ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN AND TREASURER
AND
Superintendent of Public Schools,
OF THE
TOWN OF LEE, N. H.,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 11,
1879.

NEWMARKET, N. H.
ADVERTISER PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.
1879.
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## SELECTMEN'S ACCOUNT.

Paid damage by dogs:
- Abigail Randall, $4 00
- Jerome B. Tuttle, 5 00
- Charles H. Tuttle, 2 00
- B. F. Lang, 4 00
- Patrick Conner, 2 00
- Greenleaf C. Keniston, 6 00
- Greenleaf D. Durgin, turkey bill, 25 00
- Thomas A. Bennett, 2 50
- Jefferson Sawyer, 5 00

$35 50

### NOTES AND INTEREST.

Paid:
- B. Frank Davis, $219 90
- George W. Plumer, 158 25
- Sarah A. Doe, 1236 66

$1614 81

Interest and Endorsements, $815 33

Paid State Tax,
- County " $1024 00
- " 1533 86

$2557 86
## SCHOOLS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Charles H. Lane</td>
<td>$195.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Alphonso Jones</td>
<td>128.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Irving G. Yorke</td>
<td>66.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bert Plumer</td>
<td>174.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>James McDaniel</td>
<td>121.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>A. M. Cudworth</td>
<td>197.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>John A. Thompson</td>
<td>162.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plains, Frank Walker</td>
<td>4.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1050.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## MISCELLANEOUS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paid F. Baptist Printing Establishment for Town Reports</td>
<td>$16.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libbey &amp; Co., advertising Town Farm</td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. G. Comings, for writing deed</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George W. Plumer, for selling farm</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry H. Metcalf, for advertising farm</td>
<td>8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. L. Comings, Exp. on farm from Feb. 17th to April 1st.</td>
<td>19.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benjamin F. Lang, services from Feb. 17th to April 1st.</td>
<td>7.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Josiah Durgin, services from Feb. 17th to April 1st.</td>
<td>4.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank I. Tuxbury, services from Feb. 17th to April 1st.</td>
<td>4.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Gibbs, certifying deaths and births</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William B. Small's bill for written opinion on the legality of sale of Town Farm</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Shurburn, for running Epping and Lee line</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Byron Plumer, for damage to sleigh</td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Paid Orin Small, for damage to horse and wagon, 20 00
F. Berry, for running Barrington and Lee line, 50
Alphonso Jones, one trip to Newmarket, 1 50
Jerry Randall, for land near George York's, 2 00
Philip Chesley, for hay sold by mistake at Town Farm auction, 2 50

$106 91

ROADS AND BRIDGES.
Paid Burnham Buzzell, labor, $ 4 00
Joseph Knight, " 10 50
Jefferson Sawyer, " 5 40
John P. Haley, " 1 50
John Wiggin, for stringers for Wadleigh's bridge, 9 00
William Cudworth, labor, 1 13
Samuel Lane, for plank, 6 12
Jonathan Yeaton, covering stones, 75
Nathaniel Davis, " 1 00
Samuel Cartland, labor on highway, 11 60
Allen Plumer " 1 50

$52 50

SNOW BILLS.
Paid District No. 1, Samuel P. Hoitt, $10 60
" 2, Edmund F. Lane, 15 90
" 3, Frank D. Randall, 8 75
" 4, Albert M. Snell, 14 89
" 5, William T. Demeritt, 6 95
" 6, Charles Langley, 5 90
" 7, John S. Jenkins, 16 85
" 8, Burnham Buzzell, 8 50
" 9, John Thompson, 1 00
Paid District No. 10, Israel Dame, 25 35
  " 11, Thomas A. Bennett, 29 19
  " 12, Greenleaf D. Durgin, 23 48
  " 13, Jefferson Sawyer, 25 35
  " 14, Joseph S. Lawrence, 3 80
  " 15, Joseph Knight, 27 65
  " 16, Samuel Cartland, 26 23
  " 17, Thomas B. Chesley, 18 05

$268 37

CURRENT EXPENSES.

