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REPORT
OF THE
FINANCIAL AFFAIRS
OF THE
TOWN OF WILMOT,
INCLUDING A REPORT FROM THE
Superintending School Committee,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1882.

CONCORD:
EVANS & SLEEPER, GENERAL BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.
1882.

1882.

1882.

SPRING ANNOUNCEMENT

TO THE PEOPLE OF WILMOT, FROM THE

Dry & Fancy Goods House

— OF —

PATTERSON & DAVIS,

CONCORD, N. H.

We shall make greater inducements the coming season to all buyers of dry goods than ever before. You will be able to find at any time a fine assortment of **cottons, tickings, prints, foreign and domestic gingham, cambrics, momic cloths, table linens, napkins, crashes, towels,** and everything relating to domestic department. A fine line of

SMALL WARES,

including hosiery, handkerchiefs, ties, hamburgs, corsets, laces, &c., &c. We shall, also, show a nice stock of fine dress goods, silks, and trimmings.

We wish to call the especial attention of ladies to our fine **worsted stock**, carrying the largest, as well as the finest assortment to be found north of Boston.

We control many makes of fine silks and yarns, including the celebrated "Columbia," Germantown, Saxony, Shetland Wool and Floss, and the "Cortecelli" filling and embroidery silks; also, the "Florence" knitting and etching silks.

We have a large assortment of canvasses, feltings, sateens, momic cloths, plushes and fringes, for tidies, lambrequins, and table-cloths.

We have a great variety of **stamping patterns**, and can do stamping on the finest, as well as coarsest fabrics, which will not rub off in working.

We shall continue the present season, as heretofore, to cut, fit, and make any outside garment desired for ladies' and children's wear, in that thorough and workmanlike manner for which our house has so long been favorably noted, guaranteeing satisfaction and a perfect fit in every instance.

We shall also keep a larger and finer stock of **cloths and trimmings** than ever before, and shall continue to cut and fit garments free of charge if the material is purchased of us. We guarantee an inducement to visitors when in need of dry goods. Samples sent to any address.

PATTERSON & DAVIS,

No. 76 North Main Street, opposite School.

REPORT

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The selectmen have made the assessments for taxes of 1881, as follows :—

State tax,	\$ 692.00
County tax,	778.50
Amount voted by town for town expenses,	3,000.00
Voted by town for decoration expenses,	25.00
Voted by town for schools,	300.00
Required by law for schools,	605.50
Swellage tax,	242.36
Non-resident highway tax,	44.24
Dog tax,	58.00
School-house taxes in Nos. 2, 9, and 13,	73.56
	\$5,819.16

This amount was committed to Sylvester Bunker for collection, who is credited by receipts from the town treasurer for the sum of	\$5,075.00
Balance in collector's hands on list, 1881,	744.16
By report of last year, the balance in hands of J. F. White, collector for 1880, was	242.39
The selectmen credit the collector on list of 1880, by receipts from town treasurer,	242.39

For the items of receipts and expenditures, we refer you to the following report of the town treasurer.

BENJAMIN EMONS, } *Selectmen*
 JOHN P. BEAN, } *of*
 JAMES O. BUSWELL, } *Wilmot.*

TREASURER'S REPORT,

FOR THE YEAR 1881.

RECEIPTS.

Cash in treasury, as per report, March 1, 1881,	\$584.02
Received of selectmen, money paid on note by Samuel Thompson for property sold from town farm in 1875,	81.78
State Treasurer, savings bank tax,	488.43
State Treasurer, Railroad tax,	21.19
State Treasurer, literary fund,	86.00
James Stearns, overseer of poor, it being County pauper claims,	404.17
Selectmen, money hired,	382.00
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	\$2,047.59
Jacob F. White, collector for 1880, it being in full for amount reported in his hands on tax list of 1880,	242.39
Sylvester Bunker, collector for 1881,	5,075.00
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Total amount of money received,	\$7,364.98

DISBURSEMENTS.

PAID ON OUTSTANDING NOTES AS FOLLOWS :

Paid Levi Messer, administrator of the estate of Fanny Messer, note and interest,	\$536.06
Morrill Currier, note running to Mrs. Lydia H. Currier, in full,	105.17
Etta Bennett, note and interest,	30.98
S. E. and Ella Philbrick, trustee's note and interest,	604.92

Paid W. F. Langley, administrator, in part on note,	160.00
Morrill Currier, " "	170.00
Cyntha A. Brown, " "	10.26
Mrs. Lois Langley, " "	10.00
Stephen Felch, " "	500.00
W. F. Langley, executor of the estate of Polly Mears, in part on note,	81.50
Total amount paid on notes,	<u>\$2,208.89</u>

Paid by special orders from selectmen :—

State tax,	\$692.00
County tax,	778.50
	<u>\$1,470.50</u>

PAID SCHOOL-HOUSE TAXES.

