3-1-1867

Annual Report of the Selectmen of the Town of Orrington For the Year 1865-1866

Town of Orrington, Maine

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REPORT
OF THE
SELECTMEN
OF THE
TOWN OF ORRINGTON,
For the Year 1865 and 1866.

Dr. Nathan D. Phillips, Treasurer, in account with the Town of Orrington, 1865—'66.

1865—'66.

To balance on settlement, 1865, $145,63
" Feb. assessment committed to Nathaniel Marston, 8024.73
" Cash hired by Treasurer, 5153.19
" Amount of Commitment to P. C. Baker, 14241.07
" " from J. Freeman, Adm'r on Dow Estate, 136,18
" " Charles H. Rogers, 90.00
" " Joseph Doane, 20.35
" " fish privileges, 18.00
" " of Timothy Stubbs, Jr., notes, 243.00
" " Wm. S. Shaw's " 325.00
" " State aid received from the Treasurer of State for 1864, 1836.41

$30,233.56
### Finances of the Town

**LIABILITIES.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Notes</td>
<td>$13936.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deduct assets</td>
<td>$7015.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Town’s indebtedness</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6920.83</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ASSETS.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash in Treasurer’s hands, paid by State for aid to Soldiers’ families</td>
<td>$2672.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uncollected non-resident taxes</td>
<td>$512.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy Stubbs’ Jr. notes</td>
<td>$243.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William S. Shaw’s notes</td>
<td>$325.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State aid due from the State for 1865</td>
<td>$1425.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7015.65</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pay of Town Officers.

Amount paid Geo. E. Chapin, S. S. Committee, $30,00
" " J. W. Phillips, " " 49,72
" " S. Bolton, " " 12,25
" " N. D. Phillips, Treasurer, 75,00
" " J. Doane, Selectman, Assessor and Overseer
of the Poor, 55,50
" " Lincoln Wheelden, " " 40,57
" " E. G. Nickerson, " " 42,17
" " P. C. Baker, Collector, 125,50
" " Eliphalet Nickerson, Town Clerk, 5,70
" " Nathaniel Marston, Collector of War tax, 68,42
" " Joseph Doane, paying State aid, 12,00

$516,83

Roads and Bridges.

Amount paid Bowden & Appleton, $505,60
" " Micajah Currier, 1800,00
" " John Kimball, road agent, 68,60
" " Robert Loud, for road damages, 2,00

$2376,20

Support of the Poor.

Henry Rogers keeping Mrs. Billington, $145,42
Sewall Ryder, " Mr. R. Ryder, 84,00
E. & L. Wheelden, for supplies to R. Ryder, 22,59
Insane Hospital, keeping Z. Thayer, 81,84
A. D. Atwood, " " 24,50
Expenses to Augusta, of " 31,05
Mutual Store, supplies to Benoni Baker, 58,45
S. Wiswell, " " " " 17,50
Sarah Phipps, keeping Mrs. Baker, 16,50
Orneville, supplies to Mr. Powers, 29,50
James Hartford, keeping Ella Nickerson, 8,00
Supplies to B. F. Smith, 15,00
Mrs. Swett, keeping A. C. Harding, 4,00
D. R. Smith, supplies to Benoni Baker, 75

$539,10
Miscellaneous Expenses.

Amount paid S. S. Smith, for Printing reports, $23.68
" " D. Bugbee, for Stationery, 10.00
" " J. H. Nickerson, care of Town House, 4.00
" " H. Marston, work on N. Graveyard, 2.00
" " E. G. Nickerson's expenses to Orneville, 7.50
" " H. N. Bartlett, glass, for Town House, 5.00
" " J. Doane, for stamps and postage, 3.57
" " N. D. Phillips, " " 3.95
" " " " " for assess't on Policy, on poor house, 3.65

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School Fund.