Paid Charles H. Lane, collector,  $35 00
Daniel E. Plumer, clerk, 20 00
B. Frank Davis, Supt. School Committee, 28 00
H. B. Snell, services, 28 75
S. N. Lane, 29 49
F. I. Tuxbury, services and treasurer, 76 00
E. J. Lane & Co., for ledger, collector's book and paper, 9 27
E. J. Lane & Co., two invoice books and stationery, 5 31
F. I. Tuxbury, for fare to Concord to settle State tax, 2 40
Daniel Plumer, for glass and setting, 1 25

$235 47

ABATEMENTS.

Paid Mrs. John Hill, abt. on three bank shares given in wrong,  $4 35
S. J. Otis, abt. on one horse, 13
James Palmer, 1 65
George Hamilton, 1 65
**Paid W. O. Thompson, allowed ½ on highway tax,**
  John Mathes, 5 25
  Irving York, 1 50

\[ \text{Total} = 2 27 \]

Old bills, \[ \text{Total} = 110 50 \]

**SUPPORT OF POOR.**

Paid George W. Plumer, supplies to S. Reynolds; \[ \text{Total} = 11 02 \]
  B. F. Lang, for wood, 9 50
  Davis Lang, “ “ 1 00
  Josiah Durgin, for supplies, 5 00

\[ \text{Total} = 26 52 \]

**TRAMPS.**

Paid Josiah Durgin, \[ \text{Total} = 1 00 \]
  Samuel Lane, 20 50
  H. B. Snell, 50
  F. I. Tuxbury, 1 00

\[ \text{Total} = 23 00 \]

Paid bounty on hawks and foxes, \[ \text{Total} = 20 50 \]

Paid highway bills, \[ \text{Total} = 514 69 \]

**RECEIPTS.**

Balance in treasury, \[ \text{Total} = 192 29 \]
Received of collector Plumer, 437 74
  “ “ Daniel Smith, 872 00
  “ “ Mrs. George Chesley 100 00
Railroad tax, 173 58
S

Saving's bank tax, 525 52
Literary fund, 66 97
Rate list committed to C. H. Lane, 5008 16
Received by note, Rhoda Davis, 100 00
"  "  " heirs of E. J. Davis, 170 00
"  "  " John A. Thompson, 200 00
"  "  " Charles Manning, 60 00
"  "  " Bert P. Thompson, 50 00
"  of County of Strafford, 47 77
"  "  " Mrs. Frank Furber, 12 89
"  " for use of Town Hall, 11 00

$8029 92

EXPENDITURES.

Damage done by dogs, $ 35 50
Notes, interest and endorsements, 2430 14
State and County tax, 2557 86
Schools, 1050 00
Miscellaneous, 106 91
Roads and bridges, 52 50
Snow bills, 268 37
Current expenses, 235 47
Abatements, 17 40
Old bills, 110 50
Support of poor, 26 52
Tramps, 23 00
Bounty on hawks and foxes, 20 50
Highway tax, 514 69
Due from collector Lane, 485 00
Cash in treasury, 95 56

$8029 92
ASSETS.

Due on note, No. 1. $1018.61
" " " " 2. 338.02
" " " " 3. 222.04
" " " " 4. 14.77
" from General Government. 739.00
" " collector Lane, 485.00
Cash in treasury, 95.56

$2933.00

Outstanding notes with interest added, March 1, 1879, $5393.68
Assets, 2933.00

$2460.68

Outstanding notes March 1, 1878, $6968.03
Assets, 1895.84

$5072.19

Reduced town debt, $2641.51

FRANK I. TUXBURY, } Selectmen
SAMUEL W. LANE, } of
HOSEA B. SNELL. } Lee.

Lee, March 1, 1879.

We, the subscribers, auditors of Selectmen's accounts,
have this day examined the same, and find them correctly
cast, and accompanied with corresponding vouchers.

ALBERT B. PLUMER, } Auditors of
CHARLES II. LAYN, } Selectmen's
DAVID S. JENKINS. } Accounts.
REPORT
OF THE
Superintending School Committee.
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 11, 1879.

DISTRICT NO. 1.—Turnpike.

Summer Term, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 34; average 29\frac{3}{2}; wages, including board, $24.

Fall Term, 9 weeks; number of scholars, 32; average 25\frac{5}{6}; wages, including board, 24; Miss Martha A. Lane, teacher of both terms. These were her second and third terms in this district. We found the school in good condition at our first visit, with order good, and scholars attentive to their lessons. The closing examination of the second term was quite satisfactory.

