1871

1871 Bridgewater Annual Town Report

The Town of Bridgewater

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

OF THE

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING FEB. 29, 1872.

ALSO, THE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FOR 1871.

NINETEENTH SERIES.

BOSTON;

PRINTED BY SOLOM THORNTON, 17 PROVINCE STREET.

1872.
REPORT.

In accordance with the vote of the town, the Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor present their annual Report of receipts and expenditures of the Town of Bridgewater, for the year ending February 29, 1872.

At a meeting held March 13, 1871, the town passed the following votes:

Voted, To raise three thousand dollars for the repairing of roads. Two thousand dollars to be assessed in a separate tax upon the poll and estates in each district; the other one thousand dollars to be apportioned by the Selectmen on the Highway Districts where, in their judgment, it is most needed.

Voted, To raise six thousand dollars for Common Schools.

Voted, To raise two thousand dollars for High School.

Voted, To raise six hundred dollars for School Incidental.

Voted, To raise twelve hundred dollars for the Support of the Poor.

Voted, To raise two hundred dollars for repairing South Brook Bridge.

Voted, To raise fifteen hundred dollars for building Cross Street.

Voted, To raise three thousand dollars for Town Incidental Expenses.
RECAPITULATION.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Repairing of roads</td>
<td>$3,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Schools</td>
<td>6,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>2,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School incidentals</td>
<td>600 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support of the poor</td>
<td>1,200 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs on South Brook bridge</td>
<td>200 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Cross Street</td>
<td>1,500 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town incidentals</td>
<td>3,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$17,500 00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Voted,** To raise and assess into a tax upon the polls and estates of the town the sum of seventeen thousand and five hundred dollars.

Owing to a change in the law in relation to taxing Bank shares, the town, at a subsequent meeting held June 22, 1871, voted to rescind the vote passed March 13, 1871, whereby it was voted to raise and assess into a tax upon the polls and estates the sum of seventeen thousand and five hundred dollars, and passed the following votes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Voted, for repairing roads</td>
<td>$3,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Common Schools</td>
<td>6,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; High School</td>
<td>2,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; School incidentals</td>
<td>600 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Support of the poor</td>
<td>1,200 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Repairs on South Brook bridge</td>
<td>200 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; Town incidentals</td>
<td>3,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16,000 00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Voted,** To raise and assess into a tax upon the polls and estates of the town the sum of sixteen thousand dollars.

The Selectmen were instructed to use the tax received from the State Treasurer, accruing upon Bank shares, for building School-house No. 6, and Cross Street.

The Corporation tax received from the State Treasurer was offset, to meet the indebtedness of the town last March, the discount on taxes and interest on borrowed money for the current year.
HIGHWAYS.

Town grant to be assessed on polls and estates, $2,000 00
Overlay on the same, 61 48
Amount to be apportioned by the Selectmen, 1,000 00

Total amount for repairing roads, $3,061 48

The following is the Selectmen's apportionment of one thousand dollars upon the several districts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District No.</th>
<th>Amount on polls and estates</th>
<th>Expended</th>
<th>Overworked</th>
<th>Allowed by Auditors</th>
<th>Not allowed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1, East</td>
<td>$00 00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1, West</td>
<td>00 00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2, West</td>
<td>150 00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3, West</td>
<td>75 00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4, West</td>
<td>90 00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5, West</td>
<td>85 00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6, West</td>
<td>155 00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7, West</td>
<td>15 00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISTRICT No. 1, EAST.

JOSEPH E. CRANE, Surveyor.

Amount on polls and estates, $493 39
Expended, $508 61
Overworked, 15 22

$508 61

Allowed by Auditors, 10 00
Not allowed, 5 22

DISTRICT No. 1, WEST.

FRANCIS D. KING, Surveyor.

Amount on polls and estates, $271 47
Expended, $263 62
Unexpended, 7 85

$271 47
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Surveyor</th>
<th>Amount on polls and estates</th>
<th>Proportion of one thousand dollars</th>
<th>Expended</th>
<th>Overworked and allowed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>Isaac F. Alden</td>
<td>$96 27</td>
<td>$150 00</td>
<td>$251 04</td>
<td>4 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>Joseph C. Hooper</td>
<td>$38 40</td>
<td>$75 00</td>
<td>$117 38</td>
<td>3 98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 4</td>
<td>Calvin Holmes</td>
<td>$56 99</td>
<td>$90 00</td>
<td>$148 30</td>
<td>1 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 5</td>
<td>Franklin C. Weston</td>
<td>$62 52</td>
<td>$85 00</td>
<td>$150 46</td>
<td>2 94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: $246 27 + $113 40 + $146 99 + $147 52 = $753.18
DISTRICT No. 6.

Seth H. Leonard, Surveyor.

Amount on polls and estates, $72 31
Proportion of one thousand dollars, 155 00
**$227 31**

Expended, $235 11
Overworked and allowed, 7 80
**$235 11**

DISTRICT No. 7.

George W. Bates, Surveyor.

Amount on polls and estates, $50 62
Proportion of one thousand dollars, 15 00
**$65 62**

Expended, $61 62
Unexpended, 4 00
**$65 62**

DISTRICT No. 8.

Philip E. Hill, Surveyor.

Amount on polls and estates, $76 83
Proportion of one thousand dollars, 100 00
**$176 83**

Expended, $181 48
Overworked and allowed, 4 65
**$181 48**

DISTRICT No. 9.

Sumner Keith, 2d, Surveyor.

Amount on polls and estates, $551 98
Expended, $560 14
Overworked and allowed, 8 16
**$560 14**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT No. 10.</th>
<th>OLIVER C. WILBUR, Surveyor.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount on polls and estates,</td>
<td>$47 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of one thousand dollars,</td>
<td>150 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expended,</td>
<td>$197 69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overworked and allowed,</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$197 69</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT No. 11.</th>
<th>HOSEA WASHBURN, Surveyor.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount on polls and estates,</td>
<td>$100 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of one thousand dollars,</td>
<td>20 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expended,</td>
<td>$120 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overworked and allowed,</td>
<td>7 66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$127 66</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT No. 12.</th>
<th>WILLIAM LAZELL, Surveyor.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount on polls and estates,</td>
<td>$48 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of one thousand dollars,</td>
<td>80 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expended,</td>
<td>$128 59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overworked</td>
<td>11 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowed by Auditors,</td>
<td>$10 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$139 79</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DISTRICT No. 13.</th>
<th>ARETAS FOBES, Surveyor.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amount on polls and estates,</td>
<td>$94 82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of one thousand dollars,</td>
<td>80 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expended,</td>
<td>$174 82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexpended,</td>
<td>7 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$174 82</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Total amount expended for repairing roads, $3,109.83  
Amount raised and assessed for roads, 3,061.48  
Expended above amount raised, $48.35

