

1876

Twenty-First Annual Report of the Receipts and Expenditures of the City of Biddeford, for the Fiscal Year ending Jan. 31st, 1876, Together with the Inaugural Address of the Mayor, Hon. John H. Burnham, and Other Annual Reports relating to the Affairs of the City.

Biddeford (Me.)

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TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Receipts and Expenditures

OF THE

CITY OF BIDDEFORD,

For the Fiscal Year ending Jan. 31st, 1876,

TOGETHER WITH THE

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF THE MAYOR,

HON. JOHN H. BURNHAM,

And other Annual Reports relating to the affairs of the City.



BIDDEFORD:
MAINE DEMOCRAT PRINT.
1876.



AUG 28 1914



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CITY OF BIDDEFORD.

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN, }
May 16, 1876. }

ORDERED,

That five hundred copies of the Mayor's Inaugural Address, together with the Annual Report of the Committee on Finance, with the accompanying documents be printed, under the direction of the Committee on Printing, for general distribution.

Sent down for concurrence.

Attest: SAMUEL TRIPP, City Clerk.

IN COMMON COUNCIL. May 16, 1876.

Concurred.

Attest: GEORGE A. BERRY, Clerk.

Approved.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, May 16, 1876.
JOHN H. BURNHAM, MAYOR.

99

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

OF THE MAYOR,

HON. JOHN H. BURNHAM.

MAYOR'S ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN OF THE CITY COUNCIL:

The oath we have just taken is no idle form of words spoken as a part of these ceremonies, but one of the most solemn acts of our lives. If our moral sense does not, I trust we have enough of that sense of "honor" which keeps us from being common thieves, not to make an appeal of this kind to the justice of the Almighty without a firm purpose to do as we have sworn.

Onerous, unremunerative, perplexing, and hardest of all to bear, thankless, we no doubt shall too often find our duties before the year closes. I hope we have foreseen that it is so. However hard it may be to have our motives maligned and our integrity questioned, we may be assured of this, that moral uprightness brings its own reward, if not in the way we desire, yet in the consciousness of right doing.

Among your first duties are those to elect the subordinate officers of the city. In the choice of these, exclusive of the police department, I have no voice, except in a remote and improbable contingency. I have only to say that *honesty and capacity* are qualifications older than Jefferson, and which all human experience both before and since his time show to be essential.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Your attention will early be directed to the annual appropriations. On these, in part, will depend your rate of taxation. Your State tax, your County tax, and your interest are expenses now beyond your control. The debt is contracted and its interest must be paid. The Legislature has already passed on your State and County tax. It appears from the printed reports that the expenses of the city, exclusive of these items and the tax discounts, which are only monies never had, and sinking funds, were for

1872	-	-	-	-	-	\$61,222 18
1873	-	-	-	-	-	66,392 81
1874	-	-	-	-	-	88,137 77
1875	-	-	-	-	-	77,451 62

Though liable to some slight modifications, these figures are sufficiently exact for the purpose for which I use them. They are what may be fairly called that part of taxation which you control. Every dollar you can lessen these expenses is a dollar saved this year to the pockets of the people.

I do not forget that our taxes are the price we have to pay for the right "to sit under our own vine and fig tree;" the price of our civilization; that every moral and social virtue constrains us to pay them cheerfully. Nevertheless they are a burden on industry; and, in the case of the poor, so much taken from the food and clothing which can be provided for wife and children. This is true not only directly but indirectly, by decreasing the returns from capital, and hence the demand for all the laborer has to sell, his labor—the increased price of which is his share of the prosperity of fixed capital.

Allow me to urge this point of economy in the expenditures which are within your direction. The empty tenements, the idle people, the pinchings of poverty in the homes of the poor, the decreased living expenses of the middling class, the closed workshops, the paralysis of business, all point the same way. Let us be content to walk on the old sidewalks another year, and to ride on the old road a little longer.

It does not follow, however, that economy should be pushed to meanness, or large future obligations should be incurred, to save a small present expense. The fair rule seems to be to save where we can, and to spend our money for that we most need.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

I understand from the report of the engineers of the fire department, on file in the Clerk's office, that the "Steamers" are in good repair, and the department efficient.

It is believed that after the expenses for repairs last year, a material reduction in the expenses of this department may be effected this year.

Among the recommendations of the engineer, to which I wish to call your attention, are his suggestions that the old reservoirs be enlarged as our finances may warrant, that a new one be built on Pool, near Hill street, that a better system of fire alarms be considered, and that immediate steps be taken to purchase one thous-

and feet of best leather hose. For further information relating to this department, I refer you to the very full and carefully prepared report on file.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

In May, 1862, the York Mechanic's Institute gave to the city their collection of books on condition that the same should be maintained as a free public library. It is now closed.

Whether viewed educationally, socially or politically, all must agree that a collection of standard works, selected with care, is a matter of the very first importance in every community. Its function in society is like that of the common school to the young. Especially is it of value to the poorer and middling classes. The aspiring, the inventive, the thoughtful and the studious, are fairly entitled to have easy access to the best obtainable information.

The sum needed is very small. I leave the matter to your judgment.

NEW VALUATION.

A "New Valuation" so called, is a subject that has been agitated for ten years to my knowledge. There are some considerations that would seem to make the matter one deserving particular attention at this time. The last one was made about 1859. I think subsequently there was made a percentage reduction. Since then the changes made have been, if I am rightly informed, chiefly, such as holders of adjoining property could influence, such positive additions, or improvements as came to the knowledge of the assessors, and such changes as public criticism rendered inevitable. I believe that much has been done in the last year to relieve the evils that would grow out of such a state of things. As this is no question of conscientious devotion to duty, but simply one of expediency, is it not fair to believe that the public feeling would be better satisfied if there was a professed and systematic examination of the changes which have grown up during the last seventeen years in the value of property? Business centres have changed or new ones grown up. Fashion has put forth her influence. Wood lots have grown up and wood lots have been cut off. The savings of the thrifty, and the knawings of time on the possessions of the idle, all need to be considered.

Again, the State tax is an important part of the city taxation.

This is likely to be materially increased by the "school mill" tax. The constitutionality of the tax has been persistently denied, for the few years it has been on the statute book, by the larger and more wealthy towns.

The last legislature submitted the question to the supreme court and the court decided it, on grounds of public policy, to be within the powers of the legislature. As the tax is assessed on the State valuation of the property of towns, and divided according to the number of children in the towns, and as the larger towns and cities have more property in proportion to their scholars than the sparsely settled towns, it follows that the more wealthy places pay out more than they receive back. Biddeford pays about twenty-five hundred dollars more than it receives.

The decision of the supreme court, though made without argument from opposing counsel, and given with reluctance, will doubtless be maintained because it is in the direction of the progress of legal ideas. The large proportional number of country members in the legislature will prevent any change there. Their mutterings about the free high school law only shows how quick they are to seize an advantage as soon as there is an opportunity. We may then fairly expect not only that the law will remain on the Statute book, but that the amount raised by it will be increased until the larger part of the school money of the towns shall be raised in this manner. However the matter may work itself out it is plainly our duty to take care that we do not pay any more than our fair share.

Another reason why our valuation should have special attention is the transition state of values. The great depression of business and the discussion of a return to specie payment has disturbed the rate between property and currency all over the country. Valuations will have to be re-examined and adjusted to the new condition of things. The inertia of stubbornness may delay this matter now, as it has in the past, but it may be well to remember that the time always comes when the accumulation of restrained forces breaks every barrier. Whatever difficulties may be found in the way I am persuaded they will melt away before a firm purpose and a resolute will.

The details whether by three, or four, or five assessors, or whether

by the old or a new board, or whether by a board composed of both political parties, I leave to your mature judgment.

The ease of the money market, which floats off six per cent. municipal bonds at par, or over, suggests whether it may not be good economy to exchange our promissory notes, now amounting to about sixty thousand dollars, for new bonds, or at least such part of them as are now due. There would be no present loss of interest and it might save the treasurer from being placed in a position where he would be forced to pay high rates of interest to take up over due paper.

CITY DEBT.

The city debt made up in the usual way on the 1st day of February, 1876, amounts to (\$146,841.59) one hundred and forty-six thousand eight hundred and forty-one dollars and fifty-nine cents.

For further information I give a statement of the debt of the city for each year since its charter was accepted :

March, 1855,	-	-	-	-	\$24,009 81
" 1856,	-	-	-	-	30,362 07
" 1857,	-	-	-	-	35,062 03
" 1858,	-	-	-	-	38,316 92
" 1859,	-	-	-	-	42,258 61
" 1860,	-	-	-	-	71,109 51
" 1861,	-	-	-	-	100,037 45
" 1862,	-	-	-	-	111,236 55
" 1863,	-	-	-	-	136,739 41
" 1864,	-	-	-	-	169,933 11
" 1865,	-	-	-	-	151,850 19
" 1866,	-	-	-	-	178,255 93
" 1867,	-	-	-	-	192,313 16
Feb. 29, 1868,	-	-	-	-	186,803 88
" 28, 1869,	-	-	-	-	189,536 94
" " 1870,	-	-	-	-	145,999 48
" " 1871,	-	-	-	-	155,382 49
" 29, 1872,	-	-	-	-	152,187 69
" 28, 1873,	-	-	-	-	142,589 76
Jan. 31, 1874,	-	-	-	-	127,401 36
" " 1875,	-	-	-	-	151,429 44
" " 1876,	-	-	-	-	146,841 59

It is a matter of congratulation that the city debt has been kept within limits so narrow. While other cities are discussing a constitutional provision to limit municipal indebtedness we can rejoice

that our pecuniary obligations do not cripple the industry of the city. Let it be your care that it grows no larger.

