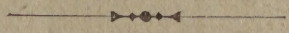


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ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
**SELECTMEN, TREASURER,
OVERSEER OF THE POOR,
LIQUOR AGENT,**
AND
SCHOOL COMMITTEE,
OF THE
TOWN OF THORNTON,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1877.



PLYMOUTH, N. H. :
KIMBALL & FLANDERS, BOOK PRINTERS,
1877.

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1877

REPORT OF SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen of the town of Thornton charge themselves as follows:

Received on notes,—	\$2,388 50
State Bear bounty—	30 00
County support of Paupers 7	272 65
Savings Bank Tax and Literary fund	135 48
R. A. Horner, interest on Taylor fund,	5 00
J. B. Morrison, for old bridge timber,	3 00
R. Johnson, for District No. 4,	15 00
F. A. Barnard, A. P. Payne bill,	15 35
John W. Pattee, on Taylor Fund note,	15 00
John W. Pattee, interest on Taylor Fund,	12 00
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	\$2,891 98

Paid School Agents.

District No. 1,	C. P. Moulton,	109 75
" 2,	John S. Bagley,	119 00
" 3,	H. F. Durgin 2nd,	43 84
" 4,	Nathan Blake,	55 00
" 5,	S. J. Conner,	100 00
" 6,	F. A. Barnard,	94 28
" 7,	Joshua Chapman,	57 00
" 8,	E. C. Broad,	75 79
" 9,	John T. Wood,	66 00
" 11,	Charles Clement,	60 15
" 12,	B. F. Peaslee,	51 95
	B. M. B. Selingham,	8 46
		<hr/>
		\$841 22

Miscellaneous Bills.

Miron J. Hazeltine, for services as Justice, Auditor, 1875,	3 50
H. Fifield, services as auditor 1875,	1 50
J. H. Dearborn, printing Reports,	30 00
John Colby, water trough 1875,	3 00
Jesse Hart, sheep killed by dogs 1875,	3 00
Joshua Chapman, damage to wagon,	1 00
B. F. Merrill, water trough 1875,	3 00

Hiram Gordon, sheep killed by dogs,	2 50
W. L. Gilman, 7 " " "	14 00
S. G. Sawyer, damage on horse,	10 00
S. Sanborn, sheep killed by dogs,	16 00
Webster Russell & Co., for Record Book,	9 50
Dr. J. A. Sanborn, for prof. services for F Gilman's wife,	26 00
Dr. E. G. Gilford, Do.	32 50
B. W. Sanborn, & Co. for books and blanks,	8 75
County tax for 1876,	465 90
State tax, 1876	492 00
I. H. Wyatt, six bear bounties,	60 00
M. Greeley, blank note book,	1 25
F. A. Barnard, services as Selectman for 1875,	3 00
N. Blake, bear bounty,	10 00
S. A. Foss, sheep killed by dogs,	3 00
John Colby, water trough,	3 00
A. Lyford " " and services as Justice,	6 00
Lewis Kendrick, bear bounty,	10 00
John Johnson, water trough,	2 00
Building Committee, school house No. 9, for 1876,	92 76
R. Johnson, " " District No. 4, 1874,	15 00
Benjamin Steele, water trough,	3 00
C. R. Emmons, water trough and snowing bridge,	3 55
Blair & Burleigh, for council fees for 1876,	3 00
E. Elliott, money paid out doing town business,	7 00
B. M. B. Selingham, " " " " " "	2 75
J. W. Pattee, for Board of Selectmen and others in 1876.	30 70
C. H. Weeks, for board of Selectmen and paper,	2 74
Charles Caldon, for work on highway,	2 07
O. F. James, " " " " bridge,	22 25
C. F. Plummer, for timber and plank,	16 33
George Tucker, bear bounty,	10 00
John Frost, " " "	10 00
W. F. Martin, " " "	10 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,451 61

Town Officers Bills.

E. Elliott, services as Selectman and Overseer of the poor from March 1st, 1876, to March 1st, 1877,	\$86 00
B. M. B. Selingham services as Selectman Overseer of poor from March 24th, 1876, to March 1st, 1877,	60 75
John W. Pattee services as Selectman, Overseer of poor for the year 1876,	53 95
E. G. Gilford, Superintendent School Committee,	40 00
O. F. James, Treasurer	50 00

John W. Pattee, services Town Clerk for the year ending March 24th 1876.	10 50
C. P. Sargent, services Town Clerk,	20 00
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	\$321 20

County Pauper Bills.