Balance of School money due the several School Districts, in the hands of the Treasurer, Feb. 22d, 1866, $168.12
Amount raised, 1400.00
Bank Tax received from the State, 122.80
Interest on School Fund, 69.42
---

$2060.34

Apportioned as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of District</th>
<th>No. of Scholars</th>
<th>Apportionment</th>
<th>Balance due in 1865</th>
<th>Paid.</th>
<th>Now Due.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>107.63</td>
<td>2.57</td>
<td>75.19</td>
<td>35.01</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>160.30</td>
<td>34.17</td>
<td>113.40</td>
<td>46.90</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>121.37</td>
<td>36.55</td>
<td>125.73</td>
<td>29.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 4</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>160.30</td>
<td>57.59</td>
<td>93.51</td>
<td>103.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 5</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>139.69</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>109.50</td>
<td>33.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 6</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>302.28</td>
<td>33.15</td>
<td>276.82</td>
<td>25.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 7</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>165.54</td>
<td>91.60</td>
<td>135.00</td>
<td>3.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 8</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>62.16</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>62.30</td>
<td>1.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 9</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>121.37</td>
<td>60.12</td>
<td>122.15</td>
<td>59.34</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. 10</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>162.59</td>
<td>121.10</td>
<td>153.48</td>
<td>130.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corner District,</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>121.37</td>
<td>60.12</td>
<td>122.15</td>
<td>59.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South District,</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>121.37</td>
<td>60.12</td>
<td>122.15</td>
<td>59.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Amount raised February tax, 1865, 8000.00
Overlay, in assessment, 24.73
Per cent. on Feb. tax, on $100, is $2.20.
Amount raised in March, 1865, 14900.00
" " State tax, 5336.03
" " County tax, 293.65
" " Overlayings, 629.33
" " Dog tax, 49.00

Per cent. on $100, is $5.90
No. Polls, 396, at $3.00, $22922.74

Town Valuation for 1865.

Real Estates of Residents, $218.541
Personal " " 28,813
Non-Residents' Estates, 18,065
$335,419

Estimates for the Current Year.

For the Poor, $600
" Town charges, 500
" Payment of loans and interest, 1400
" Support of Schools, 4000

JOSEPH DOANE, LINCOLN WHEELDEN, E. G. NICKERSON. Selectmen of Orrington.
REPORT OF THE
SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

Your Committee are satisfied that many of the Schools the past year have not been what they should have been. The fault is chargeable alike to agents and parents. If we would see our schools elevated, all have something to do. It is impossible for a teacher to profit scholars much who are absent from school a third or half of the time, and for this the parents are wholly responsible.—The number of days' absence for the past year foot up five thousand five hundred and thirty-eight, equal to eighteen and one-half years' schooling for one scholar. Is it policy to raise money for the support of schools and allow so much of it to be wasted? Agents have much to do in determining the character of our schools. We are aware this, like most others, is a thankless office. It is often argued by agents that it is an office without pay, therefore little time can be expended. We would advise that agents devote time sufficient for the fulfillment of their duties and charge pay, if they must, believing money to be saved in the end. Instances have occurred where agents have largely neglected their duty and have done what was not their duty, morally or legally.—This course of procedure cannot fail to meet the disapprobation of any peace loving and law abiding community. The law plainly specifies that each agent shall notify in writing, of the time of commencement and close of their school, by whom to be taught, and how long to continue. But five such notices have been received during the year, and in a large majority of the districts no notice has been given. We are fully of the opinion that this lawless course of procedure is detrimental to the interest of our schools and should be corrected. Returns to the Selectmen have been neglected, thereby subjecting the Committee to much inconvenience. What is worth doing is worth doing well. Intelligence is what makes our country respected and beloved by ourselves and the world; therefore let all remove the hindrances to its onward march, using their endeavors to elevate its standard by their precept and example.

No. 1. Summer Term.
This School was taught by Miss Charlotte A. Phillips, who proved herself to be a worthy and efficient teacher. The number of pupils attending was small, but the examination showed that they had improved their time, and we trust they were well paid for their own exertions. Whole number of absent days 89.

Winter Term. Mr. A. G. Skinner, Teacher.
This school commenced with a fair prospect, but a few weeks proved it to be unprofitable; the teacher lacking in energy and judgment. A want of discipline rendered the school room a play place rather than a place of order. This school was closed by the committee at the close of the fourth week. It was soon after put in charge of Miss A. E. Freeman, who by her systematic course of discipline and instruction, soon restored the school to its former standing. Miss F. found no difficulty in securing the cooperation of her pupils, and is still laboring with general acceptance, giving evidence, conclusive, that the school will be greatly profited under her instruction.

No. 2. Summer Term. Miss Faustina D. Snow, Teacher.
Miss S. not only sustained her former good reputation, but gained new laurels. The examination showed that the teacher was alive to her work, and the scholars to theirs. Whole number of absent days 267.