I know of no more effectual way for you to do this than to obey those provisions of the charter which make it your duty to "take care that monies shall not be paid from the treasury unless granted or appropriated."

EXPENDING CREDITS.

It would appear from the printed reports that the practice has grown up of considering any money received by the city from other sources than taxation to be rightly credited to an appropriation, and used as though appropriated. How such a practice could have grown up does not appear, for the fourth section of the charter particularly provides that all such monies shall be paid into the treasury and not paid out until appropriated. There are fictions of law, this may be one of them. This matter deserves your careful attention because there seems to be no way to protect the tax payer in his rights of property except it is rigidly insisted upon that money once in the treasury shall not be paid out till appropriated.

CENTENNIAL THOUGHTS.

One hundred years ago to-day some of the people of Biddeford, in the army under Washington, were rejoicing over the possession of Boston. It would be a pleasure to recall the names of Sullivan, whose house now stands, though changed, at the corner of Hill and Main streets, of Parson Morrill, of Cutts, and many others who led and guided the people of this town in their patriotic course. Those who choose may now go into the Clerk's office and read the Declaration of Independence inscribed in our records "as a perpetual memorial thereof," by order of the Massachusetts Council in 1776. Let us take counsel from the high purposes of our fathers.

Gentlemen, I rely on your kindness and assistance in the duties to which we are called.

JOHN H. BURNHAM.



GOVERNMENT
OF THE
CITY OF BIDDEFORD,
1876.



MAYOR,

HON. JOHN H. BURNHAM.

CITY CLERK,

SAMUEL TRIPP.

ALDERMEN,

WARD 1—MARSHAL E. CURTIS,
“ 2—IRVING SMITH,
“ 3—GEORGE F. EMERY,
“ 4—OWEN SMITH,
“ 5—CHARLES H. NELSON,
“ 6—NAPOLEON B. OSGOOD,
“ 7—JAMES A. STROUT.

COMMON COUNCILMEN,

FREDERICK GREENE, - - PRESIDENT.

WARD 1, JOSEPH NEWCOMB,
 " MELVILLE McBRIDE.
 " WILLIAM F. HUTCHINS,
 WARD 2, WILLIAM BARDSLEY,
 " JAMES F. B. WATERHOUSE,
 " JOHN HAYES.
 WARD 3, JOHN GARSIDE,
 " ALPHONSE PARE,
 " JAMES KELLEY.
 WARD 4, GEORGE E. CORLISS,
 " AMZI L. AYER.
 " DANIEL L. POWERS.
 WARD 5, ORIN H. STAPLES,
 " PAUL V. LABONTE,
 " SAMUEL C. MILLIKEN.
 WARD 6, FREDERICK GREENE,
 " WILLIAM BROWN,
 " JAMES REED.
 WARD 7, DANIEL O. S. HOOPER,
 " MARK WAKEFIELD,
 " SETH A. GOODWIN.

GEORGE A. BERRY, CLERK OF COMMON COUNCIL.

WARD OFFICERS,**Wardens.****Ward Clerks.**

WARD 1, JOHN P. WARD.	JOSEPH C. EDWARDS.
" 2, ROWLAND HILL.	CLARENCE M. WATSON.
" 3, JOHN LEIGH.	EDGAR A. ALLEN.
" 4, CLARENCE A. STAPLES.	ALPHONSO E. LIBBY.
" 5, GEORGE H. MUNROE.	GEORGE F. WHITTEN.
" 6, NATHAN F. SAWYER.	FRANK W. ROBERTS.
" 7, JAMES O. BENSON.	JOSEPH E. MITCHELL.

CONSTABLES,

WARD 1, JEREMIAH B. BUNKER.
 " 2, JEREMIAH DONOVAN.

CONSTABLES.

WARD 3, FRANK RICKER.
 " 4, ROSCOE F. JELLESON.
 " 5, HAM W. MURRAY.
 " 6, AMOS S. BRACKETT.
 " 7, FRANK EMERSON.

Judge of Municipal Court,
 SAMUEL W. LUQUES.

Recorder of Municipal Court,
 GORHAM N. WEYMOUTH.

Treasurer and Collector,
 EDWIN W. WEDGWOOD.

City Marshal,
 *JAMES COSTELLO.
 JOHN HAM.

City Solicitor,
 JOHN M. GOODWIN.

City Physician,
 FRANK S. WARREN.

Assessors,
 JOSEPH W. FAIRFIELD,
 JOSHUA MOORE,
 ABIJAH TARBOX.

Overseers of Poor,
 JOHN Q. ADAMS,
 DANIEL COTA,
 MICHAEL BURNS.

*Resigned.

Health Officers,

HENRY I. LORD,
JAMES COSTELLO,
CALEB J. EMERY.

Engineers of Fire Department.

WILLIAM BOSTON, CHIEF ENGINEER.
JAMES BEAUMONT, 1ST ASSISTANT.
EDWIN W. HANSON, JR., 2ND ASSISTANT.

Superintending School Committee, and School Agents for District No. 4,

EDWIN STONE,
JOHN M. GOODWIN,
ROYAL E. GOULD.

School Agents,

DISTRICT No. 1, FRANK P. GILPATRICK.
" 2, JAMES A. HOOPER.
" 3, ELBRIDGE M. DEARBORN.
" 6, JOSEPH NEWCOMB.
" 7, SELEUCUS ADAMS.
" 8, THOMAS CRAIG.
" 9, FRANCIS G. BENSON.
" 10, GEORGE W. MILLIKEN.
" 11, HIRAM O. PROCTOR.
" 12, JOHN T. DAVIS.
" 13, JOHN EMERSON.

Police Officers and Night Watch,

DAVID ELLIOTT, CHARLES E. COLE,
JEREMIAH DONOVAN, HUGH ELLISON,
CHARLES B. PHILLIPS.

Commissioners of Streets and Roads,

Street Comr. District No. 4, LINCOLN WATERHOUSE.
Road " Pool District, FREDERICK YATES.
" " Oak Ridge District, ELIAKIM EMMONS.

Commissioners of Streets and Roads,

Road Comr.	River Road District,	GEORGE CLARK.
"	" Ward 7 East Division,	OBED EMERY.
"	" Ward 7 West Division,	DANIEL SMITH.

Harbor Master,

TRISTRAM GOLDTHWAIT, JR.

Sealer of Weights and Measures,

REUBEN P. ROBINSON.

Superintendent of Burials,

STEPHEN WORTH.

Special Police Officers,

Charles L. Gilpatrick,	David F. Woodman,	Wm. A. Chadbourne,
Charles A. Gowen,	George Tate,	Abijah Tarbox,
Ira C. Hill,	Joseph W. Brooks,	William H. Garey,
Narcisse Provencal,	James B. Marr,	James L. Milliken,
George W. Milliken,	George W. Hopkins,	Andrew J. Dolliff,
Daniel Morse,	Frank Ricker,	Jonathan W. Hill,
John J. Traynor,	John R. Pike,	Washb'n T. Emerson,
	A. P. Quimby.	

Callers of Hoops and Staves,

GREENLEAF W. PARKER,

WILLIAM H. HANSON.

Fence Viewers, Field Drivers and Hog Reeves,

Horace Davis,	David Elliott,	Eliakim Seavey,
Charles H. Roberts,	Thomas J. Chick,	John R. Lowell,
Jeremiah Tucker,	John F. Johnson,	John Curtis,
Nathan D. Witham,	Josiah H. Drew,	John B. Goldthwait.

Surveyors of Lumber, Wood and Bark,

Charles H. Brackett,	Alphonse Pare,	John M. Goodwin,
Francis Meeds,	Forrest Johnson,	Harden Taylor,

Surveyors of Lumber, Wood and Bark,

Nathan D. Witham,	Charles Pilsbury,	William H. Hanson,
Simon S. Andrews,	Samuel Hanson,	Levi G. Hanson,
Thomas Gartland,	Daniel Cote,	Napoleon B. Osgood,
Henry N. Hooper,	Joseph Etchells,	Chas. A. Wardwell,
William H. Smith,	J. W. Gooch,	John Sheehan,
James Costello,	Jeremiah Stimson,	Octavius D. Dolliff,
Lyman J. Ayer,	Charles L. Gilpatrick,	George Clark,
Levi W. Stone,	John R. Staples,	Cyrus K. Banks,
Orin G. Nash,	Charles F. Staples,	Tristram Goldthwait.
	Geo. W. Chadwick,	

Surveyors of Logs,

Jeremiah Stimson,	William Benson,	Tris. Goldthwait, Jr.,
Simon S. Andrews,	Levi G. Hanson,	Charles L. Gilpatrick.

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Finance.

The Mayor,	Councilman Alphonse Pare,
Alderman Charles H. Nelson,	" Seth A. Goodwin.

On Accounts.

Alderman George F. Emery,	Councilman Frederick Greene,
	" Daniel L. Powers.

On Public Property.

The Mayor,	Councilman James Reed,
Alderman George F. Emery,	" James Kelley,
	" Wm. F. Hutchins.

On Public Instruction and City Library.

The Mayor,	Councilman Orin H. Staples,
Alderman Napoleon B. Osgood,	" Paul V. Labonte,
	" Amzi L. Ayer.

On Fire Department.

The Mayor,	Councilman James Kelley,
Alderman Charles H. Nelson,	" Daniel O. S. Hooper,
" James A. Strout,	" Samuel C. Milliken.

On Printing.

Alderman Napoleon B. Osgood,	Councilman William Bardsley,
	" Mark Wakefield,

On Poor.

