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Annual Report of the Selectmen of the Town of Orrington For the Year 1866-1867

Town of Orrington, Maine

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REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN
OF THE
TOWN OF ORRINGTON,
For the Year 1866-'67.

Nathan D. Phillips, Treasurer, in account with the Town
of Orrington.

| | <i>Dr.</i> |
|--|------------|
| To balance due the town, last settlement, | \$4,939,61 |
| “ Assessment committed to Collector, | 2,381,50 |
| “ Cash of J. Mayo, part pay for Poor House, | 107,00 |
| “ Note and Interest paid by Stubbs & Wheelden, | 114,58 |
| “ Stubbs & Wheelden’s note, | 143,00 |
| “ Mayo & Gilley’s notes for Poor House, | 350,00 |
| “ Received from State for State aid 1865, | 1,408,38 |
| “ Cash received from sale of Fish Privileges, | 21,25 |
| “ Road money not expended by Selectmen, | 35,86 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$9,501,18 |

Cr.

| | |
|--|------------|
| By paid for support of Poor, | 947,89 |
| “ pay of Town Officers, | 337,60 |
| “ paid for State Aid, | 47,88 |
| “ Abatements made, | 103,24 |
| “ Interest on School fund, | 69,42 |
| “ Bounty paid Heirs of Emory O. Giles, | 50,00 |
| “ paid J. D. Baker expenses to Augusta after Z. Thayer, | 14,10 |
| “ “ Wm. Shaw to give up the Poor House, | 25,00 |
| “ “ Expenses for remonstrating against division of the town, | 140,95 |
| “ “ John A. Peters for services against division of the town, | 60,00 |
| “ “ for fencing Grave Yard at South Orrington, | 82,59 |
| “ “ on Loans, | 5,696,75 |
| “ “ for State Pensions, | 312,00 |
| “ “ Miscellaneous expenses, | 74,51 |
| “ “ A. Rogers for Plank for Bridges, | 54,41 |
| “ “ for labor on road, | 9,03 |
| “ Mayo & Gilley's notes for Poor House, | 350,50 |
| “ Stubbs & Wheelden's note, | 143,00 |
| “ Uncollected Non-Resident tax, 1866, | 118,20 |
| “ “ “ “ 1865, | 45,94 |
| “ J. Wyman Phillips' note, | 288,89 |
| “ Cash in Treasury, | 529,28 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$9,501,18 |

Liabilities of the Town.

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Outstanding Notes, | \$8,394,00 |
| Deduct Assets, | 1,835,19 |
| | <hr/> |
| Towns indebtteness, | \$6,558,81 |

ASSETS.

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Cash in Treasury, | \$529,28 |
| Uncollected non-resident tax 1866, | 118,20 |
| “ “ “ “ 1865, | 45,94 |
| J. Wyman Phillips' note, | 288,89 |
| Stubbs & Wheelden's note, | 143,00 |
| Mayo & Gilley's notes, | 350,00 |
| Due from State for State aid, | 47,88 |
| “ “ “ “ Pensions paid, | 312,00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1,835,19 |

Pay of Town Officers.

| | |
|---|----------|
| George E. Chapin, S. S. Committee, | \$52,25 |
| Soloman Bolton, | 30,10 |
| J. Wyman Phillips, | 12,00 |
| 1865, | |
| H. J. Nickerson, Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer, | 54,25 |
| J. D. Baker, | 46,75 |
| M. Currier, | 34,75 |
| John E. Bowden, Collector, | 70,00 |
| N. D. Phillips, Treasurer, | 37,50 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$337,60 |

