



ANNUAL REPORTS

—OF THE—

TOWN OFFICERS

—OF THE—

TOWN OF WESTFORD

—FOR THE—

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1897.

—ALSO—

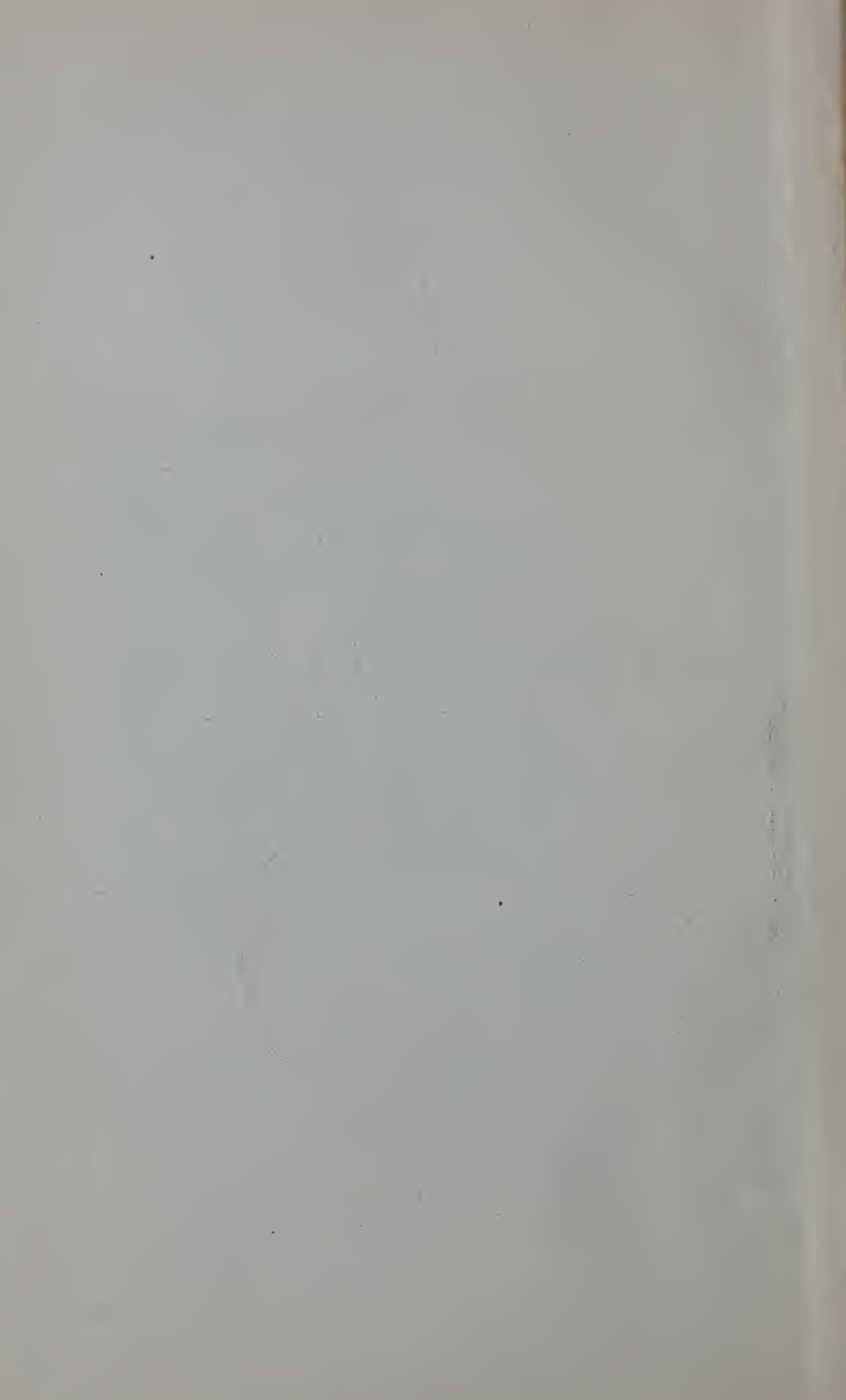
TOWN WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TO BE HELD APRIL 5, 1897.



LOWELL, MASS.:

COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS

1897.



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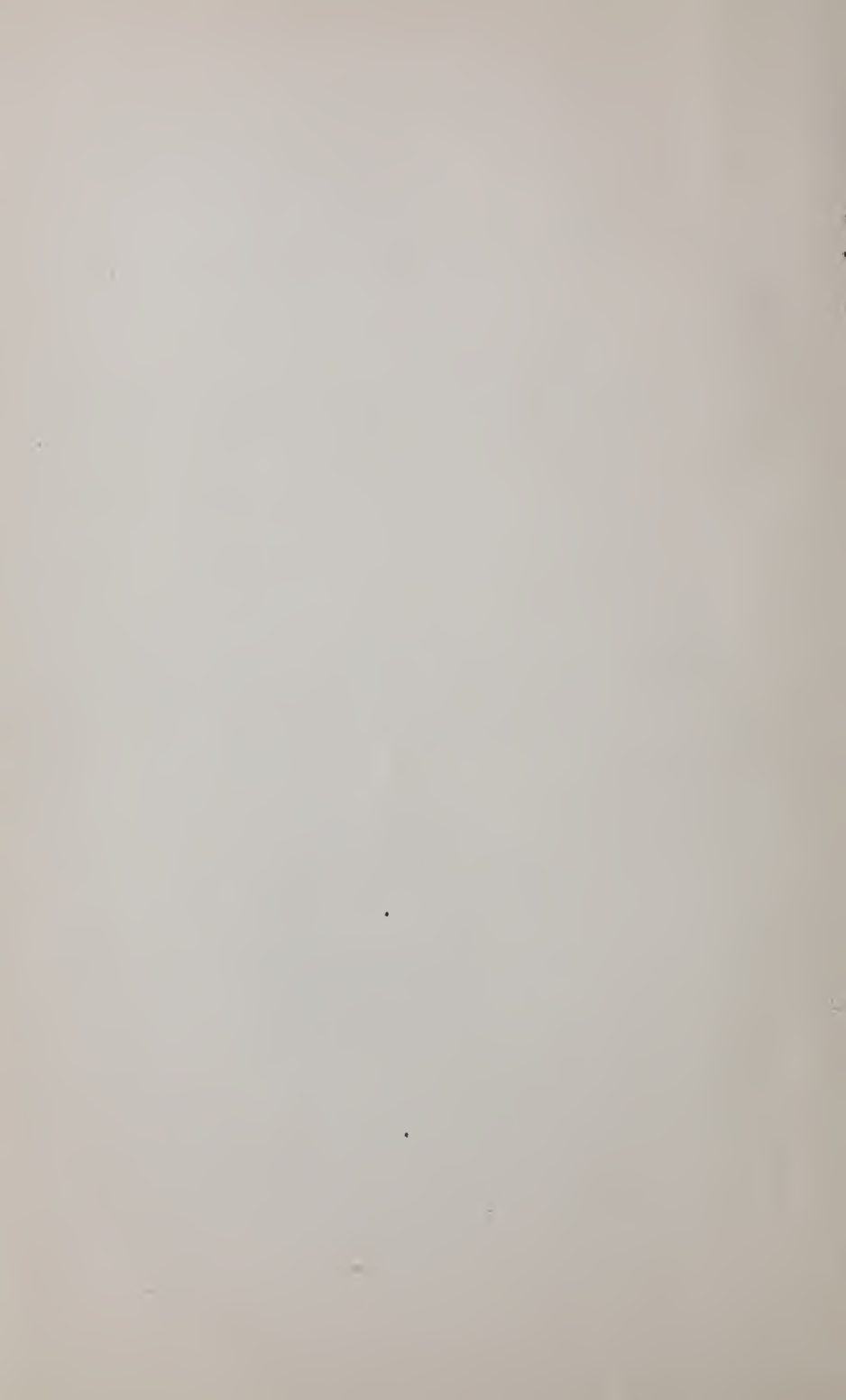
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LOWELL, MASS.:

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1897.



OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, 1896.

Town Clerk.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT.

Selectmen.

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| JULIAN A. CAMERON, <i>Sec.</i> , . . . | Term expires April, 1897 |
| SHERMAN H. FLETCHER, <i>Chairman</i> , . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, . . . | Term expires April, 1899 |

Assessors.

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| SAMUEL L. TAYLOR, . . . | Term expires April, 1897 |
| GEORGE H. HARTFORD, <i>Chairman</i> , . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| WILLIAM H. H. BURBECK, . . . | Term expires April, 1899 |

Overseers of the Poor.

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| HAMMETT D. WRIGHT, <i>Sec.</i> , . . . | Term expires April, 1897 |
| WAYLAND F. BALCH, <i>Chairman</i> , . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| ALVIN G. POLLEY, . . . | Term expires April, 1899 |

Treasurer.

NAHUM H. WRIGHT.

Collector of Taxes.

WALTER C. WRIGHT.

Auditor.

ARTHUR B. PLIMPTON.

Constables.

ISAAC E. DAY,

EUGENE DEROEHN.

School Committee.

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| ABIEL J. ABBOT, <i>Chairman</i> , . . . | Term expires April, 1897 |
| WALTER J. SLEEPER, <i>Secretary</i> , . . . | Term expires April, 1897 |
| ALBERT R. CHOATE, . . . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| ALTA M. TAYLOR, . . . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| FRANK H. HILDRETH, . . . | Term expires April, 1899 |
| ALFRED WOODBURY, . . . | Term expires April, 1899 |

Sealer of Weights and Measures.

TRUE. A. BEAN.

Registrars of Voters.

QUINCY W. DAY, . . . Term expires April 30, 1897
 OSCAR R. SPALDING, . . . Term expires April 30, 1898
 NELSON L. TUTTLE, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires April 30, 1899
 GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Clerk Ex-Officio*.

Superintendent of Streets.

BENJAMIN F. DAY.

Inspectors of Animals and Provisions.

GEORGE T. DAY, ALBERT P. RICHARDSON.

Measurer of Grain.

ALONZO H. SUTHERLAND.

The foregoing officers have all been sworn; of the following only those marked by a star. (*)

Fence Viewers.

*ALVIN G. POLLEY, LEWIS C. DANE, *ALMON S. VOSE,

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber.

*THOMAS E. SYMMES, *HORACE E. GOULD, *WM. W. JOHNSON,
 *JOHN A. HEALY, *A. H. SUTHERLAND, *GEO. H. PRESCOTT,
 JEREMIAH DESMOND.

Field Drivers.

*WARREN P. SWEETSER, FRENCH M. MORSE.

Weighers of Coal.

*CHAS. E. WHIDDEN, *E. H. WHIDDEN, *J. A. HEALY,
 *HENRY HEALY, *J. M. FLETCHER, *MINOT A. BEAN,
 *W. W. JOHNSON.

No oath is required of the remaining officers.

Trustees of J. V. Fletcher Library.

MARGARET A. O'NEILL, . . . Term expires April, 1897
 JOHN W. ABBOT, . . . Term expires April, 1898
 WILLIAM E. FROST, . . . Term expires April, 1899

Librarian.

CARRIE E. READ.

Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, . . . Term expires April, 1897
 WILLIAM E. FROST, . . . Term expires April, 1898
 GEORGE T. DAY, . . . Term expires April, 1899

Board of Health.
THE SELECTMEN, *Ex-Officio.*

Agents of Board—

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, to issue burial permits.
JULIAN A. CAMERON and JOHN A. HEALY,
for sanitary condition of town.

Police Officers.

AI BICKNELL, SAMUEL H. BALCH, W. E. PARSONS,
HIRAM DANE, JOHN A. HEALY.

Fire Wards.

W. E. PARSONS. JOHN A. HEALY, A. R. LEIGHTON.
Only Mr. Healy accepted the office.

Forest Fire Wards.

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, EDWARD PRESCOTT.

Agent for Burial of Deceased Soldiers, Etc.

GEORGE T. DAY.

Undertakers.

ALBERT P. RICHARDSON, JOHN A. HEALY.

Superintendent of Almshouse.

SAMUEL H. BALCH.

Janitor of Town House.

AI BICKNELL.

Appraisers of Property at Town Farm.

NOAH PRESCOTT, GEORGE H. HARTFORD, SAMUEL L. TAYLOR.

BIRTHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1896.

| DATE. | NAMES. | PARENTS' NAMES. |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nov. 10, | Allard, Cora May..... | Edward and Mary J. (Dion). |
| Sept. 19, | Amisson, Arthur Frederick..... | Frederick and Alice A. (Drew). |
| Feb. 25, | Anderson, Emel..... | John and Dugrid. |
| Sept. 7, | Bicknell, Elva Mand..... | Charles H. and Almada (Gray). |
| June 7, | Bilodeau, Marie M. Elanie Alvina.. | Alfred and Melanie (Demers). |
| Nov. 25, | Blaisdell, Chester Everett..... | Alvin J. and Elizabeth (Hutchins). |
| Jan. 18, | Blodgett, Arthur Edward..... | Arthur T. and Emily J. (Weaver). |
| March 4, | Blotner, ————— | Max and Sevier (Tilda). |
| April 5, | Boucher, Mary Loreza..... | Joseph and Mary (Dureault). |
| June 4, | Brisson, Marie Estelle Benedik.... | Ar lur and Adeline (Roux). |
| March 31, | Brow, Viola May..... | Byron H. and Clara (Kruckman). |
| July 2, | Byron, Alma..... | Frank and Louise (Flitute). |
| Jan. 8, | Callahan, Genevieve..... | John F. and Annie (Bradley). |
| July 24, | Clement, Marion Gertrude..... | Peter and Mary (O'Conner). |
| Feb. 22, | Connell, Delia Gertrude..... | John H. and Margaret E. (Coughlin). |
| July 5, | Crockett, Lyman Clinton..... | Henry C. and Mary D. (Odell). |
| Sept. 29, | De Roehn, Eric Moody..... | Charles F. and Bertha J. (Hoyt). |
| Oct. 30, | Eli, Mari Louise..... | Adolph and Eveline. |
| Oct. 18, | Felch, William Parker..... | Frank P. and Cora (Wilson). |
| May 26, | Gilson, Alice May..... | George Q. and Alice M. (Garrett). |
| June 16, | Gower, Frank Francis..... | William and Elizabeth (Donoghue). |
| March 28, | Gurney, Wallace La Selle..... | Henry A. and Mary (Tweddle). |
| Aug. 22, | Haberman, Astrid..... | A. T. and Caroline (Lundgren). |
| Oct. 18, | Hanson, Emeli..... | Martin and Sayla (Worbjorullon). |
| June 17, | Healy, Edward Timothy..... | John A. and Elizabeth (Sullivan). |
| Nov. 8, | Healy, Henry Joseph..... | William J. and Ellen F. (Dunn). |
| April 22, | Jarvis, Mary Rose Anna Amelia.. | Alexander J. and Rosa 'Barlow'. |
| July 18, | Le Clair, Joseph Napoleon..... | George and Philaman (Talbot). |
| Aug. 27, | Leighton, Francis Howe..... | A. Richmond and Helen W. (Howe). |
| Feb. 5, | Leland, Henry Levi..... | George A. and Mary (Griffin). |
| June 25, | McDonald, John..... | Joseph J. and Nelly (Sullivan). |
| May 2, | McManamon, ————— | Francis J. and E. Sopironia (Grant). |
| Feb. 24, | McMaster, Sadelia Antoinette.... | John and Mattie (Smith). |
| June 21, | Miloe, Joseph Odillion..... | Odillion and Mary J. (Lamprou). |
| Nov. 26, | O'Brien, Thomas James..... | John H. and Annie T. (Dunn). |
| March 10, | Orr, Nellie Viola..... | Robert and Jennie (McMurray). |
| Dec. 19, | Paille, Freddie..... | Freddie and Stephnae (Garceau). |
| July 12, | Prescott, Ida Theresa..... | George W. and Lilla (Lamphear). |
| Oct. 14, | Provost, Mary Geneva..... | Henry and Mary A. (Larkin). |
| Jan. 9, | Redding, Mildred Vera..... | Reuben E. and Damie M. (Carkin). |
| Feb. 2, | Reed, Ida May..... | Ephraim and Mary E. (McLaughlin). |
| Oct. 1, | Rockwell, Clifton Randall..... | Guy L. and Mamie B. (Bicknell). |
| Sept. 25, | Rosazza, Wirefod..... | John B. and Mary (Tatro). |
| Feb. 4, | Sanborn, George Howard..... | George L. and Margaret (Mellor). |
| Dec. 27, | Sears, Henry Fred..... | Joseph H. and Sophie (Brussard). |
| June 30, | Sweeter, Howard Warren..... | Warren P. and Jessie (Harrap). |
| July 15, | Talbot, Joseph Alexander..... | Joseph and Lucy (Chebut). |
| Aug. 2, | Thorp, Ester..... | Joseph H. and Mamie (Case). |
| Sept. 12, | Tully, Bertha May..... | Charles and Bertha (White). |
| May 12, | Wall, Rachel May..... | Joseph H. and Maria (Agnew). |
| May 2, | Woodbury, Bertha May..... | Ralph E. and Hattie R. (McLeod). |

Number recorded, 51; males, 26; females, 25; of American parentage, 14; foreign parentage, 17; American father and foreign mother, 13; American mother and foreign father, 7.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

MARRIAGES

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1896.

| DATE. | NAMES. | AGE. | RESIDENCE. | BIRTHPLACE. |
|-----------|----------------------------------|------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Nov. 26, | Alward, Morton Silas | 24 | Westford | Westford. |
| | Blood, Grace May | 19 | Littleton | Boston. |
| Dec. 24, | Baker, William Edward | 25 | Westford | England. |
| | Weaver, Elizabeth Helen..... | 32 | " | " |
| Nov. 26, | Bunce, Henry Augustus | 23 | " | Westford. |
| | Polley, Rose | 23 | " | " |
| Aug. 24, | Byron, Henry | 22 | " | Province Quebec |
| | Leclerc, Albertine | 18 | " | " |
| Sept. 1, | Conrey, George Edward | 20 | " | Milford, N. H. |
| | Reed, Rebecca Jane | 21 | Littleton | Littleton. |
| Oct. 17, | Defoe, Philip Albert | 18 | Westford | Low ll. |
| | Crockett, Anna Lizzie | 20 | " | Williamsburg, |
| April 15, | Dodge, Francis Warren | 57 | Littleton | Littleton. [Me. |
| | Howe, Mary Elizabeth | 36 | Westford | Dunstable. |
| Dec. 23, | Gay, Ernest | 28 | Boston | P. E. Island. |
| | Cooke, Minnie Amanda | 27 | Westford | New Brunswick. |
| July 31, | Hill, George W | 61 | " | Andover. |
| | Foster, Almira C. (Shedd) | 63 | Andover | Tewksbury. |
| Nov. 11, | Hoyt, John | 23 | Westford | New Brunswick. |
| | Flannery, Polly | 20 | " | England. |
| Feb. 8, | McManamon, Frank J..... | 30 | " | Lewiston, Me. |
| | Grant, Sophronia Elizabeth | 29 | " | York Co., N. B. |
| Jan. 18, | Merrill, George Winn | 24 | " | Albany, N. Y. |
| | Coburn, Lillian Susan | 23 | Tyngsborough.. | Tyngsborough. |
| Dec. 28, | Morris, George A | 23 | Westford | Gloucester. |
| | Burke, Maggie E | 27 | " | Tyngsborough. |
| Oct. 15, | Noble, Hiram Franklin | 22 | " | Pittsfield, Me. |
| | Heald, Hattie A | 22 | Carlisle | Westford. |
| Sept. 30, | Parkhurst, Bertiz E..... | 27 | Dunstable | Dunstable. |
| | Dane, Lula V..... | 18 | Westford | Westford. |
| Nov. 15, | Payne, Thomas Patrick | 20 | " | Lowell. |
| | Davie, Sarah | 17 | " | Westford. |
| April 8, | Prinn, Alfred T. W | 20 | " | " |
| | Ledwith, Mary Elizabeth..... | 20 | " | Burlington, Vt. |
| Nov. 22, | Rabbichou, Eugene | 21 | " | Canada. |
| | Boucher, Lucy | 20 | " | " |
| May 11, | Sargent, Allan Cameron | 37 | " | Westford. |
| | Minter, Lizzie S | 43 | Lowell... .. | Worcester. |
| Sept. 23, | Tulis, Frank B | 32 | Westford | Concord. |
| | O'Connell, Deborah | 27 | " | Ireland. |
| Mar. 23, | Wheeler, Leonard Winthrop | 31 | " | Westford. |
| | Williams, Mary Houghton | 24 | Concord | Taunton |
| Sept. 2, | Wright, Bradley V | 34 | Westford | Westford. |
| | Baldwin, Mabel L | 25 | Andover, N. H.. | Meriden, N. H. |
| Feb. 2, | Wyman, George W | 24 | Westford | Tyngsborough. |
| | Burnett, Annie M | 27 | " | England. |

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|----|
| Number of marriages recorded | 23 | Between foreigners | 5 |
| Solemnized in Westford..... | 8 | American groom and foreign bride.... | 3 |
| Westford grooms | 20 | Second marriage of groom..... | 2 |
| Westford brides..... | 15 | Second marriage of bride | 1 |
| Between Americans | 15 | Solemnized by Westford clergymen.... | 11 |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

DEATHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1896.

| DATE. | NAMES, ETC. | AGE. | | |
|-----------|--|------|------|------|
| | | YRS. | MOS. | DYS. |
| Sept. 27, | Ask, Exsenfile, dau. of Thomas and Celista (Arpin)..... | .. | 5 | .. |
| Jan. 31, | Baker, John, son of Edward and Priscilla | 56 | .. | .. |
| Mar. 14, | Blotner, ———, son of Max and Sarah (Civer)..... | 6 | .. | 10 |
| May 26, | Brisson, Mary Eugénie, dau. of Arthur and Adeline (Roux)..... | 6 | .. | .. |
| July 2, | Byron, Louise (Flitute), wife of Frank | 41 | .. | .. |
| Sept. 10, | Carlin, George F., son of Isaac W. and Mahala (Colburn)..... | 34 | 11 | 9 |
| Jan. 7, | Casey, Henry Harold, son of Daniel and Annie (Starr)..... | 5 | 9 | 21 |
| Feb. 15, | Charlesworth, Thomas, son of Samuel and Ann (Whitworth)..... | 70 | .. | .. |
| Nov. 25, | Golyer, Mary S. (Till), wife of James | 66 | .. | .. |
| Feb. 17, | Dailey, Bridget (Cas-y), widow of Patrick | 75 | .. | .. |
| Sept. 10, | De-foe, Isabella (McCarthy), wife of Edward | 23 | .. | 5 |
| June 28, | Driscoll, Timothy D., son of Timothy and Mary (O'Brien)..... | 29 | 6 | .. |
| May 4, | Duffy, Annie, resident of Providence, R. I. | 35 | .. | .. |
| Dec. 20, | Dugdale, R. chard, son of Edward and Mary Ann (Kelley)..... | 33 | 2 | 14 |
| Oct. 30, | Eli, Marie Louise, dau. of Har dof and Eveline | .. | .. | .. |
| Jan. 2, | Felch, John P., son of John T. and Sallie (Lewes)..... | 55 | 5 | 24 |
| June 5, | Fife-ld, George H., son of George O. and Mary J. (Mitchell)..... | 59 | 5 | 15 |
| Nov. 10, | Flanders, Moses T., resident of Lowell..... | 62 | 9 | 5 |
| Jan. 17, | Flint, Nathaniel F., resident of Andover..... | 53 | .. | 21 |
| July 1, | Gardner, Robert, son of John and Marion (Robertson)..... | 73 | 1 | 17 |
| March 5, | Griffin, Ellen, dau. of Charles M. and Nellie M. (Collins)..... | .. | .. | .. |
| Jan. 13, | Griffin, Joseph B., resident of Lowell | 79 | 2 | 3 |
| Dec. 12, | Hamlin, Charles A., son of Cyrus and Dinah (Cortalyou)..... | 39 | 6 | 29 |
| June 8, | Henri, John, son of Joseph | 63 | .. | .. |
| Aug. 24, | Henvill, Frances L. (Cummings), resident of Haverhill | 54 | .. | 7 |
| Feb. 10, | Hodgson, Lillian May, dau. of James and Clara (Dracup)..... | .. | 4 | 2 |
| Mar. 25, | Hodgson, Violet Elsie, dau. of James and Clara (Dracup)..... | .. | 5 | 17 |
| Aug. 1, | Keble, Catharine Abbot, dau. of Abbot L. and Catharine M. (Abbot)..... | 11 | 1 | 11 |
| May 22, | Keyes, Rebecca H. (Fletcher), widow of Joseph W. | 77 | 5 | 1 |
| April 3, | Lord, Sophronia (Brothers), resident of Worcester | 59 | 1 | 11 |
| Jan. 23, | Mann, Jane (Rice), widow of John | 74 | .. | .. |
| Sept. 23, | Mason, Mailla L. (Barrons), wife of Josiah B | 73 | 9 | 9 |
| May 2, | McManamon, ———, son of Frank and Elizabeth (Grant)..... | .. | .. | .. |
| Oct. 26, | McMaus, James | 53 | .. | .. |
| July 14, | Miloe, Joseph Odillion, son of Odillion and Jeanne (Lamprou)..... | .. | .. | 23 |
| May 15, | Moore, Elizabeth S. (Blowers), resident of Lowell | 57 | 6 | .. |
| Oct. 21, | Moos-kian, John, son of Nazaret and Anna M. (Kalousdian)..... | .. | .. | .. |
| April 29, | Morrison, James, son of John and Ann | 86 | .. | .. |
| July 28, | Morrison, Martha (Crompton), resident of Chelmsford | 70 | 6 | .. |
| May 31, | Nason, Luther W., son of Elijah and Ruth (Hyde)..... | 75 | 10 | .. |
| April 5, | Nutting, Edric G., resident of Lynn | 41 | .. | .. |
| Oct. 21, | Ouillette, Marie, dau. of Octave and Malvina (Martin)..... | .. | 3 | .. |
| Oct. 25, | Ouillette, Omer, son of Octave and Malvina (Martin)..... | 1 | 6 | .. |
| Oct. 1, | Peltier, Arthur, son of Joseph and Isoc (Mitchell)..... | .. | 7 | .. |
| Oct. 1, | Peltier, Willard son of Joseph and Isoc (Mitchell)..... | .. | 7 | .. |
| Jan. 27, | Peters, Mary Jane (Davis), wife of John H. | 55 | .. | 12 |
| Oct. 17, | Reed, Mary E. (Brown), wife of Ephraim | 28 | .. | .. |
| Feb. 28, | Reed, Thomas C., son of Thomas and Rebecca (Cummings)..... | 70 | 3 | 13 |
| Sept. 25, | Richardson, Minnie E., dau. of Joseph and Bessie (Phylis)..... | 18 | 7 | 4 |
| April 13, | Richardson, Sadie F. (Daley), wife of Charles N. | 41 | .. | .. |
| Oct. 17, | Spaulding, Calvin Warren, son of Calvin and Sarah E. (Wright)..... | 58 | 4 | 2 |
| April 4, | Spaulding, Solomon H., resident of Boston | 82 | 7 | .. |
| Oct. 6, | Spaulding, William W., resident of Chelmsford | 26 | 11 | 16 |
| Dec. 31, | Taylor, Ellen F. (Davis), resident of Chelmsford | 52 | .. | 21 |
| Oct. 3, | Trumbull, Charles Perkins, resident of Beverly | 66 | .. | 21 |
| July 18, | Vinal, Roscoe A., son of Charles E. and Lizzie A. (Davis)..... | .. | 7 | 29 |
| Aug. 25, | Waller, Lucinda A. (Campbell) | 73 | .. | .. |
| Oct. 1, | Wilkins, Almira F. (Hau-llin), widow of Luther | 74 | .. | 5 |
| Aug. 12, | Woodburn, Betsey (Howard), widow of Sabin | 82 | 2 | 20 |
| Jan. 24, | Wright, Abigail P. (Livingston), wife of Nshum H. | 59 | .. | 24 |
| Sept. 6, | Wright, Mary Ann (Reed), widow of William O. | 83 | .. | .. |
| Nov. 5, | Wyman, Ida A. (Blodgett), wife of Walter W. | 43 | 8 | 13 |

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--|--------|----------|--------|
| Whole number recorded | 31 | 31 | 62 |
| Number of deaths in town | 24 | 27 | 51 |
| Residents of Westford | 24 | 24 | 48 |
| Non-residents brought to town for interment..... | 5 | 4 | 9 |
| Number of interments in town | 22 | 20 | 42 |

Five persons who died in town were residents of other places. Two residents of town died in other places.

Cause of death of persons who died in this town and of residents of this town who died in other places: Phthisis, 6; cholera infantum, 5; still birth and nephritis, 4 each; apoplexy, cancer, tuberculosis, diabetes, 2 each; gynecosuria, membranous croup, suicide, congestion of lungs, hydrothorax, suppurative hepatitis, congenital heart disease, nephritis and organic disease of heart, pneumonia and asthma, pleurisy and heart failure, hydrochachitis and meningitis, inanition, old age, dementia, heart disease, puerperal eclampsia, Bright's disease, chronic cystitis, angina pectoris, septicæmia, chronic myelitis, cholera, paralysis of heart, pleurisy and hydrothorax and phthisis, pneumonia, pneumonia and rheumatism, chronic enteritis, 1 each.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

NOTE.

All persons interested are respectfully requested to examine the foregoing reports of births, marriages and deaths, and if any errors are noted, or if there be omissions, that they be reported to the Town Clerk in writing, that the records may be perfected.

Births occurring late in the year are sometimes returned without the Christian name. In such cases parents should return the name to the Town Clerk as soon as selected, as incompleteness of the record may involve much trouble in the future.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT ON DOGS.

Number of dogs licensed during the year ending Nov. 30, 1896:

| | |
|---|----------|
| 149 males at \$2.00 | \$298 00 |
| 6 females at \$5.00..... | 30 00 |
| | |
| Total..... | \$328 00 |
| Deduct Clerk's fees, 155 licenses at 20 cents each..... | 31 00 |

Balance paid into County Treasury..... \$297 00

For which the receipts of the County Treasurer are on file.

Of the foregoing licenses 5 (males) were for the year ending April 30, 1896.

Number licensed for year ending April 30, 1897, males, 144 ; females, 6 ; total, 150.

Number returned by Assessors, males, 147 ; females 4 ; total, 151.

Owners and Keepers of Dogs who have procured Licenses since last Report, February 6, 1896.

The licenses are for the year ending April 30, 1897, unless otherwise specified.

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Abbot & Co. | Carmichael, James H. | Eastman, Asa B. M. |
| Adams, Charles L. | Carrick, Thomas | Eaton, Ward W. |
| Balch, Samuel H. | Carver, Gertrude E. | Edwards, Franklin |
| Balsler, Arthur W. | Carver, William R. | Eliason, Lars J. |
| Banister, F. W. | Casey, Daniel | Felch, Frank P. |
| Batchelder, O. A. | Catchpole, Henry | Felch, John P. ('96) |
| Bean, True A. | Champagne, Louis | Fifield, Mrs. Geo. H. (2) |
| Bemis, Henry S. | Cheever, Jacob | Fisher, Alvan |
| Bennett, Joseph | Clement, Peter | Fletcher, Harry N. (2) |
| Berry, James | Comey, Arthur H. | Fletcher, Henry A. (3) |
| Blaisdell, A. J. | Couture, Charles | Fletcher, J. Willard |
| Blodgett, Josiah W. | Crossland, Mary | Floyd, Mary |
| Blood, Napoleon B. | Cummings, Charles M. | Furbush, Frank L. |
| Bouford, Ralph | Cummings, E. M. (fem) | Gilson, George Q. |
| Brow, Byron H. | Dane, Hiram | Gilson, Levi S. |
| Brown, Mrs. F. J. | Davis, Alfred S. | Gorden, James |
| Burbeck, Eli T. | Day, George T. | Gould, Horace E. |
| Callahan, John | Decater, C. R. P. | Gould, Warren J. |
| Cameron, Donald | Decater, John H. | Griffin, Charles M. |
| Carkin, Charles H. | Decater, Joshua C. | Gustafsen, William |
| Carkin, Edwin F. | Decater, William H. | Haley, John |
| Carkin, Frank E. | DeRoehm, Eugene | Hall, John |
| Carkin, George F. | Desjardines, Oliver | Harrington, P. Henry |
| Carkin, I. W. | Downs, Matthew F. | Hartford, George H. |
| Carkin, Warren E. | Drew, Frank C. | Hawkes, Wesley O. |

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Healy, John A. | Nesmith, Mrs G.W. (f) | Splaine, Daniel E. |
| Heywood, Albert W. | Nesmith, Harry L. | Stephan, Reinhold |
| Hildreth, Herbert V. | Nickless, Maud | Sullivan, Jeremiah |
| Hill, George W. | Nutting, Benjamin F. | Sullivan, Thomas O. |
| Holt, Arthur S. | O'Brien, James H. | Swanson, Noah |
| Howard, Calvin L. | O'Brien, James, 2d | Sweatt, Fred A. |
| Hutchins, Stephen E. | O'Brien, Jas. 2d (fem) | Sweatt, Mrs. S. D. |
| Ingalls, Geo.W. ('96-2) | O'Brien, John W. (2) | Sweetsers, Judson F. |
| Johnson, William R. | Orange, Abraham | Sweetsers, Warren P. |
| Krounse, Louis | Paige, A. M. | Tallant, Eben W. |
| Lawton, Luther | Parker, Charles Wm. | Valentine, Mary |
| Marshall, Josiah E. | Petherick, William H. | Vose, William M. |
| Martin, Fred | Prescott, Nelson L. | Wall, Christina |
| Mason, L. A. | Prescott, Wallie | Ward, John E. ('96) |
| McCarty, Joseph F. | Putney, Lucia | Whigham, William |
| McDonald, Angus | Quinn, Thomas V. | Whitney, Julian |
| McGlinchy, James | Reckards, John F. | Whitney, Sarah F. (f) |
| McGlinchy, Peter(fem) | Reckards, Thomas | Whitaker, Christopher |
| Merritt, Walter J (fem) | Reed, Charles W. | Wilson, Arthur |
| Moore, Edward A. | Rockwell, Guy L. | Wright, Andrew S. |
| Morse, French M. | Sanborn, George L. | Wright, Chas. H. ('96-'97) |
| Mountain, Ernest G. (2) | Sargent, Charles G. | Wright, Frank C. |
| Mountain, George E. | Sargent, Fred G. | Wright, Walter C. |
| Murphy, Henry J. | Spillane, Patrick | Wright, Willey M. |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

February 17, 1897.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, 1896.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford qualified by law to vote in town affairs, held in the Town House, March 16, 1896, the following business was transacted:

1st. The Town Clerk appointed Lewis C. Dane, Teller, to act during the election of Moderator, and he was duly sworn by said Clerk. George T Day was elected Moderator.

2d. Voted, that the compensation of the Tax Collector be one per cent. on the amount he collects.

3d. The Selectmen appointed William E. Frost and William H. H. Burbeck Ballot Clerks, and they were sworn by the Town Clerk and received from him the official ballots and gave their receipt therefor. Lewis C. Dane and T. Arthur E. Wilson, who had previously been appointed Tellers by the Selectmen, were sworn by the Town Clerk, and took charge of the check list and ballot box respectively. The voters then proceeded to bring in their ballots for the officers named in the third article of the warrant, and also on the following question: "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?" Before the commencement of balloting the ballot box was opened and found to be empty, the register standing on zero. Sherman H. Fletcher Julian A. Cameron, John A. Healy and Samuel L. Felch, were appointed Tellers by the Moderator, and sworn by the Town Clerk.

At the close of the polls the register stood on 208.

Number of names checked on ballot clerks' list, 184.

Number of names checked on ballot box list, 182.

Whole number of ballots cast (by count), 182.

George H. Hartford, Charles M. Griffin and Elbert H. Flagg were appointed Tellers by the Moderator and sworn by the Town Clerk.

The discrepancy between the figures on the register and the number of ballots cast was owing to the bad working of the machine, which often caused the register to move twice or more on the passage of a single ballot. The discrepancy between the

number of names checked on the two lists was owing to the fact that one, at least, and probably two voters who received ballots, passed out of the inclosure without depositing them. One such ballot was returned to the presiding officer.

At this point, the meeting proceeded to take up the remaining articles of the warrant for consideration, during the canvassing of the votes for town officers.

4th. Voted, to accept the Report of the Selectmen as printed.

5th. Voted, to accept the Report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards as printed.

6th. Voted, to accept the Report of the Overseers of the Poor as printed.

7th. Voted, to accept the Report of the School Committee as printed.

8th. Voted, to accept and adopt the Report of the Trustees of the Public Library as printed. The Report recommends that two hundred dollars (\$200) be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and for supplying papers and periodicals for the reading room, during the year next ensuing

9th. Voted, to accept and adopt the Report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds as printed. The Report recommends that three hundred dollars (\$300) be raised and appropriated for the improvement of Public Burial Grounds.

10th. Voted, to accept the Report of the Auditor as printed.

11th. Voted, to accept the list of Jurors as printed, which list is as follows: Wilford G. Blodgett, Augustus Bunce, W. H. H. Burbeck, William R. Carver, Quincy W. Day, Jeremiah Desmond, Frank C. Drew, Elbert H. Flagg, John K. Felch, Allen B. Gould, Horace E. Gould, David L. Greig, Henry A. Gurney, Frank C. Hildreth, Samuel M. Hutchins, Angus McDonald, French M. Morse, Harry L. Nesmith, Wilbert E. Parsons, George H. Prescott, Nathan Prescott, Nelson L. Prescott, Joseph Wall, Leonard W. Wheeler, Hiram Whitney, Hammett D. Wright, Walter C. Wright.

12th. Voted, to raise and appropriate thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3500) to repair roads and bridges.

13th. Voted, to raise and appropriate thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3500) for town debts and charges.

14th. Voted, to take up the 25th article.

15th. Voted, to dismiss the 25th article, which related to transportation of scholars and consolidation of schools.

16th. Voted, to raise and appropriate fifty-six hundred dollars (\$5600) for public schools.

17th. Voted, to raise and appropriate fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500) to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the town, at Westford Academy.

18th. Voted, to raise and appropriate twenty-eight hundred dollars (\$2800) for support of poor.

19th. Voted, to raise and appropriate seven hundred and fifty dollars (\$750) for school text books and supplies.

20th. In regard to Article 18, which was "To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the Treasury, and act in relation to the same," the Town voted to give such authority to the Town Treasurer.

21st. Voted, that the taxes of those who pay only a poll tax be payable at sight, and all other taxes shall be payable on the first day of January next, and if any taxes remain unpaid after that date the Collector shall charge interest on such taxes overdue, at the rate of seven per centum per annum, and collect the same according to law.

There shall be allowed a discount on all taxes assessed of five (5) per cent. if paid on or before Oct. 1st, and three (3) per cent. if paid on or before Dec. 1st next, if the whole tax assessed to them is paid at one time. The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Tax Collector within five days after the first days of October and December, and said Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all money he may have received, within seven days after the said first days of October and December.

And, furthermore, the Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Collector between the fifteenth and twentieth days of February next, and the Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all money he may have received within five days after the said twentieth day of February. And the Assessors are instructed to complete the assessment of taxes on or before July 1st next, and issue their warrant to the Collector of Taxes, with a list of persons assessed with their place of abode, within five days after the said first day of July.

22d. Chose the following persons Fence Viewers: Alvin G. Polley, Lewis C. Dane, Almon S. Vose. Mr. Vose sworn by Town Clerk.

23d. Chose the following persons Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber: Thomas E. Symmes, Horace E. Gould, William W. Johnson, John A. Healy, Alonzo H. Sutherland, George H. Prescott, Jeremiah Desmond. Mr. Prescott sworn by Town Clerk.

24th. Chose Warren P. Sweetser and French M. Morse, Field Drivers.

25th. Voted, to appropriate the sum of fifty dollars (\$50) to commemorate Memorial Day.

26th. Voted, to appropriate the sum of fifty dollars (\$50) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in the villages of Graniteville and Forge Village.

27th. Voted, to appropriate the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in the South part of the Town.

28th. Voted, to adopt the by-laws relating to truants and disorderly children as published in the report of the School Committee, which by-laws are as follows :

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE 1. The Town of Westford hereby avails itself of the several provisions of the statutes of this Commonwealth now in force relative to habitual truants, absentees from school, and such children as persistently violate the reasonable rules and regulations of the public schools.

ARTICLE 2. The County Truant School at North Chelmsford is hereby assigned as the place for the restraint, discipline and instruction of children described in Article 1.

ARTICLE 3. All by-laws heretofore adopted by the Town of Westford which are inconsistent with the above are hereby repealed.

29th. Voted, to change the time of holding the annual Town Meeting from the third Monday in March to the first Monday in April, to take effect next year.

30th. Voted, to dismiss the 27th article, which relates to the length of sessions of public schools.

31st. Voted, to dismiss the 28th article, which relates to recesses in our public schools.

32d. Voted, to make the salary of the Town Treasurer one hundred dollars (\$100) per year.

33d. Voted, that the Town have suitable dedication exercises on the completion of the J. V. Fletcher Library ; that the sum of six hundred dollars (\$600) be raised and appropriated to defray the expense of said dedication ; and that the present committee chosen to contract and erect said building be continued as a committee on dedication of J. V. Fletcher Library with full power to appoint sub-committees from among the citizens of Westford, and that the said committee be authorized to accept the building in behalf of the Town as the J. V. Fletcher Library.

34th. The ballots for Town officers were sorted and counted, and the following persons were found to have received a plurality of votes and were declared elected :

TOWN CLERK—Gilman J. Wright.

SELECTMAN—George W. Heywood. Sworn by Town Clerk.

ASSESSOR—William H. H. Burbeck. The Town Clerk administered to Mr. Burbeck the oath required by statute.

OVERSEER OF THE POOR—Alvin G. Polley.

TOWN TREASURER—Nahum H. Wright.

COLLECTOR OF TAXES—Walter C. Wright. Sworn by Town Clerk.

AUDITOR—Arthur B. Plimpton.

CONSTABLE—Isaac E. Day. No choice of second constable. Tie between Eugene DeRoehn and Arthur Wright.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE—Frank H. Hildreth, Alfred Woodbury. Mr. Woodbury sworn by Town Clerk.

TRUSTEE OF J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY—William E. Frost.

TRUSTEE OF J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY, to fill vacancy—John W. Abbot.

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS—George T. Day.

The question of licensing the sale of intoxicating liquors was decided in the negative, the vote standing, Yes, 47; No, 114.

35th. To accept the minutes of the meeting.

36th. Voted to dissolve the meeting.

GEORGE T. DAY, *Moderator.*

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

NATIONAL AND STATE ELECTIONS, NOV. 3, 1896.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Abstract of record of vote of Town of Westford. | |
| Whole number of ballots cast..... | 419 |
| Presidential Electors: | |
| Bryan and Sewall (Democratic) | 58 |
| Levering and Johnson (Prohibition) | 5 |
| Matchett and Maguire (Socialist Labor) | 1 |
| McKinley and Hobart (Republican) | 315 |
| Palmer and Buckner (Democratic National) | 17 |
| Blanks..... | 23 |
| Governor: | |
| Thomas C. Brophy of Somerville..... | 5 |
| Allen Coffin of Nantucket | 6 |
| Frederick O. Prince of Boston..... | 16 |
| George Fred Williams of Dedham | 55 |
| Roger Wolcott of Boston..... | 274 |
| Blanks..... | 63 |
| Lieut. Governor: | |
| Christopher T. Callahan of Holyoke..... | 51 |
| W. Murray Crane of Dalton | 261 |
| James E. McConnell of Fitchburg..... | 18 |
| William W. Nash of Williamsburg..... | 9 |
| Moritz E. Ruther of Holyoke | 2 |
| Blanks, | 78 |
| Secretary: | |
| Asa F. Hall of Hudson..... | 2 |
| Waldo Lincoln of Worcester..... | 18 |
| William M. Olin of Boston | 262 |
| Joseph H. Potts of Lynn..... | 47 |
| Willard O. Wylie of Beverly | 9 |
| Blanks..... | 81 |
| Treasurer: | |
| Charles G. F. Claus of Malden | 2 |
| Robert C. Hubberly of Hyde Park..... | 10 |
| Edward P. Shaw of Newburyport..... | 256 |
| Horace P. Tobey of Wareham | 22 |
| Thomas A. Watson of Braintree..... | 47 |
| Blanks..... | 82 |

Auditor:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Maurice P. Cavanaugh of Springfield..... | 13 |
| Maurice J. Fitzgerald of Boston..... | 39 |
| Thomas A. Frissell of Hinsdale..... | 10 |
| John W. Kimball of Fitchburg..... | 260 |
| Charles C. Spellman of Springfield..... | 11 |
| Blanks..... | 86 |

Attorney General:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| John C. Chase of Haverhill..... | 1 |
| Wolcott Hamlin of Amherst..... | 9 |
| Henry F. Hurlburt of Lynn..... | 16 |
| Hosea M. Knowlton of New Bedford..... | 261 |
| William H. Morse of Chelsea..... | 2 |
| John B. O'Donnell of Northampton..... | 42 |
| Blanks..... | 88 |

Councillor:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| William E. Rand of Concord..... | 71 |
| Elisha H. Shaw of Chelmsford..... | 273 |
| Blanks..... | 75 |

Senator:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| William H. Brigham of Hudson..... | 242 |
| Alvan Fisher of Westford..... | 103 |
| Frank A. Patch..... | 1 |
| Blanks..... | 73 |

Representative in General Court:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Oliver K. Pierce of Ayer..... | 281 |
| Blanks..... | 138 |

Clerk of Courts:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Theodore C. Hurd of Winchester..... | 251 |
| Blanks..... | 168 |

County Commissioner:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Levi S. Gould of Melrose..... | 260 |
| George A. Perkins of Cambridge..... | 85 |
| J. Henry Read of Westford..... | 1 |
| Blanks..... | 73 |

Representative in Congress:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| I. Porter Morse of Marlborough..... | 71 |
| George W. Weymouth of Fitchburg..... | 266 |
| Blanks..... | 82 |

Constitutional Amendments:

Art. 1. Shall the proposed amendment to the constitution establishing biennial elections of state officers be approved and ratified ?

Yes, 71 ; No, 144 ; Blanks, 204.

Art. 2. Shall the proposed amendment to the constitution establishing biennial elections of members of the General Court be approved and ratified ?

Yes, 68 ; No, 133 ; Blanks, 218.

Return of votes for Representative in General Court for Middlesex district No. 23 :

| | Acton. | Ayer. | Littleton, | Shirley. | Westford. | Total. |
|----------------------------|--------|-------|------------|----------|-----------|--------|
| Oliver K. Pierce of Ayer.. | 317 | 349 | 165 | 173 | 281 | 1285 |
| W. B. Fenner of Ayer.... | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| James Grimes of Acton... | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Blanks..... | 123 | 88 | 42 | 69 | 138 | 460 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Whole number of ballots | 441 | 438 | 207 | 242 | 419 | 1747 |
| Pierce's plurality, 1284. | | | | | | |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

WESTFORD, MASS., March 12, 1897.