Winter Term. Miss S. L. Percival, Teacher.
This district was fortunate in again securing the services of Miss P. who has before proved that dollars and cents is not the height of her ambition. This is a large school and demands a working teacher, with which this district has been
blessed the last two terms. The examination showed that good improvement had been made, many of the classes making marked progress. Good order and quiet prevailed through the term, which is highly commendable in the scholars attending.

Whole number of absent days 167½.

**No. 3. Summer Term. Miss S. A. Smith, Teacher.**

This school was under the charge of Mr. Phillips, and as he is absent and has left no data, no report can be given.

Whole number of absent days 224.

The Winter term of this school was commenced by Mr. Geo. W. Foster, who proved himself deficient in all the qualifications of a successful teacher, except an education. The school was closed at the end of the fifth week, proving an entire failure.

Five weeks after, it was taken in charge by Miss Percival, who at once entered upon her duties with spirit and determination, just meeting the wants of the school. This school is in a backward state, and unless teachers of high repute are secured, regardless of wages, and parents labor for its elevation, it is destined to take a low rank among the schools in town.

**No. 4. Summer Term. Taught by Miss Lydia A. Conant.**

This school was well disciplined and made good improvement. Only one scholar, Lucy A. Ryder, attended every day. Three, Lizzie Hoben, S. Staples, and S. Hoben, lost one day each. Seventeen pupils lost more than one-fourth of the school; seven, S. J. Ryder, J. H. Ryder, W. E. Ryder, T. E. Ryder, W. A. Ryder, A. Wentworth and F. Rich, lost more than one-half of the term.

Whole number of absent days 561.

The Winter term was commenced by Mr. C. H. Rogers, who was obliged to leave the second week on account of sickness, and after a vacation of three weeks was put under the charge of Mr. J. D. King, who is still successfully laboring in this school.

**No. 5. Winter School. Miss S. A. Smith, Teacher.**

The committee had no notice of the commencement of this school, consequently was not visited at the beginning; a heavy snow storm prevailing no examination was held at the close. No Summer school was taught.

Whole number of days absent 92.

**No. 6. Summer Term. Miss M. A. Baker, Teacher.**

Order and quiet prevailed throughout the term; improvement good. Not one scholar attended the whole term. Ella S. Leighton lost but one day. Belle S. Rogers lost 17 days. The rest of the girls lost from 2 to 7½ days each; of the boys, Frank L. Chapin lost two days, all the others from 10½ to 16½ days each.

Whole number of absent days 208.

**Winter Term. Miss M. A. Baker, Teacher.**

No notice of the close of this term was received, therefore no report can be given. Whole number of absent days 259.

**No. 7. Grammar. Summer Term. Miss A. S. Ware, Teacher.**

Order and improvement fair. Susie Curran, Eva Ware, Hattie George, Ann George, M. C. George, Eugenie Pratt, Julia Robinson, Cora Smith, Charles Currier and Walter Robinson attended the whole term. Annie Severance lost 8 days; Clara George 7; Mary Smith 10; Datie Rich 8; Maria Reynolds 12; Elva Smith 7; Harry George 24; George Esseg 15; Oscar Severance 13; Nelson Smith 14; Charles Esseg 10 days.

Whole number of absent days 172.

**No. 7. Grammar. Winter Term. Mr. J. W. West, Teacher.**

This School commenced with very flattering prospects, and for the first few weeks gave evidence of marked success, but circumstances of an adverse character greatly injured the usefulness of the school, many scholars preferring what they deem the ornamental to the substantial; were often from their classes, thereby discouraging those who remained and detracting from the interest of
the teacher. The examination proved a lack of interest seldom witnessed in this school. It is but little use for scholars to be present in person if their minds are in another direction. Whole number of absent days, 387.

**Primary School. Summer Term. Miss J. E. Marble, Teacher.**

The teacher having the interest of her school at heart, with good discipline and a steady hand proved herself to be a worthy and efficient instructress of the little ones. Whole number of absent days, 340.

**Winter Term. Miss J. E. Marble, Teacher.**

This school learned well, one class in the multiplication table acquitted themselves finely. A little uneasiness prevailed at the first visit but a marked improvement was obvious at the close. Whole number of absent days 1273.

**No. 8. Summer Term. Miss Julia M. Skinner, Teacher.**

This was Miss Skinner's first attempt. The school never appeared better at the close, therefore the committee do not hesitate to say that it was emphatically a good school.

