1885

Annual Report Fort Fairfield 1885

Fort Fairfield, (Me.)

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## SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount undrawn for 1883</td>
<td>$272.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount raised by Town, 1884</td>
<td>$2245.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Received from State, 1884</td>
<td>$1649.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Received from M. &amp; S., Fund</td>
<td>$105.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4273.08</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount Expended for 1884</td>
<td>$4178.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undrawn Balance</td>
<td>$94.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4273.08</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Vouchers have been given by the Supervisor of Schools, for $89.24 of this balance, but the same have not yet been presented to the Selectmen.

## PAUPER ACCOUNT.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount Raised by Town for 1884</td>
<td>$1000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes and Mortgage of Webster Reed</td>
<td>$125.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received from Chambers' Family for Father's Collin</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1132.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expended as follows:

- William Weston                                      $41.17
- Ben Cox Family                                       $19.89
- Arthur Murphy                                        $60.50
- Elizabeth White                                      $17.00
- Amos Bouher                                          $7.00
- John Fryer boy                                       $18.00
- Crock child                                          $17.00
- Charles McInnis                                      $3.00
- Francis Bouher, old bill,                            $2.30
- Fred John-on, (Dane)                                 $20.22
- S. Jane Parsons                                      $17.91
- John Gots                                            $8.00
- E. Nadeau                                            $8.50
- Michael Family                                       $3.50
- James Lynch                                          $12.60
- Hattie Deschnerans                                   $1.00
- L. Dudley                                            $4.60
- Mrs. George H. Pryor                                  $10.65
- John Ramon                                           $103.75
- Peter Mitchell                                       $2.00
- Elsie Smith and child                                $126.44
- Chambers' Family                                     $51.48
- Cordelia Varney                                      $84.76
- Thomas Wilson                                        $104.63
- Leonor G. Fisher                                     $81.09
- Charles Harvey                                       $59.15
- Henry Dubl                                           $3.92
- H. Dross                                             $2.00
- Josephine Morneau                                    $67
- C. W. Lock                                           $7.42
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Boulier</td>
<td>10.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parent</td>
<td>2.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm. H. Lindsey</td>
<td>23.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youn</td>
<td>40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex. Parker</td>
<td>5.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Reynolds</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs. Short</td>
<td>29.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madeleine Levasseur</td>
<td>44.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. H. Perkins Medical Attendance</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. G. Young for same</td>
<td>25.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicines for Paupers</td>
<td>6.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1221.75</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficiency drawn from Town Expense Account</td>
<td>89.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$1311.50</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INTEREST ACCOUNT.**

- Amount raised by Town for 1884: $1750.00
- Amount expended by Treasurer to date: $1046.12
- Unexpended balance to date: 705.88
- **Total:** $1750.00

**FREE HIGH-SCHOOL ACCOUNT.**

- Amount Raised by Town: $250.00
- Amount Received from State: 250.00
- Undrawn Balance of last year: 220.25
- Tuition Received by Treasurer last year: 4.55
- **Total:** $733.80
- Amount Expended to date: 472.50
- Undrawn Balance: 261.30

As the Free High School is now in session and will not close until after the expiration of the present Municipal year, the above account will remain unsettled.

**BRIDGE REPAIRS ACCOUNT.**

- Amount raised by town 1884: $100.00
- Deficiency drawn from Town Expense Account: 189.20
- **Total:** $289.20
- Amount Expended on bridge: 280.20

**NEW SCHOOLHOUSE ACCOUNT.**

- Amount Raised by Town, 1884: $700.00
- Undrawn Balance of 1883: 1052.65
- Received for old Schoolhouse: 28.00
- **Total:** $1780.65
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expended to date</td>
<td>$1769.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undrawn Balance carried to Town Expense Account</td>
<td>11.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOWN EXPENSE ACCOUNT.</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Raised by Town, 1884.</td>
<td>$15 10 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undrawn Balance of last year</td>
<td>397.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overlays</td>
<td>437.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undrawn Balance 1883. Lighting Bridge Account</td>
<td>39 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billiard and Circus Licenses, 1884.</td>
<td>15 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undrawn Balance new Schoolhouse Account</td>
<td>11 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deficient Highway Tax of 1883, committed to Collector</td>
<td>73.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$2474.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expended as Follows:

- J. B. Wasson, Balance lighting Bridge, 1883, $15.67
- H. Stevens & Co., Lumber for Culverts, $6.22
- Franklin True, Land damage, Leighton Road, $25.00
- J. B. Aver, Snowing Bridge, $11.52
- John Me. I. Brown, Land damage, $75.00
- Wm. Turner, Land damage, $40.00
- H. H. Bishop, Land damage, $40.00
- E. O. Parker & Co., Printing Town Report, etc., $34.00
- Rockville and Mills, work on Town Hall, $4.55
- Ambrose Foss, Lumber for Schoolhouse, $34.00
- A. C. Paul, Vacation Books and Stationary, $48.09
- E. C. Bates, Writing Deeds of School Lots, $5.50
- D. S. Jones, Surveying, $6.00
- J. S. Fall, Services as Constable, $4.00
- John Aver, for tracking, $3.85
- Mrs. I. Rollins, support during quarantin, $15.00
- E. Knight, Surveying road, $5.00
- W. H. Estabrook, Adjustment for year 1882, $24.65
- Same, Commission collecting taxes for 1882, $54.68
- Darby Brothers, Supplies, etc., $3.30
- Hacker & Lundy, Oil for lighting Bridge, $34.64
- Same, for lumber for Marshall Schoolhouse, $24.76
- Same, for Money Orders, etc., $14.45
- J. E. Hacker, Rent of Hall for Schools, $25.00
- L. Baker, Postage, Money Orders & Sundries, $4.75
- L. A. Graves & Son, Lumber, $14.08
- E. C. Smith, Stationery, $1.65
- H. Pond, Lighting Bridge, $50.00
- J. X. Goodhue, Expression Statutes, $8.95
- George Denworth, Professional Services, $5.90
- W. C. Paul, School Books, $9.60
- E. Jewett, Services as fire warden, $6.00
- J. N. Goodhue, Town Clerk, $15.00
- J. Sawyer, Supervisor of Schools, $12.50
- P. Grant, Supervisor of Schools, $7.00
- J. E. Hacker, Treasurer, $40.00
- W. K. Conant, Selectman, $100.00
- L. Hoyt, Selectman, $110.00
- L. Baker, Selectman, $175.00

**Total** $1878.14
Dificiency in Pauper Account 89.75
Deficiency in Bridge Repairs Account 150.20
Deficiency in Town Expense Account of 1882, 262.37
Omitted in last year's report 63.61
Undrawn Balance 2474.09

RAILROAD SINKING FUND.
Amount Raised by Town in 6 previous years $2511.00
Amount raised by Town, 1884, 418.50
Total amount to credit of Railroad Sinking Fund 2929.50

STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.
State Tax for year 1884, $1879.21
County Tax for year 1884, 909.82
Total 2879.03

Amount of Town Orders issued and not paid.
Amount for 1875, $2.69
Amount for 1876, 3.00
Amount for 1877, 50.00
Amount for 1878, 102.00
Amount for 1879, 1029.55
Amount for 1880, 1831.08
Total outstanding March 17, 1885, 3008.83
Total outstanding March 17, 1884, 3330.40
Decrease during 1884, 261.57

Statement of Liabilities and Resources aside from Bonded Debt.