The Treasurer of Westford submits the following report :

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| To cash on hand..... | \$ 2,177 21 |
| To cash borrowed..... | 16,500 00 |
| To cash borrowed on account of J. V. Fletcher Library | 5,000 00 |
| From state corporation tax, balance of 1895..... | 22 04 |
| state corporation tax, 1896..... | 2,369 64 |
| Bank tax, 1896..... | 621 98 |
| Soldiers' families, 1895 | 1,104 50 |
| Indigent soldiers, 1895 | 96 00 |
| Income Mass. school fund | 262 57 |
| Armory rent, 1896..... | 175 00 |
| County Treasurer, dog tax..... | 282 15 |
| Ai Bicknell, janitor Town Hall..... | 165 35 |
| Alec Fisher, collector of taxes, 1890..... | 25 73 |
| Alec Fisher, collector of taxes, 1891..... | 156 48 |
| Alec Fisher, interest on taxes, 1890 | 10 72 |
| Alec Fisher, interest on taxes, 1891 | 26 84 |
| I. E. Day, collector of taxes, 1892..... | 50 60 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector of taxes, 1893..... | 3 32 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector of taxes, 1894..... | 218 44 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector of taxes, 1895..... | 1,017 07 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector, before Oct. 1, 1896. | 15,452 45 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector, before Dec. 1, 1896 | 1,161 85 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector after Dec. 1, 1896 .. | 1,457 81 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on taxes, 1894..... | 28 40 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on taxes, 1895..... | 39 65 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on taxes, 1896..... | 87 |
| Income library funds..... | 78 00 |
| Carrie E. Read, catalogues sold..... | 1 75 |
| Florence H. Read, school supplies sold..... | 21 02 |
| On account of Superintendent of Schools..... | 500 00 |
| State Treasurer, on account paupers..... | 68 25 |
| City of Lowell, on account paupers..... | 9 00 |
| Town of Ayer, on account paupers..... | 6 28 |
| Allan Whitney, broken glass | 1 00 |
| N. A. Taylor, broken glass..... | 1 25 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <i>\$49,142 62</i> |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$49,142 62 |
| Fred Robinson, license pool room..... | 2 00 |
| Henry Haley, license pool room..... | 2 00 |
| Alec Fisher, butcher's license..... | 1 00 |
| John J. Sheehan, butcher's license..... | 1 00 |
| Alvan Fisher, auctioneer's license..... | 2 00 |
| Henry J. Haley, license No. 141..... | 8 00 |
| Morris Miller, license No. 418..... | 8 00 |
| Mary Knab, license No. 449..... | 8 00 |
| Clerk of First District Court, fines..... | 11 22 |
| Commissioners of Public Cemeteries..... | 191 32 |
| Geo. Drew, school furniture..... | 25 |
| Conscience fund..... | 25 00 |
| Gilbert & Barker Mfg. Co., gasoline barrels, etc. | 5 20 |
| B. F. Day, for labor..... | 3 75 |
| Thomas V. Quinn, for board of wife..... | 81 25 |
| Dedication Committee, lumber sold..... | 6 88 |
| State Treasurer, on account inspector of animals | 56 60 |
| Mrs. L. L. Tappan, gift to library..... | 2 00 |
| Alicia M. Keyes, gift to library..... | 2 00 |
| Alec Fisher, collector 1890, 2 abated poll taxes, afterward paid..... | 4 00 |
| J. Henry Read, board of John Green..... | 108 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$49,672 09 |

PAYMENTS.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| By cash, notes and interest..... | \$18,132 57 |
| State tax..... | 962 50 |
| County tax..... | 1,380 66 |
| Overseers of Poor..... | 2,707 51 |
| Chairman Library Building Committee..... | 4,992 30 |
| Chairman Library Dedication Committee..... | 595 62 |
| Orders for incidental expenses..... | 10,826 31 |
| On account of schools..... | 6,045 76 |
| On account of tuition academy..... | 588 00 |
| On account of library..... | 498 94 |
| Cash on hand..... | 2,941 92 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$49,672 09 |

NAHUM H. WRIGHT, *Treasurer.*

ASSESSORS' REPORT.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Value of buildings, exclusive of land, May 1, 1896 | \$618,471 00 |
| Value of land, exclusive of buildings, May 1, 1896 | 421,434 00 |
| Value of personal estate, May 1, 1896..... | 222,655 00 |
| | \$1,262,560 00 |

AMOUNT RAISED

| | | |
|---|--------|-------------|
| For Purchase of books for library | \$ | 200 00 |
| Improvement of cemeteries..... | | 300 00 |
| Repair of roads and bridges..... | | 3,500 00 |
| Town debts and charges | | 3,500 00 |
| Schools | | 5,600 00 |
| Tuition at academy | | 1,500 00 |
| Support of poor | | 2,800 00 |
| Text books and supplies for schools.... | | 750 00 |
| Dedication of library | | 600 00 |
| | | \$18,750 00 |
| State tax | | 1,380 66 |
| County tax | | 962 50 |
| Overlayings | | 717 33 |
| Additional taxes..... | | 16 96 |
| | | \$21,827 45 |
| Total tax levy..... | | |
| Number of Polls..... | 687 | |
| Houses..... | 472 | |
| Horses..... | 481 | |
| Cows..... | 686 | |
| Sheep..... | 43 | |
| Cattle other than cows . | 108 | |
| Swine..... | 84 | |
| Fowls..... | 1,466 | |
| Acres of land..... | 18,000 | |
| Tax on one hundred dollars | | \$1 62 |

TOWN PROPERTY.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Town Hall | \$13,500 00 |
| Public Library | 26,000 00 |
| Town Farm | 6,000 00 |
| Centre Schoolhouse | 3,500 00 |
| Stony Brook Schoolhouse | 1,200 00 |
| Forge Village Schoolhouse | 3,800 00 |
| Nashoba Schoolhouse | 1,500 00 |
| Parkerville Schoolhouse | 1,800 00 |
| Minot Corner Schoolhouse | 1,500 00 |
| Nabnasset Schoolhouse | 1,500 00 |
| Long-Sought-For Schoolhouse | 1,600 00 |
| Wright Schoolhouse | 1,500 00 |
| Graniteville Schoolhouse | 4,500 00 |
| Public Parks | 1,500 00 |
| Cemeteries | 1,500 00 |
| Fire Apparatus | 350 00 |
| Trust Funds | 2,000 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$73,250 00 |

GEORGE H. HARTFORD,
W. H. H. BURBECK,
SAMUEL L. TAYLOR,

Assessors of Westford.

ABATEMENT OF TAXES, AS ORDERED BY THE ASSESSORS.

1890.

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Blodgett, Almira T | \$3 25 |
| Bridgford, Harry | 3 79 |
| Foster, Isaac | 3 40 |
| Gilson, Samuel | 2 00 |
| Ingalls, George W | 2 67 |
| Josslyn, Leavitt R | 1 12 |
| Leland, George A | 2 45 |
| Martin, John 2d | 3 12 |
| Moss, James L | 2 84 |
| Nutting, William N | 3 96 |
| O'Brien, William | 2 00 |
| O'Dell, J. W | 2 00 |
| Raymond, Joseph | 5 04 |
| Reckards, Thomas | 2 00 |
| Spaulding, Charles H | 8 85 |
| Wyman, Walter W | 2 00 |
| | <hr/> |

\$50 49

1891.

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Abbot & Co., error | \$6 20 |
| Barlow, James..... | 2 16 |
| Bridgford, Harry..... | 74 |
| Butterfield, Lucien O..... | 16 |
| Butterfield, E. Frank..... | 2 00 |
| Cann, George..... | 2 00 |
| Craven, Thomas..... | 2 00 |
| Cummings, Alvin S..... | 2 09 |
| Cummings, Edward M..... | 2 62 |
| Cummings, Irving T..... | 2 00 |
| Cummings, Wesley O..... | 2 00 |
| Farrar, George M..... | 2 00 |
| Hildreth, George, heirs of | 62 |
| Ingalls, George W..... | 40 |
| Josslyn, Leavitt R., heirs of..... | 62 |
| Larkin, Patrick..... | 2 00 |
| Martin, John H..... | 2 00 |
| Martin, John 2d..... | 2 00 |
| McDonald, Angus 2d..... | 2 00 |
| McDonald, James A..... | 2 16 |
| McDonald, John..... | 2 00 |
| McClenna, Alvin L..... | 2 00 |
| Moore, Thomas C..... | 2 74 |
| Moss, James L..... | 2 00 |
| Moss, J. L. & Son..... | 4 50 |
| Nutting, William N..... | 2 00 |
| O'Brien, James 2d..... | 2 00 |
| O'Brien, James 3d..... | 2 00 |
| O'Brien, James F..... | 2 00 |
| O'Brien, John M..... | 2 00 |
| O'Brien, John W..... | 2 00 |
| O'Brien, William..... | 2 00 |
| O'Dell, J. W..... | 2 00 |
| O'Dell, Robert..... | 2 00 |
| O'Leary, John..... | 2 00 |
| Orange, Abraham..... | 2 00 |
| Paine, John..... | 2 00 |
| Parsons, George..... | 2 00 |
| Pitman, Edward N..... | 2 47 |
| Prescott, Sherman L..... | 2 00 |
| Rawlins, William..... | 2 00 |
| Reed, Willard..... | 2 00 |
| Spaulding, C. H., heirs of | 4 90 |
| Story, Henry M..... | 2 00 |

Amount carried forward.....

\$92 38

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$92 38 |
| Swett, Samuel D..... | \$2 00 | |
| Voto, Simon..... | 2 00 | |
| Worden, B. F..... | 1 24 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 24 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$97 62 |

1892.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|---------|
| Bancroft, heirs of..... | \$2 50 | |
| Beaucheu, Arthur..... | 2 00 | |
| Downs, Joseph..... | 2 00 | |
| Dion, Alex..... | 2 00 | |
| Edwards, William E..... | 2 00 | |
| Fileatreault, Fred..... | 2 00 | |
| Frazer, James..... | 2 00 | |
| Ingalls, George W..... | 2 71 | |
| King, Fred..... | 2 00 | |
| Moss, James W..... | 2 00 | |
| Moss, J. L. & Son..... | 7 25 | |
| O'Brien, John W. 2d..... | 2 00 | |
| O'Dell, J. W..... | 2 00 | |
| O'Dell, Robert..... | 2 00 | |
| Prescott, Sherman L..... | 2 00 | |
| Reed, Thomas C..... | 2 00 | |
| Stiles, Fred O., error..... | 2 00 | |
| Sullivan, Florence..... | 50 | |
| Sullivan, Florence..... | 2 00 | |
| Wall, Fredrick, error..... | 2 00 | |
| Welch, Richard..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$46 96 |

1893.

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|
| Bancroft, heirs of..... | \$2 95 | |
| Carlin, Charles H..... | 2 00 | |
| Leland, George A..... | 2 00 | |
| Parker, Edgar R..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$8 95 |

1894.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|--|
| Bolan, Belle..... | \$4 88 | |
| Carlin, Charles H..... | 2 00 | |
| Carrick, Thomas..... | 2 00 | |
| Caunter, Horace W., error..... | 2 00 | |
| Esty, Frank..... | 2 15 | |
| Henderson, Charles..... | 3 13 | |
| | <hr/> | |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------|
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | \$16 16 |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------|

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$16 16 |
| Hughes, Thomas..... | \$2 60 | |
| Hill, George C..... | 2 00 | |
| Leland, George A..... | 2 00 | |
| Milligan, William..... | 3 50 | |
| Sevard, Ulysses..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$11 50 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$27 66 |

1895.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Allard, Joseph..... | \$2 00 | |
| Averson, Charles..... | 2 00 | |
| Bennett, W. A..... | 2 00 | |
| Berry, Ernest..... | 2 59 | |
| Bolan, Belle..... | 4 29 | |
| Boyle, John..... | 2 00 | |
| Burke, John..... | 2 00 | |
| Burke, Thomas..... | 2 00 | |
| Burns, James..... | 2 00 | |
| Canton, Calviu..... | 2 00 | |
| Carkin, James R..... | 2 13 | |
| Caunter, Frank..... | 2 00 | |
| Charmeski, John..... | 2 00 | |
| Collins, Albert E., error..... | 2 00 | |
| Dearborn, Asa..... | 2 00 | |
| Defoe, Edward D..... | 2 00 | |
| Eckland, August..... | 2 00 | |
| Fitzgerald, Thomas..... | 2 00 | |
| Foster, Joseph..... | 2 00 | |
| Garey, Charles M..... | 2 00 | |
| Glotnar, Max..... | 2 00 | |
| Gilson, Samuel..... | 2 00 | |
| Graham, William..... | 2 00 | |
| Hill, George C..... | 2 00 | |
| Hodgman, William..... | 2 00 | |
| Hughes, Thomas..... | 2 00 | |
| Ingham, Henry..... | 2 00 | |
| Larkin, Thomas..... | 2 00 | |
| Leland, George A..... | 2 00 | |
| McLaughlin, Arthur..... | 2 00 | |
| McNeil, William R..... | 2 00 | |
| Mativer, Fred..... | 2 00 | |
| Moran, Richard..... | 2 00 | |
| Moriarty, Timothy..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | \$71 01 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$71 01 |
| Moriarty, Michael..... | \$2 00 | |
| Neilson, Peter F..... | 2 00 | |
| O'Dell, James..... | 2 00 | |
| Peggot, Alfred..... | 2 00 | |
| Perrin, Ferdinand..... | 2 00 | |
| Prescott, Albert E..... | 2 00 | |
| Quinn, Alfred..... | 2 00 | |
| Quinn, Charles..... | 2 00 | |
| Reed, Thomas C..... | 2 00 | |
| Seiver, John H., error..... | 2 00 | |
| Sevard, Ulysses..... | 2 00 | |
| Smith, Andrew M., error..... | 2 00 | |
| Splain, Patrick..... | 2 00 | |
| Stirk, Frederick, error..... | 2 00 | |
| Teal, Joseph C..... | 2 00 | |
| Warren, Walter W..... | 2 00 | |
| Wheeler, Fred..... | 2 00 | |
| Whittier, James W..... | 2 00 | |
| Wright, John..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$38 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$109 01 |

1896.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Bolan, Belle..... | \$5 26 | |
| Gustaffon, William, error..... | 2 00 | |
| O'Keefe, Daniel, error..... | 2 00 | |
| Mountain, Ernest, error..... | 1 76 | |
| | <hr/> | \$11 02 |

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| 1890, Alec Fisher, Collector..... | \$50 49 | |
| 1891, Alec Fisher, Collector..... | 97 62 | |
| 1892, I. E. Day, Collector..... | 46 96 | |
| 1893, W. C. Wright, Collector..... | 8 95 | |
| 1894, W. C. Wright, Collector..... | 27 66 | |
| 1895, W. C. Wright, Collector..... | 109 01 | |
| 1896, W. C. Wright, Collector..... | 11 02 | |
| | <hr/> | \$351 71 |

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

COMPENSATION OF TOWN OFFICERS.

TOWN TREASURER.

| | | |
|--|----------|--|
| Nahum H. Wright, salary, year ending March 1, 1896..... | \$100 00 | |
| Time and expense going to Lowell on town business | 12 00 | |
| | \$112 00 | |

TOWN CLERK.

| | | |
|---|---------|--|
| Gilman J. Wright, salary | \$12 00 | |
| Recording and making returns to Secre- tary of the Commonwealth of births, marriages and deaths for the year 1895, as follows: | | |
| 52 births at 50 cents each | 26 00 | |
| 40 marriages at 15 cents each..... | 6 00 | |
| 20 deaths at 20 cents each..... | 4 00 | |
| 30 deaths at 10 cents each..... | 3 00 | |
| Extra services before March meeting, 1896 | 3 00 | |
| Extra services before November meet- ing, 1896 | 2 00 | |
| Attending Town Clerks' meeting at Ayer | 3 00 | |
| Making report to town..... | 3 00 | |
| Cash paid for Express | 4 05 | |
| Stationery | 70 | |
| Postage | 2 05 | |
| Justice for administering oaths | 50 | |
| | \$69 30 | |

SELECTMEN.

| | | |
|---|---------|--|
| Sherman H. Fletcher, salary | \$ 5 00 | |
| Making out State Aid book..... | 6 00 | |
| Making out Town report | 10 00 | |
| Making out 24 State Aid and Indigent Soldiers' returns, under Chaps 279 and 301, Acts of 1894 | 6 00 | |
| | \$27 00 | |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | |

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$27 00 |
| Time and expense with team perambulating town lines between Westford, Groton, Tyngsboro, Carlisle and Acton | \$10 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways | 25 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 35 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$70 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$97 00 |
| George W. Heywood, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time perambulating town lines between Westford, Groton, Tyngsboro, Carlisle and Acton | 8 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways | 25 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$63 00 |
| Julian A. Cameron, salary..... | \$5 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$10 00 |
| AUDITOR. | | |
| Arthur B. Plimpton, services..... | \$30 00 | \$30 00 |
| ASSESSORS. | | |
| George H. Hartford, 30 days taking invoice and making taxes | \$75 00 | |
| 5½ days copying valuation..... | 13 75 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, 29 days taking invoice and making taxes..... | 72 50 | |
| Samuel L. Taylor, 21 days taking invoice and making taxes..... | 52 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$213 75 |
| TAX COLLECTOR. | | |
| Walter C. Wright, collecting \$218.44 taxes of 1894 at 1 per cent..... | \$ 2 18 | |
| Collecting \$1,047.07 taxes 1895 at 1 per cent..... | 10 47 | |
| Collecting \$18,070.25 taxes 1896 at 1 per cent | 180 70 | |
| Stamps and envelopes | 19 99 | |
| Express | 15 | |
| Cash book | 1 75 | |
| Collector's book..... | 85 | |
| | <hr/> | \$216 90 |

CONSTABLE AND POLICE.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| J. A. Healy, police services | 85 | 85 |
| E. DeRoehn, services, notifying Town Officers | \$ 9 50 | |
| killing dog | 1 00 | |
| posting Warrants for | | |
| Town Meeting | 5 00 | |
| notifying Delinquent | | |
| Dog Owners | 10 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$25 50 |

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Gilman J. Wright, services as Clerk of Board | 7 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$71 00 |
| Nelson L. Tuttle, attending eight meetings | \$16 00 | |
| Quincy W. Day, " " " | 16 00 | |
| Oscar R. Spalding, " " " | 16 00 | |
| Gilman J. Wright, " " " | 16 00 | |

BALLOT CLERKS AND TELERS.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------|
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services | 4 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$21 50 |
| W. E. Frost, services | \$5 00 | |
| E. G. Boynton, services | 2 50 | |
| A. E. Wilson, services | 5 00 | |
| L. C. Dane, services | 5 00 | |

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| E. P. Barker, salary as Superintendent | 640 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$739 83 |
| F. H. Read, supply agent | \$ 89 37 | |
| Dr. W. J. Sleeper, making report to State, &c | 3 85 | |
| E. P. Barker, postage and stationery | 6 61 | |

Received from the State \$500 on account of Superintendent.

UNDERTAKER.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Albert P. Richardson, attending 29 funerals | | |
| with hearse | \$58 00 | |
| Making 54 returns and receiving permits | 13 25 | |
| | <hr/> | \$71 25 |

TRUANT OFFICERS.

| | | |
|----------------------|--------|--------|
| Eugene DeRoehn | \$5 35 | |
| Ai Bicknell | 1 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6 85 |

APPRAISERS OF PROPERTY AT TOWN FARM.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Samuel L. Taylor, services | \$2 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services and making | | |
| report | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 00 |

INSPECTORS OF CATTLE AND PROVISIONS.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| A. P. Richardson, inspector of cattle at time of slaughter..... | \$50 75 | |
| Geo. T. Day, inspector of cattle..... | 62 45 | |
| | <hr/> | \$113 20 |
| One-half of this sum was refunded by the State. See Treasurer's report. | | |

REPAIRS OF SCHOOLHOUSES AND ARTICLES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

CENTRE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| George Drew, repairs..... | \$1 50 | |
| F. B. Tulis, repairs | 1 50 | |
| J. W. Wall, painting blackboards and furnishing new ones..... | 5 35 | |
| J. L. Moss, labor on furnaces, etc | 4 75 | |
| Rope, brooms, feather duster, brackets, etc.. | 4 47 | |
| W. A. Mack & Co., door for furnace..... | 1 15 | |
| Lovell & Gilson, cleaning well, etc | 3 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$22 22 |

STONY BROOK SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Bartlett & Dow, locks, etc..... | \$1 47 | |
| Brooms, rope, pail, etc | 1 10 | |
| A. M. Blaisdell, labor and stock..... | 9 37 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor..... | 1 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$13 69 |

FORGE VILLAGE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Wright & Bemis, glass, etc..... | \$3 78 | |
| Eugene DeRoehn, labor..... | 3 75 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor | 3 35 | |
| J. A. Healy, cleaning vault..... | 1 00 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor | 1 61 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co., ink wells..... | 3 75 | |
| 2 locks | 30 | |
| 1 thermometer..... | 25 | |
| | <hr/> | \$17 79 |

NASHOBA SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|--------|-------|
| Broom, thermometer and feather duster | \$1 55 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor | 86 | |
| | <hr/> | \$ 41 |

PARKERVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Broom, brush, rope and thermometer..... | \$ 1 25 | |
| 2 mats..... | 2 00 | |
| Lovell & Gilson, pump and cleaning well... | 12 40 | |
| W. W. Wyman, labor..... | 3 88 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co., flagpole and flag..... | 6 66 | |
| | <hr/> | \$26 19 |

MINOT'S CORNER SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| Broom, thermometer, shovel, etc..... | \$1 15 | |
| Lovell & Gilson, cleaning well, etc..... | 9 50 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor..... | 43 | |
| | <hr/> | \$11 08 |

NABNASSETT SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| Broom, rope, bell, freight, etc..... | \$3 07 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co., flagpole and flag..... | 6 67 | |
| W. W. Wyman, labor..... | 3 88 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor..... | 1 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$15 12 |

LONG-SOUGHT-FOR SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| J. W. Wall, painting blackboards..... | \$ 1 50 | |
| Thermometer, brush and coal hod..... | 1 10 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co., flagpole and flag..... | 6 67 | |
| W. W. Wyman, labor..... | 3 88 | |
| J. L. Moss, labor..... | 1 00 | |
| Lovell & Gilson, 1 pump, cleaning well, etc | 21 00 | |
| Rope for flagpole..... | 30 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor..... | 2 00 | |
| L. C. Dane, labor..... | 1 40 | |
| | <hr/> | \$38 85 |

WRIGHT SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| J. L. Hammett Co., flagpole and flag..... | \$ 6 67 | |
| W. W. Wyman, labor..... | 3 87 | |
| Lovell & Gilson, repairing pump and cleaning well..... | 11 50 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor..... | 85 | |
| Thermometer and rope..... | 80 | |
| | <hr/> | \$23 69 |

GRANITEVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE—FOUR SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Wright & Bemis, pencil sharpeners and sundries..... | \$11 59 | |
| Eugene DeRoehn, labor and repairs..... | 20 90 | |
| F. L. Fletcher, brushes and sundries..... | 3 40 | |
| | <hr/> | \$35 89 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$35 89 |
| 1 bell | 25 | |
| Abbot & Co., repairs..... | 1 05 | |
| J. A. Healy, for bell | 35 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor | 1 75 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co., ink wells | 10 13 | |
| H. Harrington, labor..... | 15 33 | |
| Howe Lumber Co., lumber | 4 66 | |
| Mrs. E. Lovell, labor..... | 80 | |
| Sulphur candles..... | 2 40 | |
| | <hr/> | \$36 72 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$72 61 |

EIGHTH GRADE SCHOOL.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Thompson Hardware Co., 1 bell | \$ 42 | |
| 1 mat | 1 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1 42 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$215 07 |

TEXT-BOOKS AND SUPPLIES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| J. L. Hammett Co..... | \$214 04 | |
| D. C. Heath & Co..... | 61 73 | |
| Educational Publishing Co..... | 16 13 | |
| Allyn & Bacon | 23 80 | |
| Lee & Shepard | 15 82 | |
| Silver, Burdett & Co | 97 30 | |
| Ginn & Co..... | 147 06 | |
| American Book Co..... | 74 43 | |
| Houghton, Mifflin Co..... | 23 41 | |
| William Ware & Co | 21 59 | |
| Leach, Sherwell & Sanborn..... | 26 87 | |
| American Humane Educational Co..... | 72 | |
| Mrs. Gates Lockhart | 2 00 | |
| Thompson, Brown & Co..... | 8 16 | |
| Maynard, Merrill & Co..... | 9 00 | |
| University Publishing Co..... | 4 20 | |
| Geo. S. Perry & Co | 8 00 | |
| Geo. B. Frazer..... | 6 40 | |
| Werner School Book Co..... | 12 32 | |
| | <hr/> | \$773 58 |
| Appropriation | \$750 00 | |
| Cash received for books sold.. | 21 02 | |
| Overdrawn..... | 2 56 | |

J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Carrie E. Read, Librarian, February 1, 1896. to February 1, 1897..... | \$160 00 | |
| Carrie E. Read, extra work..... | 23 40 | |
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor, June 1, 1896, to Feb- ruary 1, 1897..... | 66 64 | |
| Ai Bicknell, moving books to new library | 8 25 | |
| C. H. Bicknell, labor..... | 1 50 | |
| J. A. Healy, 2 tons coal..... | 11 50 | |
| Abbot & Co., 13 $\frac{845}{2240}$ lbs. coal..... | 80 93 | |
| Gibert & Barker M ^f g Co., 6 barrels gasoline and oil..... | 41 38 | |
| Boston & Maine R. R., freight on gasoline.. | 1 98 | |
| W. E. Frost, record book, waste basket, etc . | 2 25 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, brooms, axe, dusters, shovels, mat, mucilage, etc..... | 12 31 | |
| Bartlett & Dow, 1 lawn mower..... | 6 00 | |
| Use of telephone..... | 30 | |
| | <hr/> | \$416 44 |
| Expense of delivering books at Graniteville, Forge Village and Parkerville: | | |
| J. Clifford Hall, services..... | \$48 24 | |
| Alfred Woodbury, services..... | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$73 24 |
| Appropriation, Graniteville and Forge Village, \$50 ; unexpended balance, \$1.76 ; Parkerville, \$25. | | |

EXPENSE OF FIRST DISTRICT COURT AT AYER—
OFFICERS' FEES.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Geo. F. Stiles, services in Cohen case..... | \$13 53 | |
| H. C. Sherwin, services in Cohen case..... | 6 20 | |
| H. C. Sherwin, services in Shugrue case.... | 6 05 | |
| J. A. Healy, services in Whitney case..... | 10 50 | |
| J. A. Healy, services in George case..... | 3 34 | |
| Eugene DeRoehn, services in Geo. Prescott case..... | 3 62 | |
| W. B. Moffatt, services in Bruce case..... | 6 94 | |
| B. F. Gately, services in Mansfield case.... | 20 43 | |
| P. A. O'Toole, services in Bruce case..... | 2 85 | |
| | <hr/> | \$73 46 |

EXPENSE OF TOWN COUNSEL.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Burke, Marshall & Corbett, legal services, 1895..... | \$100 00 | |
| Burke, Marshall & Corbett, preparing brief and argument before Supreme Court in Carville case..... | 202 15 | |
| | <hr/> | \$302 15 |

PRINTING.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Courier-Citizen Co., warrants, bicycle notices, stamped envelopes, cards, letter heads, 650 town reports, 200 copies of valuation, etc., as per bills | \$229 70 | |
| Morning Mail Co., ballots for March meeting, tax bills, notices, voting lists, etc., as per bills..... | 28 75 | |
| F. A. Frost, cemetery notices, etc., as per bills..... | 6 55 | |
| Greenough, Adams & Cushing, order books. | 9 00 | |
| Thompson & Hill, letter heads | 2 75 | |
| Samuel Hobbs & Co., blanks for Overseers of Poor | 1 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$277 75 |

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Paid by orders to Poor Department..... | \$2,707 51 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,707 51 |
| Appropriation | \$2,800 00 | |

INSURANCE.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Arthur Fenner, insurance on J. V. Fletcher Library building \$10,000, for 5 years..... | \$155 00 | |
| insurance on contents of J. V. Fletcher Library \$5,000, for 5 years..... | 29 87 | |
| insurance on Forge Village School-house \$2,200, for 5 years..... | 66 00 | |
| insurance on Town House \$3,000 for 5 years..... | 30 00 | |
| E. H. Shaw, insurance on Town Farm buildings \$2,424.50, for 3 years..... | 43 88 | |
| N. W. Norcross & Co., insurance on Town Farm buildings \$2,425, for 3 years.. | 53 35 | |
| | <hr/> | \$378 10 |

We submit the following report on guide posts and guide boards: Iron guide boards at road near Amos Leighton's, center of town, Parkerville and near Forge Village have been painted; new guide post and guide boards at Cowdrey corner, and stone post near B. M. Fletcher's re lettered. The remaining guide posts and guide boards are in good condition.

The following amount has been expended :

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| E. A. Hamlin, painting guide boards..... | \$ 8 35 | |
| F. B. Tulis, painting guide boards..... | 14 50 | |
| J. A. Walkden, two guide boards..... | 1 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$ 24 35 |

TOWN HOUSE.

EXPENSE OF HEATING, LIGHTING, ETC., AND CARE OF SAME.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Ai Bicknell, services as janitor from Feb. 1, 1896, to Feb. 1, 1897..... | \$96 00 | |
| S. B. Wright, 3 cords of wood..... | 12 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, oil, chimneys, pails, basket, nails, mat, etc., as per bill.... | 49 25 | |
| J. L. Douglass, repairing slate roof..... | 3 66 | |
| Daniel Norton, canvas for hall floor..... | 8 70 | |
| W. W. Johnson, 3,440 lbs. coal..... | 11 00 | |
| J. A. Healy, 3,000 lbs. coal..... | 9 38 | |
| George Drew, repairs..... | 2 00 | |
| Brass checks, hooks, etc. for clothes rack .. | 7 20 | |
| Floor wax | 5 00 | |
| Chloride of lime..... | 65 | |
| | <hr/> | \$204 84 |

INCOME OF TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Rent of armory from State..... | \$175 00 | |
| Rent of building..... | 165 35 | |
| | <hr/> | \$340 35 |

BOARD OF HEALTH.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Paid by orders. See Board of Health report | \$79 55 | \$79 55 |
|--|---------|---------|

PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Paid by orders. See Commissioners' report | \$406 31 | \$406 31 |
|---|----------|----------|

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

As Authorized by Chapter 447, Acts of 1890.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| James A. Graham from Feb. 1, 1896, to Feb. 1, 1897 | \$120 00 | |
| J. W. Mitchell, 2 tons coal for J. A. Graham | 13 00 | |
| G. A. Hood, from Oct. 1, 1896, to Feb. 1, 1897 | 16 00 | |
| Town of Leominster, relief of William H. T. Nichols | 40 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$189 00 |

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense investigating case of J. A. Graham..... | \$5 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense investigating case of William H. T. Nichols..... | 4 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$9 00 |

MILITARY AID TO INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

As Authorized by Chapter 279, Acts of 1894.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| From Jan.1, 1896, to Jan. 1, 1897..... | \$270 00 | \$270 00 |
|--|----------|----------|

STATE AID TO SOLDIERS AND SAILORS' FAMILIES.

As Authorized by Chapter 301, Acts of 1894.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| From Jan. 1, 1896, to Jan. 1, 1897..... | \$980 00 | \$980 00 |
|---|----------|----------|

MEMORIAL DAY.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Paid by order Veteran Association..... | \$50 00 | \$50 00 |
| Appropriation, \$50. | | |

FOREST FIRES.

The following fires have occurred during the year and estimated damage:

| | No. of acres estimated. | Damage. |
|--|-------------------------|----------|
| Apr. 14. Forest fire in the south-east part of the town, owners of land: | | |
| Wm. M. Vose..... | 12 | \$25 00 |
| H Maria Blaisdell..... | 10 | 30 00 |
| Rebecca Sweetser..... | 15 | 30 00 |
| May 14. Forest fire near Westford depot, owners of land: Heywood and Fletcher..... | 1 | 5 00 |
| May 18. Forest fire near house of C. R. P. Decatur, owners of land: | | |
| C. R. P. Decatur..... | 7 | 10 00 |
| Josiah Walker..... | 1½ | 10 00 |
| C. R. P. Decatur, 25 cords of wood..... | | 40 00 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 46½ | \$150 00 |

OTHER FIRES.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Sept. 8. Dwelling house and contents, owned by Hon. J. Varnum Fletcher, on his old homestead. Estimated loss on house..... | \$4,800 00 | |
| Estimated loss on contents..... | 1,200 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6,000 00 |
| Insurance, \$3,900. | | |

J. Willard Fletcher, occupant of dwelling, loss on furniture, \$400. No insurance.

Investigation on cause of fire was made by the State Fire Marshal, but nothing of an incendiary character could be discovered.

The expense of subduing these fires has been paid under the approval of the Fire Wardens and Forest Fire Wards, as follows:

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Edward Prescott, Forest Fire Ward, time and expense..... | \$10 00 | |
| Geo. W. Heywood, Forest Fire Ward, time and expense..... | 5 00 | |
| J. Henry Decatur, Decatur fire..... | 3 00 | |
| A. B. Polley, Decatur fire | 3 00 | |
| J. A. Healy and others, Decatur fire..... | 17 05 | |
| J. A. Healy, near B. & M. R. R..... | 1 50 | |
| W. M. Vose and others, south-east part of town..... | 3 60 | |
| | <hr/> | \$43 15 |

J. V. FLETCHER DWELLING.

| | | |
|--------------------|--------|--------|
| A. B. Gould | \$2 00 | |
| W. H. Johnson..... | 2 00 | |
| H. H. Mills | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6 00 |

GENERAL EXPENSES.

| | |
|--|---------|
| John M. Fletcher, postage for mailing town reports, etc..... | \$25 10 |
| C. E. Whidden, express on town reports.... | 2 55 |
| P. McGlinchy, injury to horse on highway | 35 00 |
| F. N. Tolles, services on McGlinchy's horse | 6 00 |
| Heywood & Burbeck, lumber..... | 4 59 |
| P. Savage, lot of chestnut posts..... | 20 48 |
| W. J. Gould, shoeing horses, repairs of road machine, etc..... | 69 91 |
| Fred L. Fletcher, repairs of cavalry target.. | 4 25 |
| Lawrence Duffy, damage to horse and wagon on highway..... | 12 00 |
| Cash, for express and postage for town officers | 17 25 |
| Food for election officers, March | 2 37 |
| 2 Sections for road machine..... | 8 50 |
| Shovels, rakes, lanterns, scythes, snaths, castings for plow, and feed bags for road department..... | 20 40 |
| Stationery, rubber bands, etc, for town officers | 3 98 |
| 1 gravel screen..... | 7 00 |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----------|
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <hr/> <hr/> | \$239 38 |
|------------------------------------|-------------|----------|

| | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$239 38 |
| New England Telephone and Telegraph Co., use of telephone for town officers and library committee..... | 26 88 | |
| James Forgie & Son, 1 pair double har- nesses with collars | 65 50 | |
| B. H. Brow, rent of land for cavalry range, 1895-96..... | 15 00 | |
| N. L. Tuttlé, repair of road machine, new stone drag, etc..... | 14 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, nails, paint and sundries as per bill..... | 24 95 | |
| E. H. Keyes, repair of cavalry target..... | 21 00 | |
| John H. Blood, injury to person on highway | 80 00 | |
| Book for recording mortgages, etc..... | 6 00 | |
| L. C. Dane, repair of wagon | 2 00 | |
| N. B. Blood, repair of wagon | 4 15 | |
| Boston & Maine R. R., freight..... | 25 | |
| Food for election officers, November..... | 3 03 | |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., returning 30 births, 1896, under Chap. 158, Acts of 1883... | 7 50 | |
| J. W. Godfrey, M. D., returning 2 births, under Chapter 158, Acts of 1883 | 50 | |
| G. A. Harlow, M. D., returning 3 births, under Chap. 158, Acts of 1883..... | 75 | |
| W. H. Bennett, M. D., returning 8 births, under Chap. 158, Acts of 1883 | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$512 89 |

TOWN COMMON.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Ai Bicknell, cleaning common | \$3 50 | |
| Ai Bicknell, tarring trees..... | 1 50 | |
| J. T. Colburn, spraying trees | 2 00 | |
| Tar, brush and paper | 3 58 | |
| | <hr/> | \$10 58 |

THE ARMY WORM.

In the Fall the army worm made its appearance on several farms in town and on account of its destructive work, we deemed it advisable to see what could be done to stop its ravages and save the crops of our farmers.

Hungarian and millet seemed to be a favorite resort for them. Many remedies were suggested. None of them as yet, as far as we know, have proved effectual. Mr. Thomas H. Elliott had a field of millet literally covered with them and they were making their way on to the adjoining farms. To stop their progress we had a part of the field sprayed with kerosene oil and burned. The result was

not very satisfactory on account of the green condition of the millet, although it retarded their progress. Possibly some remedy may be discovered for their destruction before another year if they should appear in large numbers.

The following expense was incurred :

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|
| J. T. Colburn, labor | \$1 75 | |
| Oil used | 6 30 | |
| | | \$8 05 |

ROAD DEPARTMENT.

In the early Spring a number of washouts occurred and considerable expense was incurred in relaying a number of culverts. Many of these old stone culverts are getting in bad shape on account of the stones working loose, allowing the heavy rains to undermine them. Where practicable we have used sewer pipe in place of stone, and find it is a much more substantial material than stone, as it allows a smooth passage for water and roots of trees do not work themselves into the drains. Gravel, with what stone chips were available, has been used largely to repair our roads as this material is the best for our soil.

A stone crusher would be of great value to crush the loose stones by the roadsides, as the material could be crushed near where it was to be used, thereby saving the expense of a long haul.

Considerable railings have been put up during the year, but a good deal should be done another year to make safe embankments and culverts. We again call attention, as we did last year, about the town taking some action to discontinue some of these unused roads as public ways, thereby relieving the town from liability for accidents. We have inserted an article in the warrant for the annual meeting and the subject should be looked into carefully by a committee chosen from different parts of the town, to report to the town at the next annual meeting.

During the year 1895, a petition signed by the largest tax payers in the town was filed with the County Commissioners for that board to relocate and widen the streets in the centre of the town. A hearing was held at the town hall, and after a view by the Commissioners a survey was made and stone bounds were established. A decree was issued by the Board last year for the town to carry out their order as provided by their survey and plan. Land damage has been awarded where encroachments have been made, and the town awarded the sum of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500)

on completion of the work to the acceptance of the Commissioners. It will be necessary for the town to take some action upon it at the annual meeting, as it will be cheaper for the town to do the work than for the Commissioners, as the Statutes provide if a town refuses to take action on or before the time expires for completion of the work, the Commissioners are required, at their next meeting, that they shall cause the highway to be completed as soon as may be thereafter, and expenses and charges of completion of the same shall be paid out of the County treasury, and shall order notice thereof to be given the town that it is a delinquent, stating the sum that it is required to pay, and if the town does not pay the expense, interest at the rate of ten per cent. per year, from the time the sum is paid from the County treasury, shall be charged and collected.

An article has been inserted in the warrant for the action of the town.

In accordance with Chap. 98. Acts of 1889, Benjamin F. Day was appointed Superintendent of Streets. Under his supervision the following amounts have been expended :

FEBRUARY.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | \$14 55 | |
| Heywood & Fletcher, gravel..... | 35 00 | |
| E. Case, labor..... | 26 25 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 26 25 | |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 26 25 | |
| E. C. Wood, labor..... | 25 50 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 31 50 | |
| Team..... | 42 00 | |
| | ————— | \$227 30 |

MARCH.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| E. C. Wood, labor..... | \$23 00 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 18 00 | |
| Team..... | 22 00 | |
| E. Case, labor..... | 13 13 | |
| W. W. Johnson, labor..... | 1 85 | |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 11 97 | |
| Frank Newell, labor..... | 8 62 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 13 75 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 10 75 | |
| | ————— | \$123 07 |

APRIL.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| G. F. Carkin, labor..... | \$17 50 |
| J. H. Connell, labor..... | 16 50 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 36 00 |
| Charles Jackson, labor..... | 37 14 |
| E. Case, labor..... | 36 00 |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 36 00 |
| J. H. Read, gravel..... | 1 00 |
| Waldo Bros., drain pipe..... | 68 93 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 60 00 |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 17 55 |

 \$371 62

MAY.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Thomas Whigham, labor..... | \$1 50 |
| Robert O'Dell, labor..... | 16 50 |
| Charles Jackson, labor..... | 29 85 |
| Thomas Ledwith, labor..... | 8 25 |
| E. Case, labor..... | 36 00 |
| A. Healy, labor..... | 8 25 |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 36 00 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 36 00 |
| W. W. Parker, labor..... | 30 75 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 60 00 |
| H. V. Hildreth, labor and team..... | 22 00 |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 11 60 |

 \$341 70

JUNE.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Powder and fuse..... | \$ 6 35 |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 13 70 |
| H. V. Hildreth, stone..... | 18 00 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 60 00 |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 36 00 |
| E. Case, labor..... | 36 00 |
| H. W. Tarbell, labor..... | 14 00 |
| Frank Moran, labor..... | 37 24 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 36 00 |
| W. W. Parker, labor..... | 33 00 |

 \$335 29

JULY.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Thos. Whigham, labor..... | \$33 00 |
| F. W. Davis, labor..... | 6 00 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 34 50 |

Amount carried forward.....

 \$73 50

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$73 50 |
| Frank Moran, labor..... | 37 71 | |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 34 50 | |
| Hiram Leland, labor..... | 6 00 | |
| W. W. Jonson, labor..... | 2 00 | |
| E. Case, labor..... | 24 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 8 75 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 60 00 | |
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | 12 99 | |
| | <hr/> | \$304 45 |

AUGUST.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| N. J. Decatur, 4,075 lbs. hay..... | \$20 38 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 10 35 | |
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | 5 16 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 65 00 | |
| F. W. Davis, labor..... | 24 00 | |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 36 38 | |
| Thos Whigham, labor..... | 28 50 | |
| Fred Dane, labor..... | 28 50 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 39 00 | |
| E. Case, labor..... | 37 50 | |
| Frank Moran, labor..... | 37 71 | |
| Joseph Gould, labor..... | 10 95 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, labor..... | 14 60 | |
| | <hr/> | \$403 03 |

SEPTEMBER.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | \$14 80 | |
| J. T. Colburn, 4400 lbs. hay..... | 42 10 | |
| Alvan Fisher, gravel..... | 14 00 | |
| Waldo Bros, drain pipe..... | 33 00 | |
| B. & M. R. R., freight..... | 3 89 | |
| B. F. Day, 4188 lbs. hay..... | 35 54 | |
| John Wayne, labor..... | 9 00 | |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 34 50 | |
| Fred Dane, labor..... | 33 75 | |
| Thos. Whigham, labor..... | 34 50 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 33 00 | |
| Frank Moran, labor..... | 37 14 | |
| E. Case, labor..... | 33 00 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 39 75 | |
| Team..... | 58 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$456 72 |

OCTOBER.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | \$13 85 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 61 25 |
| Thos. Whigham, labor..... | 31 35 |
| Fred Dane, labor..... | 30 75 |
| E. Case, labor..... | 31 50 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 36 75 |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 30 75 |
| F. Seifer, labor..... | 4 00 |
| Frank Moran, labor..... | 37 71 |
| Victor Prescott, labor..... | 3 00 |
| Nelson L. Prescott, labor..... | 3 00 |

 \$328 91

NOVEMBER.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | \$12 00 |
| M. A. G. Smith, gravel..... | 5 00 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 34 50 |
| Team..... | 46 00 |
| E. Case, labor..... | 31 93 |
| Nelson L. Prescott, labor..... | 27 50 |
| Victor Prescott, labor..... | 27 50 |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 28 75 |
| I. G. Hall, labor..... | 1 35 |
| R. E. Redding, labor..... | 21 65 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 34 50 |
| Peter Dolan, labor..... | 36 37 |

 \$307 05

DECEMBER.

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | \$11 20 |
| John O'Brien, gravel..... | 4 50 |
| S. A. Butterfield, gravel..... | 1 25 |
| B. H. Brow, gravel..... | 2 50 |
| C. O'Brien, gravel..... | 2 50 |
| B. F. Day, gravel..... | 7 95 |
| F. C. Hildreth, 1,430 lbs hay..... | 14 50 |
| Nelson L. Prescott, labor..... | 12 50 |
| Victor Prescott, labor..... | 12 50 |
| John Marinell, Jr., labor..... | 26 50 |
| C. R. P. Decatur, labor..... | 16 40 |
| Felch Brothers, labor..... | 9 25 |
| James Rapson, labor..... | 12 50 |
| Peter Dolan, labor..... | 18 84 |
| B. M. Fletcher, labor..... | 3 90 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 19 50 |
| Team..... | 26 00 |
| J. Wilkinson, labor..... | 19 50 |

 \$221 79

JANUARY.

| | | |
|--|--------|------------|
| H. A. Gurney, gravel..... | \$1 95 | |
| C. G. Sargent's Sons, planks, gratings, and labor..... | 7 33 | |
| J. Wilkinson, labor..... | 21 25 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 9 55 | |
| H. Mills, gravel..... | 1 70 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 26 25 | |
| Team..... | 10 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$78 03 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$3,498 96 |

Appropriation, \$3,500; unexpended balance, \$1.04.

Schedule of property belonging to town for use of road department: 2 horses, 1 set heavy harnesses, 1 set old harnesses, 2 carts, 5 whiffletrees and chains, 1 evener and spreader, 1 spare horse collar, 2 blankets, 2 surcingles, 1 stone drag, 2 yokes, 1 road scraper, 2 wrenches, 1 wagon jack, 2 chains, 1 stone lifter, straps to lead harness and hand splices to lead reins, 6 road rakes, 6 shovels, 1 manure fork, 1 hay fork, 2 plows, 11 blasting drills, 12 plug-drills, lot of shims and wedges, 1 bush snath, 2 bush scythes, 2 axes, 1 trimming saw, 2 halters, 2 lanterns, 1 oil can, 1 tool box, 1 large hoe, 3 picks, 4 iron bars, 1 hand hammer, 2 striking hammers, 1 stone hammer, 1 drill spoon, 1 curry comb, 2 horse brushes, 2 gravel screens.

GRADE CROSSINGS.

During the past year we called the attention of the New York, New Haven & Hartford R. R. to the dangerous grade crossings in town, one at Carlisle station, one at Hood's crossing, and one at Sweetser's crossing. Upon notice from the Selectmen, the R. R. Co. at once complied with our request to place some safeguard at these places, and have erected electric bells to warn people of the approach of trains, which will be of much benefit to the public.

BREAKING OUT ROADS ON ACCOUNT OF SNOW.

DISTRICT NO 1.

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Geo. F. Carkin and others, as per bills..... | \$4 60 | \$4 60 |
|--|--------|--------|

DISTRICT NO. 2.

| | | |
|---|---------|-------|
| Samuel Taylor and others, as per bills..... | \$13 00 | |
| W. W. Johnson and others, as per bills..... | 8 40 | |
| | <hr/> | 21 40 |

DISTRICT NO. 3.

| | | |
|--|--------|------|
| S. H. Balch and others, as per bill..... | \$2 55 | 2 55 |
|--|--------|------|

DISTRICT NO. 4.

| | | |
|--|--------|------|
| S. B. Wright and others, as per bills..... | \$4 10 | 4 10 |
|--|--------|------|

DISTRICT NO. 5.

| | | |
|--|---------|-------|
| A. E. Wilson and others, as per bills..... | \$12 23 | 12 23 |
|--|---------|-------|

DISTRICT NO. 6.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|------|
| A. J. Blaisdell, as per bill | \$1 00 | 1 00 |
|------------------------------------|--------|------|

DISTRICT NO. 7.

| | | |
|--|---------|-------|
| J. P. Felch and others, as per bills | \$10 95 | 10 95 |
|--|---------|-------|

DISTRICT NO. 8.

| | | |
|---|---------|-------|
| W. H. Decatur and others, as per bills..... | \$10 92 | |
| C. F. Shugrue and others, as per bills..... | 16 80 | |
| | <hr/> | 27 72 |

DISTRICT NO. 9.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------|
| H. E. Gould, as per bill..... | \$14 12 | 14 12 |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------|

DISTRICT NO. 10.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------|----------|
| H. V. Hildreth, as per bill..... | 8 50 | 8 50 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$107 17 |

FIRE APPARATUS.

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| 6 shovels for Forge Village..... | \$5 10 | |
| 6 shovels for Graniteville | 5 10 | |
| Shovels, ladeles and paint for Center..... | 8 30 | |
| | <hr/> | \$18 50 |

J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY BUILDING.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| By order. See Committee's report..... | \$4,992 30 | \$4,992 30 |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|

DEDICATION OF J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY BUILDING.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| By order. See Committee's report..... | \$595 62 | \$595 62 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1897-98.

| | | |
|--|------------|-------------|
| Highways..... | \$3,000 00 | |
| Town debts and charges..... | 3,500 00 | |
| Support of schools | 5,600 00 | |
| Tuition of High School scholars | 100 00 | |
| Support of poor | 2,500 00 | |
| Text books and supplies for schools..... | 700 00 | |
| Library..... | 200 00 | |
| Public burial grounds..... | 250 00 | |
| | ———— | \$15,850 00 |

In making up the estimates for the amount of money to be raised for the coming year we have consulted the officers of the several departments for the purpose of economizing as much as possible without detriment to the requirements of the town, so as to reduce our tax rate. A reduction has been made in about all of the amounts asked for from the amounts raised last year. In the estimate for tuition of high school scholars the estimate is \$100, on account of having an unexpended balance in 1895-96, amounting to \$1,186, which is available for use the coming year (A more complete statement will be found in the School Committee's report.) Estimating the State and County tax on the same basis as last year, with the present valuation of the town, to raise the above amount of \$15,850 the tax rate would be about \$13.50 on \$1,000.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 JULIAN A. CAMERON,

Selectmen of Westford.

Report of J. V. Fletcher Library Building Committee.

The committee on building the J. V. Fletcher Library submit the following report:

| | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Received from Hon. J. Varnum Fletcher of Belmont, Mass., donation..... | | \$13,969 00 |
| Paid William C. Edwards as per contract.. | \$13,280 00 | |
| Henry M. Francis, architect fees..... | 689 00 | 13,969 00 |

EXPENSE OF TOWN.

| | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| Paid William C. Edwards, extra work.... | \$ 481 97 | |
| B. C. Fisk, estimates on plans..... | 5 00 | |
| G. V. Upton, one furnace..... | 25 00 | |
| Brownell & Mason, one furnace, registers, galvanized pipes and labor setting furnaces..... | 525 56 | |
| W. J. Gould, irons for brick work around furnaces..... | 67 85 | |
| Snead & Co., iron works for book stacks | 1,412 00 | |
| Gilbert & Barker Mfg. Co., for one Springfield Gas Machine..... | 503 70 | |
| C. H. McKenney & Co., gas fixtures.. | 151 05 | |
| Strauss Brothers, decorators..... | 300 00 | |
| Marshall & Crosby, furniture..... | 430 00 | |
| Sawyer, Walbridge & Briggs Co., chairs | 98 60 | |
| Nashua Cement Sidewalk Co., cement- ing cellar and making sidewalk.. | 280 00 | |
| Smith & Brooks, surveying..... | 10 00 | |
| H. W. Tarbell, grading about Library building | 350 00 | |
| Chamberlain & Co., window shades... | 25 00 | |
| Chamberlain & Co., window screens.. | 83 00 | |
| T. Costello & Co, plumbing..... | 11 04 | |
| H. V. Hildreth, well cover and labor.. | 32 71 | |
| James Hunt, whitewashing cellar and walls..... | 20 00 | |
| Revere Rubber Co., rubber mats..... | 25 00 | |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | \$4837 48 |

| | | |
|---|-------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$4837 48 |
| Joseph Raymond, cleaning building and windows | 25 53 | |
| Ai Bicknell, care of building | 31 67 | |
| C. E. Whidden, freight, express and cartage..... | 14 26 | |
| F. B. Tulis, labor..... | 75 | |
| Car fare for masons..... | 2 72 | |
| M. G. Luce, one record book | 2 00 | |
| W. E. Frost, cards and boxes for minerals | 5 67 | |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., jars and bottles for specimens..... | 5 47 | |
| C. J. Raymond & Co., show cases and stands | 66 75 | \$4,992 30 |

CREDIT.

| | | |
|--|--|------------|
| By cash received from N. H. Wright, Town Treasurer | | \$4,992 30 |
|--|--|------------|

Appropriation \$5,000.