Sumner E. Philbrick and E. B. Dodge, for District No. 4,	\$290.83
Richard F. Clay, for District No. 2,	4.00
John P. Bean, for District No. 9,	52.23
Joseph B. Cheney, for District No. 13,	16.50
	<u>\$363.56</u>

AMOUNT OF SCHOOL MONEY.

Paid to the several districts as follows :—

District No. 1, George W. Whittemore,	\$155.99
2, Richard F. Clay,	39.46
3, John M. Carr,	85.42
4, Mrs. Nancy M. Philbrick,	41.95
5, James O. Buswell,	37.50
6, George Knowles,	48.84
7, Melvin A. Tenney,	44.32
8, George B. Clough,	196.88
9, William H. H. Peabody,	46.83

District No. 10, Mrs. Rachel S. Stearns,	39.20
11, Horace Webster,	44.94
12, Frank B. Swett,	46.18
13, Joseph B. Cheney,	34.96
Scytheville, N. L., B. G. Everett,	39.99
Sutton,	3.04
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	\$905.50

Amount paid out on common orders issued by selectmen :—

PAID FOR REPAIRS OF HIGHWAYS.

E. B. Dodge, for bridge-plank and timber furnished the town,	\$54.98
Samuel C. Waldron, for stringers furnished bridge at Center,	4.50
Levi Messer, timber for bridge near his house,	2.00
James O. Buswell, for repairing bridge near Levi Messer's,	13.30
James O. Buswell, for labor and lumber on the bridge near G. W. Atwood's,	49.58
Paid Franklin H. Clough, for labor on the 4th N. H. Turnpike, so called, in 1878,	61.50
Abram Austin, for labor and lumber, on highway,	2.48
F. H. Clough, for labor, and money paid out for repairing highway,	3.00
F. H. Clough, for building bridge near Andover line, in 1881,	3.00
R. M. Howlett, for labor on bridge,	2.25
John M. Richards, cutting bushes on highway,	2.20
Jonathan L. Langley, for bridge-plank,	5.75
Daniel Downs, for 437 feet bridge-plank,	5.24
Hiram D. Prescott, for breaking plow,	2.50
J. L. Langley, for labor and plank,	2.00
O. H. Langley, for labor and plank,	3.87
John C. Morey, for labor and covering stone for bridge,	3.00

Paid James Stearns, for labor and timber for railing,	10.50
John Woodward, for labor on road,	2.00
J. H. Walker, labor on highway in 1879-'80-'81,	7.00
Theodore Clark, for labor on highway,	1.87
John A. Hardy, labor on highway,	2.00
Benjamin Emons, for building new highway at Wil- mot Flat,	75.50
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	\$320.02

PAID FOR BREAKING ROADS.

Paid William B. Fellows, for shovelling snow,	\$ 1.75
Ira W. Morrison, breaking roads in Dimond District,	1.90
William H. Bean, for work and money paid out to open highway to Winslow House,	7.00
J. K. Wallace, breaking roads in L. M. Keniston's District,	5.00
Joshua Holland, breaking roads in 1880 and 1881,	10.00
Tyler S. Whittemore, " " 1881,	7.44
Curtis Langley, " " "	4.90
Joseph H. Walker, " " "	3.75
Joseph B. Cheney, " " "	3.50
George Sleeper, " in L. M. Keniston's District,	7.10
Abram Bickford, " " 1881,	5.00
John M. Richards, " " "	3.00
J. A. Knowles, " to Morrill Currier's house,	1.65
John P. Bean, " in 1882,	7.40
J. C. Richards, " " "	3.00
Hiram D. Prescott, " " "	2.30
Curtis Langley, " " "	6.10
J. L. Langley, " " "	2.50
C. C. Stearns, " " "	3.00
George W. Webster, " " "	7.40
Sumner J. Clay, " " "	5.00
G. E. Woodward, for breaking the Patterson Road,	4.00

Paid C. H. Thompson, breaking road in 1881,	1.00
C. H. Thompson, " " 1882,	2.30
John C. Morey, " " "	4.50
Samuel C. Brooks, " " 1881,	2.40
Samuel C. Waldron, " " 1882,	4.30
James M. Pillsbury, " " "	7.90
John F. Emery, " " "	1.80
Josiah Trumbull, shovelling and cutting ice,	1.00
Samuel C. Brooks, breaking road in 1882,	1.87
Russell S. Pillsbury, " " "	2.80
Eugene F. Buswell, " " "	4.30
Joseph G. Brown, " " "	10.65
Theodore Clark, " " "	4.00
E. A. Downs, " " "	4.50
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Amount for breaking roads,	\$156.01
Total amount expended on highways,	476.06

FOR BOUNTIES ON HAWKS AND CROWS.

Paid Benjamin Emons, cash paid for bounty on crows,	\$.50
James O. Buswell, cash paid for bounty on hawks, in May, 1881,	.80
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	\$1.30

. PAID FOR CERTIFICATES OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

John P. Elkins,	4.25
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PAID FOR DIGGING GRAVES.