Winter term, 10 weeks; number of scholars, 36; average, 20; Lewis De Merritte, of Lee, teacher. This was Mr. De Merritte's first attempt at teaching. He apparently tried to do his duty, but labored under the difficulty of teaching in his own district. This school needs a thorough disciplinarian; with such, and the hearty co-operation of the parents, it can be made a success, as there is evidently plenty of talent.

Charles H. Lane, Prudential Committee.
DISTRICT NO. 2.—Mast Road.

Summer term; 6 weeks; number of scholars, 13; average, $12\frac{1}{4}$; wages, including board, $22$; Annie II. Wilkinson, of South Newmarket, teacher. The punctuality of the pupils speaks well for the school and the interest of the parents. Miss Wilkinson is a graduate of the State Normal School. She apparently had an easy, quiet term; progress fair.

Winter term, 15 weeks; number of scholars, 14; average, $12\frac{5}{6}$; wages, including board, $23$; Miss Emma S. Neally, teacher. The school continued to be as in the past, thus giving the teacher a chance to devote all her energies to the advancement of her pupils. Miss Neally's experience as a teacher, since her previous term in this district, has better qualified her for a teacher, both in government and manner of instruction.

Alphonso Jones, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT NO. 3.—Wednesday Hill.

Summer term, 15 weeks; number of scholars, 10; average, $4\frac{2}{3}$; wages, including board, $16$; Miss Nettie II. Bennett, teacher. The average was reduced by sickness. The school, though small, was evidently pleasant to both teacher and scholars. The recitations given by some of the smallest scholars showed that they had not gone to the school-room for nothing.

Irving York, Prudential Committee.
DISTRICT NO. 4.—Hill.

Summer term, 14 weeks; number of scholars, 17; average, 14; wages, including board, $20; Miss Inez M. Bennett, teacher. She passed a very good examination. Her school was quite small at both our visits, consequently cannot judge so correctly as we could otherwise have done. The teacher appeared to try hard, but perhaps her labors were misdirected, as we hardly saw the progress that would be expected from so long a term.

Winter term, 12½ weeks; number of district scholars, 22; average, 21½; wages, including board, $28.25. The Winter term was taught by your humble servant. The school is second to none in town in ability and advancement. The parents and pupils did everything necessary on their part to make the term a profitable one. It was one of the most pleasant terms of school I have ever taught, and was made so by the co-operation of all. If the best results were not obtained it was wholly the fault of the teacher.

Albert Plumer, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT NO. 5.—Hook.

Summer term, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 24; average, 22; wages, including board, $22; Ida A. Perry, of Strafford, teacher. Miss Perry passed a very good examination, and, without a doubt, in many schools would have met with good success, but proved not to have sufficient character for the place she attempted to fill, consequently the school was not what we should have liked to have seen, as a total indifference to the teacher's wishes was very plainly manifested by the disorderly conduct of many of the scholars at the closing examination.
Winter term, 10 weeks; number of scholars, 25; average, 26; wages, including board, $30; Frank J. Davis, teacher. Mr. Davis was just the right person for the place. Under his management chaos soon became order, and rapid advancement was made in studies, not only in amount gone over, but last, though not least, thoroughness. A good teacher who means business, helped by the parents, seldom fails of giving satisfaction.

JAMES McDaniel, Prudential Committee.

DISTRICT NO. 6.—Wadley's Falls.

Summer term, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 28; average, 25; wages per month, including board, $26; Miss A. L. Josling, teacher. Her past experience of twelve years as a teacher has given her an education for teaching which can be obtained in no other way. The order, and manner of instruction, were very satisfactory at our first visit. The closing examination was what we expected it would be under her guidance: a success.

Winter term, about twenty weeks: Miss Lavinia Holloway, teacher. Miss Holloway is a person whom we have all known for a number of years. Her first term was taught in number two, and good satisfaction given. I am well acquainted with her record as a scholar, as we were schoolmates. She was considered a fine scholar, and liked by all. Her manner of instruction was very satisfactory, especially in grammar, being the best I have seen adopted by any teacher in town. I have not a doubt but that she labored faithfully for the interest of her pupils, and that if any mistakes were made, they were not intentional, but were the result of a misunderstanding, and misconstruction of intentions. A number of the parents have said, that their children never learned better. Register not returned.