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptions</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total amount expended for repairing roads</td>
<td>$3,109.83</td>
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<td>3,061.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expended above amount raised</td>
<td>$48.35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SCHOOLS, 1871.**

Number of School-houses, 14. Number of Scholars, 653.  
Number of Schools including High School, 18.  
Town grant for Common Schools, $6,000.00  
" " High School, 2,000.00  
" " School incidentals, 600.00  
Received from State, Mass. School Fund, 235.25  
Interest on Edson School Fund, 18.00  
Income of D. Dyer estate, bequest to School No. 8, 30.00  

Total amount for Schools, $8,883.25

**House No 1.**  
Paid L. B. Pillsbury, teaching School one year, $1,566.67  
Miss Martha Keith, assistant in High School, 236.11  
" Annie M. Wilde, " 222.22  
" Annie M. Wilde, teaching Grammar School 17 weeks, 187.00  
" Kate Mitchell, teaching Grammar School 19 weeks, 209.00  
" Lucie E. Curtis, teaching Intermediate School 36 weeks, 360.00  
" Eliza Richards, teaching Primary School 36 weeks, 324.00  
Fuel and preparing, 183.37  
Care of house and making fires, 114.67  

Total: $3,403.04
House No. 2.

Paid Miss Jessie F. Ford, teaching 23 weeks, $230.00
Philander D. Leonard, teaching 13 weeks, 195.00
Fuel and preparing, 25.60
Care of house and making fires, 11.15

House No. 3.

Paid Julia M. Tinkham, teaching 36 weeks, $360.00
Fuel and preparing, 52.88
Care of house and making fires, 13.50

House No. 4.

Paid Miss Lemira Benson, teaching 17 weeks, $119.00
" Annie C. E. Wentworth, teaching 19 weeks, 133.00
Fuel and preparing, 24.10
Care of house and making fires, 9.25

House No. 5.

Paid Miss Sybil Edson, teaching 12 weeks, $84.00
" Kate Mitchell, teaching 5 weeks, 40.00
" Lemira Benson, teaching 19 weeks, 152.00
Fuel and preparing, 23.98
Care of house and making fires, 10.50

House No. 6.

Paid Miss Flora C. Swift, teaching 36 weeks, $252.00
Fuel and preparing, 17.50
Care of house and making fires, 8.75

House No. 7.

Paid Miss Corinna Bates, teaching 36 weeks, $288.00
Fuel and preparing, 15.27
Care of house and making fires, 11.50

$314.77
House No. 8.
Paid Miss Eudora M. Allen, teaching 24 weeks, $192 00
Philander Leach, teaching 14 3-5 weeks, 180 00
Fuel and preparing, 27 81
Care of house and making fires, 12 60

$412 41

House No. 9.
Paid Miss Clara F. Leonard, teaching Grammar School 12 weeks, $182 00
Eli S. Sanderson, teaching Grammar School 12 weeks, 187 50
F. C. Robertson, teaching Grammar School 11 weeks, 165 00
Miss Carrie Sampson, teaching Primary School 36 weeks, 324 00
Fuel and preparing, 49 44
Care of house and making fires, 25 20

$883 14

House No. 10.
Paid Miss Kate Mitchell, teaching 10 weeks, $ 80 00
" Olivia W. Hayward, teaching 25 weeks, 187 00
Fuel and preparing, 13 65
Care of house and making fires 12 00

$292 65

House No. 11.
Paid Miss Ida George, teaching 24 weeks, $196 00
" Lucy W. Washburn, teaching 9 weeks, 72 00
Fuel and preparing, 19 02
Care of house and making fires, 8 70

$295 72

House No. 12.
(No bills presented.)
House No. 13.
Paid Miss Susie K. Pratt, teaching 33 weeks, $318 00
David H. Gibbs, teaching 3 weeks, 36 00
Fuel and preparing, 26 62
Care of house and making fires, 10 80

$391 42

House No. 14.
Paid H. K. Braley, teaching Grammar School 18 weeks, $247 50
Miss May L. Morrill, teaching Grammar School 18 weeks, 198 00
" Myra I. Thomas, teaching Primary School 36 weeks, 252 00
Fuel and preparing, 62 94
Care of house and making fires, 41 20

$801 64

Expended for schooling from March 1, 1871, to March 1, 1872, including High School, fuel and care of houses, $8,557 00
Expended for school incidentals, 660 10

$9,217 10

Appropriations, 8,883 25

Expended above appropriations, $333 85

Building New School—House No. 6.
Appropriation from the tax on bank shares, $2,000 00
Paid Seth H. Leonard for land, $25 00
Seth H. Leonard for building wall, 27 00
Ryder & Hayward, contractors to build house, 1,250 00
J. L. Ross, school furniture, 153 30
Francis Copeland, putting in foundation, 32 75

Amount carried forward, $1,488 05
Amount brought forward, $1,488.05
P. D. Leonard, painting second coat, 72.23
Lafayette Keith, labor putting down furniture, 15.80
E. F. Howard, masonry on foundation, 10.00
Old Colony and Newport Railroad, freight, 3.05
A. T. Jones & Co., printing posters, 1.25
H. G. Goodrich, painting blackboards, 14.40
Van R. Swift, grading about the house, 24.50
John H. Fairbanks, stove and fixtures, 19.08

$1,648.36

BUILDING CROSS STREET.

Appropriation from the tax on bank shares, $1,500.00
Paid Mrs. Lois Fobes, land and fencing, $300.00
Philo Hooper, " " 120.00
Heirs Apollos Hooper, " " 46.00
Joshua Padelford, " " 25.00
Town of Bridgewater, moving wall, 55.50
Emery Johnson, land and fencing, 7.00
Martin Howland, building road, 780.00

$1,333.50

RE-BUILDING SOUTH BROOK BRIDGE.

Appropriation, $200.00
Paid John J. Howard, stone mason, $46.50
Cephas Washburn, " 41.25
H. C. Lyon, " 20.62
H. C. Lyon, Jr., " 20.62
S. Leonard, team work and materials, 35.13
G. Conant, team work, 19.13
M. Swift, team work, 10.00

Amount carried forward, $193.25
Amount brought forward, $193.25
Van R. Swift, stones and team work, 18.00
Estate of Ira Conant, covering stones, 3.75
Estate of Samuel Leonard, " " 2.50
I. F. Alden, building stones, 15.00
Soranus Holmes, labor, 26.25
Wm. Cunningham, " " 4.00
P. Cunningham, " " 4.00

$266.75

CISTERNs.