Paid William T. Gove,	\$ 12.50
Sylvester Bunker,	14.50
Curtis Langley,	2.50
Joseph G. Brown,	5.00
Richard F. Clay,	5.00
James M. Pillsbury,	5.50
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	\$45.00

PAID ON MISCELLANEONS BILLS.

Paid Prescott Jones Post, G. A. R.,		\$25.00	
J. B. Sanborn, for books and stationery,		9.95	
Evans & Sleeper, for printing town reports for 1880,		36.00	
Seth Goodhue, cash paid for stationery, post- age and express,		3.17	
W. F. Langley, time spent with selectmen settling accounts and preparing report for printing, cash paid for stationery and express in 1880,		8.09	
Samuel Thompson, it being an error on set- tlement of note with selectmen,		3.17	
Jacob F. White, for board of supervisors and and care of town-house,		2.30	
John F. Emery, expenses for printing check- lists, postage, stationery, express, and board of supervisors,		8.42	
Benjamin Emons, for 21 days' board of selectmen in 1881,		9.00	
James Stearns, overseer of poor, for expenses and cash paid out ; for use of team,	\$7.50		
For car fare to Concord twice,	4.40		
For expenses at Concord,	1.00		
W. F. Langley, going to Scytheville and making affidavit,	1.00		
Minot Stearns, making affidavit and ac- knowledgement to County pauper claims,	1.25		
Frank Flanders, making affidavit,	.25		
Stationery and postage,	1.17	16.57	
W. F. Langley, town treasurer, for expenses and cash paid out expenses ; to settle County tax,	1.75		
Car fare to Concord to settle State tax, &c.,	2.20		
Expenses at Concord,	.50		

For use of money to pay County tax,	2.50	
One day's time to Concord,	1.00	
One day's time to pay out money on notes,	1.00	
Stationery and postage,	.50	
For nails and spikes used on bridge at the Center,	.30	9.75
Otis Jones, for land damage, awarded for new highway,		20.00
L. S. Tilton, for damage to himself and wife by being thrown from their carriage, caused by incumbrance of logs in highway near the saw-mill of A. Parker & Co.,		100.00
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Total amount of miscellaneous bills,		\$251.42

Paid James Stearns, overseer of poor, it being money
drawn from treasury to settle pauper accounts, \$750.00

PAID TOWN OFFICERS' BILLS.

Paid John F. Emery, supervisor,	\$8.00
Jacob F. White, supervisor,	9.00
William B. Fellows, supervisor,	6.75

BENJAMIN EMONS'S BILL, AS FIRST SELECTMAN.

3 days in March, 1881, signing and distributing blanks,	\$ 3.75
5 days taking inventory,	6.25
9 days' work on inventory, making taxes, and work on collector's book,	11.25
Cash paid for stationery and postage,	1.88
Attendance at juror meetings, road hearings, and school district hearings, examination of roads and bridges at sundry times,	7.35
8 days spent at sundry times on town books and accounts,	10.00
3 days settling bills, examining collector's list, and mak- ing annual settlement,	3.75
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	\$44.23

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WILLIAM H. BEAN'S BILL DURING HIS TIME OF SERVICE AS SECOND
SELECTMAN.

2 $\frac{3}{4}$ days, signing and distributing blanks,	\$3.44
5 days taking inventory,	6.25
9 days' work on inventory, making taxes, and surveyor's books,	11.25
Attendance at hearings, examining roads, attendance at drawing of jurors, and distributing surveyor's books	4.72
Cash paid for horse hire,	3.00
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	\$28.66

JAMES O. BUSWELL'S BILL AS THIRD SELECTMAN.

3 days, signing and distributing blanks,	\$ 3.75
5 days, taking inventory,	6.25
8 days' work on inventory, making taxes and surveyor's books,	10.00
Attendance to draw jurors, hearings, examination of roads at sundry times, and distributing surveyor's books,	5.87
3 days, settling bills, examining collector's list, and mak- ing annual settlement,	3.75
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	\$29.62

Paid Seth Goodhue, town clerk, including stationery and postage,	\$30.00
Luther M. Keniston, S. S. committee,	25.00
Warren F. Langley, town treasurer,	25.00
James Stearns, overseer of poor,	22.50
Sylvester Bunker, collector,	75.00
Sumner E. Philbrick, auditor,	2.00
Total amount of town officers' bills,	\$305.76

PAID OUT FOR PUBLIC WATERING PLACES.

Paid Isaac B. Youngman,	\$3.00
John P. Bean,	3.00
Charles Loverin,	3.00
Freeman J. Rowe,	3.00

Paid Sumner E. Philbrick,	3.00
Seth Goodhue,	3.00
George E. Woodward,	3.00
James M. Pillsbury,	3.00
Benjamin C. Keniston,	3.00
Nelson Stevens,	3.00
N. G. Johnson,	3.00
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	\$33.00

PAID BY ABATEMENTS OF TAX ON LIST OF 1881.