Total cost of building, including furnishing, \$18,961 30.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 JULIAN A. CAMERON,
 WILLIAM E. FROST,
 GEORGE T. DAY,
 A. P. RICHARDSON,
 W. J. SLEEPER,
 H. V. HILDRETH,

Building Committee.

Report of the Dedication Committee

of J. V. Fletcher Library Building, June 4, 1896.

| | | |
|---|----------|------------|
| Paid Salem Cadet Band..... | \$100 00 | |
| car fare for Band..... | 32 94 | |
| James Martin & Son for tents and man | 84 34 | |
| freight on tent..... | 4 68 | |
| for labor putting up tents, as per bills, | 14 75 | |
| Howe Lumber Co., lumber for tables | | |
| and platforms..... | 44 19 | |
| Heywood & Burbeck for lumber. ... | 3 92 | |
| for labor building tables, platforms and | | |
| teaming lumber and chairs, as per | | |
| bills..... | 46 09 | |
| for two half-tone cuts of Library Build- | | |
| ing and dinner cards, as per bills, | 13 50 | |
| Thompson & Hill, printing..... | 40 20 | |
| Dumas & Co., printing..... | 10 75 | |
| J. M. Fletcher, P. M., for postage... | 18 87 | |
| for teams and barges, as per bills.... | 36 00 | |
| D. L. Page Co., 600 dinner tickets.... | 600 00 | |
| Chamberlain & Co., for flowers and | | |
| ferns | 8 00 | |
| Spinner & Carrick, care of clothing.. | 3 00 | |
| F. E. Rollins, stenographer..... | 18 12 | |
| W. E. Frost for cards..... | 39 | |
| N. H. Wright, Town Treasurer, bal | | |
| cash on hand..... | 6 88 | |
| | ----- | \$1,086 62 |
| CREDIT. | | |
| By 466 dinner tickets sold..... | \$466 00 | |
| lumber sold..... | 25 00 | |
| cash received from Town Treasurer.... | 595 62 | |
| | ----- | \$1,086 62 |

Expense of Dedication :

Cash received from Town Treasurer \$595.62, less \$6.88 paid over to Treasurer, \$588.74; appropriation \$600.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 JULIAN A. CAMERON,
 WILLIAM E. FROST,
 GEORGE T. DAY,
 A. P. RICHARDSON,
 W. J. SLEEPER,
 H. V. HILDRETH.

Committee on Dedication.

LIST OF JURORS, 1897.

The following names will be reported at the Annual Meeting in April, to be placed in the jury box, subject to revision by the Town :

| NAMES. | OCCUPATION. |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Wilford G. Blodgett, | Clerk. |
| Augustus Bunce, | Farmer. |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, | Laborer. |
| Quincy W. Day, | Farmer. |
| Jeremiah Desmond, | Farmer. |
| Frank C. Drew, | Farmer. |
| Elbert H. Flagg, | Farmer. |
| George M. Fletcher, | Farmer. |
| George W. Goode, | Author. |
| Horace E. Gould, | Farmer. |
| David L. Greig, | Carder. |
| Henry A. Gurney, | Farmer. |
| Frank C. Hildreth, | Farmer. |
| Frank H. Hildreth, | Farmer. |
| Edward H. Holt, | Laborer. |
| Samuel M. Hutchins, | Farmer. |
| French M. Morse, | Machinist. |
| Harry L. Nesmith, | Farmer. |
| Elmer E. Nutting, | Machinist. |
| Wilbert E. Parsons, | Teamster. |
| George H. Prescott, | Machinist. |
| Richard D. Prescott, | Farmer. |
| Nathan Prescott, | Painter. |
| Charles N. Richardson, | Farmer. |
| Ossian V. Robey, | Carpenter. |
| Frank B. Tulis, | Painter. |
| Leonard W. Wheeler, | Farmer. |
| Hiram Whitney, | Retired. |
| Hammett D. Wright, | Granite Dealer. |
| Walter C. Wright, | Clerk. |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 JULIAN A. CAMERON,

Selectmen of Westford

BOARD OF HEALTH.

The officers of the Board of Health as constituted for the past year were Sherman H. Fletcher, Chairman, and Julian A. Cameron, Secretary.

The Board appointed Julian A. Cameron and John A. Healy agents for diseases and sanitary condition of the town; Gilman J. Wright agent to issue burial permits. Albert P. Richardson and John A. Healy were licensed as undertakers.

During the past year our town has been afflicted with an epidemic of measles, with a few cases of scarlet fever, typhoid fever and diphtheria.

In the late fall and winter measles were very prevalent in Graniteville and Forge Village, with a number of cases in other parts of the town.

The Board has endeavored to do all in its power to stop the spreading of these contagious diseases by means of quarantine and fumigation. Quarantine cards were posted on the affected houses notifying people of the prevailing disease so that they might be on their guard, to help prevent the spreading of the contagion. Disagreeable as it was to those afflicted, our people are to be commended for their co-operation in sustaining the action of the Board.

Sickness is an expensive thing, and it has been the aim of the Board to do all in its power to relieve our citizens from the expense that is entailed upon them in the care and treatment of the sick, as well as to protect the public from these unfortunate visitations.

The use of Antitoxin as an agent for the prevention and cure of diphtheria has come into general use and has been used with excellent results by our physicians.

In the several cases of typhoid fever no cause could be assigned for its appearance, as the surroundings where the patients were sick seemed free from anything of a typhoid nature.

A number of deaths have occurred from consumption, although our State Board has not as yet placed this disease among the infec-

tious or contagious diseases, but it is a question of considerable discussion among the medical faculty. The Board of Health of New York City has designated it a contagious disease.

The Board of Health considers *small-pox, varioloid, diphtheria, membranous croup, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, measles, typhus fever, yellow fever* and *Asiatic cholera* diseases dangerous to the public health within the meaning of Chapter 80 of the Public Statutes, and householders, as well as physicians, are required under the law to report to the Board diseases of a contagious or infectious character. Where physicians have been employed we have waived this requirement of householders to report, but if a physician is not employed the householder must report to the Board, as they are liable to a fine of \$100 in not so doing.

The Board is required to send notice to the State Board of Health within 24 hours after a receipt of a notice of a case of contagious or infectious disease in town, otherwise the town will forfeit all claim it might have against the State.

The U. S. Government also asks for a monthly statement of diseases, with a record of the births and deaths.

During the past year we had a complaint of a sink drain flowing too near a well of water of an adjoining owner, used for domestic purposes. Upon investigation we decided that it was a nuisance and detrimental to the health of the family using the water. The owner of the building was notified to abate the nuisance, but refused to do so. A warrant was issued and served by a constable upon the owner, who at once remedied the trouble to our satisfaction.

The State Board of Health, in their manual of health laws, in referring to local Boards of Health say that "The Statutes impose upon Boards of Health the duty of protecting the people from those causes and influences which may injuriously affect their health." Mr. Justice Wells in delivering the opinion of the Court in the case of *Salem v. Eastern Railroad Company*, 98 Mass. 431, 433, says, referring to local Boards of Health, "Their action is intended to be prompt and summary. They are clothed with extraordinary powers for the protection of the community from noxious influences affecting life and health; and it is important that their proceedings should be delayed as little as possible. Delay might defeat all beneficial results; and the necessity of the case and the importance of the public interests at stake justify prompt action."

Our physicians have worked in harmony with the Board and we are under obligations to them for their support.

The selectmen appointed Albert P. Richardson and George T. Day inspectors of animals and provisions. These inspectors became agents of the Board of Health. Mr. Richardson was designated inspector of cattle and swine at time of slaughter and Mr. Day as inspector of domestic animals. The following reports have been received from them :

WESTFORD, Feb. 15, 1897.

To the Chairman of the Board of Health :

From Feb. 15, 1896, to Feb. 15, 1897, I have inspected the following number of cattle, calves and swine at time of slaughter :

| Kinds. | Number. | Condemned. |
|-------------|---------|------------|
| Cows | 100 | 5 |
| Bulls..... | 10 | |
| Oxen..... | 2 | |
| Swine | 11 | |
| Calves..... | 827 | 12 |

ALBERT P. RICHARDSON,

Inspector.

To the Board of Health of the Town of Westford :

Gentlemen : I herewith submit a report of the number of cattle inspected by me from March 1, 1896, to March 1, 1897. The whole number of neat cattle examined under the order for general inspection is 804 head. I have examined by request of owners, 40 head during the time, 18 head have been quarantined, 4 were released by order of the Commissioners, and 14 were condemned and killed and found badly diseased. On the 28th day of January last, the Cattle Commissioners issued a general order suspending the quarantining of all neat cattle suspected of having tuberculosis, until the Legislature take some action on the matter. While there are several cows in town which I have inspected and, in my opinions, how marked symptoms of tuberculosis, I am unable to quarantine these suspicious animals till further orders from the Cattle Commissioners.

GEORGE T. DAY, *Inspector.*

The following tabl  is for the calendar year 1896, and not the financial year, to conform with the report of the State Board of Health.

The number of deaths in 1896 will be found in the Town Clerk's report.

Number of infectious or contagious cases reported in 1896 is 49 as follows :

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Measles | 43 |
| Scarlet Fever..... | 1 |
| Diphtheria | 1 |
| Typhoid Fever | 4 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 49 |

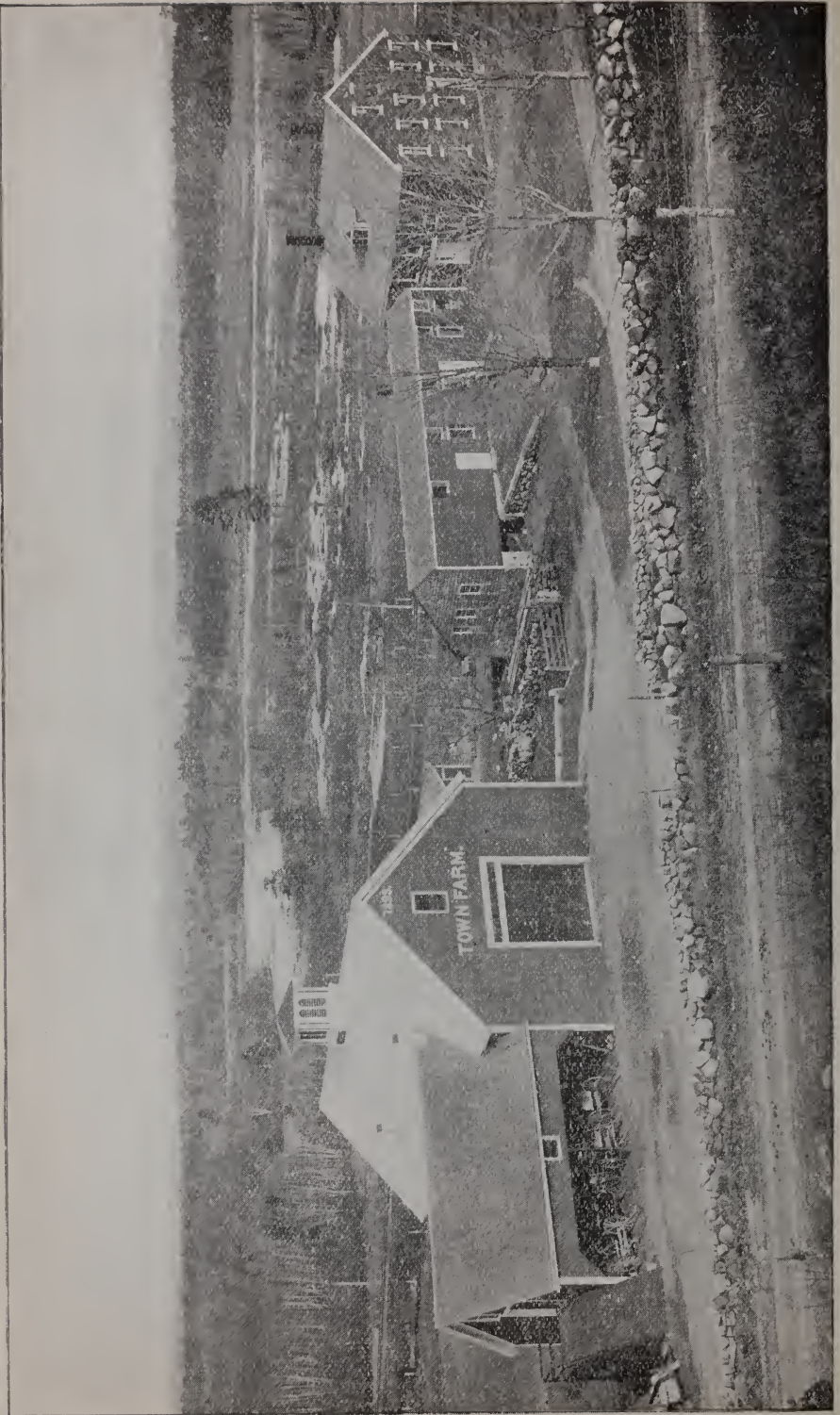
168 cases of measles were reported during the epidemic between Dec. 1, 1896 and March 1, 1897.

The following expense has occurred :

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Eugene DeRoehn, labor | \$ 2 00 | |
| Eugene DeRoehn, services as constable, serving writ..... | 2 00 | |
| Use of telephone..... | 75 | |
| Express | 40 | |
| Dr. W. J. Sleeper, express and services in using anti-toxin | 7 95 | |
| Dr. W. J. Sleeper, service in investigating contagious diseases and making report. | 12 00 | |
| Dr. W. H. Bennett, services investigating contagious diseases and making report, | 3 00 | |
| J. L. Moss, 1 doz. pans for disinfection | 60 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., printing cards..... | 4 25 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, services | 10 00 | |
| Geo. W. Heywood, services | 5 00 | |
| J. A. Cameron, services..... | 10 00 | |
| Sulphur candles for fumigation, etc | 21 60 | |
| | <hr/> | \$79 55 |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
JULIAN A. CAMERON,

Board of Health.



REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

For the year ending February 1, 1897.

AMOUNT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT THE ALMSHOUSE, BY APPRAISAL.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Feb. 1, 1896..... | \$3,231 72 |
| Feb. 1, 1897..... | 3,130 79 |
| Loss on personal property..... | <u>\$100 93</u> |

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Received for Milk..... | \$791 95 |
| T. Carney's board..... | 108 00 |
| Hay..... | 41 80 |
| Eggs..... | 5 10 |
| Cows and bull..... | 48 50 |
| Cranberries..... | 16 00 |
| Use of bull..... | 7 50 |
| Breaking roads..... | 2 55 |
| Rent from J. Wilkinson..... | 16 55 |
| Use of tools..... | 8 70 |
| Calves..... | 17 50 |
| Potatoes..... | 7 05 |
| Apples..... | 21 05 |
| Pork..... | 32 89 |
| Cider casks..... | 3 75 |
| Labor..... | 7 00 |
| Keeping prisoners..... | 7 50 |
| Onions..... | 6 00 |
| Sundries..... | 5 39 |
| | <u>\$1,154 78</u> |
| Received for board of J. Green..... | 108 00 |
| C. L. Adams, for grass and wagons..... | 10 00 |
| Ayer, for board of Addie Cameron..... | 6 28 |
| board of J. McManus..... | 64 00 |
| | <u>\$1,343 06</u> |

PAYMENTS.

| | | |
|---|------------|----------------|
| Paid for Hay track..... | \$ 80 | |
| Grain | 331 38 | |
| Groceries..... | 450 14 | |
| Labor..... | 447 30 | |
| Meat..... | 172 13 | |
| Fish..... | 25 55 | |
| Cows..... | 78 00 | |
| Bull..... | 15 00 | |
| Clothing for inmates..... | 16 06 | |
| Dry goods | 17 94 | |
| Medical supplies | 22 79 | |
| Tin and crockery ware..... | 15 95 | |
| Mrs. Richards..... | 27 50 | |
| Phosphate..... | 20 90 | |
| Tobacco..... | 20 13 | |
| Horse hay fork..... | 24 40 | |
| Grass and garden seed..... | 19 89 | |
| Mrs. Whitcomb | 4 23 | |
| Freight and express..... | 2 40 | |
| S. H. Balch's salary..... | 450 00 | |
| Lumber..... | 1 70 | |
| Wheelwright work..... | 2 50 | |
| Blacksmith work..... | 2 65 | |
| Harness work..... | 1 50 | |
| Coal..... | 22 29 | |
| Ice..... | 9 75 | |
| Wall paper and shades..... | 7 81 | |
| Soft soap..... | 5 55 | |
| Lowell Morning Mail..... | 1 00 | |
| Pung | 1 75 | |
| Making cider..... | 6 24 | |
| Sundry articles..... | 24 20 | |
| C. L. Adams, for pigs..... | 10 00 | |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., for Margaret O'Brine..... | 1 00 | |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., for Margaret Whitcomb..... | 75 | |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., for Richards family..... | 14 35 | |
| Loss on property..... | 100 93 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,376 51 |
| Deduct income of farm..... | \$1,343 06 | |
| expense of tramps | 142 25 | |
| cash in Superintendent's hands | 307 25 | |
| | <hr/> | 1,792 56 |
| Cost of supporting poor inside almshouse | | <hr/> \$583 95 |

INMATES AT TOWN FARM, FEB. 1, 1897.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| John P. Green, | Age 78. |
| George O. Wright, | “ 67. |
| Catherine O’Toole, | “ 96. |
| Margaret O’Brine, | “ 63. |
| Edward E. Holt, | “ 83. |
| Caroline A. Perham, | “ 73. |
| Thomas Carney, | “ 86. |
| Whole number supported..... | 16 |
| Average..... | 10 |
| Number of tramps..... | 569 |

EXPENSE OF POOR OUTSIDE THE ALMSHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|---------|------------------|
| Paid Hospital bills for Woodward, Keyes, Raymond, Lord, Wayne, Quinn and Reed..... | | \$1,044 91 |
| City of Lowell for Margaret Casey.... | | 33 50 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., for medical at- tendance on Daniel Casey..... | \$31 50 | |
| on Ida Smart..... | 9 00 | |
| on Mary Collier..... | 42 15 | |
| on Julian Wilkinson’s family..... | 11 25 | |
| on Mary Wright..... | 7 00 | |
| on L. W. Nason..... | 10 50 | |
| on Levi Kimball..... | 5 25 | |
| on Richard Dugdale and family ... | 97 60 | |
| | <hr/> | 214 25 |
| W. H. Bennett, M. D., for medical at- tendance on Charles Richards.... | \$ 7 00 | |
| on Effie Blodgett..... | 34 00 | |
| on Mrs. J. Leland..... | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | 44 00 |
| J. M. Fletcher for stamps and envelopes | | 1 00 |
| W. E. Symmes for care of L. W. Nason | \$ 1 00 | |
| Mrs. L. M. Brown for washing and care of L. W. Nason..... | 4 00 | |
| C. L. Adams for care and milk for L. W. Nason..... | 6 20 | |
| J. B. Currier for coffin for L. W. Nason | 12 00 | |
| W. F. Balch, for time and expense in burial of L. W. Nason..... | 3 00 | |
| A. P. Richardson for digging grave for L. W. Nason..... | 2 50 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, for house rent for L. W. Nason..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | 30 70 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | <hr/> \$1,368 36 |

| | | |
|---|---------|-----------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$1,368 36 |
| W. F. Balch for making out report to State Board of Lunacy and Charity | | 5 00 |
| H. D. Wright for taking M. Donnelly to Tewksbury. | | 1 00 |
| S. H. Fletcher for half tone cut of Town Farm..... | | 8 00 |
| Wright & Bemis for groceries for Mrs. J. Leland. | | 53 00 |
| Wright & Fletcher for groceries for Joseph Wilkinson..... | | 46 00 |
| Lucretia Reed for care of Mary Wright | | 28 50 |
| Mrs. J. C. Melvin for care in Dugdale family..... | | 17 00 |
| R. E. Redding for wood for Mrs. J. Leland..... | \$4 00 | |
| for Julian Wilkinson..... | 1 25 | |
| | | 5 25 |
| H. D. Wright, salary..... | \$10 00 | |
| A. G. Polley, salary..... | 10 00 | |
| W. F. Balch, salary..... | 10 00 | |
| | | 30 00 |
| W. F. Balch for making out Town Report | | 5 00 |
| W. F. Balch, extra time as Overseer... | | 10 00 |
| | | <u>1,577 11</u> |
| Received from State Treasurer on account of Mrs. Newell and son..... | \$68 25 | |
| City of Lowell on account Ida Smart..... | 9 00 | |
| Thomas Quinn on account of Mary Quinn..... | 81 25 | |
| | | <u>158 50</u> |
| | | <u>1,418 61</u> |
| Due from State on account of Levi Kimball | \$ 5 25 | |
| Lowell on account of Richard Dugdale and family..... | 114 60 | |
| | | <u>119 85</u> |
| Cost of supporting the poor outside almshouse | | \$1,298 76 |

STATEMENT.

| | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cash received from Town Treasurer..... | | \$2,707 51 |
| Property of L. W. Nason | \$25 59 | |
| other sources | 88 76 | |
| | <u> </u> | 114 35 |
| | | <u> </u> |
| | | \$2,821 86 |
| Paid for outside poor..... | \$1,577 11 | |
| Payments at farm..... | 2,275 53 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$3,852 64 |
| Receipts at farm..... | \$1,154 78 | |
| Cash in hands of Supt., Feb. 1, | | |
| 1896 | 184 10 | |
| | <u> </u> | 1,338 88 |
| | | <u> </u> |
| | | 2,513 76 |
| | | <u> </u> |
| | | \$308 10 |
| Cash in hands of Overseers, Feb. 1, 1897... | \$ 85 | |
| Cash in hands of Supt., Feb. 1, 1897 | 307 25 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$308 10 |

W. F. BALCH,
A. G. POLLEY,
H. D. WRIGHT,

Overseers of the Poor.

APPRAISAL OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

at the Almshouse in Westford, Mass., Feb. 20, 1897, in barn and outbuildings.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| 43 fowls and ducks..... | \$ 23 00 |
| 12 cows | 540 00 |
| 2 horses..... | 120 00 |
| 1 bull | 15 00 |
| 27 tons English hay..... | 460 00 |
| 5 tons stock hay..... | 70 00 |
| 2 1-2 tons meadow hay..... | 25 00 |
| 12 tons ensilage..... | 85 00 |
| Grain in barn..... | 22 75 |
| 6 harnesses | 70 00 |
| Whiffletrees, neck yokes and eveners..... | 16 00 |
| 1 mowing machine | 40 00 |
| | <u> </u> |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | \$1,487 25 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$1,487 25 |
| 1 express wagon..... | \$ 12 00 | |
| 1 milk wagon..... | 10 00 | |
| 1 Democrat wagon..... | 40 00 | |
| 1 hay wagon..... | 35 00 | |
| 1 farm wagon..... | 25 00 | |
| 1 sleigh..... | 7 00 | |
| 1 horse rake..... | 10 00 | |
| 1 wheelbarrow..... | 18 00 | |
| 1 spring tooth harrow..... | 5 00 | |
| 2 dump carts..... | 75 00 | |
| 1 ensilage cutter..... | 35 00 | |
| 1 two-horse sled..... | 35 00 | |
| 1 hay tedder..... | 30 00 | |
| 1 hay fork and gear..... | 30 00 | |
| 2 hogs..... | 25 00 | |
| Balance in barn and outbuildings..... | 290 05 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,169 30 |

PERSONAL PROPERTY AT HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|---------|--------|
| 12 bushels potatoes..... | \$ 6 00 | |
| Apples, beets and squash..... | 4 00 | |
| 10 gallons vinegar..... | 2 00 | |
| 600 gallons cider..... | 60 00 | |
| 1 barrel cranberries..... | 3 50 | |
| 1-2 barrel onions..... | 2 00 | |
| 20 pounds butter..... | 4 80 | |
| 2 barrels salt pork..... | 24 00 | |
| 1 barrel sugar..... | 11 00 | |
| 50 pounds ham..... | 5 00 | |
| Ice..... | 10 00 | |
| 3 barrels flour..... | 17 00 | |
| Balance personal property at house..... | 812 19 | |
| | <hr/> | 961 49 |

\$3,130 79

SAMUEL L. TAYLOR,
 GEORGE H. HARTFORD,
 NOAH PRESCOTT,

Appraisers of Property at Town Farm.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:—In compliance with the duties of Auditor, the undersigned, having duly presented to you the several preliminary statements, and having made the usual careful examination of the accounts of Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Master of the Almshouse, and Treasurer, for the financial year ending February 28, 1897, would submit herewith his complete report :

TAXES.

The amount of taxes assessed on the polls and on the real and personal estate within the Town of Westford for the year 1896, and as presented to you in one of the preliminary reports, was as follows :

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Number of polls, 685, at \$2.00 each | \$ 1,370 00 |
| Tax on personal property..... | 3,607 01 |
| Tax on real estate..... | 16,833 48 |
| | |
| Total..... | \$21,810 49 |
| Number of polls added since first report, 2 at \$2 each | 4 00 |
| Other taxes (on real estate)..... | 12 96 |
| | |
| Total tax levy for 1896 | \$21,827 45 |

UNCOLLECTED TAXES.

| Year. | COLLECTOR. | Amount due and as reported March 1, 1896. | Interest collected since March 1, 1896. | TOTAL. | Amount collected, including interest and abatements since March 1, 1896. | Amount due March 1, 1897. |
|--|--------------------|---|---|----------|--|---------------------------|
| 1890 | Alec Fisher.... | \$ 76 22 | \$ 2 87 | \$ 79 09 | \$ 79 09 | ..... |
| 1891 | Alec Fisher..... | 254 10 | 10 85 | 264 95 | 264 95 | ..... |
| 1892 | Isaac E. Day | 130 91 | .. .... | 130 91 | 96 96 | \$ 33 95 |
| 1893 | Walter C. Wright. | 22 31 | .... .. | 22 31 | 12 27 | 10 04 |
| 1894 | Walter C. Wright. | 423 23 | 28 40 | 451 63 | 274 50 | 177 13 |
| 1895 | Walter C. Wright. | 1,877 50 | 39 65 | 1,917 15 | 1,195 73 | 721 42 |
| Total amount of uncollected taxes for the years 1892-95..... | | | | | | \$942 54 |

| | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Your Auditor debits Collector Walter C. Wright with the total tax levy for 1896, which was..... | | \$21,827 45 |
| For interest collected since Jan. 1, 1897 (taxes of 1896)..... | | 87 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total amount..... | | \$21,828 32 |
| And credits for amounts as follows: | | |
| Actual amount collected Oct. 1..... | \$15,452 45 | |
| Five per cent. discount allowed taxpayers on taxes paid on or before Oct. 1..... | 813 29 | |
| Actual amount collected Dec. 1..... | 1,161 85 | |
| Three per cent discount allowed taxpayers on taxes paid on or before Dec. 1..... | 35 93 | |
| Amount collected between December 2 and February 25..... | 1,455 95 | |
| Interest..... | 87 | |
| Rebate of taxes and taxes ordered as errors, | 11 02 | |
| | | <hr/> |
| Residue of uncollected taxes for 1896 | | 18,931 36 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$2,896 96 |

RECAPITULATION.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Uncollected taxes, 1892..... | \$ 33 95 |
| 1893..... | 10 04 |
| 1894..... | 177 13 |
| 1895..... | 721 42 |
| 1896..... | 2,896 96 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total amount of uncollected taxes March 1, 1897 | \$3,839 50 |
| | <hr/> |

TOWN CLERK.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Number of dogs licensed during the year ending December 1, 1896: | |
| 149 at \$2.00 each..... | \$298 00 |
| 6 at \$5.00 each..... | 30 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total amount of license fees..... | \$328 00 |
| Clerk's fees, 155 at 20 cents each | 31 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance paid to County Treasurer, as per his vouchers | \$297 00 |
| | <hr/> |

Two hundred eighty-two and fifteen hundredths dollars (\$282.15) of the dog license money has been refunded.

SELECTMEN.

Proper vouchers were found for each and every one of the 386 orders drawn by the Selectmen on the Town Treasurer.

MASTER OF ALMSHOUSE.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Cash balance, March 1, 1896 | \$ 184 10 |
| Receipts from all sources for the year ending February 28, 1897..... | 2,371 78 |
| | <hr/> |
| Making a total of | \$2,555 88 |
| Expenditures for the year ending February 28, 1897 | 2,248 63 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance on hand March 1, 1897..... | \$307 25 |
| | <hr/> |

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Cash balance March 1, 1896..... | \$ 14 76 |
| Receipts for the year ending Feb. 28, 1897: | |
| From Town Treasurer | \$2,707 51 |
| From other sources | 99 59 2,807 10 |
| | <hr/> |
| Making a total of..... | \$2,821 86 |
| Expenditures for the year ending Feb. 28, 1897..... | 2,821 01 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance on hand March 1, 1897..... | \$ 85 |
| | <hr/> |

The expenditures of Overseers of the Poor, and the Master of the Almshouse, were all properly vouched, excepting the usual trivial amounts.

TREASURER.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Receipts during the year ending Feb. 28, 1897, | \$47,494 88 |
| | <hr/> |
| Expenditures during the year ending March 1, 1897..... | \$46,730 17 |
| | <hr/> |
| Excess of receipts over expenditures..... | \$ 764 71 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance in the treasury March 1, 1896..... | \$ 2,177 21 |
| Received into the treasury during the year ending Feb. 28, 1897 | 47,494 88 |
| | <hr/> |
| Making a total of..... | \$49,672 09 |
| Amount paid from the treasury during the year ending Feb. 28, 1897..... | 46,730 17 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance in the treasury March 1, 1897..... | \$ 2,941 92 |
| | <hr/> |

Every item paid from the treasury as represented by the amount \$46,730.17 was properly vouched.

LIBRARY—NAHUM H. WRIGHT, TREASURER.

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Cash balance March 1, 1896 | \$ 8 98 |
| Receipts during the year ending Feb. 28, 1897, | 564 15 |
| Making a total of..... | <u>\$573 13</u> |
| Payments for the year ending Feb. 28, 1897, | 498 94 |
| Balance on hand March 1, 1897..... | <u>\$ 74 19</u> |

FINANCIAL.

The financial condition of the town March 1, 1897, as taken from the Treasurer's books and other sources, is as follows:

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Note, First National Bank, Lowell (balance of original note for \$13,500.00)..... | \$6,500 00 |
| State Treasurer, on account of new library building | 5,000 00 |
| Total..... | <u>\$11,500 00</u> |

ASSETS.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Due from State Aid to soldiers' families.... | \$ 980 00 |
| Due from Military Aid to indigent soldiers.. | 135 00 |
| Taxes of 1892 remaining uncollected..... | 33 95 |
| Taxes of 1893 remaining uncollected..... | 10 04 |
| Taxes of 1894 remaining uncollected..... | 177 13 |
| Taxes of 1895 remaining uncollected..... | 721 42 |
| Taxes of 1896 remaining uncollected..... | 2,896 96 |
| Balance of cash in the treasury..... | 2,941 92 |
| Balance of cash in hands of the Overseers of the Poor | 85 |
| Balance of cash in hands of the Master of the Almshouse | 307 25 |
| Balance of cash, library fund | 74 19 |
| | <u>\$8,278 71</u> |
| Balance against the town | <u>\$3,221 29</u> |

It will be readily understood that the increase of the town's debt for the financial year just closed, is on account of the new library building, but, although the debt incurred in this respect, was for the sum of \$5000, the balance against the town, as shown by the

foregoing report, is only \$3,221.29. The monetary affairs of the town March 1, 1897, may be considered as being more favorable than for the past three years, notwithstanding the net debt has been increased in consequence of the library building; for inasmuch as this debt of \$5000 has been created, the deficit is now only about three-fifths of this sum.

Exclusive of the debt on the library building, there would have been at the close of the present financial year, a balance of \$1,778.71 in favor of the town.

Balance against the town for the year ending Feb. 28, 1894, was \$1,051.10; for the year ending Feb. 28, 1895, \$729.26; and for the year ending Feb. 29, 1896, \$1,139.16.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR B. PLIMPTON.

Graniteville, March 15, 1897.

REPORT ON CEMETERIES.

The Commissioners of Public Cemeteries respectfully submit the following report for the year ending March 1st, 1897:

The various items of expense for the past year may be found in the financial statement appended to this report. It will be seen that a summer house has been erected in Fairview Cemetery for the comfort and convenience of visitors, and that the hearse house has been shingled. A fine assortment of hardy ornamental shrubs has been set out near the east entrance. The trees set out last year have grown well and are already an attractive feature. The careful work done on the older part of the cemetery has greatly improved its appearance. It was impossible to reclaim this tract from its un-sightly and neglected condition in a single year. Its present appearance shows that the means employed to improve it were wise and effective.

It seemed necessary to use a large part of the fertilizer purchased this year on these grounds, but some of it was taken to the North and West burial grounds.

The work of the Superintendent has been chiefly done on the lots entrusted to his care, and in keeping the avenues free from grass and weeds, and otherwise in good condition. The frequent rains during the summer, while favorable to the growth of grass and the appearance of the lots, caused considerable increase of labor and care on the avenues.

The vertical bank of the avenue on the south side has been covered with turf. Every year there are more or less headstones which require resetting. A large quantity of the small stones which abound in the cemetery and come to the surface wherever the ground is broken, has been used in making beds for the avenues.

We take pleasure in reporting a substantial increase in the interest taken in improving the burial grounds. The number of individuals who employed the Superintendent to take care of their lots in 1895, was 64; in 1896 the number was 104—a gain of 62½ per cent. The amount of money paid by individuals in 1895, exclusive of the income from funds, was \$102; in 1896 the amount was \$183—a gain of 79 per cent. No comment on the significance of these figures is necessary; but even they do not fully indicate the improvement that has been made during the past year, for the number of persons who have cared for their burial lots with their own labor, and whose names do not appear in our report, has steadily increased. A gain is also to be noted in the number of funds established for the perpetual care of lots. During the past year Miss Clara M. Wiley of

Boston and Mr. J. W. Griffin of Lowell have each given \$100 for this purpose. All of the funds are deposited in Lowell savings banks.

It will be seen that most of the labor and money have been expended on Fairview Cemetery, and that no extensive improvements have been made as yet in the North and West burial grounds. The reason for this discrimination may be sufficiently indicated by stating the fact that more than nine-tenths of the interments during the past five years have been made in Fairview Cemetery. The other burial grounds are almost unused, and little frequented; and it has seemed proper to devote most of our care to the cemetery in which the large majority of our citizens and tax payers have the greatest interest. But it is our intention, if sufficient funds are provided, to have avenues graded and other improvements made in the North and West burial grounds during the ensuing year.

During the past year the gates of Fairview Cemetery have been left open, in order that visitors and persons who came to inspect their lots might drive in without inconvenience. This privilege seems to be appreciated, and there is no apparent objection to its continuance.

In our last report it was erroneously stated that the trees set out along the north side of the cemetery were given by Mr. S. M. Hutchins. The credit for this welcome and appropriate gift belongs to Mr. William E. Hutchins.

Those who desire Superintendent Richardson to take charge of their lots should notify him on or before May 1st; and it is very desirable that payment should be made when the notification is given. The work cannot be done in a satisfactory manner if it is not begun early in the spring.

We recommend that the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars be raised and appropriated for the care and improvement of burial grounds during the ensuing year.

Respectfully submitted.

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, Chairman,

WILLIAM E. FROST, Secretary,

GEORGE T. DAY,

Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Balance in Treasury..... | \$ 34 08 |
| Appropriation, March, 1896..... | 300 00 |
| Sums received for care of lots, etc.:— | |
| John W. Abbot, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| George E. H. Abbott, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <i>\$336 08</i> |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$336 08 |
| Mrs. John Bailey, lots 51-2, W. D..... | 3 00 |
| Mrs. S. A. Butterfield, lot 344, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Wm. Burnett, lot 37, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. John Baker, lot 330, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Mrs. A. Bunce, lots 11-12, W. D..... | 6 00 |
| Mrs. E. Barton, lots 40-41, W. D..... | 8 00 |
| Mrs. J. T. Butterworth, lot 236, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Ai Bicknell, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| E. G. Boynton, lot 338, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| T. A. Bean, lot 378, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| F. W. Banister, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Sally B. Burrill Fund, income..... | 4 20 |
| Mrs. John Caunter, lots 21-22, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Julian Coolidge, lot 108, W. D..... | 3 00 |
| John Carmichael, lot 68, W. D..... | 3 00 |
| Mrs. Frank Calvert, lot 26, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Nellie Comey, lot 145, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. P. Cummings, lot 93, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. M. J. Cheney, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. R. Carver, lots 106-7, W. D..... | 10 00 |
| Edward Craven, lot 63, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Clara P. Carkin, lot 338, E. D..... | 4 00 |
| J. B. Carmichael, lot 345, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Thomas Drew, lot 43, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Thomas Drew, for Cephas Drew lot..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Alice L. Davis, lot 10, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Rachel Dupee, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Annie E. Dupee, lot 144, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| S. N. Eaton, lot 342, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Emily A. Fletcher, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. B. Foote, lots 22-3, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| John M. Fletcher, lot 76, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. W. Fletcher, lot 154, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| A. B. Falls, lot 62, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| F. L. Fletcher, lot 83, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. L. J. Fletcher, lot 92, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. G. H. Fifield, lot 148, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| John Greig, lot 14, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. Gower, lot 42, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Samuel Gilson, lot 329, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| L. S. Gilson, lot 60, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| L. S. Gilson, for Coburn lot, 75, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Susan E. Green, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Harriet G. Hamlin, lot 111, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Frank Hindle, lot 336, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$430 28 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$430 28 |
| Charles A. Hamlin, lot 56, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss C. E. Hewett, lot 116, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| D. C. Harris, lot 15, W. D..... | 3 00 |
| Mrs. Ellen A. Hildreth, lot 87, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Helen C. Hildreth, lot 115, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. W. O. Hawkes, lot 112, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. G. Humiston, lot 142, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Geo. F. Horne, lot 16, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| E. H. Holt, lot 39, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| H. V. Hildreth, lots 42-3, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| George Jeffroy, lot 332, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Mrs. J. H. Laws, lot 114, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss R. E. Luce, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Lord Brothers, lot 33, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| E. D. Metcalf, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| J. D. Morse, lot 58, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Geo. C. Moore, lot 343, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Amos B. Noyes, lot 162, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Dora I. Northrup, lot 331, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| John M. Osgood, lot 63, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. C. M. Prince, lot 67, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edward Prescott, lot 25, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. H. S. Parker, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. M. A. Parker, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. Petherick, lot 339, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mary A. Putnam Fund, income..... | 4 12 |
| M. T. Richardson, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Anna Richardson, lot 74, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Josie K. Ripley, lot 1, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Geo. G. Read, lot 70, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Sarah S. Read, West Cemetery..... | 3 00 |
| Mrs. J. W. Revere, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| J. Henry Read, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. T. C. Read, lot 3, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Sarah Richardson, two lots..... | 2 00 |
| Richard L. Saville, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Jacob Smith, lot 95, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss M. Shaw, lot 335, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Richard Stancombé, lot 340, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| C. W. Spaulding, lot 346, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| F. O. Stiles, lot 41, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Charles P. Trumbull, Fairview..... | 3 00 |
| Samuel Willis, lot 20, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| E. J. Whitney, lots 28-9, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Amanda Wheeler, lot 105, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Almira F. Wilkins, lot 88, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$502 40 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$502 40 |
| Mrs. Hiram Whitney, lot 100, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| W. T. Willis, lot 19, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. Wigham, lot 54, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| A. A. Wright, lot 34, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. H. Wilson, lot 157, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Willey M. Wright, lots 24-5, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| C. E. Whidden, for Whiting lot..... | 2 00 |
| J. A. Walkden, lot 15, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. M. Whitney, lot 21, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John Wilson, lot 146, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Myron J. Wood, lot 155, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Nahum H. Wright, lots 46-7, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Gilman J. Wright, lots 28-9, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| H. D. Wright, for V. B. Wright..... | 3 00 |
| Miss C. M. Wiley, for Hamlin lot..... | 3 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total..... | \$525 40 |

EXPENSES.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Wright & Fletcher, grass seed and lawn mower..... | \$ 11 16 |
| J. Gould, labor, Fairview..... | 3 00 |
| B. F. Nutting, labor, North Cemetery..... | 8 00 |
| A. P. Richardson, labor, Fairview..... | 304 42 |
| W. W. Johnson, hauling manure..... | 8 00 |
| B. & M R. R, freight on manure..... | 13 73 |
| J. H. O'Brien, 10 cords manure..... | 35 00 |
| J. T. Colburn, labor, West Cemetery..... | 8 00 |
| — Tarbell, shrubs, Fairview..... | 15 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total..... | \$406 31 |
| Balance in treasury..... | 119 09 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$525 40 |

Wm. C. Edwards' bill of \$115.00 for erecting summer house was not received before the books were closed. Deducting this from the above balance leaves in the treasury a net balance of \$4.09.

TRUST FUNDS HELD FOR CARE OF BURIAL LOTS.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Sally B. Burrill fund..... | \$100 00 |
| Mary A. Putnam fund..... | 100 00 |
| Samuel Horne fund..... | 50 00 |
| Clara M. Wiley fund..... | 100 00 |
| Joseph B. Griffin fund..... | 100 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total..... | \$450 00 |

LIBRARY REPORT.

The following Report of the J. V. Fletcher Library, for the year ending March 1st, 1897, is respectfully submitted :

The transfer of the Library from the small and inconvenient room in the Town Hall to the commodious and handsome new building, is the most important event we have to record. It was naturally expected that many advantages would result from the occupation of the new structure ; and this expectation has been fully realized.

In the room at the Town Hall the Encyclopedias, Dictionaries and other reference books could be consulted only under most unfavorable conditions. There was no suitable place for making research and taking notes, and there were necessarily frequent interruptions. It has been impracticable to keep any record of the persons who have used the works of reference in the new room provided for this purpose ; but the number has been large. The free and uninterrupted consultation of these valuable works is a privilege not heretofore enjoyed ; and it is highly appreciated.

It was not anticipated that the change of location would materially affect the circulation of books to be read by people in their homes ; but the record of the Librarian shows that the number of volumes taken from the Library is 1948 greater than even the large circulation of the previous year. This fact excites surprise as well as gratification, especially when it is considered that the transfer of the books to the new building, and the arrangement of them, made it necessary to close the Library to the public for nearly a month. Had it not been for this interruption, the circulation would undoubtedly have increased 20 per cent. during the year. The gain actually recorded is more than 16 per cent

The fine reading room in the new building supplies advantages which have long been desired, but which could not be provided in the Town Hall. An important part of the service which libraries may render to communities is to provide information on living

issues and to make easy of access news of the great movements in which the nations of the world are actually engaged. For this purpose the great magazines and reviews are indispensable; for in them the master minds in every department of human endeavor now give to the world the latest results of their labors, their fresh discoveries and their matured conclusions. The book in most cases sets forth that which is already determined and crystallized into history. To those who seek knowledge of pending issues and wish to form intelligent opinions, that they may discharge wisely the manifold duties of citizenship, the careful perusal of the best periodical literature is absolutely necessary.

The reading room is now supplied with the following list of periodicals:—*Monthly Magazines or Reviews*—Atlantic, Harper's, Scribner's, Century, Forum, North American, Review of Reviews, Popular Science, McClure's, Munsey's, Cosmopolitan, St. Nicholas, New England, Good Housekeeping and Bookman; presented by publishers—Our Message, Ladies' Home Journal, Ladies' Home Companion, Land of Sunshine, and Pacific Northwest; *Weekly publications*—Littell's Living Age, Harper's, Frank Leslie's, and Scientific American; presented by publisher, The Union Signal.

This supply of current literature appears to be attractive and satisfactory. It was intended to have on the files a sufficient variety to gratify the tastes of all, and no deficiency is thus far apparent. A large majority of those who frequent the reading room are the young people of the town. It is highly gratifying to know that this new opportunity for improvement and rational recreation is appreciated, and that so many are forming the habit of spending their leisure in ways that are refined and helpful.

The gifts to the Library during the year have been numerous and valuable. A list of them will be found at the end of this report.

The art gallery in the new building was regarded from the first as most desirable; but it was supposed by all that years must elapse before it would contain many of the pictures for which it was designed. Only a few months have passed since the Library was dedicated, and yet its walls are already decorated with nine fine lithographic views of New England cities, presented by Mr. Charles L. Hildreth of Lowell, and twenty-one portraits and pictures, all of them handsomely framed, and many of them large

and expensive. A detailed description of them cannot be given here without unduly extending this report. The generosity of the donors is gratefully appreciated; and they receive, as they well deserve, the sincere thanks of the people of our town.

We trust that none will take it amiss if we designate the life-size oil painting of Hon. J. Varnum Fletcher as the noblest and most pleasing gift which the new Library has received. No portrait of him is or ever will be needed to remind citizens of Westford of his noble life and philanthropic deeds; but this fact detracts not at all from our gratitude for the gift, nor from our pleasure in its possession. While it will always be prized by us, it will be still more valued by those who will enjoy the benefits of the J. V. Fletcher Library long after those who now use it shall have passed away.

The number of volumes presented to the Library during the year is 316,—many more than have ever before been given in a single year. Among the more valuable of these are the hundred volumes of congressional speeches and debates, American archives, etc., presented by Mrs. Sherman D. Fletcher from the private library of her late husband; one hundred and seventeen volumes of reports of the U. S. treasury, coast survey, light-house board, etc., from Hon. Charles S. Hamlin, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; five volumes of the publications of the Lowell Old Residents' Historical Association, and Scribner's large statistical atlas, presented by Mr. Charles L. Hildreth, Superintendent of the Lowell Machine Shop; Lewis's History of Middlesex County, in three large volumes, illustrated, presented by Mr. J. V. Keyes of Lowell, and an unbound set of the Century Company's "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War," presented by Joseph A. Willard, Esq., clerk of the Suffolk County Superior Court. For these and the many other volumes given to the Library, the Trustees desire, in behalf of the Town, to return grateful acknowledgment.

The books purchased during the year are fewer than usual, owing to the fact that the expense of the past two years' supply of periodicals for the reading room had to be taken from the annual appropriation; but they comprise a large number of works of permanent value.

Since the occupation of the new building, the Library and reading room have been open three afternoons and evenings during

each week, and from 12.30 to 1.30 Sundays. This increase of opportunity for the use of the Library, while accompanied by some slight additional expense, seems to be of benefit to the Town and to meet with general approval.

The Librarian reports that the number of autograph signatures in the visitors' register since the dedication of the Library, June 4th, 1896, is 990; and that the total number of visits to the Library since June 11th, by patrons and people from other towns, is 6539.

The committee of ladies who solicited gifts for the relic room, and who arranged and catalogued them, have submitted the following statement:—

“Visitors to the Library will find in the relic room, and in two cases in the picture gallery, a large collection of valuable articles; including minerals, shells, stuffed birds, old coins, rare woods, Indian implements, ancient pictures and books, old china, and many relics of the Revolution and olden times, given or loaned to the Library by our citizens, both native and foreign born, and also by friends who are still interested in our Town—though far away. We gratefully acknowledge these gifts and loans, but want of space forbids giving the names of the large number contributing to this collection, which has been the source of much pleasure the past year to those visiting the Library. It is hoped that gifts will continue to be made from time to time, as there remains ample room for such additions. The ladies who have had charge report that articles, whether given or loaned, are numbered, and the description of article, with number and name of person giving or loaning the same, is recorded in a book kept for that purpose; the various articles having cards placed with them bearing like information. We feel sure those of our citizens who have not already visited these rooms will find much to interest them in this collection, so kindly furnished by our many friends.”

