

REPORTS
OF THE
SELECTMEN OF ACUSHNET,
ON THE
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE TOWN,
AND OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
For the year 1873-4.

NEW BEDFORD:
E. ANTHONY & SONS, PRINTERS.
1874.

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REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen of the town of Acushnet respectfully submit the following report:

George F. Glasse is charged with uncollected taxes of 1872,	\$562.50
Amount of taxes collected,	205.50
	\$357.00
Amount due the town,	
George P. Morse, collector of taxes, is charged with tax bills of 1872,	\$247.20
Also with tax bills of 1873,	8,935.30
	\$9,182.50

CREDIT.

Paid State tax,	\$1,125.00
Paid county tax,	733.60
Discount for prompt payment of taxes,	500.54
Taxes remitted,	50.25
Commission on taxes collected,	89.13
Uncollected taxes for 1873,	244.64
" " 1871,	24.40
Amount paid town treasurer,	6,414.94
	\$9,182.50

George P. Morse, treasurer, is charged with last year's account received of George F. Glasse,	\$1,609.26
Received of George F. Glasse, taxes of 1872 collected,	205.50
Of Collector,	6,414.94
Selectmen, for sale of burial lots,	20.75
Of State treasurer, corporation tax,	
National Bank tax, and reimbursement of State aid,	1,403.61
For sale of calf,	10.50

Received of Oliver R. Taber, peddler's license,	6.00
A. T. Brownell, " "	6.00
Lemuel Dillingham,	.30
William H. Tirrell, use of town lot,	5.00
Town of Kingston, support of James	
F. Cushing,	39.50
State treasurer, proportion of school	
fund,	136.65
County treasurer, reimbursement of	
dog fund,	92.06
Benjamin White, guardian of Leonard	
Gammons, for support,	52.00
Town of Rochester, tuition of scholars,	34.17 \$10,036.24

The treasurer is credited with the following amounts paid :

Paid town debt,	\$2,970.00
Support of poor,	1,566.88
Support of public schools,	2,310.87
Incidentals,	1,154.88
Highway repairs,	1,029.00
Commission of treasurer,	54.40
Balance in treasury,	950.21 \$10,036.24

Support of Schools.

Paid Miss Lizzis Atwood, teaching,	\$28.00
Miss Jennie A. White, teaching, } 1872,	105.00
Dennis S. Mason, care of fire,	3.50
Miss Myra Rounseville, teaching,	43.20
Miss Carrie L. Morse, "	140.00
Miss Sarah L. Snow, "	268.00
Miss Sylvia H. Stephens, "	80.00
Miss Martha W. White, "	252.00
Miss Lydia A. White, "	230.00
Miss Amelia F. Keen, "	20.80
Miss Ida A. Omey, "	252.00
Mrs. Ann H. Snow, "	280.00
Miss Eudora Lawrence, "	182.00
Mrs. Sylvia H. Douglass, "	52.50
Mr. Charles L. Russell, "	180.00
George P. Morse, wood to school-houses,	30.85
Joshua Morse, " "	7.00
Thomas Taber, " "	3.75
Burrage Y. Warner, " " and preparing same,	37.94
Philip A. Bradford, " "	13.00
Walter A. Davis, " "	26.00

Paid John Hammond	15.00
Augustus White, for care of fires,	4.25
Guilford W. Omev, care of fires,	4.00
Dennis S. Mason, " " &c.,	4.17
Milton B. Warner, " "	3.50
Benjamin A. Skiff, " "	3.00
Leonard Heath, " "	3.50
William H. Wright " "	4.00
City of New Bedford, tuition,	31.41
Augustus White, wood and preparing,	2.50
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	\$2,310.87

Amount Expended on Highways.

Paid Albert S. Morse, surveyor,	\$190.00
George P. Morse, "	215.53
Benjamin Wilson, "	295.22
Edward G. Dillingham, surveyor,	304.11
Martin B. Gammons,	9.62
Walter A. Davis,	3.00
Clark E. Morse, } Expended in 1872,	9.25
Ebenezer Leonard, }	2.27
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	\$1,029.00

Support of Poor.