Alderman Irving Smith,	Councilman Joseph Newcomb,
" Owen Smith,	" William Bardsley,
	" J. F. B. Waterhouse.

On Ordinances.

The Mayor,	Councilman John Hayes,
	“ Melville McBride.

On Streets, Sewers, Drains and Street Lights.

The Mayor,	Councilman Orin H. Staples,
Alderman Irving Smith,	“ William Brown,
“ Marshal E. Curtis,	“ John Garside,
	“ George E. Corliss.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF ALDER-
MEN.

On Elections.

Alderman	IRVING SMITH,
“	N. B. OSCOOD,
“	OWEN SMITH.

On Police.

	The MAYOR.
Alderman	GEORGE F. EMERY,
“	JAMES A. STROUT.

On Licenses.

	The MAYOR.
Alderman	GEORGE F. EMERY,
“	JAMES A. STROUT.

On Enrolled Bills.

Alderman	MARSHAL E. CURTIS,
“	IRVING SMITH,
“	CHARLES H. NELSON.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF COMMON
COUNCIL.

On Election and Returns.

Councilman JAMES F. B. WATERHOUSE,
" JOHN GARSIDE,
" AMZI L. AYER.

On Enrolled Bills.

Councilman JAMES REED,
" SAMUEL C. MILLIKEN,
" MARK WAKEFIELD.

REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF ENGINEER OF FIRE DEPARTMENT.

To his Honor the Mayor and City Council of Biddeford :

GENTLEMEN:—In conformity with the ordinance establishing a Fire Department in the City of Biddeford, the Board of Engineers herewith submit their annual report of the condition and workings of the department for the year ending January 31st, 1876. together with such suggestions for your consideration as will, in our opinion, increase the efficiency of the department. There will also be found a list of fires and alarms that have occurred during the year. The board are happy to say that your assistance and co-operation has always been promptly and cheerfully rendered in aiding them in the discharge of their duties, and for which the board desire to tender their sincere thanks.

The manual force of the department consists of a Chief Engineer and two (2) assistant Engineers; thirty-eight (38) members of the Steamer companies, including drivers; twenty-two (22) of the Hook and Ladder company, making a total of sixty-three (63) men in the department.

DEPARTMENT.

The Department consists of two (2) Steam Fire Engines; one (1) Hook and Ladder Truck, and one (1) *Hand Engine, officered and manned as follows:

WILLIAM BOSTON, CHIEF ENGINEER.

JAMES BEAUMONT, 1ST ASSISTANT.

GEORGE A. LOMBARD, 2ND ASSISTANT.

*No company.

Steam Fire Engine Co., "Richard Vines" No. 1.

JAMES F. WORMWOOD, Foreman. HENRY TRIPP, Assistant.
 JAMES HUNT, JR., Engineer. WILLIAM BRYANT, Fireman.
 A. P. ROSE, Clerk. HENRY W. GOODWIN, Driver.
 MAURICE NEWELL, CHARLES BLOOD, Pipemen.

Hosemen :—William Lowell, Chas. E. Hoyt, Fthui Baker, Frank Ham Frank Hammond, Joseph Emery, Tristram Green, Frank O. Maybury, Adelma Bailey, Geo. Gilman, William Sullivan.

PROPERTY IN CHARGE.

1 Steam Fire Engine, with whipple-tree, yokes and chains.	
1 Hose Carriage.	
1 Hand Pole and Reel.	
600 feet Leather Hose, old.	
22 feet Suction Hose, new with Saddle and Strainer.	
500 feet Leather Hose, new.	
900 feet Rubber Hose.	
21 feet Suction Hose, old.	
2 Reducing Couplings for Suction Hose.	
2 Reducing Couplings for Leading Hose.	
2 Reducing Couplings for Hydrants.	
20 feet small Rubber Hose.	2 Elastic Pipes.
2 Brass Pipes.	20 Spanners.
7 Nozzels.	2 Hydrant Spanners.
20 Spanner Belts.	2 Hydrant Wrenches.
1 Hammer.	2 Fork Wrenches.
2 One Gallon Oil Cans.	1 Monkey Wrench.
1 Oiler.	1 Fire Poker.
1 Shovel	1 Crowbar.
1 Axe.	1 Jack Screw.
2 Water Pails.	2 Fire Buckets.
2 Stoves and Funnel.	2 Wall Lamps.
1 Bench Vise.	2 Torches.
19 Heavy Beaver Overcoats.	

Steam Fire Engine Co., "Eben Simpson" No. 2.

JASON C. HOOPER, Foreman. JOHN LUBEE, Assistant.
 JOSEPH HENEY, Engineer. CHASE GOODWIN, Fireman.

EDWARD OWEN, Clerk.

JAMES E. GOWEN, Driver.

WILLIAM PAUL, B. F. PIKE, Pipeman.

Hosemen.—Edmund Coffin, Thos. W. Heney, John M. Hartley, Charles McKenney, Charles F. Knights, Geo. Hooper, F. C. Noyes, William H. Heney, Stephen F. Flood, Sam'l A. Dolliff.

PROPERTY IN CHARGE.

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1 Steam Fire Engine, with whipple-tree, yokes and chains. | |
| 1 Hose Carriage. | |
| 1 Hand Pole and Reel. | |
| 600 feet Leather Hose, (old.) | |
| 500 feet Leather Hose, (new.) | |
| 1100 feet Rubber Hose. | |
| 50 feet small Rubber Hose. | |
| 2 Brass Pipes. | 1 Hydrant Spanner. |
| 2 Elastic Pipes. | 1 Hydrant Wrench. |
| 6 Nozzles. | 1 Monkey Wrench. |
| 22 feet Suction Hose, new, with saddle and strainer. | |
| 21 feet Suction Hose, old. | |
| 1 Reducing Coupling for Suction Hose. | |
| 2 Reducing Couplings for Hydrants. | |
| 1 Shovel. | 1 Fire Poker. |
| 1 Bench Vise. | 2 Stoves and Funnel. |
| 2 One-gallon Oil Cans. | 3 Fire Buckets. |
| 1 Oiler. | 1 Jack Screw. |
| 1 Axe. | 1 Crowbar. |
| 2 Torches. | 3 Wall Lamps. |
| 19 Heavy Beaver Overcoats. | |

"Gen. Canby" Hook & Ladder Co., No. 1.

CHARLES CHURCH, Foreman.

SAMUEL G. HOOPER, Assistant.

EDWARD RANDALL, Clerk.

TIMOTHY ELLIOTT, Treasurer.

WILLIAM C. HINES, Steward.

Hook & Laddermen.—T. A. Holland, S. W. Hubbard, Chester Pillsbury, William Johnson, Wm. Smith, John D. McKay, Henry Goodrich, Everett Keene, Winfield Andrews, Melvill Smith, Nathaniel Varriel, George H. Stone, Charles Goodwin, Willis Keene, F. G. Herrick, John Wayland, Elroy F. Littlefield.

PROPERTY IN CHARGE.

1 Bangor Patent Extension Ladder, new.	
1 Hook and Ladder Truck.	1 Monkey Wrench.
1 large Hook and Ropes.	1 one-gallon Oil Can.
1 medium Hook and Ropes.	1 Stove and Funnel.
8 small Hooks and Ropes.	1 Coal Hod.
4 Forks.	1 Shovel.
3 Axes.	2 Picks.
139 feet of Ladders.	4 Wall Lamps and Reflectors.
2 Crowbars.	2 Pails.
2 Hand Lanterns.	1 Sprinkler.
1 Signal Lantern.	1 Wheel Jack.
1 Drag Rope.	1 Broom.

PROPERTY IN CITY STABLE.

4 Horses.	2 Whips.
2 Set Double Harnesses.	2 Shovels.
4 Stall Blankets.	1 Wheel Jack.
2 four-wheeled Dump Carts.	1 Hay Cutter.
4 Horse Blankets.	2 Forks.
1 Feed Box.	2 Curry Combs.
2 set of Sleds.	2 Brushes.
1 Platform Cart.	1 Rake.
1 Water Bucket.	2 Boilers.
2 set of Whipple-trees and Yokes.	
1 set of Lead Bars and Chains.	
1 set of Lead Harnesses, (new.)	

STEAM FIRE ENGINES.

The Engines are both in perfect condition. We found the steamer "Eben Simpson" in a bad condition, not fit for service, and we thought it advisable to send the machine to Manchester for repairs, which was done at a cost of one thousand and seventy-six dollars and seventy cents (\$1076.70.) We deem it best to have the repairs done thoroughly, and thus prevent the necessity of having it laid up every few months. We have made a few repairs upon the Steamer "Richard Vines" and we have in consequence, two steamers that are as near perfect as they can be made.

It has been our aim to have all the repairs in this Department,

made in a substantial and workmanlike manner, thus securing reliability, and practicing what we regard as true economy.

HOSE.

There is in the Department two thousand (2,000) feet of Rubber Hose; twelve hundred (1200) feet of Leather Hose, old; one thousand (1,000) feet of Leather Hose, new. The old Leather Hose has been in constant use in this Department for the past seven (7) years and is actually worthless. The one thousand (1,000) feet of New Leather Hose, was purchased last summer of Samuel Eastman & Co., East Concord, N. H., at a cost of fifteen hundred and twenty dollars, and twenty-five cents (\$1520.25) and is good reliable Hose. Of the two thousand (2,000) feet of Rubber Hose only one-half is suitable to use. So it will be readily seen that there is in the Department only two thousand (2,000) feet of good reliable Hose. We respectfully invite your early attention to this subject, and recommend the purchase of one thousand (1,000) feet or more of Leather Hose, every year for a number of years.

ENGINE HOUSES AND STABLE.