Support of the Poor.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Henry Rogers for keeping Mrs. Billington, | \$53,25 |
| James Hurd, board and clothing for Mrs. Billington, | 90,77 |
| Town of Fairfield for children of J. Ryder, | 6,50 |
| “ “ Orneville, J. Powers, | 15,00 |
| J. Hartford, keeping Mary Nickerson and child, | 198,00 |
| S. N. Ryder, keeping Richard Ryder, | 90,00 |
| H. J. Nickerson, clothing for R. Ryder, | 31,63 |
| George A. Delano, boarding M. Nickerson, | 4,00 |
| Z. Thayer's expense in Insane Hospital and Orrington, | 129,16 |
| Carrying Z. Thayer to Insane Hospital, | 24,50 |
| M. Currier supplies to Benoni Baker, | 138,78 |
| “ “ clothing for George Harvey, | 32,86 |
| H. J. Nickerson, clothing for M. Nickerson and child, | 10,60 |
| Otis R. Smith, burying F. Rebaro's child, | 3,00 |
| H. J. Nickerson supplies to F. Rebaro and Mary Hart, | 46,06 |
| Bangor supplies to Angelina Downs, | 21,53 |
| Dr. R. K. Cushing, attendance on B. Baker, | 4,00 |
| “ C. W. Thomas, “ Mary Nickerson, | 24,25 |
| “ L. Laughton, “ Mrs. Billington, | 24,00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$947,89 |

Miscellaneous Expenses.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Paid for Stationery and Stamps, | \$5,26 |
| S. T. Nickerson, warning six Town Meetings, | 9,00 |
| Paid for examining title to B. Baker's homestead, | 3,00 |
| R. R. Smith, for damage to Plough, | 3,00 |
| “ “ “ Bounty for Bear killed, | 2,00 |
| Allen Hoxie, for land, | 15,00 |
| Jesse H. Nickerson, repairing and taking care T. House, | 6,00 |
| Charles Baker, for warning two Town Meetings, | 3,00 |
| Nathaniel Marston for counterfeit money, | 10,00 |
| S. S. Smith, for printing town reports, | 18,25 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$74,51 |

SCHOOL FUND.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Balance due the several Districts, Feb. 22, 1866, | \$468,12 |
| Money raised by the town, | 1,500,00 |
| Bank Tax received from the State, | 55,73 |
| Interest on School Fund, | 69,42 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$2,093,27 |

APPORTIONMENT.

| No. of District. | No. of Scholars | Apportioned. | Due from 1865. | Paid. | Now due. |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|------------|----------|
| No. 1 | 55 | 128,15 | 35,01 | 161,83 | 1,33 |
| No. 2 | 72 | 167,76 | 46,90 | 214,66 | |
| No. 3 | 55 | 128,15 | 29,81 | 150,07 | 7,89 |
| No. 4 | 76 | 177,08 | 103,34 | 280,42 | |
| No. 5 | 20 | 53,39 | | 53,39 | |
| No. 6 | 66 | 153,78 | 33,09 | 178,97 | 7,90 |
| No. 7 | 124 | 288,92 | 25,46 | 312,89 | 1,49 |
| No. 8 | 42 | 97,86 | 3,49 | 101,00 | ,35 |
| No. 9 | 40 | 93,20 | | 93,20 | |
| No. 10 | 24 | 61,92 | 1,42 | 63,34 | |
| Corner District, | 53 | 123,49 | 59,34 | 111,59 | 71,24 |
| South District, | 65 | 151,45 | 130,26 | 278,32 | 3,39 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 692 | \$1,625,15 | \$468,12 | \$1,999,68 | \$93,59 |

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Amount raised March, 1866, | \$3,400,00 |
| Overlays in Assessment, | 246,87 |
| Highway Deficiency 1865, | 176,63 |
| Tax on Dogs, | 58,00 |
| State Tax, | 2,670,20 |
| County Tax, | 562,83 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$7,114,53 |

Per centage \$1,68 on \$1,00. No of Polls, 433.

