1857

Annual Reports made to the City Council of Rockland, at the close of the Municipal Year, ending in March, 1857, together with the Mayor's Address to the City Council for 1857-8, also a list of City Officers and Joint Standing Committees

Rockland (Me.)

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ANNUAL REPORTS

MADE TO THE

CITY COUNCIL OF ROCKLAND,

At the close of the Municipal Year, ending in March, 1857,

TOGETHER WITH THE

MAYOR'S ADDRESS

TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR 1857-8,

ALSO A LIST OF

CITY OFFICERS AND JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES.

ROCKLAND:

JOHN PORTER, PRINTER.

1857.
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ANNUAL REPORTS

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ROCKLAND:
JOHN PORTER, PRINTER.
1857.
MAYOR'S ADDRESS.

Gentlemen of the City Council

It is with extreme diffidence, that I enter upon the duties imposed on me by my fellow citizens, as an executive officer of this City, especially as a presiding officer, having no practical knowledge of my duties as such.

If we may judge by the interest taken in our late elections, we must conclude, our citizens were extremely anxious about who should administer the government of this city. That having been decided, it is to be presumed their only interest now is, how it be administered. This we have promised in the most solemn manner to perform to the best of our abilities.

It has been said, (and truly,) that we have different interests, such as the North End interest, the South End interest, &c., but gentlemen, are those interests necessarily antagonistic? I think not. I do not understand, how the interests of a community, of the same population and extent of territory, could be more closely allied.

I believe it to be the interest of the whole city, that every citizen attend well his own business; that every part of the city advance by its own resources and industry. As an officer of this city, my duty is no less to one part of the city than another,—no less to one individual than another; and my future acts must determine whether those duties shall have been faithfully and impartially performed or not. I shall endeavor to see the laws faithfully executed. It is not my province to judge whether those laws are expedient or not; but in this favored country, where the people not only make, but can,
when they wish, alter or repeal those laws, it is to be presumed, that our laws are not only good, and wholesome, but such as all good citizens wish to see enforced. Among those laws, may be mentioned, the license law, recently enacted. I think it due, alike to those who enacted that law, and to those opposed to that enactment, that it be enforced as far as practicable; and so of all other laws. Still while doing this, great care should be taken, not to commence doubtful litigation; not to subject individuals, the city, or county to unnecessary cost.

And, for this reason, I hope to see our Police composed of discreet, efficient men, themselves the observers of law, determined to perform their duty, without respect of persons. We have an efficient fire department, whose efficiency we must not allow to suffer for want of proper pecuniary means, for we know not how soon we may need their services, which are always rendered with so much promptness and good will. Our loss by fire the past year has been very small. For particulars, in this department, I refer you to the report of the Chief Engineer.

Of our public schools, I need say but little, as I think their great importance must be apparent to all; and I trust it will be one of your chief endeavors to advance their interest and efficiency. Of their present standing, the report of the Superintending School Committee will inform you, in which you will find suggestions for the future, which will, I think, commend themselves to your favorable notice; and on which I recommend action to be taken.

Our business requiring so large an amount of heavy teaming it becomes highly important that we have good and permanent streets; and in my opinion, the best way, so far as practicable, is, to continue to spread beach gravel on those streets most travelled, and convenient to the different landings. Streets near our quarries, can be more easily repaired with chips. When repaired in this way great care should be taken to have them leveled perfectly; and streets, less traveled, may be repaired with less expense, by scraping or shoveling in gravel, or other material, near at hand. All repairs, on streets, should be made as early as possible, especially, where beach gravel or rock chips are used, as material of that kind hardens and becomes smooth much sooner, when applied in the early spring, than when neglected 'till the surface becomes hard and dry. Much care should be taken,
especially while the frost is leaving the ground, to prevent the water from running, or standing on the streets; and I hope soon to see an efficient Commissioner or Commissioners, selected and at work. And here let me suggest the necessity and propriety of regulating by law, the width of felloes used on our streets. I think it might be regulated, somewhat according to the weight of load, say, for a load of three tons, have the felloes three inches wide, a load of four tons, four inches wide, and so on, in something like that proportion. I think a regulation of this kind would be an advantage to all concerned.

I understand the expenses of our pauper department to have been about the same, the present, as the preceding year, and here let me say, that I think an improvement might be made in purchasing goods for the alms-house or furnishing goods to paupers outside the alms-house, by agreeing with some person to furnish the whole at the lowest current prices. I think this, or some other way preferable to having so many small bills to look after and audit.