Stephen Foss,	53 98
John Tucker,	36 86
Jacob Benton,	31 47
A. P. Knowles,	14 35
Hannah Boynton,	49 50
Sally Packard,	18 00
Cynthia Bowen,	16 51
J. M. Fox,	54 66
Dana Fadden,	15 96
Benjamin Tucker,	14 30
A. P. Payne, children,	3 50
S. Sanborn H. Paige bill,	4 00
	<hr/>
	\$313,09

Town Pauper Bills.

Joshua Merrill,	20 33
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Jane Merrill Pauper Bill.

Jane Merrill,	88 40
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Indebtedness Due on Notes.

E. L. Foss,	\$3,740 00
Phebe Cross,	697 00
S. C. Robinson,	1,575 00
Peter Walker,	1,025 00
A. Lyford,	473 00
M. Greeley,	2,588 00

90.00
105175

Lizzie M. Greely,	1,247 00	
Louis Dearborn,	24 00	
C. E. Dearborn,	13 00	
E. Elliott,	82 00	
Mehitable Foss,	200 00	12.00
Betsy Paige,	283 00	50.00
Martin L. Paige,	377 00	
E. M. Steel,	23 00	
Willis Sanborn,	39 00	
S. J. Woodbury,	318 00	
M. W. Hazeltine,	76 00	
E. T. Foss,	475 00	80.00
H. E. Hannaford	1,800 00	
Arthur Merrill,	1,348 00	
C. and B. Shute,	31 00	
George W. Keniston,	486 00	
L. G. Lyford,	56 00	
C. Durgin,	62 00	
A. P. Wood, Jr.,	114 00	
S. J. Keniston,	1,689 00	164.73
A. P. Wood,	588 00	
Minnie Elliott,	23 00	
John T. Clough,	103 00	120.95
S. A. Homans,	393 00	
Sarah Steel,	587 00	
L. E. Boynton,	182 00	
C. H. Boynton,	366 00	59.61
Emily Durgin,	58 00	754
Moses Boynton,	112 00	
H. C. Boynton,	112 00	
Herod Fifield,	605 00	
S. Sanborn,	39 00	
George Jenkins,	333 00	
R. E. Sanborn,	282 00	
H. F. Durgin,	558 00	
H. M. Fifield,	56 00	
R. C. Sanborn,	722 00	
C. Shute,	41 00	
Judith Foss,	67 00	
Carter Foss,	391 00	187.04
J. H. Peaslee,	1,882 00	
B. M. B. Selingham,	147 00	
L. J. Jackman,	7 00	
J. R. Selingham,	16 00	
M. R. Peaslee,	713 00	
John F. Morrill, Guardian.	315 00	
A. L. Durgin,	254 00	
S. A. Selingham,	384 00	
J. A. Sanborn,	154 00	
M. D. Way,	212 00	

6339
15365
18704

A. Caldon,	280 00	30.00
Lydia Woodbury,	204 00	
Caroline Tucker,	61 00	
A. S. Sanborn,	290 00	20.00
Willie Baker,	29 00	
S. S. Paige	117 00	125.74
M. B. Woodbury,	11 00	
Lucy A. Elliott,	137 00	
Benj. Sanborn,	499 00	
S. B. Cone,	280 00	
Barnard Paige,	693 00	
C. F. Plummer.	195 00	146.22
Mary E. Willey,	65 00	
F. H. Plummer,	258 00	
L. B. Shute,	133 00	
George Cook,	102 00	
D. G. Southmayd,	38 00	
L. F. Dolloff,	24 00	
W. P. Houston,	26 00	
O. Vincent,	22 00	
E. H. Merrill,	118 00	
O. F. James,	33 00	
R. E. Lee Hazeltine,	26 00	
E. Clement,	40 00	
	<u>\$32,174 00</u>	

Paid on Notes.