Frank W. Hale, on poll,	\$1.85
Edward W. Keniston, on poll,	1.85
Silas B. Prescott,	9.25
Samuel G. Hill,	12.10
Clara Sewall,	9.99
Clara Sewall, school-house tax in No. 13,	.79
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	\$35.83

OVERTAX ON LIST OF 1881.

E. A. Todd, on poll,	\$1.85
Charles E. Wolcott, on poll,	1.85
William M. Morrill, on poll,	1.85
Clark B. Woodward, on poll,	1.85
Orren Severance, on poll,	1.85
Frank Briggs, on colt,	1.11
William Bixby, on real estate,	1.18
George W. Webster, on real estate,	2.78
Seth Goodhue, on real estate,	4.97
Curtis Langley, on dog,	1.00
George B. Peaslee, on dog,	1.00
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	\$21.29
Non-resident highway taxes worked,	13.47
Amount of common orders,	1,937.35

RECAPITULATION.

Whole amount of money received, \$7,364.98

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid out on notes,	\$2,208.89	
State and County tax,	1,470.50	
School-house taxes,	363.56	
School money,	905.50	
Orders,	1,937.35	
For damage to sheep by dogs,	23.00	
Cash in treasury,	456.18	7,364.98
Rate per cent. on money tax, \$1.85 on \$100.		

OUTSTANDING DEBTS.

LIST OF NOTES BEARING FOUR PER CENT. INTEREST.

Mrs. Ellen W. Thompson,	\$420.25
Mary White,	121.76
S. E. and Ella Philbrick, trustees,	1,209.83
Mrs. Martha A. Pattee,	58.30
Simeon P. Hall,	392.65
Jacob Dole,	462.12
Mrs. Mary B. Durgin,	1,060.25
Stephen Felch,	1,183.47
John M. Carr,	775.76
Alvah Chadwick,	784.18
Mrs. Nancy Carr,	205.60
Freeman Fellows,	311.44
Lewis Fisher,	585.47
Mrs. Hannah Sanborn,	391.17
Mrs. Sally F. Clough,	751.19
Emma M. Heath,	11.83
Mary A. Cross,	104.95
Mrs. Polly Mears,	549.63
Susan M. Bunker,	254.16
Ursula M. Buswell,	72.89
Mrs. Sarah K. Brown,	90.10

John P. Bean,	128.21
Sumner J. Clay,	233.21
W. F. Langley, guardian,	601.58
Mrs. Abigail C. Poor,	221.33
W. F. Langley,	104.58
Fletcher Philbrick,	180.03
Mrs. Abiah Philbrick,	200.74
W. F. Langley, administrator,	299.45
C. F. Trussell,	79.02
J. L. Langley,	121.28
Mrs. Lois Langley,	155.06
Mary A. Farnum,	28.91
Mrs. Julia Pingree,	995.41
Horace S. Pingree,	251.39
Otis B. Phelps,	55.56
Herbert A. Langley,	110.25
Mrs. Mary A. Nelson,	38.38
Minnie J. Nelson,	9.86
Willie A. Nelson,	9.86
Mrs. Amanda M. Upton,	81.86
Fred S. Langley,	79.33
Noyes C. Hill,	319.00
Samuel C. Waldron,	106.20
Mrs. Mary F. Perkins,	77.94
Clara Sewall,	103.24
George W. Atwood,	103.24
Charity Lodge, Good Templars,	25.82
Mrs. Mary D. Mason,	76.07
Cynthia A. Brown,	120.40
Morrill Currier,	239.90
J. Sherman Gove,	32.00
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Total amount of notes,	\$14,986.11

Statement of indebtedness of the town of Wilmot, March 1,
1882.

Amount of notes outstanding,	\$14,986.11
School-house tax in treasury, due District No. 3,	11.00
School-house tax in treasury, due District No. 5,	75.00
Balance of dog tax for 1881,	33.00
Literary fund for 1881,	86.00
Estimated claims unpaid,	62.84
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Total debt,	\$15,253.95

ASSETS.

Due on notes held by town, for property sold from town farm in 1875,	\$36.80
Due on B. S. Keniston's note,	37.25
Due on Francis Farnum's note,	223.00
Due on the sale of real estate by collector for cost and taxes, it being money advanced by the town to pay cost and taxes on the same,	25.21
Due from S. Bunker, collector, on tax list of 1881,	744.16
Cash in treasury,	456.18
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Amount of assets,	\$1,522.60
Taken from total debt leaves the actual debt to be,	\$13,731.35
Showing a reduction of the debt from last year's report,	1,700.00

MEMORANDUM OF DOG TAX FOR THE YEAR 1881.