Paid Sylvester Pratt, services as keeper of Alms-house,	\$170.00
Mrs. Pratt, making clothes for inmates,	16.03
Ada M. Benson,	18.00
Nursing,	5.00
Treasurer of Lunatic Hospital, support of Benj. Taber,	207.18
Treasurer of State Industrial School, support of	
Sarah R. Taber,	16.06
Hannah Taylor, for wood,	11.00
Walter Spooner, sundries,	3.00
Support of John Hines,	44.00
Noah Gifford, cutting wood,	21.25
Walter Spooner, swine and lumber,	23.25
S. Pratt, repairing shoes,	4.00
Baylies & Cannon, meat,	33.25
Ruth Cook,	26.00
Richard Davis & Son, provisions, &c.,	195.18
Walter A. Davis, wood,	5.68
Dr. Webster,	1.50
Rhoda A. Bradford, support of Patience Taber,	44.00
Betsey Oliver,	41.25

Paid City of Taunton, support of paupers,	77.83
Alexander Howland, supplies,	16.30
George S. Wilbur, whitewashing,	4.80
C. M. Wilde, dry goods and clothing,	46.77
Elihu D. Manter, hay,	7.50
Thomas H. Davis, lumber,	5.00
William Handy, fish,	5.00
John Vincent, supplies,	4.87
Treasurer of Lunatic Hospital, support of Jas. Cushing,	39.50
Charles W. Shepherd, aid,	5.30
Pierce & Page, stove,	28.00
Town of Mattapoisett, support of paupers,	124.34
Walter Spooner, carting, &c.,	6.18
Walter R. Spooner, carpentering,	10.42
City of New Bedford, support of paupers,	216.81
Town of Lakeville, " "	8.00
Caroline Peckham,	4.48
Edwin Braley, support,	17.19
Rodolphus Jenney, support of Rose Taber,	39.00
Town of Fairhaven, support of poor,	13.96
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	\$1,566.88

Incidental Expenses.

Paid interest on town notes,	\$284.31
E. Anthony & Sons, publishing notice of town meetings,	19.25
" " printing town report,	20.00
" " " tax bills and collector's notices,	10.25
Allen & Mills, for blank books,	6.50
Burrage Y. Warner, cleaning school-houses and fixtures,	12.60
George P. Morse, cleaning school-houses,	6.00
Frank C. Terry, smithing,	1.76
Augustus White, cleaning school-houses,	10.40
William H. Davis, labor on school-house fence,	7.70
Zacheus H. Wright, " " "	8.40
John R. Davis, nails,	2.53
S. Hutchinson, blank books & stationery,	2.68
S. B. Hamlin, lumber, school-yard fence,	55.87
Repairs on Alms-house and buildings,	7.50
O. Prescott, Esq., legal advice,	2.00
Benjamin Wilson, for labor performed on Perkins road,	92.12
Benjamin White, expense to Boston correcting corporation tax,	3.00
Joshua T. Snow, repairs on school-house,	4.50
Town Clerk, registering births, marriages, and deaths,	14.05

Paid Ebenezer Leonard, repairs on school-house,	3.55
Cornelius A. Howland, smithing,	3.40
George P. Morse, express and postage,	5.62
Benjamin White, postage and express,	2.00
Witnesses at Probate Court in Levi Walker case,	3.00
Abram Brooks, repairs on school-house,	.90
S. Hutchinson, school-books and stationery,	18.60
Benjamin White, services as Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer of Poor,	90.00
Walter Spooner, services as Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer of Poor,	65.00
Pardon Taber, Jr., services as Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer of Poor,	70.00
Augustus White, services as school committee,	40.00
George P. Morse, " " "	20.00
Burrage Y. Warner, " " "	20.00
James Warren, " constable,	10.00
Augustus White, repairs on school-houses,	6.39
Benjamin White, expense in the Berkley and Dighton bridge case,	2.00
State aid,	223.00
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	\$1,154.88

We can congratulate the citizens of Acushnet in saying that the town is relieved of its debt, as there is not a note held against the town.