We recommend that the sum of two hundred dollars be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM E. FROST, Chairman,
MARGARET A. O'NEILL, Secretary,
JOHN WM. ABBOT,

Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Cash on hand | \$ 8 93 |
| Lowell M'fg Co., dividends | 30 00 |
| Shoe and Leather Bank, dividends | 8 00 |
| City Institution for Savings, dividends | 40 00 |
| Dog licenses | 282 15 |
| Appropriation | 200 00 |
| Mrs. L. L. Tappan, gift | 2 00 |
| Miss Alicia M. Keyes, gift | 2 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$573 13 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|--|----------|
| F. J. Barnard & Co., rebinding books | \$ 29 74 |
| H. D. Noyes & Co., magazines and papers | 98 65 |
| Willard Small, books | 333 35 |
| D. Appleton and others, books | 23 60 |
| Dumas & Co., register and placards | 7 10 |
| Lowell Courier and others, printing labels, etc. | 6 50 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$498 94 |
| Balance | \$74 19 |

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Number of books purchased | 270 |
| Number of books presented | 273 |
| Public documents received from the State | 28 |
| Public documents received from the U. S. | 14 |
| Whole number of books added during the year | 585 |
| Whole number of pamphlets added during the year | 127 |
| Whole number of books in Library | 9,145 |
| Number of books lost | 3 |
| Number of books bought to replace worn-out copies | 1 |
| Number of books loaned | 14041 |
| Cash on hand from last year | \$1 47 |
| Fines | 7 75 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$9 22 |
| Paid for supplies | 7 99 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1 23 |

LIST OF PORTRAITS AND PICTURES, AND NAMES OF DONORS.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Oil painting of Hon. J. Varnum Fletcher, Hon. J. Varnum Fletcher. | |
| Oil painting of Wright house. | Henry H. Robinson. |
| Two photographs of temples at Nikko, Japan, Chas. O. Prescott.. | |

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|--|--|
| Photograph of Augustus K. Fletcher, | Mrs. A. K. Fletcher. |
| Photograph of Hon. J. W. P. Abbot, | Abiel J. Abbot. |
| Photograph of Mrs. Catharine Abbot, | Abiel J. Abbot. |
| Photograph of Wm. E. Gladstone, | Hon. John E. Hargreaves, Ex-Mayor of Kendal, England. |
| Photograph of John Bright, | Hon. John E. Hargreaves, |
| Photograph of Lyon house, Westford, | Allan C. Sargent. |
| Photograph of Stony Brook, Graniteville, | Allan C. Sargent. |
| Crayon portrait of Dr. Benjamin Osgood, | John M. Osgood. |
| Pastel portrait of Allan Cameron, | F. G. and A. C. Sargent. |
| Pastel portrait of Charles G. Sargent, | Allan Cameron. |
| Pastel portrait of Rev. Leonard Luce, Misses R. E. and M. G. Luce. | |
| Original pen and ink sketch, | Miss May G. Balch. |
| Portrait of Longfellow, | Hon. Chas. S. and G. P. Hamlin. |
| Portrait of Washington, | Hon. John D. Long. |
| Large picture of Acropolis, | Thomas H. Elliott. |
| Large picture of Great Pyramid and Sphynx, | Thomas H. Elliott. |
| Medallion of Gen. B. F. Butler, | Allan Cameron. |
| Model of Ship, | Capt. Eugene DeRoehn. |
| Nine large lithographic views of New England Cities, | Charles L. Hildreth. |
| Colored picture of Howland Mills, New Bedford, | Charles L. Hildreth. |

NOTE.—The frames of the fine portraits of Bright and Gladstone were given by Mr. Allan Cameron.

DONORS OF BOOKS.

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|--|
| Hon Charles S. Hamlin, 117 United States government reports. |
| Mrs Emily A. Fletcher, 100 volumes. |
| Milton T. Richardson, 15 volumes. |
| Julian V. Keyes, 3 volumes. |
| Charles L. Hildreth, 6 volumes and one pamphlet. |
| Dr. C. M. Newell, 5 volumes. |
| Mrs. J. M. Barnard, 4 volumes. |
| Miss Emily F. Fletcher, 8 volumes. |
| Miss R. E. Luce, 2 volumes and 2 pamphlets. |
| Joseph A. Willard, unbound copy of "Battles and Leaders of the Civil War." |
| A. B. Fletcher, 6 volumes. |
| Ai Bicknell, 1 volume. |
| Hiram Dane, 1 volume. |
| Dr. C. A. Stephens, 1 volume. |
| G. P. Wright, 1 volume. |
| Mrs. G. T. Day, 1 volume. |
| H. B. Read, 1 volume. |
| Capt. E. H. Shaw, 1 volume. |

- Dr. A. C. Hamlin, 1 volume.
Josiah M. Fletcher, 1 volume.
A. M. Dows, 1 volume.
Mrs. J. D. Morse, 4 volumes magazines.
A. N. Blood, 1 volume.
Miss Josephine Rand, 1 volume.
Capt. S. H. Fletcher, 1 catalogue.
John M. Fletcher, Esq., 1 volume, 2 pamphlets, and a file of old
Justices' commissions.
Allan Cameron, copy of the London Times, 1796.
Mrs. Hattie Blood, copy of Ulster County Gazette, 1799.
Presented by the State, 29 volumes.
Presented by the United States, 14 volumes.

LIST OF BOOKS

ADDED TO THE LIBRARY DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1896-7.

A

| | |
|--|---------|
| Adjutant General's Report, 1864 | 616 |
| Acts and Resolves of Mass., 1896 | 604 |
| Acts and Resolves of Province of Mass. Bay. Private Acts, 1692-1780 | 605 |
| Education, Report of Board of, 1894-5 | 606 |
| Gypsy Moth in Mass E. H. Forbush and C. H. Fernald, 1896 | 607 |
| Highways of Mass., 1896 | 608 |
| Journal of House of Representatives, 1896 | 609 |
| Journal of Senate, 1896 | 610 |
| Laws and Resolves of Mass., 1794-7, 2 vols. | 611-12 |
| Manual of General Court, 1896 | 615 |
| Mass. Reports, vol. 165 | 613 |
| Public Documents, 1895, 12 vols. | 592-603 |
| Registration Report, 1895 | 614 |

B

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|---|--------|
| Acts of 23d Congress, 1834 | 510 |
| Alien Passengers and Immigrants Arrived in U. S., 1820-92 | 600 |
| Bank of U. S., History of | 601 |
| Census of U. S. Social Statistics of Cities, 1890 | 602 |
| Coast and Geodetic Survey, 1873-94, 20 vols. | 603-22 |
| Commerce and Navigation, 1894 | 623 |
| Commerce with Europe, 1790-1890 | 624 |
| Commercial Relations of U. S., 1894-5, vol. II. | 625 |
| Congressional Debates, 1824-37, 29 vols. | 537-66 |
| Debates in Congress, 1789-91, 2 vols. | 535-6 |
| Documents of 24th Congress, 1st Session, 3 vols | 505-7 |
| Education, Report of Commissioner. 1892-5, 5 vols. | 626-30 |
| Executive Documents, 25th Congress, 1828, 12 vols. | 511-22 |
| Executive Documents, 26th Congress, 1st Session, 7 vols. | 52-733 |
| Federal Constitution, Elliot's Debates, 1787-1836, 4 vols. | 587-90 |
| Finance Report, 25 vols. | 631-55 |
| Illumination and Beaconage of Coast of France. M. Léonce Reynand | 656 |
| Immigration and Passenger Movements at Ports of U. S., 1893-4 | 657 |

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| Internal Revenue Laws, Report of Commissioner, 1886-95, 11 vols. | 658-68 |
| Journal of House of Representatives, 25th Congress, 1839-40, 2 vols. | 584-5 |
| Journal of Senate, 26th Congress. | 534 |
| Laws Relating to Public Lands, 1828-33, 2 vols. | 568-9 |
| Laws of U. S., 1815-45, 11 vols. | 571-82 |
| Light-House Board, Report of, 1874-90, 7 vols. | 669-75 |
| Marine Hospital Service, 1889-95, 7 vols. | 676-82 |
| Merchant Vessels, List of, 1867-95, 18 vols. | 682-99 |
| Messages and Documents, 1890-1 | 700 |
| Miscellaneous Papers, Speeches, 1838 | 583 |
| Navigation Laws of U. S., 1895 | 701 |
| Navigation, Report of Commissioner, 1889-95, 5 vols. | 702-7 |
| Railroad Commissioners' Report, 1878 | 708 |
| Reports of Committees, 26th Congress, 4 vols. | 709-12 |
| Reports of House of Representatives, 25th Congress, 2 vols. | 713-14 |
| Revolutionary Claims | 570 |
| Sanitary Report, Weekly Abstract, 1890-5, 6 vols. | 715-20 |
| Senate Documents, 26th Congress, 1st session, 8 vols.. . . . | 592-9 |
| Smithsonian Reports, 1891-3, 3 vols. | 721-3 |
| Speeches of Phillips, Curran, Grattan, Emmett | 591 |
| Statistical Abstract of U. S., 1893 | 724 |
| Treasury, Report of Secretary, 1883-94, 14 vols. | 725-38 |
| Treaties Negotiated from Mar. 4, 1833-39 | 586 |

C

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|---|-----|
| Buried Cities Recovered, or Explorations in Bible Lands. Frank S. De Hass | 479 |
| Cycle of Cathay; or China, South and North. W. A. P. Martin | 486 |
| Forgotten Isles. Travel in Balearic Isles, Corsica and Sardinia. Gaston Vuillier | 487 |
| North-Eastern France. A. J. C. Hare | 482 |
| North-Western France. A. J. C. Hare | 485 |
| On Snow-Shoes to the Barren Grounds. Caspar Whitney | 478 |
| Rulers of the Mediterranean. Richard Harding Davis | 480 |
| South-Eastern France. A. J. C. Hare | 483 |
| South-Western France. A. J. C. Hare | 484 |
| Three Gringos in Venezuela and Central America. Richard Harding Davis | 481 |

D

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| Archives, American. M. St. Clair Clarke and Peter Force. Series IV., 6 vols. Series V., 1 and 3 vols. | 796-803 |
| Beacon Lights of History. John Lord, vol. 7 | 787 |
| Beneath Old Roof Trees. Abram English Brown | 786 |

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| Canada, Story of. J. G. Bourinot | 817 |
| Cartier to Frontenac ; Geographical Discovery in Interior of North America, 1534-1700. Justin Winsor | 783 |
| Cavalry in Waterloo Campaign. Sir Evelyn Wood | 820 |
| Civilization During Middle Ages. George Burton Adams | 815 |
| Contributions of Old Residents Historical Association, Lowell, Mass. 5 vols. | 788-92 |
| Council of Trent. J. A. Froude | 814 |
| Crusades, Chronicles of. Lord John de Joinville | 832 |
| Effect of Maritime Command on Land Campaigns since Waterloo. Maj. C. E. Callwell | 818 |
| English Industrial History, Outlines of. W. Cunningham and Ellen A. McArthur | 819 |
| English Seamen in XVI. Century. J. A. Froude | 813 |
| Europe in the Middle Age. Oliver J. Thatcher and Ferdin- and Schwill. | 816 |
| Fifty-Seventh Regiment of Mass. Volunteers. Capt. John Anderson | 808 |
| French Revolution, 1848. A. de Lamartine | 829 |
| Girondists, The, or Personal Memoirs of Patriots of French Revolution, A. de Lamartine, 3 vols. | 822-4 |
| Greece, Pausania's Description of. Trans by Arthur Richard Shilleto, 2 vols. | 830-1 |
| Key of the Pacific ; the Nicaragua Canal. Archibald Ross Colquhoun | 810 |
| Middlesex County, History of. Comp. by D. Hamilton Hurd, 3 vols. | 793-5 |
| Mississippi Basin. Struggle in America between England and France, 1697-1763. Justin Winsor | 784 |
| Ohio at Centennial Exposition, Philadelphia, 1876 | 807 |
| Restoration of Monarchy in France. A. de Lamartine, 4 vols. | 825-8 |
| Spain, History from Earliest Times to Death of Ferdinand the Catholic. Ulick Ralph Burke, 2 vols. | 811-12 |
| Under Both Flags | 804 |
| United States. History of Last Quarter Century, 1870-95. E. Benjamin Andrews, 2 vols. | 805-6 |
| Venezuela. Wm. Eleroy Curtis | 821 |
| Westminster, Mass. History of. Wm. S. Heywood | 809 |
| With the Fathers. Studies in U. S. History. John Bach McMaster | 785 |

E

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HON. J. VARNUM FLETCHER, DONOR OF
THE LIBRARY BUILDING.

Dedication of the J. V. Fletcher Library Building.

At the annual town meeting held in March, 1896, the sum of six hundred dollars was voted for the dedication of the J. V. Fletcher Library. (An itemized statement of the expenses appears elsewhere in this report.)

The day appointed for the dedication was Thursday, the 4th of June. The weather was favorable, and the people of the town gladly left their work and made a pleasant holiday of the occasion. The widespread interest in the event was apparent from the large numbers who came from neighboring towns, from Lowell and Boston, and from many places more remote, to see the Library and to congratulate the people of Westford on their great good fortune in possessing it.

The inspection of the completed building and the treasures it contained, together with the fine music of the Salem Cadet Band, afforded ample entertainment during the forenoon. The formal exercises of the dedication were held in the afternoon in a large tent on the common.

When the dinner had been finished, the sides of the tent were raised, for there were many people who had gathered without, and Rev. L. H. Buckshorn opened the exercises with a prayer. William E. Frost, president of the day, made the address of welcome as follows :

Ladies and Gentlemen—The dedication of a library has ceased to be a novel event in the State of Massachusetts, or in the County of Middlesex. Within a year or two our sister towns of Groton, Chelmsford, Littleton and Carlisle have been presented with fine libraries, and have in public dedication given fitting expression of their gratitude to the donors and their appreciation of the gifts.

But the dedication of a library building in Westford has never been held before. For us, this occasion is unique and memorable, and it will always be regarded as one of the brightest and most auspicious in our local history.

In behalf of the people of Westford it is my privilege to welcome you all. To the sons and daughters of Westford who

have come back today from far distant towns or states to the home of their childhood, to the public officers and representative citizens of neighboring towns, to the former students and alumni of the academy, to the distinguished gentlemen on this platform, whose eloquent words we are impatient to hear, we extend our heartiest greeting on this day of our pride and our joy.

Whether you now revisit the homes and friends of earlier years, whether you meet again your former classmates and teachers, or whether you have seen today for the first time the green fields and peaceful homes of our beloved town, we trust you may all bear away with you tonight pleasant memories of a day in which a gathering of happy people celebrated a beneficent institution and a noble deed. Above all do we rejoice at the presence of our benefactor. With hearts full of gratitude we welcome here the Boston merchant who has made philanthropy an essential part of his business, the wise and influential senator, the best beloved son of Westford, the honorable J. Varnum Fletcher. We are devoutly thankful that we receive our beautiful library, not through a clause of legal verbiage in a last will and testament, but from the generous hand of a living man; that we need not gather around a grave and strive to send our message of gratitude and appreciation across the valley of the shadow of death, but that we can declare to him in person our sense of his grand benefaction to us, to our children and to our children's children. The gift always proclaims something of the character and personality of the giver; surely the influence of our library will be forever enhanced and dignified by the name it bears. Oak and brick and granite are there, but they will carry to future ages no sinister suggestion of a miserly clutch unclasped only by the king of terrors — they will perpetuate the gracious memory of munificence that was voluntary, of altruism that was pure.

But we do not meet today to dedicate a new library in Westford, or to celebrate any belated introduction of books into our town. Far back in our history, in the year 1797, the Westford Social Library was established here; and the large number of citizens who contributed to its support affords ample proof that the love of books and an enlightened appreciation of their value and their uses existed here a century ago. The choice volumes of this ancient library are still on our shelves, bearing marks of diligent use by our forefathers and also attesting their thoughtful care. The

first work they bought was Ferguson's "History of the Roman Republic," and for many years they chose only such books as had successfully endured the test of time and long-continued use; thus they acted on the rule formulated by Emerson more than half a century later, to "read only famed books." Among their precious volumes were fine old editions of Plutarch and Gibbon, of Shakespeare and Milton; and fair hands long ago blended with the dust eagerly turned the leaves of the Spectator, and Rasselas, and the Vicar of Wakefield. Creative genius had not then enriched the realm of letters with the *fin de siecle* excellence of Trilby, and Tess of the D'Urbervilles, and the Heavenly Twins!

This was not a free library; but the fee charged for the use of its books was very small, no restriction was placed on the number of shareholders, additions were made to it every year, and it was accessible every day in the week. The books were never withdrawn from use, nor sold, nor divided among the shareholders. In the year 1859, when its owners gave it to the town for the free use of the people, it contained more than 1300 volumes. The only conditions imposed by the donors were, that the library should be forever maintained at the expense of the town, and that not less than \$30 worth of books should be added to it every year. For 99 years the people of Westford have had the use of excellent books; in the earlier time, for a merely nominal annual fee; for nearly 40 years, entirely at the public expense.

At the centennial celebration of the founding of Westford Academy, held on this spot four years ago, it was eloquently said by the great orator of the occasion whose absence we regret today, that its founders knew the value of the human soul. The establishment of the Westford Social Library by the same men and their neighbors attests the truth of the assertion, and shows that they, a century ago, knew also that the library was the logical and necessary complement of the school.

Did we lay the foundation of our library a year ago? Was it not rather laid a hundred years ago by the noble men who found time, even while transforming the dense forest into the smooth green field, amid incessant toil and privation, to found and maintain the Westford Social Library? The building is hardly less a monument and a memorial of them than it is of the donor who is the inheritor of their enlightened public spirit, their desire for a higher and purer civilization, and their unselfish devotion to every cause that seemed to make for human welfare.

Unlovely traits there may have been in the character of the Puritan; something of austerity and narrowness was doubtless there. Perhaps a trace of harshness is discoverable in the records of our library, as when, in 1798, they mercilessly fined Eleazer Hamlin ten cents because the book he borrowed was brought back "greased," and Dr. Charles Proctor had to pay six cents for allowing a leaf of his book to get "a little tallowed." Possibly both books needed lubricating. They collected ten cents from David Parker because the "History of Redemption" he had been reading was "stained"—perhaps with his tears. Even Zaccheus Wright, the president of the library, had to pay 25 cents because one leaf of the book he returned was burnt—a cruel thrust at official dignity. Perhaps he wanted to burn the entire volume. They fined William Nicholls 20 cents when he brought in "Paradise Lost" with the cover torn. Whether the violence was done in a transport of rage when essaying to hurl the book at Moloch across

"The dark unbottomed infinite abyss,"

or whether in ecstasy at the glorious vision which rose before him when he read

"Now Morn, her rosy steps in the eastern clime
Advancing, sowed the earth with orient pearl,"

we cannot know. But assuredly it does not become us to belittle the men who redeemed New England from the wilderness, founded here the noblest states in the world, and made them the home of liberty, learning and law.

By unanimous vote the town has expressed its gratitude for Mr. Fletcher's gift. A century hence, ten centuries hence, his name will be remembered here, and his philanthropy appreciated. Of the fine significance of his act, of the excellence of his example, of the delights, the uses and the consolations of books and literature, it is not for me to speak in this presence. The distinguished gentlemen whom you will gladly hear a little later, will discuss these subjects with wit and wisdom and persuasive eloquence which will make this day forever memorable in the annals of our town.

Again I greet you all, and bid you welcome.

After the band had played the famous "Indian War Dance," by Bellstedt. Hon. J. Varnum Fletcher, the donor of the library, presented the building in these modest words ;

Mr. Sherman H. Fletcher:—It is with the most profound satisfaction that I now give to you, as chairman of the Selectmen of Westford, this key, conveying with it to you and your associates and successors the possession of this library building, to be held by you and them as a sacred trust, in the strong assurance that it will be a treasure house from whence may be drawn by all the inhabitants of this, my native town, stores of wisdom, knowledge and entertainment for all time.

And in closing, I wish to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and you, associates of the building committee, for your earnest, thoughtful care, which has contributed so much to the successful completion of this building.

Capt. Sherman H. Fletcher responded as follows :

It is with sincere pleasure, as chairman of the Board of Selectmen and in behalf of the citizens of Westford, that I receive from you the keys of this beautiful building. It will stand as a monument to you, and old and young, rich and poor, all upon an equal footing, will drink inspiration from the fountains of knowledge stored within its walls. You can rest assured the name of the donor, J. V. Fletcher, inscribed above the portal, will be revered for years to come by a grateful people, who owe you a deep debt of gratitude for your generosity. The name of the Westford Public Library ceases today, as I am instructed by vote of the town to accept this building as the J. V. Fletcher Library.

As chairman of the building committee, it also devolves upon me to make a statement in regard to the construction of this building. At a special meeting of the inhabitants of Westford, held Nov. 6th, 1894, the town voted to authorize the Selectmen to select and take, as the place for the erection of a public library, for the use of the town, the land known as the Wright and Bancroft estates. On March 18th, 1895, the town voted to build a library, and at that meeting the Hon. J. V. Fletcher donated the sum of \$10,000, increasing it afterwards to nearly \$14,000, the town adding \$5,000.

A building committee was elected, consisting of the following persons:—Sherman H. Fletcher, George W. Heywood, Julian A. Cameron, William E. Frost, Dr. W. J. Sleeper, George T. Day, Albert P. Richardson and Herbert V. Hildreth.

The committee invited architects to submit plans. Sixteen plans were submitted, and after careful consideration the plan



J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY BUILDING.

of Mr. H. M. Francis of Fitchburg was accepted. Plans and specifications were given out to contractors for bids, and the contract was awarded to Mr. William C. Edwards, of this town, as the lowest bidder, for the sum of \$13,280. The contract was signed June 28th, 1895. Work was commenced immediately, and has been honestly and faithfully done in all its particulars by the contractor. The men employed upon the building were excellent workmen, and the relations between the committee and them have always been very pleasant. In behalf of the committee, I want to express publicly our thanks to the contractor, Mr. William C. Edwards, and to his foreman, Mr. Edwin L. Wood, for the careful and excellent manner in which the work has been done.

To Mr. H. M. Francis, the architect, we are also under many obligations for his excellent plans and suggestions, and we wish to thank him most heartily.

The total amount expended under direction of the committee is as follows: Contract and architect fees, paid by Hon. J. V. Fletcher, \$13,969; for furnaces, gas machine and fixtures, book-stacks, furniture, decorations, cementing cellar, sidewalk, grading, etc., paid by the town, \$5,000. Total, in round numbers, \$19,000.

The committee have worked hard and have given their services without charge in order to furnish our people a substantial and well arranged building. How well we have done we will leave it for you to say. The building is ready for occupancy, and we trust that you will find it acceptable.

Sherman H. Fletcher, as chairman of the Selectman, in presenting the keys to the Trustees, spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman of the Board of Trustees:—The library building having been completed to the acceptance of the building committee, their responsibility ceases, and having been accepted by me from the donor in behalf of the town, your board becomes the custodian of the building, and I now have the honor and the pleasure to present the keys to you.

We leave it in the hands of you and your successors to keep its doors open wide to our people as an educator for this and coming generations.

In behalf of the Trustees the keys were accepted by the chairman, Wm. E. Frost, in the following words:

Mr. Chairman:—I accept these keys with great pleasure, and am duly conscious of the responsibility the act involves. It shall

be the aim of myself and my associates, as I doubt not it will be of our successors in office, so to administer the affairs of the J. V. Fletcher library that the wishes of the donor and the benefits of the institution may be fully realized

The Chairman:—I had hoped to have the pleasure of introducing in this place ex-Governor John D. Long. You all know how highly he is appreciated in Westford, as well as elsewhere in the State and out of it. In this town all events are said to have occurred either before or after Mr. Long became Preceptor of Westford Academy, and made the institution famous. Given a Westford audience and Gov. Long on the platform, and the conditions of happiness exist.

But the Governor has written this morning that he is unexpectedly detained from coming. We regret this very much; the flow of eloquence, however, is not thereby to be stopped or stayed, but we shall go on with the programme.

You will now have the pleasure of listening to a gentleman who is worthy to speak either before or after Hon. John D. Long. The list of speakers at the dedication of the Gleason Library in Carlisle, as given in a Boston daily paper, contained the name of *Rev.* George A. Marden. The reverend gentleman is not with us today, but we have his namesake from Lowell, one of the brightest and wittiest of men. He is one of our young speakers. The gray matter of his brain has grown up through and is an inch thick all over his head—giving an appearance of age that is most deceptive. I present the Hon. George A. Marden.

° HON. GEORGE A. MARDEN.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—That welcome is “Frosty,” but kindly. I wish you would go through the programme with me for a moment—after the address of welcome by the gentleman who has just exhibited himself, very properly, the band introduced an “Indian War Dance;” after I get through they are to introduce “War Songs;” after the Rev. Mr. Horton and ex-Gov. Boutwell (had he been here) we should have had a galop entitled, “The Night Express;” my distinguished friend, Sherman Hoar, and the Senator from this district are named as “Twittering Birds;” and when you get down to the venerable gentleman who represents the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on the Library Commission, we are to be introduced to a jig entitled “Uncle

“Rastus,” with a wind-up, after the Rev. George H. Young, by a march entitled “The Salem Witches.”

I suppose Frost made that programme; if he did, all the encomiums he has passed upon all the present speakers he should have reserved for himself.

I came over here today chiefly for two things: to ask J. V. Fletcher two questions. Of course, I came to see the town, and the library, to enjoy the ride and the season, and indulge in reminiscence and see the folks; but I am chiefly here to ask J. V. Fletcher two questions. An old friend of mine he is. We have met—not upon the tented field—but under the “gilded dome.” I am sorry that I am so much older than he is; the gray matter of his brain has got many years yet before it will climb into the prominence of mine; but

Age cannot wither,
Nor custom stale, his infinite variety.

I saw in the Massachusetts Year Book, day before yesterday, a list of the millionaires of Massachusetts, or rather, as it was headed, the “reputed millionaires,” and one of them was J. V. Fletcher; and with his name were the words, “Provisions and Banking.” Whether he made more money on his beef, or on his bank, I don’t know; I do know, today, however, there should be added to those two words the other word, “Philanthropy.”

The first question I wanted to ask my old friend was, Aren’t you sorry you didn’t do this ten years ago? And the second question is, Aren’t you glad you did it, yourself, while you could go to the dedication? I wish I were a “reputed millionaire,” and could give a library to somebody. I can’t conceive of a greater personal pleasure than for a man to go around the town where he was born, and have the people come out like this and pay him the tribute that you have paid to Mr. Fletcher, especially when I know that Mr. Fletcher must feel that that tribute is deserved. Nothing makes a man feel so cheap as to have a compliment paid him that he don’t deserve.

Didn’t you see me blush when the Chairman introduced me? But here is a benefactor of this town. It pays Mr. Fletcher to “benefact.” Here is a library, and I am not saying this to fit this particular occasion—I have been at various library dedications, and I thought the libraries that I had seen were the exact thing they ought to be, and probably were for those places; but I have

seen no such library as this. I sat next to Nourse as the Chairman of the Library Committee gave his report, and when he gave the sum total that had been expended, Nourse says, "It couldn't have been built for that!" So there is a reflected glory upon Captain Fletcher and his associates of the Building Committee; and when my old friend comes up here, and goes down to his farm to enjoy the summer evenings, and enjoy the town—and there isn't a pleasanter town on the footstool than this—he can feel, all through, the familiar words, "*Si quaeris monumentum, circumspice*"—excuse the French. "If you want to see Fletcher's monument, look about you." That is a free translation. There is probably nobody in this audience except Bro. Horton and Bro. Frost that knew what I meant, when I gave the original.

I came here to see Westford. I have been at Westford before, and I knew something about the town. I remember years ago the prominent men here who managed the town. The "Two Fletchers" was one; J. W. P. Abbot was another; J. Henry Read was another; Sherman Fletcher's father was another. Why, how the boys do grow up! I suppose you had about the same sort of times in town management they have everywhere—never exactly unanimous; somebody to kick, every time. There is nobody to kick anybody on this occasion! You are a "happy family!" Not the happy family the gentleman in Berlin saw. Living in a cage on the street were a lion, a tiger, a wolf and a sheep, with "Happy Family" over the cage. The owner came out, and the gentleman asked how long they had been together. "Why," he said, "they have been together about nine months, all except the sheep; he has to be renewed once in a while." There is no such trouble as that in Westford. Sometimes somebody gets shoved out, perhaps, but there are no fatalities. I asked my Brother Horton—he brags about Westford as though he were born here—I asked him how long since he began to come here, and he said he first came here when the Unitarian minister was "Young."

Here is this beautiful town upon a hill, almost exactly at the same level as the town where I was born, which is also on a hill; you can see that town across the valley here, if your eyes are good. We haven't any "reputed millionaires" in the town; therefore, it will be long, I fear, before we get a public library.

What is the public library good for? We have been told, ever since we were born, that the thing that differentiates man from other animals is the power of speech. It isn't so at all; animals can think and animals can talk. Professor Garner has found out that wild beasts talk: and claims to know what they say. A horse talks and laughs; birds talk; so that speech doesn't differentiate man from other animals. What does? The ability to put speech on record,— books. Suppose you had no books; assume for the moment that every book in the world was blotted out, where would we be? Edison will die by and by, and Tesla, and all the other electricians; after they are gone, what could you know that they discovered about electricity, except what is recorded in books? Assume that there were only fifty living people on the footstool, and the books were all gone, it would take thousands of years for those people and their descendants to grow up to where we are; and they would only do it, because just as fast as they made an inch of progress, they would put it in print.

And we properly put books into beautiful castles like the one on the left. The public library represents to me the combined, crystallized wisdom of the world. Remove it, and wisdom goes with it. Tradition never could keep up with human progress. Everything except the mere skeleton and the fables was lost and forgotten, as long as they relied upon tradition, but when we had the printing press and the types everything that was valuable was preserved, and put into shape where it could be found. We have been told that away back in 1797 this Westford library began; but it began earlier than that, for there in that beautiful building, such a beautiful monument to the town and the donor, exists the story of what has been done since human progress began,—thanks to J. V. Fletcher and those who have carried out his wishes.

Mr. Chairman:—Admirable as Mr. Marden's speech was,— a speech that fully justified everything that I said about his wit and sprightliness,—it was still incomplete, because he did not tell us whence he derived his intimate knowledge of the proper times for giving buildings to the public, and of the delightful emotions aroused in the giver by public gratitude. Let me supply the omission. Mr. Marden knows all about these matters from personal experience. He is a public benefactor himself, he has lately given a church to his native town.

It is a part, and I suppose a most disagreeable part, of the duty of a Superintendent of Schools to call *down* schoolmasters; how tenderly and considerately it can be done by the gentleman who will speak next, I, from fifteen years' experience, can testify. It now becomes the duty of a schoolmaster to call *up* a Superintendent of Schools. But his educational activities have been confined to the town of Westford. Elsewhere in the State, and elsewhere in the United States, he is known as the beloved pastor emeritus of all the Unitarian Churches in North America and the Sandwich Islands. The Rev. Edward A. Horton will now contribute, as he only can, to the amenities of the occasion.

REV. EDWARD A. HORTON.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—I think one of the hugest jokes that has been perpetrated this afternoon was by my Brother Marden, when he asked you if you didn't see him blush! I never saw him blush in my life! Yet how much we like to see that strong face of his, and to hear him speak!

He was announced a while ago at Carlisle's library dedication as the Rev. George A. Marden. He has been building a church. Well, it will help him by and by. He has always been inclined toward preaching and things theological. You know he is the Honorable ex-Treasurer of the Commonwealth and supposed to know a great deal about money matters; and yet, there was a time in his life when he thought so much about religion and church that this incident occurred. He somehow made fifteen hundred or two thousand dollars, and he carried it around in his stocking or hoarded it in the house; he didn't know what to do with it. Then he heard that a certain kind of bonds were being put upon the market by a banker in Boston. He went down to that banker in Boston and told him that he had this two thousand dollars, and inquired whether those bonds were all right, and would it be safe to take them? Said the banker, "I tell you, Mr. Marden, I have put all my spare cash into them, and you had better do it." Mr. Marden said he guessed he would; and then the banker inquired, "What denomination would you like to have them in?" Mr. Marden scratched his head—he was so pious in those days that he only took that word "denomination" in one way, and finally he said; "Well, you may give me three hundred for the old lady, she is a Methodist, and you might give me that in Methodist denomination; but as to the heft, give it to me in Congregationalist."

You see he knows a great deal more now ; I don't say that he is any better, but he knows lots more. Some people, when they know lots more, are not as good as they used to be when they didn't know as much.

As I looked at this tent with the old part off there, and here where the band is, the new part, it reminded me of a little incident quite historical. It was in Westford, I think, that somebody was teaching a class of boys and girls matters of natural history ; the teacher was trying to show to these pupils how lobsters conduct themselves when they are changing their shells. The teacher said, "Now, the lobster does so and so, and so, and throws off his shell and gets another." They didn't quite understand it, so the teacher added, "Now, Mary, don't you see how it is? What do you do with your old clothes as you grow up ; you throw them off, don't you?" "No, teacher, we let out the tucks." Now, not only this tent has let out the tucks, but Westford in a taking and capacious and hospitable way takes us all in on this elevating and interesting occasion : which reminds me of one more story, and then I will refer to something else. I have been going and coming in Westford these many years, and I never came but what I went away sorrowfully. I never yet found a man or woman here that was not large-hearted and kind and good, and some of the dearest memories of my life, some associations which I believe will survive the transition we call death, and live along with me, have been created here. A minister out West, I am not going to tell you to what denomination he belonged, had had a rough time. Ministers do have rough times occasionally. He hadn't been paid very promptly ; he hadn't been treated very well. He came to his farewell sermon, and he was going to leave. When ministers get mad, or what you call mad in other people, they term it "righteous indignation." That minister wasn't mad, but he was slightly aroused. He pictured, when he got through the main part of his sermon, how it would be in the judgment day. There would come Augustine with his flock of sheep, and he would say, "See, here are my sheep ;" and the whole angelic choir would sing and play, and how proud Augustine would be. Then there would be others ; up would come John Calvin, and he would present his flock of sheep, and he would be praised. After a while, brothers and sisters, it would come my turn (and this dear brother, who didn't talk the language of Harvard college, fell off into the vernacular), "What

do you suppose I would have to say, brothers and sisters? I would have to say, O Lord, I hain't got no sheep; they were all hogs."

Now, there isn't a possibility of such a scene ever being applicable to any flock of people here, or any household here in Westford; I tell the story by way of contrast.

Now, we are here today because a certain boy was born in this town, and studied over in Groton, drinking at another educational fount when, perhaps, he should have tarried here at this Westford Academy; a boy who had to look after the cows, the growing beans and peas, and the farm's manifold duties. That New England boy grew, nurturing and training his sinews in this town, preparing himself to win an honorable place in the battle of life. He paid the price of that happiness, as a boy, the price of that gratitude and appreciation that is now given to the man. So he matured into the strength of character that we find today in our friend, J. V. Fletcher.

It seems to be the law of life, that if anybody is to win honor in this world, there must come pressure, a spur, that roar of battle cry in one's life, nerving the scattered forces in the soul until they become will, energy and action; until they know where to plant their feet in the struggle. I honor Mr. Fletcher, not only because he has opened this golden portal to ambitious youth and struggling boys and girls, but I honor him because he has not forgotten the first round upon which he put his feet, and from which he climbed the ladder of success. That is the guaranty, the hope of our institutions in this country:—success remembering the day of small things.

Those who wrote the charters and early declarations of what we might be, put their faith in the possibility of man's ever rising and remembering the rootage from whence he came. We hear a good-deal about socialism and communism, and in much of that I have sympathy; but I tell you, ladies and gentlemen, and I ask you to take notice, that if you want a republic, a democracy of true equality and fulfillment, you must have every unit raised to its tenth and hundredth power; every citizen in his lot fulfilling his part, and contributing to the whole, that which he has deservedly won in the contest of life, whether of property, or money, or position. Whatsoever can be honorably achieved by an individual, let that course be run freely, fully, and then the results poured into a grand enrichment of the community. That is Mr. Fletcher's

record. He has prospered; and now we are the gainers by his free, victorious career.

The Puritan homes are in the background; and the Puritan spirit made it possible to have such a scene as this today. Our forefathers said, "Let us have the town house." The town meeting is rooted in the faith that men and women of average capacity (and women more and more, I trust, along with the men) can come together to discuss matters of public welfare; wrangle sometimes, split hairs sometimes, make foolish motions sometimes, waste hours in useless debate sometimes; but the fruits are valuable; the results have made New England character; we must hold on to the town meeting. It is the place where the rich man, the scholar, and the tiller of the soil can come together and have things out on their merits. It is the grand arena for men who wish to see, not a class or part of a community advance, but the whole army marching elbow to elbow in human progress.

Again the Puritans said, "Let the school-house rise." Our ancestors believed that there is not a ray of new truth which need affright us. Education is our safeguard; free schools, our great enlighteners.

Once more, our forefathers said, "Let the church sound its bell, to call men to the noblest service in the world. The meeting-house is the soul's home." There was heard the prayer and psalm, and the benediction of Heaven came down upon the worshippers.

Now, in these times, we hear a fourth command, "Let the public library arise." The public library will be a mighty force in coming civilization along with the town house, the school-house, and the church. It has a vital part to play in the unfolding drama of American thought and action.

The public library not only corrects dangerous tendencies, but it is a positive upbuilder. Indirectly and directly there is a constant influence from its alcoves toward true standards and noble ideals. It gathers ingenuous youth into the companionship of the great souls of the past; it places before the ambitious, rising generation public men of character; it brings to bear upon the life plans of the young people the best thought and the most wholesome ideas. A person may be compelled to live in limited conditions, but with good books as his friends he is the possessor of a vast kingdom. Literature of this kind fills the imagination, instills self respect, and plants manly motives. It was the loaned book that

incited Abraham Lincoln to his great career ; it was the resource of the library that quickened the aspirations of Daniel Webster. More and more this great fountain will be drawn upon. I mean by all this that a well-selected, free public library becomes a vast supply of moral and ethical force in the community where it exists. Besides this helpfulness, a collection of literature such as we now anticipate in this place, will always be the cheer for many a fireside and the guide to citizens in their political duties. What we need most of all in this country is thought given to our public affairs. A library of this kind carries the discussion of great questions up to a high plane. The masters in thought speak to us and the great lights in political economy shine for our benefit. The gift of a home today, for such a library, means one great added support to the higher welfare of every one coming within its benefits.

There are other things which I would like to say, but I leave them for the honorable speakers who are to follow. Remember that library, church, town-house, and school-house ; your homes, farms and whirring wheels of industry, all these and other resources are beneath one great symbol which I must mention here. You and I rededicate ourselves, as we dedicate this library today, to the United States of America, and to the stars and stripes, the symbol of this free land ; and I want you to remember that in doing that, we must have an intelligent understanding of what we are about. The library means knowledge and broad views. Take those three colors,—I ask the young people to ponder,—what do they mean ? The red is the mark of the martyr's blood, shed down the past years for the cause of truth and humanity ; the white is the emblem of the unbroken rays of justice, impartial always, and serving for the protection of all lots and conditions of men ; the blue signifies the sky in heaven, the pure, fetterless ether, where freedom reigns. The red, white and blue ; symbols of sacrifice, justice, liberty. Oh, long may this flag wave over yon library, bidding us thrill with joy that we are parts of this grand country, and eager to sustain our loyal part in the brotherhood of nations.

The Chairman :—We did not expect anything would be said here that would transgress the severity and the proprieties of the occasion ; but for a speaker at a gathering of this kind to sit near

me and Mr. Marden at the dinner table, and then early in his speech to introduce a story about hogs—I don't know just what uncomplimentary inference may be drawn from this. I presume it is all right; if not, we can talk it out in private later. But what a delightful contribution Mr. Horton has made to the enjoyment of this occasion!

I am sure you will all regret that the next speaker announced on the programme, the Hon. George S. Boutwell, of Groton, the veritable Nestor of Massachusetts statesmen, is unable, on account of a severe cold, to be present here today.

Perhaps at this time we are aware more than ever before that the forces at work for the enlightenment of the world are very many. Certainly, the poet, as well as the statesman and the orator, has great and deserved influence in shaping the loftiest ideals of our civilization. I am very happy to introduce Miss Josephine E. Rand, who will read a poem which she has written for this dedication.

I had a dream—a dream I fain would tell,
Of a far country where all good doth dwell.
Its name I know not: if to you it seem
Strange I enquired not,—it was but a dream.
A white-robed one walked with me in the way:
'Twas noon, it seemed, as glorious was the
day;
And yet no sun beamed from its heav'nly
place;
There glowed a sun in ev'ry human face.
I wondered much, for e'en the very air
Suggested music, soft as murmured pray'r;
And in the speech of all I understood
I caught the spirit of the great and good.
How glad the faces of both child and man!
Each seemed a perfect part of God's great
plan.
So filled the place with light and peace pro-
found
It was as if I trod on hallowed ground.
I turned to question him, my white-robed
guide,
Who gazed in silence, standing by my side:
"Why does this land a very heaven seem?—
Is it reality, or do I dream?"
Ere he could speak there burst upon my ear
The sound of music wonderful to hear;
Such strains exultant and with glory filled,
My inmost soul was rapturously thrilled.
Where, save in heaven, could such songs
arise
To stir the echoes to the farthest skies?
Yet 'twas not heav'n; below me in the street
Sounded the treading of unnumbered feet;
Women and men in holiday array
Thronged to and fro, rejoicing, in the way;
And over all the wondrous music pealed,
A mystery divine—all unrevealed.
And then he spoke, my guide, the white-robed
one,
Whose face was radiant as the rising sun:—
"Thou wond'rst, child of earth, how this may
be.

Listen, the secret I will give to thee.
This is a land where men as brothers dwell;
Who worship God with voice and heart as
well;
Who see in ev'ry seed and flower and tree
An earnest of the glorious life to be.
Here God is King, not gold of earthly fame;
Here liberty is more than but a name;
For none is truly free who doth not stand
A son of God, acknowledging The Hand
Which, by its wondrous pow'r, hath bade him
live
And testimony to this pow'r to give.
Thou heardest music, and thy heart was
moved:
This is true music; dost thou feel reproved?
None may reveal the soul of this great art
Save him who leans upon the Father's heart.
Here song is the expression of true love,
Of adoration for the God above;
So doth great harmonies entrance the ear;
He that hath ears to listen, let him hear!"
The speaker paused; I had no word to say;
Once more in silence we pursued our way.
And soon we came where stood a building
grand,
Thronged by the multitude on ev'ry hand.
"A dedication," said my shining guide;
"Come, let us join the gathered host inside."
With wings for feet we cleft the surging mass
Who neither heard nor saw us swiftly pass.
Beyond the portals, arched, and grandly high,
A scene imposing met my eager eye.
With faces heav'nward stood a mighty host
Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost;
And then there trembled in the throbbing air
The fervor of a universal pray'r:
"To Thee we dedicate this temple, Lord,
In heartfelt rev'rence for Thy written word,
Rememb'ring that each good and perfect thing
Is of Thy bounty giv'n; and so we sing
Thanks be to God from whom all blessings
flow,

For all we have comes from Thy hand, we know,
Grant that this temple, though of dying frame,
Send forth an influence lasting as Thy name,
Undying pow'r for good, word that shall live,
Unto the darkened mind true light to give!
So shall this work of ours be, in Thy sight,
Approved, acceptable, a thing of might,
And, for Thy blessing, stand a witness true
To what Thou, through Thy loving sons, canst
do."

"Amen!" I heard, in accents reverent, low.

"Amen!" I breathed; and then I turned to go.

For I bethought me suddenly of earth,

A dedication there, full something worth.

Had I forgotten, that I strayed away?

Still was there thou; was't not that very day?

"And wouldst thou leave this land?" my guide

exclaimed:

"Thou hast seen little of its glories famed.

Has earth such charms as you may here be-

hold?

Believe me, not the half has yet been told."

"Yet must I go, dear guide," I made reply.

He looked on me with earnest, glowing eye;

"Go then," he said; "a message take to earth;

Mere worldly honors, fame, are nothing worth.

Only the riches of the soul abide;

Who, lacking these, hath nothing else beside.

Dost thou return unto thy place again

To sing the praises of thy fellow-men?

See that thou do it not; but help them sing

Thanks to the Giver of all gifts, their King.

Wisdom and knowledge are of God alone;

There is no light which comes not from His

throne;

All truth is His, and wealth man but receives

In trust. Blest is the man who thus believes.

Let him who giveth gifts to help his race

Be loved of them for honoring his place.

So let love dwell within your hearts today

And teach you how to live the noblest way.

God's is the kingdom, His the pow'r and

might,

Glory, dominion, and all praise, by right.

Let all earth's people love Him and obey,

And show'r's of blessing shall be theirs that

day.

Go tell thy fellow-men to use their wings:—

An angel witnesseth unto these things."

With joy unspeakable my heart was stirred,

It throbbed and fluttered like a mother-bird

Brooding her young ones in her tree-top nest,

Gath'ring them closely to her yearning breast;

I scarce could wait to reach my brother-men,

So longed my soul to tell to them again

The message of the angel of my dream,

Who vanished now save in a wondrous gleam

Which lighted all the way of my return

And made my heart with high resolve to burn.

Ah! 'twas but a dream!—but dreams may play

their part

In moulding life and through quickened heart.

I woke, but still the vision filled my soul;

Of all my guide had said I knew the whole,

And still the message lingered in my ear;—

One I must give—not keep—that all might

hear.

God grant the seed may fall in fertile ground;

In His good time abundant fruit be found!

The Chairman:—There is not a grander name in the Revolutionary history of Connecticut than that of Roger Sherman; and defective indeed would be the history of Massachusetts which made no mention of the character, the abilities and the eminent public services of Samuel Hoar and his illustrious sons. The genius of these great men has been transmitted to their descendants. I have the great pleasure of introducing one of them, the Hon. Sherman Hoar.

HON. SHERMAN HOAR.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—One of the best men that ever lived in the town of Concord was Dr. Josiah Bartlett. On one occasion he came home from a ride, having in his pocket a clipping from a Boston paper which stated that he had been killed in a railroad accident, and which gave a most interesting account of his character and virtues. The doctor sat down at his lunch table feeling very much as I do at this moment, after my introduction by your presiding officer. His daughter, Martha, saw a peculiar expression upon his face, and said to him: "What are you looking that way for?" The doctor pulled the clipping out of his pocket and said: "Look at that thing that I have got to live up to all the rest of my natural life."

On an occasion of this kind every public speaker is expected to divide his speech into two parts: a humorous one and a quasi-reverential or serious one. Mr. George A. Marden has made the first part of my speech, and the Reverend Mr. Horton the latter part of my speech. It is but fair that I should say that two-thirds of the stories that George Marden has told you I told him while I sat by him at this dinner table. In return for that courtesy on the part of Mr. Marden, I am going to tell an anecdote about him. I came over to Westford the other day to look up some records, in order that if I had to speak today I should know something about what I had to speak about—a fairly important thing in a public speaker. I walked up and down your beautiful streets, a part of the time with an interesting citizen of Westford, who told me about some of the other speakers. During his conversation he said: "Did you ever hear George Marden talk? He is as full of ginger as a man can be. I should like to hear him dedicate a cemetery." Now, I have exactly the same desire in regard to Mr. Marden, for a cemetery is about the only thing I have not heard him dedicate in the last few years.

I have been very much pleased with the allusions to my progenitors which your presiding officer has made, and also to that touching allusion of his, on a former occasion, to my native town of Concord, in which he stated that we have a reformatory. That is about as much as a Concordian can expect will be said in regard to Concord by any of the people in the surrounding towns. I think there is a little jealousy existing somewhere in regard to Concord. When I ran for Congress in the district in which Lexington was, they had so little idea of what a man from Concord could be that they gave a large and not altogether pleasing majority against me; at Acton, where I spoke the other night, they announced that in the famous fight at the Old North Bridge, we of Concord merely had the land, while they furnished all the men; and when I came over here to Westford, the other day, in order to prepare myself to speak to you on this occasion, I discovered that our famous Major John Buttrick had little to do with leading the militia down to the fight at the Old North Bridge, but that in reality the troops were led by John Robinson of Westford. Undoubtedly, some of you here in Westford imagine that Lieut.-Colonel Robinson set out from Westford on the morning of the 19th of April with a soul inspired by a great love of liberty, but while here the other day I

learned that the real source of his courage was doughnuts. I have always wondered where our ancestors got their pluck to begin the Revolutionary war in the face of such odds, but now I know; for I have learned that on the morning of the 19th of April, Mrs. Col. Robinson sent after her husband one bushel of her own doughnuts, in order that he and his friends might have them to eat for breakfast at Concord, before the battle began; and now I can readily understand how anybody who had the pluck to undertake the digestion of a bushel of New England doughnuts could have the pluck to begin even a revolutionary war.

I like to think of two men who lived in your town at the outbreak of the Revolution. I like to think of Lieutenant Colonel Robinson, and I like to think of that minister of yours who would not give up his English loyalty even when you all opposed him in it. There were many fine things in the character of the Americans of the Revolutionary war, and I think there is something very fine in the character of those who are able to stand as did some of the loyalists of that time, clinging to their love for the mother country in the midst of the rebellious populace all about them. We do not agree with their ideas. Our ancestors did not agree with them. We cannot admit that those men were right; but we can see that they were honest in their convictions, and that they were brave and loyal to the right as they saw it. I think that John Robinson and the Reverend Mr. Hall both had the same kind of English determination in following what they thought was right. The Rev. Mr. Hall remained a loyalist, even at the loss of the good-will of his neighbors and of his place in the ministry. John Robinson became an American of Americans, and before the Westford militia met to go to Concord on the morning of April 19th, he went over to that town, and by the side of Isaac Davis walked down to the Concord bridge and there began the Revolutionary war, sacrificing everything for what he believed to be right.

If there is anything that I prefer in a public library it is an American alcove filled with the stories of what has been done for American liberty; filled with stories of American sacrifices for the public safety, and with the lives of Americans who have defended and maintained what our ancestors fought for and secured. I would like to have in every country town some place where the boys and girls could go and find gathered there on a few shelves

the best stories of American life. I have not a word to say derogatory to the English or to our other foreign relations. I like to think of the pluck displayed by the six hundred at Balaklava; of the sterling patriotism of Blucher, the great Prussian who opposed Napoleon; of the men in Russia willingly sacrificing their lives against the violent rule of oppression; but I should like to have our American boys and girls learn first of all the lives and sacrifices of men who have given everything for the honor of this country and for her liberty and unity. I should like to have in every public library some place dedicated to the history of my country; some place where the boys could go and learn what has been done to make this country great and glorious as she now is. I cannot believe that after our boys and girls know the story of what was done in the late war anyone can be found to say on Memorial day, "What is this all about?" Neither do I believe that on that day we shall see young men going out to play baseball or golf, and absolutely failing to appreciate the significance of the day, its glory, and its pathos. I want to have our boys not only see the American flag over the school-house and the town-house and the library, but be taught what has made that flag as glorious as it is.

Whoever does noble work for the young in order that they may be better prepared when they grow up to understand and carry on the work the fathers have done before them; whoever out of his munificence helps to instruct and prepare the young for that work, is like the founder of your library — one of the best American citizens.