Voted, That the Selectmen be instructed to act in concert with the Engineers of the Fire District, in causing a double cistern or reservoir to be constructed near the centre of the village, the expense of the same, over and above two hundred and fifty dollars which has been raised by subscription, to be paid by the town.

Paid Van R. Swift, labor digging, filling and removing surplus earth, $136.18
M. Hooper & Co., bricks for cisterns, 63.45
R. T. Brett, masonry, 40.00
T. B. Gould, " " 30.00
W. H. Faunce, " " 15.00
Wingate & Field, cement, 48.00
G. D. Goodrich, drain pipe, 37.50
H. Perkins, covers for cisterns, 15.10
O. C. & N. Railroad, freight on pipe and cement, 10.75
S. Keith, 2d, labor and use of horse and carriage, 24.10
Bates, Hyde & Co., lumber and labor, 8.98
J. H. Fairbanks, labor and lead repairing gutter on Hyland House, 1.75

$430.81
SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

Lazell, Perkins & Co., $100 00  Keith & Alden, $15 00
Artemas Hale, 50 00  Thomas W. Crocker, 10 00
Naum Stetson, 25 00  Josiah L. Basset, 10 00
Williams Latham, 20 00  Prophett & Fairbanks, 5 00
Joshua E. Crane, 15 00
Cement sold to O. C. & N. R. R. Corp’n, $13 38 $263 38

Amount paid by the town, $167 43

STATE AID FURNISHED TO SOLDIERS AND FAMILIES OF SOLDIERS FROM MARCH 1, 1871, TO MARCH 1, 1872.

Amos L. Dorr, $120 00  Mrs. Elizabeth Dunbar, $16 00
William Holmes, 72 00  " Sarah Simpson, 48 00
Capt. Oreb F. Mitchell, 72 00  " Mary Driscoll, 88 00
Sumner Keith, 27 00  " Abbie W. Lambert, 48 00
David Richmond, 20 00  " Benj. W. Price, 96 00
Mrs. Eliza Conant, 96 00  " Mary Dickerman, 8 00
  " Lucy White, 96 00  Martin M. Keith, G’d’n, 32 00
  " Eunice H. Wood, 96 00  Benj. Darling, 48 00
  " Paulina R. Benson, 64 00  Asa Millett, 24 00
  " Christiana Benson, 48 00
  " Elizabeth Sampson, 16 00 $1,135 00

MISCELLANEOUS BILLS.

Appropriation, $3,000 00
Paid S. Thornton, printing Town Reports for 1870, $135 00
   " printing check list, 20 00
   A. T. Jones & Co., printing rewards, posters, and road notices, 32 00

Amount carried forward, $187 00
Amount brought forward,
$187 00

Paid
P. D. Kingman, surveying roads and School lot No. 3, 6 50
J. S. Alden, painting and lettering guide boards, 5 50
G. A. Copeland, covering stones for culvert, 9 60
Hyland House, dinners and horse-keeping for C.C. 13 50
E. Wade, damage to horse and carriage at Paper Mill bridge, 25 00
A. Berry, cleaning out Town well, 3 00
W. Prophett, cushions and repairing chairs, 2 35
P. H. Wing, planks for steps School-House No.1, 1870,
repairing South Brook bridge, 7 40
S. Keith, 2d, covering stones for culvert, 6 50
C. K. Darling, Collector's book, 1 37
A. Brigham, making concrete walks on the common, 189 15
F. Copeland, building culvert on Broad St., near B. Braley's, 50 00
J. B. Rogers, repairing town pump, 75
B. F. Bennett & Co., paper for copying Town Records, 13 50
Miss Mary A. M. Dunbar, copying Town Records, 111 90
H. Kingman, indexing Town Records, 87 40
J. L. Fairbanks, binding Town Records, 5 00
S. Leonard, planking Pope's bridge, 23 84
planking Paper Mill bridge, 49 43
G. Conant, labor on Turnpike, 15 53
Hooper & Clark, plank for Pratt's bridge, 20 58
O. C. Wilbur, sleepers for Pratt's bridge, 25 00
F. D. King, boarding two horses three weeks (impounded), 21 00
burying one horse that died, 2 50
Braman Bros. painting Schoolhouse No. 3, 57 14
painting Schoolhouse No. 5, 25 37
Horace Ames, committee service 1869-70, 5 00
V. R. Swift, grading on School lot No. 1, 75 16

Amount carried forward, $1,048 97
Amount brought forward, $1,048.97

Paid

L. Holmes, postage, box and stationery, 4.49
Alden's Express, 5.40
Keith & Alden, stationery and blank books, 13.60
A. W. Bassett, removing snow (1870), 4.50
Seven hundred forty-four Woodchucks' heads, 186.00
Forty-three Hawk's heads, 10.75
Wm. P. Cutter, repairs on School-house No. 7 (1867), 1.00

$1,274.71

GRADING AND FENCING SCHOOL HOUSE LOT NO. 11.

Paid

H. Washburn, grading lot, $74.38
" putting up fence, and hardware, 26.84
H. W. Keith, lumber for fence, 50.48
A. Keith, capping for fence, 13.00
A. F. Keith, labor, 50

$165.20

REPAIRS ON ALMSHOUSE BUILDINGS.

Paid

M. E. Newcomb, new windows, $23.00
S. Washburn, paint stock, 66.75
Braman, Bros., painting Almshouse, 126.69

$216.44

TOWN OFFICERS.

Van R. Swift, Selectman, $133.75
Assessor, 98.75
Overseer of the Poor, 13.75
car fares and cash paid out, 17.20
use of horse and carriage, 19.25

Amount carried forward, $282.70
$282 70
Spencer Leonard, Selectman,
Assessor,
Overseer of the Poor,
use of horse and carriage,
cash paid out,
Isaac S. Wilbur, Selectman,
Assessor,
Overseer of the Poor,
use of horse and carriage,
Lewis Holmes, Town Clerk, recording births, deaths, and marriages,
recording militia roll,
recording locations of roads,
recording perambulation town lines,
copying for Town Report,
Philander Leach, School Committee,
A. E. Winship,
Lafayette Keith,
P. D. Leonard,
E. H. Keith,
F. D. King, horse and carriage for School Committee,
Van R. Swift, Treasurer and Collector,
Thomas Keith, Truant Officer,
F. D. King, Constable and Truant Officer,
Williams Latham, Auditor,
Samuel W. Bates,
Lloyd Keith,

$1,177 82

COMMITTEES.
Van R. Swift, roads, cisterns, School-houses Nos. 1 & 6, $102 50
Spencer Leonard,
Isaac Wilbur,
E. H. Keith, School-house No. 6,
L. Keith,

$172 50
ALMSHOUSE ACCOUNT.