And, gentlemen, to carry on the city government, we shall need funds which must come mostly by direct taxation. In this part of our business, we shall find our constituents to interest themselves, if in no other. I believe it to be our duty to see that all money due the city, be collected forthwith, if possible. Especially, do I believe it to be, not only impolitic, but unjust, to allow taxes on some property to remain unpaid for years, while taxes on other property are paid promptly, as thereby, a man actually receives a premium for being tardy, equal to the per-cent age on his money, for whatever time he withholds it. I believe much depends on the prompt collection of taxes. And, while I would recommend strict economy in all departments; that no money be used not actually needed, still, I believe a sufficient amount should be raised, to meet all our prospective liabilities for the current year. We should not, under present circumstances, allow the accumulation of a city debt, I believe it bad policy under almost any circumstances.

The Treasurer's report will be laid before you, which will show clearly our financial standing.

Our natural resources are good. Our lime burning is a permanent and remunerative business. We have good advantages for ship building, which has generally proved profitable to all concerned. We have an industrious working population, and, although we suffered se-
verely in former years from fire, happily, our recent damages by fire have been small, and we have partially recovered from its effects; having replaced those buildings burned by others more commodious and substantial.

And now, fellow citizens, one and all, let us try, by strict integrity in all our transactions, to overcome the curse of the fraud of the Ship-Builders' Bank, for which so many have suffered, and so few were culpable. Let us acknowledge and reverence God by keeping his precepts.

CHARLES CROCKETT, Mayor.

Rockland, March 19, 1857.
REPORT

TREASURER'S OFFICE, March 1, 1857.

To THE CITY COUNCIL:

The undersigned respectfully submits the following statement of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Treasury for the financial year ending February 28, 1857. Also a statement of the Liabilities and Resources of the City so far as appears by such records and documents as are in his possession:

Receipts.

Balance on hand as per Report of last year, $1,113.85
Received of D. M. James and others on account of Taxes for the year 1855, 7,328.50
Received of C. A. Libby on account of Taxes for the year 1856, 11,828.18
Received of the State of Maine for Bank Tax, 967.23
Received from loan authorized by a Resolve of the City Council passed March 25, 1856, 8,800.56
Received from W. G. Sargent, Judge of Municipal Court being balance of fines and fees accrued in said Court for the year ending February 28, 1856, 140.54
Received of D. M. James, Marshal, for licences and fines collected the year ending February 28, 1856, 246.00
Received of Charles Crockett for a yoke of Oxen purchased of the Selectmen, 150.00

$30,664.95
TREASURER'S REPORT.

Amount brought forward, $22,312 46

Salaries.

For amount Mayor's Orders paid, $1,121 56
By appropriation, $2,000 00

H. G. Berry, Mayor, $200 00
W. G. Frye, City Clerk, 20 83
E. R. Spear, 95 50
W. G. Sargent, Judge M. Court, 32 50
J. A. Meserve, 267 50
D. M. James, Marshal, 13 80
G. D. Wooster, City Agent, 55 03
C. H. Mallard, Treasurer, 50 00
W. A. Banks, City Physician, 50 00
G. S. Wiggin, Overseer of Poor, 408 00
F. Harrington, 10 00
T. K. Osgood, S. S. Committee, 25 00
J. O. Skinner, 70 00
Z. P. Vose, Clerk Com. Council, 25 00
J. Tolman, Assessor, 109 00
O. J. Conant, 129 00
John Bird, 179 00
A. L. Lovejoy, Com. on Accts., 20 00
Freeman Harden, 9 00
O. B. Brown, 7 00
E. C. Healy, Street Com., 4 00
J. Merrill, Com. on City Property, 10 00
Samuel Libby, 10 00

Unexpended, 199 84

$23,776 18

Fire Department.

For amount Mayor's Orders paid, $342 16
By appropriation, $600 00
Amount Mayor's Orders drawn, $832 35
Unpaid bills approved, 11 26

Overdrawn, 243 61

Note.—The City has furnished 200 feet double riveted hose, at a cost of $206 15 and has put Gas Fixtures into both engine houses at an expense of $143 60.
TREASURER'S REPORT.