Engine House No. 1, is in good condition. We found it necessary to make some considerable repairs, in order to make it inhabitable.

Engine House No. 2, is not in very good condition, and will need some few repairs especially in the tenement above.

The Stable has been completely re-modeled, new floored and the whole interior turned round, thus preventing the inevitable *mixing* consequent upon the old plan. This was done at an expense of about two hundred (\$200) dollars.

HORSES.

The horses are in proper condition, with the exception of one horse on Steamer No. 2, which has been sick since last December, but we are happy to say that he is gradually improving, and will probably soon be able to take his place on the steamer.

BANGOR EXTENSION LADDER.

We have purchased during the past year, one new 50 feet Bangor Patent Extension Ladder, at a cost of one hundred and twenty-five

dollars (\$125.00.) The Hook and Ladder Truck needs a thorough repairing.

RESERVOIRS.

We have during the year thoroughly repaired six (6) Reservoirs, viz : Foss street, Green street, Hill street, Alfred street, near Birch street, Alfred street corner of Pool street, and Pool street near Hill street. We would urgently call your attention to the actual need of a Reservoir on Pool street, near the head of Pike street, as there is no water to be had in that vicinity. Also a good substantial Reservoir near the City Building, or two (2) Hydrants. Also a Hydrant near the corner of Lincoln and Elm street. We would respectfully urge upon your consideration the expediency of gradually enlarging the Reservoirs in the city.

LOCATION OF RESERVOIRS AND HYDRANTS.

RESERVOIRS.

- | | | |
|--------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| No. 1. | Sullivan Street, | corner of Bacon Street. |
| 2. | Oak | “ near corner of Pool Street. |
| 3. | Hill | “ “ Main “ |
| 4. | Pool | “ “ Hill “ |
| 5. | Bacon | “ “ Foss “ |
| 6. | Birch | “ “ Summer “ |
| 7. | Foss | School house yard. |
| 8. | Alfred | “ near corner of Birch street. |
| 9. | “ | “ “ Pool street. |
| 10. | Franklin | “ near Alfred street. |
| 11. | Main | “ corner of Washington street. |
| 12. | Washington street, | near Jefferson street. |
| 13. | Main street, | corner of Lincoln street. |
| 14. | South | “ near Jefferson street. |
| 15. | Green | “ |
| 16. | Elm | “ corner of South street. |
| 17. | Elm | “ near corner of Main street. |

HYDRANTS.

- | | | |
|--------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. 1. | Main street, | near Bradbury street. |
| 2. | Elm | “ |
| 3. | Jefferson street, | corner of Adams street. |
| 4. | York | “ near Pepperell Counting Room. |
| 5. | Washington street, | near corner of Main street. |

There are three (3) other Hydrants which the Department are permitted to use in case of fire; one at the end of each of the Laconia blocks.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS.

We would respectfully submit to your consideration the subject of a Fire Alarm Telegraph, which is in our opinion greatly needed, and would be a most important addition to the Fire Department. It is, in fact essential to have its aid, in order to insure the complete workings of the Department. A good Telegraph suitable for this city could be put in operation for about fifteen hundred (\$1500) dollars.

We would recommend that an appropriation be made, providing for an annual parade and inspection of the Fire Department. Believing that it would tend to awaken renewed interest on the part of our citizens in the operations of the Department, as well as be conducive to the discipline and the well being of the several companies. Such parades are common in other cities and have proved interesting and profitable to all concerned.

We would also call your attention to the subject of a Hose Carriage. The Hose Carriages connected with the Steamers carry about six hundred (600) feet of Hose only. This is often times an insufficient amount, and the consequence is that one Steamer uses the Hose of both, and but one stream can be put upon the flames until more Hose has been procured from the Engine House, frequently at some distance from the fire. By the time this is received the building is in ruins, or beyond control, or as sometimes happens, other property is in imminent danger. This could be obviated by the addition of a Hose Carriage capable of carrying one thousand (1,000) feet. The Hose under this arrangement, would be all laid so that when the Steamers arrived at the fire all that would be necessary for them to do, would be to connect, thus adding to the celebrity of the Department. The number of Engine-men could be considerably reduced. In fact enough could be transferred from the two companies, without being detrimental to their usefulness, to form a good company for the Hose Carriage. Thus the expense of the Department would not be materially increased.

This in connection with the Fire Alarm Telegraph, which by the

way, would do away with that bane of the firemen "false alarms," would increase the efficiency of the Department a hundred-fold, and place our Department on an equal footing with those of other cities of equal population and territory.

We would respectfully suggest to our citizens the propriety of closing the doors and windows of a building on fire. We know that it is a common practice to open the doors and windows, but it is wrong,—smother the fire, not give it all the draft possible. A large proportion of the loss by fire could be avoided if people would only close the doors and windows until the firemen arrived, the fire would then (generally) be confined to the room in which it originated and could then be easily extinguished without the use of a large amount of water, which in many cases does as much, if not more damage than fire.

FIRES AND ALARMS

The Department has been called out thirty-six (36) times; twenty-four (24) times in Biddeford, and twelve (12) times in Saco.

1875.

- Mar. 1,— 4.20 P. M. Slight fire in Wm. Field's house on South street, Biddeford. Department out.
- Mar. 5,— 3.30 A. M. Fire in house of Louis Frank on Sullivan street, Biddeford. Partially consumed. Department out.
- Mar. 10,— 9.30 P. M. False alarm. Department out.
- Mar. 28,— 7.40 P. M. Slight fire in tenement house on Franklin street, Biddeford. Department out.
- Apr. 12,—12.50 A. M. Fire in house on Oak street, Biddeford. All consumed. Department out.
- Apr. 23,—11.40 A. M. Slight fire in Water Power Building, Smith street, Biddeford. Department out.
- May 18,— 1.45 A. M. Fire in N. O. Kendall's house on corner of Hill and Birch streets, Biddeford. All consumed. Department out.
- May 24,— 5.30 P. M. Fire in blacksmith shop and livery stables, Water street, Saco. Department out.
- June 25,—10.45 A. M. Slight fire in Wallace Bros. tannery, Somesville, Saco. Department out.

- June 26,— 8.45 A. M. Slight fire in house on Water street, Saco. Department out.
- July 1,—11.40 P. M. Fire in Gooch's stone shed, Granite street, Biddeford. All consumed. Department out.
- July 3,— 9.50 A. M. False alarm. Department out.
- July 5,— 2.40 A. M. Fire in Owen & Bickford's store on Main street, Saco. Department out.
- July 16,—10.45 A. M. Fire in chimney on Water street, Biddeford. Department out.
- July 21,—10.30 P. M. Fire, Old Orchard House, Orchard Beach, Saco. Department out.
- July 26,— 7.30 P. M. Lamp exploded in J. Gilpatrick's store on Alfred street, Biddeford. Department out.
- July 27,— 1.15 P. M. Fire in T. H. Cole's barn, near Boston & Maine railroad. All consumed. Department out.
- Sept. 6,— 6.15 P. M. Fire on Boom road, Saco. Department out.
- Sept. 9,—10.50 P. M. Slight fire in A. M. Kimball's carriage shop on Gooch street, Saco. Department out.
- Sept. 10,— 8.50 P. M. Slight fire in Hanson & Whitten's carriage shop on Main street, Biddeford. Department out.
- Sept. 16,— 5.15 A. M. Slight fire in Israel Smith's house, Kings corner, Biddeford. Department out.
- Sept. 27,— 8.30 P. M. False alarm. Department out.
- Sept. 29,— 1.45 A. M. Fire in Boardman Bros. ice house, Somerville, Saco. Department out.
- Oct. 21,—10.30 P. M. Fire in tenement house, Ferry road, Saco. Department out.
- Nov. 10,— 3.00 P. M. Slight fire in No. 1 Picker, Pepperell Co., Biddeford. Department out.
- Nov. 18,—10.30 P. M. Slight fire in blacksmith shop of York Manufacturing Co., Saco. Department out.
- Nov. 22,— 3.15 P. M. Fire in No. 3 Picker, Laconia Co., Biddeford. Department out.

- Dec. 4,—11.30 P. M. Fire in Wallace Bros. tannery, Somesville, Saco. Department out.
- Dec. 17,— 8.15 P. M. Fire in house on Acorn street, Biddeford. Partially consumed. Departm't out.
- Dec. 18,— 4.30 P. M. Slight fire in house, on Gooch street, Biddeford. Department out.
- Dec. 19,— 2.50 P. M. Fire in Moses Emery house, Storer street, Saco. Department out.
- Dec. 24,—11.15 P. M. Fire in an unoccupied house on Granite street, Biddeford. All consumed. Department out.

1876.

- Jan. 15,— 4.30 A. M. Fire at Old Orchard Beach, Saco, Russell house and others. Department out.
- Jan. 20,— 5.00 P. M. Fire in J. Stimson house on Stone street. Biddeford. Department out.
- Jan. 23,—10.45 P. M. Slight fire in Perkins Machine shop, Spring Island, Biddeford. Department out.
- Jan. 26,— 3.45 A. M. Slight fire in tenement house near Eastern R. R. Depot, Biddeford. Department out.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion we desire to tender our sincere thanks to the officers and members of the Department, for the prompt, active and intelligent manner in which they have performed their arduous duties. During the past year there has been a decided improvement in the morals of the Department, nearer to perfection are the forces approaching; the officers and men vie with each other in the prompt execution of their duties, and the devotion to the interest of their community.

Finally we would not forget to return our warmest thanks to his Honor the Mayor, and the members of the City Government for their liberal appropriations made the past year.

WILLIAM BOSTON, Chief Engineer.

JAMES BEAUMONT, Secretary for Board of Engineers.