Dr.

Inventory March 1, 1871, $1,187 69
Cash drawn from town treasury, 200 00
Cash on hand March 1, 1871, 19 22
Due from sundry persons March 1, 1871, 102 44
Superintendent's salary, 300 00
Interest on farm, 150 00
Interest on stock and furniture, 40 00

$1,999 35

Cr.

Inventory March 1, 1872, $1,140 67
Cash on hand March 1, 1872, 84 98
Due from sundry persons March 1, 1872, 95 64

$1,321 29

Cost of supporting the poor at the house, 676 06
Whole number of paupers during the year, 9
Average number during the year, 4 1-2
Present number at the house, 5
Average cost per week for support, $2 80

PAUPER EXPENSES OUT OF THE HOUSE.

Paid Support of Mrs. H. W. Washburn (Lunatic Hospital), $201 39
C. Hatch, board, clothing, and nursing, for Miss Eliza Palmer, 75 86
Fuel for Keron O'Neil, 11 56
Fuel and supplies for Mrs. James Jennings, 10 96
Coal for Mrs. William Keith, 21 00
Supplies for Mrs. Hannah Ashport, 6 94
Fuel and supplies for Mrs. Benjamin W. Price, 39 20

Amount carried forward, $366 91
**Amount brought forward,** $37,763 58

Received of O. C. & N. R. Road, for cement, 13 38
I. S. Wilbur, old bridge plank, 3 00
P. Leach, old windows, 1 50
J. B. Rogers, old stove and pipe, 1 50
James H. Hill, Superintendent Almshouse, 60 00
Town House Committee, 155 45
Thomas Hooper, refuse wood from
School lot No. 1, 3 00
J. A. Hyde, stones from School lot No. 1, 1 25

$38,002 66

**Cr.**

By paid State tax, $5,450 00
County tax, 2,738 70
Borrowed money, 6,317 00
Miscellaneous orders, 7,805 84
School orders, 9,217 10
Highway orders, 3,107 62
Almshouse orders, 1,238 96
P. Leach, on estate D. Dyer, 499 85
Cash in the Treasury, March 1, 1872, 1,349 10

$38,002 66

We also find the town owes the following sums:

Dyer School Fund, money received and notes can’d, $5,174 71
Fire District, money not drawn out, 11 02
Unsettled accounts, estimated, 396 00

$5,581 73

Available means of the Treasurer, for paying the above amount:

Cash on hand, March 1, 1872, $1,349 10
United States 5-20 bond (1862 issue), 560 00
State Treasurer, balance of Corporation tax, 2,052 85

*Amount carried forward,* $2,952 95
Amount brought forward, $2,952.95
State Aid, furnished 1871, 1,163.00
State Aid, from January 1, 1872, to March 1, 1872 (2 months), 160.50
A. Morse, note and interest (Dyer estate), 130.04
Van R. Swift, taxes uncollected, 1871, 397.93
1870, 29.12
Due from town of Plymouth for pauper, 84.04

Balance in favor of the town, March 1, 1872, $344.85
All of which is respectfully submitted.

VAN R. SWIFT, SPENCER LEONARD, ISAAC S. WILBUR, Selectmen of Bridgewater.

BRIDGEWATER, March 1, 1872.

COLLECTOR IN ACCOUNT WITH THE TREASURER.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1871</td>
<td>Dr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 29</td>
<td>To commitment of Town taxes</td>
<td>$16,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State tax</td>
<td>5,450.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>County tax</td>
<td>2,738.70</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Overlaying</td>
<td>883.53</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$25,072.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1872</td>
<td>Cr.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>By cash of Collector</td>
<td>$22,760.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>discount on taxes</td>
<td>1,813.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>abatement on taxes</td>
<td>100.78</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$24,674.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 1, 1872</td>
<td>Due from Collector</td>
<td>$397.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VAN R. SWIFT, Treasurer.
ASSESSORS' DEPARTMENT.

Amount of real estate assessed May 1, 1871, $1,324,500 00
Amount of personal estate assessed May 1, 1871, 518,529 00

Total, $1,843,029 00


Town grant (combined), $16,000 00
State tax, 5,450 00
County tax, 2,738 70
Overlayings, 883 53

Total amount assessed and committed, $25,072 23

All of which is respectfully submitted.

VAN R. SWIFT, Assessor
SPENCER LEONARD, of Bridgewater.
ISAAC S. WILBUR,

BRIDGEWATER, March 1, 1872.

ABSTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE TOWN HOUSE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 29, 1872.

Received for the use of Town Hall, $296 00
Paid for care of house, repairs, &c., 86 05
work on Common, 26 25
supplies, 28 25
Town Treasurer, balance, 155 45  $296 00

LAFAYETTE KEITH, Town House
JOSIAH L. BASSETT, Committee.
HOSEA KINGMAN,
### MARRIAGES IN 1871