Amount assessed,	\$58.00
Abatements allowed,	2.00
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	\$56.00

Amount of bills allowed and ordered to be paid by the selectmen, as the law directs, for damage done to sheep, are as follows :—

Order to Alban Thompson,	\$9.00	
Order to Benjamin Emons,	8.00	
Order to B. C. Keniston,	6.00	
	<u> </u>	\$23.00

Leaving a balance of said sum being reported in the treasury,		\$33.00
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Respectfully submitted,

WARREN F. LANGLEY, *Treasurer.*

This certifies that I have carefully examined the foregoing accounts of receipts and expenditures, and find them correctly added, and vouchers for the same.

SUMNER E. PHILBRICK.

REPORT OF THE OVERSEER OF THE POOR,

FOR THE YEAR 1881, ENDING MARCH 1, 1882.

CASH RECEIVED OF TOWN TREASURER.

Cash left on hand from last year, 1881.		\$51.27
Apr. Received of Warren F. Langley,		100.00
July 1. " "		150.00
Aug. 3. " "		100.00
Sept. 15. " "		100.00
Dec. 14. " "		150.00
1882.		
Feb. 2. " "		100.00
28. " "		50.00
10. Received of the County of Merrimack, for the support of County paupers, to Feb. 1, 1882,		404.17
		\$1,205.44

CASH PAID OUT FOR COUNTY PAUPERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 1, 1882.

ELLEN F. BLAKE AND CHILDREN.

Paid W. H. Kenerson, for board and nursing,		\$109.89
For clothing,		12.75
H. A. Weymouth, for medical attendance,		8.00
		\$130.64

JOSEPHINE DURGIN.

Paid John Durgin, for board,	78.00	78.00
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NATHANIEL BROWN.

Paid Melendy & Emerson, for goods furnished,	\$49.69	
J. P. Bean, for wood,	10.00	
	<hr/>	\$59.69

JOHN B. SMITH.

Paid James Stearns, for goods furnished,	\$3.87	
Seth Goodhue, bill,	10.50	
Mrs. Nelson, bill,	.65	
J. M. Pillsbury, digging grave,	2.50	
	<hr/>	\$17.52

HARRISON MATTHEWS.

Paid James Stearns, for goods furnished,	\$52.00	\$52.00
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DEBORAH P. STEVENS.

Paid Amos P. Stevens, for support and funeral expenses,	\$37.00	
Seth Goodhue, for coffin,	8.00	
	<hr/>	\$45.00

W. G. JONES.

Paid James Stearns, for goods furnished,	\$16.82	\$16.82
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EDWIN D. GLINES.

Paid M. C. Spaulding, for medical attendance,	\$3.50	\$3.50
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FEMALE TRANSIENT.

Paid Female transient,	\$1.00	\$1.00
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The whole amount paid out on County paupers, to Feb. 1, 1882, is		<hr/>
		\$404.17

CASH PAID OUT FOR THE TOWN PAUPERS TO
MARCH 1, 1882.

AMANDA PHELPS.

Paid James M. Pilsbury, for the support of Amanda Phelps, in full for one year, at \$1.25 per week,	\$65.00	\$65.00
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MRS. PETER M'KENZIE.

Paid James McKenzie, for support of Mrs. Peter McKenzie, in full for one year, at \$1.25 per week,	\$65.00	\$65.00
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MRS. JOHN WALKER.

Paid Mrs. Caroline C. Chase, for the support and nursing of Mrs. J. Walker, from March 1, 1881, to June 6, at \$2.00 per week,	\$28.00	
From June 6 to March 1, at \$3.00 per week,	114.43	
John P. Elkins, for medical attendance,	3.00	
	<hr/>	\$145.43

DANIEL PRESCOTT.

Paid Harriet Prescott, for the support of Daniel Prescott, in full one year, at \$1.50 per week,	\$78.00	
James Stearns, for tobacco furnished,	3.24	
	<hr/>	\$81.24

Whole amount paid on town paupers, to March 1, 1882, is	356.67
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Whole amount paid on county paupers, to Feb. 1, 1882, is	404.17
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The actual amount used for support of the poor for the year is	\$760.84
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RECAPITULATION.

CASH RECEIVED.

Of the town treasurer,	\$750.00
Of the County of Merrimack,	404.17
Left on hand from last year,	51.27
	<u> </u> \$1,205.44

CASH PAID FOR COUNTY PAUPERS.

Paid for the support of Mrs. Blake and 2 children,	\$130.64
Josephine Durgin,	78.00
Nathaniel Brown,	59.69
John B. Smith,	17.52
Harrison Matthews,	52.00
Deborah P. Stevens,	45.00
W. G. Jones,	16.82
Edwin D. Glines,	3.50
Female transient,	1.00
	<u> </u> \$404.17

CASH PAID FOR TOWN PAUPERS.