The Chairman: — The General Court of Massachusetts has always been foremost in the passage of laws for promoting the education and intelligence of the people. It has recently taken the lead of all states of the Union in legislation in behalf of free public libraries. We rejoice to have with us today a native of Westford who is a member of the Senate of Massachusetts. I have just asked him whether he descended from the illustrious poet, Robert Burns; he says he has not had time to look it up. I am happy to introduce Senator George J. Burns.

HON. GEORGE J. BURNS.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: — I congratulate the citizens of Westford upon the acquisition of a public building

that so successfully combines the two essential features of such a structure, utility and architectural beauty. You have a building that is appropriate to its place and to its purpose. You have a building that harmonizes well and enhances the attractions that an indulgent nature has so bountifully bestowed upon you. You have a beautiful gem in a beautiful setting. I congratulate you upon the local pride, upon the public spirit, that has made the day of its dedication a local holiday. I congratulate you that its donor is your son, and I congratulate him that you are his parent. His name adds renewed lustre to your honored town, and I venture that there is nothing in his life of which he is more proud than that Westford is his birthplace. It is impossible for us to entirely disassociate ourselves from our native town. Whether we will or not, our achievements are her glory, and she shares with us in the consequences of our failures and our misfortunes. I can, therefore, congratulate you and him upon the great and deserved success of his exemplary public and private life. I congratulate myself that I was born in the town he so honors and that so honors him, and I congratulate us all that his love and pride for his native town has found such a noble and fitting expression.

Of all the noble sentiments of which man is capable, that to which his selfish nature the most readily yields, and to which his highest attributes most nearly conform, the love of home and of native land is the most supreme. In my admiration for it I am inclined to place it first in rank of the God-given qualities. Perhaps it is the author of our civilization. Without it I am unable to think of man as anything more than a savage.

We do well to cultivate in the hearts of our children a love and devotion to home, for the presence of that love makes the citizen and the absence of it leaves behind—the tramp. I believe that I am speaking the sentiments common to humanity when I say that there is nothing in this world so dear as the approbation of the place of our birth; and if I may be pardoned for being a bit personal, I desire to add that in the recent political controversy in which I had such a personal interest I watched nowhere for signs of approval with so much interest and anxiety as in the town where I was born, and for such as I here received I am under great obligations; they are the sweetest and dearest memories of them all. Nothing that the world can give or take can rob us of affec-

tion for our birthplace. While I left Westford at an age when it is presumed that the impressions of life have not been fixed in memory, yet, nevertheless, I cannot hear the name of Westford mentioned without my pulse being quickened and my deepest emotions stirred. I always claimed the right to call every son of Westford my friend and brother; and it was from those associations and with those associations that I first clasped the hand of your benefactor beneath the Gilded Dome ten years ago as members of the Massachusetts Legislature. He always had my friendship, admiration and loving regard, and I always tried hard to deserve his.

It is impossible to overestimate or overstate the importance and influence of his gift to you; it will always be associated in the minds of everyone with a spirit of philanthropy, of love of home, of devotion to humanity and to the cause of education. No person can enter its portals and not be benefited thereby. No castle of ancient time ever housed such distinguished tenants. No institution of ancient or mediæval times can be compared with it. In no convention of the world was there ever such an assembly of genius. Here you may commune freely with the greatest minds of the world, and can become intimate with the eminent of all time. Here you can stand in the presence of the greatest scenes that the history of man has ever enacted. Here you can unlock the secrets of the sciences and delve in nature's most profound secrets. There is no darkness but ignorance, and with such an institution in your midst, bigotry is utterly inexcusable and ignorance almost so.

May this gift brighten and broaden the pathways of your lives. May it ever be a sacred altar on which may be kept forever burning the love for one another which its donor has for you. It is not a monument to the dead; it is a benefaction to the living. It is not to perpetuate the memory of a man gone before; it is to bless those who are living. May it strengthen your local pride; may it quicken toward this grand old town the love and obligation of all sons of Westford wherever they may be. May its noble and generous donor be spared many years in which to enjoy the supreme satisfaction of realizing the gratitude and appreciation of his townsmen, and may we all for many years have before us the inspiration of his noble life, his kind and generous spirit.

The Chairman:—Our next speaker was for several years the beloved pastor of one of the religious societies in Westford, and his interest in our welfare is still strong and unabated. You will gladly listen to Rev. George H. Young, of Lawrence.

REV GEORGE H. YOUNG.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen:—I think it is a duty to this audience to let you into a secret. Every one of the speakers this afternoon received a note from a certain newspaper asking for their speech to be written out and sent to the newspaper before the celebration. When I got the programme, I looked at it and said, Of course they won't go as far down as the last letter of the alphabet and the thirteenth number of the programme; so I didn't write out any speech. But the reason that Horton and Marden spoke so well was they had theirs all written out; if they were printed, there would be no space for mine.

As I walked out this morning, an hour and a half before Horton got up, I looked all through this lovely town, so familiar to me, and these streets, which were familiar in years gone by, and I said what a fearful pity it is that the Unitarian church is not to have a new minister! How I should have liked to candidate again! But Buckshorn got ahead of me. I guess he is going to stay, and stay, and stay.

I began to ask myself this morning, What shall I congratulate these people on after I have done justice to the library? As I went through the streets this forenoon I said to every Westford man or woman I met, "What a lovely day!" They looked at me as much as to say, What else do you expect in Westford? So I couldn't congratulate them on the weather. They seemed to think it the only sort of weather worthy of them.

When the President was congratulating this community on the gift of this library, he said it didn't come as the gift of a man who thought he couldn't hold onto his money any longer. I was trying to think why he couldn't hold onto it any longer; knowing the theology of my good friend, I couldn't think that he was frightened into giving it away, like the poor fellow that said he had to give it away because he was afraid it would melt if he took it with him.

The President said something about not standing by the grave and trying to get some communication over to the spirit of this friend to express gratitude and appreciation for the giving of the gift. I bethought me of a fellow minister who had a little boy, and the little fellow thought he wanted to have a baby brother. Our friend Beach was that man. The little boy said to him,

“Papa, I am going to write a letter to God and say, ‘Dear God, I want a baby brother;’ I am going to sign my name to it and I am going to put it there in the grave-yard. Do you think God will get it ?” Beach said—honest fellow that he is—more honest than some ministers are—“My little fellow, I have been trying to get communication through to headquarters all through the years. Try it.” I want our friend, the generous giver of this beautiful gift, to understand that there will be communication gotten through to headquarters, not only today, but in all the years to come, because of his generosity and noble spirit.

I looked in the library last evening to see the pictures of those who have gone before, and hanging on those walls I saw the picture of that noble-spirited woman who for so many years did so much for this community. I said to myself what a blessing to this people when such a spirit’s benediction will be upon this man for all time to come because of his generosity, because of his fostering interests for which she stood, because of his promoting that intellectual culture for which she labored.

It is indeed a beautiful building ; a building which shall stand as a memorial to his generosity ; which shall remind the men and the women and the boys and the girls in the future of what one man was glad to do when God gave him days here on the earth to enjoy this sight of his beautiful benefaction, an example, I trust, which may be catching.

The President said something about a new church. I am very certain that by and by it will be easier to build churches and build academies and build schools—to build everything that is great and good in your town—because of the inspiration which this man has furnished to you here in public spirit.

I look back to those years in the past. I remember a town meeting out here close by where you are sitting now. There came up an article in the warrant as to the appropriation of a certain sum for the public library. An old farmer living in the outskirts—I am glad to have forgotten his name—arose and said, “I don’t believe in nothing of this sort ; I don’t believe that we farmers out in the outskirts ought to be voting money for you people up here in the Centre, for stories for you to read.” How beautiful the example, how beautiful the opposite spirit that is manifested here today ! And this gift which we celebrate is going to help to make that word impossible in your future as I know it is impossible today.

So, friends, this word of mine is simply of congratulation to this dear old town—so dear to my own heart—to this dear old town for this most beautiful thing which our friend has been doing. He was asked if he wasn't sorry that the thing wasn't done ten years before. Why, God is going to give him ten years more—twenty years more—to enjoy this thing and the thanks of the community.

In closing let me say, God bless the donor of this beautiful gift which today we dedicate to education, to intellectual culture, to religion, to public spirit, to all that is good.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

MIDDLESEX, SS.

*To Eugene DeRoehn, one of the Constables of the Town of Westford,
in said County,*

GREETING :

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth aforesaid, to notify and warn all the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections and also in Town affairs, to meet at the Town House, in said Westford, on Monday, the fifth day of April, being the first Monday in said month, at eight o'clock A. M. The polls will be opened at 8.15 o'clock A. M., and closed at one o'clock P. M. ; and they are then and there to act upon the following articles, to wit :

- 1st. To choose a Moderator.
- 2d. To see if the Town will determine the compensation of the Tax Collector, and act in relation to the same.
- 3d. To bring in their votes for Town Clerk, for one year ; one Selectman, one Overseer of Poor, one Assessor, two School Committee, one Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds, one Trustee of the Public Library, all for three years ; Town Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, two Constables, and one Auditor, all for one year ; also to vote on the following question : "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town ?" all on one ballot.
- 4th. To hear the report of the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.
- 5th. To hear the report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards, and act in relation to the same.
- 6th. To hear the report of the Overseers of the Poor, and act in relation to the same.
- 7th. To hear the report of the School Committee, and act in relation to the same.
- 8th. To hear the report of the Trustees of the Public Library, and act in relation to the same.
- 9th. To hear the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds, and act in relation to the same.

- 10th. To see if the Town will accept the report of the Auditor chosen to audit the accounts of the Town Officers, and act in relation to the same.
- 11th. To see if the Town will accept the List of Jurors as reported by the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.
- 12th. To raise and appropriate money to repair Roads and Bridges.
- 13th. To raise and appropriate money for Town Debts and Charges.
- 14th. To raise and appropriate money for Public Schools.
- 15th. To raise and appropriate money to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the Town, at Westford Academy.
- 16th. To raise and appropriate money for support of Poor.
- 17th. To raise and appropriate money for School Text Books and Supplies.
- 18th. To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same.
- 19th. To determine the manner of collecting taxes for the ensuing year, also the rate of interest on taxes remaining unpaid at a time to be fixed by vote of the Town, and when and how said taxes shall be paid into the treasury, and act in relation to the same.
- 20th. To choose all other Town Officers necessary to be chosen by hand vote, and act in relation to the same.
- 21st. By request of the Veteran Association, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Seventy-five Dollars (\$75) to commemorate Memorial Day, and act in relation to the same.
- 22d. By request of the citizens of Graniteville and Forge Village to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in these two villages, and act in relation to the same.
- 23d. By request of W. F. Balch, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Dollars (\$25) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in the south part of the Town, and act in relation to the same.
- 24th. By request of the School Committee, to see if the Town will vote to close the Long-Sought-For School and authorize the School Committee to transport the pupils to the Wright School, and act in relation to the same.

- 25th. By request of the same, to see if the Town will authorize or direct the School Committee to close the Minot's Corner School and transport the pupils to the Center schools, and act in relation to the same.
- 26th. By request of the same, to see if the Town will appropriate money for Transportation of Scholars, and act in relation to the same.
- 27th. By request of Thomas E. Symmes, to see if the Town will vote to substitute an out-door march under military rules in place of the ordinary recess in our public schools, and act in relation to the same.
- 28th. By request of the same, to see if the Town will vote to provide a suitable number of single privy booths for each school, with a self registering apparatus accessible to the teacher, and act in relation to the same.
- 29th. By request of the same, to see if the Town will make an adequate appropriation for a trial of the provisions of the foregoing article, and act in relation to the same.
- 30th. To see what action the Town will take to enforce the law to prevent fishing on Sunday, and act in relation to the same.
- 31st. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to buy a piece of land near Graniteville to be used as a Public Dump, and act in relation to the same.
- 32d. To see if the Town will vote to elect a Committee, consisting of one person from each School District, so called, to act with the Selectmen to investigate and report at the next annual meeting for the election of Town Officers, in regard to discontinuing any road or roads in Town as public ways, and act in relation to the same.
- 33d. To see what action the Town will take to comply with the order of the County Commissioners on relocating and widening streets, and act in relation to the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up true and attested copies at the Town House and each Depot in said Westford, eight days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of holding the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands and seals, this twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and ninety-seven.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 JULIAN A. CAMERON,

Selectmen of Westford.

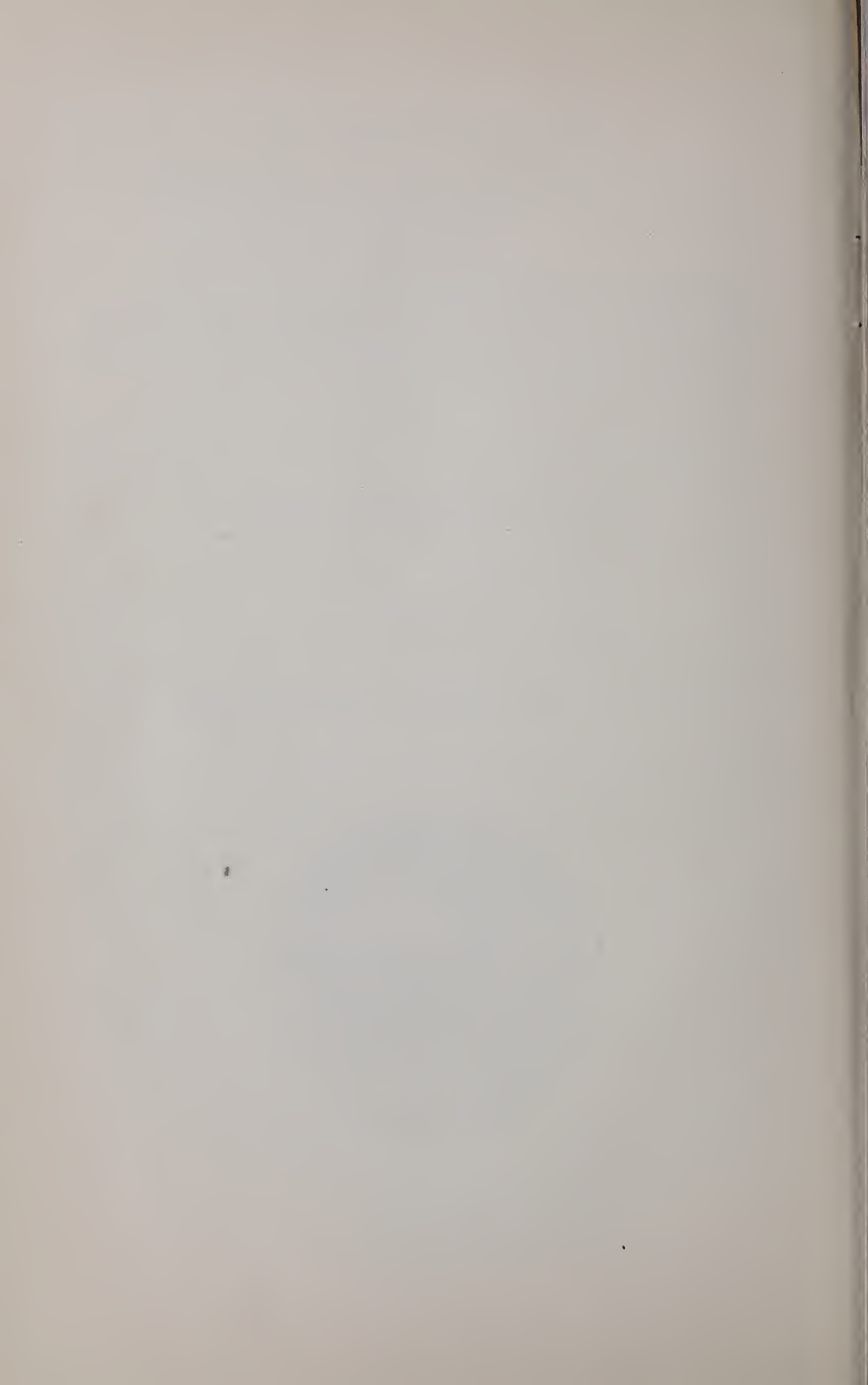
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE
Town of Westford, Mass.

FOR THE
SCHOOL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1897.



LOWELL, MASS.:
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1897.



ANNUAL REPORT.

Citizens of Westford:

The School Committee, in accordance with custom and law, respectfully submit a report of their Board and its Superintendent of Schools. The membership and organization of the Board has been the same during the past year as for the year previous—with Mr. A. J. Abbot as Chairman, and W. J. Sleeper, Secretary.

The larger part of the educational work is arranged and carried on by the Superintendent, and will be found appended in his personal report to the Committee. The Superintendent, Mr. E. P. Barker, has ably and faithfully discharged his duties and is constantly working to raise the grade and standard of our schools. Scattered as they are, the work is laborious, and the many grades taught in some of the district schools keep them at a disadvantage, classes of one, it being admitted lacking, in the association and stimulus of companionship to draw out the best work in pupil and teacher.

The supervision we now have has its advantages, which would be enlarged by more graded work that can be secured by consolidation. Your attention was called last year to the advantage and at no increase in expense. The plan of consolidation of schools has gradually spread throughout the State, and Westford is now about the only one of our group of towns which has not consolidated to a greater or less extent. The plan certainly cannot be otherwise than a benefit when such sums as mentioned below are appropriated and expended for transportation of pupils:

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---------|----|
| Concord | - | - | - | - | \$2,195 | 00 |
| Lexington | - | - | - | - | 2,523 | 75 |
| Weston | - | - | - | - | 2,699 | 85 |

Two hundred and thirteen [towns—many more than one-half—in the state transported to a greater or less extent last year, the number increasing from 199 towns the year previous.

The sums spent throughout the State have increased as shown by the table given below:

| Year. | | | | | Sum Expended. |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---------------|
| 1888-89 | - | - | - | - | \$22,118 38 |
| 1889-90 | - | - | - | - | 24,145 12 |
| 1890 91 | - | - | - | - | 30,648 68 |
| 1891-92 | - | - | - | - | 38,726 07 |
| 1892-93 | - | - | - | - | 50,590 41 |
| 1893-94 | - | - | - | - | 63,617 68 |
| 1894-95 | - | - | - | - | 76,608 29 |

The Long-Sought-For School we called attention to last year, and the attendance there this year has been very small; so small, in fact, that, to add some interest, graduated children have been allowed to go there this winter and take 8th grade work. The following figures give the average membership and average attendance there the past year—the increase, as stated, in December and January being from adding graduates.

| | Average Membership. | | | | Average Attendance. | | | |
|-------|---------------------|---|---|---|---------------------|---|---|------|
| April | 8.8 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7.98 |
| May | 7.8 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 7.3 |
| June | 7. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 6.5 |
| Sept. | 5.7 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 5.4 |
| Oct. | 5.2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4.9 |
| Nov. | 5. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 4.3 |
| Dec. | 10. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9.8 |
| Jan. | 10. | - | - | - | - | - | - | 9.8 |

It is thus seen that the number of pupils is such that the cost per pupil is much increased. Using the same figures for expense of school this year as last,—this year's figures of expense not being yet compiled,—but using this year's membership the cost per pupil in the Long-Sought-For-School is \$48.09; and for the year previous as per table printed last year \$33.09, an increase of \$15.00 per pupil. This, gentlemen, would not be excessive and should be justly incurred if the pupils could not be otherwise provided for, and by association with larger classes probably much to their benefit. We insert again the figures given in last year's report, showing cost of schools, average membership and cost per pupil:

| Name of School. | Cost of School. | Average Membership. | Cost per Pupil. |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Long-Sought-For | \$ 360 65 | 10.9 | \$33 09 |
| Parkerville | 329 01 | 10.1 | 32 53 |
| Minot's Corner | 326 06 | 12.1 | 27 00 |
| Nashoba | 358 35 | 16.9 | 21 20 |
| Wright | 324 72 | 15.8 | 20 55 |
| Nabnassett | 419 35 | 21 9 | 19 15 |
| Centre | 775 81 | 47.4 | 16 37 |
| Stony Brook | 412 62 | 26.7 | 15 45 |
| Graniteville | 1,602 85 | 117.3 | 13 66 |
| Forge Village | 804 52 | 61.4 | 13 10 |

In speaking of the cost per pupil we would recall to your attention that although the town seems to be spending a good deal of money on our schools, yet Westford is the 229th town in the State, as compared with the others, in the amount raised and appropriated and expended per pupil; we appropriating \$14.07, while some of the other places appropriate as high as \$40.00, \$42.00 and \$43.66. These latter figures, of course, are in more wealthy towns, but the rate is so unequal throughout the State that a state tax is sought to be levied and then divided, so that those unable to appropriate the larger sums shall have some benefit of their riches. These figures, \$14 07, we think will be raised in next year's report, when our increased appropriations for high school work will show.

Before leaving the matter of consolidation we would also call attention to the Minot's Corner School, where, with a membership this winter term of twelve pupils, there have been five grades taught, two classes having only one pupil, and one class two pupils. The work of the teacher has been good, but would not the pupils be better instructed in larger classes? The district is one that could have the pupils transported to the Centre schools without inconvenience, and we think with benefit. The cost per pupil there, as per table given last year, was \$27.00, and as the attendance was about the same this year, the figures would stand for this year as well.

The amount saved by transportation would allow about one week's more schooling, and that week is urgently needed, as we are now failing to give our children as much as our neighboring towns.

We think it is generally admitted that the town does not desire to discourage people coming here to locate on account of lacking in equal schooling facilities. It is recommended that the Long-Sought-For School be closed and the pupils transported to the Wright School, and that the Minot's Corner School be closed and the pupils transported to the Centre schools.

Articles to this end are submitted in the warrant to correspond with the recommendations of the Committee, and for decision by the town, the Committee continuing impersonal and acting as agents of the town in recommending what seems best for the interests of all. We distinctly make no personal contest.

During the year those schools not having flags have been supplied, as required by Chapter 181, Acts 1895; namely Wright, Long-Sought-For, Nabnasset and Parkerville.

The seats for pupils in the Graniteville Grammar and Upper Primary Schools have been changed as to their position in those rooms so as to correct the errors of light for the pupils; the light now coming in all the rooms in the Graniteville building from the rear and the left, as required by best rules of light, which allow that the pupil shall not have to write in shadow and that a certain amount of light space shall be in each room according to capacity and floor space.

No other school house in our town is properly arranged for our pupils as regards light and the correct handling and disposal of it, and our pupils are being subjected to eye-strain, which they should not be—in fact, they are being injured. The black-boards in the Centre Grammar School are doing harm each day, and the Committee have been petitioned to change them, and so voted. The change will be made this year. Changes of and repairs to black-boards are now made with slate, which makes a permanent board and not requiring future outlay for re-covering.

The question of arrangement of height of seats and height of desks to the height of the pupil has received attention, many of the pupils having seats entirely unfitted for them, and some schools having to use blocks of wood beneath the desks for the pupils to rest their feet on, or else, to get any comfort, take a position which increases spinal curvature and round shoulders, with crowding of chest and consequently weakening of the lungs. Some of the seats will have to be re-arranged and some provided with foot-rests, as it is not possible to put in modern seats and desks which are adjustable for the pupil and which allow a correct arrangement and position to be made. Should any new ones be bought at any time this would be considered and the very best adjustable ones secured. If the old ones could be gradually exchanged for these it would be a great benefit to the pupils.

A number of schools have suffered during the year on account of sickness, and the Forge Primary on account of teachers, the teacher elected for the year leaving in the middle of a term. Miss Anne Carmichael of the Graniteville Lower Primary was put in temporarily, as her school was closed on account of the sickness prevailing then. Her work there was very profitable, but since then it has been far from such on account of numerous changes in teachers, and loss of attendance and interest from that cause and from sickness.

The Graniteville Schools were closed four weeks on account of

the prevalence of measles, and some of the time will have to be made up this year, they opening their schools at least two weeks earlier than the others.

The changing of teachers during a term or before the expiration of the time elected for, unless for satisfactory reason or acceptable to the Committee, is very unprofitable for the pupils and consequently for the town, so that rules have been adopted relating thereto.

A set of rules and regulations for benefit of committee, teachers and parents have been arranged and printed.

The 8th Grade School was established, as voted by the town last year, and until their permanent quarters were ready in the new Academy building have been instructed in the lower hall of the Town Hall. Miss A. Mabelle Drew has been the teacher and very satisfactory work has been done by her, so that pupils are now better prepared for their higher work, and a higher and better work will result in the grades given them in High School work at the Academy.

The school is a step forward for the town.

The system of vertical writing has been introduced in the schools at the suggestion of the Superintendent, and the improvement in the legibility of the writing is marked. The pupils have made good progress for the time for such a change, and it is hoped that a better and more correct position of the pupil will also result. We show the expense of each school for books and supplies in the following table :

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|----------|
| Long-Sought-For School | - | - | - | \$ 13 75 |
| Forge Primary School | - | - | - | 19 47 |
| Forge Grammar School | - | - | - | 21 40 |
| Stony Brook School | - | - | - | 31 94 |
| Nabnassett School | - | - | - | 21 29 |
| Wright School | - | - | - | 24 13 |
| Centre Grammar School | - | - | - | 80 14 |
| Centre Intermediate School | - | - | - | 39 20 |
| Centre Primary School | - | - | - | 51 69 |
| Graniteville Primary A School | - | - | - | 16 23 |
| Graniteville Primary B School | - | - | - | 24 87 |
| Graniteville Intermediate School | - | - | - | 59 18 |
| Graniteville Grammar School | - | - | - | 60 29 |
| Nashoba School | - | - | - | 24 68 |
| Minot's Corner School | - | - | - | 15 50 |
| Parkerville School | - | - | - | 22 70 |
| Westford Academy | - | - | - | 221 70 |

\$748 16

The books used in High School work are largely technical and of higher cost than others, hence showing in the item for the academy.

The Centre grammar or 8th Grade School was newly established and new and special books and entirely new supplies account for the larger sum there than in the other schools, while the other schools having the larger sums are partly accounted for by certain books being bought and sent to these schools for first use, and then they go to each of the other schools, so keeping them in use but varying the work. The expense shows to the first school having them, and the other schools show the lower figures. The total appropriation, \$750.00, gives less than \$2.00 per pupil for each pupil and includes all supplies as well as books, being much less than the cost per pupil when furnished by themselves as they were years ago.

The supply agent is arranging a schedule of allowance per pupil on the basis estimated for schools in Lowell, Everett and Cambridge, and will seek to encourage economy in use at town expense, but will furnish the teachers extra supplies which pupils can have at cost.

The Forge Village School is not safe with its present arrangement of the heater beneath the stairs, and the shed for the storage of wood and coal is inadequate, besides allowing a loss to the town from the fuel being taken by private persons. We would recommend that a cellar be dug beneath the building sufficient for the heater and storage of fuel, and that the heater be transferred to it.

Mr. A. Woodbury dissents from the article on consolidation and transportation.

A. J. ABBOT,
A. R. CHOATE,
FRANK H. HILDRETH,
W. J. SLEEPER,
MRS. ALTA M. TAYLOR,
ALFRED WOODBURY,

School Committee.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

INCOME.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Balance of Massachusetts School Fund..... | \$ 93 41 |
| Appropriation..... | 5,600 00 |
| From State on account of Supt. of Schools..... | 200 00 |
| Income Massachusetts School Fund..... | 262 57 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$6,155 98 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Teachers | \$5,046 05 |
| Fuel | 625 96 |
| Janitor service..... | 373 75 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$6,045 76 |
| Balance | \$110 22 |

This shows a balance by using the income from Massachusetts school fund in order to balance accounts. This really should not be used until this coming year's account, and there is a real deficit of \$152.35.

HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS IN WESTFORD ACADEMY.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Balance from last year..... | \$274 00 |
| Appropriation | 1,500 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1,774 00 |
| Expended for uition | 588 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance unexpended and for use during the next school year | \$1,186 00 |

This balance will almost pay the expense of the High School scholars the coming year, as we shall only pay tuition rates during the spring term and so leave but two-thirds of a year to be paid for at the indenture figures. Only \$100.00 will be needed as an appropriation this year.

TEXT BOOKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Appropriation | \$750 00 |
| Received from sales..... | 21 02 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$771 02 |
| Expended | 773 58 |
| | <hr/> |
| Overdrawn..... | \$2 56 |

APPROPRIATIONS RECOMMENDED.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Schools..... | \$5,600 00 |
| High School pupils in Westford Academy | 100 00 |
| Text books and school supplies..... | 700 00 |
| Transportation..... | 350 00 |

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the School Committee of Westford:

My fourth annual report, herewith presented, treats upon the following topics: A Summary of Statistics, the Academy, the Eighth Grade, Other Schools and Teachers, the Course of Studies, Modern Methods, School Supervision—its cost, extent and results, Age and Schooling Certificates, and Suggestions for Improvement. Following these are the Music Teacher's report, Truant Officers' report, roll of honor, list of teachers, and table of statistics.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

POPULATION AND VALUATION.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Population of Westford, 1895 | 2,418 |
| Assessors' valuation, 1896 | \$1,262,560 00 |
| Children between 5 and 15 years of age, May, 1896: | |
| (a) As found by Assessors..... | 387 |
| (b) As found on school registers..... | 431 |

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

| | |
|---|----|
| Number owned by the town | 10 |
| Number owned by Academy..... | 1 |
| School rooms occupied under charge of town..... | 16 |
| School rooms occupied under charge of Academy | 2 |

TEACHERS.

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of regular teachers employed by the town..... | 16 |
| Number of regular teachers employed by the Academy..... | 2 |
| Number of special teachers employed—music..... | 1 |
| Number of College graduates | 1 |
| Number of Normal graduates | 6 |
| Number of Westford Academy graduates..... | 4 |
| Whole number different teachers during year, including Academy | 29 |

PUPILS.

| | |
|---|------|
| Whole number of different pupils during year..... | 546 |
| Average membership..... | 428 |
| Average attendance | 398 |
| Per cent. of attendance..... | 93.1 |

ATTENDANCE.

During the time the schools have been in session the past year, the attendance has been good, making quite a gain over last year. The enrolment has been fifty more than last year; the average attendance fifteen more; the per cent. of attendance 93.1 as against 92.8% last year; the number of tardinesses has been 361 less; and the dismissals ninety-one less.

Five years ago the average attendance was 275; this year it is 398. If from the difference, 123, we deduct the number of pupils in the Academy, 91 will remain as the net increase, or 29% in five years.

The roll of honor contains the names of six pupils neither absent nor tardy during the entire year.

One, Charlotte Prescott, has a record for two consecutive years.

The banner for excellence in attendance has been assigned monthly as follows: Three times to the Wright school, twice to the Nabnasset school, and once each to the Centre Primary, Graniteville Intermediate, Long-Sought-For, and Graniteville Upper Primary.

THE ACADEMY.

The following statistics in regard to the town pupils in the Academy are approximately correct and may be of some general interest:

The whole number of different town pupils attending the Academy during the year has been thirty-two; eighteen boys and fourteen girls. These have come, one each from Minot's Corner, Parkerville, Nashoba, and Nabnasset; three from Stony Brook; four from Forge Village; five from Graniteville; and the remainder, sixteen, from the centre of the town and that vicinity.

Of these thirty-two pupils, fourteen have been in the A, or most advanced class, seven boys and seven girls; seven in the B class, four boys and three girls; two in the C class, one boy and one girl; nine in the D class, six boys and three girls.

Their average ages April 1, 1897, are as follows: A class, seventeen years, five months; B class, sixteen years, five months; C class, sixteen years, eight months; D class, sixteen years, four months.

Twenty have been studying Algebra, nineteen Latin, ten English History, nine Physiology, eighteen French, nine English

Composition, fifteen Geometry, seven Greek, thirteen American Literature, thirteen Single-entry Book-keeping, ten Rhetoric, twenty-one English Literature, seven Greek and Roman History, twelve Chemistry, twelve Civil Government.

All are studying upon courses extending through four years.

Seven are preparing for college, five boys and two girls.

One is preparing for a Normal school, one for Northfield Seminary and one for a business college. Several are as yet undecided in regard to the future.

Fourteen are candidates for diplomas in June.

The daily program of recitations in the Academy has been as follows :

| Principal. | Assistant. |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 8:30 Virgil. | Rhetoric. |
| 9:15 Cæsar. | English Literature. |
| 9:50 Algebra. | Algebra. |
| 10:35 Recess. | Recess. |
| 10:40 Geometry. | Book-keeping or English History. |
| 11:20 Anabasis. | French. |
| 12:00 Noon Recess. | Noon Recess. |
| 12:30 Cicero. | English Composition. |
| 1:00 Greek or Roman History. | French. |
| 1:30 Chemistry or Civil Government. | Physiology. |
| 2:00 Close. | Close. |

EIGHTH GRADE.

The Eighth Grade School, in the Lower Town Hall, has given instruction to sixteen different pupils. These have come from various parts of the town ; six from Stony Brook, four from Graniteville, one from Minot's Corner, and five from the Centre.

The promotion of Miss Drew to the charge of this school has insured its success from the start. Here, under faithful and competent instruction, candidates for the High School another year have been given instruction and drill of a high order of merit, and those who successfully complete the year's work will be prepared to begin High School studies in the Academy next fall in a satisfactory manner.

This is the first time in the history of the town that the public

schools have done this. Schools in each district have, to be sure, done what they could. When such a district school chanced to have a superior teacher, and when her pupils chanced to be of more than average ability, pupils would chance to be sent to the Academy, better prepared than usual. This was the exception, however, for in large district schools, or small ones with many classes, and teachers of only average ability and experience, these exceptional results could not be attained, but as a rule applicants for admission would need one year of drill upon the common school branches, before they were fitted to begin High School work.

The establishment of this Eighth Grade School makes regular that good preparation which before was exceptional, and chance is changed to certainty. Another result, worth all this school costs were nothing else achieved by it, is that during this Eighth Grade year the pupils are *trained to work together*. Coming from different parts of the town, from under different instruction, and pupils themselves of varying abilities, when they do begin in the same school, it is a work of some months to drill them to work together so as to secure the best results. If this initiatory training is first received after entering the Academy, it must seriously hamper the Academy instructors, and lessen the results that might otherwise be attained and which it is reasonable to expect from their High School course.

Thus it will be seen that this school is a necessity, if we wish to maintain the standard of the Academy equal to that of good High Schools.

But not only upon the Academy is this Eighth Grade to exercise a profound influence, but upon the other schools of the town as well: upon the Grammar Schools; for with four classes already at the Forge Grammar School, and with three classes and forty pupils at the Graniteville Grammar School, and with four classes at the Centre Grammar School (there chance to be but three there now, but usually there will be four), the Grammar Schools have all they can do and more than they can do with full acceptance.

In the mixed schools the conditions are less favorable still for giving advanced instruction: the multiplicity of classes; the short time for recitations; the small size of the classes and consequent lack of interest and intensity of effort, are serious drawbacks. The little pupils demand attention, and call for the exercise of the greatest wisdom and professional skill; a teacher who is equally good with

these little beginners and with the most advanced grammar pupils is probably good with neither, but poor with all. *Good* teachers do not pretend to be thus divinely endowed, and from the nature of the case, the teachers actually employed in these remote schools are not, cannot be. The remoteness of location, the small salary, difficulty of finding a good boarding place, the deprivation of church and social privileges, the inability to rise in the profession while located in these schools, all operate to shut out from their list of teachers, as a rule, any but the youngest and least experienced. If a teacher in a mixed school does show exceptional ability in overcoming the obstacles with which she has to contend her superiority is recognized and she is promoted, so that it comes to be a reproach (as a rule) for a teacher to remain in a mixed school for any length of time. If she does, it is because she can't do better, and if she cannot do better, she must be poor. The one obvious exception is where a proximity to home serves to keep a teacher in a school which otherwise would offer her no inducement.

It is a matter for regret that two of our youngest and least experienced teachers in remote districts of the town have thus been burdened this year. It is impossible for advanced pupils to receive in these schools the training they would obtain in the Eighth Grade School at the Centre. While all the school interests suffer, the greatest loss falls upon these young people themselves, who have a right to as good an education as the town affords, but do not put themselves in the way to receive it.

OTHER SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS.

There are fifteen schools below the Eighth Grade—three grammar, one intermediate, four primary and seven mixed.

Their progress during the year may be indicated somewhat as follows: Six are in better condition than a year ago, and eight others are in as good, leaving only one that is less satisfactory.

Their present condition may be summarized as follows: Six or seven of them are in first-rate condition, the discipline efficient, scholarship adequate, methods good. Four others are in the hands of beginners who have not yet shown conclusively what they can do but who are putting forth their best efforts, have made improvement, and give promise of good things in the future.

Of the seven new teachers, new to our schools this year, two are graduates of professional training schools, two have studied in Boston University a year, and two come to our schools with long records of successful experience.

COURSE OF STUDIES.

Few changes have been made during the year. In the teachers' meetings, twice each term, the course as established has been explained and amplified. Arithmetic, language (including reading, spelling and literature), and geography and history are the principal studies. Teachers lay chief emphasis upon these studies, and rightly, too. In doing this other subjects are apt to be neglected, especially if teachers did not study them in their own childhood, or if their acquaintance with them is confined to a brief preparation in later years. And when no such preparation of a professional nature has been made, the chance of their being taught in our schools is small indeed. Such studies are drawing, gymnastics, penmanship, nature study and music. In many communities these subjects have all been given into the hands of special instructors hired for the purpose. In Westford, only one, music, has thus been provided for. The others, less fortunate, are provided for, as well as circumstances allow, in the teachers' meetings.

The drill in gymnastics has been continued, as in former years. Penmanship has received attention, while drawing and nature study have been leading topics both in interest and in the time devoted to them. Especially interesting has been the work upon common minerals. The committee furnished specimens for pupils' use, and by sending them from school to school every pupil of suitable age has been provided with the use of specimens for study. Teachers who have previously studied the elements of these subjects in Normal school or college, with specimens in hand, have a great advantage over others. Teachers' meetings may outline the work, but, of course, cannot give much instruction in the elements of these subjects. This, teachers must, by their enterprise, acquire for themselves. It is pleasant to record the fact that one of our teachers has pursued a course of lessons in Boston during the past year with the purpose to further qualify herself to give instruction in nature study. It follows, of course, that some of the best work in town has been done in her school.

Vertical Writing was introduced early in the fall term and has made a good beginning. Teachers practice it, use it in their board work, and drill upon it in the writing books. Pupils do all their written work in this style. The special form of vertical writing used is that of Newlands and Row's. Besides being vertical, the forms are simplified, the print form being the model and the aim with the script has been to make it *as plain as print*. Good teachers do well in this as in other work, and page after page is written by their pupils very correct in form and very easy to read.

Temperance Physiology—The course is as follows :

1st Year—Whole body. External parts. Uses and care of parts.

2nd Year—The senses.

3rd Year—The limbs and walls.

4th Year—Respiration.

5th Year—Circulation.

6th Year—Bones and muscles.

7th Year—Digestion.

8th Year—Nervous system.

9th Year—Whole subject reviewed in the High School.

Time—Grades I—VIII. Twenty minutes daily for six weeks each year.

Grade IX. Three recitations of forty minutes each per week during four months.

Method: Topical. Text book used in discretion of teacher.

Temperance: That which has special reference to the particular part of the subject studied, and as in the text book.

This course was submitted last November to Mr. Geo. A. Walton, at that time an agent of the State Board of Education, and his opinion was asked as to whether it complied with the law in regard to temperance instruction. His reply was as follows :

"I am sure your course in Physiology meets the demands of the law and the needs of the subject and the children."

The friends of temperance instruction do well to express their solicitude for its proper maintenance in the work of the schools, and it is hoped that this approval of the course of study will give them the sincere pleasure that it has the teachers and school officials.

Teachers have been instructed to "Give to Scientific Temperance Instruction the attention its importance deserves and which the State law requires."

MODERN METHODS.

The aim of teaching is the harmonious development of the whole being of the child, and complete development as far as the time at command and the age of the child permits. The studies pursued are to be considered chiefly as means to this end. The knowledge gained may be valuable in itself and the skill acquired may be serviceable, but both knowledge and skill are chiefly to be desired because they contribute to the main end of education,—the development of the child. His happiness, his usefulness in life is to be determined not so much by what he knows as by what he can do.

Studies are the means ; development is the end. Method is an adaptation of these means to the end sought, such adaptation of the studies pursued as shall insure the highest development of the child. A natural method is an exact adaptation of means to end.

In recent years, discovery, invention, research have widened human knowledge. The application of these discoveries and inventions to modern life has changed very much the conditions under which children live. Methods of travel, of communication, of transportation, of commerce, manufactures, and agriculture have all been immensely transformed. The environment of the child of to-day is consequently quite different from that of fifty years ago. His problem in life is how best to adapt himself to this environment, how to qualify himself to engage with others in the activities of life as he finds it, to overcome obstacles, and in competition with others to gain the necessities of existence, and an honorable position among his fellow-men. Still further, how best to qualify himself that he not only may give to his fellows as much as he receives, but that he may prove in some degree a benefactor to the community in which he lives.

Education, to be adequate, must take into account this changed environment, and the studies pursued in the public schools must be arranged accordingly. This has been done by the State in its law requiring a larger number of studies than formerly to be taught in its schools.

Modern conditions demand modern studies, and the adaptation of these modern studies to these modern conditions is what is meant by modern methods. As we cannot return to the provincial life of our ancestors, and would not if we could, so it is useless to idealize

the olden time and berate the modern for its lack of pristine simplicity. The way we do things now is not a matter of choice with us, but is determined by the conditions that surround us. Thus modern methods are a necessity, and our chief opportunity for choice is in choosing to adapt our methods as exactly as possible to our conditions; that is, to make them natural methods.

To do this teachers must understand the child. Child study is fast coming to the front. Teachers must observe children; read what others are studying and learning about them, and must acquaint themselves with the elements of psychology, and maintain this observant and teachable attitude throughout their lives as teachers.

The teacher is called upon to be proficient in a large number of subjects. The time has come when only the thoroughly qualified need expect preferment. Every High School instructor should be a college graduate. Every common school teacher should be a Normal School graduate. Who chooses less, chooses inferiority or mediocrity at best. The time has gone by, if it ever existed, when a person, presuming to be a teacher, may sit at her desk with her book open, call upon the pupils to close theirs, proceed to ask questions from the book, and expect to retain either her own self respect or that of her pupils. A knowledge of the children forbids it. A knowledge of the subjects to be taught, and proper preparation of the daily lesson makes it unnecessary, while a suitable effort on the part of the teacher to adapt the subject matter of the lesson to the minds and sympathies of the children causes her to close her book when the pupils close theirs as so many encumbrances to be removed, and, eye to eye, face to face gives the teacher free scope to use the subject matter as a means of real education for the children: the perfunctory pumping up of dry details is transformed to a more spontaneous contribution by the pupils. The recitation partakes more of the nature of discussion. Pupils ask questions as well as the teacher. The topical method of instruction in grammar and high school grades becomes a necessity. With minds directed to subjects rather than pages, important matters stand out most prominent, authorities are consulted outside the text book, different books are often profitably used in the same class, and the bare facts cease to be the sum total of the lesson, but form merely a basis for judging of causes and effects. Questions have their place,

out never are made to stand in the way of pupils having the opportunity to stand squarely on their feet and recite as best they can; after which a question or two from the teacher causes the pupil to recite more fully, to correct some error, or brings other pupils to complete the recitation properly. Least of all would the teacher attempt to compensate for pupils' deficiencies by half-reciting the lesson for them. Such transgressions of good judgment are largely obviated by the employment of a good method of instruction, and when besides this the teacher adds to adequate knowledge and preparation a real interest in the subject and sympathy with the pupils, rapid and substantial progress is certain.

An important feature of topical instruction is its profound effect upon the way pupils will prepare their lessons. An inefficient teacher, asking questions from the book, complains that her pupils do not know how to study, while the competent teacher, by intelligent use of the topical method in conducting the recitation, teaches her pupils how to prepare for the next.

The recitation furnishes the teacher her chief opportunity for moral influence and upbuilding of character. Honesty, industry, good taste, a high sense of honor and scholarly habits are to be learned not so much from the book, as from the presence of the teacher and the way she handles her class. Pupils are quick to detect moral qualities. The high intellectual and spiritual plane upon which the teacher lives, sets up a standard about which her pupils will array themselves as veritable "soldiers in the army of the Lord," or if it be insincere, selfish and narrow, under the baneful influence of which the pupils will set up low standards for their own lives, and the recitation will be shorn of its legitimate fruitage—the building up of human character toward and into the Divine likeness.

DISTRICT SUPERVISION.

1. *Its Cost.* The arrangement by which this supervision is secured for our own town is as follows: Ayer, Littleton, and Westford unite to form a district for the employment of a superintendent of schools. The state fixes the minimum salary at fifteen hundred dollars a year, and pays back to the towns, at the end of each year, five-sixths of this sum, or twelve hundred fifty dollars. The remainder, two hundred fifty dollars, is paid by the towns, one-fifth

by Littleton, two-fifths each by Ayer and Westford. One hundred dollars also is allowed for traveling expenses, and apportioned in the same way. Thus the total expense for supervision in the district is three hundred fifty dollars,—seventy dollars for Littleton, one hundred forty dollars each for Ayer and Westford.

The Westford town reports of last year show this as follows :

| | |
|---|----------|
| page 28, Selectmen's report, E. P. Barker, salary paid . . . | \$640 00 |
| page 22, Treasurer's report, on account of Supt. of Schools received, | 500 00 |
| | 500 00 |

The difference shows the net cost to the town for the year. . \$140 00

2. *Its Extent.* The wide extent to which this plan of supervision has been adopted throughout the State, the beneficent results accruing from the small outlay of money on the part of the town, and the esteem in which the system is held by educators in other parts of our country, are shown in a circular issued by the State Board of Education Jan. 8, 1897, in which occur the following statements : "*Extent of Skilled Supervision.* The number of towns and cities at present employing school superintendents is 259. The number of superintendents is 151. Of this number 50 are district superintendents for 148 towns, most of the remaining 111 towns and cities having one superintendent each. These 259 towns have a population of 2,353,858 and contain 91 per cent. of the schools of the State and 93.8 per cent. of the pupils. The 94 towns not under supervision have a population of 146,325 and contain 9 per cent. of the schools of the State and 6.2 per cent. of the pupils. Eighty-two of these 94 towns have a valuation under \$2,500,000.

3. "*Results of Skilled Supervision.*"

1. Better teachers and better directed teaching effort.
2. More regular attendance of pupils.
3. Better classification and progress of pupils.
4. Greater unity of effort throughout the various grades.
5. Greater care in the selection of text-books and supplies.
6. Economy in school supervision.
7. Increased interest in the schools on the part of parents and taxpayers."

4. "*The Massachusetts System.* Nearly every State in the Union has compulsory supervision by superintendents, but the unit for such supervision is the county, which is too large for personal visitation. The office is too often a political one, and the service

rendered is largely of a clerical kind. Under the Massachusetts system of district supervision the unit is a small group of towns wherein frequent visitation of schools is the rule, the office is not political but professional, and the service rendered is distinctly educational and uplifting."

"The most conspicuous and unique feature of Massachusetts supervision—that of district superintendence—is admitted by the United States Commissioner of Education, by the Committee of the National Educational Association appointed to consider plans for improving rural schools, and by experts generally, to be the best system yet devised in this country for advancing the interests of schools in small and sparsely settled towns."

AGE AND SCHOOLING CERTIFICATES.

At Forge Village Mr. G. H. Prescott reports twenty-one certificates issued during 1896,—thirteen to boys and eight to girls.

At Graniteville Mr. Arthur Wright reports having signed ten certificates for boys and four for girls.

IMPROVEMENTS SUGGESTED.

1. The school year might well be lengthened to thirty-six weeks. Three terms of twelve weeks each make a good standard school year. The salary of the thirty-sixth week is desired by the teachers, the instruction is needed by the pupils, and, under bonds as we are, so to speak, to furnish pupils to the Academy thoroughly fitted for High School work, the importance of a full school year cannot well be exaggerated. Of the seven towns bordering on Westford, five have school years of thirty-six or more weeks. Westford was originally a part of Chelmsford. Shall our pupils have less schooling than those of the parent town?

2. Vocal music should be taught to our High School pupils. Towns having instruction in this subject at all, give it in the High School as well as in the other schools. There are decided advantages in the case of High School pupils. They form a large class; the several parts can be taken by groups of pupils. The ability to read more difficult music is acquired and the singing becomes more like that which they will encounter in after years. The labor of previous years in the common schools is here brought to fruition, and the habit of singing becomes more firmly established.

By all means let us have the vocal music instruction continued into and through the years spent in the Academy.

CONCLUSION.

Recognition is due the teachers for the zeal with which they have addressed themselves to their arduous tasks, and to all who have in any way been concerned in the school work for the spirit of consecration to duty which has made so harmonious the work of the year. United in a common cause, we have felt the encouragement and support of our fellow workers and can wish for the future no pleasanter associations than those of the year that is past.

Respectfully submitted,

EDMUND P. BARKER,

Superintendent of Schools.

MUSIC TEACHER'S REPORT.

To the School Committee of Westford:

The work which has been accomplished in the public schools of this town in music during the past year has been most gratifying in nearly every instance. The grade of the work is, as it should be, much higher than it was one year ago. Most of the schools have two classes in music; the first division consisting of either the older pupils or of those who are able to sing correctly, and the second division of either the younger pupils or of those voices with which we were doing individual work, i. e., developing tone perception.

In some instances very good results have been obtained where the older pupils have become the teachers of the little ones, thereby making their own work more intelligent and relieving the teacher of some of this extra work. Even more might be done in this direction, for I have yet to find the boy or girl who loves music who will not become interested in teaching some of the little ones to sing correctly; yet there must be intelligent supervision of this kind of work.