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC PROPERTY.

To the City Council of Biddeford :

The Joint Standing Committee on City Property report the following as a full schedule of the property belonging to the city Feb. 29, 1876, with the appraised value.

City Building and Lot,	\$80,000 00
Eben Simpson Engine House and Lot,	4,500 00
Richard Vines Engine House, Lot and Stable,	5,000 00
Hook and Ladder House,	800 00
Steamer Eben Simpson and Hose Carriage,	4,250 00
Steames Richard Vines and Hose Carriage,	4,250 00
Hook and Ladder Truck,	700 00
Hand Tub,	200 00
One set Harnesses,	20 00
Two set Harnesses,	80 00
Four Horses,	1,000 00
One Sprinkler,	200 00
Two Dump Carts,	290 00
Two set Sleds,	55 00
Fire Stoves,	100 00
1083 feet new Leather Hose,	1,516 20
1000 feet old Leather Hose,	400 00
1000 feet Rubber Hose,	600 00
One Hay Cutter and Feed Box,	10 00
Chains,	25 00
1000 feet old Leather Hose,	150 00
City Farm,	10,000 00
Household Furniture,	700 00

Provisions and Groceries,	450 00
10 Cows,	500 00
6 Hogs,	150 00
20 Fowl,	5 00
3 Horses.	450 00
50 bushels of Oats,	30 00
800 lbs. Shorts,	12 00
30 tons of Hay,	480 00
1 ton of Oat Straw,	10 00
2 one Horse Wagons,	75 00
1 two Horse Wagon,	75 00
1 Tip Cart,	10 00
2 Riding Wagons,	75 00
1 new Cart,	15 00
2 double Sleds,	20 00
1 single Sled,	10 00
1 Sleigh,	20 00
2 Hay Racks,	10 00
1 Horse Hoe,	5 00
1 Cultivator,	10 00
2 Harrows,	10 00
1 Mowing Machine,	50 00
1 Seed Sower,	5 00
3 Ploughs,	15 00
1 Horse Rake.	5 00
1 Hay Cutter,	5 00
2 Churns, one new,	5 00
4 Scythes Snaths,	1 50
5 Drag Rakes,	3 00
10 Hay Forks,	4 00
3 Garden Rakes,	1 00
9 Hoes,	3 00
7 Manure Forks,	2 50
5 Shovels,	2 50
6 Rakes,	1 00
5 Axes,	2 00
3 Wood Saws,	1 50
1 Hand Saw,	50
2 Crowbars,	2 00

1 Wheel Barrow,	4 00
5 Bushel Baskets,	1 00
2 Grind Stones,	5 00
2 Tackle and Fall,	10 00
1 10 gallon Oil Can,	1 00
4 Ox Chains,	4 00
4 Ladders,	5 00
1 Farmers Boiler,	10 00
14 cords of Wood,	50 00
2 set double Harnesses,	70 00
2 set single Harnesses,	30 00
3 Horse Blankets,	3 00
1 Whip,	1 00
2 pairs Steelyards,	2 00
30 cords Manure,	120 00

\$117,694 70

FRANCIS G. WARREN,	}	Committee on Public Property.
FREDERIC YATES,		
R. P. ROBINSON,		
JAMES REED,		
ISRAEL DENNETT,		

REPORT

OF THE

CITY MARSHAL.

To the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Biddeford :

GENTLEMEN : —I respectfully submit my Annual Report of the doings of the Police Department, for the year ending January 31, 1876.

The whole number of arrests during the year past, has been one hundred and sixteen, brought before the Municipal Court for the following causes :

Intoxication,	69
Assault and Battery,	34
Larceny,	7
Malicious Mischief,	3
Vagrancy,	1
Night Walking,	1
Keeping open shop on Sunday,	1
	<hr/>
	116

There has been accommodated with food and lodgings in the station house, eight hundred and thirty-eight.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES COSTELLO, City Marshal.

REPORT

OF THE

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

To the City Council of the City of Bildeford :

The Overseers of the Poor submit the following report of the Pauper Department for the fiscal year, ending January 31, 1876.

Amount appropriated by City Council,	\$7,000 00
“ transferred from contingent fund,	2,000 00
“ received from City Farm and other sources,	573 62
“ overdrawn and not provided for,	587 14
	\$10,160 76

The following statement will show the amount of warrants drawn each month during the year :

For month of February, 1875,	\$1,909 90
“ “ March, “	1,290 44
“ “ April, “	1,319 37
“ “ May, “	886 06
“ “ June, “	467 35
“ “ July, “	497 27
“ “ August, “	566 07
“ “ September, “	519 53
“ “ Oc'ober, “	646 23
“ “ November, “	707 08
“ “ December, “	534 83
“ “ January, 1876,	816 63
	\$10,160 76

It will be noticed that for the first four months of the year the orders drawn are proportionally much larger than for the remaining eight months.

This is doubtless partly owing to the unfavorable season of the

year, but mainly on account of the large amount of bills brought forward from the previous year; the precise amount of which can only be ascertained by an examination of the bills and vouchers on file in the office of the City Clerk, while the orders of the last eight months show only the actual expenses of that period, together with such additional bills previously contracted as legitimately come within the present year.

The actual expenses under the Overseers for the municipal year commencing March 18, 1875, and ending Feb. 29, 1876, were as follows:

On City Farm,	\$3,564 81
On Streets,	3,979 49
Total,	<hr/> \$7,544 30

Leaving a balance of \$2,616 46 as expenses for the first six weeks of the fiscal year, and including old bills brought forward as before stated.

To obviate this "mixed" state of affairs as far as possible, in the future, the Overseers of the present year have taken special pains to call in every bill, and it is believed that there was not a dollar outstanding against this department at the close of the fiscal year.

The City Farm, has during the past municipal year, been under the management of Mr. Charles L. Gilpatrick and wife, who have performed their duties to the entire satisfaction of the Overseers, and so far as is known, to that of the public generally.

The duties of a manager here, though apparently simple and plain, are yet in fact often difficult and perplexing, on account of the varied dispositions and temperaments of those under his care, and require no small amount of tact and executive ability.

Mr. Gilpatrick has proved himself emphatically "the right man in the right place" and it is the freely expressed wish of our citizens, that he should, if possible, be retained in that position.

The average number of paupers on the Farm for the year, has been twenty-eight.

Early in June the chairman of the board, Mr. Benj. F. Day, was compelled to resign his position on account of other business engagements, and the present chairman was elected to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Day, during his brief term of office, did much to systematize and perfect the workings of this department, and to methods

introduced by him is, in a great measure, due whatever of success may have since been attained in the impartial or economical administration of its affairs.


In conclusion we can only say that although our pauper bills are now unusually large, and from present indications must necessarily increase, still it is believed that they will compare favorably with other localities of like population, while every effort has been made to render them as small as possible consistent with our duties to those dependent upon us as almoners of the public charity.

JOHN Q. ADAMS,	} Overseers	
DANIEL COTA,		of the
MICHAEL BURNS.		Poor.

REPORT

OF THE

CITY SOLICITOR.



To the Hon. City Council of the City of Biddeford.

I have the satisfaction of being able to report to you a very quiet state of affairs in relation to all matters of the City, that may be subject to legal controversy.

But one suit in Court has been pending during the last year, in which a money claim was advanced against the city. The suit of Bradbury vs. Biddeford, on a claim for damages from a defective highway. This suit appeared to have no very good foundation for anything but trifling damages, and was satisfactorily adjusted for a much less sum than it would have cost to try it in Court.

An appeal from the decision of the County Commissioners in locating a street, and a suit wherein the city is summoned as trustee of debt., are the only legal proceedings now pending in which the city is a party.

I congratulate you on an efficient year so far from litigation and attended with so little expense.

Respectfully yours,

J. M. GOODWIN, City Solicitor.

ERRATA.

The last paragraph in the report of the City Solicitor should read as follows :

“I congratulate you on an *official* year so *free* from litigation and attended with so little expense.”

REPORT

OF THE

CITY PHYSICIAN.

To the Hon. City Council of the City of Biddeford :

GENTLEMEN :—The undersigned would beg leave to submit the following report :

The whole number of persons receiving medical attendance the past fiscal year, were much increased by the "hard winter" and the cry of "hard times." There have been three deaths at the Work House, two aged people and an infant. One birth at the house and two at other places within the limits of the city, which were on the cities account. Respectfully submitted.

R. G. MILLIKEN, M. D., City Physician.

Biddeford, Jan. 31, 1876.

CITY APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1875.

For Bridges,	\$500 00
City Library,	150 00
Fire Department,	6,500 00
General Expenses,	10,500 00
Health Department,	250 00
Interest,	10,000 00
Highways District 4,	9,000 00
" Oak Ridge,	450 00
" Pool District,	400 00
" River Road,	450 00
" Ward 7, East Division,	800 00
" Ward 7, West Division,	500 00
Pauper Department,	9,000 00
Police Department,	5,000 00
Reservoirs,	1,000 00
Sewers and Drains,	3,000 00
Sidewalks,	1,500 00
Discount on Taxes,	8,000 00
Schools,	13,000 00
Sinking Fund,	5,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$85,000 00

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

We have examined the accounts of Edwin W. Wedgwood, Treasurer of the City of Biddeford, from March 29, 1875, to the close of the fiscal year. Jan. 31, 1876, — compared the items with the entries in his books, and find them properly vouched and correctly stated.

Amount received,	\$165,665 51
Amount paid,	150,797 90
	<hr/>
Balance in Treasury, January 31, 1876,	\$14,867 61

Biddeford, March 8, 1876.

