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Annual Report of the Selectmen of the Town of Orrington and the Supervisor of Schools For the Year 1871-1872

Town of Orrington, Maine

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN
OF THE
TOWN OF ORRINGTON,
AND THE REPORT OF THE
SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS.
FOR THE YEAR 1871—1872.



BANGOR:
PRINTED BY SAMUEL S. SMITH & SON.
1872.

**William H. Dole, Treasurer, in account with the
town of Orrington.**

	<i>Dr.</i>	
To balance in Treasury, February 28, 1871,		\$1,075.76
“ uncollected resident tax 1869,		109.49
“ “ “ “ 1870,		652.57
“ non-resident tax, “		262.79
“ amount received from Town of Deer Isle,		38.56
“ “ “ “ John E. Bowden, bal. of Road money,		2.10
“ “ “ of Town of Holden,		47.03
“ “ “ on George E. Chapin's order,		1.50
“ “ “ from sale of Stove,		3.00
“ “ raised by Town for support of Poor,		800.00
“ “ “ “ “ Town charges,		900.00
“ “ “ “ “ roads and bridges,		1,800.00
“ “ of tax on Dogs,		99.00
“ “ “ Overlayings in Assessment,		398.60
“ “ “ Supplementary tax,		8.00
“ Rent of B. F. Smith farm, 1871,		21.00
“ “ “ “ “ 1870,		25.00
“ Interest on Bonds sold, \$3,700, for 3 months,		55.50
“ “ of J. Wyman Phillips,		.75
“ “ on State Bonds,		531.00
“ Cash received on A. L. Conant's note,		10.00
“ “ “ “ Fowler & Atwood's note,		20.00
“ “ “ “ Mayo & Gilley's note,		10.00
“ Balance due on A. L. Conant's note,		10.50
“ “ “ “ Fowler & Atwood's note,		20.00
“ Amount of State Bonds,		10,700.00
	\$17,602.15	<hr/>

	<i>Cr.</i>	
By paid for support of Poor,		\$754.04
“ Town Officers,		415.03
“ miscellaneous expenses,		135.71
“ paid for Roads and Bridges,		1,764.53
“ Interest on School Fund,		69.42
“ Abatements for 1871,		116.60
“ “ “ 1870,		5.36
“ paid overwork for 1869 and 1870,		57.55
“ “ for Town House,		3,929.23
“ “ Building Committee on Town House,		85.70
“ Uncollected Resident Tax, 1869,		77.42
“ “ “ “ 1870,		251.67
“ Non-resident Tax for 1871,		216.20
“ amount of Loans paid,		1018.75
“ Interest paid on Loans,		520.79
“ Balance due on A. L. Conant's note,		10.50
“ “ “ “ Fowler & Atwood's note,		20.00
“ Amount of State bonds,		7,000.00
“ Cash in Treasury,		1,153.65
	\$17,602.15	<hr/>

Pay of Town Officers.

J. Wyman Phillips, services S. S. Committee, 1870,	\$39,75
George E. Chapin, do do do do	15,75
Miss Hattie W. Pollard, do do do do	15,25
J. B. Pollard, do do do do	9,00
William H. Dole, Treasurer,	40,00
Joseph Doane, Collector,	79,00
J. Wyman Phillips, Selectman, Assessor, and } Overseer of Poor, }	90,28
J. D. Baker, do. do.	54,00
A. L. Nichols, do. do.	48,00
Charles Baker, Constable,	24,00
	<hr/>
	\$415,03

Support of Poor.

Mrs. Charlotte Barnes,	\$91,00
Mrs. Clara Smith,	104,00
Elisha Higgins,	134,00
Thomas Curren, for shingles, 1870,	25,12
Smith Rogers, board of,	98,00
do. funeral expenses,	20,00
Mrs. Angeline Downs,	24,35
" Emerson and Dency Harvey, Deer Isle,	38,56
Edgar French, Holden,	14,53
Richard Ryder,	117,73
Zaccheus Thayer,	56,25
George Harvey, pair boots,	3,50
Mrs. David Smith,	12,00
Mrs. Billington, medical attendance,	15,00
	<hr/> \$754,04
Received from Town of Deer Isle,	38,56
do. do. Town of Holden,	14,53
	<hr/> 53,09
Cost of Poor,	<hr/> \$700,95

Miscellaneous Expenses.