Valuation for 1866.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Real Estate of Residents, | \$224,057,00 |
| Personal " " " | 104,534,00 |
| Estates of Non-residents, | 17,584,00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$346,175,00 |

H. J. NICKERSON, }
 J. D. BAKER, } Selectmen
 M. CURRIER, } of
 } Orrington.

ORRINGTON, MARCH 2, 1867.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

By requirement of Law, and in accordance with our own wishes, the following Report of Schools is presented to the Town.

STATISTICS.

Summer Schools.

Winter Schools.

| Summer Schools. | | | | | | Winter Schools. | | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------|-----------------|
| No. of District. | No. of Days. | No. of Scholars Registered. | Average Attendance. | Wages. | Price of Board. | No. of District. | No. of Days. | No. of Scholars Registered. | Average Attendance. | Wages. | Price of Board. |
| No. 1. | 55 | 29 | 25 | 3,00 | 2,50 | No. 1. | 60 | 40 | 30 | 5,00 | 3,00 |
| 2. | 55 | 44 | 40 | 3,50 | 2,50 | 3. | 44 | 40 | 31 | 4,00 | 3,00 |
| 3. | 44 | 35 | 30 | 3,75 | 3,00 | 4. | 52 | 51 | 44 | 38,00 | 3,50 |
| 4. | 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 41 | 32 | 2,00 | 2,00 | 5. | 47 | 15 | 11 | 3,00 | 2,50 |
| 6. | 55 | 34 | 26 | 2,50 | 2,00 | 6. | 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 42 | 32 | 5,00 | 2,75 |
| 7.* | 49 | 31 | 27 | 2,75 | 2,00 | 7.* | 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 42 | 37 | 37,00 | 3,50 |
| 7.† | 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 36 | 30 | 2,25 | 2,00 | 7.† | 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 45 | 39 | 3,00 | 2,00 |
| 8. | 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 26 | 24 | 2,50 | 2,00 | 8. | 55 | 32 | 25 | 4,00 | 2,50 |
| 9. | 45 | 34 | 30 | 2,00 | 2,00 | 9. | 48 | 35 | 29 | 4,50 | 2,50 |
| 10. | 31 | 12 | 11 | 1,50 | 1,75 | 10. | 52 | 18 | 17 | 3,00 | 1,75 |
| Corner | 38 | 33 | 26 | 3,75 | 2,25 | Corner | 71 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 34 | 27 | 5,00 | 3,00 |
| South | 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 40 | 32 | 2,00 | 2,00 | South | 49 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 54 | 43 | 33,00 | 3,25 |

* Grammar. † Primary.

* Grammar. † Primary.

Amount of money raised by the town for the support of Schools, \$1500.00

Amount of State fund, 55.73

Interest on School fund, 69.42

\$1625.15

Whole number of Scholars in Town, 692

Whole " " " Summer Schools, 395

Average attendance in Summer Schools, 333

Whole number in Winter Schools, 448

Average attendance in Winter Schools, 365

Average length of Summer Schools, 48 days.

Average length of Winter Schools, 49 days.

Average wages of female teachers per week, including board, \$3.24

Average wages of male teachers per month, including board, 36.00

Average attendance upon Summer Schools was 48 per cent. of all the scholars in town. Upon the Winter Schools it was 53 per cent.

Summer Schools.

District No. 1. Miss Emma F. Freeman.

This school was quiet, orderly, and made good improvement. Miss F. apparently takes pleasure in teaching.

No. 2. Miss Cordelia Emery.

This school, being under an experienced teacher, made good improvement; but finding its labor borne principally by the teacher, it did not show that marked proficiency at the closing examination which is so desirable.

No. 3. Miss S. Lizzie Percival.

A successful term. The teacher's labors were crowned with that success which has characterized her previous efforts in this town. Your Committee and the parents generally were satisfied. Attendance unexampled in the recent history of the district. Eleven scholars out of the whole number registered lost no time.

No. 4. Miss K. E. E. Swett.

The improvement was generally fair,—in Grammar quite marked. The teacher was interested and labored for the advancement of her pupils.

No. 5.

No Summer Term.