FRANCIS G. WARREN, MOSES W. WEBBER, LUTHER T. MASON, ALPHONSE PARE.	}	COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.
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TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Hon. Mayor and City Council:

I submit my Report as Treasurer of the City of Biddeford, from March 29, 1875, to the close of the fiscal year, January 31, 1876.

The accounts were closed by the former Treasurer, James G. Garland, Esq, to the first named date.

Balance received from J. G. Garland, Treas.

March 29, 1875, \$341 52

Receipts for the remainder of the year, 165,323 99

165,665 51

Payments during the same period, 150,797 90

Balance in Treasury Jan. 31, 1876, cash and
interest-bearing vouchers.

14,867 61

The amount of State tax, \$22,751 66

And of County tax, 7,126 79

————— \$29,878 45

Is held by me, in receipts and vouchers, as Collector, and is not included in my account as Treasurer.

EDWIN W. WEDGWOOD.

Dr. E. W. Wedgwood, Treas., in account with City of Biddeford,

To Cash received from J. G. Garland, Treas., March 20, 1875,	\$341 52
" " Tax of 1873,	2,948 68
" " Tax of 1874,	10,295 16
" " Tax of 1875,	72,271 75
" " School District No. 6, School House Tax of 1874,	299 98
" " " " " " 1875,	164 77
" " " No. 7, " " 1874,	270 49
" " " No. 12, " " 1875,	137 77
" " " No. 4, " " 1873,	51 32
" " Notes payable, (including renewals) and Loan for extension of Birch street,	36,910 00
" " School District No. 4, tuition,	21 00
" " General Expense,	99 76
" " Rent of City Building, (including Hall)	3,836 53
" " Pauper Department—sales from farm, &c.	573 62
" " Fire Department—labor of teams, &c.,	1,654 22
" " Health Department,	18 50
" " York Co., Savings Bank—Sinking Fund,	10,254 50
" " " " Interest Sinking Fund,	310 62
" " Biddeford " —Sinking Fund,	7,545 81
" " " " Interest Sinking Fund,	226 35
" " Redemption of tax sales,	118 34
" " Sale of State of Maine Bonds,	15,000 00
" " Interest on " "	517 50
" " Premium " "	437 50
" " Loan of School District No. 12,	450 00
" " Highway District No. 4,	177 32
" " Accrued interest on Deposits,	732 50

\$165,665 51

E. W. Wedgwood, Treas., in account with City of Biddeford, Cr.

By paid Notes payable, (including renewals)	\$14,487 00
" Interest on City debt,	11 014 52
" Schools,	21,085 17
" City Bonds,	30,100 00
" General Expense,	12,637 11
" City Building,	2,827 97
" Pauper Department,	8,508 13
" Fire Department,	7,838 51
" Police Department,	4,655 72
" Discount on Taxes,	7,384 32
" Sinking Fund,	5,000 00
" Highways District No. 4,	8,623 49
" Sidewalks,	2,238 49
" Sewers and Drains,	4,263 94
" Reservoirs,	801 59
" Bridges,	510 70
" Highways Ward 1. Pool District,	384 70
" " " River Road,	541 03
" " " Oak Ridge,	449 43
" " " Ward 7, East Division,	817 40
" " " West Division,	496 37
" Abatements—Tax of 1873,	821 62
" " " 1874,	535 66
" " " 1875,	89 07
" " " 1873, School house District No. 4,	51 32
" " " 1874, " " 6,	1 49
" " " 1875, " " 12,	90
" Notes payable, School District No. 6 and interest,	542 93
" " " " 7 " "	469 39
" for redemption of tax sales,	116 34
" Health Department,	246 96
" Contingent Fund,	1,287 00
" Extension of Birch street,	1,419 52
" State Pensions,	108 00
" Account of Loan of School District No. 12,	442 21
	<hr/>
	\$150,797 90
Balance—Cash and Vouchers bearing interest Jan. 31. 1876,	14,867 61
	<hr/>
	\$165,665 51

REPORT

OF THE

CITY EXPENDITURES FOR 1875-6.

To the City Council of the City of Biddeford:

We subm't a statement of the expenditures under each appropriation, during the Municipal year ending Jan. 31, 1876, also the aggregate of unexpended balances and overdrafts.

FRANCIS G. WARREN,	} Committee
M. W. WEBBER,	
LUTHER T. MASON,	
ALPHONSE PARE,	
	on
	} Finance.

Departments.	Appropriations.	Income from other sources	Total amount of income.	Amount expended.	Unexpended.	Overdrawn.
Bridges	\$500 00		\$500 00	\$250 51	\$249 49	
City Library	150 00		150 00	92 50	57 50	
Fire Department.....	6 500 00	1 654 22	8,154 22	9,244 89		\$1,090 67
General Expense.....	10,500 00	3,860 49	14 360 49	20,164 27		5,703 78
Health Department.....	250 50	18 50	268 50	251 00	17 50	
Interest.....	10,000 00	2,224 27	12,204 27	11,014 52	1,209 75	
Highway District No. 4.....	9,000 00	177 32	9 177 32	*10,944 81		1,767 49
" Oak Ridge.....	450 00		450 00	573 33		63 33
" Pool District.....	400 00		400 00	381 70	18 30	
" River Road.....	450 00		450 00	711 87		291 87
" Ward 7, East Division.....	800 00		800 00	963 03		163 03
" Ward 7, West Division.....	500 00		500 00	418 50	1 50	
Pauper Department.....	9,000 00	373 62	9,573 62	10,159 77		586 15
Police Department.....	5,000 00		5,000 00	5 212 52		212 52
Reservoirs	1 000 00		1,000 00	801 28	195 72	
Sewers and Drains.....	3 000 00		3 000 00	4,578 83		1,578 83
Sidewalks.....	1 500 00		1 500 00	2,447 98		947 98
Discount on Taxes.....	8,000 00		8,000 00	7,384 32	615 68	
Schools.....	13 000 00	7,249 50	20,249 50	21 645 31		1,395 84
Sinking Fund.....	5,000 00		5,000 00	15,000 00		
	\$85,000 00	\$15,757 92	\$100,757 92	\$112,196 57	\$2,365 44	\$13,802 09

	Appropriations,	\$85,000 00	Overdrafts above income,	\$13 802 09
	Received from other sources,	15,757 92	Less unexpended balance, including Schools,	2,365 44
	Total income,	\$100 757 92	Amount expended above receipts,	\$11,436 65
Sinking Fund,	\$5,000 00		Amount of warrants drawn on liabilities incurred prior	
Schools,	20,249 50		to Feb. 1, 1875,	11 346 11
	25 249 50		Excess of expenditures above receipts for the fiscal year,	\$90 54
	\$75,508 42			
Amount expended above receipts,	11,436 65			
Expenses for the year, aside from Schools,	\$86,945 07			
Amount expended for Schools,	21,645 34			
Expenses for the year including Schools,	\$108,590 41			
Sinking Fund,	5 000 00			
Total expenses for the year,	\$113,590 41			

*This amount includes the expense of building the extension of Birch street.

†This amount has not been paid out, but was deposited Sept 22, 1875, to the credit of the Sinking Fund.

STATEMENT OF CITY DEBT.

LIABILITIES.

Bonds payable July 1, 1876,	\$19,700 00	
“ Oct. 1, 1879,	200 00	
“ May 1, 1880,	29,500 00	
“ July 1, 1881,	31,500 00	
“ Oct. 1, 1884,	2,500 00	
“ May 1, 1885,	41,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$124,400 00
Notes payable on demand,	\$29,792 00	
“ Dec. 11, 1876,	1,800 00	
“ May 1, 1878,	5,200 00	
“ April 15, 1880,	1,523 00	
“ May 1, 1880,	13,600 00	
“ Sep. 23, 1880,	1,300 00	
“ Jan. 1, 1881,	500 00	
	<hr/>	\$53,715 00
Due School District No. 4,	\$6,350 74	
“ “ 1,	60 66	
“ “ 2,	72 03	
“ “ 3,	66 62	
“ “ 6,	218 86	
“ “ 7,	40 63	
“ “ 8,	285 14	
“ “ 9,	16 97	
“ “ 10,	139 42	
“ “ 11,	68 23	
“ “ 12,	75 82	
“ “ 13,	37 60	
“ “ 6, collection of '75,	164 77	
“ “ 12, “ “	137 77	
	<hr/>	\$7,735 26

Due School Districts,	\$7,735 26
On City Bonds,	124,400 00
On City Notes,	53,715 00
	<hr/>
Total,	\$185,950 26

RESOURCES.

Due on tax of 1872.	\$1,429 99	
“ 1873,	1,346 06	
“ 1874,	3,939 02	
“ 1875,	18,118 42	
	<hr/>	
	\$24,833 49	
Balance in Treasury,	14,867 61	
Due from the State for Pensions,	108 00	
Due for rent of City Building,	958 75	
Biddeford Savings Bank, Sinking Fund,	5,000 00	
	<hr/>	
		\$45,767 85
Liabilities,	\$185,850 26	
Resources,	45,767 85	
	<hr/>	
	\$140,082 41	
City indebtedness Jan. 31, 1876,		\$140,082 41

An error in Report of 1874-5, relating to N. O. Kendall's bills as Assessor of 1874, stated to be \$760.41, and here corrected as follows :

N. O. Kendall, Assessor,	\$531 25	
“ Hall rent, &c.,	229 16	
	<hr/>	
		\$760 41

REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.