2138.04
759
2155.58

Martin L. Paige,	\$100 00
Albert Lyford,	537 56
S. C. Robinson,	90 00
Caroline Tucker,	69 40
John Carlton,	120 00
Lizzie H. Paige	26 75
Merrill Greeley,	100 00
Hannah E. Hannaford,	150 00
Clark Merrill,	605 40
Rilla C. Sanborn,	50 00
Peter Walker,	78 00
Esther L. Foss,	600 00
Herod Fifield,	43 00
Mary R. Peaslee,	63 88
Charles Shute,	125 00
Laura A. Page,	26 87
John T. Clough,	56 86

32174
5228
26946

Carter Foss,	143 49
Rhody T. Melcher,	97 00
Nancy Fellows,	52 15
L. A. Gordon,	63 82
F. M. Paige,	86 57
Hiram Gordon,	169 00
S. J. Keniston,	500 00
George W. Kenision,	400 00
Emily Durgin,	23 37
O. F. James,	158 75
S. S. Paige,	150 00
M. Foss,	12 00
A. Caldon,	14 00
Herod Merrill,	101 10
L. E. Boynton,	90 00
C. Durgin,	50 00
Barnard Paige,	50 00
J. Burrows, on the L. E. Boynton note,	149 73
E. Elliott,	33 04
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	\$5,186 74

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Roads and Bridges.

J. Moulton, plank and saw bills,	\$58 12
Isaac B. Campbell, for timber,	118 46
H. V. Hart, work on bridge,	4 38
H. F. Durgin, Jr., plank,	4 38
M. and D. Foss, " "	20 10
B. M. B. Selingham, timber and labor,	4 80
Benjamin Steel, work on bridge,	6 00
H. N. Clay, " " "	12 50
Wm. Boynton, lumber for 1875,	2 40
Daniel Peaslee, work on highway 1875,	28 24
Wm. Willey, " " " "	8 83
B. F. Merrill, " " " "	19 93
George Elkins, " " " "	12 00
S. J. Conner, " " " "	1 88
B. L. Peaslee " " " "	4 87
Dexter Merrill " " " 1873 and 1874,	36 25
C. K. Ham and J. W. Wallace, work on highway, 1875,	8 00
A. Hunt, Adm'r G. Hunt estate, " " '74, '75,	12 75
Wm. G. Gilman, building causeway, 1875,	26 25
G. W. Merrill, plank and lumber,	8 23
O. F. James, work on highway 1875,	14 21
R. Ham, timber,	5 00

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A. P. Payne, work on highway 1875,	3 75
I. H. Wyatt, work on highway 1875,	14 00
H. C. Houston, work and timber for highway,	1 50
Wm. T. Snow, work on highway,	9 34
John Colby, lumber,	50
B. L. Peaslee, lumber and work,	32 86
Isaac Fox, " " "	13 98
E. Elliott, work on Sandwich Road,	2 49
M. S. Brown, plank,	17 36
D. E. Brown, work on bridge,	6 00
C. H. Weeks, spikes for covered bridge,	6 00
B. M. B. Selingham, work on highway,	1 25
Wm. G. Gilman, plank for 1875,	8 90
George R. Tucker, work on highway,	6 00
F. A. Marden, " " "	6 00
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	\$547 01

ASSETS.

In Collector's hands for 1868,	\$30 00
" " " 1873,	348 24
" " " 1874,	270 00
" " " 1875,	874 16
" " " 1876,	2,700 00
Due from State, bear bounty,	110 00
County support of paupers,	139 22
In Treasurer's hands,	402 20
Interest due on Taylor Fund,	242 12
In the hands of Liquor Agent for 1875,	112 89
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	\$5,228 83

Statement of Taylor Fund.

John W. Pattee,	185 00
N. H. Weeks,	265 00
Town of Thornton,	312 83
C. F. Bowen, farm,	267 37
Robert A Horner,	63 00
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	\$1,083 23

*312 86
130
442 86*

School Fund Town of Thornton

School Fund,	\$1,312 50
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Recapitulation.

Money reported in Selectmen's hands 1876,	38 16
Liquor agent for 1875,	2 61
Cash in Treasury March 1st, 1876,	1,094 03
Received by Selectmen,	2,892 41
" of Collectors,	5,144 57
	\$9,171 78

School Agents,	841 22
Paid on roads and bridges in 1875 and 1876.	547 01
Miscellaneous bills,	1,451 61
Town officers "	321 20
Town pauper "	20 33
Jane Merrill pauper bill,	88 40
County "	313 09
Paid on notes, "	5,186 74
Cash in Treasury March 1st, 1877,	402 20
	\$9,171 80

EPHRAIM ELLIOTT, B. M. B. SELINGHAM, JOHN W. PATTEE,	} <i>Selectmen</i> <i>of</i> <i>Thornton.</i>
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TREASURER'S REPORT.