No. 6. Miss A. C. Long.

A thorough course of instruction was presented, which resulted in a profitable term. A few scholars would have been much benefitted by more urging to study. The school was orderly throughout, and appeared respectable at the examination.

No. 7. Primary. Miss J. C. Smith.

In this School were thirty-six small children, who made as good improvement as could be expected under the circumstances. The teacher was conscientious in the discharge of her duty, but lacked experience, this being her first school.

No. 7. Grammar. Miss Susie J. Wheeler.

The delicate health of Miss W. lessened her energy, in consequence of which the school was not properly disciplined or instructed; therefore did not make a desirable improvement. The teacher disregarded her instructions, of which your Committee consider was injurious to a class of scholars.

No. 8. Miss. C. J. Orff.

Order and quiet prevailed, and some advance in studies made; but a lack of energy on the part of the teacher was plainly discernible, and hindered the desirable progress of her school.

No. 9. Miss Maria S. Magoon,

Is a worker, and at once gained the respect of her pupils. The course of instruction was thorough, and order commendable. Considering the length of the term, the proficiency made compares favorably with our summer schools.

No. 10. Miss Maria T. George.

This was the teacher's first effort in the delectable art of teaching. She manifested the deepest interest for her pupils, but a tender love for her ward swerved her from a correct judgment, and hindered the wholesome discipline so necessary in the school-room.

Corner District. Mrs. A. R. Nickerson.

Your Committee was disappointed in not witnessing that lively interest pervading the whole school, which has so generally attended the teacher's efforts in former years. Good order prevailed. But that degree of advancement which we have a right to expect under the most favorable circumstances, was not discernible. No doubt, however, that truancy was the bane of this school, since but two were present the whole term, while many lost from ten to seventeen days each.—A commentary to parents and guardians.

South District. Miss Georgie Barstow.

The diligence of the teacher, and the orderly deportment of her pupils, made this a good school. The improvement and constancy were alike commendable.

Winter Schools.**No. 1. Miss Emma F. Freeman.**

The proficiency during this term fully satisfied your Committee. Obviously, she did her duty, and the scholars made a corresponding effort. The first classes in Reading and Arithmetic were fine specimens of thoroughness in those branches.

No. 2. Albert Mayo.

The course of instruction initiated and maintained was somewhat loose, consequently the attainment superficial. Teaching is a peculiar art. Happy is he who is gifted therein. The school made a fair appearance, but fell much below its capabilities. No register was returned to the Committee.

No. 3. Miss Georgie Mayo.

This school lacked in everything necessary to constitute a profitable one, except that the pupils were willing to be taught, and the teacher willing they should learn, consequently the school was a complete failure.

No. 4. Mr. Charles H. Rogers.

"Honor to whom honor is due." This falls upon teacher and scholars alike. The reputation of this School's excellencies in deportment, both in and out of the school-room during the term, is highly commendable. Mental Arithmetic and Grammar received careful attention. The attainment satisfactory.

No. 5. Miss Annette Hinks.

A profitable term. The anxiety for advancement in the text books rather overshadowed a wholesome thoroughness.

No. 6. Miss L. H. Smith.

The District was fortunate in securing Miss Smith's services, and the school appeared to fully appreciate her good efforts. A careful attention to the branches taught secured thoroughness and promptness in all departments. "By their fruits shall ye know them."

No. 7. Primary. Miss Carrie M. Skinner.

The pleasant and well directed efforts of the teacher had the desired effect. The examination was well sustained, the little ones manifesting a lively interest in the exercises.

No. 7. Grammar. Mr. George E. Chapin.

The examination of this school gave your Committee great pleasure. Many of the higher branches received attention. The high attainment of some of the pupils would greatly surprise the majority of our townsmen who would have felt proud to witness the examination exercises. Mr. Chapin is eminently practical—a savory morsel among the commonalities of his profession.

No. 8. Miss Mary A. Freeman.