The committee as at present constituted, are at some disadvantage in making out a report for the entire school year, inasmuch as a portion of the last year's school supervision fell to the lot of a former member of the Committee, and of this he alone could report. By the removal from the city of Rev. Mr. Lane, a former member of the Board, at the commencement of the Fall term, both the public and the schools are deprived of the valuable services, observations and suggestions that he might and would have rendered, while the member chosen to take his place, (a position which he accepted, with the understanding that he should be relieved of most of its labors by the other two members,) has been able to give but little aid to them, because of other business which necessarily occupied most of his attention. Mr. Stone's absence on his Legislative duties during the Winter term still further crippled the efficiency of the Committee. With so much by way of apology for apparent want of fulness of observation and suggestion we present the following report.

FOURTH SCHOOL DISTRICT.

The amount of money that has been applied to the support of schools in the 4th school district or city proper for the last year, is \$18,290 94. These schools are graded into 16 Primary, 6 Intermediate, 2 Grammar Schools and one High School—in which the whole number of scholars, actually attending school, are distributed according to age and qualification nearly in the following proportion. In the first primaries, 450 pupils, second primary, 350 pupils. In the two Grammar Schools, 170 pupils. In the High School, 80 pupils. The teaching force employed in these schools consists of one principal and two assistant teachers in the High School, two principal, and two assistant teachers in the two Grammar Schools—

six teachers of Intermediate Schools, and sixteen teachers of primary schools. The names of the teachers, at the present time employed, will be found in the list appended to this report. In the first primary, only the alphabet and rudiments of reading and spelling are taught. In the second primary, the general primary instruction is pursued to the entering grade of Intermediate schools. In the primary schools, which include nearly three fifths of all the scholars in actual attendance, only the most elementary instruction is given in reading spelling and primary arithmetic, to children averaging from 4 to 7 years of age. In the Intermediate schools, containing less than one fifth of the whole number in all the schools reading, spelling, arithmetic, primary geography and writing are taught to pupils averaging from 7 to 10 years of age. Three-fourths of all the children taught in the public schools of the city, are in the primary and intermediate grades. Less than one third of this number reach the grades of Grammar and High School. The quantum of instruction given to these 800 children, in the primary schools, and which is all the school instruction, which more than two-thirds of the whole number receive at all, is necessarily very limited and elementary. Plain, simple reading and spelling, and the most simple portions of primary arithmetic, little more than the multiplication table, and easy exercises in multiplication, addition and subtraction in simple numbers. In the Intermediate Schools a considerable addition is made to the learning acquired in the primaries. In these schools writing is taught with more or less sufficiency, and the pupils studies in geography, arithmetic and reading and spelling are continued till they are qualified to enter the Grammar Schools. In the two Grammar Schools an average number of 170 scholars, less than one eighth of the whole number in all the schools, receive substantial, but still limited instruction in the more advanced parts of arithmetic, geography, reading, spelling and writing. The scholar who has completed this course of Common School education with fidelity, has a reasonably competent knowledge of Descriptive Geography, of English Grammar, and of writing and reading the English language with correctness and facility, and these mental acquisitions, together with habits of application, regularity, promptness, and persevering effort constitute his chief intellectual and moral capital, and the foundation on which to build his or her future prosperity. In the High School

quite a number and variety of new studies are commenced. In the four years devoted here to the completion of the education begun and prosecuted in the Primary, Intermediate and Grammar Schools, a good knowledge can be obtained of all the branches usually taught in the High Schools and Academies, embracing all the instruction commonly given in schools in this country, except in Colleges and special schools for professional or technical training. In this school a good and substantial knowledge may be acquired of Algebra, Geometry, Philosophy, Physiology, ancient Geography Chemistry, Geology and English History, a reading knowledge of the French language and Greek and Latin preparatory to entering College. A Tabular statement of the distribution of pupils and studies, in classes, accompanies this report for reference. We have gone thus into detail of the organization and composition of the graded school system as practically operating in our own city, in order to furnish a general view of its work as a whole, to those who may not be familiar with it, by visiting the schools or otherwise.

The management of the High School, the instruction given to the several classes, and the teaching work performed, both in quantity and quality, has been of the most satisfactory kind. The Principal, Mr. KEYES, is a thorough and critical scholar himself, and is not satisfied with anything else than thorough and sound learning on the part of the pupils. His efforts in this direction are ably supplemented by his assistants, Miss BURBANK, and Miss MOULTON, the former an accomplished teacher of languages, and the latter of mathematics and physical science. Intelligent and studious scholars can obtain in our High School a fitting for College that will compare favorably with that obtained at the very best special fitting schools, such as Exeter, Andover and Hallowell.

Our two Grammar Schools are in the hands of experienced and able teachers.

The Summer Street Grammar School, under the direction of Mr. THOS. H. EMERY, principal and Mrs. KATE BEBEE, assistant, has been carried through the school year with the usual degree of success, and quite satisfactorily to the Committee. Mr. Emery notwithstanding his infirmity of health, goes forward with energy and courage, and inspires his scholars with a love of school and teacher, which goes far to lighten his otherwise exhausting labors.

Good work and good results are observable in the Spruce Street

Grammar School, under the direction of MR. EDWARD S. MORRIS, principal, and Miss ELIZABETH S. KNIGHTS, assistant. MR. MORRIS is an accurate and accomplished scholar himself, and a gentleman of wide and varied experience. He applies all his ability to the intelligent and profitable training of his pupils. Miss KNIGHT is a long tried and experienced teacher and faithfully does her part of the school work.

Of the other faithful teachers the committee would mention particularly for their long and successful service most intelligently rendered, Miss JUNKINS, Miss WOODMAN, Miss TARBOX, the MISSES GOULD, and the MISSES MORRIS. In selecting these for commendation we do not intend that it may be implied that others, all of whom we could mention with varying terms of commendation, do not deserve praise. But there are too many to speak of each in appropriate terms, we therefore content ourselves by saying in general, of the whole corps of teachers, numbering twenty-nine persons, that they have labored perseveringly and generally with a good share of success, each in his or her allotted sphere and deserve the thanks of the people as they certainly have those of the committee. The whole number of scholars entitled under the School law to attend school in the District between the ages of four and twenty-one is about 3,000. The average number actually attending is only about 1280. The amount paid for salaries of teachers and expenses of fuel and other necessary expenses for the support of scholars the past year is about \$18,000. This amount divided by the number of scholars actually attending school makes the average cost per scholar for a year's course at school—or 44 weeks—\$14.00 nearly. It will be perceived that the number of scholars entitled to attend school is largely in excess of the number who do attend. And it is a matter apparent to every one who has occasion to frequent our streets that a very large number of children are found there who ought to be in the schools. The law makes it the duty of the city authorities to see that these children are not allowed to grow up in ignorance and idleness, and consequently in vice, but that they be compelled, if necessary, to attend school. The way the law has been enforced among us, we fear has not been very creditable to us as a community, and we respectfully invite the attention of the proper authorities to this matter as of real importance. Assuming as we think we may that our schools and their

results will compare favorably with the best in other cities in the State, we might draw some interesting inferences, and make some significant comparisons, by means of the statistics we present, considered in reference to those of similar character taken from other countries. We are in the habit of boasting of our schools and of the intelligence of our people. We have much reason to be proud of these things, but an intelligent consideration of what other countries have done, and are doing for the education of their people, will soon convince us that we are not foremost in the cause, and need take good care that we are not left among the hindmost. While it is doubtless true that the people of the United States, and especially of New England, are still far in advance of most, if not of all other countries in respect to popular education—the common education of the masses—it is nevertheless true of several other countries, that a much larger proportion of their population come under the superior instruction of their higher schools and Universities. In Prussia, according to Matthew Arnold, about one to every two hundred and fifty of its whole population are in its public Higher Schools and preparatory schools, equal at least, in grade, to our average American College, while it counts one to every three thousand of its entire population in its Universities, an institution of learning to which we have none corresponding in Maine, and none except Harvard and Yale, (unless the new John Hopkins University of Baltimore is to be an exception) in the United States. In that proportion Maine ought to have about 2,400 students in its Colleges, and about 200 in its University if it could boast of such an Institution. Switzerland, according to Dr. Hurst, uses in the training of its youth nearly 14 per cent of its whole income, and with a population of only 2,500,000 souls, has 7,000 elementary schools, 260 higher and industrial schools, 47 Gymnasias, 3 Universities, in the German language, 3 Academies after the model of French Universities in the French language, and one Polytechnical Institute. Maine has about one fourth of the population of Switzerland and much more abundant natural resources. Had it also a fourth part of Switzerland's educational resources and institutions, with what reason might we be proud of our schools and the education of our people.

TEXT BOOKS.

There seems to be almost an imperative demand for a change in

some of the text books now in use in our schools. It is safe to say that Greenleaf's Arithmetic has been in use in this city twenty years, and Hilliard's Readers fourteen.

In 1869 Cornell's Geographies were put into the schools, at an even exchange for those before used.

In 1873 Harvey's Grammars were substituted for Weld and Quackenbos', which had then been used some twelve years, at one half the retail price. This change in Grammars has proved most satisfactory. These are the only changes that have been made in text books, except such as have been occasioned by the introduction of some new studies, made necessary to supplement the course of study in higher institutions of learning.

It certainly cannot be said that changes of text books have been a tax upon the people in this city.

The same enterprise and competition exists among the publishers of school books, that is manifested by those engaged in manufacturing machinery and the implements used by the skilled laborer.

Some of the best educational minds of the Country—practical teachers—have been engaged in writing text books, that have been very generally introduced within the last few years—and we believe the efficiency of our schools would be materially increased by a change of some of the books before mentioned. The change would be most heartily endorsed by all of the teachers.

MIXED SCHOOLS.

These schools are in the districts outside the city proper, and number twelve. Some of them have been taught by inexperienced teachers, and their success has been rather indifferent, while others taught by older and experienced teachers, have been fairly successful.

