

# REPORTS

*Of the Selectmen and Supervisor of Schools for the Town  
of Albion, for the year ending March 1, 1877.*

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## SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The undersigned, Selectmen of the Town of Albion, submit the following Report.

### *Present Financial Condition.*

#### *Resources.*

In hands of Francis Shorey, Col. & Treas.	\$1335.35
“ “ Otis Meader, former Col.	130.18
Due from Town of So. Thomaston	17.45
“ “ City of Ellsworth.	20.00
	<hr/> \$1502.98

#### *Liabilities.*

Due the several School Districts including the Mill Tax for 1877,	\$525.74
“ Unpaid County Tax,	419.11
“ For support of James Austin,	65 00
“ The Insane Hospital,	32.50
“ Outstanding Orders,	20.00 \$1062.35
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Balance in favor of Town,	\$440.63

### *Detailed Report of Financial Transactions of the Town.*

#### RECEIPTS.

From Otis Meader, former Col. & Treas.	\$2109.26
Tax bills for 1876	6327.69
Bank School Fund & Mill Tax.	675.18
Interest on State Bonds,	120.00
	<hr/> \$9232.13

## EXPENDITURES.

Paid State Tax,	\$1416 20
County Tax, in part,	300 00
Support of Schools.	1877.46
Support of Poor,	363.77
Labor on Highway, Highway Tax,	2673 39
For building Pratt Bridge,	200 00
Printing Town Reports for 1875,	12.00
Plank for Bridge,	13.90
Repairing Johnson Bridge,	51.30
Fencing Burying Grounds,	34.08
Repairing Bridges near Fowler's Mill,	20.00
Railing for Bridges and Highways,	9 75
Repairs on P. Dock Bridge.	1.25
Secretary for Town Clerk's Office,	16.00
Otis Meader, error in account,	5.00
Abatement of highway taxes in bills of 1875.	149.65
" money taxes in bills of 1875 & 6.	20.00
Blank Books & Stationery.	10 75
Cash expenses of Selectmen,	14.25
F. Shorey, for paying State Pensions	2.50
Town officers' bills,	381.17
Outstanding orders of last year,	204.18
In hands of Otis Meader, former Col.	130 18
In hands of F. Shorey, Col. & Treas.	1325.35
	<hr/> \$9232.13

*Town Officers' Bills.*

M. Rollins, First Selectman.	\$92.14
Same for horse and carriage out of town.	9.75
A. H. Hammond, Second Selectman,	55 50
G. B. Pray, Third do.	38.25
M. B. Hammond, Supervisor of Schools,	59.75
Francis Shorey, Collector and Treasurer.	114.78
W. R. Skillin, Town Clerk.	10 00
R. J. Whittaker, Auditor,	1.00
	<hr/> \$381.17

*Support of Poor, from March 1, 1876, to March 1, 1877.*

## EXPENDITURES ON TOWN FARM.

Pd. Tho. Clark, balance of salary for 1875,	\$38 45
J. J. Roberts salary to Mar. 8th. 1877.	320.83
Libby & Drake, store bill,	90.35
J. J. Roberts, " "	74.93
I. S. Bangs, " "	36.00
E. R. Hunt, " "	34.40
Thompson & Marriner,	18.17

R. H. Baker, store bill,	8.08
S. Halmers, " "	4.00
C. B. Wellington, "	5.73
3 bbls Flour,	26.00
F. Judkins, blacksmithing,	15.67
Horse Rake,	25.00
One 3-year old Steer,	35.00
2 Pigs,	4.50
Grass Seed,	9.00
2 Pumps,	12.25
Iron Sink,	3.75
Brick Furnace,	14.65
Seed Barley,	5.15
Seed Potatoes,	3.90
Use of Bull,	.75
Dr. Wilson, medical services,	7.00
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	\$793.51