Here the scholars proved the fact that they set a high value on the advantages for acquiring knowledge. Most of the classes were ready in their answers, showing a thorough understanding of the principles embraced. Her systematic course was productive of great good. More quiet in the school-room, is, however, desirable.

No. 9. Miss C. L. V. Freeze, of Lagrange.

When we say we were entirely satisfied with this school in every particular, we have said all that can be said. We suggest that some one of our agents secure the services of Miss F. the coming season.

No. 10. Miss Georgie A. Barstow.

This was a profitable term. The teacher is a practical worker.

Corner District. Miss Flora Hinckley.

The School is still in session and progressing finely. Miss H. is a teacher of great activity, and possesses a peculiar tact for teaching. Every scholar is doing well and profiting by the advantages afforded. We advise this District to commence its Winter Terms earlier, that it may close before the Report of the Visiting Committee.

South District. Mr. N. R. Pendleton.

This School made good attainment, and the teacher was able, but in the opinion of your Committee, relied more upon moral suasion in his government than he should have done. Consequently there was not that discipline they desired to see.

List of Students present every day.

District No. 1. Summer Term. Emma F. Smith, George B. Atwood, Elmira F. Baker, Millin N. Atkins. Whole days absence, 378.

No. 1. Winter. Days absence, 234.

No. 2. Summer. Ellen M. Baker, Eva A. Baker, Anna F. Dean, Lizzie K. Dillingham, Flora Smith, Emma Kendall, Eliza J. Walls, Mary F. Smith, Harrison P. Baker, Isaac Mayo, George L. Pierce, John Kendall.

Whole days absence. 238.

No. 2. Winter. No abstract returned.

No. 3. Summer. Isabella Wentworth, Nellie Snow, Emma Lowell, Nellie Bartlett, Annie Hodges, Mary Billington, Jessie Lowell, James A. Godfrey, Bertie Bartlett, Willie Bartlett, Samuel Billington, Howard Snow.

Days absence, 115.

No. 3. Winter. Warren O. Cohoon, Mary E. Billington, Annie M. Billington. Days absence, 245.

No. 4. Summer. Lucy N. Ryder, Lizzie Hoben, Henrietta Freeman, Mary R. Gould, Mary A. Hoxie. Days absence, 202.

No. 4. Winter. Lizzie Hoben, Lucy N. Ryder, Henrietta Freeman, Ella E. Higgins, Addie F. Ryder, Clara B. Ryder, Minnie P. Ryder, Charles H. Wentworth, John A. Ryder, Cyrus Rogers, William E. Ryder, Thomas Stousland, Frank Rogers, Willie Bush, Emma Baker. Days absence, 304.

No. 5. Winter. David A. Baker. Days absence, 98½.

No. 6. Summer. Lizzie M. Swett, Annie Mathews, Ella M. Mathews, Ella S. Leighton. Days absence, 207.

No. 6. Winter. Belle Rogers, Emma Bowden, Clara Bowden, Annie Mathews. Days absence, 370.

* *No. 7. Summer.* Fred W. Phipps, Georgie G. Wheeler, Horace E. George, John J. Hamblen, Otis F. Smith. Days absence, 156.

† Grammar. Days absence, 184.

* *No. 7. Winter.* Cora Smith, Charles W. Burrell, Charles Essig, Horace E. George, Otis G. Smith, George H. Smith. Days absence, 196½.

† *No. 7. Winter.* Days absence, 263.

No. 8. Summer. Fannie Baker, Callie Baker, Susie Smith, Mary Morse, William Johnson, Lewis J. Morse, Martin Fleming, Herbert Rogers. Days absence, 59½.

No. 8. Winter. Unintelligible.

No. 9. Summer. Ella Allen, Addie Bowden, Kate Williams, Chester S. Baker, Wm. M. Harriman, Oscar J. Richardson. Days absence, 118.