E. L. Fowler, abatement, 1868,	4,81
John King, witness, Reynold's case,	5,90
Joseph Morrill, " " "	1,50
Mrs. Alfred Hamilton, witness, Miller case,	3,00
Mrs. Eunice Ryder, award of damage,	8,00
James Freeman, referee, Mrs. Ryder's case,	2,00
J. D. Baker, recording births and deaths,	5,04
Samuel S. Smith & Son, printing reports,	16,63
John E. Bowden, abatements, 1869,	6,00
Stamps and Stationery,	4,98
Repairing fence, Meadow brook Cemetery,	16,00
Charles R. Trask, services Fish Commissioner,	1,25
J. D. Baker, paid miscellaneous expenses,	2,50
D. Bugbee & Co. Books and Stationery,	9,40
William H. Dole, selling Town bonds,	5,70
" " " checks, stamps, postage, &c.,	2,00
Union Hall Co. for rent,	28,00
Joseph Doane, stamp for bond,	1,00
David W. Pierce, for Plough,	12,00
	<hr/> \$135,71

Town House.

A. D. Atwood, for lot,	\$150,00
Doane Freeman, foundation,	350,00
Isaac Pierce, for building,	2601,06
S. Chapin, for furnishing,	379,23
Otis R. Smith, fencing lot,	80,00
Francis H. Smith, grading lot,	25,00
D. Sargent & Sons, lumber,	343,94
	<hr/> \$3929,23

Appropriated by the Town, \$3950,00

S. T. Nickerson, Building Committee,	9,75
Charles Baker, " "	8,75
Sumner Chapin, " "	25,00
John E. Bowden, " "	17,00
Otis R. Smith, " "	9,10
Peter C. Baker, " "	8,25
Albert H. Smith, " "	7,85
	<hr/> \$85,70

Rec'd from sale of Old House, 4014,93
40,00

Cost to the town of New House, \$3974,93

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

District No. 1, S. B. Snow,	Surveyor,	\$258,66
" No. 2, H. B. Pendleton,	"	124,87
" No. 3, Charles A. Snow,	"	80,00
" No. 4, Jabez N. Wheelden,	"	238,35
" No. 5, Avery L. Nichols,	"	169,73
" No. 6, Washington M. Baker,	"	176,58
" No. 7, Reuben R. Smith,	"	238,24
" No. 8, Thomas Bowden,	"	141,10
" No. 9, Albion Bowden,	"	102,01
" No. 10, William Snow,	"	72,00
Corner District, Ezekiel N. Fowler,	"	107,08
		<hr/> \$1708,62
Plank for bridges,		55,91
		<hr/>
Total expended,		\$1764,53
Raised by the Town,		\$1800,00

Valuation for 1871.

Real Estate of Residents,	\$235,650
Personal " " "	116,565
Estate of Non-residents,	16,815
Total Estate,	<hr/> \$369,030
412 Polls. Poll tax \$3,00.	
Percentage \$2,00 on \$100.	
Amount raised by the Town, March, 1871,	\$5500,00
" of Dog tax,	99,00
" " Overlayings in Assessment,	398,60
" " County tax,	706,39
" " State tax,	2008,61
	<hr/> \$8712,60

Assets of the Town.

Uncollected Resident tax 1869,	\$77,42
" " " 1870,	251,67
Non-resident tax 1871,	216,20
Notes held by the Town,	30,50
B. F. Smith farm,	350,00
State Bonds,	7000,00
Cash in Treasury,	1153,65
	<hr/> \$9079,44

LIABILITIES.

Outstanding Notes,	\$6600,00
	<hr/>
Balance in favor of the Town,	\$2479,44

School Fund.

