like number of weeks the coming year.

In closing I wish to acknowledge the ready and efficient aid rendered by the members of the school committee for whatever purpose needed and whenever called upon.

Respectfully submitted,

Z. A. GILBERT,
Superintendent of Schools.