No. 9. Winter. Alice Appleton, Lena Bowden, Lucinda Harriman. Days absence, 169.

No. 10. Summer. Herbert Thayer, Samuel Perkins, Flora Atwood, Sarah Montgomery, Nellie D. Parker, Frankie Ames, Dellie Thayer. Days absence, 3.

No. 10. Winter. Madora Atwood, Charles W. Atwood, Kidder C. Ames, John Rollins, Herbert Thayer, Samuel Perkins. Days absence, 53.

South District. Summer. Augustus Wood, Willie Wheelden, Arthur L. Hopkins, Benjamin Stubbs, Ada Rogers, Josephine Baker, Minnie P. Ryder, Addie F. Ryder. Days absence, 143½.

South District. Winter. Days absence, 509.

Corner District. Summer. Eviline B. Brown, Nellie F. Brown. Days absence. 224.

Corner District. Winter. Not closed.

Whole number days absence in town, 4096, to 17 Academic years. Would it not be well for parents to look to this matter a little ?

It has been the object of your Committee, in making individual mention of the several schools for the past year, both to give local interest to this Report, and to show the comparative standing of schools and teachers, as they presented themselves during the year. This should serve to awaken an interest in all lovers of wholesome discipline and sound instruction. Of course, opinions may vary as to the exact truthfulness of these presentations, but having only the prosperity of our youth and the public good at heart, we cannot be accused of a selfish partiality. It would be gratifying if all the schools had been a complete success; but out of twenty-six, experience has taught us to fear, if not to expect occasional failures. But seldom, indeed, have been the instances when such failures were so easily traceable to incompetent teachers as during the past Academic year. This incompetency has been, 1st, inexperience; 2d, mismanagement. The co-operation of parents has been generally very cordial; of scholars, good, and no hindrance but the above would have cast a shadow over this closing school year. Inexperience is not and should not be an index of failure. We do not expect the novice to compete with the expert; but in the critical art of teaching, the former often excels. Many candidates have not schooled themselves for a *practical* profession; have not *studied to teach*. To know is one thing, to practice what we know is quite another. Pleasant it may be for a teacher to tarry among us a few weeks, receive wages and depart, but *value received* should alone quiet the conscience. Exchange is no robbery, provided the scales poise. We have strong faith that the State Normal School, now in successful operation, will do much in preparing teachers for systematic instruction, and thus remove a serious obstacle to rapid advancement in education.

It is a matter of much doubt to your Committee whether to recommend the continued employment of females in the Winter Schools, for this reason, that District Officers are too negligent in their selection. Experience has proved that in some, males only, should be employed. If females in any, none but the *proved*, and to such, a liberal reward should be allowed.

Mental Arithmetic should occupy a prominent place in the school-room, and we question the propriety of allowing a student the use of slate and pencil until he has a good understanding of Colburn or Greenleaf's Mental. Greater proficiency in figures will be made in a single term after its mastery, than in a whole year without it.

Your serious attention is called to the fact that the past year, pupils in penmanship, (and these, we fear, are a minority,) have not averaged above five pages a term in their copy books. Your Committee has repeatedly urged the necessity of this important branch upon teachers; but either because they think it consumes too much time in school hours, and that the writing school is the proper place for its acquirement, or because parents are too indifferent to its utility, and therefore do not insist upon their children's attention to it, certain it is that as a task, it has been for a few years gradually passing to oblivion. It is questionable if the young men of our schools can write as fair a hand as their fathers could at their age. We cannot, we should not depend upon professionals for this indispensable, this polite art, but insist that it be more frequently practiced; be made a recitation of the school. It is hoped that the Visiting Committee of another year will be more successful in bringing this into prominence, and that they be cordially aided by all parents and lovers of good penmanship.

Respectfully Submitted,

SOLOMON BOLTON,
J. WYMAN PHILLIPS, } S. S. Committee.
JOHN B. POLLARD,

ORRINGTON, MARCH 4, 1867.