Some of the classes are now ready, and others soon will be, for the Second Normal Music Reader. This book takes up greater difficulties in tone and time; commences work in accidentals; also contains exercises and songs for one soprano; two sopranos; next, in trio form for two sopranos and alto, followed by trios for soprano, alto and bass.

The first classes in Primary schools at the Centre, Forge Village, Graniteville, Stony Brook, and Minot's Corner are singing easy exercises from the Chart and Reader in the nine different keys.

My visits have been planned as follows: one week at the two schools at Forge Village, Wright, Long-Sought-For and the four schools at Graniteville; the second week at the Eighth Grade Nashoba, Parkerville, Minot's Corner, the Primary and Grammar schools at the Centre, Stony Brook, and Nabnasset. On the day of the Graniteville route, as there was some time to spare between the close of school and train time, I invited all of those pupils in the

two higher grades, or rooms, who were interested in music, to meet me from four to five o'clock to study songs. It proved quite an interesting feature of the work in this building.

I am glad for the opportunity of thanking the teachers who have given me their cordial support in this most interesting study; and if in any instance the work has seemed to be a failure, it seems to me that it must be because the teacher has not seen the importance of fitting herself for this study just as faithfully as for any other branch taught in the school curriculum.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. GATES LOCKHART.

TRUANT OFFICERS' REPORT.

GRANITEVILLE, MASS., Feb. 24, 1897.

To the School Committee:

Sirs:—The number of cases that have come under my notice and I have investigated, have been twenty-two during the year and two cases of truancy, but of course an allowance must be made for quite a lot of sickness.

Respectfully yours,

E. DEROEHN,

Truant Officer.

WESTFORD, MASS., Feb. 28, 1897.

To the School Committee:

Sirs:—There have been two cases reported to me for investigation and the pupils were returned to school. No prosecutions.

Respectfully submitted,

AI BICKNELL,

Truant Officer.

ROLL OF HONOR.

GRANITEVILLE GRAMMAR.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Kate Leland, . . . | 1 |
| Austin Healy, . . . | 1 |
| Roscoe Moran, . . . | 1 |
| Esther Grant, . . . | 2 |
| Harold Libbey, . . . | 1 |
| Willie Petherick, . . . | 2 |
| Frank Loftus, . . . | 1 |
| Nelia Kierstead, . . . | 1 |
| Philip Callahan, . . . | 1 |
| Herbert Shattuck, . . . | 1 |
| Etta Sheahan, . . . | 1 |
| Fred Casey, . . . | 1 |
| Ellsworth York, . . . | 1 |

GRANITEVILLE INTERMEDIATE.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Stephen Callahan . . . | 1 |
| John Ring, . . . | 1 |
| Edward Riney, . . . | 1 |
| Oila Lovell, . . . | 1 |
| George Petherick, . . . | 2 |
| Henry Le Duc, . . . | 1 |
| Frank Charlton, . . . | 1 |
| Margaret Clark, . . . | 1 |
| Jennie Ledwith, . . . | 1 |
| Willie Murphy, . . . | 2 |
| Willie Wall, . . . | 2 |
| Michael Ledwith, . . . | 1 |
| Martha Symmes, . . . | 1 |
| May Grant, . . . | 1 |
| Clarence McLenna, . . . | 1 |
| Fred Leland, . . . | 1 |
| Eva Craven, . . . | 3 |

GRANITEVILLE UPPER PRIMARY.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Carrol Furbush, . . . | 1 |
| Alice Quinn, . . . | 1 |
| Arthur Charlton, . . . | 1 |
| Eddie Leland, . . . | 2 |
| Gussie Spillane, . . . | 1 |
| George Gower, . . . | 1 |
| Florence Sullivan, . . . | 1 |
| Inez McLenna, . . . | 1 |

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Nellie Callahan, . . . | 2 |
| Willie Casey, . . . | 1 |
| John Grieg, . . . | 3 |
| Myron Carkin, . . . | 1 |

FORGE GRAMMAR.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Laura Mann, . . . | 3 |
| James Brown, . . . | 1 |
| Edward Hanley, . . . | 1 |
| Lillian Wood, . . . | 1 |
| Archie Whigham, . . . | 1 |
| Stella Gurney, . . . | 1 |

GRANITEVILLE LOWER PRIMARY.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Edward Champagne, . . . | 1 |
| Mary Sullivan, . . . | 1 |
| Frank De Roehn . . . | 1 |
| James Spillane, . . . | 1 |
| Paul Symmes, . . . | 1 |
| John Rafferty, . . . | 1 |
| Stella McLenna, . . . | 1 |
| Stella Carkin, . . . | 1 |
| Frank McNulty . . . | 1 |
| Edward Leland, . . . | 1 |
| Hermon Libbey, . . . | 1 |

WRIGHT.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Clarence Wright, . . . | 1 |
| Lena Shugrue, . . . | 1 |
| Charles Blodgett, . . . | 1 |
| Carl Badger, . . . | 1 |
| Luella Wright, . . . | 2 |
| Lillian Wright, . . . | 2 |
| Carl Wright, . . . | 2 |
| Hazel Hutchins, . . . | 1 |
| Fred Blodgett, . . . | 3 |

LONG-SOUGHT-FOR.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Iva Sherburne, . . . | 1 |
| Victor Sherburne, . . . | |
| Katie Burke, . . . | 1 |
| Leonard Dane, . . . | 1 |

FORGE PRIMARY.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Nerry Berthiaume, . . . | 1 |
|-------------------------|---|

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Willie DeRoehn, . . . | 1 |
| Gerald Daley, . . . | 1 |
| Roy Darling, . . . | 1 |
| Georgianna Byron, . . . | 1 |
| Eddie Connell, . . . | 1 |
| CENTRE PRIMARY. | |
| Robert Prescott, . . . | 1 |
| Etta McDougall, . . . | 1 |
| Blanche Lyman, . . . | 1 |
| Marguerite Bannister, . . . | 1 |
| Alister McDougall, . . . | 1 |
| Harold Lyman, . . . | 1 |
| Wesley Browe, . . . | 1 |
| Harold Hildreth, . . . | 1 |
| Robert Prescott, . . . | 1 |
| Charles Robey, . . . | 1 |
| Warner Trembly, . . . | 1 |
| Aaron Tuttle, . . . | 1 |
| Frances Browe, . . . | 1 |
| Edith Bicknell, . . . | 1 |
| Stella Hartford, . . . | 1 |
| Eva Pyne, . . . | 1 |
| Jennie Robey, . . . | 1 |
| Dorothy Sleeper, . . . | 1 |
| Nathalie Sleeper, . . . | 1 |
| Elsie Wilson, . . . | 1 |
| MINOT'S CORNER. | |
| Augusta Blaisdell, . . . | 1 |
| PARKERVILLE. | |
| George Cann, . . . | 1 |
| NASHOBA. | |
| Nellie Richardson, . . . | 1 |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Ora Richardson, . . . | 2 |
| NABNASSET. | |
| Elmer Trull, . . . | 2 |
| Joseph McAdam, . . . | 1 |
| James Taylor, . . . | 1 |
| Frank Mooney, . . . | 2 |
| Charles Taylor, . . . | 2 |
| Alfred Anderson, . . . | 1 |
| Arthur Anderson, . . . | 2 |
| Olga Anderson, . . . | 1 |
| Nellie Felch, . . . | 1 |
| STONY BROOK. | |
| Alson Kimball, . . . | 1 |
| Thomas Flynn, . . . | 1 |
| Ruth Miller, . . . | 2 |
| Effie Kimball, . . . | 1 |
| John Taylor, . . . | 1 |
| Ida Walkden, . . . | 1 |
| Inez Kimball, . . . | 2 |
| Grace Fletcher, . . . | 2 |
| EIGHTH GRADE. | |
| Mollie Holden, . . . | 3 |
| Annie Harris, . . . | 1 |
| CENTRE GRAMMAR. | |
| Leroy Hartford, . . . | 1 |
| Alberta Wilson, . . . | 2 |
| Charlotte Prescott, . . . | 3 |
| Willie Millis, . . . | 1 |
| Sidney Wright, . . . | 1 |
| Effie Bennett, . . . | 1 |

LIST OF TEACHERS.

| SCHOOLS. | TEACHERS. | APPOINTED. | EDUCATED. | SALARY. |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|---|---|
| Academy, { Principal, { Assistant { | William E. Frost | 1872 | Bowdoin College, '70..... | (Town pays \$1000 of Salaries \$10 00) |
| Eighth Grade..... | Margaret A. O'Neil..... | 1892 | Hollis H. S., '88; Smith College | |
| Centre Grammar | A. Mabelle Drew..... | Sept., 1896 | Bridgewater Normal, '90..... | 10 00 |
| Centre Primary..... | { A. Mabelle Drew..... | Sept., 1896 | Bridgewater Normal, '90..... | 10 00 |
| Stony Brook..... | { Gertrude L. Merrill..... | April, 1892 | Hebron Academy, '91..... | 10 00 |
| Forge Grammar..... | { Fannie B. Prescott..... | March, 1895 | Westford Academy..... | 9 00 |
| Forge Primary..... | { Lillian A. Downing..... | Dec., 1895 | Ayer High School, '91..... | 10 00 |
| | { Sadie L. Blaisdell..... | Sept., 1896 | Boston University..... | 10 00 |
| | { Etta Holt..... | Sept., 1893 | Punchard Academy, '82..... | 10 00 |
| | { Clara L. Hammond..... | Sept., 1893 | Acton High School, '90..... | 10 00 |
| | { Clara J. Schwartz..... | Feb., 1897 | Washington, D. C., Kinder- garten Training School, '81.. | 10 00 |
| Nashoba..... | Mary E. Pickard..... | March, 1895 | Littleton High School, '87..... | 8 00 |
| Parkerville..... | Rose A. Parrot..... | March, 1896 | Worcester Normal, '96..... | 8 00 |
| Miscot's Corner..... | { Lucy M. Harmon..... | Sept., 1895 | Cushing Academy, '95..... | 8 00 |
| Nabasset..... | { Eva M. Brewer..... | Sept., 1896 | Everett Home School, '93..... | 8 00 |
| | { Lizzie A. Winship..... | Sept., 1871 | Framingham Normal, '74..... | 9 00 |
| Long-Sought-For..... | { Annie F. Dowser..... | Sept., 1896 | Hingham High School..... | 8 00 |
| | { Charlotte Bain..... | Dec., 1896 | Salem Normal, '96..... | 8 00 |
| | { Flora H. Merrill..... | Sept., 1894 | Boston University..... | 8 00 |
| | { Bertha A. Swain..... | Sept., 1896 | Bradford Academy..... | 9 00 |
| Wright..... | { Bessie A. Marshall..... | April, 1885 | Boston University..... | 8 00 |
| Granite, Grammar..... | { Issie A. Parker..... | Jan., 1893 | Westford Academy, '81..... | 10 00 |
| Granite, Intermediate..... | { Julia M. Chamberlain..... | Sept., 1891 | Westford Academy, '92..... | 10 00 |
| Granite, Upper Primary..... | { Mabel L. Bakhtyn..... | Sept., 1896 | Bradford Academy..... | 10 00 |
| Granite, Lower Primary..... | { Bertha A. Swain..... | Sept., 1891 | Westford Academy, '91..... | 10 00 |
| Music Teacher..... | Mrs. Gates Lockhart..... | Sept., 1895 | Westford Academy, '91..... (Address, 58 Cliff St., Roxbury, Mass.) | 10 00 |

SCHOOL STATISTICS.—1896-97.

| No. | SCHOOLS. | Grades. | Weeks of School. | Enrollment. | Average Member-ship. | Average Attendance | Per cent. of Attend-ance. | Under Five. | Between Five and Fifteen. | Between Eight and Fourteen. | Over Fifteen. | Half Days Absence. | Tardinesses. | Tardinesses per Pupil. | Dismissals. | VISITS. | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|---------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|-------------|------------|-------|---------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Committee. | Supt. | Others. |
| 1 | Academy | 9-12 | 39 | 32 | 29.6 | 27.8 | 92.5 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 24 | 398 | 413 | 13.2 | 49 | 4 | 14 | 47 |
| 2 | Eighth Grade..... | 8 | 23 | 16 | 13.8 | 12.7 | 92.0 | 0 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 257 | 72 | 5.6 | 15 | 1 | 7 | 30 |
| 3 | Centre Grammar | 4,5,7 | 35 | 29 | 24.0 | 22.7 | 94.6 | 0 | 27 | 22 | 2 | 457 | 67 | 2.9 | 40 | 1 | 12 | 78 |
| 4 | Centre Primary..... | 1-3 | 35 | 42 | 34.1 | 31.5 | 92.4 | 0 | 41 | 17 | 1 | 903 | 44 | 1.3 | 57 | 3 | 13 | 62 |
| 5 | Stony Brook..... | 1-6 | 35 | 34 | 29.6 | 27.2 | 91.9 | 1 | 33 | 17 | 0 | 823 | 80 | 2.9 | 15 | 6 | 5 | 59 |
| 6 | Forge Grammar..... | 4-7 | 35 | 35 | 21.4 | 20.0 | 93.5 | 0 | 34 | 33 | 1 | 481 | 75 | 3.7 | 20 | 3 | 15 | 12 |
| 7 | Forge Primary..... | 1-3 | 34.2 | 54 | 43.3 | 39.5 | 91.2 | 5 | 49 | 24 | 0 | 1,327 | 84 | 2.1 | 13 | 4 | 17 | 17 |
| 8 | Nashoba..... | 1-6 | 35 | 23 | 14.5 | 12.9 | 89.0 | 1 | 22 | 10 | 0 | 586 | 156 | 12.0 | 26 | 1 | 10 | 39 |
| 9 | Parkerville..... | 1-8 | 35 | 21 | 14.5 | 12.5 | 85.6 | 0 | 21 | 10 | 1 | 752 | 81 | 6.4 | 18 | 1 | 10 | 24 |
| 10 | Minot's Corner | 1-6 | 34.4 | 16 | 12.3 | 10.9 | 88.6 | 0 | 16 | 10 | 0 | 548 | 56 | 5.1 | 59 | 3 | 10 | 30 |
| 11 | Nabasset..... | 1-6 | 35 | 35 | 26.3 | 25.0 | 95.1 | 0 | 34 | 26 | 1 | 451 | 43 | 1.7 | 21 | 6 | 8 | 34 |
| 12 | Long-Sought-For | 1-8 | 35 | 13 | 7.6 | 7.2 | 94.7 | 0 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 146 | 46 | 6.3 | 21 | 2 | 10 | 6 |
| 13 | Wright..... | 1-6 | 35 | 22 | 18.0 | 17.0 | 94.6 | 1 | 21 | 11 | 0 | 339 | 75 | 0.2 | 10 | 2 | 10 | 35 |
| 14 | Granite, Grammar | 5-7 | 31 | 48 | 35.1 | 32.7 | 93.2 | 0 | 47 | 40 | 1 | 757 | 78 | 2.3 | 42 | 2 | 13 | 45 |
| 15 | Granite, Intermediate..... | 3-4 | 31 | 40 | 33.0 | 31.7 | 96.0 | 0 | 40 | 38 | 0 | 424 | 35 | 1.1 | 14 | 1 | 14 | 37 |
| 16 | Granite, Upper Primary..... | 2-3 | 31 | 26 | 29.0 | 27.8 | 95.9 | 0 | 26 | 8 | 0 | 377 | 39 | 1.4 | 16 | 2 | 14 | 42 |
| 17 | Granite, Lower Primary..... | 1 | 31 | 60 | 41.9 | 38.8 | 92.6 | 3 | 57 | 5 | 0 | 964 | 66 | 1.7 | 6 | 1 | 15 | 56 |
| | Totals, 1896-7..... | | 569.6 | 546 | 428 | 398 | 93.1 | 11 | 496 | 272 | 40 | 9,990 | 1,440 | 3.5 | 442 | 43 | 201 | 653 |
| | Totals, 1895-6..... | | 540 | 496 | 412 | 383 | 92.8 | 7 | 454 | 306 | 35 | 10,009 | 1,801 | 5.2 | 538 | 51 | 197 | 898 |

ANNUAL REPORTS
—OF THE—
TOWN OFFICERS
—OF THE—
TOWN OF WESTFORD

—FOR THE—
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1898.

—ALSO—
TOWN WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TO BE HELD APRIL 5, 1898.



LOWELL, MASS. :
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1898.

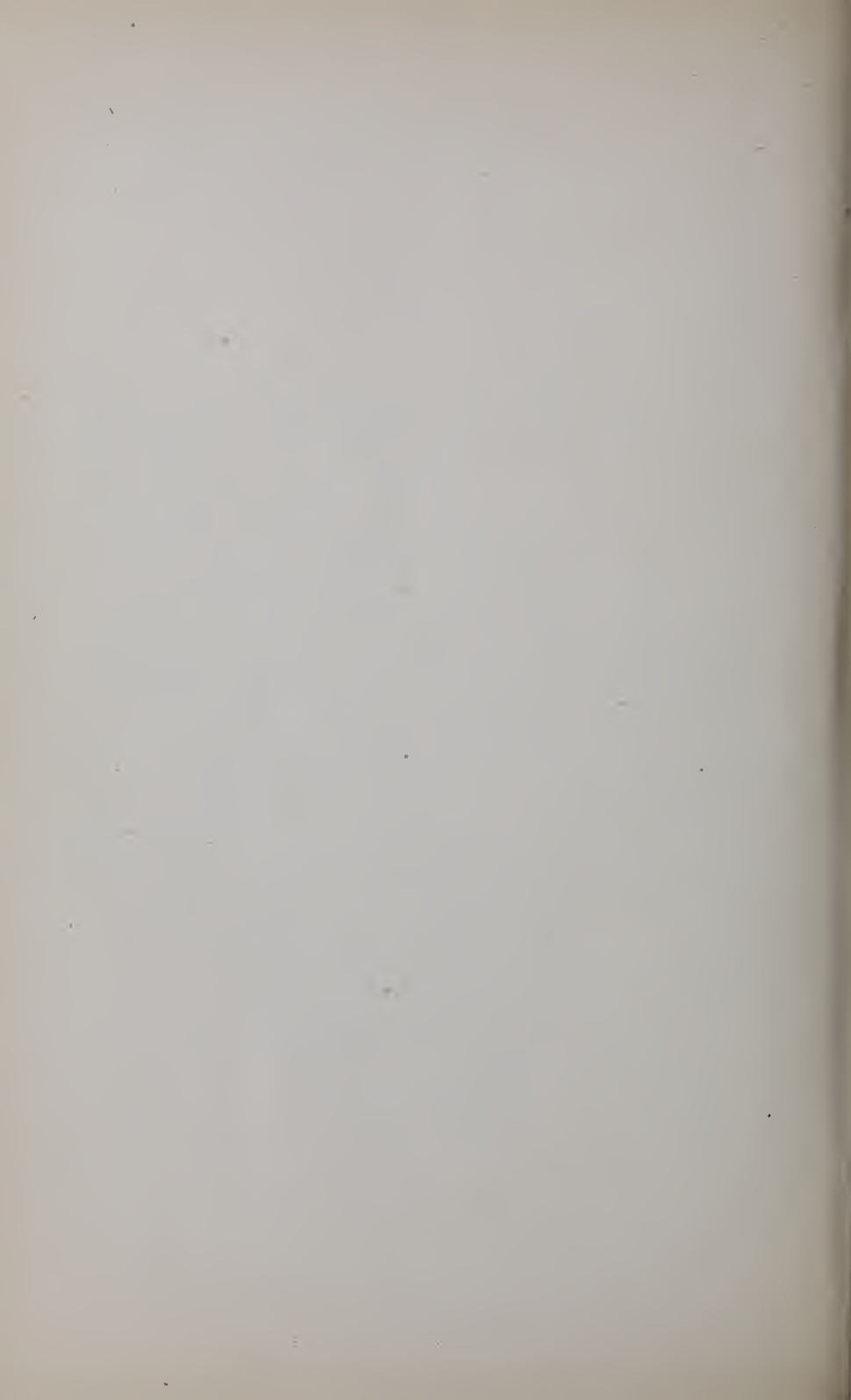
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1898.



OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, 1897.

Town Clerk.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT.

Selectmen.

| | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| SHERMAN H. FLETCHER, <i>Chairman</i> , | . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, | . | Term expires April, 1899 |
| WESLEY O. HAWKES, <i>Secretary</i> , | . | Term expires April, 1900 |

Assessors.

| | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| GEORGE H. HARTFORD, <i>Chairman</i> , | . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| WILLIAM H. H. BURBECK, <i>Secretary</i> , | . | Term expires April, 1899 |
| SAMUEL L. TAYLOR, | . | Term expires April, 1900 |

Overseers of the Poor.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| WAYLAND F. BALCH, <i>Chairman</i> , | . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| ALVIN G. POLLEY, | . | Term expires April, 1899 |
| ALBERT R. CHOATE, <i>Secretary</i> , | . | Term expires April, 1900 |

Treasurer.

NAHUM H. WRIGHT.

Collector of Taxes.

WALTER C. WRIGHT.

Auditor.

ARTHUR B. PLIMPTON.

Constables.

EUGENE DEROEHN,

JOHN A. HEALY.

School Committee.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| ALBERT R. CHOATE, <i>Chairman</i> , | . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| ALTA M. TAYLOR, | . | Term expires April, 1898 |
| FRANK H. HILDRETH, | . | Term expires April, 1899 |
| ALFRED WOODBURY, | . | Term expires April, 1899 |
| GEORGE H. HARTFORD, | . | Term expires April, 1900 |
| WALTER J. SLEEPER, <i>Secretary</i> , | . | Term expires April, 1900 |

Sealer of Weights and Measures.

TRUE A. BEAN.

Registrars of Voters.

| | | |
|--|-----------|-----------------------------|
| OSCAR R. SPALDING, | | Term expires April 30, 1898 |
| NELSON L. TUTTLE, <i>Chairman,</i> | | Term expires April 30, 1899 |
| QUINCY W. DAY, | | Term expires April 30, 1900 |
| GILMAN J. WRIGHT, <i>Clerk Ex Officio.</i> | | |

Superintendent of Streets.

BENJAMIN F. DAY.

Inspectors of Animals and Provisions.

GEORGE T. DAY. ALBERT P. RICHARDSON.

Measurer of Grain.

ALONZO H. SUTHERLAND.

The foregoing officers have all been sworn; of the following, only those marked by a star (*).

Fence Viewers.

*ALVIN G. POLLEY, LEWIS C. DANE, *ALMON S. VOSE.

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber.

*THOMAS E. SYMMES, *HORACE E. GOULD, *WM. W. JOHNSON,
 *JOHN A. HEALY, *A. H. SUTHERLAND, GEO. H. PRESCOTT,
 *JEREMIAH DESMOND, *MICHAEL MCGLINCHY.

Field Drivers.

J. WILLARD FLETCHER, FRANK B. TULIS, *GEO. W. HILL,
 RALPH WOODBURY, BRADLEY V. WRIGHT.

Weighers of Coal.

*CHAS. E. WHIDDEN, *JOHN A. HEALY, *HENRY HEALY,
 *JOHN M. FLETCHER, MINOT A. BEAN, *WM. W. JOHNSON.

No oath is required of the remaining officers.

Trustees of J. V. Fletcher Library.

JOHN W. ABBOT, Term expires April, 1898
 WILLIAM E. FROST, *Chairman,* Term expires April, 1899
 MARGARET A. O'NEILL, Term expires April, 1900

Mr. Abbot died Nov. 19, 1897. Miss O'Neill resigned early in the year, and Mrs. Catharine M. Kebler was chosen to fill the vacancy until the next annual town meeting.

Librarian.

CARRIE E. READ.

Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

WILLIAM E. FROST, Term expires April, 1898
 GEORGE T. DAY, Term expires April, 1899
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, Term expires April, 1900

Board of Health.
THE SELECTMEN, *Ex Officio.*

Agents of Board—

WESLEY O. HAWKES. W. H. H. BURBECK

Police Officers.

AI BICKNELL. SAMUEL H. BALCH. W. E. PARSONS.
Mr. Parsons declined serving.

Fire Wards.

W. E. PARSONS, JOHN A. HEALY, LEONARD W. WHEELER,
SAMUEL H. BALCH, HARRY L. NESMITH.
Mr. Parsons declined serving. Mr. Nesmith failed to file his
acceptance.

Forest Fire Wards.

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, EDWARD PRESCOTT.

Agent for Burial of Deceased Soldiers, Etc.

GEORGE T. DAY.

Undertaker.

ALBERT P. RICHARDSON.

Superintendent of Almshouse.

SAMUEL H. BALCH.

Janitor of Town House and Library Building.

AI BICKNELL.

Appraisers of Property at Town Farm.

GEORGE H. HARTFORD, ALBERT P. RICHARDSON,
SAMUEL L. TAYLOR.

BIRTHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1897.

| DATE. | NAMES. | PARENTS' NAMES. |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| June 30.... | Archibald, James Bedford | William A. and Margaret (Curry). |
| Aug. 11.... | Baker, Lillian Myrtle | George H. and Catherine (Hughes). |
| Dec. 18.... | Bean, Dorothy Wealthy..... | Minot A. and Clara Belle (Locke). |
| Sept. 3.... | Burnham, Frederick Wesley | Arthur H. and Addie M. (Morse). |
| Apr. 13.... | Callahan, Mary Isabella..... | John F. and Annie (Bradley). |
| Feb. 6.... | Comey, Gertrude Elmira..... | Arthur H. and Susannah (Mellor). |
| Sept. 20.... | Conrey, Edith May..... | George E. and Rebecca J. (Reed). |
| Oct. 8.... | Cote, Eugene..... | Almede and Melani (Melan). |
| June 20.... | Couture, Edward Richard..... | Charles E. and Delerna (Peneso). |
| Jan. 10.... | Defoe, Lillian May | Phillip and Elizabeth A. (Crockett). |
| June 19.... | Demaris, Alphonsine..... | George A. and Mary Ann (Allard). |
| Feb. 23.... | Field, William Judson | Adelbert L. and Gertrude L. (Hunter). |
| Dec. 3.... | Flagg, Irving Clement..... | Elbert H. and Lucy (Warren). |
| July 9.... | Flavell, Charles William | Charles L. and Florence (Dane). |
| Oct. 23.... | Fletcher, Hazel Mildred | Herbert E. and Carrie D. (Hill). |
| Aug. 26.... | Furbush, Helen Marie..... | Frank L. and Margaret (Murphy). |
| Apr. 21.... | Griffin, Charles Matthew..... | Charles M. and Nellie M. (Collins). |
| Sept. 2.... | Hodgson, Violet Mildred..... | James and Clara (Dracup). |
| Apr. 12.... | Hoyt, Violet | John W. and Polly (Flannery). |
| Nov. 28.... | Hulslander, Annie Ellen | Peter and Delia (Dupres). |
| May 1.... | Jarvis, Mary | Alexander and Rosa (Barlow). |
| Aug. 5.... | Kenworthy, Louise..... | Fred J. and Carrie (Bennett). |
| July 25.... | LaBerge, Arthur..... | Alfred and Evangeline (Lord). |
| Nov. 7.... | LaFranc, Joseph | Alfred and A. (Rabsau). |
| Mar. 22.... | Lawton, Herman Ellsmere | Luther and Mabel (White). |
| Mar. 17.... | McCoy, Everett Howard | Fred L. and Lottie (Cann). |
| Nov. 26.... | McLeod, Walter Ellsworth | Donald J. and Gertrude M. (Adams). |
| Nov. 12.... | Morton, Everett Fletcher..... | Fennimore and Lillian (Northrop). |
| May 4.... | Newton, Mary Josephine..... | James and Julia A. (Werren). |
| Oct. 9.... | Noble, Henry Clifford | Hiram F. and Hattie A. (Heald). |
| Oct. 5.... | O'Brien, Julia | James F. and Nellie (Goggin). |
| Jan. 11.... | Osgood, Effie Alberta..... | Charles E. and Effie J. (Hulsaver). |
| Apr. 26.... | Parker, Carrie | Winslow W. and Ida M. (Lackey). |
| Nov. 8.... | Payac, Joseph Edmund..... | Alma and Flora (Garcears). |
| Apr. 4.... | Payne, James Henry | Thomas P. and Sarah E. (Davie). |
| May 30.... | Prinn, Katherine Carrie | Alfred T. W. and Mary E. (Ledwith). |
| June 27.... | Prior, Leonard Alden | Arthur L. and Jennie A. (Woodbury). |
| Feb. 9.... | Rafferty, James Joseph..... | Thomas and Mary (Elliott). |
| Oct. 25.... | Raymond, Margrate Alice | John H. and Julia M. (Quinland). |
| Feb. 8.... | Rothbaum, Annie..... | Max and Rosa (Durfman). |
| July 26.... | Sargent, Virginia Maude | Charles G. and Maude E. (Smith). |
| Oct. 21.... | Savard, Edward Ernest | Ulysse and Theodora (Dion). |
| Feb. 14.... | Sevinearr, Mary B. | Napoleon and Ella (Rabichau). |
| Oct. 16.... | Sherburne, Herman Samuel..... | George J. and Ada A. (Blodgett). |
| Oct. 1.... | Spinner, Edith Ellen | John and Elizabeth (Wheeler). |
| Mar. 10.... | Stirk, Vialo E. | Frederick and Ellen (Brown). |
| Dec. 27.... | Sullivan, Michael Joseph..... | Timothy and Margarette (Sullivan). |
| Dec. 18.... | Sullivan, Mike | John and Nora (Sullivan). |
| July 17.... | Sutherland, Alfred Alonzo | Alonzo H. and Mattie L. (Cass). |
| May 6.... | Taylor, William Arthur | John P. and Fanny (Tyler). |
| July 18.... | Whidden, Waldo Albert | Walter A. and Bessie (Parker). |
| Nov. 22.... | Whigham, Theresa Cecelia..... | Thomas and Annie (O'Connor). |
| Apr. 8.... | Whitney, Herbert E. | George H. and Ida F. (Woodman). |
| July 4.... | Whitney, Lilla May | Julian and Sarah (Gray). |
| Jan. 5.... | Wright, Ernest Tebbetts..... | Gilman F. and Alma G. (Tebbetts). |
| Sept. 2.... | Wright, Persis Jessie | Bradley V. and Mabel (Baldwin). |
| Nov. 23.... | Illegitimate | |

Males. Females. Total.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|
| Number recorded | 28 | 29 | 57 |
| Born in Westford..... | 27 | 29 | 56 |
| Of Westford parentage..... | 27 | 28 | 55 |

Of American parentage, 24; foreign parentage, 19; American father and foreign mother, 7; American mother and foreign father, 5.

Corrections of last year's report: The name of the Leighton child is Frances and not Francis. The parents of the Tully child are Charles E. and Bertlia (Wright). Number of males recorded, 25; females, 26.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

MARRIAGES

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1897.

| DATE. | NAMES. | AGE. | RESIDENCE. | BIRTHPLACE. |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Feb. 28, '97, | Barlow, John..... | 21 | Westford..... | Province Quebec. |
| | Plourde, Ernestine..... | 21 | "..... | " |
| May 9, '96, | Butterworth, William L..... | 26 | "..... | Westford. |
| | Standish, Rose..... | 22 | Lowell..... | Boston. |
| Oct. 31, '97, | Byron, Oliver..... | 20 | Westford..... | Province Quebec. |
| | Ricard, Alexina..... | 21 | "..... | " |
| Nov. 30, " | Carpenter, Eugene F..... | 29 | "..... | Rowe. |
| | Goodenow, Annie..... | 25 | Bangor, Me..... | Bangor, Me. |
| Dec. 25, " | Cloutier, Adolphus..... | 21 | Westford..... | Canada. |
| | Barlow, Jelina..... | 18 | "..... | " |
| Dec. 23, " | Fisher, Thomas Fletcher..... | 25 | "..... | Westford. |
| | Nickles, Alice Mand..... | 22 | "..... | Steuben, Me. |
| Mar. 24, " | Fletcher, J. Willard..... | 41 | "..... | Wisconsin. |
| | Whidden, Etta H..... | 32 | "..... | Danvers. |
| Oct. 10, " | Gordon, James..... | 47 | "..... | Calais, Me. |
| | Rowen, Catherine (Boyle)..... | 34 | Lowell..... | Ireland. |
| Sep. 21, " | Goss, Frank P. V..... | 40 | Westford..... | Nashua, N. H. |
| | Fitzgerald, Mary..... | 34 | "..... | Lowell. |
| Oct. 6, " | Healy, William Henry..... | 24 | "..... | Canada. |
| | McKeown, Bridget..... | 29 | "..... | Liverpool, Eng. |
| Jan. 6, " | Hennessey, Frank..... | 31 | "..... | New Brunswick. |
| | Sargent, Margaret (Sheay)..... | 33 | Lowell..... | Manchester, N. H. |
| June 2, " | Hosmer, William..... | 22 | Westford..... | Lowell. |
| | Bennett, Jennie H..... | 22 | "..... | England. |
| Apr. 25, " | Howard John..... | 33 | Lowell..... | Lowell. |
| | Sheehan, Catherine..... | 25 | Westford..... | Westford. |
| Dec. 1, " | Hunt, William..... | 21 | "..... | England. |
| | Whigham, Elizabeth..... | 27 | "..... | Scotland. |
| Dec. 26, " | Leduc, Ge ton..... | 24 | "..... | Canada. |
| | Laquerre, Exilda..... | 22 | "..... | " |
| June 23, " | Masten, Clement T..... | 25 | Fitchburg..... | Wurtsboro, N. Y. |
| | Prescott, Rena E..... | 27 | "..... | Westford. |
| Nov. 24, " | McMurray, James..... | 24 | Westford..... | Belfast, Ire. |
| | Baker, Dinah..... | 28 | "..... | England. |
| Jan. 13, " | Morton, Fennimore..... | 21 | "..... | New Brunswick. |
| | Northrop, Lillie..... | 21 | "..... | " |
| Dec. 8, " | Palmer, Lewis P..... | 41 | "..... | Westford. |
| | Milligan, Margaret E..... | 22 | "..... | Prince Edward Isle |
| July 31, " | Pollock, William Henry..... | 25 | "..... | New Brunswick. |
| | Sherman, Ella Louisa..... | 22 | "..... | Westford. |
| Oct. 20, " | Read, Henry Blood..... | 24 | "..... | " |
| | Chamberlin, Julia Maria..... | 23 | "..... | " |
| Nov. 24, " | King, Michael E..... | 40 | "..... | Dover, N. H. |
| | Voto, Elizabeth..... | 28 | "..... | St. John, N. B. |
| Apr. 14, " | Watson, Sebastian Bangert..... | 26 | "..... | Newbern, N. C. |
| | Day, Bessie Maria..... | 27 | "..... | Westford. |
| Dec. 16, " | Webster, Frank P..... | 43 | "..... | Sutton, N. H. |
| | Hall, Grace A..... | 25 | Chelmsford..... | Chelmsford. |
| Jan. 27, " | Wetherbee, Frank Warren..... | 37 | Waltham..... | Hanover, N. H. |
| | Thomas, Lillian May (Milligan)..... | 25 | "..... | P. E. Island. |
| Nov. 9, " | White, William J..... | 27 | Boston..... | Lawrence. |
| | Heywood, Lottie E..... | 22 | Westford..... | Westford. |
| Sep. 22, " | Whitney, Herbert Ellsworth..... | 19 | "..... | " |
| | Newell, Gertrude May..... | 18 | Littleton..... | Littleton. |
| | One omitted..... | | | |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Number of marriages recorded..... | 28 |
| Number in 1897..... | 27 |
| Solemnized in Westford..... | 13 |
| Westford grooms..... | 23 |
| Westford brides..... | 20 |
| Between Americans..... | 12 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Between foreigners..... | 8 |
| American groom and foreign bride.... | 5 |
| American bride and foreign groom.... | 2 |
| Second marriage of groom..... | 6 |
| Second marriage of bride..... | 4 |
| Solemnized by Westford clergymen.... | 15 |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

DEATHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1897.

| DATE. | NAMES, ETC. | AGE. | | |
|---------|--|------|------|-------|
| | | Yrs. | Mos. | Days. |
| Nov. 19 | Abbot, John William, son of John W. P. and Catherine (Abbot) | 63 | 2 | 5 |
| Jan. 27 | Amission, Arthur F., son of Frederick and Alice A. (Drew) | — | 4 | 7 |
| Dec. 17 | Auclair, Sylvia A., died in Worcester | 33 | 2 | 7 |
| Feb. 22 | Barlow, Annie (Cote), wife of James | 41 | — | 10 |
| Aug. 20 | Blodgett, ———, resident of Groton | — | — | — |
| Apr. 16 | Blodgett, Effie M., dau of Thaddeus A. and Almira (Perham) | 23 | 2 | — |
| June 23 | Boynton, Evelina A. (Spaulding), resident of Lynn | 89 | 11 | 26 |
| Mar. 15 | Brisson, Aririanne, dau. of Arthur and Adeline (Roux) | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| Mar. 5 | Byron, Mary, dau. of Frank and Louise (Flitute) | — | 8 | 3 |
| Feb. 3 | Caldwell, Elizabeth M. (Gilson), wid. of Francis | 76 | 2 | 11 |
| Sep. 5 | Callahan, Mary Isabella, dau. of John F. and Annie (Bradley) | — | 4 | 23 |
| Feb. 10 | Carrick, Sarah Ann (Cockroft), wife of Thomas | 38 | 0 | 7 |
| Sep. 14 | Case, Lillie, resident of Littleton | — | 2 | 6 |
| Nov. 13 | Chamberlin, Henry, son of Phineas and Mary (Parker) | 61 | 3 | 3 |
| July 9 | Collins, Jacob, resident of Lowell | 60 | — | — |
| Nov. 25 | Cutter, Charles H., resident of Littleton | 45 | 2 | 28 |
| Jan. 10 | Davis, Alfred S., son of Aaron and Rebecca (Nourse) | 76 | 6 | 17 |
| Sep. 11 | Depoe, Lena May, resident of No. Andover | — | 8 | — |
| June 2 | Dezicle, Joseph L., son of Gaspard and Emma (Houle) | — | 11 | 23 |
| Jan. 3 | Dodge, John F., resident of Lowell | 24 | — | — |
| Feb. 6 | Duren, Mary A. (Fisher), wid. of Joseph | 88 | 0 | 12 |
| May 12 | Eaton, John, son of Elijah and Abigail (Lyman) | 73 | 8 | 25 |
| Feb. 2 | Edwards, Mary E. (Tasker), wid. of Moses | 76 | 3 | 3 |
| Aug. 24 | Fletcher, Samuel, son of Moses P. and Rachel (Gregg) | 76 | 7 | 14 |
| May 18 | Follansbee, Laura M. (Young), wife of Charles H. | 59 | 8 | — |
| Dec. 9 | Hamlin, Samuel A., son of Nathan S. and Harriet (Fletcher) | 65 | 2 | 14 |
| Jan. 5 | Harris, David, resident of Cambridge | 80 | — | — |
| July 16 | Hutchinson, Hezekiah A., resident of Chelmsford | 88 | 3 | 6 |
| Nov. 17 | Jagger, William Sands, son of Austin and Betsey B. (Baker) | 55 | 4 | 20 |
| June 30 | Jasmin, Lucrecia, dau. of Alexander and Delinia (Jasmin) | 18 | 4 | 8 |
| Dec. 2 | Johnson, Almira, Mrs., died in Tyngsborough | 83 | — | — |
| Feb. 24 | LeMay, George, son of Napoleon and Olive (Thomas) | 13 | — | — |
| Feb. 9 | Locke, Emeline (Parker), resident of Tyngsborough | 85 | — | — |
| June 17 | Locke, T. D. M., resident of Tyngsborough | 88 | — | — |
| Aug. 21 | McCarty, Johanna (McCarty), wid. of Jeremiah | 70 | — | — |
| May 9 | McCoy, Everett H., son of Fred L. and Lottie (Cann) | — | 1 | 22 |
| Jan. 8 | O'Brien, Thomas James, son of James H. and Anna T. (Dunn) | — | 1 | 12 |
| July 2 | Orange, Ruth (Bennett), wife of Abraham | 37 | 8 | — |
| Sep. 22 | Patch, Jane A. L. (Tyng), wid. of James T | 84 | — | — |
| Aug. 22 | Payne, James Henry, son of Thomas and Sarah (Davie) | — | 4 | 18 |
| Aug. 20 | Peterson, Carl, son of Peter and Anna (Erickson) Johnson | 38 | 1 | — |
| June 5 | Plaisted, Caroline G. (Hall), resident of Haverhill | 67 | — | — |
| Oct. 25 | Prescott, Sarah P. (Lawrence), wife of Joseph F | 72 | 1 | 21 |
| July 4 | Reed, Sarah S. (Parker), resident of Milford, N. H | 73 | 10 | — |
| Apr. 29 | Smith, John, son of Ulyss and Susan (Engman) | 71 | — | — |
| Aug. 18 | Somers, Estella B. (Nichols), wife of Wellington A | 23 | 0 | 23 |
| May 4 | Sweetser, Esther (Fletcher), wid. of Nathaniel | 79 | 3 | 29 |
| May 28 | Symmes, Harriet Elizabeth, dau. of Thomas E. and Nancy A. (Hale) | 12 | 2 | 4 |
| May 18 | Taylor, Fannie (Tyler), wife of John P | 30 | 2 | — |
| Feb. 24 | Taylor, George Frederick, son of John P. and Fannie (Tyler) | 2 | 9 | 9 |
| Apr. 14 | Taylor, Susan (Law), wid. of William | 89 | 2 | 10 |
| Nov. 18 | Vose, Mary, dau. of Josiah and Mary C. (Merriam) | 84 | 10 | 9 |
| Dec. 11 | Welch, Richard, son of Wm. and ——— (K rk) | 73 | — | — |
| Apr. 15 | Whitney, Herbert E., son of George H. and Ida F. (Woodman) | — | — | 7 |
| Apr. 7 | Whittier, James W., son of Aegy and Almira J. (Parker) | 58 | 11 | 9 |
| Aug. 3 | Wilkins, Martin A., son of Luther and Almira F. (Hamlin) | 49 | 1 | 1 |
| Oct. 26 | Wood, Lillie, dau. of Oliver and Mary A. (Crisp) | 12 | 5 | — |
| Mar. 16 | Wright, Leonora L. (Blood), resident of Shirley | 84 | 4 | 26 |
| Apr. 3 | Wright, Sarah (Gonld), wid. of James M | 90 | 5 | 23 |
| Feb. 7 | —————, stillborn | — | — | — |
| Mar. 11 | —————, " | — | — | — |
| Apr. 4 | —————, " | — | — | — |

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|--------|----------|--------|
| Whole number recorded | 29 | 33 | 62 |
| Number of deaths in town | 23 | 21 | 44 |
| Residents of Westford | 23 | 23 | 46 |
| Non-residents brought to town for interment | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| Number of interments in town | 18 | 23 | 41 |

One person who died in town was a resident of Lowell. Two residents of town died in other places.

Cause of death of persons who died in this town and of residents of this town who died in other places: Valvular disease of heart, 4; pneumonia, stillbirth, 3 each; accident, dilatation of heart, fatty degeneration of heart, 2 each; influenza and pneumonia, broncho pneumonia, acute bronchitis, abdominal tumor, exhaustion, capillary bronchitis, kick of horse, convulsions, tubercular meningitis, senile bronchitis, old age, inanition, phthisis, hemorrhage of bladder, catarrh of stomach, anæmia, cerebral softening, measles and bronchitis, infantile convulsions, tuberculosis, appendicitis, sunstroke, neuralgia of heart, pulmonary consumption, peritonitis, cholera infantum, uræmic coma, pneumonia and influenza, general debility, apoplexy, marasmus, 1 each.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, Town Clerk.

NOTE.

All persons interested are respectfully requested to examine the foregoing reports of births, marriages and deaths, and if any errors are noted, or if there be omissions, that they be reported to the Town Clerk, that the records may be perfected. An error in the record, other than a mistake in copying the return of a birth, can be corrected only in accordance with a deposition under oath, made by one who was required by law to furnish the information for the original record, or by three or more credible persons having knowledge of the case. See Acts of 1897, chap. 444, sections 9 and 14.

Births occurring late in the year are sometimes returned without the Christian name. In such cases parents should return the name to the Town Clerk as soon as selected, as incompleteness of the record may involve much trouble in the future.

The Town Clerk hereby gives notice that he is prepared to furnish to parents, householders, physicians and midwives applying therefor, blanks for return of births, as required by law.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT ON DOGS.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Number of dogs licensed during the year ending Nov. 30, 1897 : | |
| 155 males at \$2.00..... | \$310 00 |
| 6 females at \$5.00..... | 30 00 |
| | |
| Total..... | \$340 60 |
| Deduct Clerk's fees, 161 licenses at 20 cents each..... | 32 20 |
| | |

Balance paid into County Treasury..... \$307 80

For which the receipts of the County Treasurer are on file.

Of the foregoing licenses 1 (male) was for the year ending April 30, 1897.

Number licensed for year ending April 30, 1898, males, 154 ; females, 6 ; total, 160.

Number returned by Assessors, males, 153 ; females, 5 ; total, 158.

Owners and Keepers of Dogs who have procured Licenses since last Report, February 17, 1897.

The licenses are for the year ending April 30, 1898, unless otherwise specified.

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Adams, Charles L. | Carmichael, James H. | Eliason, Lars J. |
| Balch, Samuel H. | Carver, Gertrude E. | Farrar, George |
| Banister, F. W. | Carver, Wm. R. | Felch, Frank P. |
| Balser, A. W. | Catchpole, Henry | Felch, Harry |
| Bean, True A. | Champagne, Louis | Fisher, Alvan |
| Bemis, Henry S. | Cheever, Jacob | Fletcher, Harry N. |
| Bennett, Joseph | Comey, Arthur H. | Fletcher, Henry A. (4) |
| Bennett, W. H. | Couture, Charles | Fletcher, J. Willard |
| Blodgett, Josiah W. | Crossland, Samuel | Floyd, Mary |
| Blodgett, Wilford G. | Cummings, Alvin L. | Flynn, John |
| Blood, Napoleon B. | Cummings, Charles M. | Furbush, Frank L. |
| Brophy, Thomas | Cummings, Edw. M. (2) | Gilson, George Q. |
| Brow, Byron H. | Cummings, Walter H (f) | Gilson, Levi S. |
| Buckshorn, Louis H. | Davis, Mary A. | Gorden, James |
| Burbeck, John | Decater, John H. | Gould, Horace E. |
| Butterworth, Wm. L. | Decatur, C. R. P. | Grant, William |
| Caldwell, Solomon O. | Decatur, Nathaniel | Greig, David L. |
| Callahan, John | Decatur, Wm. H. | Griffin, Chas. M. |
| Cameron, Donald | DeRoehn, Eugene | Haley, John |
| Cann, C. W. | Desjardines, Oliver | Hall, John |
| Carkin, Clara P. | Downs, Matthew F. | Hamlin, Edward A. |
| Carkin, Edwin F. | Drew, Frank C. | Harrington, P. Henry |
| Carkin, Isaac W. | Eastman, Asa B. M. | Hartford, Geo. H. |
| Carkin, N. S. Mrs. | Eaton, Chas. | Hawkes, Wesley O. |
| Carkin, Warren E. | Edwards, Franklin | Healy, John A. |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Henry, Mary | Mountain, Geo. E. | Splain, Daniel E. |
| Heywood, Albert W. | Murphy, Henry J. | Stephan, Reinhold |
| Hildreth, Herbert V. | Naylor, F. D. (2) | Sullivan, Jeremiah |
| Hill, George W. | Nesmith, Harry L. | Sullivan, Thomas O. |
| Hodgson, James | Nesmith, Harry L. (fem) | Swanson, Noah |
| Holt, Arthur S. | Nutting, Benj. F. | Sweatt, Fred A. |
| Howard, Calvin L. | O'Brien, James, 2d (3) | Sweat, S. D. Mrs. |
| Hutchins, Stephen E. | O'Brien, James, 2d (fem) | Sweetser, Judson F. |
| Jesson, Thomas | O'Brien, James H. | Valentine, Mary E. |
| Johnson, Andrew | O'Brien, John W., 2d (2) | Vose, Wm. M. |
| Johnson, Wm. R. | Odell, H. A. | Wall, Christina |
| Krouse, Louis | Paige, A. M. | Ward, John E. |
| Lawton, Luther | Parker, Chas. Wm. | Whidden, E. H. |
| Leland, Edward | Petherick, Wm. H. | Whigham, Wm. |
| Leland, Edward ('97) | Prescott, Nelson L. | Whitaker, Christopher |
| Mann, E. L. Mrs. | Prescott, Richard D. | Whitney, Chas. H. |
| Marshall, Josiah E. | Prescott, Wallie | Whitney, Julian |
| Martin, Frederick | Putney, Lucia | Whitney, Wm. M. |
| McDonald, Angus | Reddick, A. Lincoln (f) | Whittier, Abel C. |
| McGlinchy, James | Reed, Chas. W. | Wilson, Arthur |
| McGlinchy, Peter | Roper, E. H. | Wood, Mary |
| McMaster, Harry C. | Sanborn, Geo. L. | Wright, Andrew S. |
| Merritt, Walter J. (fem.) | Sargent, Allan C. | Wright, Chas. H. |
| Morse, French M. | Sargent, Chas. G. | Wright, Frank C. |
| Mountain, Ernest G. | Sargent, F. G. | Wright, Willey M. |
| Mountain, Ernest G. (f) | Spillane, Patrick | Wyman, Geo. W. |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

WESTFORD, Feb. 7, 1898.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, 1897.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford qualified by law to vote in town affairs, held in the Town House, April 5, 1897, the following business was transacted:

1st. The Town Clerk appointed Lewis C. Dane, Teller, to serve during the election of Moderator, and he was sworn by said Clerk. J. Henry Read was elected Moderator.