## RECEIPTS FROM FARM.

One pair of Oxen,	\$142.00
One pair of 3-year old Steers,	85.00
One 3-year old Steer,	42.00
2 Calves,	5.50
26 Sheep and Lambs,	65.00
100½ lbs. of Wool,	29.14
56 lbs of Pork,	6.79
Poultry, \$3.13; Eggs, \$1.86,	4.99
39½ lbs Butter,	9.14
2 Pelts, \$1.15; 2 bushels beans, \$3.75,	4.90
14½ bushels Oats,	7.90
136 skeins Yarn,	29.95
85 lbs Paper Rags,	1.59
66 gallons Cider,	13.20
70 bushels Potatoes,	58.72
128 lbs. Dried Apple,	11.52
18 Citrons,	.90
Rent of Town Pasture,	15.00
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	\$533.24
Expense of Poor on Town Farm,	\$260.27

## SUPPORT OF POOR OUT OF POOR HOUSE.

Paid for James Austin,	\$70.00
" Mrs Jos Nado,	5.39
" Job Richards,	3.50
" Nancy Marden,	10.00
" Stillman Robinson and family,	17.45
" Sarah A. & Georgianna Mosely,	20.00

Insane Hospital for Job Richards, not paid,	25.00	
“ “ Hattie Spencer “ “	7.50	
Town of Harmony for B. Higgins “ “	20.00	
“ Vassalboro' for J. Austin “ “	65.00	
		<u>\$248.84</u>
Due of the above, from the Towns of So. Thomaston & Ellsworth,		37.45
		<u>\$206.39</u>
Leaving cost of Poor out of Poor House,		
		<u>466.66</u>
Total expense of Poor.		

**INVENTORY OF STOCK & PROVISION ON TOWN FARM.**

4 three-year old Steers, \$125; 3 cows, \$70;	\$195.00
17 sheep \$68; 2 swine, \$10; 11 hens, \$3;	83.00
90 bush. of Oats \$45; 6 bush. Barley, \$4;	49.00
2 bush Beans, \$4; 1½ bush. Peas \$2;	6.00
75 bush. Potatoes, \$56.25; 250 lbs Pork \$31.25,	87.50
40lbs Lard, \$6 00; 21 lbs Candles, \$3.15;	9.15
30 lbs Dried Apple, \$2.40; 12 lbs butter, \$3 00;	5.40
1½ bbl Flour, \$10; 1 bbl meal \$2.40;	12.40
2bbl soap, \$7; 8 gal vinegar \$2; 1 lb tea 50c;	9.50
3lbs coffee, 84cts; 2 lb sugar, 25cts;	1.09
3lbs soda 25cts; 13 tons hay, \$117;	117.25
	<u>\$575.29</u>

There is in the hands of the Treasurer State Bonds to the amount of \$2000.

The Town has no Debt, no suit in Law, and no unsettled claim.

MARK ROLLINS, } Selectmen  
 A. H. HAMMOND, } of  
 GEO. B. PRAY. } Albion.

I have examined the Selectmen's bills and allowed them as herein reported.

R. J. WHITAKER, Auditor.

# REPORT

OF THE

## SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

March 1, 1877.

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**DISTRICT No. 2.**—O. C. Hamlin, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Addie A. Stevens, of Albion. Miss Stevens is an old and successful teacher, and good progress was made this term. At each visit to this school we had the pleasure of listening to exercises in singing by the scholars—exercises we should be glad to see incorporated into every school in town.

Winter term—by Gustavus J. Nelson, of China, also an old teacher. At our first visit we found both teacher and scholars *alive* and working in harmony, with every indication of a profitable term. At our last visit we found that excellent progress had been made. The scholars in the examination showed that they understood thoroughly what they had been over this term. Where the parents take an interest in their children's education, as they do in this district, we are sure to find a live and profitable school.

**DIST. No. 3.**—Edward Rollins, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Carrie D. Webb, of Albion. This was Miss Webb's first attempt at teaching. Good order and prompt recitations characterized this school. Teacher and scholars worked together with good success.