Balance due the Districts, February 22, 1871,	\$1242.27
Amount raised by the town,	2000.00
Interest on School Fund,	69.42
Amount received from State,	51.50
	<u>\$3363.19</u>

Apportionment.

District.	No. of Scholars.	Apportioned.	Due from 1870.	Paid.	Now Due the Dist's.
No. 1	48	\$158.40	\$107.09	\$265.75	Town, .26
No. 2	70	231.00	134.08	318.73	\$46.35
No. 3	54	178.20	117.65	278.68	17.17
No. 4	148	488.40	90.36	360.68	218.08
No. 5	18	72.82	1.40	42.25	31.97
No. 6	41	135.30	135.92	214.06	57.16
No. 7	130	429.00	273.37	603.38	98.99
No. 8	37	122.10	120.59	237.47	5.22
No. 9	24	79.20	37.65	105.25	11.60
No. 10	17	68.10	60.04	24.00	104.14
Corner.	48	158.40	164.12	182.00	140.52
	<u>635</u>	<u>\$2120.92</u>	<u>\$1242.27</u>	<u>\$2632.25</u>	<u>\$730.94</u>

J. WYMAN PHILLIPS, } Selectmen
 J. D. BAKER, } of
 A. L. NICHOLS, } Orrington.

ORRINGTON, March 6, 1872.

WARRANT.

To CHARLES BAKER, a Constable of the town of ORRINGTON, in the County of PENOBSCOT, or to any one of the Constables of said town,
GREETING.

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the said Town of Orrington, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to assemble at the Town House in said town, on Monday the 18th inst., at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:

FIRST. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

SECOND. To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year.

THIRD. To hear the Report of the Selectmen, and act thereon.

FOURTH. To hear the Report of the Supervisor of schools, and act thereon.

FIFTH. To choose all other necessary town officers for the ensuing year.

SIXTH. To see if the town will grant and raise such sums of money as may be necessary for the maintenance and support of schools and the poor, and repair of roads and bridges, and to defray all other town charges for the ensuing year.

SEVENTH. To see if the town will accept the road laid out by the Selectmen to the "New Burying ground", so called, at South Orrington.

EIGHTH. To hear the Report of the Building Committee on the new Town House, and act thereon.

NINTH. To see if the town will tax Dogs.

TENTH. To see if the town will empower school Agents to employ teachers.

ELEVENTH. To determine in what manner the town will choose its Highway surveyors for the ensuing year.

TWELFTH. To see if the town will enlarge the Cemetery near Mr. Nathaniel Marston's, and fence the same.

THIRTEENTH. To determine what course the town will adopt, to repair its highways for the year ensuing.

FOURTEENTH. To see if the town will accept the list of Jurors presented by the Selectmen.

FIFTEENTH. To see if the town will authorize the vaccination of its inhabitants.

SIXTEENTH. Upon petition, to see if the town will discontinue so much of the road over Bald Hill as lies between its junction with the County road on the North and A. L. Conant's North line on the South; or take such action as shall constitute the same a bridle road.

SEVENTEENTH. To see if the town will discontinue the Gould Road, the Stump Lane Road, and the Goodale Road from Timothy Stubbs, Jr's corner to the West line of the Goodale cemetery; or grant and raise a sum of money to repair said roads.

EIGHTEENTH. To see what course the town will take to determine the duties of Sextons and to regulate the fees of the same.

NINETEENTH. To see if the town will allow Joseph Doane, Esq., for counterfeit money taken for taxes.

The Selectmen give notice that they will be in session for the purpose of revising and correcting the list of voters, at said place, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, on the day of said meeting.

Given under our hands, at Orrington, this second day of March

A. D. 1872.

J. WYMAN PHILLIPS,

J. D. BAKER,

A. L. NICHOLS,

} SELECTMEN.

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS.

In answer to the demands of law, your Supervisor presents the following Report :

STATISTICS.

SUMMER SCHOOLS.

WINTER SCHOOLS.