**In which one or both of the parties resided in Bridgewater.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>NAME OF GROOM</th>
<th>RESIDENCE</th>
<th>NAME OF BRIDE</th>
<th>RESIDENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>Samuel H. Pittsley</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Sophia A. Callahan</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George D. Davis</td>
<td>Worcester</td>
<td>Leora B. Keith</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Garvey</td>
<td>W. Bridgewater</td>
<td>Maria Sanlen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 21</td>
<td>Timothy McCarty</td>
<td>Fall River</td>
<td>Mary O’Neill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 2</td>
<td>Richard O’Leary</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Catharine Callahan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wallace Leonard</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ella A. Perry</td>
<td>Hanover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James P. Lovell</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Catharine A. Hayward</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 23</td>
<td>Henry A. Dean</td>
<td>Lakeville</td>
<td>Mrs. Clarissa Bradford</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 21</td>
<td>Robert H. Sanders</td>
<td></td>
<td>Powena Pierce</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nathan A. W. Ransden</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Lina M. Holmes</td>
<td>Halifax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zeno H. Kelley</td>
<td>Raynham</td>
<td>Lucy A. Stetson</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charles E. Burke</td>
<td>N. Bridgewater</td>
<td>Clara E. Fobes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 4</td>
<td>Ivory Q. Leavitt</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Martha R. Reading</td>
<td>Jersey City, Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adna W. Alden</td>
<td>Taunton</td>
<td>Mary J. Smith</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>Isaac Clements</td>
<td>Sandwich</td>
<td>Mrs. Elizabeth Sampson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Philerander Robbins</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Hattie M. Osborne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lindol J. Sprague</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ada F. Pope</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 6</td>
<td>Nathan H. Eldridge</td>
<td>Taunton</td>
<td>Mary A. Healy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frank Forrest Stone</td>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>Imo. Louisa Cutler</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 4</td>
<td>Charles E. Holmes</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>H. Augusta Osborne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arthur Hudson</td>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>Mary A. Guthrie</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>James Carver</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Sarah C. Wentworth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frederick A. Barker</td>
<td>Charleston</td>
<td>Elizabeth L. Hooper</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 30</td>
<td>Charles H. Sumner</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Fannie West</td>
<td>E. Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
<td>Zeno Benson</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Sybil Edson</td>
<td>W. Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>Eugene Blake</td>
<td>N. Bridgewater</td>
<td>Julia E. Braley</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 25</td>
<td>Henry J. Clark</td>
<td>Weymouth</td>
<td>Susan M. Leach</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Frederick T. Holmes</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Mary H. Hammett</td>
<td>Acushnet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George H. Clark</td>
<td>Middleboro</td>
<td>Hannah C. Hayward</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Births registered in 1871... 68

- of Foreign parentage... 31
- of American... 37

**LEWIS HOLMES, Town Clerk.**
## DEATHS IN BRIDGEWATER DURING THE YEAR 1871.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>AGE</th>
<th>CAUSE OF DEATH</th>
<th>BIRTHPLACE</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 12</td>
<td>Isaac H. Snell</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Chronic Diarrhoea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 21</td>
<td>William S. Alden</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Fistsula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 24</td>
<td>Wellman D. Daniels</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Fits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 27</td>
<td>Thomas Maine</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Paralysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 31</td>
<td>Elisha G. Leach</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 13</td>
<td>Bridget E. O'Donnell</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Teething</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 19</td>
<td>Ira Conant</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 18</td>
<td>Elijah Bartlett</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Heart Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 27</td>
<td>Avery Lothrop</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Chronic Rheumatism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 27</td>
<td>Mary E. Looney</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Influenza</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13</td>
<td>Abram Washburn, Jr.</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 10</td>
<td>Mary Looney</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Childbirth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 23</td>
<td>Ellen Sweeney</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paralysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 26</td>
<td>Unite K. Leach</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Kidney Disease</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Daniel L. Hayward</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scarlet Fever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 21</td>
<td>Dennis Cannovan</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 22</td>
<td>Annie Devine</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 26</td>
<td>Mary E. O' Riley</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; 22</td>
<td>James Graham</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 24</td>
<td>George Harvey</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 27</td>
<td>Elizabeth Eagan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Teething</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>Joanna Lothrop</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 20</td>
<td>Asa E. Copeland</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Cholera Infantum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 3</td>
<td>Patrick Galagher</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 12</td>
<td>Annie S. Wing</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Scarlet Fever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 13</td>
<td>Irene Hyde</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Typhoid Fever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 26</td>
<td>John Williams</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; 26</td>
<td>John Collins</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>Place</td>
<td>Relationship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 6</td>
<td>Otto Kirmayer</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Teething</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Son of Francis H. and Elizabeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James McCourt</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Cholera Infantum</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Son of John and Bridget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>Charles Scanlan</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Apoplexy</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 8</td>
<td>Eugene A. Ames</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Typhoid Fever</td>
<td>Hardwick</td>
<td>Son of Sampson and Betsey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James Jennings</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Dropsy</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Son of Jacob and Jemima</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Benj. H. Johnson (col'd)</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>Consumption</td>
<td>Taunton</td>
<td>Wife of John A. Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kate M. Black</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>Cancer</td>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Son of Melzar and Eleanor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jackson Sprague</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Apoplexy</td>
<td>Bridgewater</td>
<td>Daughter of Obadiah and Deborah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sophia A. Morse</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Consumption</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Son of George and Mary Ann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Matthias Westermeyer</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 18</td>
<td>Asaiah Hathaway</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Paralysis</td>
<td>Berkley</td>
<td>Son of Barzilll and Priscilla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phineas Howes</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>Consumption</td>
<td>Dennis</td>
<td>Son of Christopher and Susanna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bondicca Leonard</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>Apoplexy</td>
<td>Middleboro'</td>
<td>Widow of Simon Leonard</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LEWIS HOLMES, Town Clerk.
[COPY OF WARRANT FOR THE ANNUAL MARCH MEETING, 1872.]

TOWN MEETING.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.  PLYMOUTH COUNTY, SS.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Bridgewater, in the County of Plymouth, GREETING.

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Bridgewater, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet in the Town House, in said town, on Monday, the eleventh day of March, instant, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act upon the following articles, viz.:

1. To choose a Moderator.
2. To hear and act upon the Report of the Auditor of Accounts.
3. To hear and act upon the Report of the School Committee.
4. To hear and act upon the Report of the Selectmen respecting the receipts and expenditures for the past year.
5. To hear and act upon the Report of the Overseers of the Poor.
7. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.
8. To determine the method of repairing highways for the year ensuing, and raise such sum as may be necessary therefor, to be paid in labor or otherwise.
9. To raise, appropriate, and vote into a Tax, to be assessed upon the Polls and Estates, according to law, such sums of money as may be thought necessary for the support of the Poor, support of Schools, repairs of Roads and Bridges, and for the incidental expenses of the town for the year ensuing.
10. To see if the town will accept the list of Jurors reported by the Selectmen.
11. To see if the town will authorize their Treasurer to borrow money, with the approval of the Selectmen, in anticipation of the taxes of the current year.
12. To see if the town will offer a bounty for the destruction of hawks, crows, and woodchucks.
13. To see if the town will take any action in relation to a new Safe.
14. To hear the Report of the Selectmen, on the petition of Southworth Harlow and others, in relation to laying a Town way from Union Street to Pleasant Street, and act thereon.
15. To hear the report of the Selectmen, on the petition of Joseph A. Hyde and others, in relation to laying a Town way from Plymouth Street to Broad Street, and act thereon.
16. To see what action the town will take in relation to building the roads laid out by the Hon. County Commissioners and Selectmen.
17. To see if the town will direct that School-house No. 5 be moved and new located at some point nearer the former location of said school.
18. To hear the Report of the Selectmen on the petition of Jacob Thompson and others, in relation to widening a portion of Summer Street, and act thereon.
19. To see if the Town will take any action in regard to investing any sum or sums of money received or that will be received from the estate of the late Daniel Dyer, in accordance with his will.
20. To see if the town will sell a portion of School-lot No. 3.
21. To see if the town will take any action in relation to lowering Paper Mill Hill. (By request.)