Winter term—by same teacher, with success as in summer.

**DIST. No. 4.**—Ripley Chalmers, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Florence L. Fowler, of Unity. Miss Fowler is a young teacher, and met with fair success. Discipline not hardly strict enough.

Winter term—by Miss Ida M. Holmes, of Freedom. Miss Holmes labored hard for the advancement of her scholars, and, consequently, the improvement was good.

**DIST. No. 5.**—Augustus Andrews, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Caddie O. Fall, of Albion. This teacher gave good satisfaction. The school was orderly and studious, and at our last visit we found that good improvement had been made.

Winter term—by Miss N. F. Danforth, of Freedom. At the commencement of this school we found everything passing along smoothly, and, as we thought, with a good degree of interest. At our visit at the close of the school we found but few scholars present, the interest of the school gone, and no improvement to report.

**Distr. No. 6.**—Geo. H. Lincoln, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Martha A. Barker, of Albion. At the commencement we found the scholars interested. At our last visit we found but few scholars present, but those showed good improvement. We presume we shall see Miss B. no more in the school room, for having become Mrs. C. we conclude she has renounced her vocation.

No winter term.

**Distr. No. 8.**—R. L. Baker, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Emma L. Spencer, of Albion, a teacher with an established reputation. We found upward of fifty scholars in this school; too many for one teacher to have charge of. At the close of this school we found that the scholars understood thoroughly the ground that had been passed over this term. Miss Spencer's motto is short and thorough lessons. Order, for so large a school, good.

Winter term—by same teacher, assisted by Miss Olive A. Gould, of Albion. At our last visit, two weeks before the close of this school, we were pleased with the progress made. This school ranks No. 1. In number of scholars and in scholarship, too, we think it ranks first in town.

**Distr. No. 9.**—Erastus Shorey, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Emma F. Webb, of Albion, also a beginner. She maintained good order, and the closing examination was creditable. We understand, though, that she did not give universal satisfaction.

Winter term—by Miss Caddie O. Fall. This was Miss Fall's "third term" in this district. She is a teacher who understands her duty, and who is a fine disciplinarian. Schools under her control show marked improvement.

**Distr. No. 10.**—Geo. A. Rider, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Emma Dean, of Freedom. Not being notified of the close of this school it was not visited the second time. We understand she gave good satisfaction.

Winter term—by Eugene S. Rackliff, of Albion. At the close of the school we found commendable improvement. School a little noisy. A little more energy on the part of the teacher would have advanced his scholars more.

**Distr. No. 11.**—Chas. L. Foss, Agent. Summer term—commenced by Miss Caro M. Webb, of Albion, who taught five weeks and was obliged by sickness to resign. Miss Carrie D. Webb took charge and finished the school. Through a neglect of the Agent in notifying, this school was not visited at the close, consequently we cannot report the progress.

Winter term—by Charles Hodges, of Winstow. A teacher of twenty-eight years active experience in the school room, who knows his duty and knowing dare fulfil. Good order and good improvement crowned his labors.

**Distr. No. 12.**—P. T. Bessey, Agent. Spring term—by Miss Alice M. Glidden, of Freedom, who gave good satisfaction.

Summer term—by Miss Katie S. Stinson, of Albion. We fear Miss Stinson did not have the co-operation of all the parents in this district. Her school was orderly, and at the close, good improvement was manifest.

Winter term—by Miss Alice M. Glidden. Not having visited this school at the close, we cannot *personally* report the improvement; but from the parents, we hear she gave good satisfaction.

**Distr. No. 13.**—Alvin Smiley, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Sadie E. Gould, of Albion, who gave good satisfaction in this her first attempt at teaching.