"She teaches the girls,
And she warns the boys;
She directs all the hands
Of diligent hands,
And increases their gain
By her orderly reign."

Whole number of days absent, 276.

**Winter Term. Miss Emma F. Freeman, Teacher.**

This was a good school, both teacher and scholars did their duty, the scholars seeming to bear in mind the object for which our schools are established. Regular attendance and close application rendered the school highly profitable. Good order prevailed. Whole number of days absent, 274.

**No. 9. Summer Term. Miss M. A. Baker, Teacher.**

This was Miss Baker's first attempt, and considering the disadvantages she labored under, viz: Teaching in her own district with pupils from the same household, and the flying prejudicial reports of a few which tended not in the least to increase their scholars affection for the teacher, not to increase their relish for their books, this school will average with our summer schools.

Whole number of absent days, 2844.

**Winter Term. Mr. G. E. Chapin, Teacher.**

The motto of this school was Excelsior, and they kept their motto in view. Everett King, Chester Baker and Jerusha S. Baker, attended the whole term. Wesley Baker lost 7½ days, Willie Harriman, 7½, Alberta Harriman, 17, Alice Appleton, 17, Lucinda Harriman, 64, Rosa Bowden, 16, Ella Bowden, 11 days. The others lost from one to four and one-half days each.

Whole number of absent days, 111.

**No. 10. Summer Term. Miss H. Y. Wentworth, Teacher.**

This school had, as it always has, a quiet and orderly appearance, commendable progress was made. Whole number of absent days, 77½.

**No. 10. Winter Term. Miss H. Y. Wentworth, Teacher.**

Owing to sickness among the scholars, but eleven were present the last day; those present gave evidence that they attended school for the purpose of improving their minds.

**Corner District. Rev. Mr. Fletcher, Teacher.**

This school at its commencement appeared well, giving evidence of a successful term. Quiet has prevailed throughout. An hour spent in the school near its close satisfied the committee that this has been a working school, but as no examination has yet been given, no detailed report can be made.

**South District. Summer Term. Miss K. E. Swett, Teacher.**

Order and improvement fair. Had all the parents given the teacher their cordial support as a part did, the school could not have failed to have been more
pleasant to the teacher and profitable to the pupils. Some were well satisfied with the school, others were not. Why this difference in opinion?

Whole number of absent days, 379.

Winter Term. Mr. G. E. Chapin, Teacher.

The school-room was rendered pleasant, alike to teacher and scholars, by both agreeing, one to teach, the other to be taught. Elihu Wood, Albert Nickerson, Arthur Hoxie, Agustus Wood, Wilber Hoxie, Henry Stubbs, Mary Barstow, Rosa Barstow, Mary Wheelden, Marcia Stubbs, and Susie Wheelden, attended the whole term. Linie Rich lost 26 days; Emma Baker, 11; Rosa Wheelden, 9; Olive Wheelden, 10; Sylvia Stubbs, 11; Jasie Baker, 10; Lora Rogers, 20; Chas. Wheelden, 18; Sylvenas Wheelden, 30 days.

The committee would respectfully ask a few parents and scholars where can the most wholesome food for the mind be obtained, at the store or in the school-room? Whole number of absent days, 230.

STATISTICS.

SUMMER SCHOOLS. WINTER SCHOOLS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of District</th>
<th>No. of Days</th>
<th>No. of Scholars Registered</th>
<th>Average Attendance</th>
<th>Price of Board</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| *Grammar. |
| †Primary. |

Whole number of Scholars in town, 691
Whole number in Summer Schools, 383
Average attendance in Summer Schools, 301
Whole number in Winter Schools, 588
Average attendance in Winter Schools, 493
Average length of Summer Schools, 51 days.
Average length of Winter Schools, 53 days.
Average wages of female teachers, per week, excluding board, $3.17
Average wages of male teachers, per month, excluding board, 31.50

The average attendance upon the Summer Schools was 44 per cent. of all the scholars in town. Upon the Winter Schools it was 73 per cent.
Amount of money raised by the town for the support of Schools, $1400.00
Amount of State Fund, 122.80
Interest of School Fund, 69.42

$1592.22

Orrington, March 5th, 1866.

GEO. E. CHAPIN,
S. BOLTON,
J. W. PHILLIPS.