And you are directed to serve this warrant, according to the By-Laws of the town, seven days at least before the time appointed for said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting as aforesaid.

*Given under our hands and seals at Bridgewater, this second day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.*

VAN R. SWIFT, Selectmen of the
SPENCER LEONARD, Town of
I. SANFORD WILBUR, Bridgewater.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Schools</td>
<td>$5,000 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>1,800 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>School incidentals</td>
<td>500 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairing roads</td>
<td>3,000 00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Support of Poor</td>
<td>1,200 00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,500 00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We think the Corporation and Bank tax will be sufficient to meet the discount on taxes, miscellaneous expenses, building the roads laid out by the County Commissioners, interest on borrowed money, and repairing Child's bridge, providing there is no change in the law.
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER,
1871-2.
SCHOOL REPORT.

The annual report of a School Committee is not often considered of any very great practical value, and doubtless too often such documents have but little influence on either parents, pupils, or teachers. So long as the schools are not inefficient, so long as the teachers give tolerable satisfaction, and so long as the pupils seem to be learning something, it is generally conceded by the parents that it is the part of wisdom to "let well enough alone." But a School Committee, if they are earnest, interested, and honest, are compelled to take another view of the subject. The question with them is not whether the school is tolerable, but is it the very best school, under all circumstances, that we can by any means in our power make it? The question with them is not as to whether a teacher gives satisfaction, but does the teacher use all the best methods and means for the intellectual advancement and development of every separate pupil in his or her school? It most certainly is not in the province of the Committee to be satisfied with the apparent progress of the pupils, but it is their duty to know that they are progressing as fast as their abilities and the present system of schools will permit. Having thus defined, to a certain extent, a part of the duties of School Committees, as we understand them, we propose to review briefly the work of the past year and its results, in the hope that the suggestions contained in their report will, if they seem valuable, be received and adopted by the parents and the town.

The Committee consisted of the following named gentlemen at the commencement of the school year:—Messrs. Philander Leach, A. E. Winship, and Lafayette Keith. Mr. Leach resigning, Mr. E. H. Keith was chosen by the town to supply his place. Later in the year, Mr. Winship resigning, Miss Lucy A. Washburn...
was chosen by the Selectmen and remaining School Committee. She having resigned, Mr. Philander D. Leonard was chosen in the same way to fill the vacancy — the Committee now consisting of Messrs. E. H. Keith, Lafayette Keith, and Philander D. Leonard.

The law requires that each school shall be visited at the commencement, middle, and end of each term, by one or more of the Committee, and, so far as it has been possible, this law has been complied with.

The condition of the schools at the commencement of the present school year was, almost without exception, good; a very marked improvement having been made during the past two years, as one of your Committee has had ample opportunity to notice. Without referring to particular schools, we may say that the only marked faults were absence and tardiness, faults to be attributed more to the parents and teachers than to the pupils. The very great improvement in all the schools during the past year in this respect is remarkable.

During the past year, every teacher has been requested to send the Committee a written monthly report of the progress of each class in his or her school. The advantages derived from this system of monthly reports are certainly very valuable to the Committee. By them they are able to judge, and also to compare, the ability of pupils in the different schools, as the text-books are the same in all the schools. Not only this, it affords an exact record of the teachers' ability and success; still farther, the Committee are enabled to select from the lists and registers the names of those best fitted for the High and Grammar School examinations. The teachers' monthly meetings have been continued through the greater part of the year. These have proved so useful that it is proposed by the Committee not only to request but to require each and every teacher to attend them during the coming year. By means of these meetings, the general exercises in all the schools have been on the same subjects, and this method seems to have been entirely successful. During the spring term, the exercise was on "Government," and the Committee hazard the statement that the pupils know more about the names and duties of town, county, and state officers than most of the parents or citizens of the town. The subject of the general exercise dur-
ing the fall term was "Railroads." This plan was abandoned during the winter term, on account of the suspension of the teachers' meetings. At the close of the spring term, a severe written examination of all the schools, with the exception of the Primary and Intermediate departments, was made. By means of the monthly reports, the Committee were able to prepare lists of questions which all diligent pupils ought to have been able to answer. The results of this examination far surpassed the expectations, not only in the number of questions answered, but in the clearness and ability shown in the answers. No formal examination has or will be held until the close of the coming spring term. At that time, another severe written examination will be made of all the schools.

For the Committee to say that all the schools were satisfactory to themselves, or to the parents, during the past year, would hardly be the truth; but it can be said that a steady improvement has been made in each and every school.

During the present term, the Committee have had the unalloyed satisfaction of believing that any change of teachers, in any of the schools under their charge, would be a positive injury to the school. Without a single exception, the Committee can honestly say that all the teachers have earnestly and successfully performed their duties. The question is often asked, "what are the characteristics of a good teacher?" We propose to answer this question by stating some of the characteristics of a poor teacher. They are generally lazy, though not always; any person who has a constitutional dislike to work should never help disgrace the teachers' profession by attempting its duties.

Yet, one of the worst failures we ever knew, was made by a teacher who had no idea of laziness. She was as active as a whirlwind, and about as variable, consequently her school and pupils were generally in a "breeze." "I hear lips," was an ejaculation used at least twenty times during the day. Recitations and explanations were constantly interspersed with such expressions as "noise of feet," "no scratching" "humming" "buzzing." It is supposed that these were hints to the pupil that the above named acoustic phenomena ought not to exist in the school-room, although no annihilative results seem to follow
these odd incantations. A poor teacher is one who in any way frets, vexes, and continually annoys the pupils; who takes little or no interest in the scholars out of the school-room. A poor teacher generally teaches by rule, taking it for granted, that the rule must be correct, and admitting of no exceptions, never once for a moment dreaming, much less believing that the individual character of each pupil in the School, must be thoroughly understood in order to ensure success.