Amount brought forward, $23,776 18

**Pauper Fund.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For amt Mayor's Orders paid</td>
<td>$2,284 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By appropriation</td>
<td>$2,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; charges to other towns</td>
<td>1,693 04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$3,693 04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am't Mayor's Orders drawn</td>
<td>3,436 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid bills approved</td>
<td>438 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,874 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overdrawn</td>
<td>181 46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Schools.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For amt Mayor's Orders paid</td>
<td>$4,037 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By appropriation</td>
<td>$4,500 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; amt received from State</td>
<td>967 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$5,467 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Am't Mayor's Orders drawn</td>
<td>$5,266 98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; due Districts</td>
<td>200 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5,467 23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contingent Expenses.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For amt Mayor's Orders paid</td>
<td>$631 75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By appropriation</td>
<td>$1,700 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amt. Mayor's Orders drawn</td>
<td>$1,196 79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpaid bills approved</td>
<td>123 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,320 04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexpended</td>
<td>379 96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Interest.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid interest on loan</td>
<td>$915 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paid abatements on Taxes, 1855</td>
<td>$322 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; &quot; &quot; 1856</td>
<td>300 57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in Treasury March 1, 1857</td>
<td>326 76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$32,595 16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**RECAPITULATION.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appropriated</th>
<th>Expended</th>
<th>Unexpended</th>
<th>Overdrawn</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Schools,</td>
<td>$5,467 23</td>
<td>$5,266 98</td>
<td>200 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highways,</td>
<td>7,000 00</td>
<td>7,101 41</td>
<td>101 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pauper Fund,</td>
<td>2,000 00</td>
<td>2,181 46</td>
<td>181 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingent,</td>
<td>1,700 00</td>
<td>1,320 04</td>
<td>379 96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road Damage,</td>
<td>1,500 00</td>
<td>1,500 00</td>
<td>212 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Fund</td>
<td>1,200 00</td>
<td>1,412 29</td>
<td>243 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salary &quot;</td>
<td>2,000 00</td>
<td>1,800 16</td>
<td>199 84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watch &quot;</td>
<td>300 00</td>
<td>176 00</td>
<td>124 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire &quot;</td>
<td>600 00</td>
<td>843 61</td>
<td>70 84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police &quot;</td>
<td>200 00</td>
<td>129 16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$21,967 23 $20,231 11 $2,474 82 $738 77

---

**City Loans.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount due in 1862,</th>
<th>$4,000 00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 1861,</td>
<td>2,825 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 1860,</td>
<td>1,105 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 1859,</td>
<td>1,500 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 1858,</td>
<td>8,248 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 1857,</td>
<td>4,893 95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; now due,</td>
<td>1,331 73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$18,698 89
TREASURER'S REPORT.

LIABILITIES AND RESOURCES

---

**Liabilities.**

To amount of outstanding Town Orders, $435 47

" " " City Orders drawn by K. Crockett, Mayor, 1,016 69

" " " City Orders drawn by H. G. Berry, Mayor, for old account, 495 75

" " " City Orders drawn by H. G. Berry, Mayor, for new account, 5,004 36

" " " due on bills approved and unpaid, 742 60

" " " on Loan, 18,898 89

" " " Grade District, 172 01

" " " School District No. 4, 25 63

" " " " " 6, 2 61

" " " " other towns for Pauper charges 194 16

" " " for interest, (estimated) 400 00

---

**Resources.**

Cash in hands of Treasurer as per report, $326 76

Due from D. M. Mitchell, Collector, 94 82

" " D. M. James, Collector, $3,327 47
Less fees for collecting, 590 00

" " C. A. Libby, Collector, 9,706 05
Less fees for collecting, 437 50

" " Non-residents for Taxes, 101 58

" " Other towns for pauper charges, $2,378 22
Deduction for charges not considered good, 800 00

---

Total, $14,107 40
By balance, 13,280 77

---

$27,388 17
APPROPRIATIONS.

The appropriations made by the City Council for the municipal year 1856—7, to be received by tax, were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>For Support of Schools</td>
<td>$4,500 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Highways,</td>
<td>7,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Support of Poor of the City,</td>
<td>2,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Contingent Expenses,</td>
<td>1,700 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Road Damage,</td>
<td>1,500 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Interest City Debt,</td>
<td>1,200 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Salaries,</td>
<td>2,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; City Watch,</td>
<td>300 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Fire Department,</td>
<td>600 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Police Fund,</td>
<td>200 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$21,000 00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Tax, 2,082 89
County Tax, 1,498 88
Overlayings, 421 42
Supplement Taxes, 112 81

4,116 00

$25,116 00

All of which is respectfully submitted,

CHARLES R. MALLARD, Treasurer.
SCHEDULE OF CITY PROPERTY, *(Available.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Farm and buildings</td>
<td>$3,100 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, stock and tools</td>
<td>324 46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dirigo Fire Engine, hose, &amp;c.</td>
<td>1,100 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine house for same</td>
<td>780 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and fixtures for same</td>
<td>76 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defiance Engine, hose, &amp;c.</td>
<td>1,100 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine house for same</td>
<td>780 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture and fixtures for same</td>
<td>202 76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engine Resolution</td>
<td>50 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire hooks and ladders</td>
<td>50 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pound</td>
<td>16 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lock-up and fixtures</td>
<td>159 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearse, runners and house</td>
<td>65 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture in Municipal Court room</td>
<td>80 45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture &amp;c. in city rooms</td>
<td>260 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot of land on Spring street</td>
<td>800 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$8,944 11</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNAVAILABLE CITY PROPERTY, *(last year's valuation.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cemetery on Jameson's Point</td>
<td>$800 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; at Blackington's Corner</td>
<td>500 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrants</td>
<td>253 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1,553 00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above schedule was taken, by order of the City Council, in May, 1856.
SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Gentlemen of the City Council:

The condition of the public schools in this city remains about the same as at the date of our last annual report. They were all kept through their respective terms without interruption, and generally to the entire satisfaction of the committee. From actual inspection of our schools, made at repeated visits, we are of opinion that these institutions, so vitally important to the welfare of our city, are in a prosperous condition, and that they fulfill the just and reasonable expectations of the citizens. We cannot say that during the last year they were all equally good, for the teachers varied widely in their talents and acquirements; but we do say that in general, the schools bore a high character, and the larger part of them were truly excellent. This is particularly the case in the Grade District, where, with scarcely an exception, the schools came up to the standard of the committee, and reflected the highest credit upon teachers and scholars; making reasonable allowance for the inevitable difficulties arising from cold, comfortless and crowded school-rooms. And though two or three teachers failed in the important matter of order and discipline, yet it is due to them to say that they labored most assiduously and faithfully, with the intention of doing their whole duty to the pupils under their charge, however they may have failed to maintain that order which is essential to the highest success.

The following table will show at a glance the principal facts relating to our schools for the year past:

Number of school houses, the same as last year, 15
" of schools, both summer and winter, 23
" of scholars between four and twenty-one years of age in the city May 1, 1856, 2868
SCHOOL COMMITTEE’S REPORT.

Average number of scholars to a school in the city, 124
“ “ “ in grade district, 153
“ “ “ that the school-rooms in the grade district can accommodate, 75
Amount of money raised by the city for schools, $4,500 00
“ “ received from the State 967 23
“ “ of money expended per scholar, 1 84
“ “ expended for private schools, 1267 00
Number of male teachers in summer schools, 5
“ female “ “ “ 20
“ male “ “ winter schools, 14
“ female “ “ “ 13
Average wages of male teachers, per month, including board, $49 36
“ “ female “ “ week, “ “ 4 71
Average lengths of schools for the year, in weeks, 21 02
Average number of scholars to a school, on school registers, 79 05
Average actual attendance to a school, 58 08

All that was said by us a year ago on the need of additional school-rooms, applies with full force at the present time, especially in the grade district, where we have 2459 scholars entitled to school privileges and but 16 school-rooms, which is an average of 153 to a school-room; and it appears from the registers that there were actually about one hundred scholars in attendance to a school through the grade district during the past winter. We are certainly far behind other places in respect to school accommodations. Cleveland, Ohio, has one school to 63 scholars. Bangor has 60 schools with 5587 scholars, which is 93 scholars to a school, with school-rooms much larger and more commodious than ours. But Rockland has but one school to 124 scholars taking in all the small rural districts. Is there any good reason why Rockland should not provide schools for her children? The plea of poverty will not avail. Bangor with perhaps 18,000 inhabitants, raised last year $18,000 for schools, which is $1,00 per head of her population, or $3.22 per scholar.—Rockland with something like 9000 inhabitants last year raised $4,500 for schools, which is 50 cents per inhabitant, or $1.56 per scholar; and fifty-six cities and towns in Maine raised more money per scholar than that for schools last year. Rockland is not so poor that she is obliged to be so saving in her appropriations for schools.
Bangor, for instance, in 1850, with 14,432 inhabitants, had a valuation of $3,899,218, or $270,17 to an inhabitant. But Rockland had a valuation in 1856 of $3,294,939; and allowing the city to have 9000 inhabitants, this gives an average of $366,10 to an inhabitant. That this city is able to provide school houses and teachers for all her children is too plain to need argument. That it is wise and just to crowd our scholars into such narrow and uncomfortable quarters as at present is a proposition to which we think the citizens will not assent.

There seems to us an imperative necessity for one new school house, to contain say three rooms, to be located in some central position, as on Limerock-st., designed especially to accommodate the High School. This would at once relieve all the schools that are now overcrowded throughout the grade district. If it were built by money hired for the term of ten years, and one tenth of the cost paid annually, the expense would be so distributed over that term of time as not to be felt as a burden in any one year. As an example of what other towns not larger than ours are doing, it may be mentioned that the town of Haverhill, Mass., with a population of 5877 and a valuation of $2,243,497, expended last year $35,000 for two school houses. Surely it will not be extravagant for us with a larger population and valuation than Haverhill to lay out one third of as much money to provide one school house that is so much needed, and one that shall be a credit to the city. The town of Malden, Mass., with a population of 4792, and a valuation $3,210,930, expended the last year, for the support of public schools, the sum of $8132; besides the erection of a new school house at Edgeworth village at an expense of $3000. Here is a town whose population is but half and whose valuation is less than that of Rockland, which expended last year more than twice as much for schools as we.