2d. Voted, that the compensation of the Tax Collector be one per cent. on the amount he collects.

3d. The Selectmen appointed William E. Frost and Joshua C. Decater Ballot Clerks, and they were sworn by the Town Clerk and received from him the official ballots and gave their receipt therefor. Lewis C. Dane and T. Arthur E. Wilson, who had previously been appointed Tellers by the Selectmen, were sworn by the Town Clerk. The meeting then proceeded to bring in their ballots for the officers named in the third article of the warrant, and also on the following question: "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?" Before the commencement of balloting the ballot box was opened and found to be empty, the register standing on zero.

At 11.15 the ballot box was opened and 50 ballots counted therefrom. George W. Heywood was appointed additional Ballot Clerk by the Moderator, and was sworn by the Town Clerk. The Moderator appointed Sherman H. Fletcher, Al Bicknell, Joshua C. Decater and Samuel L. Felch, Tellers, and they were sworn by the Town Clerk. At 12.30 the box was opened and 50 ballots taken therefrom.

At the close of balloting the register stood on 147.

Number of names checked on Ballot Clerks' list, 146.

Number of names checked on Ballot Box list, 146.

Number of ballots cast (by count), 146.

The additional number indicated by the register was owing to the moving of said register two points on the passage of one ballot.

The ballots for town officers having been sorted and counted, the following persons were found to have received a plurality of votes, and were declared elected :

TOWN CLERK—Gilman J. Wright. Sworn by Moderator.

SELECTMAN—Wesley O. Hawkes. Sworn by Town Clerk.

ASSESSOR—Samuel L. Taylor.

OVERSEER OF THE POOR—Albert R. Choate. Sworn by Town Clerk.

TOWN TREASURER—Nahum H. Wright.

COLLECTOR OF TAXES—Walter C. Wright. Sworn by Town Clerk.

AUDITOR—Arthur B. Plimpton.

CONSTABLES—Eugene DeRoehn, John A. Healy. Both sworn by Town Clerk.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE—George H. Hartford, Walter J. Sleeper.

TRUSTEE OF J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY — Margaret A. O'Neill.

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS—George W. Heywood.

The question of licensing the sale of intoxicating liquors was decided in the negative, the vote standing, Yes, 32 ; No, 101 ; blanks, 13.

4th. Voted, to accept the report of the Selectmen as printed.

5th. Voted, to accept the report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards as printed.

6th. Voted, to accept the report of the Overseers of the Poor as printed.

7th. Voted, to accept the report of the School Committee as printed.

8th. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Trustees of the Public Library as printed. The report recommends that the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200) be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year.

9th. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds as printed. The report recommends that the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) be raised and appropriated for the care and improvement of Burial Grounds during the ensuing year.

10th. Voted, to accept the report of the Auditor as printed.

11th. Voted, to excuse David L. Greig from serving as juror.

12th. Voted, to accept the list of jurors reported by the Selectmen as amended by the preceding vote, which list is as follows, with the occupation of each: Wilford G. Blodgett, clerk; Augustus Bunce, farmer; W. H. H. Burbeck, laborer; Quincy W. Day, farmer; Jeremiah Desmond, farmer; Frank C. Drew, farmer; Elbert H. Flagg, farmer; George M. Fletcher, farmer; George W. Goode, author; Horace E. Gould, farmer; Henry A. Gurney, farmer; Frank C. Hildreth, farmer; Frank H. Hildreth, farmer; Edward H. Holt, laborer; Samuel M. Hutchins, farmer; French M. Morse, machinist; Harry L. Nesmith, farmer; Elmer E. Nutting, machinist; Wilbert E. Parsons, teamster; George H. Prescott, machinist; Richard D. Prescott, farmer; Nathan Prescott, painter; Charles N. Richardson, farmer; Ossian V. Robey, carpenter; Frank B. Tulis, painter; Leonard W. Wheeler, farmer; Hiram Whitney, retired; Hammett D. Wright, granite dealer; Walter C. Wright, clerk.

13th. Voted, to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3000) to repair roads and bridges.

14th. Voted, to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3500) for town debts and charges.

15th. Voted, to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty-six hundred dollars (\$5600) for public schools.

16th. Voted, to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100) to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the town, at Westford Academy.

17th. Voted, to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2500) for support of poor.

18th. Voted, to raise and appropriate the sum of seven hundred dollars (\$700) for school text books and supplies.

19th. In regard to Article 18, which was: "To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the Treasury, and act in relation to the same," the Town voted to give such authority to the Town Treasurer.

20th. Voted, that the taxes of those who pay only a poll tax be payable at sight, and all other taxes shall be payable on the first day of January next, and if any taxes remain unpaid after that date, the Collector shall charge interest on such taxes overdue, at the rate of seven per centum per annum, and collect the same according to law.

There shall be allowed a discount on all taxes assessed of five (5) per cent. if paid on or before Oct. 1st, and three (3) per cent. if paid on or before Dec. 1st next, if the whole tax assessed to them is paid at one time. The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Tax Collector within three days after the first days of October and December, and said Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all money he may have received, on or before the fifth days of October and December.

And furthermore, the Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Collector between the 15th and 20th days of February next, and the Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all money he may have received, within five days after the said twentieth day of February.

And the Assessors are instructed to complete the assessment of taxes on or before July 1st next, and issue their warrant to the Collector of Taxes, with a list of persons assessed, with their places of abode, within five days after the said first day of July.

21st. Chose the following officers by hand vote :

Fence Viewers—Alvin G. Polley, Lewis C. Dane, Almon S. Vose. Mr. Vose sworn by Town Clerk.

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber — Thomas E. Symmes, Horace E. Gould, William W. Johnson, John A. Healy, Alonzo H. Sutherland, George H. Prescott, Jeremiah Desmond, Michael McGlinchy. Messrs. Healy and Desmond sworn by Town Clerk.

Field Drivers—J. Willard Fletcher, Frank B. Tulis, George W. Hill, Ralph Woodbury, Bradley V. Wright.

22d. Voted, to appropriate the sum of seventy-five dollars (\$75) to commemorate Memorial Day.

23d. Voted, to appropriate the sum of fifty dollars (\$50) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library, in Graniteville and Forge Village.

24th. Voted, to appropriate the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library, in the south part of the Town.

25th. Voted, to dismiss the 24th article, which relates to closing the Long-Sought-For School, and authorizing the School Committee to transport the pupils to the Wright School.

26th. Voted, to dismiss the 25th article, which relates to authorizing or directing the School Committee to close the Minot's Corner School, and transport the pupils to the Center Schools.

27th. Voted, to dismiss the 26th article, which relates to appropriating money for transportation of scholars.

28th. Voted, that the matter of the 27th article be referred to the School Committee. Said article is as follows: "By request of Thomas E. Symmes, to see if the Town will vote to substitute an out-door march under military rules in place of the ordinary recess in our public schools, and act in relation to the same."

29th. Voted, to refer the provisions of the 28th article to the Selectmen. Said article is as follows: "By request of the same, to see if the Town will vote to provide a suitable number of single privy booths for each school, with a self-registering apparatus accessible to the teacher, and act in relation to the same."

30th. Voted, to dismiss Article 29, which relates to appropriating money for a trial of the provisions of the 28th article.

31st. Voted, to authorize the Selectmen to enforce the law in regard to fishing on Sunday.

32d. Voted, to authorize the Selectmen to buy a piece of land near Graniteville, to be used as a public dump.

33d. Voted, to adopt the 32d article, which is: "To see if the Town will vote to elect a committee, consisting of one person from each School District, so called, to act with the Selectmen to investigate and report at the next annual meeting for the election of Town Officers, in regard to discontinuing any road or roads in Town as public ways, and act in relation to the same."

34th. Voted, that the Selectmen be authorized to appoint a committee of one from each School District, and as many more as they see fit, to carry out the provisions of the preceding vote.

35th. Voted, that the Selectmen be authorized to carry out the decree of the County Commissioners in regard to the relocation of streets in the Center of the Town, and that the sum of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500) be appropriated for that purpose.

36th. Voted, to accept the minutes of the meeting.

37th. Voted, to dissolve the meeting.

J. HENRY READ, *Moderator.*

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

STATE ELECTION, NOV. 2, 1897.

Abstract of record of vote of Town of Westford.

Whole number of ballots cast..... 134

Governor.

John Bascom of Williamstown (Prohibition)..... 2
William Everett of Quincy (Democratic National)..... 13
George Fred Williams of Dedham (Democratic)..... 22
Roger Wolcott of Boston (Republican)..... 94
Blanks..... 3

Lieut. Governor.

Christopher T. Callahan of Holyoke (D.)..... 24
James E. Cotter of Hyde Park (D. N.)..... 9
W. Murray Crane of Dalton (R.)..... 91
Willard O. Wylie of Beverly (P.)..... 2
Blanks..... 8

Secretary.

Charles D. Nash of Whitman (D.)..... 25
William M. Olin of Boston (R.)..... 88
Edwin Sawtell of Brockton (P.)..... 3
Bernard M. Wolf of Boston (D. N.)..... 7
Blanks..... 11

Treasurer.

Robert C. Habberly of Hyde Park (P.)..... 4
Edward P. Shaw of Newburyport (R.)..... 87
Horace P. Tobey of Wareham (D. N.)..... 7
Thomas A. Watson of Braintree (D.)..... 25
Blanks..... 11

Auditor.

| | |
|---|----|
| Harry Douglass of Great Barrington (D. N.)..... | 10 |
| John W. Kimball of Fitchburg (R.)..... | 89 |
| Joseph Henry Sheldon of Haverhill (D.)..... | 22 |
| Herbert M. Small of Templeton (P.)..... | 3 |
| Blanks..... | 10 |

Attorney General.

| | |
|--|----|
| Wolcott Hamlin of Amherst (P.)..... | 3 |
| Hosea M. Knowlton of New Bedford (R.)..... | 89 |
| William W. McClench of Chicopee (D. N.)..... | 11 |
| John A. O'Keefe of Lynn (D.)..... | 22 |
| Blanks..... | 9 |

Councillor.

| | |
|--|----|
| Elisha H. Shaw of Chelmsford (R.)..... | 90 |
| Alec Fisher of Westford..... | 1 |
| Blanks..... | 43 |

Senator.

| | |
|--|----|
| William H. Brigham of Hudson (R.)..... | 79 |
| Alvan Fisher of Westford (D.)..... | 46 |
| Blanks..... | 9 |

Representative in General Court.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Frank H. Whitecomb of Acton (R.)..... | 91 |
| Albert P. Richardson of Westford..... | 1 |
| Blanks..... | 42 |

County Commissioner.

| | |
|---|----|
| Samuel O. Upham of Waltham (D. & R.)..... | 91 |
| J. Henry Read of Westford..... | 2 |
| George W. Roper..... | 1 |
| Blanks..... | 40 |

Register of Deeds.

| | |
|--|----|
| Joseph P. Thompson of Lowell (R.)..... | 98 |
| Hiram Whitney of Westford..... | 1 |
| Blanks..... | 35 |

County Treasurer.

| | |
|---|----|
| Joseph O. Hayden of Somerville (D. & R.)..... | 96 |
| Blanks..... | 38 |

Return of votes for Representative in General Court for Middlesex district No. 23 :

| | Acton. | Ayer. | Little- ton. | Shir- ley. | West- ford. | Total. |
|---------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| Frank H. Whitcomb of Acton.. | 195 | 147 | 85 | 90 | 91 | 608 |
| Aaron W. Foster of Acton..... | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| W. F. Stevens of Acton..... | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Horace F. Tuttle of Acton..... | 1 | | | | | 1 |
| Albert P. Richardson, Westford. | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Nelson B. Conant of Littleton.. | | | 1 | | | 1 |
| Oliver K. Pierce of Ayer..... | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Blanks..... | 48 | 95 | 10 | 17 | 42 | 212 |
| | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Whole number of ballots... | 246 | 243 | 96 | 107 | 134 | 826 |

Whitcomb's plurality 607.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

WESTFORD, MASS., March 7, 1898.

The Treasurer of Westford submits the following report :

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| To cash on hand..... | \$ 2,941 92 |
| To cash borrowed..... | 15,000 00 |
| From state corporation tax, balance of 1896..... | 1 64 |
| State corporation tax, 1897..... | 2,468 61 |
| Bank tax, 1897..... | 676 97 |
| Soldiers families, 1896..... | 982 00 |
| Indigent soldiers, 1896..... | 135 00 |
| Income Mass. school fund..... | 281 28 |
| Armory rent..... | 175 00 |
| County Treasurer, dog licenses..... | 295 49 |
| A. Bicknell, janitor Town Hall..... | 87 00 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector of taxes, 1893..... | 2 08 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector of taxes, 1894..... | 143 88 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector of taxes, 1895..... | 429 41 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector of taxes, 1896..... | 1,945 60 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector, before Oct. 1, 1897 | 13,662 46 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector, before Dec. 1, 1897 | 876 05 |
| Walter C. Wright, collector, after Dec. 1, 1897. | 614 91 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1893..... | 39 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1894..... | 13 56 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1895..... | 46 68 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1896..... | 88 10 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1897.... | 52 |
| Income library funds..... | 68 60 |
| Carrie E. Read, catalogues sold..... | 1 25 |
| Florence H. Read, school supplies sold..... | 14 49 |
| State, on account of Superintendent of Schools.. | 500 00 |
| State, on account of paupers..... | 5 25 |
| City of Lowell, on account of paupers..... | 87 60 |
| City of Lowell, Health Department..... | 5 00 |
| Alec Fisher, butcher's license..... | 1 00 |
| John J. Sheehan, butcher's license..... | 1 00 |
| Alvan Fisher, auctioneer's license..... | 2 00 |
| Henry J. Haley, license No. 355..... | 8 00 |
| Henry J. Haley, pool room license..... | 2 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <i>841,564 74</i> |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$41,564 74 |
| From Town of Groton, tuition of scholars..... | 35 00 |
| J. A. Haley, sulphur candle..... | 25 |
| Morris Miller, license No. 378..... | 8 00 |
| A. Cameron, drain pipe..... | 4 20 |
| Dr. W. J. Sleeper, freight on slate..... | 39 |
| W. O. Hawkes, chair..... | 1 75 |
| N. H. Wright, chair..... | 1 75 |
| Geo. W. Heywood, chair..... | 1 13 |
| Frank C. Wright, broken glass..... | 1 00 |
| Mary O'Brien, book lost..... | 30 |
| J. M. Fletcher, teaming drain pipe..... | 50 |
| J. A. Haley, dynamite and caps..... | 1 90 |
| J. T. Colburn, dynamite..... | 80 |
| G. E. Humiston, dynamite..... | 1 20 |
| Westford Academy, teaching..... | 21 00 |
| O. V. Robey, broken glass..... | 65 |
| Clerk First District Court..... | 4 95 |
| Commissioners of Public Cemeteries..... | 272 68 |
| Thomas V. Quinn, board of wife..... | 175 50 |
| State Treasurer, on account inspector of animals | 90 00 |
| J. H. Read, board of John Green..... | 108 00 |
| Mrs. L. Sweetser, taxes not given in 1897..... | 2 83 |
| Proceeds of sale of estate of Rufus Keyes..... | 80 07 |
| W. F. Balch, drain pipe..... | 16 74 |
| Mrs. L. L. Tappan, gift to library..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. M. T. Wright, gift to library..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Cheney, gift to library..... | 1 00 |
| Carrie E. Read, damaged library books..... | 3 05 |
| Wm. E. Frost, income cemetery funds..... | 18 36 |
| Town of Pepperell, on account of paupers..... | 9 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$42,428 74 |

PAYMENTS.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| By cash, notes and interest..... | \$14,643 34 |
| State tax..... | 962 50 |
| County tax..... | 1,302 51 |
| Overseers of Poor..... | 2,621 38 |
| Orders for incidental expenses..... | 12,537 85 |
| On account of schools..... | 6,108 37 |
| On account of tuition, Academy..... | 1,186 00 |
| On account of library..... | 603 27 |
| Cash on hand..... | 2,463 52 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$42,428 74 |

NAHUM H. WRIGHT, *Treasurer.*

ASSESSORS' REPORT.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Value of buildings, exclusive of land, May 1, 1897 | \$618,334 00 |
| Value of land, exclusive of buildings, May 1, 1897 | 421,856 00 |
| Value of personal estate, May 1, 1897 | 219,364 00 |
| | \$1,259,554 00 |

AMOUNT RAISED.

| | | |
|--|-------------|--------|
| For Purchase of books for library..... | \$ 200 00 | |
| Improvement of cemeteries..... | 250 00 | |
| Repair of roads and bridges..... | 3,000 00 | |
| Town debts and charges..... | 3,500 00 | |
| Schools | 5,600 00 | |
| Tuition at academy..... | 100 00 | |
| Support of poor..... | 2,500 00 | |
| School supplies..... | 700 00 | |
| | \$15,850 00 | |
| State tax..... | 962 50 | |
| County tax..... | 1,302 51 | |
| Overlayings..... | 252 80 | |
| Additional taxes..... | 44 55 | |
| | \$18,412 36 | |
| Number of Polls | 682 | |
| Houses | 473 | |
| Horses..... | 455 | |
| Cows..... | 690 | |
| Neat cattle other than cows | 119 | |
| Swine | 46 | |
| Sheep | 45 | |
| Acres of land..... | 18,000 | |
| Tax on one hundred dollars..... | | \$1.35 |

TOWN PROPERTY.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Town Hall..... | \$13,500 00 |
| Public Library..... | 26,000 00 |
| Town Farm..... | 6,000 00 |
| Public Parks..... | 1,500 00 |
| Cemeteries..... | 1,500 00 |
| Center Schoolhouse..... | 3,500 00 |
| Stony Brook Schoolhouse..... | 1,200 00 |
| Forge Village Schoolhouse..... | 3,800 00 |
| Nashoba Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 |
| Parkerville Schoolhouse..... | 1,800 00 |
| Minot's Corner Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 |
| Nabnassett Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 |
| Long-Sought-For Schoolhouse..... | 1,600 00 |
| Wright Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 |
| Graniteville Schoolhouse..... | 4,500 00 |
| Fire Apparatus..... | 350 00 |
| Trust Fund..... | 2,000 00 |
| | <hr/> \$73,250 00 |

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE H. HARTFORD,
W. H. H. BURBECK,
SAMUEL L. TAYLOR,

Assessors of Westford.

ABATEMENT OF TAXES, AS ORDERED BY ASSESSORS.

1893.

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| Bickford, H. M..... | \$3 54 | |
| Wilson, Joseph H..... | 2 89 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6 43 |

1894.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Grant, George F..... | \$2 00 | |
| Gardner, Robert..... | 2 00 | |
| Ingalls, George W..... | 2 53 | |
| McCarty, Charles J..... | 2 75 | |
| Sweetsner, Warren P., error..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$11 28 |

1895.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Banet, Elphand | \$2 00 |
| Harris, Charles W | 2 00 |
| McCarty, Charles J..... | 2 99 |
| McLaughlin, Charles | 2 00 |
| Marden, Edwin S..... | 2 00 |
| Neursey, George | 2 00 |
| Prescott, Sherman L..... | 3 04 |
| Payer, Alphonso | 2 00 |

 \$18 03

1896.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Allard, Joseph..... | \$2 00 |
| Ackerman, Guy H..... | 2 00 |
| Burnor, Adino | 2 00 |
| Baxter, Isaac | 2 00 |
| Brown, Cyrus, error | 2 00 |
| Buren, Frank | 2 00 |
| Butterworth, K. E., error..... | 8 10 |
| Butler, Thomas | 2 00 |
| Butterfield, Mrs. R. J., error | 8 10 |
| Burns, William..... | 2 00 |
| Buzzell, Joseph | 2 00 |
| Cheever, Jacob H., error | 2 00 |
| Carlberg, Severn | 2 00 |
| Cummings, Wesley O | 2 00 |
| Chabot, Joseph..... | 2 00 |
| Dugdale, Richard..... | 2 00 |
| Driscoll, Timothy, Jr..... | 2 00 |
| Demess, Adoni..... | 2 00 |
| Deatte, Augustus..... | 2 00 |
| Eaton, Fred A | 2 00 |
| Elliwell, Charles..... | 2 00 |
| Fritz, Frank | 2 00 |
| Fisher, Eli | 2 00 |
| Glotmar, Max..... | 2 00 |
| Hughes, Edward F | 2 00 |
| Head, Charles A | 2 00 |
| Josslyn Estate, error | 2 59 |
| Johnson, Joseph..... | 2 00 |
| Jacobs, Everett, error | 2 00 |
| Lomberg, A., error | 2 00 |
| Leberg, Fred | 2 00 |
| McCarty, Patrick..... | 2 00 |
| McLaughlin, Arthur | 2 00 |

 Amount carried forward.....

\$78 79

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$78 79 |
| Milot, Dellon | 2 00 | |
| McCormick, Charles F | 2 00 | |
| McLane, James | 2 00 | |
| McLaughlin, Charles..... | 2 00 | |
| Neursey, George | 2 00 | |
| Noble, Frank | 2 00 | |
| Osser, Moses | 2 00 | |
| Phelps, Arthur | 2 00 | |
| Spencer, Arthur | 2 00 | |
| Symmes, Ambrose | 2 00 | |
| Sumner, William H..... | 2 00 | |
| Sumner, Benjamin | 2 00 | |
| Toper, Samuel | 2 00 | |
| Tupper, William F., error..... | 2 81 | |
| Tucker, Harvey | 2 00 | |
| Toney, Joseph E | 2 00 | |
| Welch, Richard | 2 40 | |
| | <hr/> | \$114 00 |

1897.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------|--------|
| Cole, Berton, error | \$ 68 | |
| Murray, John J., error | 2 00 | |
| Otto, Alfred, error..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4 68 |

SUMMARY.

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|----------|
| Abatement taxes 1893..... | \$ 6 43 | |
| “ “ 1894..... | 11 28 | |
| “ “ 1895..... | 18 03 | |
| “ “ 1896..... | 114 00 | |
| “ “ 1897..... | 4 68 | |
| | <hr/> | \$154 42 |

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

COMPENSATION OF TOWN OFFICERS.

TOWN TREASURER.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Nahum H. Wright, salary, ending March 1, 1897 | \$100 00 | |
| Time and expense to Lowell on town business | 12 00 | |
| | ————— | \$112 00 |

TOWN CLERK.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Gilman J. Wright, salary..... | \$12 00 | |
| Recording and making returns to Secretary of the Commonwealth of births, marriages and deaths for the year 1896, as follows: | | |
| 51 births at 50 cents each..... | 25 50 | |
| 23 marriages at 15 cents each..... | 3 45 | |
| 20 deaths at 20 cents each..... | 4 00 | |
| 42 deaths at 10 cents each..... | 4 20 | |
| Extra services before April meeting, 1897 | 3 00 | |
| Extra services before November meeting, 1897 | 1 00 | |
| Attending Town Clerks' meeting at Ayer | 2 50 | |
| Making report to town..... | 3 00 | |
| Sending certificate of births as required by Chap. 444, Acts of 1897.... | 25 | |
| Cash paid for Express..... | 4 55 | |
| Stationery..... | 47 | |
| Postage..... | 1 90 | |
| Use of telephone..... | 30 | |
| Mucilage, tacks, dog license blanks, etc. | 2 88 | |
| Record ink..... | 1 50 | |
| | ————— | \$70 50 |

SELECTMEN.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Sherman H. Fletcher, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Making out State Aid book..... | 6 00 | |
| Making out 24 State Aid and Indigent Soldiers' returns, under Chap. 279 and Acts 301, of 1894..... | 6 00 | |
| Making out Town report..... | 10 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways..... | 25 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman | 35 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$87 00 |
| George W. Heywood, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways..... | 25 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$55 00 |
| Wesley O. Hawkes, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways..... | 20 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman | 20 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$45 00 |

AUDITOR.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Arthur B. Plimpton, services..... | \$30 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$30 00 |

ASSESSORS.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| George H. Hartford, 30 days taking invoice and making taxes | \$75 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, 32 days taking invoice and making taxes | 80 00 | |
| Samuel L. Taylor, 19 days taking invoice and making taxes..... | 47 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$202 50 |

TAX COLLECTOR.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Walter C. Wright, collecting \$143 88 taxes of 1894 at 1 per cent | \$ 1 44 | |
| Collecting \$404.78 taxes of 1895 at 1 per cent..... | 4 05 | |
| Collecting \$1,939.10 taxes of 1896 at 1 per cent..... | 19 40 | |
| Collecting \$14,144.52 taxes of 1897 at 1 per cent..... | 141 45 | |
| Express | 25 | |
| Cash book..... | 1 75 | |
| Blank books..... | 80 | |
| Postage stamps | 13 08 | |
| | <hr/> | \$182 22 |

CONSTABLES.

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| Eugene DeRoehn, posting warrants for April meeting | \$6 00 | |
| services, notifying Town officers elected | 4 00 | |
| notifying Delinquent Dog Owners... .. | 10 00 | |
| posting warrants for November meeting. | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$25 00 |

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Nelson L. Tuttle, attending 7 meetings.... | \$14 00 | |
| Quincy W. Day, " " " | 14 00 | |
| Gilman J. Wright, " " " | 14 00 | |
| Gilman J. Wright, services as Clerk of Board | 7 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$49 00 |

BALLOT CLERKS AND TELLERS.

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| William E. Frost, Ballot Clerk, April..... | \$2 50 | |
| Samuel L. Felch, Teller, March, 1896, April, 1897 | 1 00 | |
| Arthur E. Wilson, Teller, ballot box, April | 2 50 | |
| Arthur E. Wilson, Teller, ballot box, November..... | 2 00 | |
| L. W. Wheeler, Teller, November..... | 50 | |
| E. G. Boynton, " " | 50 | |
| L. C. Dane, Teller, check list, April and November | 4 50 | |
| G. H. Hartford, Teller, March, 1896 | 50 | |
| G. H. Hartford, Ballot Clerk, November, 1897..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$16 00 |

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Edmund P. Barker, Superintendent..... | \$640 00 | |
| Edmund P. Barker, postage and stationery..... | 8 21 | |
| Florence H. Read, supply agent..... | 90 81 | |
| Gilman J. Wright, administering oath | 25 | |
| | <hr/> | \$739 27 |

The amount, \$640, paid for Superintendent, \$500 was refunded by the State. Net cost to the town, \$140

UNDERTAKER.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Albert P. Richardson, attending 32 funerals, with hearse..... | \$64 00 | |
| Making out 60 returns, and receiving permits for the same..... | 15 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$79 00 |

TRUANT OFFICERS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Eugene DeRoehn, services..... | \$4 00 | |
| Al Bicknell, services..... | 1 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 00 |

APPRAISERS OF PROPERTY AT TOWN FARM.

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Samuel L. Taylor, services..... | \$2 00 | |
| George H. Hartford, services and making out report..... | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 00 |

INSPECTORS OF CATTLE AND PROVISIONS.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Albert P. Richardson, inspecting animals at time of slaughter | \$ 65 00 | |
| George T. Day, inspector of cattle..... | 115 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$180 00 |

\$90 was refunded by the State.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Gilman J. Wright, administering 43 oaths for 3 years on account of condemned cattle..... | \$10 75 | \$10 75 |
|--|---------|---------|

REPAIRS OF SCHOOLHOUSES AND ARTICLES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

CENTRE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Wright & Fletcher, pails, brooms, brushes, step ladder, etc..... | \$ 8 78 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co., slate blackboard, and freight..... | 26 62 | |
| R. C. Whidden, teaming gravel..... | 3 50 | |
| F. B. Tulis, setting glass, and stock..... | 1 75 | |
| J. L. Moss, repair of pump..... | 1 50 | |
| Harry Raynes, clock..... | 6 00 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | \$48 15 |

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$48 15 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor | 5 38 | |
| Ai Bicknell, labor..... | 4 00 | |
| E. Lovell, cleaning well | 3 00 | |
| Gilmer Stone, setting glass..... | 75 | |
| W. A. Mack & Co., grate for furnace..... | 3 88 | |
| Wright & Bemis, glass..... | 75 | |
| C. E. Whidden, express | 15 | |
| James Stanley, repair of clock | 1 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$67 06 |

STONY BROOK SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---|--------|------|
| J. L. Hammett Co., slate blackboard, and freight | \$8 34 | |
| H. B. Hall, broom, etc..... | 40 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, broom | 30 | |
| | <hr/> | 9 04 |

FORGE VILLAGE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---|--------|-------|
| Wright & Bemis, pail, brooms, etc..... | \$1 15 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, feather duster, etc..... | 2 75 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor..... | 2 85 | |
| Chamberlain & Co., window shades | 6 90 | |
| | <hr/> | 13 65 |

NASHOBA SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|--------|------|
| Alfred Woodbury, repairs..... | \$4 45 | |
| James Stanley, repair of clock | 1 35 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, pail, brooms, etc | 1 00 | |
| | <hr/> | 6 80 |

PARKERVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---|--------|-------|
| J. L. Hammett Co., slate blackboard, and freight | \$8 10 | |
| Alfred Woodbury, repairs..... | 2 65 | |
| | <hr/> | 10 75 |

MINOT'S CORNER SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|------|
| R. D. Prescott, labor | \$3 75 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, mat, etc..... | 2 10 | |
| | <hr/> | 5 85 |

NABNASSETT SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---|--------|------|
| W. L. Haskins, slate blackboard, and freight | \$3 09 | |
| H. E. Fletcher, repairs on well..... | 4 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, brooms | 65 | |
| | <hr/> | 7 74 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <hr/> | \$120 89 |
|-------------------------------------|-------|----------|

Amount brought forward..... \$120 89

LONG-SOUGHT-FOR SCHOOLHOUSE.

Wright & Fletcher, broom..... 35 35

WRIGHT SCHOOLHOUSE.

Feather duster, pail, broom, etc..... \$1 90 1 90

GRANITEVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE—FOUR SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Wright & Bemis, glass, hardware, brooms, etc..... | \$13 19 | |
| Eugene DeRoehn, labor..... | 2 00 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor and stock..... | 7 80 | |
| Abbot & Co., repairing pump..... | 2 35 | |
| C. G. Sargent's Sons, wire cloth..... | 3 28 | |
| Chamberlain & Co., window shades..... | 8 10 | |
| Harry Raynes, clock..... | 6 00 | |
| Wall Brothers, labor and stock..... | 6 00 | |
| J. A. Healy, cleaning vault..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | 50 72 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$173 86 |

TEXT-BOOKS AND SUPPLIES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Houghton, Mifflin & Co..... | \$ 14 22 |
| Educational Publishing Co..... | 15 09 |
| Williams & Rogers..... | 14 87 |
| J. L. Hammett Co..... | 207 32 |
| Morse Co..... | 4 20 |
| Silver, Burdett & Co..... | 43 90 |
| American Book Co..... | 63 26 |
| Allyn & Bacon..... | 18 27 |
| Ginn & Co..... | 108 25 |
| D. C. Heath & Co..... | 55 68 |
| Leach, Shewell & Sanborn..... | 50 28 |
| Damrell & Upham..... | 7 50 |
| Wm. Ware & Co..... | 16 61 |
| E. B. Meyrowitz..... | 2 50 |
| Mrs. Gates Lockhart..... | 1 00 |
| Werner School Book Co..... | 15 12 |
| DeWolfe, Fiske & Co..... | 17 00 |
| Scott, Foresman & Co..... | 10 92 |
| Lee & Shepard..... | 73 |
| Thompson, Brown & Co..... | 30 71 |
| | <hr/> |

Amount carried forward..... \$697 43

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$697 43 | |
| University Publishing Co..... | | 34 | |
| A. D. Maclachlan | | 2 25 | |
| Am. Humane Education Society | | 1 20 | |
| Bobrick School Furniture Co..... | | 5 00 | |
| W. M. Sargent | | 34 34 | |
| G. B. Frazer | | 2 80 | |
| | | <hr/> | \$743 36 |
| Appropriation | \$700 00 | | |
| Cash received for books sold ... | 14 49 | | |
| Overdrawn | 28 87 | | |

J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | | | |
|--|--|----------|----------|
| Carrie E. Read, Librarian, February 1, 1897, to February 1, 1898..... | | \$180 00 | |
| Carrie E. Read, extra work..... | | 16 11 | |
| Carrie E. Read, cash for express and team- ing | | 4 85 | |
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor, February 1, 1897, to February 1, 1898..... | | 99 96 | |
| W. C. Edwards, labor on water pipe..... | | 4 85 | |
| J. A. Healy, 5 tons egg coal..... | | 30 00 | |
| Abbot & Co., 37,665 lbs. coal..... | | 104 25 | |
| H. R. Barker Mfg. Co., chimneys, etc..... | | 13 80 | |
| J. L. Douglass, repairing slate roof..... | | 4 00 | |
| Brownell & Mason, cleaning furnaces..... | | 6 12 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, fertilizers, grass seed, mats, etc..... | | 16 40 | |
| S. B. Wright, 1 cord wood, 1895..... | | 3 50 | |
| James Stanley, repair of clock | | 1 00 | |
| Marshall & Crosby, bulletin boards..... | | 3 50 | |
| G. T. Day, lumber..... | | 2 50 | |
| C. E. Osgood, labor | | 2 75 | |
| | | <hr/> | \$493 59 |

Expense of delivering books to Graniteville, Forge Village, and Parkerville:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
| J. C. Hall, services..... | \$ 4 00 | |
| Ai Bicknell, services..... | 40 00 | |
| Alfred Woodbury, services..... | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$69 00 |

Appropriation for Graniteville and Forge
Village. \$50; unexpended balance,
\$6.00; Parkerville, \$25.

EXPENSE OF FIRST DISTRICT COURT AT AYER —
OFFICERS' FEES.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
| John A. Healy, Castell case .. | \$ 9 12 | |
| Moran “ .. | 5 90 | |
| Caron “ .. | 10 24 | |
| Martin “ .. | 5 57 | |
| Acranson “ .. | 5 57 | |
| Hoyt “ .. | 7 83 | |
| | <hr/> | \$44 23 |

Amount received for fines, \$4.95. See
Treasurer's report.

EXPENSE OF TOWN COUNSEL.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Burke, Marshall & Corbett, legal services, 1896 | \$100 00 | |
| Burke, Marshall & Corbett, services pro- curing guardian for Rufus Keyes.. | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$125 00 |

TOWN COMMON.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Ai Bicknell, tarring trees and cleaning com- mon | \$ 7 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, tree ink | 1 85 | |
| J. T. Colburn, mowing common twice | 2 50 | |
| H. W. Tarbell, removing dead trees | 12 87 | |
| | <hr/> | \$24 22 |

PRINTING.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| F. A. Frost & Co., cards, circulars, etc.. | \$ 6 75 | |
| “ “ “ postal cards | 1 75 | |
| “ “ “ road notices | 1 25 | |
| “ “ “ letter heads, School Committee | 1 15 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., 500 pamphlets, School Committee | 23 80 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., programmes, School Committee | 4 00 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., school rules, School Committee | 4 00 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., rules for Overseers of Poor | 7 50 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., 650 Town Reports and 50 School Reports | 134 10 | |
| | <hr/> | \$184 30 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | |

| | | | |
|---|--|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$184 30 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., bill heads and war- rants | | 10 00 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., Library | | 3 00 | |
| “ “ “ 500 stamped envelopes and printing..... | | 12 50 | |
| Morning Mail Co., ballots and notices..... | | 26 00 | |
| “ “ “ book for Poll Taxes.... | | 7 90 | |
| “ “ “ Poll Tax list..... | | 10 15 | |
| M. C. Wight, Tax Bills and envelopes.... | | 7 50 | |
| G. W. Southworth, Assessors' book | | 3 77 | |
| | | <hr/> | \$265 12 |

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Paid by orders to Poor Department..... | \$2,621 38 | \$2,621 38 |
| Appropriation, \$2,500; overdrawn, \$121.38. | | |

INSURANCE.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| H. C. Church & Son, insurance on Town House, \$2,700 for 3 years..... | \$31 10 | \$31 10 |
|--|---------|---------|

We submit the following report on guide posts and guide boards. Iron guide boards near Read farm and Samuel L. Taylor's have been painted. The remaining guide posts are in good condition, but a number of the guide boards ought to be repainted during the coming year.

The following amount has been expended:

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| F. B. Tulis, painting guide boards..... | \$6 60 | \$6 60 |
|---|--------|--------|

TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Ai Bicknell, services as janitor from Feb. 1, 1897, to Feb. 1, 1898..... | \$96 00 | |
| Brownell & Mason, cleaning furnaces..... | 6 11 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, oil, wicks, chimneys, etc. | 24 52 | |
| One ladder | 1 50 | |
| Walbridge & Briggs, chairs..... | 30 88 | |
| John A. Healy, 3,220 lbs. coal..... | 8 86 | |
| John M. Fletcher, oil, etc | 7 38 | |
| R. Hollings & Co., repair of lamp .. | 75 | |
| W. W. Johnson, teaming saw dust..... | 50 | |
| Gilmer Stone, setting glass | 75 | |
| S. B. Wright, 1 cord wood..... | 4 00 | |
| One looking glass..... | 2 00 | |
| James Stanley, repair of clocks..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$185 25 |

INCOME OF TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Rent of armory from State..... | \$175 00 | |
| Rent of building..... | 87 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$262 00 |

BOARD OF HEALTH.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Paid by orders. See Board of Health report..... | \$100 60 | \$100 60 |
|--|----------|----------|

PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Paid by orders. See Commissioners' report. | \$684 94 | \$684 94 |
|--|----------|----------|

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

As Authorized by Chapter 447, Acts of 1890.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| James A. Graham, from Feb. 1, 1897, to Feb. 1, 1898..... | \$120 00 | |
| G. A. Hood, from Feb. 1, 1897, to Feb. 1, 1898..... | 48 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense investi- gating case of James A. Graham.... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$173 00 |

BURIAL OF DECEASED INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND THEIR WIDOWS.

*As Authorized under Chapter 164, Acts of 1897, to be Refunded
by the State.*

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| J. F. O'Donnell, undertaker, burial of James W. Whittier..... | \$35 00 | |
| Albert P. Richardson, undertaker, burial of Jane A. L. Patch, widow of James T. Patch, sailor, U. S. S. New Ironsides. | 35 00 | |
| Albert P. Richardson, undertaker, burial of Richard Welch, Co. A, 14th Conn. Infantry..... | 35 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$105 00 |

MEMORIAL DAY.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Paid by order Veteran Association | \$75 00 | \$75 00 |
| Appropriation, \$75. | | |

MILITARY AID TO INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

As Authorized by Chapter 279, Acts of 1894.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| From Jan. 1, 1897, to Jan. 1, 1898..... | \$250 00 | \$250 00 |
|---|----------|----------|

STATE AID TO SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FAMILIES.

As Authorized by Chapter 301, Acts of 1894.

From Jan. 1, 1897, to Jan. 1, 1898 \$940 00 \$940 00

FOREST FIRES.

During the past year the damage from forest fires has been comparatively small. The wet weather in the spring, and the vote passed at the last annual Town Meeting instructing the Selectmen to enforce the law against Sunday fishing, did much to lessen these fires.

The following fires have occurred during the year and estimated damage :

| | | No. of acres estimated. | Damage. |
|----------|--|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Oct. 2. | Forest fire on land of Wm. Burnett and others, near Forge Village; owners of land: | | |
| | Wm. Burnett | 4 | \$5 00 |
| | J. T. Colburn. | $\frac{1}{4}$ | 1 00 |
| | Fence belonging to Henry A. Gurney | | 1 00 |
| Oct. 24. | Forest fire near Graniteville; owner of land: | | |
| | Nashua, Acton & Boston R. R. | 4 | 5 00 |
| | | <u>8$\frac{1}{4}$</u> | <u>\$12 00</u> |

EXPENSES.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| W. H. Decatur, 1896 | \$ 1 00 |
| J. T. Colburn | 2 00 |
| Edward Prescott, services Forest Fire Ward | 10 00 |
| George W. Heywood, " " " " | 5 00 |
| | <u> </u> |
| | \$18 00 |

GENERAL EXPENSES.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| John M. Fletcher, postage for town report. | \$ 24 00 |
| John M. Fletcher, postage and administering oath to town officers | 7 17 |
| John K. Felch, damage to wagon on highway | 1 37 |
| American Express Co., for express on town reports | 2 85 |
| William M. Vose, tax refunded 1895 | 1 19 |
| William M. Vose, tax refunded 1896 | 1 45 |
| G. H. Sampson, 100 lbs. forcite powder | 30 00 |
| | <u> </u> |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$68 03 |

| | |
|---|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$68 03 |
| T. E. Symmes, surveying and establishing bounds on road from Town Farm to Forge Village..... | 3 50 |
| Good Roads Machine Co., one Champion road machine..... | 200 00 |
| Boston & Maine R. R., freight on road machine..... | 2 03 |
| B. H. Brow, one plough..... | 3 00 |
| Waldo Brothers, drain pipe..... | 178 67 |
| Edward Murphy, damage to person, horse and carriage on highway..... | 85 00 |
| George Tyler & Co., castings, sections, scraper blades, for road machine.. | 33 75 |
| New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, use of telephone for town officers..... | 15 50 |
| Shovels, rakes, post hole digger, post spoon, steel tape, etc., for roads..... | 16 95 |
| One branding iron..... | 1 50 |
| Food for election officers, April..... | 2 38 |
| Two straw collars..... | 1 60 |
| One wrench..... | 75 |
| C. Rogers, damage to person on highway.. | 65 00 |
| Wright & Fletcher, express, blank books, stamped envelopes, postage, etc., as per bill..... | 35 93 |
| Boston & Maine R. R., freight..... | 2 63 |
| Frank Haley, shoeing horses, repairing carts, repairing road scraper, sharpening tools, irons, etc., as per bill..... | 66 85 |
| Frank L. Fletcher, postage..... | 1 00 |
| Nelson L. Tuttle, repair of road scraper... | 6 25 |
| R. Bell, damage to person on highway.... | 25 00 |
| Abbot & Co., repair of lawn mower..... | 3 25 |
| Burnham & Davis, lumber for railings.... | 17 14 |
| P. S. Ward, damage to cover to wagon on highway..... | 6 80 |
| Fred L. Fletcher, repair of cavalry target. | 5 00 |
| W. W. Johnson, use of team..... | 4 25 |
| G. E. Humiston, damage to wagon and harness on highway..... | 2 65 |
| Food for election officers, Nov..... | 2 46 |
| G. W. Heywood, one barrel cement..... | 1 00 |
| W. J. Gould, repairs of carts, 1896..... | 27 00 |
| W. J. Gould, repairs of road scraper, 1896. | 30 25 |
| W. J. Gould, shoeing horses, sharpening tools, irons, etc., 1896..... | 62 79 |

RETURN OF BIRTHS.

As authorized by Chap. 444, Acts of 1897.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., 22 births..... | \$5 50 | |
| W. H. Bennett, M. D., 26 births..... | 6 50 | |
| F. E. Varney, M. D., 6 births..... | 1 50 | |
| G. A. Harlow, M. D., 4 births..... | 1 00 | |
| | — — — — — | \$14 50 |

CLAIM AGAINST THE STATE FOR THE BOARD AND EQUIPMENT OF MEN
IN COMPANY C, 16TH REG., MASS. VOLS., WHILE AT GROTON
JUNCTION FROM APRIL 22 TO JULY 2, 1861.

In looking over our old records we found a bill paid the town of Groton, to the amount of \$491.97, for board, bedding and uniforms furnished 23 men that enlisted under Capt. L. G. King, at Groton Junction, on April 22, 1861. These men enlisted under the first call for troops in 1861, Capt. King receiving permission from Gov. Andrew to raise this company. At the time of enlistment the men supposed they had enlisted for three months, but they were not assigned to any regiment. Capt. King was advised by the Governor to hold these men in readiness. The towns of Groton and Westford paid their board, etc., from April 22 to July 2, 1861, when they were transferred to Camp Cameron, North Cambridge, and mustered into the 16th Reg. as Company C for three years. The bill for board, etc., amounted to \$1,047.19. Westford paid its proportion for 23 men, amounting to \$491.97. On August 17, 1861, at the time Westford paid this amount to the town of Groton, the Selectmen and committee of that town gave the town of Westford the following agreement: "And the said Selectmen of the town of Groton, for and on behalf of said town of Groton, hereby promise and agree that in case any portion or any part of the above sum total shall be repaid or refunded to the said town of Groton, the said town of Groton will pay to said town of Westford the proportional part of the above bill as paid them by said town of Westford."

A petition signed by the Selectmen of Groton and Westford was presented to the Legislature for the payment of this amount and a hearing was held before the Military Committee of the Legislature on Feb. 17, the Selectmen of Westford appearing before that committee with witnesses, advocating the payment by the State of this claim.

The following expense occurred:

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| Cash paid for witnesses, car fare, etc..... | \$7 90 | \$7 90 |
|---|--------|--------|

ROAD DEPARTMENT.

During the past year the work on the roads has been carried on the same as in past years. With the amount of money appropriated, no new work has been undertaken, as the amount raised is needed for general repairs. Besides the general repairs, railings have been renewed, and a number of culverts relaid. As we have stated in previous reports, these old culverts are a source of danger to the travelling public, and an expense to the town. Many of them have become obsolete and obscure, the coverings are becoming loose, and in the spring time horses are liable to break through and injure themselves, as well as the occupants of the carriage. We have paid one damage case this year on this account. It is almost impossible to keep them in repair, except by taking them up and using sewer pipe.

Whether our system of repairing the roads is the best is a question of considerable criticism. If there should be a change in the future, before anything is done it should be looked into carefully, so as not to do anything until it is demonstrated that it is an improvement. Everybody wants good roads, but it must be understood that it takes money to build them, and more money means higher taxes. With the high-cost roads the State is building, it makes people dissatisfied with ordinary country roads. Bicycle riders want smooth, hard roads, but the cost of such roads does not fall upon them, as a rule, as it does upon the farmers and business men of a town. We are lacking in material, and the expense is heavy in procuring it. One thousand dollars (\$1,000) goes but a little ways when used in teaming gravel, and less if you use crushed stone. These things should be carefully considered before any experiments are made to increase our tax rate. As it is now, the Selectmen are held responsible for the care of our roads. It would be much better for them, personally, if the care of the roads were taken entirely out of their hands, and relieve them of this thankless duty. Whether it would be economy for the town is a question of considerable inquiry. If any one can devise any better system, and it will prove so, we ought to adopt it.

The road leading from near the Town Farm to Forge Village we have had surveyed and stone bounds established, and fences moved back to the line, so as to define the limits of the road for building purposes.

We have also been obliged to purchase a new road machine at an expense of two hundred dollars (\$200), as the old machine had been in use for eleven years, and was so worn out that it was useless to repair it.

Under a vote of the town at the last April meeting the Selectmen were instructed to appoint a committee to confer with them, and report to the town at the coming Town Meeting, on the advisability of discontinuing some of the unused roads. A committee was appointed from different parts of the town, consisting of the following persons: George T. Day, J. Henry Read, Gilman J. Wright, Alvin G. Polley, H. A. Gurney, Jeremiah Desmond, Alfred Woodbury, Augustus Bunce, William C. Edwards, Frank H. Hildreth, Hammett D. Wright, and Isaac W. Carkin. Two meetings were held, and their report will be made at the coming Town Meeting, as printed. This report only recommends the discontinuance of certain roads; it will have to come before another meeting, in a more formal way, for any legal action.

The widening and straightening streets in the center of the town, as ordered by the County Commissioners, has not been fully completed, and an extension of time has been granted by the Commissioners to Jan. 1, 1899.