The recitations in a poor teacher's school are always from the book, and never out of it. The nearer the pupil repeats the exact language in the book, the better the recitation is considered. A great many rules exist, all made apparently for the purpose of being often infringed. Punishments are frequent and of no effect, either on the pupil or on the school generally, unless indeed on such occasions, a little pleasurable excitement and exhilaration is manifested in the school, utterly wanting at other times. It is with pleasure that the committee can say "we have no such person employed in our schools."

The teachers, all of them, doubtless have faults, but their excellences by far outnumber them.

One fault of our teachers, and indeed of all teachers, is that they do not know enough even of that which is taught in books. Another fault, happily one that is fast disappearing, is that after a pupil is taught anything, he does not really know it of his own knowledge and judgment. Huxley, in one of his lay sermons, has this to say, which we most heartily commend to teachers. "Tell him," he says, "that it is his duty to doubt until he is convinced, and compelled by his own judgment to believe, what is written in books; pursue this discipline carefully and conscientiously, and you may make sure that however scanty may be the measure of inclination you have poured into the boys mind, you have created an intellectual habit, of priceless value in practical life." Having said this much in regard to the faults of teachers, it may be expected that as much may be said of what constitutes a good teacher. If the parents have visited any school, in any part of the town during the past term, there will be no occasion for them to read a description of a good teacher, in order to gain any information on that subject. We have one or two facts to
offer for the consideration of parents. The registers show that the schools oftenest visited by them, are by far the best we have." The registers do not show, except perhaps indirectly, that the teachers as well as pupils are more interested, nor do they show at all what is better than all else, the happy understanding existing between parents, pupil, and teacher.

When one hires another to perform any kind of manual labor, as for instance sawing wood, hoeing, house-cleaning, or washing, a certain amount of supervision is generally considered economical and expedient. Is it not worth while to take as much pains to see how the teachers whom you employ do their work? If parents take no interest in the school the teacher will probably follow their example, and is hardly to be blamed for so doing. A poor school, under these circumstances, is almost always the result. The High School, during the past year has lost the services of an esteemed and excellent teacher. Mr. Pillsbury still remains Principle of the School, and the attendance has been quite as large during the greater part of the year, as the school-room could conveniently accommodate. Some new apparatus and chemical supplies have been provided during the year, from the appropriation for incidentals. Still, more is urgently required as many of the principles that are now exciting the very greatest interest in the scientific world, cannot even be explained to the pupils without it. We urgently recommend that an appropriation be made for this purpose; an amount not exceeding three, or even two hundred dollars can be most advantageously expended. The grade of scholarship in this school has continually risen, and will continue to, as the excellence of the Grammar schools during the past year will furnish better and more advanced pupils than have heretofore entered the High School. This school will never probably show so finely as most other High Schools, on account of so many pupils leaving it before finishing the prescribed course to attend the Normal School. Would it not be better on all accounts, for the pupil to finish the course at the High School, before attending the Normal School? There is no reason, why a scholar may not learn as much, and as well, and pursue his or her studies as far as the High School, as at the Normal School, and with the single exception of the tech-
technical knowledge required for the profession of teaching, the edu-
cation would be of as much practical value. There are two
studies that ought to be recognized in this School: the one,
Drawing "free hand" and "mechanical," the other Music.
The pupils having supplied themselves with a piano, at an ex-
traordinary expense, it only requires a small outlay for an effi-
cient teacher to meet the scholars once or twice in the week,
and give them real solid instruction in an art which will prove
itself, not only a help and pleasure to them in after life, but an
ever-living and refining influence. The time has come when a
knowledge of "mechanical drawing" is considered more indis-
pensible than a knowledge of Geometry or Algebra. No boy
learning a carpenter's, machinist's, foundryman's, or blacksmith's
trade, can afford to be without this most useful accomplishment.
Without it he can never be anything more than an ordinary
workman; with it, and with moderate ability, and good habits
he may expect to reach the place of contractor, agent, superin-
tendent, or foreman. We therefore recommend that drawing and
music be taught in the High School. At the present time, when
there is so great an interest manifested in the business welfare
of the town, may our citizens not forget that Bridgewater is
fast becoming a sort of educational centre.

Pupils from almost all parts of the State may be found in the
Academy and Normal Schools, and it is undoubtedly true that
these most excellent schools exert a beneficial influence on all the
other schools in the town. In our desire to promote immigration,
let us not forget that good schools are almost indispensable.

Nothing further remains to add to this report, except to say
that the Committee have labored to systematize the school busi-
ness, using printed forms in every case where it could be done,
and also requesting all teachers to make all communications in
writing. It is proposed during the coming year to make this
request a requirement.

The Committee have had occasion to call on the truant officer
for services several times during the past year, and we desire to
express our thanks for the ready co-operation he has at all times
given in carrying out the Committee's plans for the suppression
of the schoolboy crimes of truancy and tardiness. We desire,
also, to thank the teachers for the courteous and ready consideration given to all suggestions made to them by the Committee; and in conclusion we would say that the best wish we have for our successors and for the town is, that they may always have for their teachers ladies and gentlemen as faithful, competent, and earnest as those whose engagements expire with the present term.

E. H. KEITH,  
LAFAYETTE KEITH,  
P. D. LEONARD,  

FINANCIAL REPORT.

The town appropriated for schools, $8,000 00
Received from State fund, 235 25
“ " Dyer 30 00
“ " Edson 18 00

$8,283 25

Paid Teachers' wages, $9,725 00
For fuel, 513 99
Care of School-room and fires, 282 67

$8,521 66

Excess of appropriations, 238 41
Town appropriations for incidentals, $600 00

EXPENDED.

For High School, $149 35| For School No. 8, $19 81
“ School No. 1, 53 55" " No. 9, 20 89
“ " No. 2, 29 25 " " No. 10, 2 51
“ " No. 3, 22 32 " " No. 11, 4 53
“ " No. 4, 24 91 " " No. 12, 29 90
“ " No. 5, 24 25 " " No. 13, 31 15
“ " No. 6, 17 68 " " No. 14, 38 23
“ " No. 7, 39 38

Printing, Stationery, Express, &c., 32 57

$539 88

Balance unexpended, $60 12
LIST OF TEACHERS.

High School. — Principal, L. B. Pillsbury. Assistant, Miss Martha Keith, Spring term. Miss Annie M. Wilde, Fall and Winter terms.

No. 1. — Grammar Department, Miss Annie M. Wilde.
  Spring term,
  Miss Kate Mitchell, Fall and Winter terms.
  Intermediate Department, Miss Lucie E. Curtis.
  Primary “ Miss Eliza Richards.