From March 1, 1876, to March 1, 1877.

Received as follows:	
In Treasury March 1, 1876.	\$1,094 41
Received of the Selectmen,	2,892 03
" " " " it being money reported in	
their hands March 1, 1876,	38 16
Received of Moody B. Cone. Collector, 1876,	2,478 81
" " " " " " 1875,	2,205 00
" " " " " " 1874,	268 09

Received of Moody B. Cone, Collector, 1876, School house tax in District No. 9,	92 76
Received of Charles H. Weeks, Liquor Agent, 1875,	2 61
	<hr/>
	\$9,171 78

Money paid by order of the Selectmen,	\$8,769 58
" in Treasury March 1, 1877,	402 20

As the Selectmen's report will specify the items for the orders given on the Treasurer, it is not expedient for them to be given in this report, as the orders are all on file in the Treasurer's office to which any reference required may be made.

CRRIN F. JAMES, *Town Treasurer,*

Having examined the account of the Selectmen and Treasurer of the town of Thornton for the year ending March 1st, 1877, we find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

ALBERT LYFORD,	} <i>Auditors.</i>
MOODY B. CONE,	
ALBURN H. KENDALL,	

LIQUOR AGENT'S REPORT.

Amount of money and liquor in the hands of C. H. Weeks, March 1, 1876,	\$214 76
Profit on liquor sold from Mar 1, 1876 to Apr. 30, 1876,	30 00
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Whole amount in C. H. Weeks' hands, 1876,	244 76
Liquor and barrels turned over to agent, for 1876,	54 15
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	190 61
Services as Liquor Agent for 1875,	75 00
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	115 61
Paid the town,	2 62
	<hr/>
Now in C. H. Weeks' hands, March 1, 1877,	112 89

SCHOOL REPORT.

*To the Honorable Board of Selectmen of the town of Thornton,
Gentlemen:*

In rendering an account of my stewardship for the past year, I do it more cheerfully believing that my labors have not been altogether in vain. To any one conversant with the duties, it need not be said that the office of school committee is no sinecure. Should there be any who think differently, I would most cordially invite them to take my place for one year, and I predict they would need no further proof.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Both terms taught by Miss F. H. Evans, who is an experienced teacher. Here I found most excellent schools, full of animation and earnestness. No teacher could be more devoted to her work than Miss Evans, and perhaps it is enough to say, that her praise is upon the lips of parents, as well as all the scholars who attended her school. She has a remarkably happy faculty of interesting and keeping employed all those under her charge. The school was always full and made good improvement.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Summer term was taught by Mrs. Celta E. Dinsmore. This school under the disadvantage of a small school room, crowded, inconvenient and unventilated, save by "cracks and crannies," is in fine condition, under the labors of Mrs. Dinsmore the school made commendable progress.

Winter term taught by Charles E. Mann, who is an experienced teacher. He has been assiduous in his instruction, and for regularity of attendance of the pupils, progress and good order, this school ranks among the first in our town.

DISTRICT No. 3.

One term, taught by Miss Florence Russell. This was her first term, and she performed her duties satisfactorily to your committee. This school house as I have said before, is a monument of disgrace to the district. Will not the people in this district move in this matter of a new school house? Surely they will if they consult their best interests.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Summer term taught by Mrs. Laura J. Johnson. The school was small, and the scholars quite young; they appeared orderly and disposed to improve their advantages, they answered promptly the questions put to them, and the teacher appeared to have exerted herself for the improvement of the pupils under her charge.

Second term taught by Miss Annie Wooster. This was her first term, she is a fair scholar but not always sufficiently prudent as a teacher. The school appeared well when visited by your

committee and was quiet and studious. There was considerable dissatisfaction in the district and at the close of the 11th week it was discontinued.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Both terms of this school were taught by Miss Emma Hanson. She exercised great energy and devotion to the calling which she seems so admirably adapted to fulfill. At the final examination, good progress was plainly visible. I regret to say that we have lost the services of this teacher as she has changed her calling for that of the domestic sphere. Permit me to return my sincere thanks to the prudential committee, Mr. Samuel J. Conner, for his gentlemanly bearing and his readiness to assist teacher and committee in every way required.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Both terms were taught by Miss Sarah M. Sargent. The people in this district often said during its session "We are satisfied with the school," and certainly the committee would not desire a more acceptable teacher than Miss Sargent.