Cash in the treasury,	\$950.21
Uncollected taxes,	626.04
State aid due from the state,	236.00
Town farm,	1,500.00
Two cows,	100.00
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	\$3,412.25

Produce Raised on Town Farm.

Hay,	4 tons.
Potatoes,	70 bushels.
Turnips,	25 "
Pork,	600 pounds.

BENJAMIN WHITE,
PARDON TABER, JR., } Selectmen
WALTER SPOONER, } of Acushnet.

1154 58
1566 88
1029 00
2310 84
1000 00
3000 00
4457 63

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

In conformity with the General Statutes of the Commonwealth, your committee again present their annual report.

The committee organized by the choice of AUGUSTUS WHITE Chairman, and GEORGE P. MORSE Secretary.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Amount raised by the town,	\$2,000.00
Received from the state school fund,	136.65
Received from the dog fund,	92.06
Total,	\$2,228.71

DETAILED REPORT OF THE SCHOOLS.

The following tabular view will exhibit the names of teachers, wages, attendance, and other particulars of the schools.

TABLE I.

	SUMMER.				FALL.				WINTER.			
	No. of Schools.	Attendance between 5 and 15.	Attendance over 15.	Average attendance.	Attendance between 5 and 15.	Attendance over 15.	Attendance under 5.	Average attendance.	Attendance between 5 and 15.	Attendance over 15.	Attendance under 5.	Average attendance.
1	16	1	0 17	13	15	2	0 17	12 3-10	11	2	0 13	10 8-35
2	9	1	0 10	8	15	2	0 17	14	13	1	0 14	10
3	22	0	0 22	4 6 1-6	23	0	0 23	18	25	8	0 33	26 81-100
4	*				*				*			
5	15	0	2 17	13	16	0	2 18	15	13	3	2 18	15
6	23	3	0 26	17	24	3	0 27	17	16	12	0 28	25
7	15	1	1 17	12 9-10	21	0	0 21	16 9-10	25	2	0 27	21 7-10
8	35	0	0 35	80	25	0	0 25	22	32	3	0 35	28 1
9	9	0	1 10	8	12	0	0 12	8	*			

* No school.

TABLE II.

	Terms.	Teachers.	Wages.	Length of Schools.
No. 1, Bisbee,	Summer,	Carrie L. Morse,	\$28.00	2.25 mos.
	Fall,	Carrie L. Morse,	28.00	2.75 "
	Winter,	Eudora Lawrence,	30.00	3.5 "
2, County Road,	Summer,	Sarah L. Snow,	28.00	2.25 "
	Fall,	Sarah L. Snow,	28.00	2.5 "
	Winter,	Lydia A. White,	30.00	3 "
3, Whelden's,	Summer,	Ida A. Omev,	28.00	2.5 "
	Fall,	Ida A. Omev,	28.00	2.5 "
	Winter,	Charles L. Russell,	45.00	4 "
4, Acushnet,	No school.			
5, Long Plain,	Summer,	Myra S. Rounseville,	32.00	2 "
	Fall,	Eudora Lawrence,	28.00	2.75 "
	Winter,	Ann H. Snow,	32.00	3.75 "
6, Hammett,	Summer,	Ann H. Snow,	32.00	2.5 "
	Fall,	Ann H. Snow,	32.00	2.5 "
	Winter,	Sarah L. Snow,	32.00	4 "
7, Perry Hill,	Summer,	Martha W. White,	28.00	2.5 "
	Fall,	Martha W. White,	28.00	2.5 "
	Winter,	Martha W. White,	32.00	3.5 "
8, Packard,	Summer,	Sylvia H. Stevess,	32.00	2.5 "
	Fall,	Lizzie Atwood,	28.00	1 "
	Fall,	Sylvia H. Douglass,	35.00	1.5 "
	Winter,	Ida A. Omev,	32.00	3.5 "
9, Wing,	Summer,	Lydia A. White,	28.00	2.25 "
	Fall,	Lydia A. White,	28.00	2.75 "
	Winter,	No school.		