No. of District.	No. of Days.	No. Scholars registered.	Average Attendance.	Wages.	Price of Board.	No. of District.	No. of Days.	No. Scholars registered.	Average Attendance.	Wages.	Price of Board.
No. 1	44	34	26	\$4.00	\$2.25	No. 1	44	42	36	\$28.00	3.00
2	45	40	33	5.00	2.00	2 }	44	54	42	5.50	3.00
3	44	39	33	5.00	3.00	22 }	22	52	46	32.00	3.00
4*	55	48	35	4.00	3.00	3 }	38½	43	34	38.00	3.00
4†	55	23	17	5.00	3.00	4*	60	66	57	6.00	3.25
5	22	16	15	3.50	2.25	4†	60½	54	37	53.00	3.00
6	55	26	24	5.00	2.50	5	38½	14	13	4.00	2.25
7*	60½	36	30	3.75	2.50	6	39	28	25	6.00	2.50
7†	60	34	27	4.50	2.50	7*	60½	44	40	4.00	2.50
Corner.	44	31	22	4.50	2.50	7†	60½	45	38	43.00	3.50
						8	66	28	26	7.00	2.50
						9	60½	21	18	4.00	2.50
						10	66	14	12	4.75	2.00
						Corner.	64	35	28	6.00	3.00

* Primary.

† Grammar.

Amount of Money raised by the Town, \$2000,00

“ from Bank Tax, 51,50

Interest on School Fund, 69,42

\$2,120,92

Number of Scholars in Town, 635

Number attending Summer School, 327

Average Number attending Summer School, 262

Number attending Winter School, 488

Average number attending Winter School, 417

Average length of Summer School, 48½ days.

Average length of Winter School, 56 days.

Average wages of female teachers, per week, exclusive of board, \$4,82

Average wages of male teachers, per week, exclusive of board, 38,50

Average attendance in Summer, 41 per cent. of number of scholars in town.

Average attendance in Winter, 66 per cent.

The Summer term in district No. 1 was taught by Miss EVA L. LONG of Brewer. The discipline at the first visit was quite lax: but at the close, the deportment was good. Improvement very fair. Too little attention was paid to reading, especially with the younger pupils. A paper by the scholars.

The Winter term was kept by Mr. J. W. HOLYOKE of Brewer. The good school which might have been, was destroyed by the insubordination of two or three of the larger boys; a few of the scholars made fair progress. This school needs a teacher with "Grindstone grit," in order to restore it to its former state.

The Summer term in district No. 2 was under the tuition of Miss L. P. GIBBS of Glenburn, a teacher of good acquirements, thorough and practical in instruction, and a good disciplinarian. Sequel, a good school.

The Winter term was begun by Miss MARY C. PAGE of Winterport, and continued six weeks, when the Supervisor was called in. The parents and teacher were given a hearing, which failed, in my opinion, to disclose else than local prejudices, and personal jealousies, which continued to widen the breach already opened; when at the close of the eighth week the teacher was advised by the Supervisor, to close her school, and thus in my opinion what might have been a good school if the teacher had received the cordial support of the parents, instead of "home thrusts," resulted in a useless expenditure of money and time. After a vacation of one week, Mr. J. P. GIBBS of Glenburn opened the school, which may be called profitable, and more so, had all the money been expended and the school lengthened two weeks.

In district No. 3, there was a Fall term taught by Miss EMMA F. FREEMAN of Holden. The deportment was not of the highest order, but the improvement-evidenced that both teacher and pupils had devoted their time and attention to their duties.

The Winter term was taught by Mr. S. BOLTON. No notice was received of the commencement of this school and it was not visited until its close. Order is Mr. B's first and only rule, and where we find order we never fail of finding a good school. The reading was good, and in the fifth class of a high order.

In district No. 4, the Summer term in the Primary School was kept by Miss HATTIE PHILLIPS of this town. Order and improvement good.

For the Winter term the parents in this district were again fortunate in securing the labors of Miss PHILLIPS, who by her orderly reign increases the gain of her pupils. Should more teachers practice singing in their schools it would be not only a help in discipline, but would tend to secure a more regular attendance and to lessen the large number of tardy marks which now deface all of our registers.