Liabilities:
Amount of Outstanding Orders $3063.83
Interest due on Bonded Debt 268.65
Due to Schools 94.48
Due to Free High School 262.30
Due Railroad Sinking Fund 2929.50
6622.76
Resources above Liabilities to balance 6057.77

RESOURCES.
Due from W. H. Eastbrooke Collector, 1882, $144.38
Due from G. A. Richardson, Collector 1883, 915.58
Due from G. A. Richardson, Collector 1884, 980.27
Tax Deeds estimated 1150.00
State, Bank and Mill Tax, balance due 124.48
Due from State on Free High School account 14.27

$12680.53
Due from State Account of State Pensions 72 00
Due from State Account, Bounty on Bears 5 00
Cash in Treasury 445 45

$12680 53

STATEMENT OF BONDED DEBT.

Amount of Railroad Bonds, Rockland Savings Bank $13850 00
Amount of Municipal Bonds, R. Gathercole 5200 00
Amount of Municipal Bonds, F. M. Drew 1000 00
Amount of Municipal Bonds due M. & S., Fund $1504 87

$21654 87

ABSTRACT OF WARRANT.

1st to choose Moderator.
2nd to choose necessary Town Officers.
3rd to raise money for support of Schools.
4th to raise money for support of Poor.
5th to raise money for Town expenses.
6th to raise money to pay interest on debt.
7th to raise money for Bridge repairs.
8th to build schoolhouse in Page neighborhood.
9th to build schoolhouse in Neil Woodrich neighborhood.
10th to build schoolhouse in Alvin Strickland neighborhood.
11th to authorize Treasurer to sell village school lot.
12th to appropriate money for schoolhouse at lower village.
13th to appropriate money for schoolhouse in Main village.
14th to raise money for schoolhouses in Main and lower village.
15th to raise money for Free High school.
16th to raise money for bridge across J. McI. Brown Mill stream.
17th to raise $418.50 for R. R. Sinking Fund.
18th to choose Collector of Taxes and vote compensation.
19th to authorize Selectmen to review loans.
20th to contract for support of poor.
21st to raise money for repairs of Highways.
22nd to build bridge on Grant and True road.
23rd to accept town way on petition of John McNamere.
24th to accept town way on petition of Frank A. Goodnur.
25th to raise money to build Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. L. BAKER, Selectmen
R. S. HOYT, of
B. W. CONANT, Fort Fairfield.
TREASURER'S REPORT.

Cash Received:
- Cash in Treasury March 17, 1884, $840.41
- Cash of State Treasurer, Free High School 235.73
- Cash of State Treasurer, School Fund 105.40
- W. H. Estabrooke, Collector for 1882, 1067.11
- G. A. Richardson, Collector for 1883, 9347.14
- G. A. Richardson, Collector for 1884, 545.64
- W. H. Earle, Billiard License 10.00
- Circus License 5.00
- Chambers' Family for coffin, 7.00
- G. F. Huntress for old schoolhouse 28.00

Total cash received: $11091.45

Cash paid out:
- Paid Interest to Treasurer of School Fund $90.29
- Paid Interest Rockland Savings Bank 500.00
- Paid Interest B. Gathercole Bonds 317.28
- Paid Interest on Town Orders 138.55
- Bounty on Bear to E. True 5.00
- For Exchange 50.00
- For State Pensions 72.00
- Paid Town Orders 10122.38
- Cash in Treasury March 14th, 1885, 445.45

Total cash paid out: $11091.45

Fort Fairfield, March 14, 1885.

J. F. HACKER.
Treasurer.

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Report of the Supervisor of Schools.

To the Municipal Officers of Fort Fairfield:

Another year has rolled round and your Supervisor finds it due to render an account of his stewardship. I will first say that our town has met with a loss that cannot be replaced, in having Rev. Mr. Sawyer go from us to other fields of labor. He has performed faithfully the duties of Supervisor of Schools and has placed them in the first rank. I respectfully submit to you the following report. There have been fifty-two terms of school during the year, averaging about ten weeks per term.