Winter term—by Miss Abbie F. Rowe, of Palermo. Miss Rowe is a good scholar and loves her work. We were gratified with the progress made in this school. In behalf of the scholars, we would say, they were studious and obedient to their teacher, and tried their best to see how much they could learn.

**Distr. No. 14.**—E. C. Clark, Agent. Summer term—by Miss Ada F. Stratton, of Albion. Being very young, Miss Stratton failed in order, consequently the school was unprofitable.

Winter term—by Miss Fannie L. Brackett, of Dexter. Miss Brackett made no mistake when she adopted teaching as a vocation. She loves her work and improves every opportunity to advance her scholars. The progress made in this school was excellent, showing that the scholars appreciated the labors of their teacher.

In submitting this, our report, we have endeavored to give a brief and impartial report of each term of school as appeared to us from our several visits, and from the parents. That we may have erred, is possible, for we do not believe a person can tell, in every case, the success of a school by a brief visit at the commencement and another at the close.

Before closing we wish to call your attention to a few suggestions for the good of our schools.

**TO SCHOOL AGENTS.** It is in your power in a great measure to have good school or a poor one. You have the hiring of the teacher, and as is the teacher so is the school. It has been the practice of some agents to hire the person who would teach for the least pay, without regard to the teacher's ability. Particularly has this been so in small districts, where the aim has been to have as long a school as possible without regard to the quality. As soon as you are chosen look around and secure a teacher who has an established reputation, and pay them. Good teachers command good pay, while poor ones will teach for most any price. A good teacher is cheap at whatever price you pay, but a poor one is dear at any price.

*Do not hire children to teach children.* They may give fair satisfaction in some cases; but in a majority, an unprofitable school will be the result.

**SCHOOL FURNITURE AND APPLIANCES.** Our school rooms are sadly deficient in furniture. Nearly half of the school houses in town have not a single chair to offer to a visitor. Each house should be furnished with two chairs; also, a table, with lock and key for teacher. But two school rooms are furnished with suitable blackboards, though all have an apology for one. We think this to be a fault of Agents, and we sincerely hope before our summer schools commence every room will have a suitable board. A copy of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary upon each teacher's desk would be a valuable acquisition. We would recommend that the large districts procure sets of wall maps, reference books, and mathematical blocks.

**SCHOOL HOUSES.** Several of our school houses look like relics of the dark ages. A little improvement has been made the past year. The house in No. 13, has been repaired and is now quite comfortable. In No. 6, a new house is to be erected this spring. The house in

No. 5, does not speak well for a district ranking second in ~~the~~ in number of scholars. We advise them to take measures for ~~erecting a~~ a new house the coming season. We have found the best scholars ~~in~~ in learning, and best in order, in those districts having the best ~~houses~~ es. Why is this so?

**SUPERVISION.** Besides supervision by the Supervisor or Committee, we need it also by the parents. We advise parents to visit their schools often, *and see for themselves* the progress the scholars are making. By their occasional presence in the school room, they can exert an influence that will be highly beneficial and encouraging to both teacher and pupils. They should lend no ear to rumor, but go and see for themselves. By visiting the school, parents acquire a right to criticise the teacher and the school; but until they do visit it, they should neither condemn the school nor criticise the teacher.

Parents can also improve our schools very much by seeing that their scholars are at school every day, unless detained by sickness, and having them there in season. One great bane to our schools is tardiness and absenteeism. The scholar who is allowed to be out a day here and a day there soon loses his interest in the school, and causes an injury also to his class.

**DISTRICT No. 8.** This district has now seventy-five scholars. In the summer there were fifty registered, and an average attendance of forty-three. This winter about sixty were registered, and have been under the charge of two teachers in one room. Should the Centre District not be re-established at the coming town meeting, we would recommend the members of this district to take such steps as may be necessary and establish a graded school. It is not possible for two teachers to work in one room, and procure near as good results as could be obtained from a graded school.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

M. B. HAMMOND,

Supervisor of Schools, Town of Albion.