The sum of $6000 we think no more than a just appropriation for the support of schools for the year to come; and this will be but about 67 cents to an inhabitant, or $2.07 to a scholar, and there are 26 towns in Maine that raised more money per scholar than this last year. Gentlemen will please bear in mind that though but $4,500 were appropriated for schools last year, yet we have the surest evidence that that sum was insufficient in the fact that merely $1,300 were expended last year on private schools. We have the items of $1267
laid out on private schools, but there were still others of which we have received no report, so that the total amount thus expended must have been nearly $1,300. Whether the City Council appropriates a larger or smaller sum for schools, the people know their own wants and appreciate their true interests, and will take care of them. The smaller the amount of money appropriated for public schools the more will be laid out on private schools.

We recommend that there be three terms of the High and Grammar schools of about thirteen weeks each, with a long vacation in dog-days, and shorter vacations in spring and autumn, which will be in effect, and virtually, turning the private into public schools, or prolonging the public schools, under the same teachers, to the extent of the money now expended on private schools. This arrangement will be attended with many advantages. In the first place, the last two or three weeks of a term of school are worth much more to a scholar than the same length of time at the commencement. The terms of school are now too short to allow of scholars being thorough, or completing their studies, in any branch of learning. In the second place, if there were three terms of school, our body of regular teachers would find steady employment, without being obliged to resort to private schools or to other employment for a support. At present they are none of them paid enough by the city to afford them a support. It is desirable to afford steady employment to approved and accomplished teachers, who have served the city so long and faithfully, whose places it would be so difficult to fill, and encourage them to remain in the profession. It is not intended nor expected that males be employed in the rural districts more than one term, as at present; but the high school and several grammar schools, so located as to accommodate all the inhabitants, ought, evidently, to be kept open about forty weeks in a year.

We are of opinion also that in a territory so small and compactly settled as Rockland, there should be but one school district. The separate district system has many inconveniences and disadvantages, especially in a populous and compact town, with no counter-balancing advantages. The power to consolidate the several districts into one is given by the statute of 1850, in explicit terms, as follows:

"The inhabitants of every town, at their annual meeting, may determine the number and limits of the school districts within such
"town; and if necessary, may divide or discontinue any such "district; or they may annex it to any other district, in such town, "with such reservations and conditions as may be proper to preserve "the individual rights and obligations of the inhabitants thereof."

It is also provided, that: "In any town containing but one "district, all business relating to schools and school-houses may be "transacted at any regular town meeting, in the same way and "manner in which other town business is transacted."

The change proposed has already, in part, been effected, by the organization of the Grade District, which comprises 85-100 of all the scholars in the city. All the schools are at present supported by a general tax, and superintended by a general committee; and the building and locating of school houses, and the whole administration of the school department can undoubtedly be more conveniently and economically managed by a committee of the City Council than by districts in their separate capacity. The necessity of raising district taxes will thus be avoided, school houses can be built and repaired or removed by the central authority, and all parts of the city will be leagued together for the benefit of all.

One excellent and obvious result of this plan would be that the High School would be open to all scholars in the city of requisite attainments. By raising the standard of that school, as it is highly desirable to do, we may have here at home a free High School, equal to the best Academy in the State, where our youth may be fitted for College, or professional life, or any kind of business; and which will virtually be a model or Normal School, to qualify and prepare teachers for our lower grade of schools, without extra expense. Thus our citizens may keep their money at home instead of sending it abroad, and also keep their children under their immediate care instead of sending them abroad and leaving them to the care of strangers.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. K. OSGOOD, Superintending
J. O. SKINNER, School
NATH'L BUTLER, Committee.

ROCKLAND, March 17, 1857.
REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

To the City Council:

The Overseers of the Poor of the City of Rockland, for the past year, submit their Annual Report:

To Am't paid for support of poor out of Almshouse, $1,506 81
“ “ paid for paupers having no residence in the State, 147 11
“ “ paid Expenses of Almshouse and Farm, 560 56
“ “ paid Salary of Overseer of Almshouse and Farm, 177 22

$2,391 70

Less by stores on hand and produce sold, 252 00

Total expense of domestic and miscellaneous paupers, $2,139 70
By appropriation by City for support of poor, 2,000 00

$139 70

Amount expended for out-of-town paupers, $1,693 04

Am't paid for fuel, $349 23
“ “ Physicians' Bills for paupers belonging to other towns, 342 07
“ “ Nursing the sick, 146 41

Am't paid for Burial of dead:

For Coffins, $78 00
“ Robes, &c., 15 30
“ Coaches, 34 00
“ Undertaker, 88 97

216 27

“ “ “ Provisions, clothing, &c., 2778 76

$3,832 74

The number of paupers resident in the Almshouse on the first day of March, 1856, was nine; admitted during the year, eight; making
the whole number seventeen. American, twelve; English, two; Irish, three. No. of males, twelve; females, five.