Paid for the support of Amanda Phelps,	\$65.00
Mrs. Peter McKenzie,	65.00
Mrs. John Walker,	145.43
Daniel Prescott,	81.24
Cash on hand,	40.43
	<u> </u> \$397.10
Paid W. F. Langley the County pauper money,	404.17
	<u> </u> \$1,205.44

JAMES STEARNS, *Overseer of the Poor.*

This certifies that I have carefully examined the foregoing accounts of receipts and expenditures, and find them properly entered, correctly added, and vouchers for the same.

SUMNER E. PHILBRICK, *Auditor.*

WILMOT, March 1, 1882.

REPORT

OF THE

Superintending School Committee.

FELLOW CITIZENS : Another year has rolled round, and with it another school report is submitted for your consideration.

While I am aware that some will read it with selfish motives, some to criticise and others for curiosity, it is to those who would know of the standing of the schools and of their success that I shall endeavor to state briefly and plainly the facts as they appear, disregarding the personal interests of any.

The value of our common schools none can deny ; but the haphazard way in which they are conducted causes no small amount of confusion to the one who has them in charge, reflects discredit upon the schools themselves, and detracts much from their otherwise immeasurable usefulness.

For instance, your superintendent found himself one morning in the embarrassing position of standing before a school of entire strangers, taught by a teacher even whose name he knew not. Now this is not a good way of doing business, for what understanding of her capability or her adaptation to the school could he have? Again, a teacher in defiance of law sent in her register

almost wholly unfilled, and before it arrived she had (as we suppose) received her wages and left the State. The law is very plain upon both of these points. First, it says that "no person shall be employed" as a teacher without a certificate of qualification.—General Laws, Chapter 89, Section 6. Then again, "No teacher shall receive payment for his services until" a certificate for the return of his register is procured from the school committee of the town "and delivered to the prudential committee." These laws seem sufficient, and if obeyed would prevent much annoyance and give a far better tone to our common school system. Prudential committees should be careful that the superintendent be notified of the commencement and close of schools in due season.

A day's notice of the close of three or four schools, which will occur at the same time, is not sufficient. Your committee for this year was so tardily notified as to be obliged to examine nine schools in a single week.

SCHOOL-HOUSES.

This subject, though almost inseparably connected with school reports, is not yet exhausted, nor will it be until neat and comfortable buildings take the places of the cold, dreary, dismal shanties or jails in which some of our children are pent up during the pleasantest part of the year. No wonder so many children dislike the school-room; for, in many instances, it is a place to be loathed, despised, disowned.

Perhaps no hindrance to good progress is more noticeable than an improper supply of blackboards. It is almost astonishing to note the great advantage which a school, under good drill at the board, possesses over one where such drill is lacking. If a child sees a thing but once, he will be more likely to remember it than if told it many times. And besides, a whole class may be taught in the same time that would be occupied for one scholar, thus making a great saving of time. These and other arguments that might be brought cannot fail to convince the candid thinker that we cannot afford to do without a good supply of blackboards.

Some of our best school-houses are destitute of good recitation seats, which are almost as indispensable to the orderly arrangement of classes, as order is to the success of a school. Some of our largest scholars are obliged to sit in the class, in the presence of visitors, upon seats not too high for a child of four years; a performance from which a lady of culture may justly shrink.

ARITHMETICS.

The high prices which we have been obliged to pay for arithmetics, have long since rendered a change necessary. Therefore, after much consideration, arrangements have been made with William Ware & Co., of Boston, by which, for the coming year, the Franklin Arithmetics, a much better series than those now in use, may be obtained at very low rates. This series is therefore adopted as the legal arithmetics of the town.

SPECIAL REPORT.

NO. 1.—WILMOT CENTRE.

First term, ten weeks ; second term, eleven weeks. Miss Helen J. Gookin, of Lowell, taught both terms of this school very successfully.

She is a teacher of experience, and understands how to get a great deal of work out of her scholars. During the first term the order was very strict, and the progress rapid. The second term was very profitable in point of progress, and the school passed a very good examination. The order, however, was not nearly as good as the previous term. Although Miss Gookin is a very earnest worker in the school-room, she returned by far the most deficient register of any teacher in town, and that, too, without an apology.

ROLL OF HONOR.—First term : Josie L. Spaulding, Mary A. Goodhue, Hattie M. Woodward, Hattie K. Whittemore. Second term : Flora E. Poore, Hattie M. Woodward, Hattie K. Whittemore, Annie B. Blake, Sherman J. Gove, Roy H. Spaulding, Harry R. Spaulding.

NO. 2.—NORTH ROAD.

There was only one term of nine weeks in this district, and that in the fall, taught by Herbert S. Clay.