With one exception there was nothing to disturb the harmony of the school, and this case was so managed as to produce no evil results. The scholars were attentive, orderly, and obedient and made fair improvement.

DISTRICT No. 7.

One term taught by Miss Mary F. Whitney. It was feared by your committee before the commencement of the school that the teacher's energy would be hardly equivalent to the labor required in this school. But at the close of the term the school passed a very good examination, and the ease with which this school was managed, and the tact with which instruction was imparted, would insure success in almost any district and under almost any circumstances.

DISTRICT No. 8.

First term taught by Miss Winnie R. Dow. Under the well directed energy of Miss Dow this school was a success in all points.

Winter term taught by Charles E. Mann, an experienced teacher, good order was manifested and the school passed a good examination at the close of the term.

DISTRICT No. 9.

One term. This school was taught by Mrs. Olive A. Weeks. She is a teacher of considerable experience and succeeded very well with the school. The scholars made a good degree of improvement. This school in many respects is not so pleasant as others, and does not manifest that system which we wish might exist, and which doubtless any teacher would find it difficult to maintain in that school.

DISTRICT No. 11.

One term. This school was taught by Mrs. Clara J. Little. A lady of experience in teaching, and admirably qualified to manage and instruct children. The school was always quiet and orderly. I think the school has done well. The teacher was accurate in her instructions and energetic in the performance of her duties.

DISTRICT NO. 12.

One term taught by Miss Gertie H. McCausland. She was strict in her discipline and faithful in her teaching. I consider the school a successful one. And with the exception of a little difficulty occasioned by some of the parents which was so managed as to produce no real detriment to the school, everything went along harmoniously.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Our schools as a general thing compare favorably with other years. I have already spoken of the ill condition of some of the school houses in our town, we cannot forbear calling the attention of several districts towards those places where the first precepts of order, adaptation, neatness and taste should be cultivated, and then decide whether your present school rooms are suited to that purpose, setting aside health and convenience. We wish that our citizens would just look in upon the school room in District No. 9, and we venture to predict they will feel impatient to see many of the apologies for school houses, giving place to similar permanent and convenient structures.

DISTRICT FEUDS.

Another article in the way of improvement in some of our district is the district feud or quarrel; whenever they exist the usefulness of the school is impaired.

Difficulties among parents will extend to the children and through their children, if in no other way, to the school, but in most instances the feud is carried directly into the school by the parents themselves. The teacher is *liked* or *disliked* as he is supposed to favor this or that party to the *feud*. And that school and district are in a continual tumult. Such a state of things is *unmanly* and *unchristian* in the extreme. It would better answer for tribes of savage Indians than for neighborhoods of civilized and Christian people! Where they now exist it is to be hoped they will cease to exist, through the good sense of the people and a proper regard on their part, for the advantage of their children, should they be done away with a great obstacle in the way of their improvement will be removed.

BOOKS.

I deemed it necessary for the success of the schools to make a change in our readers, for the old readers had become so familiar to most of the scholars, that there was no chance for improvement with them, consequently I introduced the Franklin series of readers, which act caused quite a little *civil war* through town, but if you will take pains to trace out the origin of the tumult, you will find that it originated with a class of people who hire the yarn spun for their childrens stockings, while they are engaged in "*spinning street yarn*" or those who spend more, every month for rum and tobacco, than it would cost to buy a full set of books for their children. Their influence will not harm me in the least. "I have no axe to grind;" *duty* is my *mo-
ve*.

In conclusion, I would urge the necessity of an increased appropriation of school money to meet the wants of our community.

The necessity for this increased appropriation should be met in a liberal spirit. People pay no taxes so willingly as those levied for schools. They should never open the purse grudgingly to pay such bills. The peculiar feature, the pride and glory of New England, is her common schools. These institutions form the mind of our people. Here is the source of our prosperity.

Here is the strong hand that moulds our New England character to its strict and virtuous form. Look at the district school house, the public academy, the village spire and you need search no further for the source of New England's prosperity. Let then every man exert himself to maintain these institutions. And let every body of men bear in mind, when discussing the appropriation for common schools, that if they reduce the amount of school money they must increase the alms-houses, hospitals and jails; that if they reduce the number of school teachers they must increase the constabulary force; and lastly, that if they reduce the appropriation of the school fund, they must increase the appropriation of the *military chest*.

All of which is respectfully submitted by

E. G. GUILFORD,
Superintending School Committee of Thornton, N. H.