The number of days support in Almshouse has been two thousand and forty-two, being an average of less than six persons per day through the year. The number of persons remaining at the Almshouse, March 1, 1857, is seven. For further particulars we refer you to Schedule, marked A.

The number of persons provided for in the Almshouse, the past year, has been about the same as the previous year. We have been obliged to render aid, in part, to one hundred and two families, numbering three hundred and forty-six persons, of whom two hundred and ninety-eight were Americans; twenty-seven were Provincials; sixteen were Irish, and five were English. We have also been obliged to render aid to fifty-one persons who have no legal settlement within the State, of whom fourteen were Irish; five were colored persons; twelve were Americans; nine were Provincials; three were Scotch; six were French, and two were Indian.

Dr. W. A. Banks, as City Physician, has promptly attended to the numerous calls made upon his services at all times.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE S. WIGGIN,
JON'A SPEAR,
FRANCIS HARRINGTON

Overseers of the Poor.
(Schedule A.)

A list of the names of persons who have received support at the Almshouse from March 1, 1856, to March 1, 1857, with their age, nation, number of days residence, &c.:—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joshua O. Lefevre</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>American</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Sick</td>
<td>Died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Nichols</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Watts</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>Lame</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Crowning</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Irish</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Crowning</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>259</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Crowning</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>259</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benj. O. Hall</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>American</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Calhoun</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>194</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cushing Thorndike</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>American</td>
<td>365</td>
<td></td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Shaw</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>79</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charley Achorn</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lydia Hancock</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
<td>251</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Jones</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
<td>365</td>
<td></td>
<td>Resident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enoch Holbrook</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angeline Barnes</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Barnes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>Died</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Anderson</td>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>Discharged</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Whole number of persons:—

| Males | 12 | Died | 2 |
|       |    |      |   |
| Females | 5 | Resident March 1st, 1857 | 7 |

| Resident March 1, 1856 | 9 | Americans, | 12 |
| Admitted during the year | 8 | English, | 2 |
| | | Irish, | 3 |

- 17
REPORT OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER.

To the City Council:—

In conformity with the requirements of the City Ordinance making it the duty of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department to report, at the close of each Municipal year, all accidents by fire, which may have happened in the city, so far as ascertained, the causes, and the number and description of the buildings destroyed or injured, and the names of the owners or occupants, he would most respectfully report:—

The Department has been called out, the past year, six times to fires in the city, and once to a fire in South Thomaston; and twice by false alarms. The success that has attended the efforts of the firemen in staying the progress of the destructive element, in the places where it originated, shows to us that, experience has improved the efficiency of the firemen in this city, for which it would seem they should have the satisfaction of knowing that their services are appreciated, by making some appropriation, (if but small,) to each of the companies in this city, which, if the state of the finances will admit, I doubt not they will receive your consideration.

In my former communication I took the liberty to make some suggestions, for the consideration of the city council, that, received their careful consideration and prompt action accordingly, there has been two hundred feet of the best leading hose purchased, which, with that the city had, will answer the department very well for some time.

I was notified by the City Clerk in December last, that an order passed the board instructing the Chief, and one of the Assistant
Engineers, to proceed forthwith to examine into the condition of the stoves, and chimney flues, in the most compact parts of the city, and make return of the result of the examinations. Owing to the pressure of my personal affairs, I was unable to attend to the duties, and most of the assistant Engineers were in the same situation with myself, consequently, this duty was not performed.

There was one other; the procuring of a suitable carriage to keep the fire hooks and ladders upon, that they could be more readily conveyed to any part of the city in cases of fire. This has not been done. As I view the importance of the measure, I can but urge this matter to your favorable consideration.

Before another winter, there ought to be something done to protect the house that Defiance Engine is kept in. As it is situated, the frost acts upon it very unfavorably, by raising it up in the middle to the extent that it will no doubt ruin it, unless something is done.

The first fire that occurred during the municipal year just closed, was on the morning of the 4th of April, in the dwelling house owned and occupied by John Porter, 2d, on South Main Street, near the line of South Thomaston. The building was totally destroyed. Value of same, eighteen hundred dollars. Insured fifteen hundred. How the fire originated is not known.