The Summer term in the Grammar school was taught by Miss MARY E. GROSS of Orland, whose accomplishments were thoroughness in instruction, pleasing in address, mild yet firm in discipline. A good school was kept, but only eleven girls and six boys availed themselves of the advantages to be derived therefrom. Why is it that in a district of one hundred and forty-eight scholars, that only seventeen can be found in the Grammar school? Parents is there not a great responsibility resting upon you?

The Winter term was taught by Mr. S. BOLTON, who fully sustained his reputation as teacher. It is sad that so few in this district are disposed to avail themselves of the good offices of the Grammar school.—There were only *one thousand and twenty-eight days* absence in this school. *Seventeen* scholars lost *two hundred and thirty-three days*. O this learning! what a thing it is.

Only *one*, "seven by nine" black board adorns! the school-room.

There was a Fall term in district No. 5 of four weeks, taught by Miss EVA L. LONG, then an interregnum of three weeks and then a term of seven and one-half weeks. A small but good school. There is no doubt but that it would have been of more profit to the scholars if there had been no vacation.

Both Summer and Winter term in district No. 6, were under the instruction of Miss EMMA F. FREEMAN. We are indebted to Miss F. for the many good schools she has taught in town. If instead of relaxing, she would draw the reins of government more tight, it would add to the beauty as well as usefulness of her schools. A fine specimen of map drawing by Miss Alice Chapin was exhibited. May more scholars profit by her example.

Miss LILLIE P. CHAPIN was the installed leader of the little one in the Primary school of district No. 7, for both Summer and Winter terms.— Her labors resulted in the advancement of her charge, and their fine acquittal at the closing examination. A successful experiment was tried in this district in having the Summer school commence so as to close ere the hot July days came, or the tempting berries ripened.

The Summer term of the Grammar school was under the instruction of Miss A. S. WARE. A good beginning anticipates a good ending, and both were realized in this school. A paper by the pupils was read at the close, which was a credit to them. May other schools follow the example set by No's 1 and 7.

Mr. B. F. GOULD, from the Agricultural College at Orono, was the chosen leader for the Winter term. He brought to his aid, ability, tact, and a willingness to use and be used for his pupils. The school, at first, had a good attendance, but a few tired of its good offices, and of being refreshed by the good things that make a feast for the mind, withdrew from the school near its end, and interested themselves in those of less importance which are dispensed around the corner and the store. The same remarks apply with equal force to some other localities. Map drawing was practised in this school, and the scholars displayed a neatness and accuracy in their execution, which cannot be too highly commended.

There was no Summer term in District No. 8. The Winter term was taught by Miss PERSIS K. BURR of Holden. The pupils were prompt in their recitation, and the few visitors with the Supervisor were highly gratified with the appearance and progress of the school.

District No. 9, Miss A. C. LONG of Brewer, teacher. A fair advancement was made, and one class in Greenleaf's Mental Arithmetic surpassed even the expectations of the Supervisor. But owing to a counter influence, the school did not do so well as the beginning anticipated. There was no Summer term in this district.

In district No. 10, Miss EVA L. LONG was profitably employed for twelve weeks. This is a small school, and the teacher who can keep up an interest here as well as in No. 5, for ten or twelve weeks, deserves the praise of all. But where the teacher intensifies and the scholars search as for the hidden treasures, a golden harvest is the result.

Miss HATTIE POLLARD taught both the Summer and Winter terms in the Corner District. Here is found the best class in English Analysis, and a class of the best trained readers in town. Also, a small but good class in book-keeping.

Agents are derelict in their duty by not complying with the law, which makes it imperative upon them to inform the municipal officers of the number of scholars in their district in the month of APRIL; also to inform the Supervisor when schools are to begin, &c.; only two agents conformed to the requirements of the law, the past year. Your Supervisor made writing a speciality in all the schools, the past year. Six hundred and

three pupils answering to the roll-call of penmanship. A very desirable and satisfactory beginning has been initiated in this much neglected study, which, it is hoped, will be kept up ad infinitum.

Your Supervisor recommends that \$2000.00 be raised for the support of schools the ensuing year, as the "Mill tax" will not be available until 1873.