WILLIAM CUDWORTH, Prudential Committee.
DISTRICT NO. 7.—Larou's.

Summer term, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 15; average, 12; wages, including board, $26; Susie A. Gerrish, teacher. Her school appeared orderly and quiet at both visits, and good satisfaction was given generally.

The Winter term was commenced by Miss Townsend of Dover, and finished by Miss Wilkinson of South Newmarket. Perhaps enough has already been said, and will only add that No. 7 need not expect to have a good school until personal interest and prejudice are left in the background and the district is united in a thorough determination to have a thorough teacher. Register not returned. The course pursued in this school was in strict accordance with the requirements of the law, and under the guidance of Mr. Hall of Dover, and the State Superintendent.

John A. Thompson, Prudential Committee.

Another year has passed, and the time for our annual report in regard to the money appropriated for the education of the boys and girls has arrived.

Have we as a town done our utmost in perpetuation of one of the foundation principles of government? a principle, which has given the leading European nations their present pre-eminence, and which has ever caused monarchies to sway to the rights of the common people, viz.: The education of the masses for lives of practical usefulness. In answer, we reply, that most of our committees have been successful in their selection of teachers, while some have not been as fortunate as we would have liked.

A few of the teachers who passed the best examinations were not successful as teachers from a lack of ability to govern the schools of which they took charge, thus demonstrating how important it is that we employ only those whom we know
are qualified for the position which they are to fill. Of the many who attempt to fill the teacher's place, only a few are gifted with the necessary requisites, viz.: A thorough knowledge of the branches they are to teach, combined with good, sound, practical common sense. But the teachers alone cannot bring the school to its highest standard.

If it is not presuming we would suggest some methods by which we believe our schools can be advanced to a higher standard.

Just previous to school meeting you will hear people saying, who shall we have for committee? The answer is very apt to be, whom shall we elect that will enable us to secure the most voters on some political point, or perhaps some individual will have some particular friend or relative, whom he wishes to keep the school, or has some other personal interest, which he wishes to advance, and thinks of the interests of the district after all of his own have been attended to.

Of course none of these things ever occur in our own town, but we frequently hear of them in adjoining ones, but if the disease should prove contagious, I trust you will all agree with me, that the only remedy is for the whole district irrespective of personal interests to unite in the choice of some responsible person, who will attend to the best interests of the district, and will select a teacher of known ability, and the parents then try to help the teacher in every way possible, and not let the teacher ascertain by the behavior of the children who of the parents have "long ears."

We agree exactly with those who have preceded us, that we need better school houses if possible. None but those who have taught can fully appreciate the effect of a comfortable, well lighted school room upon the school.

We believe that better results can be obtained by a different course of studies. Many of our scholars take Greenleaf's complete course in arithmetic, to the utter or partial exclu-
sion of other equally important branches. His practical arithmetic is sufficient for any practical business other than the professions. Instead of the higher arithmetic we would have more attention given to grammar, which should be taught in such a manner as will enable the scholars to use it; also book-keeping and physiology, philosophy, and a few other similar studies. But more especially would suggest that the analysis of our Civil Government be carefully studied, and its history also.

Every man has a voice in the perpetuation of that union of States which has sprung into existence within a little more than the past hundred years with a rapidity never before known.

The germ planted at Plymouth rock by the landing of the Pilgrims, which first made its power known in seventy-six, has since increased in size, until it has reached the peaceful Pacific, and by the acquisition of a northern territory extends from the regions of perpetual ice to one of constant summer. Would not the boys be better educated for life's duties in sustaining it, if they were educated to the highest point possible in all its intricate workings?

But we must close our report with a few words to the scholars of our schools. The time when men could neither read nor write is almost wholly past in this country. The "spirit of the age" demands a better education. There is only one way for you to obtain it. That is by hard work at your books, not only during the six hours of school, but by the closest application to study for many, many other hours of untiring labor, not for the words alone, with no other idea than that you may have a perfect lesson, but for the principles intended to be conveyed by your text books.

B. F. DAVIS, Supt. School Committee.