On the 24th of May, fire was discovered in a dwelling house on Ingraham's point, owned by Henry Ingraham, it was extinguished without the aid of the Engines. Damage to building ten dollars.—Insured.

On the morning of the 24th of November, fire was discovered in the dwelling house on Spring Street, owned by Mrs. Henry Miller, and occupied by Artemas Robinson. Damage to house, slight.—Robinson's loss, twenty dollars, no insurance.

Supposed to have taken from matches from the hands of a small boy.

On the 27th of November, fire was discovered in the dwelling house of John S. Ingraham, on Middle Street, it was extinguished without the aid of the firemen, no general alarm being given.—Estimated damage twenty dollars. Insured. Fire originated from stove in chamber.

On the morning of the 2d of December, fire was discovered in the store on North Main Street, owned by Pendleton & Howes, and
occupied by Joseph Farnham, variety goods. The building together with the goods, was totally destroyed. Value of building five hundred dollars. Insured, three hundred. Value of goods, five hundred dollars. No Insurance.

Pendleton & Howes owned the building adjacent to the one destroyed, that the estimated damage was seventy five dollars.—Insured.

On the morning of 10th of December, fire was discovered in the dwelling house of John Wakefield, on Middle Street, it was extinguished without the aid of the Firemen. The damage was slight. Fire originated from defect in furnace register.

On the evening of 5th of January 1857, fire was discovered in the Crockett Block, North Main Street, owned by Knott Crockett. The fire originated in the room occupied by Miss Kirkpatrick & Co., for Millinery Goods, it was extinguished, with damage to building, of one hundred and fifty dollars. No Insurance.

Miss Kirkpatrick & Co.'s, goods damaged as estimated, three hundred and fourteen dollars. Insured.

How the fire originated not known.

RECAPITULATION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Insured</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Porter 2d's loss</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Ingraham's loss</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insured</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artemas Robinson's loss</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John S. Ingraham's loss</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insured</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pendleton &amp; Howes' loss</td>
<td>575</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insured</td>
<td></td>
<td>575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Farnham's loss</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knott Crockett's loss</td>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Kirkpatrick &amp; Co.'s loss</td>
<td>314</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insured</td>
<td></td>
<td>314</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amount Property destroyed, $3,389 00
Amount insured, 2,219 00

Actual loss, $1,170 00

N. A. BURPEE,
Chief Engineer of the Fire Department.

ROCKLAND, March 1, 1857.
REPORT OF THE CITY MARSHAL.

To the City Council:—

I lay before you my annual report, commencing March 20, 1856, and ending March, 1857.

I am gratified to say that our citizens are at all times, ready and willing to sustain the officers in the Police Department in preserving peace and good order.

The Police force of the city, now consists of one Deputy Marshal and ten Policemen, who have always been faithful to discharge their duties when called upon.

In November last, the Mayor and Aldermen appointed four persons as a night watch, two of whom were put on duty the second night of December last—and have continued on the night watch to the 5th inst.

The night watchmen received one dollar each, per night, and fifty cents for each arrest during the night.

And here allow me to say, that they have only arrested six persons, during the ninety-three nights, which they have been on duty. This shows conclusively that peace and quietness has to a great extent prevailed. It would not have been strange under the present circumstances, if there had been a great many more arrests, during the past year, in a place as large as this, bordering on a seacoast, with a large floating population of foreigners, continually coming and going, and surrounded by so many inducements to lead them astray.

The City Ordinances have been well sustained during the past year, with but a very few exceptions.

The Municipal Court, has credited the County with sixty one dol-
lars and fifty cents, and charged twelve dollars and eighty cents up to the first of March 1857.

The whole number of arrests made between March 20th, 1856, and March 7th, 1857, were ninety four, which are as follows:—

- Assault, ...... 11
- Larceny, - - - - - - . 2
- Fraud, - - - - - - - - - 2
- Trespass, - - - - - - - - - 2
- Willful Trespass, - - - - - - - 1
- Night Walking, - - - - - - - - - 2
- Keeping open Stores Sunday, - - - - - - - - - 3
- Disturbing the Peace, - - - - - - - - - 2
- Violation of the Liquor Law, - - - - - - - - - 5
- Drunkenness, - - - - - - - - - 64

Whole number committed to Jail, was four; three for drunkenness, and one for larceny, who was discharged by the County Attorney.

There has been no commitments to the State Reform School during the past year, and here let me say that the boys and young men of this city, have always been very submissive and treated the officers with due respect.