In some of these districts, the agents have not taken the interest that the importance of the office demands.

A few have manifested their interest in, and fitness for the office by securing the services of efficient teachers, visiting the schools, keeping the School Houses in repair, and properly supplied with useful apparatus. This is especially true of the agent of district No 10.

The house in district No. 2, is very much out of repair, and ought to be enlarged to accommodate the pupils in the district.

District No. 11, ought to be discontinued—a part set off to district No. 9. and the remainder to district No. 7.

The average attendance in this district (No. 11) and also in No. 3, will not exceed ten. A more judicious expenditure of the money now annually distributed to these districts, would be made by discontinuing them and dividing the money among the adjoining districts.

SUGGESTIONS.

We would earnestly recommend that the same liberal appropriations for the support of schools as hitherto, be continued, and that every effort be made to render our schools still more useful, and of a higher character, and that this end be sought for, especially, by taking care to employ the most capable and skillful teachers that can be procured, and doing all that is practicable, to render the school houses comfortable and pleasant, and furnished with all necessary apparatus and equipments.

It would be a great and desirable improvement to have our two Grammar School buildings, and the school houses on Foss and Sullivan streets warmed by furnaces instead of stoves as at present. The heat from stoves is very irregular and uneven, and the draft and ventilation in these houses, very defective, at least, in some of the school rooms. A due regard to the health and comfort of the teachers and pupils requires that something should be done to remedy these defects.

The Grammar School house on Hill St., and the School house and school yard fence on Foss St., are in need of substantial repairs, and the school buildings generally, will need many repairs and improvements during the Summer vacation.

The inconvenience and danger of having the Spruce street Grammar School house so near the railroad, continues to be felt, and is the cause of much uneasiness and anxiety to the teachers. It is to be hoped that soon means may be devised to locate this school in a better situation.

We will close our report, by recalling to the attention of our citizens the duty on their part, so generally neglected, of visiting often the school rooms, and making themselves practically acquainted with the work that is there done. Few parents actually know anything, from personal observation, of what their children are

doing in school, and exert scarcely any influence, to encourage them and make their attendance at school a pleasure and a profit. Nothing that parents or elder brothers or sisters can do to enliven, stimulate and encourage the younger children in school, is equal in efficiency, to the practice of showing their interest in the schools, by frequent personal visits.

We know well the little attention that is likely to be given to this suggestion, so often made before, but feel it a duty to impress the importance of the subject upon our people, and leave to them the responsibility of heeding or not heeding it. Every teacher can testify to the importance of this subject, and how their own hearts are cheered and their labors lightened, by such evidence on the part of parents and the public, of their interest in the welfare of the children and the schools.

Another suggestion, which it seems proper to make, is whether sufficient care and thoughtfulness is manifested on the part of all of us, to recognize on all proper occasions the services of our school teachers, and to make them, feel that their profession, often so laborious and exhaustive, is honored, and themselves entitled to our highest esteem.

If we should imitate the Chinese in our respect for, and social attentions paid to, our teachers, we think it would be better than many of the so called improvements that we introduce from countries reputed to possess a much higher culture and civilization.

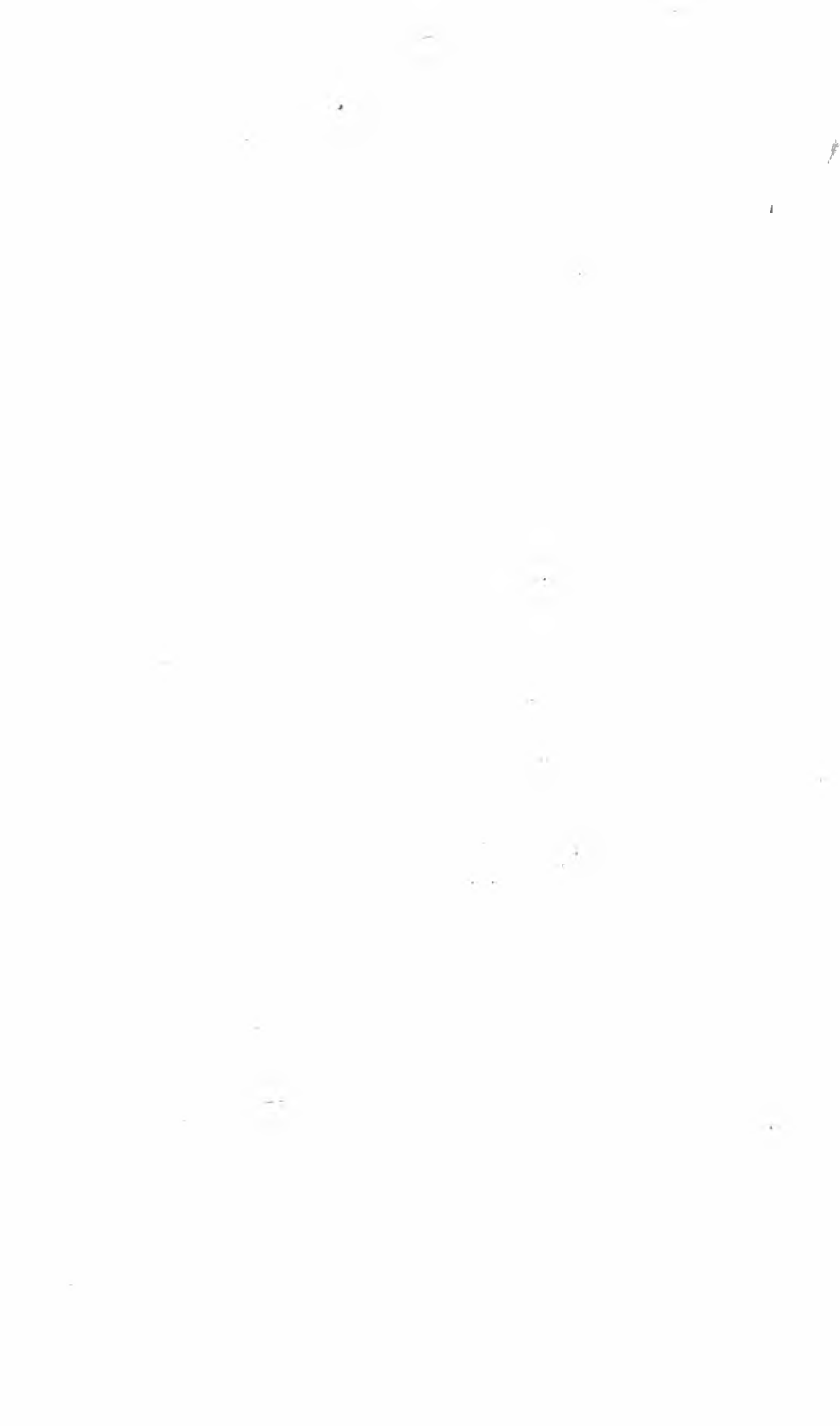
EDWIN STONE,	}	COMMITTEE.
L. W. STONE,		
J. M. GOODWIN.		

Names of Teachers Employed in School District No. 4.

	Salary.
ANSON L. KEYES, Principal High School,	\$1400
AUGUSTA S. BURBANK, Assistant High School,	650
OLIVE MOULTON, Assistant High School	600
THOMAS H. EMERY, Pri. Grammar School, Summer St.,	1200
Mrs. KATE BEEBE, Assistant.	425
EDWARD S. MORRIS, Pri. Grammar School Spruce St.,	1200
LIZZIE S. KNIGHT, Assistant,	425
ELLEN S. JUNKINS, }	
SOPHIA TARBOX, }	
FANNY WOODMAN, } Teachers of Intermediate Schools.	375
SUSIE EMERSON, }	
FANNY COWAN. }	
MYRA MILLIKEN, Morrill School,	375
MAHALA E. GOULD, }	
ESTELLE MORRIS. }	
Mrs. ANNETTE HOOPER, }	
KATE CHADBOURNE, } Teachers of 2d Prim. School,	350
MARY F. GOULD, }	
FLORA PAGE. }	
KESIAH EMERY, }	
BELIE MORRIS, }	
ELLEN W. GOODWIN, }	
IDA PORTER, }	
HANNAH SMITH, }	
SUSAN C. SMITH, } Teachers of First Prim. School,	350
Mrs. ANNE BOWKER, }	
MARY F. PLUMMER, }	
LIZZIE TARBOX, }	
EMMA TIBBETTS. }	

Studies and Exercises in the High School, and Number of Pupils in Each.

	1st Term.	2d Term.	3d Term.	4th Term.
Algebra,	59	59	32	33
Geometry,			23	21
Philosophy,			17	16
Physical Geography,	34	34		
Physiology,			32	31
French,	8	8	15	15
Chemistry,	8	8		
Botany,			7	7
Astronomy,	10	10		
Geology,			10	10
Latin Prose,			3	3
Greek Prose,	1	1		
Latin, { Latin Lessons,	33	33	31	30
{ Cæsar,	25	25	33	21
{ Cicero,	10	10	9	10
{ Virgil,	13	13	14	14
Greek. { Greek Lessons,	7	7	7	3
{ Xenophon,	6	6	5	5
{ Iliad,			1	1
Ancient Geography,	4	4		
History of England,	8	8		
SEMI-WEEKLY EXERCISES.				
English Literature,	13	13	13	13
Rhetoric,	11	11	10	9
Book-keeping,	24	24	23	21
Analysis,	34	34	32	31
Spelling,	34	34	32	31
Reading,	24	24	24	23
Declamation,	24	24	22	21
TWICE A TERM.				
Compositions,	82	82	78	75



(3)

Bracelett
between
Granville
& Newburgh