There is a little feeling existing among the parents which would render a perfect success in this school doubtful for any teacher, yet Mr. Clay succeeded as well as any one might have hoped to

do under the circumstances. The school at examination appeared very satisfactory ; the scholars had made excellent progress and the order was good. We understand that Mr. Clay did not give perfect satisfaction ; but it was so general that the citizens, by contribution, continued the school two or three weeks after the district money had been expended. Attendance very irregular. Whole number of scholars twenty-three. Average daily attendance, only fourteen.

NO. 3.—CARR HILL.

First term, ten weeks ; second term, fourteen weeks. Both terms of this very pleasant school were successfully taught by Miss Luvia M. Collins, of Wilmot Flat.

Everything here moved like clock-work. In point of order here was a model school. The scholars rendered willing and perfect obedience, and without a single exception made good advancement. The reading and arithmetic classes deserve especial notice in point of progress.

ROLL OF HONOR.—First term : Mary B Atwood. Second term : Emily C. Durgin.

NO. 4.—TURNPIKE.

First term, ten weeks ; second term, ten and three fifths weeks. Both terms were taught by Miss Martha J. Walker, of South Danbury.

Miss Walker has been so long and favorably known in connection with this school, that her name has become synonymous with success.

The spring term passed pleasantly and with satisfactory results.

The fall term was comfortably convened in the new school-house, and the progress was very remarkable. The classes in Arithmetic deserve special praise ; while the class in English Analysis can hardly be equaled except by older scholars. Although this teacher well deserves a larger school and better pay, the district can ill afford a change.

ROLL OF HONOR.—Nellie R. Dodge.

NO. 5.—BUSWELL DISTRICT.

The summer term, of eight weeks, was taught by Miss M. Etta Bailey, of Concord.

She entered this school with everything in her favor except her inexperience. She possesses, in a good degree, many of the elements necessary in a good teacher. This school, which at the commencement of the year we considered the best in town, is composed of young scholars, well advanced in their studies, and who go to school to learn. Under Miss Bailey such progress was made that all might well be satisfied.

ROLL OF HONOR.—Mary A. Thompson, Ellen R. Thompson, Florence L. Langley, Amber I. Langley.

Fall term, seven weeks. Following the brilliant achievement of Miss Bailey, came Miss Lizzie M. Sanborn, of Danbury. Although she omitted some of the fine points taken up last term, and necessary in order that the school might fully maintain the standing it had reached, she kept good order and the examination revealed evidence of earnest, thorough work on the part of teacher and scholars alike.

ROLL OF HONOR.—William S. Holland, Fred S. Pedrick, Sidney M. Pedrick, Addie M. Pedrick, Ellen R. Thompson, Mary A. Thompson, Flora E. Trussell, Ida Trussell.

NO. 6.—EAGLE POND.

First term, nine weeks ; second term, seven weeks.

Only a few scholars in this school, but these few made such improvement in their studies as is well worthy the honest pride of a young teacher. On account of a certain delay I was not notified of the closing of the fall term in season to be present at the examination. Amie L. H. Knowles, of this district, teacher of both terms, is a lady of noble character and a genial manner, that render her a general favorite among the young, and thus their fitting teacher.

ROLL OF HONOR.—Susie E. P. Taft, Mary L. Knowles. Second term : Julia I. Sargent, Mary B. Sargent, Mary L. Knowles.

NO. 7.—PRESCOTT HILL.

First term, five weeks ; second term, eight weeks. Both terms were taught by Miss Nettie F. Currier, of North Wilmot.

She is bound to succeed. Possessing a faculty of seeing at a glance the wants of a school, she goes about her work with an earnestness that cannot fail to win the coöperation of her pupils, and thus insure success. At both visits of the spring term the school made a good appearance, and gave evidence at examination of marked progress. The fall term I was able to visit only once, and the closing examination was conducted by a substitute, who brought back a very favorable report. Hire her next year.

ROLL OF HONOR.—First term : Clara R. Tenney, Angie E. Mason, Pemelia A. Tenney, Roxann Tenney. Second term : Pemelia A. Tenney, Roxann Tenney.

NO. 8.—WILMOT FLAT.

Mr. Charles F. Flanders taught three terms of nine weeks each in this, his own district.

No teacher can teach a school of forty scholars, with classes as badly mixed as they are in this school, and do justice to all. Mr. Flanders did as well as might be expected under such circumstances. At the close of the winter term I found the school much smaller than before. The scholars present acquitted themselves in a manner most creditable to scholars and teacher. The classes in Arithmetic and those in Geography did nobly ; and the class in English Analysis passed a critical examination in a manner which might well defy competition. It is my opinion that if this district would grade their school, and secure the services of two good teachers, the most satisfactory results might be obtained.

ROLL OF HONOR.—Third term : Ida M. Collins, Will M. Thompson.

NO. 9.—EAST WILMOT.

The summer term of eight weeks was taught by Mrs. E. A. Downes.