The usual examinations have been held and teachers have come nearer to the Superintendent's requirements than years before. There have been thirty-one teachers employed during the year. Fifteen of them were town teachers who ranked up to the standard, while eight more belonging in town fell much below the required rank. The others were from other towns, and ranked with our best teachers. Your present Supervisor has been much
bothered to get such teachers as he desired, on account of several of our very best, "dropping out," for the winter to take a much needed rest, while others have been attending school away from town. Consequently I have been obliged to take several teachers, whom I should not have certified could I have done better. Our experienced teachers have done good work, but perhaps a larger number of inexperienced teachers have been employed this year than before, for causes mentioned, so that on the whole, while our schools compare favorably with former years, they have not attained that degree of excellency which we might hope for or might expect; but I trust we may not again be placed in like circumstances.

Our town now furnishes such good opportunities for the education of teachers, that all who intend to teach may fit themselves for the work in a short time if they desire it, and I urge upon all intending to teach, the necessity of fitting themselves for that work. After our town schools have closed, let all our young teachers make arrangement to attend the High School of which we have two terms a year, so arranged as to give them a chance to attend. Because a young teacher is placed in a small school by the Supervisor from circumstances over which he has no control, is no reason that he or she should not attend school afterwards. There are some teachers in town who are always looking for an easy school when, if they had any ambition or pride about them, they might easily fit themselves for the harder and more advanced schools. I hope the time is not far distant when the Supervisor of this town can say to these, so called teachers, "I can get a plenty of competent teachers to fill my schools, and your services will not be required." I am glad that some of our teachers have been aware of the fact that they need to fit themselves specially for the work, so have gone away for the necessary training. We now have four in the Normal Schools and three in the State College, and I shall look for good work to be accomplished when they shall again take up their vocation. Let others follow this good example that our schools may be profited by it as well as the teachers.

SCHOOL WORK.

There are in this town ten hundred and fifty-six scholars, the most of whom have attended school one term at least.

The amount of school money per scholar is $4.01 which is not quite as much as in some towns of the state, but enough if properly applied to give all our children a liberal education.

The past year fully ten per cent of the school money has been expended in making repairs on some of our old schoolhouses and in putting our new ones in shape for schools. We have bought seats for all the new houses, furnished new stoves, blackboards, chairs, etc., all of which was easily done under the present system, and I have had seven schoolhouses insured for three years as I
could at much lower rates than for a shorter length of time.

The village schools have been under the care of N. H. Martin, Miss Alice Whitney and Miss Alice Haley, and in each, good work has been accomplished. The schools as a whole have been very satisfactory. In some instances where the teachers lacked experience, the schools have not been just what might be desired. In two or three schools some insubordination has been manifested, and I hope the offenders may see the folly of such a course and do better in the future. There are some causes operating against the efficiency of our schools of which I wish to speak. One is the lack of interest and effort on the part of parents; when text books are grudgingly procured, (or in some cases not procured) the dinner pail filled and the little ones started off to school, some parents seem to think all their duties done until the next morning; and so on from day to day, never assisting in getting lessons, never visiting the schools to see how their money is spent or their children treated, not knowing or seeming to care what the moral atmosphere may be which they are compelled to breathe for seven or eight hours in twenty-four, never extending greeting or sympathy to the teacher who has the care of the moral and intellectual welfare of their loved ones. This is all wrong. Parents should have enough interest in their children to look after some of these and other things which might be mentioned. It may be answered that teacher and supervisor are paid for doing this; but does not the merchant examine his books to see if his clerks have been faithful? does not the farmer visit his fields to see if his crops are properly cared for by the laborer? nothing in which dollars and cents are concerned is left to chance or the good faith of the employees; but the welfare and moral training of your most priceless treasures—your children, are left to the care of strangers, employed by your Supervisor. Parents, visit the schools more, find out what your children are doing; see if they are behaving just as you would have them at home; proffer aid and sympathy to your teacher; interest yourselves in the studies of your children; see that their books are of the right kind, and in proper condition; acquaint yourselves of all the duties of parents; then you will be free to require of your servants, the teacher and the Supervisor, their whole duty.