In looking over the reports of the different schools it will be seen that success has attended all of our schools for the past year, except in districts No. 1 and 2; yet our schools are not up to the standard we would have them; nor do they compare as they ought, with the schools ten years ago. Something *must* be done to "beget enthusiasm in behalf of the means of public education for the young."

Your Supervisor offers a few suggestions, and asks a few questions for your consideration.

Would it not be wise to make our school houses more attractive? for here the first seeds of knowledge are sown, and the young idea taught how to shoot. Would it not be a wise expenditure of money, if \$500 were laid out in outline maps, globes, and *more black-boards*, that our children might the more easily, rapidly, and understandingly, study and practice geography, and arithmetic? Would not an occasional visit from father, or mother, or both, stimulate the scholar to greater efforts, and encourage the teacher to greater exertion? Would not singing, if introduced into our schools, especially the primary, have a salutary influence on the young and susceptible minds? Would it not afford relief to the more laborious routine of school-room duties, acting at once as a solace and recreation?

"The great, the chief ambition of man is to know something of everything," and to know is laudable in all. The great question is, then, how, what and where shall our children learn "to know." By inspection of the registers of our schools, I think one of the greatest, if not the chief, impediment to the progress of our schools, is revealed in the form of irregular attendance, or truancy, and tardiness of the pupils. Children who are irregular in their attendance at school, make but little progress on the road to knowledge. The thirst for an education is slaked with poisonous and rank weeds, which, upon the soil of irregularity, flourish so luxuriantly. Before the arid blast of irregularity, the minds of youth become dry and parched. Our most besetting sin is neglect of duty. Parents neglect their duty by not keeping their children to school more regular. How will you cure these evils? They have become chronic and need severe remedies. The right, the privilege of every child to attend school and obtain an education, is his birthright. No parent has any legal or moral right to deprive his child of this birthright. The man of gray hairs and possessing a few hundreds of dollars and no scholars, contributes largely to the support of the public schools. Shall we apply this man's money to the purpose to which it was designed, or otherwise?

Look with me at the figures as they foot up in our school registers. The number of days absence for the past school year, amount to seven thousand seven hundred and fifty, equal to more than thirty-five years' schooling in any of our colleges or academies. A frightfully alarming column of figures array themselves in condemnation of such reckless disregard of regular attendance upon the means of education, for which we so liberally expend our money. More than seven thousand days lost to our youth, and in many instances, I fear, worse than lost. No wonder that parents of absentees complain that their children do not learn? Do you think it is right to have so many absences? Is it right? Does it suggest any fault? Ought it to continue so? If not, can we not find a remedy? May not irregularity of attendance, tardiness, disobedience, bad language, ill manners, and disrespect in some cases, be traced to a neglect of parental duty? Let us, then, as parents, put forth our individual efforts to elevate the common school; to develop in our children a taste for knowledge; to

give the pupil an insight into the work to be performed, and the manner of performing it; also, to elevate and expand his views, refine his sentiments, and to supply him with the means of noble and innocent entertainment, when he looks on "bird or stone, or star or flower." Let us ponder well the old maxim, "That ignorance is the ally of crime, and that education is favorable to virtue," and then join hands in promoting the greatest good of those whom God has given us to educate for useful men and women. Let us teach them in youth to observe habits of regularity and promptness, that in sailing o'er the voyage of life they may not be wrecked on the Scylla of irregularity nor engulfed in the Charibdis of tardiness.

In conclusion, parents, will you see that your children attend school regularly? Will you not see that the first, the great and exceedingly important lessons are taught, by precept and example, at the fireside? And will you not also cheer and encourage both scholar and teacher, by your presence in the school-room? Be acquainted with the school; observe the manner of instruction; witness the efforts of your scholars, and when the child returns home, cheer him up by word and example, in all that has been done during the day, for his benefit; thus helping to build up this noble structure, so that the great work of education may go nobly on adding strength, beauty, and durability to all its parts.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE E. CHAPIN, SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS.

ORRINGTON, March 11, 1872.