Mrs. Downes resides in the district, and has taught twenty-one terms successfully, hence all had a right to expect a good school. We found a few scholars here who are bound to do their best, and these found in Mrs. Downes a never failing helper, and made excellent improvement. Here is, however, another class who seem to have no desire to learn, and regarding these but little could be expected of the teacher, except to keep them straight, which she most thoroughly accomplished, and also surprised us by the amount of knowledge that she had almost literally beaten into them. A number of wide-awake children from an adjoining district united with this school and contributed much to its interest.

ROLL OF HONOR.—Lucy E. Severance, Pearl C Whittemore.

The fall term of five weeks was taught by Miss Nettie F. Currier, who fully sustained the reputation which she had already gained in district number seven.

ROLL OF HONOR.—Pearl C. Whittemore, Idella K. Farnum.

NO. 10.—LANGLEY DISTRICT.

Summer term of five weeks was taught by Miss Nellie M. Ross, of New London.

Miss Ross came here with a purpose to do well, and was generally successful. The scholars made good advancement, the order was good, and the general appearance of the school was very creditable. Near the close of the term a disturbance arose in which the teacher was charged with inflicting too severe punishment; but even if such may have been the case, Miss Ross should not bear all the blame, as a feeling was apparent among some of the parents which would be quite likely to mislead a young teacher, but which one of experience might apprehend and over-rule without difficulty.

Fall term of nine and one fifth weeks was taught by Miss Maggie A. Clough, of Warner, a teacher of considerable experience. Discord vanished at her presence, while by her gentle manner and her deep interest in the school she soon won the hearty approval of all concerned, and the term was a complete success. A beauti-

ful picture hanging on the wall, a token of respect from the scholars, and the large number of visitors present, gave evidence of the lively interest awakened. We would here suggest that this district would do well to secure the services of Miss Clough in the future, regardless of cost; for in schools as in other things, a week of harmony is better than a lifetime of contention.

ROLL OF HONOR.—Austin E. Langley, Byron U. Richards.

NO. 11.—WHITE DISTRICT.

First term, seven weeks; second term, nine weeks.

This school, on account of its late history, presented a very unattractive field of labor. Miss Lill E. Philbrick, of East Andover, entered it, however, with a characteristic determination to suit herself in spite of fate, and by thus doing soon found that she had the hearty coöperation of parents and scholars. Miss Philbrick not only impresses her pupils at once with the idea that they must mind, but is a very thorough teacher, and imparts a great deal of information upon subjects of general interest. Of her success, I leave you to judge from the following brief extract from the speech of one of the citizens at the final examination of the second term. He spoke as follows: "I freely confess that I was not aware we had scholars in this school who were able to perform such parts, or solve such problems as you have done to-day; but, scholars, while you mark with pleasure the progress you have made, forget not the one who has labored with such untiring interest in your behalf. And you, teacher, as you go from us, may be sure that you will be remembered by parents and by scholars as one common benefactor."

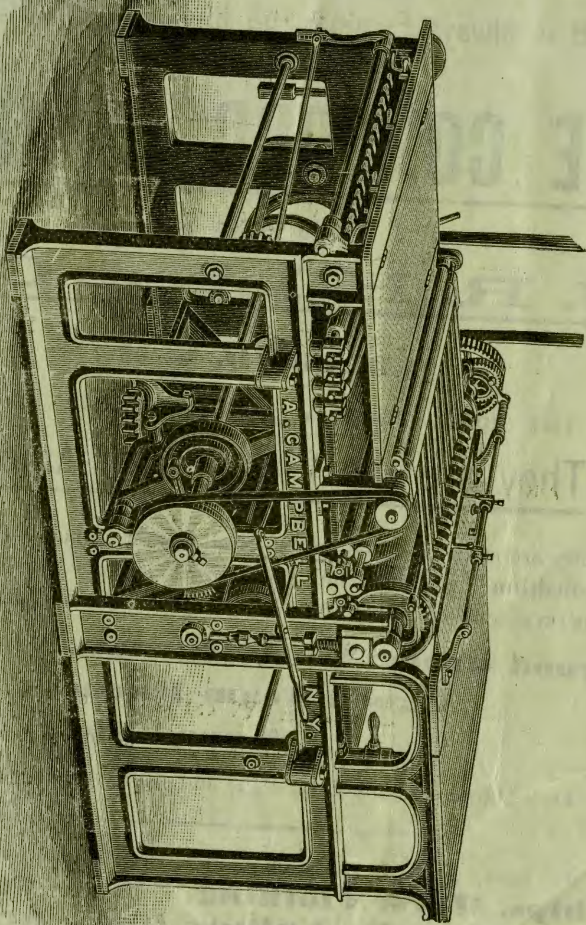
NO. 12.—CROSS HILL.

The one term of eleven weeks was taught in the fall by Miss Emma Collins, of Wilmot Flat.

Miss Collins goes about her work in a business like manner, and with an earnestness peculiar to herself she inspires her scholars with the idea that they must learn, thus rendering success inevita-

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