Another cause is absence of truancy and tardiness, which are fruitful sources of evil in our schools. In some of the schools the past winter, I am pained to report this harmful habit has injured in a large degree the efficiency of our schools. In that I think the blame should be equally divided between the teacher and parents of offending pupils. If a scholar is absent from recitation or fails to make an appearance in the school-room for the day, it is not the teacher's fault, but it is his duty to ascertain the cause of absence, inform the parents of the fact and in conjunction with them prevent a recurrence of the same.
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Another cause is absenteeism, truancy and tardiness, which are fruitful sources of evil in our schools. In some of the schools the past winter, I am pained to report this harmful habit has injured in a large degree the efficiency of our schools. In that I think the blame should be equally divided between the teacher and parents of of offending pupils. If a scholar is absent from recitation or fails to make an appearance in the school room for the day, it is not the teacher's fault, but it is his duty to ascertain the cause of absence, inform the parents of the fact and in conjunction with them prevent a recurrence of the same.
NEW SCHOOL HOUSES.

There have been five new schoolhouses built during the past year, viz., one in the Foster Mill district, one in the McKenny district, one in the Robert Johnston district, one in the Ambrose Foss district, and one in the Stevens' Mill district, all of which are finished on the outside, and have good floors, seats, blackboards, tables, chairs, etc. We now have fourteen respectable schoolhouses in town, and still more are needed as soon as the town sees fit to build them. There are several which are unfit to have winter schools in. Our village had the misfortune to lose its schoolhouse, a short time since, by fire, together with about $30 worth of school property, such as Outline Maps, Globes, Dictionaries and other property.

The house was insured for $600. I think it would be better for the town to dispose of the lot we now own in the village, (as it is a valuable one) and build two Primary schoolhouses, one at the Lower end, and one near Gellerson's Corner, as it would accommodate the small scholars better than to have one house near the center of the village. If our village continues to increase in population as it has for two or three years past, we shall need more than one Primary School, and, in fact there are too many small scholars for one school now. There will be one disadvantage in building two houses for small scholars, and that is this, we now have three grades of schools, but in that event we could have but two, which would have to be remedied by grading the classes instead of the schools. In the course of time we shall need a high school building with a chance for two schools, so that if we could get along for a few years, we could then have just what the town needs, a building for a Grammar and High School.

FREE HIGH SCHOOL.

There was a fall term of Free High School at the village under the instruction of N. H. Martin as Principal and Isa E. Harvey as Assistant. The school was a success in every particular.

There are two terms of this school now in operation, one in the village under the care of Mr. Martin, and one in the McIntosh district being taught by H. C. Townsend, both schools now promising to be successful. About one hundred scholars are now attending these two schools. I hope the voters of this town will look well to their own interests and continue the annual appropriation for Free High Schools. It costs only about eight cents per inhabitant to maintain this school, which is very much cheaper than it would be to send our children away to schools that really furnish no better privileges than the Free High Schools.
RECOMMENDATIONS.

There are three districts in town that have no schoolhouses. The Page district, the Strickland district, and the Goodrich district, and a house is very much needed in each, therefore I recommend an appropriation of $200 for a schoolhouse in Page District, $200 for a schoolhouse in Strickland District, $200 for a schoolhouse in Goodrich District, $1000 for two Primary houses in Village, $100 to finish schoolhouse in Varney district, $50 for a wood shed in H. Hoyt district.

The voters of the town will understand that when we sell the school lot in the village, we shall have funds enough to build the houses in the village, but the town will have to vote an appropriation otherwise the money could be drawn from the treasury. I submit the above to the good judgment of the voters of Fort Fairfield.

I am respectfully yours,

F. P. GRANT,
Supervisor of Schools.