No. 2. — Spring and Summer terms, Jessie F. Ford.
  Winter term, Philanda D. Leonard.

No. 3. — Miss Julia M. Tinkham.

No. 4. — Spring term, Miss Lemira Benson.
  Fall and Winter term, Miss Annie C. E. Wentworth.

No. 5. — Spring term, Sybil Edson.
  Fall and Winter term, Lemira Benson.

No. 6. — Miss Flora C. Swift.

No. 7. — Miss Corina Bates.

No. 8. — Spring and Fall Term, Eudora M. Allen.
  Winter term, Philander Leach.

  Fall term, Eli Sanderson.
  Winter term, Fred C. Robertson.
  Primary Department, Carrie Sampson.

No. 10. — Spring term, Miss Kate Mitchell.
  Fall and Winter term, Miss Olivia C. Hayward.

No. 11. — Spring term, Miss Ida George.
  Winter term, Miss Lucy Washburn.

No. 13. — Susie K. Pratt.

  Fall and Winter terms, Miss May L. Morrill.
  Primary, Myra I. Thomas.
ROLL OF HONOR.

Names of those scholars who have been neither absent nor tardy. The figures denote the number of terms:

HIGH SCHOOL.

Florence L. Crocker, 3; Clara L. Leonard, 3; Albert O. Hull, 2; Wallace C. Boyden, 2; Bessie H. Dunphe, 2; Viola F. Thomas, 1; Sarah C. Wilbar, 1; Sallie C. Washburn, 1; Chas. S. Millett, 1; Chas. O. Riley, 1; Chas. A. Richmond, 2; Mary A. Cleare, 2; James F. Guthrie, 2; Nellie F. Cleare, 1; Lucia M. Dunbar, 1; Mary A. Wadsworth, 2; Willie H. Alden, 2; Lizzie Dolan, 1; Marcia Washburn, 1.

No. 1 — Grammar.

Minnie Swift, 2; Alice L. Keith, 1; Tillie J. Parker, 2; Emma B. Lowe, 1.

No. 1 — Intermediate.

Mary Keene, 3; Delia Armstrong, 1; Nathan Wilbar, 3; Thomas Daniher, 1; Alton Conant, 1; Horace Irish, 1; Helen Thatcher, 1; Annie Leonard, 1; Chesman Keene, 2; Annie Lowe, 1; Dora Wadsworth, 1; Charlie Brown, 1; George Ferguson, 1; Abbie Duckworth, 1; Mattie Duckworth, 2; Henry Bowman, 1.

No. 1 — Primary.

Nettie Irish, 3; Charlie Price, 1; Howard Price, 1; John Daniher, 2; Minnie Duckworth, 1.

No 2 — Primary.

Lottie Copeland, 1; Herbert Wing, 1; Gaston Bradbury, 1; Hattie Wing, 1; Alice Harden, 1; Frank Washburn, 2; Isaac Alden, 1; Sumner Alden, 1; Ella Wing, 1; Mary Harden, 1.
No. 3 — Primary.

Lizzie Holmes, 3; Thomas Lynch, 2; Johnnie Flynn, 1; Terry Lynch, 1; Nattie Bouldry, 1; William Jackson, 1; James Flynn, 1; Katie Lynch, 1; Eugene Dunphie, 1.

No. 4 — Primary.

Alice W. Trask, 2; Sarah J. Mitchell, 1; John H. Witherby, 1; Charles A. McFarland, 2; Charles H. Burtch, 1.

No. 5 — Primary.

Lizzie M. Leonard, 2; H. Willie Mitchell, 2; Ellen H. Benson, 2; Austin M. Mitchell, 1.

No. 6 — Primary.

Ella Carver, Minnie Barney.

No. 7 — Primary.

Lizzie B. Ames, 3; Louis H. Dyke, 3; Lena H. Wilber, 2; William Copeland, 2; Arthur Dyke, 3; William H. Dunbar, 3; George C. Ames, 2; George E. Copeland, 2; Lyman J. Wilber, 2; Helen F. Copeland, 1; Bethia O. Wilber, 1; James H. Leach, 1; Elma O. Wilber, 1; Mary W. Wentworth 2; Susan L. Copeland, 1; Philo Leach, 1; Lowell F. Wentworth, 1.

No. 8.

S. Breese Smith, 2; Charlie Smith, 1; Solon Smith, 1.

No. 9 — Grammar.

Laverance Cleare, 1; E. H. Leavitt, 1; G. F. Witherell, 1; John Coll, 1; Frank Perkins, 1.

No. 9 — Primary.

Nellie K. Drake, 1; James Cleare, 2; Richard Galvin, 1; Clara L. Waterman, 3; Willie B. Sprague, 3; Arthur D. Ferguson, 1.

No. 10.

Laura M. Wilbar, 3; also for six successive years.

No. 11.

Sallie C. Washburn, 1; Mary J. Costello, 2; Angie Fobes, 1; Frank Conant, 1; Lucia F. Keith, 1; Annie Keith, 2; Katie
Keith, 1; John H. Washburn, 1; Frank M. Washburn, 1; Jesse A. Case, 1.

No. 13.

Marcus A. Pierce, 3; Freddie Wilbar, 1; Cornelius Murray, 2; Susie Bassett, 1; Alice Cagney, 1; Mary Stevenson, 1; Katie Cagney, 1; John Murray, 1; John Whalon, 1; Mary Cagney, 3; Herbert Eldredge, 1; Nellie Cummings, 2; Abbie Frawley, 2; Maggie Stevenson, 2; Johnnie Lynch, 1; Lizzie Murray, 1; John Cagney, 1.

No. 14—Grammar.

Christina Casey, Ellen Casey, Daniel Kelleher.

No. 14—Primary.

Matthew Devine, 3; John Tansey, 3; Minnie Gorman, 2; Wm. Canovan, 2; Maggie O'Reiley, 2; Daniel Kelleher, 1; Wm. Kelley, 1; Thomas Casey, 1; John Murphy, 1; Anna Murphy, 1; Patrick Kelleher, 2; Thomas Gorman, 2; Nellie Devine, 2; Kate Doyle, 2; Nellie Canovan, 2; Wm. O'Donnell, 1; Edward Whalon, 1; James Brandly, 1; Kate Tansey.
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Number of Children, May 1, 1871, between five and fifteen years of age, 653.

" " May 1, 1870, " " " " " " 676.