REMARKS.

The schools, with few exceptions, have been well managed by competent teachers, and the advancement of the pupils in the various branches all we could expect. The scholar, the parent, the teacher, and the committee, have responsible duties to perform in order that the schools may be the very best, and each one must perform that duty for himself, and not for another, according to the best of his ability. The responsibility is almost fearful, yet the united and continuous effort on the part of all is solemnly required at our hands. A high tone of morality must be encouraged, and strict discipline must be maintained, in order to secure the best good to each individual scholar. It is not right for a teacher to be indifferent to the moral conduct of his scholars. Some may

think it none of their concern if their scholars do quarrel and use profane language, and trespass on neighboring inclosures; but this is a wrong view to take of the subject. A good character in a child is of the first importance; without this, whatever intellectual attainments he may arrive at, his life will doubtless be fruitful of more evil than good. If our schools are what they should be, scholars are made both wiser and better by being punctual and regular. A scholar not only loses the hours he is absent, but discourages the teacher's efforts in his behalf, and must of necessity occasion derangement in classes, and arrest the progress of the school. Parents should instil into the minds of their children the necessity of yielding obedience to wholesome government. Without this nothing can be successfully accomplished in the school-room. Parents may cooperate with teachers by cultivating a feeling of love in their children for the school-room, by impressing upon their minds the design and importance of schools, and the value of the knowledge acquired thereby. Visit the school-room; watch with a parent's anxiety the work and influence of those who are trying to lead your children onward and upward in all that is progressive in mind, or good in heart. A teacher's work is difficult under the most favorable circumstances, hence the importance of the sympathy and cooperation of parents. No profession demands more profound thought, more ardent enthusiasm, and more true self-devotion, than that of teaching. Few situations in life require so much discretion, so much energy, patience, and self-control and love, as that of a teacher of country schools. When a teacher can govern himself, he can generally govern those under his charge.

Your committee have endeavored to reduce the number of schools where it was found practicable, without causing too great inconvenience to many on account of increased distance; and by so doing have been able to extend the length of the schools. The number of scholars in the Wing district who would attend school were not sufficient to induce the committee to open a winter school, but arrangements were made to transport those in the eastern portion of the district to the school at Perry Hill, and those at the western part have attended the Packard school. And it was also believed to be for the best good of the greatest number that the scholars in

the village (Acushnet) during the winter should attend the New Bedford school, the cost of which amounted in the aggregate to \$31.41, a saving of some \$200. And in this connection your committee would suggest the propriety of the town's carefully considering the proposal to erect a school-house in some locality where all the scholars of the village, also the Packard and Wing districts, together with those attending the Fairhaven school, might be brought together, forming one school that shall be at the same time profitable and creditable to the town. If it should be found that more scholars were brought together than could be well instructed by one teacher, we should commence to reap the benefit of a graded school, a want now more than ever beginning to make itself apparent.

Evidently the town must make some appropriation for the purpose of putting their school-houses in a suitable condition. The house in the Packard district is a disgrace to the town, both outside and inside. Since the town assumed the responsibility of keeping their school-houses in repair, scarcely anything has been done to make them comfortable or convenient, — a matter that cannot well be deferred longer. The condition of the school-house has more to do with the prosperity of the school than is generally supposed. As this is one of the many agencies which are requisite to success, we trust our citizens will act wisely in this matter.

Respectfully submitted.

AUGUSTUS WHITE,	} School Committee of Acushnet.
GEORGE P. MORSE,	
BURRAGE Y. WARNER,	