It will be well remembered that on the fourth day of July last, a large concourse of people from the neighboring towns assembled here to join our citizens in their Celebration. And I am happy to say that, during that day and night, only one arrest was made, and he was a foreigner, who came into the city intoxicated, early in the day.

Also, on the two days of Regimental Muster, last fall, which came off in our city, only one arrest was made.

And during all the holidays of the past year, which were quite numerous, there were but four arrests. I venture to say, and also believe, that the citizens of this city will sustain me in my saying that for peace and quietness in our city, the past year will compare favorably with any year in the history of Rockland, either before or since the adoption of the city charter.

I would with due respect call the attention of the City Council to the present condition of the Lockup, or Jail. It is well understood that any person therein confined could, by a little exertion, escape. This being the fact, it makes it necessary to keep a Policeman in the
building to watch during the confinement of dangerous persons. The present building is an uncommonly cold one, and it is by no means certain that the city would not be liable for damages sustained by persons confined, in consequence of the unsuitableness of such a place for confinement. I would therefore suggest the propriety of the city making some arrangement, whereby persons could be more comfortably located; and more secure during the period of their confinement, than possibly can be in the building now in use.

I would further suggest the propriety of the city employing some person for City Scavenger. I well know that persons dislike to do such work, unless they have been previously prepared for such business.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES A. LIBBY, City Marshal.

Rockland, March 1, 1857.
CITY GOVERNMENT.

1857–8

MAYOR,

CHARLES CROCKETT.

E. R. SPEAR, CITY CLERK.

ALDERMEN,

WARD 1. Calvin Hall,
  "  2. Isaac Gregory,
  "  3. A. H. Kimball,
WARD 4. B. Litchfield,
  "  5. J. A. Ingrahan,
  "  6. Elkanah Smith,
WARD 7. O. B. Brown.

COMMON COUNCIL,

E. W. PENDLETON, PRESIDENT.

WARD 1. J. T. Young,
  A. L. Tyler,
  Hiram Brewster,
WARD 4. C. G. Moffit,
  A. C. Wicker,
  G. J. Burns.
WARD 2. W. B. Robinson,
  E. W. Pendleton,
  Demerick Spear.
WARD 5. C. R. Whitney,
  L. Weeks,
  J. R. Richardson.
WARD 3. L. Campbell,
  O. J. Conant,
  A. L. Lovejoy.
WARD 6. J. C. Hilt,
  S. Starrett,
  T. B. Glover.
WARD 7. J. W. Ormsbee,
  S. B. Ulmer,
  A. J. Hewett.
OFFICERS ELECTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL.

City Treasurer—Maynard Sumner.

Street Commissioner—A. U. Spalding.

City Physician—Joel Richardson, M. D.

City Marshal—C. A. Libby.

Chief Engineer of the Fire Department—I. K. Kimball.

Harbor Master—Asa Crockett.

Supervisor of Schools and Agent of the Grade District—Rev. J. O. Skinner.

Assessors—Freeman Harden, Davis Tillson, E. W. Pendleton.

Overseers of the Poor—George S. Wiggin, Isaac Gregory, Leander Weeks.

Street Engineer—Nath'l Meservey.


OFFICERS APPOINTED BY MAYOR AND ALDERMEN.

Deputy Marshal—Ephm. Myers.


Measurers of Corn and Grain—Alden Litchfield, David W. Kent, John A. Spear, Joseph Frohock.

Sealer of Weights and Measures—O. C. Ludwig.

Auctioneers—Elkanah Spear, G. W. Kimball, Jr.


Undertaker—Isaac Gregory.

Pound Keeper and Field Driver—George W. Burns.
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

ON FINANCE.
Alderman Ingraham. Messrs. Tyler and Starrett.

ON ACCOUNTS AND CLAIMS.

ON HIGHWAYS.

ON CITY PROPERTY.

ON BY-LAWS AND POLICE REGULATIONS.

ON PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

ON FIRE DEPARTMENT.
Alderman Hall. Messrs. Richardson and Lovejoy.

ON ENROLLED ORDINANCES.

ON BURYING GROUNDS.

ON PRINTING.
WARD OFFICERS.

WARD FIRST.
Jackson Weeks, Warden, S. H. Spalding, Ward Clerk,

WARD SECOND.

WARD THIRD.
Isaac Ames, Warden, Lewis Richardson, Ward Clerk.

WARD FOURTH.
Daniel Cowing, Warden, Leander Anderson, Ward Clerk.

WARD FIFTH.
John Lindsey, Warden, Henry Paine, Ward Clerk.

WARD SIXTH.

WARD SEVENTH.

CONSTABLES.

        " 2. J. G. Day, " 5. A. T. Spear,
        " 3. Chas. Clark, " 6. Isaac Stearns,