In accordance with Chapter 98, Acts of 1889, Benjamin F. Day was appointed Superintendent of Streets. Under his supervision the following amounts have been expended:

FEBRUARY.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | \$ 8 05 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 30 75 | |
| Team..... | 23 00 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 28 13 | |
| George Drew, labor..... | 22 15 | |
| | ———— | \$112 08 |

MARCH.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | \$30 00 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 37 50 | |
| Team..... | 20 00 | |
| H. H. Mills..... | 9 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 12 55 | |
| | ———— | 109 05 |

APRIL.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Wright & Fletcher, grain | \$13 25 | |
| L. J. Eliason, labor | 2 10 | |
| George H. Whitney, labor | 2 25 | |
| Peter Dolan, labor | 37 14 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent | 45 00 | |
| Team | 60 00 | |
| C. H. Wright, 4,950 lbs. hay | 49 80 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor | 34 50 | |
| H. H. Mills | 35 25 | |
| Charles Atwood | 36 00 | |
| George E. Conrey | 34 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$349 79 |

MAY.

| | | |
|---|---------|--------|
| John A. Healy, labor | \$15 00 | |
| H. V. Hildreth, labor and stone furnished . . | 23 85 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent | 45 00 | |
| Team | 65 00 | |
| Peter Dolan, labor | 37 71 | |
| George E. Conrey, labor | 31 50 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor | 33 00 | |
| George A. Leland, labor | 18 25 | |
| H. H. Mills, labor | 28 50 | |
| Charles Atwood, labor | 32 25 | |
| J. H. Sears, labor | 1 50 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain | 11 15 | |
| F. C. Hildreth, 4,390 lbs. hay | 39 76 | |
| | <hr/> | 382 47 |

JUNE.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Julian Wilkinson, labor | \$33 75 | |
| G. H. Whitney, labor | 4 50 | |
| Charles Atwood, labor | 33 75 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent | 45 00 | |
| Team | 56 25 | |
| Peter Dolan, labor | 37 14 | |
| George E. Conrey, labor | 30 75 | |
| George A. Leland, labor | 33 75 | |
| H. H. Mills, labor | 27 75 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain | 10 25 | |
| | <hr/> | 312 89 |

JULY.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| H. H. Mills, labor | \$32 25 | |
| George E. Conrey, labor | 37 30 | |
| Charles Atwood, labor | 33 75 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | \$103 30 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$103 30 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 17 25 | |
| George A. Leland, labor..... | 12 75 | |
| Peter Dolan, labor..... | 2 31 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 55 75 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 14 75 | |
| R. E. Redding, men and team..... | 21 00 | |
| | | <hr/> \$272 11 |

AUGUST.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| H. H. Mills, labor..... | \$ 1 50 | |
| James F. O'Brien, labor..... | 22 50 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 9 00 | |
| Charles Atwood, labor..... | 36 00 | |
| George E. Conrey, labor..... | 34 16 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 60 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 13 20 | |
| George A. Leland, labor..... | 35 25 | |
| | | <hr/> 256 61 |

SEPTEMBER.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| Alphonzo Collins, labor..... | \$29 60 | |
| Charles Atwood, labor..... | 33 00 | |
| Joseph Riney, labor..... | 36 57 | |
| James F. O'Brien, labor..... | 34 50 | |
| H. W. Tarbell, labor..... | 15 00 | |
| George Burke, labor..... | 2 43 | |
| J. H. Wilson, labor..... | 2 70 | |
| George A. Leland, labor..... | 34 50 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 57 50 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 17 80 | |
| | | <hr/> 308 60 |

OCTOBER.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| C. R. P. Decatur, labor..... | \$53 00 | |
| M. F. Downs, labor..... | 40 65 | |
| Charles Atwood, labor..... | 39 00 | |
| James F. O'Brien, labor..... | 39 00 | |
| Joseph Riney, labor..... | 37 14 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 36 00 | |
| George A. Leland, labor..... | 39 00 | |
| Hiram Leland, labor..... | 8 87 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 65 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 14 70 | |
| | | <hr/> 417 36 |

NOVEMBER.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| James F. O'Brien, labor..... | \$33 00 | |
| Joseph Riney, labor..... | 37 14 | |
| Eben Prescott, labor..... | 2 00 | |
| I. G. Hall, labor..... | 10 75 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 55 00 | |
| 364 loads gravel..... | 18 20 | |
| 1½ tons hay..... | 22 50 | |
| N. J. Decatur, 1,620 lbs. bedding..... | 6 47 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 13 80 | |
| | <hr/> | \$243 86 |

DECEMBER.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | \$36 00 | |
| Team..... | 20 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 12 30 | |
| Joseph Riney, labor..... | 27 71 | |
| H. H. Mills, labor..... | 75 | |
| James F. O'Brien, labor..... | 28 75 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 12 00 | |
| E. G. Boynton, labor..... | 3 50 | |
| | <hr/> | 141 01 |

JANUARY.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|------------|
| F. C. Hildreth, 6,010 lbs. hay..... | \$54 49 | |
| S. P. Lawrence, gravel..... | 3 00 | |
| Augusta Butterfield, gravel..... | 9 80 | |
| A. P. Richardson, gravel..... | 5 35 | |
| F. W. Banister, gravel..... | 5 95 | |
| Augustus Bunce, gravel..... | 1 25 | |
| John O'Brien, gravel..... | 2 90 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 11 20 | |
| | <hr/> | \$93 94 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$2,999 77 |

Appropriation, \$3,000; balance unexpended, 23 cents.

Schedule of property belonging to town for use of road department: 2 horses, 1 set of heavy harnesses, 1 set old harnesses, 2 carts, 5 whiffletrees and chains, 1 evener and spreader, 1 spare horse collar, 2 blankets, 2 surcingles, 1 stone drag, 2 yokes, 1 road scraper, 2 wrenches, 1 wagon jack, 2 chains, 1 stone lifter, reins and hand splices, 6 rakes, 6 shovels, 1 manure fork, 1 hay fork, 2 plows, 11 blasting drills, 12 plug drills, lot of shims and wedges, 1 bush snath, 2 bush scythes, 2 axes, 1 trimming saw, 2 halters, 2 lanterns, 1 oil can, 1 tool box, 1 large hoe, 2 picks, 4 iron bars, 1 hand hammer, 2 striking hammers, 1 stone hammer, 1 curry comb, 2 horse

brushes, 2 gravel screens, 1 drill spoon, 2 stone forks, 2 mattocks, 1 two-horse sled, 2 pails, 1 old scraper (useless), 1 post rammer, 1 post spoon, 1 post-hole digger, 1 steel tape, small amount of dualin, caps, and a small lot of sewer pipe, 2½ tons of hay.

BREAKING OUT ROADS ON ACCOUNT OF SNOW.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| DISTRICT NO. 1. | |
| R. E. Redding and others..... | \$22 80 |
| DISTRICT NO. 2. | |
| S. L. Taylor and others..... | 30 00 |
| DISTRICT NO. 3. | |
| S. H. Balch and others..... | 4 80 |
| DISTRICT NO. 4. | |
| S. B. Wright and others..... | 16 88 |
| DISTRICT NO. 5. | |
| H. L. Nesmith and others..... | 7 50 |
| DISTRICT NO. 7. | |
| Felch Brothers and others..... | 22 15 |
| DISTRICT NO. 8. | |
| M. F. Downs and others | 10 40 |
| DISTRICT NO. 9. | |
| H. E. Gould and others..... | 17 94 |
| DISTRICT NO. 10. | |
| H. V. Hildreth and others..... | 12 75 |
| | <hr/> \$145 22 |

The expense of the snow storm February 1st does not appear in the above account.

Expense of widening and relocating streets in the center of the town, by order of the County Commissioners :

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Ai Bicknell, land damage..... | \$ 50 00 |
| Estate of C. A. Hamlin, land damage..... | 100 00 |
| Frank C. Drew, land damage..... | 75 00 |
| John Feeney, land damage | 25 00 |
| T. A. Bean, land damage | 5 00 |
| Geo. E. Gould, land damage | 15 00 |
| Heirs of L. A. Waller, land damage | 15 00 |
| Alvan Fisher, land damage | 5 00 |
| Leonard Luce heirs, land damage..... | 20 00 |
| Osgood heirs, land damage | 100 00 |
| Mrs. E. A. Fletcher, land damage | 75 00 |
| | <hr/> \$485 00 |

| | | |
|---|----------|-------------------|
| George H. Whitney, labor..... | \$ 12 75 | |
| F. A. Shaw, labor..... | 15 00 | |
| John A. Healy, building retaining wall, as per contract..... | 274 00 | |
| John A. Healy, relaying face wall..... | 27 25 | |
| Polley Brothers, irons for railings..... | 8 80 | |
| Chas. Coture and others, labor blasting ledge | 52 00 | |
| George L. Bennett, labor moving wall..... | 105 10 | |
| R. C. Whidden, labor and team..... | 57 05 | |
| W. Johnson, labor and team..... | 93 25 | |
| Julian A. Cameron, allowance for work as per agreement..... | 75 00 | |
| C. E. Whidden, labor with team..... | 9 63 | |
| W. W. Parker, labor moving wall..... | 33 35 | |
| Abiel J. Abbot, allowance for work as per agreement..... | 375 00 | |
| G. A. Brigham, team..... | 7 00 | |
| H. W. Tarbell, labor as per contract..... | 300 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, labor..... | 5 26 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense..... | 15 00 | |
| G. W. Heywood, time and expense..... | 20 00 | |
| | | <u>\$1,488 44</u> |
| Appropriation, \$1,500. | | |

The amount of land damage awarded on the Graniteville road was given to the town by the abutters for the purpose of paving the gutter and making the sidewalk, amounting to \$135.00, as follows :

| | | |
|--------------------------|----------|-----------------|
| Abiel J. Abbot..... | \$100 00 | |
| Julian A. Cameron..... | 30 00 | |
| Charles H. Fletcher..... | 5 00 | |
| | | <u>\$135,00</u> |

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1898-99.

In making up the estimates for the amount of money asked for to be raised at the annual meeting, we have placed under the head of each department the amount that is asked for by that department.

SELECTMEN.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Highways..... | \$3,000 00 | |
| Town debts and charges..... | 3,500 00 | |
| | | <u>\$6,500 00</u> |

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Support of poor..... | \$2,500 00 | |
| | | <u>2,500 00</u> |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | <u>\$9,000 00</u> |

Amount brought forward..... \$9,000 00

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Support of schools..... | \$6,000 00 | |
| Tuition of High School scholars..... | 1,400 00 | |
| Text books and supplies for schools..... | 700 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$8,100 00 |

TRUSTEES OF J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | | |
|------------|----------|----------|
| Books..... | \$200 00 | \$200 00 |
|------------|----------|----------|

COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Public Burial Grounds..... | \$250 00 | \$250 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$17,550 00 |

Number of orders, 376.

Total amount of orders, \$15,169.23.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

See next town report
p. 16 - p. 15

Report of Committee on Discontinuance of Old Roads.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford, held April 5, 1897, the following votes were passed :

Voted, to adopt the 32d article, which is "To see if the Town will vote to elect a committee, consisting of one person from each School District, so called, to act with the Selectmen to investigate and report at the next annual meeting for the election of Town Officers, in regard to discontinuing any road or roads in said Town as public ways, and act in relation to the same."

Voted, that the Selectmen be authorized to appoint a committee of one from each School District, and as many more as they see fit, to carry out the provisions of the preceding vote.

Pursuant to the foregoing votes, the Selectmen appointed the following persons to act with themselves, as a committee, to carry out the provisions of said votes: Geo. T. Day, J. Henry Read, Gilman J. Wright, Alvin G. Polley, Henry A. Gurney, Jeremiah Desmond, Alfred Woodbury, Augustus Bunce, Wm. C. Edwards, Frank H. Hildreth, Hammett D. Wright, Isaac W. Carkin.

The committee as thus constituted met and organized by the choice of Sherman H. Fletcher as Chairman and Gilman J. Wright as Secretary, who were authorized to sign the report in behalf of said committee.

The committee, after due deliberation, decided to report the following recommendations for consideration by the town :

1st. That the road leading from the Trueworthy Keyes house to the road leading from Chamberlin's Corner to Brookside, be discontinued as a public road.

32d
Road from
Stony Brook
Rd.
Chamberlin

2d. That the road leading from near the junction of the Lowell and Littleton road with the road leading to the house of Jacob Smith, to the Jereidiah Robbins place, so called, be discontinued as a public road.

ind of Rd. at Nassau Hill

known as
Robbins or
Desmond
Rd.

in account
(p. 16)
committee & T.D.
file please

3d. That the road leading from the old Temple place, on the Texas road, so called, to the Acton line, be discontinued as a public road.

Ch. H.
Town

4th. That the road leading from the house of A. J. Blaisdell to the corner of the roads near the house of John O'Brien, at the Cook place, formerly so called, be discontinued as a public road.

5th. That the road leading from opposite the house of Hammett D. Wright to the former location of the Tidd house, so called, be discontinued.

6th. That the old road leading from the house of John Greig, by the house of Mrs. Arthur Murray on to the road leading to the house of Hammett D. Wright, be discontinued as a public road.

7th. That the road starting near the house of Thomas E. Symmes, known as the Boutwell Brook road, be discontinued as a public road as far as its junction with the road leading from Graniteville to Pine Ridge Station.

8th. That the road, about twenty-five rods in length, leading from the Boutwell Brook road to the road leading from Graniteville to Pine Ridge Station, be discontinued.

9th. That the road leading from the road from Westford Center to Forge Village, to the road leading from Pine Ridge Station to Westford Depot, over the land of Spalding and Coolidge, be discontinued as a public way.

10th. That so much of the old Cowdrey Hill road as was superseded by the road laid out by the Selectmen, on petition of Jesse Wright and others, and accepted by the town, Nov. 11, 1850, be discontinued as a public road.

All of which is respectfully submitted. In behalf of the committee.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER, Chairman.
GILMAN J. WRIGHT, Secretary.

Westford, Feb. 26, 1898.

LIST OF JURORS, 1898.

The following names will be reported at the Annual Meeting in April, to be placed in the jury box, subject to revision by the Town :

| NAMES. | OCCUPATIONS. |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Augustus Bunce, | Farmer. |
| Quincy W. Day, | Farmer. |
| Jeremiah Desmond, | Farmer. |
| Frank C. Drew, | Farmer. |
| Elbert H. Flagg, | Farmer. |
| George M. Fletcher, | Farmer. |
| John M. Fletcher, | Grocer. |
| Thomas F. Fisher, | Machinist. |
| Charles H. Follansbee, | Clerk. |
| Austin H. Foss, | Farmer. |
| Henry A. Gurney, | Farmer. |
| Edwin E. Heywood, | Farmer. |
| Frank H. Hildreth, | Farmer. |
| Edward H. Holt, | Laborer. |
| Samuel M. Hutchins, | Farmer. |
| French M. Morse, | Machinist. |
| Elmer E. Nutting, | Machinist. |
| Wilbert E. Parsons, | Teamster. |
| George H. Prescott, | Machinist. |
| Richard D. Prescott, | Farmer. |
| Nathan Prescott, | Painter. |
| J. Henry Read, | Manufacturer. |
| Reuben E. Redding, | Stable Keeper. |
| Charles N. Richardson, | Farmer. |
| Ossian V. Robey, | Carpenter. |
| Frank B. Tulis, | Painter. |
| Leonard W. Wheeler, | Farmer. |
| T. Arthur E. Wilson, | Farmer. |
| Walter C. Wright, | Clerk. |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford

BOARD OF HEALTH.

The Selectmen, as in years past, have acted under the law as the Board of Health.

The Board appointed Wesley O. Hawkes and W. H. H. Burbeck agents for diseases and sanitary condition of the town. Albert P. Richardson and John A. Healy were licensed as undertakers.

Excepting in the early spring of 1897, when there was an epidemic of measles in Graniteville, the town has been very free from contagious diseases of a dangerous character.

The Board has made a decided improvement in the use of a disinfectant by doing away with the use of sulphur in fumigating dwellings, and using wood alcohol in generating formaldehyde gas, a much more effective and less dangerous agent.

The Inspectors of Cattle and Provisions make the following report :

WESTFORD, March 1, 1898.

To the Chairman of the Board of Health :

From March 1, 1897, to March 1, 1898, I have inspected, at time of slaughter, the following number of cattle and calves :

| | | | |
|------------------|-----|----------------|---|
| Neat cattle..... | 158 | Condemned..... | 3 |
| Calves..... | 717 | “ | 5 |

ALBERT P. RICHARDSON,

Inspector.

To the Board of Health, Town of Westford, Mass. :

Gentlemen : I herewith submit report as Inspector of Cattle from March 1st, 1897, to March 1st, 1898 :

The whole number of neat cattle examined, under the order of the Cattle Commissioners for general inspection, was 861 head.

I have since then examined, by request of owners and by orders from the Board of Health, 62 head ; 51 head have been quarantined ; 9 have been released by order of the Cattle Commissioners, and 42 were condemned and killed. With the exception of two, all showed the disease of tuberculosis well developed, and in most cases the animals were badly diseased.

On the 10th of January last the Cattle Commissioners issued a general order suspending the work of quarantine of all neat cattle suspected of having tuberculosis until the Legislature had made appropriation for carrying on the work the present year, unless it was "absolutely imperative that it should be done." If any one entered a complaint in writing to the Board of Health that they considered they had a diseased animal, and the Inspector considered it diseased, it could be quarantined; but the Commissioners wished "no work done" if it was "possible to avoid it."

GEORGE T. DAY, *Inspector.*

The following table is for the calendar year 1897, and not the financial year, to conform with the report of the State Board of Health.

The number of deaths in 1897 will be found in the Town Clerk's report.

Number of infectious or contagious cases reported in 1897 is 221.

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Measles | 203 |
| Scarlet fever | 13 |
| Diphtheria | 4 |
| Typhoid fever | 1 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 221 |

The following expense has occurred:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Ellingwood & Co., antitoxin | \$ 5 00 |
| Refunded by the City of Lowell, see Treasurer's report..... | 5 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| John A. Healy, services as agent, 1896..... | 35 00 |
| F. C. Robinson, one formaldehyde generator | 7 50 |
| Greenough, Adams & Cushing, 3 record books | 12 00 |
| Sulphur candles, wood alcohol, and express | 15 25 |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services as agent, 1897. | 10 00 |
| C. E. Whidden, express | 85 |
| S. H. Fletcher, services and time | 10 00 |
| W. O. Hawkes, services as agent, 1897.... | 10 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$100 60 |

SIHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Board of Health.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

For the year ending Feb. 1, 1898.

AMOUNT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT THE ALMSHOUSE, BY APPRAISAL.

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Feb. 1, 1897..... | \$3,130 79 |
| Feb. 1, 1898..... | 3,097 95 |
| | <hr/> |
| Loss on personal property..... | \$32 84 |

RECEIPTS.

| | | |
|--|----------|------------|
| Received for Milk | \$854 16 | |
| Hay | 162 74 | |
| Cows | 90 00 | |
| T. Carney's board | 76 50 | |
| Pork..... | 48 90 | |
| Calves | 24 25 | |
| J. Wilkinson's rent..... | 12 00 | |
| Cranberries | 14 15 | |
| Sundries | 19 50 | |
| Cart | 15 00 | |
| Wagon..... | 9 00 | |
| Use of bull..... | 5 00 | |
| From county on account of Mrs. | | |
| Whitcomb..... | 6 78 | |
| For keeping prisoners | 5 50 | |
| Eggs | 4 16 | |
| Use of tools..... | 2 45 | |
| Well pipe..... | 2 45 | |
| Braking out roads..... | 4 05 | \$1,356 59 |
| Received for board of John Green to Jan. | | |
| 1st, 1898 | 108 00 | 108 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$1,464 59 |

PAYMENTS.

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| Paid for Grain | \$351 95 | |
| Groceries | 397 75 | |
| Supt. salary..... | 450 00 | |
| For cows..... | 261 50 | |
| Labor | 342 34 | |
| Meat | 132 73 | |
| Farm wagon..... | 55 00 | |
| Tubing for J. Wilkinson's well ... | 15 75 | |
| Labor on well..... | 28 50 | |
| Phosphate | 16 90 | |
| Medical supplies | 15 23 | |
| Tobacco | 21 16 | |
| Crockery ware..... | 10 48 | |
| Tin ware..... | 6 75 | |
| Pung | 25 00 | |
| Pigs | 22 00 | |
| Fish | 20 37 | |
| Coal..... | 21 59 | |
| Grass, corn, potato and garden seed | 17 92 | |
| Blacksmith work..... | 10 70 | |
| Hardware | 8 07 | |
| Horse street blankets | 8 00 | |
| Dry goods..... | 9 73 | |
| Clothing for inmates | 7 15 | |
| Ice | 3 70 | |
| Freight..... | 2 15 | |
| Bedding | 9 50 | |
| Lowell Journal, two years | 3 00 | |
| Saturday Mail..... | 1 00 | |
| Soft soap | 6 00 | |
| Wall paper | 2 76 | |
| Wheelwright work | 1 25 | |
| Harness work | 2 25 | |
| Sundries | 6 79 | |
| | | <hr/> |
| Loss on property..... | | \$2,296 12 |
| | | 32 84 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$2,328 96 |
| | | |
| Deduct income of farm | \$1,464 59 | |
| expense of tramps | 119 00 | |
| cash in Supt. hands | 124 37 | |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 1,707 96 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Cost of supporting poor inside almshouse..... | | \$621 00 |

INMATES AT TOWN FARM, FEB. 1, 1898.

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------|-----|
| John P. Green, | Age 79 | |
| Catherine O'Toole, | " 97 | |
| Margaret O'Brine, | " 64 | |
| Caroline A. Perham, | " 74 | |
| Thomas Carney, | " 87 | |
| Edward E. Holt, | " 84 | |
| Whole number supported | | 7 |
| Average | | 6 |
| Number of tramps | | 476 |

EXPENSE OF POOR OUTSIDE ALMSHOUSE.

| | | | |
|---|------|---------|------------|
| Paid Hospital bills for Woodward, Keyes, Raymond, Wayne, Lord, Quinn, Whitcomb and Reed | | \$1,255 | 49 |
| Hospital bill for S. A. Carrick..... | | 100 | 29 |
| Dr. Harlow for attendance on Jane Patch..... | | 21 | 00 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., for attendance on J. Dugdale..... | \$ 9 | 75 | |
| Asa Dearborn..... | 39 | 90 | |
| Margaret Whitcomb | 1 | 50 | 51 15 |
| W. H. Bennett, M. D., for attendance on Julian Wilkinson | 34 | 00 | |
| Mrs. J. Leland | 30 | 00 | |
| Sarah Ingalls..... | 10 | 00 | |
| Bromfield Leland..... | 25 | 50 | |
| Mrs. J. Leland..... | 45 | 50 | |
| Effie Blodgett..... | 29 | 00 | |
| Minnie Harris..... | 9 | 00 | |
| Wilkinson boy | 15 | 00 | 198 00 |
| Hospital bill for Wilkinson boy | | 18 | 14 |
| R. E. Redding for wood for Mrs. J. Le- land..... | 4 | 75 | |
| for Julian Wilkinson..... | 1 | 38 | 6 13 |
| City of Chelsea for A. French..... | | 2 | 50 |
| H. D. Wright for taking W. Graham to Tewksbury..... | | 1 | 00 |
| W. F. Balch for going to Lowell with Wilkinson boy..... | | 1 | 50 |
| Mrs. Isaac Hall for care of Jane Patch | 5 | 00 | —3 00 |
| Isaac Hall for services at burial of Jane Patch | 3 | 00 | |
| Grace Hall for care of J. Patch..... | 6 | 00 | |
| Amounts carried forward..... | \$14 | 00 | \$1,655 20 |

Recd 10.00 from Estate of Poletto

| | | |
|---|---------|------------|
| <i>Amounts brought forward</i> | \$14 00 | \$1,655 20 |
| William Patch for care of Jane Patch.. | 5 00 | |
| W. F. Balch for attending funeral of J. Patch | 2 00 | 21 00 |
| A. P. Richardson on account Mrs. J. Leland..... | | 2 00 |
| City of Lowell on account Margaret Casey | | 30 00 |
| for Annie Cavanaugh | | 15 00 |
| for James Carrigan..... | | 1 75 |
| for Addie Cameron..... | | 28 |
| F. H. Butler & Co. for medicine for Mrs. J. Leland..... | | 2 00 |
| Wright & Fletcher for groceries for Joseph Wilkinson..... | | 52 00 |
| Wright & Bemis for groceries for Mrs. J. Leland..... | | 52 00 |
| A. R. Choate, salary..... | | 10 00 |
| A. G. Polley, salary..... | | 10 00 |
| W. F. Balch, salary..... | | 10 00 |
| W. F. Balch for making out report to state | | 5 00 |
| for making out town report..... | | 5 00 |
| extra time as Overseer..... | | 10 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$1,881 23 |
| | | 324 10 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Cost of supporting poor outside almshouse.. | | \$1,547 13 |
| | | |
| Received from State Treasurer on account | | |
| Levi Kimball..... | \$ 5 25 | |
| City of Lowell on account Richard Dugdale..... | 87 60 | |
| Thomas Quinn on account Mary Quinn..... | 175 50 | |
| Town of Pepperell on account Minnie Harris | 9 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$277 35 |
| | | |
| Due from Town of Tyngsboro on account | | |
| Sarah Ingalls..... | \$10 00 | |
| City of Lowell on account J. Dugdale and family..... | 36 75 | |
| | <hr/> | 46 75 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$324 10 |

STATEMENT.

| | | | |
|---|---------|--------------|--------------|
| Cash received from Town Treasurer..... | | \$2,621 | 38 |
| other sources..... | | 19 | 85 |
| | | <u>2,641</u> | <u>23</u> |
| Paid for outside poor..... | \$1,881 | 23 | |
| Payments at farm..... | 2,296 | 12 | |
| | | <u>4,177</u> | <u>35</u> |
| Receipts at farm..... | \$1,356 | 59 | |
| Cash in Superintendent's hands.. | 307 | 25 | |
| | | <u>1,663</u> | <u>84</u> |
| | | | <u>2,513</u> |
| | | | <u>51</u> |
| | | | \$127 |
| | | | 72 |
| Cash in hands of Overseers, Feb. 1, 1898... | \$ | 3 | 35 |
| Cash in hands of Supt., Feb. 1, 1898..... | | 124 | 37 |
| | | <u>127</u> | <u>72</u> |

W. F. BALCH,
A. G. POLLEY,
A. R. CHOATE,
Overseers of the Poor.

SCHEDULE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT ALMSHOUSE,
FEB. 19, 1898.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------------|
| 14 cows | \$600 | 00 |
| 2 horses | 100 | 00 |
| 1 bull | 25 | 00 |
| 30 tons English hay..... | 450 | 00 |
| ½ ton meadow hay..... | 4 | 00 |
| 10 tons ensilage..... | 50 | 00 |
| Grain in barn..... | 40 | 00 |
| 1 mowing machine | 35 | 00 |
| 1 Democrat wagon | 35 | 00 |
| 1 hay wagon..... | 35 | 00 |
| 1 farm wagon..... | 20 | 00 |
| 1 new farm wagon..... | 50 | 00 |
| 1 double sleigh..... | 25 | 00 |
| 1 milk wagon | 10 | 00 |
| 1 wheel harrow | 15 | 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | <u>\$1,494</u> |
| | | <u>00</u> |

| | | |
|--|---------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$1,494 00 |
| 1 spring tooth harrow..... | \$15 00 | |
| 1 horse rake | 10 00 | |
| 1 two-horse dump cart..... | 60 00 | |
| 1 ensilage cutter..... | 30 00 | |
| 1 two-horse sled..... | 35 00 | |
| 1 hay tedder..... | 25 00 | |
| 1 hay fork and gear..... | 30 00 | |
| 4 harnesses | 70 00 | |
| Whiffletrees, neck yokes and eveners.... | 15 00 | |
| 5 shotes..... | 25 00 | |
| 36 fowls..... | 18 00 | |
| 1 sleigh..... | 5 00 | |
| Balance in barn and outbuildings..... | 287 45 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,119 45 |

PERSONAL PROPERTY AT HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|----------|------------|
| 1½ barrels pork | \$ 21 00 | |
| 20 bushels potatoes..... | 20 00 | |
| Vinegar stock, including barrel..... | 60 00 | |
| 1 barrel sugar | 11 00 | |
| 20 lbs. butter..... | 4 00 | |
| 2 barrels flour | 12 00 | |
| 20 lbs. ham | 2 00 | |
| Vegetables | 2 00 | |
| Balance Personal Property at House..... | 846 50 | |
| | <hr/> | 978 50 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$3,097 95 |

GEORGE H. HARTFORD,
ALBERT P. RICHARDSON,
SAMUEL L. TAYLOR,

Appraisers of Property at Town Farm.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:—

In compliance with the duties of Auditor, the undersigned, having duly presented to you the usual "advance statements," and having at this time made a careful examination of the accounts of Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Master of the Almshouse, and Treasurer, for the financial year ending February 28, 1898, would submit herewith a complete report.

TAXES.

The amount of taxes assessed on the polls and on the real and personal estate, within the Town of Westford for the year 1897 and as presented to you July 14, was as follows:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Number of polls, 682, at \$2.00 each..... | \$ 1,364 00 |
| Tax on personal property..... | 2,961 45 |
| Tax on real estate..... | 14,042 37 |
| Total..... | \$18,367 82 |
| Taxes added since July 14 (on real estate)..... | 44 55 |
| Total tax levy for 1897..... | \$18,412 37 |

NOTE.—Total tax levy for 1896 was \$21,827.45.

UNCOLLECTED TAXES.

| Year. | Collector. | Amount due and as reported Mar. 1, '97. | Interest collected since Mar. 1, '97. | Total. | Amount collected including interest and abatements since March 1, 1897. | Amount due Mar 1, '98. |
|--|----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------|---|------------------------|
| 1892 | Isaac E. Day..... | \$ 33 95 | | | | \$ 33 95 |
| 1893 | Walter C. Wright.... | 10 04 | \$ 39 | \$ 10 43 | \$ 8 90 | 1 53 |
| 1894 | Walter C. Wright.... | 177 13 | 13 56 | 190 69 | 168 72 | 21 97 |
| 1895 | Walter C. Wright.... | 721 42 | 46 68 | 768 10 | 494 12 | 273 98 |
| 1896 | Walter C. Wright.... | 2,896 96 | 88 10 | 2,985 06 | 2,147 70 | 837 36 |
| Total amount of uncollected taxes 1892-6..... | | | | | | \$1,168 79 |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| In addition to the foregoing account Auditor debits Collector Walter C. Wright with the total tax levy for 1897, which was..... | \$18,412 37 |
| For interest collected since January 1, 1898 (taxes of 1897)..... | 50 |

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| Total | \$18,412 87 |
|-------------|-------------|

And credits for amounts as follows:

| | | |
|--|-------------|------------------------|
| Actual amount collected Oct. 1..... | \$13,662 46 | |
| Five per cent. discount allowed tax pay- ers on taxes paid on or before Oct. 1 | 719 07 | |
| Actual amount collected Dec. 1..... | 876 05 | |
| Three per cent. discount allowed tax payers on taxes paid on or before Dec. 1..... | 27 09 | |
| Amount collected between Dec. 2 and Feb. 24..... | 614 91 | |
| Interest..... | 50 | |
| Rebate of taxes and taxes ordered as errors..... | 4 68 | |
| | <hr/> | \$15,904 76 |
| Residue of uncollected taxes for 1897.. | | <hr/> <hr/> \$2,508 11 |

RECAPITULATION.

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Uncollected taxes, 1892..... | \$ 33 95 |
| 1893..... | 1 53 |
| 1894..... | 21 97 |
| 1895..... | 273 98 |
| 1896..... | 837 36 |
| 1897..... | 2,508 11 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total amount of uncollected taxes, March 1, 1898..... | <hr/> <hr/> \$3,676 90 |

TOWN CLERK.

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Number of dogs licensed during the year ending Nov. 30, 1897: | |
| 155 at \$2.00 each | \$310 00 |
| 6 at \$5.00 each | 30 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total amount of license fees..... | \$340 00 |
| Clerk's fees, 161 at 20 cents each.. | 32 20 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance paid to County Treasurer, as per his vouchers..... | <hr/> <hr/> \$307 80 |

Two hundred ninety-five and forty-nine hundredths dollars (\$295.49) of the dog license money has been refunded and passed to the Library Account.

SELECTMEN.

Proper vouchers were found for each and every one of the 376 drafts (orders) drawn by the Selectmen on the Town Treasurer.

MASTER OF ALMSHOUSE.

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Cash balance March 1, 1897..... | \$ 307 25 |
| Receipts from all sources for the year ending February 28, 1898 | 2,113 24 |
| Total..... | <u>\$2,420 49</u> |
| Expenditures for the year ending February 28, 1898..... | 2,296 12 |
| Balance on hand March 1, 1898..... | <u><u>\$124 37</u></u> |

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Cash on hand March 1, 1897..... | \$ 85 |
| Receipts for the year ending Feb. 28, 1898: | |
| From Town Treasurer | \$2,621 38 |
| From other sources..... | 19 00 |
| | <u>2,640 38</u> |
| Total..... | <u>\$2,641 23</u> |
| Expenditures for the year ending February 28, 1898..... | 2,637 88 |
| Balance on hand March 1, 1898..... | <u><u>\$3 35</u></u> |

The expenditures of Overseers of the Poor and the Master of the Almshouse, were all properly vouched, excepting sundry trivial amounts.

TREASURER.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Receipts during the year ending February 28, 1898..... | \$39,486 82 |
| Expenditures during the year ending February 28, 1898..... | \$39,965 22 |
| Excess of expenditures over receipts..... | \$478 40 |
| Balance in the treasury March 1, 1897..... | \$ 2,941 92 |
| Received into the treasury during the year ending February 28, 1898..... | 39,486 82 |
| Making a total of..... | \$42,428 74 |
| Amount paid from the treasury during the year ending February 28, 1898..... | 39,965 22 |
| Balance in the treasury March 1, 1898.. | \$2,463 52 |

Every item paid from the treasury as represented by the amount \$39,965.22 was properly vouched.

The details of this amount may be found in the several reports given in this pamphlet.

LIBRARY—NAHUM H. WRIGHT, TREASURER.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Cash balance March 1, 1897..... | \$ 74 19 |
| Receipts during the year ending February 28, 1898..... | 570 14 |
| Making a total of..... | \$644 33 |
| Payments for the year ending Feb. 28, 1898 | 603 27 |
| Balance March 1, 1898..... | \$41 06 |

FINANCIAL.

The financial condition of the town March 1, 1898, was as follows:

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| State Treasurer, balance on account of new library building (original amount was \$5,000)..... | \$4,500 00 |
| Note First National Bank, Lowell, (balance of original note for \$15,000)..... | 8,000 00 |
| Total..... | \$12,500 00 |

ASSETS.

| | | |
|--|-----------|------------------------|
| Due from State Aid, on account soldiers' families..... | \$ 940 00 | |
| Due from Military Aid, on account of indigent soldiers..... | 125 00 | |
| On account of burial of soldiers..... | 105 00 | |
| County of Middlesex, on account of public roads..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Taxes of 1892 remaining uncollected..... | 33 95 | |
| Taxes of 1893 remaining uncollected..... | 1 53 | |
| Taxes of 1894 remaining uncollected..... | 21 97 | |
| Taxes of 1895 remaining uncollected..... | 273 98 | |
| Taxes of 1896 remaining uncollected..... | 837 26 | |
| Taxes of 1897 remaining uncollected..... | 2,508 11 | |
| Balance of cash in the treasury..... | 2,463 52 | |
| Balance of cash in the hands of the Overseers of the Poor..... | 3 35 | |
| Balance of cash in the hands of the Master of the Almshouse..... | 124 37 | |
| Balance of cash, library fund..... | 41 06 | |
| | <hr/> | \$8,979 20 |
| Balance against the town..... | | <hr/> <hr/> \$3,521 80 |

Deficit March 1, 1897 was \$3,221.29.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR B. PLIMPTON.

Graniteville, March 9, 1898.

REPORT ON CEMETERIES.

The Commissioners of Public Cemeteries respectfully submit the following report for the year ending March 1st, 1898 :

During the past year the work of improving the condition of the West Cemetery has been undertaken, and considerable progress has been made. The old stone wall along the Forge Village road had long been in a very bad state of repair. It seemed to have been carelessly built at first. The foundation stones were either placed on the surface of the ground, or in a trench so shallow as to afford no protection against the displacement caused by the heaving and settling of frozen ground. The wall was topped out with stones too small for the purpose, and therefore easily rolled down.

After careful inspection, it was decided to remove this unsightly wall altogether, and to build a fence of turned chestnut posts and cylindrical iron rails. The expense of this work, while not excessive, prevented the undertaking of any further permanent improvement in the Burial Grounds during the year.

The interest manifested in the improvement of burial lots has steadily increased. The number of individuals who have employed the Superintendent to take care of their lots during the past year is 130,—a gain of 25 per cent. as compared with the previous year ; the sums of money received amount to \$291.04,—a gain of 59 per cent.

In this computation, the seven funds for perpetual care are, of course, included.

It is believed that the number of people who have personally expended time and labor on the care of lots in which relatives are buried, has been larger this year than formerly ; but there is, of course, no record of the voluntary labor performed by individuals.

The appearance of Fairview Cemetery, in which nearly all of the work on lots has been done, has steadily improved. The part in which the oldest graves are is now covered with smooth turf, and most of the remaining area affords ample evidence of the thoughtful care of the living for the graves of the dead.

The funds for perpetual care of burial lots are now seven in number and amount to six hundred dollars.

The following list, made up from the Superintendent's records, shows the number of interments in each of the three burial grounds during the four years ending January 1st, 1898 :

BURIALS IN FAIRVIEW CEMETERY.

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| In 1894..... | 22 |
| 1895..... | 27 |
| 1896..... | 25 |
| 1897..... | 29 |
| Total | <u>103</u> |

BURIALS IN NORTH CEMETERY.

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| In 1894..... | 1 |
| 1895..... | 2 |
| 1896..... | 4 |
| 1897..... | 5 |
| Total | <u>12</u> |

BURIALS IN WEST CEMETERY.

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| In 1894..... | 1 |
| 1895..... | 0 |
| 1896..... | 2 |
| 1897..... | 3 |
| Total... .. | <u>6</u> |

Aside from the work done on lots in Fairview Cemetery, the avenues have been kept free from grass and weeds, and otherwise in good repair. The hollow in the rear of the hearse house has been partly filled.

All who desire the Superintendent to take care of their burial lots should notify him on or before May 1st. In order that the accounts may be kept conveniently, it is very desirable that payment should be made when the orders for work are given.

We recommend that the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars be raised and appropriated for the care and improvement of the cemeteries during the ensuing year.

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, Chairman,
WILLIAM E. FROST, Secretary,
GEORGE T. DAY,

Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Balance in Treasury..... | \$119 09 |
| Appropriation, April, 1897..... | 250 00 |
| Sums received for care of lots, etc.: | |
| John W. Abbot, work on tombs and lot..... | 45 60 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <u>\$414 69</u> |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$414 69 |
| G. E. H. Abbott, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Fred Amission, lot 334, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Sally B. Burrill fund, income, Fairview..... | 4 04 |
| Mrs. John Bailey, lots 51-52, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. John Baker, lot 330, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. W. F. Balch, lot 109, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edmund Barton, lots 40-41, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| True A. Bean, lot 378, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Ai Bicknell, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Ai Bicknell, Whitney lot in Fairview..... | 3 00 |
| E. G. Boynton, lot 333, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Augustus Bunce, lots 11-12, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| William Burnett, lot 37, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. A. Butterfield, lot 344, E. D., and one in Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. John T. Butterworth, lot 236, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Frank Calvert, lot 26, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John Carmichael, lot 68, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. B. Carmichael, lot 345, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Clara P. Carkin, lot 338, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Thomas Carrick, lot 373, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Eugene F. Carpenter, lot 366, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| W. R. Carver, lots 106-107, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. John Caunter, lots 21-22, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. M. A. Cheney, Burnett lot in Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Nellie Comey, lot 145, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edward Craven, lot 63, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Sarah P. Cummings, lot 93, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Alice L. Davis, lot 10, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss C. E. Davis, lot 258, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Thomas Drew, lot 43 E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. A. E. Dupee, lot 144, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Rachel Dupee, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| S. N. Eaton, lot 342, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Alonzo B. Falls, lot 62, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. G. H. Fifield, lot 168, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. B. Foote, lots 22-23, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Emily A. Fletcher, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| F. L. Fletcher, lot 83, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Julia A. Fletcher, lot 69, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. L. J. Fletcher, lot 92, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| John M. Fletcher, lot 76, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. W. Fletcher, lot 154, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| L. S. Gilson, lot 329, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| L. S. Gilson, lot 60, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$488 73 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$488 73 |
| L. S. Gilson, lot 75, W. D. (S. B. Coburn)..... | 1 00 |
| William Gower, lot 42, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Joseph B. Griffin fund..... | 6 12 |
| Mrs. Susan E. Green, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. John Greig, lot 14, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Kate S. Hamlin, lot 56, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Lizzie G. Hamlin, lot 57, E. D..... | 8 00 |
| Miss Harriet G. Hamlin, lot 111, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Samuel Horne fund..... | 4 12 |
| Mrs. Alice A. Harris, lot 78, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| D. C. Harris, lot 15, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| W. O. Hawkes, lot 112, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss C. E. Hewitt, lot 116, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| H. V. Hildreth, lots 42-43, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Ellen A. Hildreth, lot 87, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Ellen Hildreth, Hildreth lot in Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Helen C. Hildreth, lot 115, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Frank Hindle, lot 336, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| E. H. Holt, lot 39, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. George F. Horne, lot 16, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. G. Humiston, lot 142, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Frank Hutchinson, lot 82, W. D..... | 5 00 |
| Mrs. J. B. Johnson, lot 60, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Mrs. J. H. Laws, lot 114, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss R. E. Luce, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Edwin D. Metcalf, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| George F. Millis, lot 57, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| George C. Moore, lot 343, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| E. D. Metcalf fund..... | 1 00 |
| J. D. Morse, lot 58, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. F. J. Noyes, lot 55, W. D..... | 3 00 |
| Abram Orange, lot 48, E. D..... | 6 00 |
| J. M. Osgood, lot 6, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Parker and Buxton, lot 365, E. D..... | 7 00 |
| Mrs. H. S. Parker, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. M. A. Parker, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. Petherick, lot 339, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edward Prescott, lot 25, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Alfred T. Prinn, lot 67, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mary A. Putnam fund, income, North Cemetery..... | 2 04 |
| Mrs. T. C. Read, lot 3, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. Henry Read, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. S. Read, West Cemetery..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. J. W. Revere, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Anna Richardson, lot 74, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$575 01 |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$575 01 |
| M. T. Richardson, Fairview | 1 00 |
| Miss Sarah Richardson, two lots in Fairview | 2 00 |
| Sarah S. Reed fund | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Josie K. Ripley, lot 1, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Miss M. Shaw, lot 355, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Jacob Smith, lot 95, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. John Smith, lot 375, E. D. | 5 00 |
| J. F. Spaulding, lot 346, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Richard Stancombe, lot 340, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Thomas E. Symmes, two lots in Fairview | 2 00 |
| Fred O. Stiles, lot 41, E. D. | 1 00 |
| S. L. Taylor, lot 101, W. D. | 1 00 |
| S. L. Taylor, Law lot | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Sarah H. Trumbull, Fairview | 1 00 |
| James A. Walkden, lot 15, E. D. | 1 00 |
| D. Waller, lot 356, E. D. | 5 00 |
| Wm. Welch, lot 18, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Miss Amanda Wheeler, lot 105, W. D. | 1 00 |
| A. F. Whidden, Caldwell lot in Fairview | 10 00 |
| C. E. Whidden, for Whiting lot in Fairview | 2 00 |
| William Whigham, lot 54, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Hiram Whitney, lot 100, W. D. | 1 00 |
| E. J. Whitney, lots 28-29, E. D. | 2 00 |
| William M. Whitney, lot 21, W. D. | 1 00 |
| L. E. Wilkins, lot 88, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Samuel Willis, lot 20, W. D. | 1 00 |
| William T. Willis, lot 19, E. D. | 1 00 |
| John Wilson, lot 146, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary Ann Wood, lot 53, E. D. | 6 00 |
| Myron J. Wood, lot 155, E. D. | 1 00 |
| A. A. Wright, lot 34, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Frank Wright, lot 59, E. D. | 5 00 |
| G. J. Wright, lots 28-29, W. D. | 2 00 |
| G. P. Wright, lot 25, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Clara M. Wiley fund | 6 12 |
| Hammett D. Wright, for Varnum B. Wright lot | 1 00 |
| N. H. Wright, lots 46-47, W. D. | 2 00 |
| Willey M. Wright, lot 24, E. D. | 1 00 |
| W. W. Wyman, lot 376, E. D. | 5 00 |
| Mrs. Agnes N. York, lot 234, E. D. | 5 00 |
| Total | \$660 13 |

EXPENSES.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| W. C. Edwards, shade house, Fairview..... | \$115 00 |
| W. W. Johnson, labor, West Cemetery..... | 42 75 |
| Wright & Fletcher, shovels, grass seed, etc..... | 3 25 |
| B. & M. R. R., freight..... | 1 43 |
| N. B. Blood, use of land for stone, West Cemetery ... | 8 00 |
| Boutwell Bros., iron rails for fence, " "..... | 33 00 |
| W. W. Johnson, labor, " "..... | 2 50 |
| B. F. Nutting, labor, North Cemetery..... | 10 00 |
| J. T. Colburn, labor, West Cemetery..... | 7 00 |
| Amasa Pratt & Co., posts, "..... | 36 50 |
| B. & M. R. R., freight on manure, Fairview..... | 11 04 |
| A. P. Richardson and others, labor, "..... | 345 72 |
| J. H. O'Brien, 6½ cords manure, "..... | 22 75 |
| George T. Day, labor and expense on fence, West Cemetery..... | 30 00 |
| Four stone posts, West Cemetery..... | 16 00 |
| Total..... | <u>\$684 94</u> |
| Balance overdrawn..... | \$21 81 |

TRUST FUNDS HELD FOR CARE OF BURIAL LOTS.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Sally B. Burrill fund..... | \$100 00 |
| Mary A. Putnam fund..... | 100 00 |
| Samuel Horne fund..... | 50 00 |
| Clara M. Wiley fund..... | 100 00 |
| Joseph B. Griffin fund..... | 100 00 |
| Edwin D. Metcalf fund..... | 50 00 |
| Sarah S. Reed fund..... | 100 00 |
| Total..... | <u>\$600 00</u> |

LIBRARY REPORT.

The Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library respectfully submit the following report for the year ending March 1, 1898:—

The circulation of books during the past year, as shown by the Librarian's record, has been 14,440,—or 399 in excess of the very large circulation of the previous year. This fact clearly indicates that the interest of our people in the Library is unabated, and that the number of persons who have made use of it has increased during the year.

It is of course understood that a correct estimate of the benefit derived from the use of books requires that their quality as well as their quantity should be considered. The careful and thorough perusal of five good books in a year is doubtless more beneficial than the hasty reading of fifty inferior ones. The reader whose list of books borrowed covers several pages of the Librarian's record, and who has difficulty in recalling the titles, subjects and authors of works read the previous month, may well doubt whether he is receiving from the Library any benefit at all. This habit, which weakens the memory and impairs healthy growth of mental power, is especially prevalent among young readers. It should be corrected by parental guidance and control.

The Library has received many valuable gifts during the past year. Among the more notable ones are the volumes of American Diplomatic Correspondence, edited by Jared Sparks, presented by the Trustees of Westford Academy; thirty-nine volumes, chiefly of fiction, presented by Hon. George L. Rives of New York; Keith Johnston's large and expensive Royal Atlas of Modern Geography, edition of 1897, presented by Mr. Allan Cameron; and forty-three annual reports of towns and thirty-two pamphlets, presented by Capt. Sherman H. Fletcher.

The reading room has been adorned by two large and finely framed pictures, a steel engraving of the "Signing of the Compact in the Cabin of the Mayflower" and a landscape etching by the English artist, B. W. Leader. These pictures were purchased with money left for this purpose by the late Mrs. Sarah S. Reed.

A list of the gifts to the Library during the year is appended to this report.

In behalf of the town the Trustees return grateful acknowledgment to the donors.

Several important additions have been made to the works in

the reference room, and a copy of the very rare History of Chelmsford, by Wilkes Allen, has been secured.

Articles of interest, given or loaned, have been placed in the relic room.

Among the more valuable works purchased are the biographies of Tennyson and Jowett; the writings of George Washington, fourteen volumes; Merivale's Romans under the Empire, eight volumes; S. R. Gardiner's History of the Great Civil War, four volumes, and History of England from the Accession of James I to the Outbreak of the Civil War, ten volumes; Nansen's Farthest North; Fiske's Old Virginia and her Neighbors, and History of the American Revolution; Mahan's Life of Nelson; Correspondence of John Jay, four volumes; Cyclopedia of Political Science, Political Economy and United States History, three volumes; Bayard Taylor's Picturesque Europe, three volumes quarto, illustrated; and Appleton's Teachers' Practical Library, twelve volumes.

The vacancy caused in the Board of Trustees by the removal from town of Miss Margaret A. O'Neill was filled by the election of Mrs. Kate A. Kebler. Another vacancy was made in the board in November by the lamented death of John William Abbot.

The number of books transported from the Library during the year to Graniteville and Forge Village was 4,166; to Parkerville, 688.

We recommend that the sum of two hundred dollars be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM E. FROST, Chairman,
KATE A. KEBLER, Secretary,
Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Balance unexpended..... | \$ 74.19 |
| Shoe and Leather Bank, dividends..... | 9.00 |
| Merrimack River Savings Bank, interest..... | 4.60 |
| City Institution for Savings, interest..... | 40.00 |
| Lowell Mfg. Co., dividend..... | 15.00 |
| Dog licenses..... | 295.49 |
| Appropriation | 200.00 |
| Mrs. L. L. Tappan, gift..... | 1.00 |
| Mrs. Mary Tappan Wright, gift..... | 1.00 |
| Miss Cheney, gift..... | 1.00 |
| Received for damaged books..... | 3.05 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$644.33 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|--|----------|
| F. J. Barnard & Co., rebinding books..... | \$ 16.87 |
| Willard Small, books..... | 485.10 |
| D. Appleton & Co., Maynard, Merrill & Co., and others, books..... | 48.45 |
| Wright & Fletcher, magazines for reading room | 52.85 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$603.27 |
| Balance | \$41.06 |

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Number of books purchased..... | 331 |
| Number of books presented..... | 164 |
| Public documents received from the state..... | 26 |
| Public documents received from the United States | 19 |
| Whole number of books added during the year | 540 |
| Whole number of books in Library..... | 9,685 |
| Number of books lost..... | 1 |
| Number of books bought to replace worn-out copies | 20 |
| Number of books loaned..... | 14,440 |
| Number of pamphlets added..... | 90 |
| Cash on hand from last year..... | \$ 1.23 |
| Fines | 10.40 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$11.63 |
| Paid for supplies..... | 9.44 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance | \$2.19 |

DONORS OF BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, ETC.

Mrs. Sarah S. Reed, steel engraving, Signing the Compact.

Mrs. Sarah S. Reed, landscape etching by B. W. Leader.

Alden Fletcher Osgood, nine books.

J. W. Abbot, two books.

Capt. S. H. Fletcher, forty-three reports of towns, thirty-two pamphlets and two books.

Rev. A. A. Bickford, one book.

Hon. Geo. L. Rives, thirty-nine books.

E. A. Hildreth, Harvard, one book.

R. C. Winthrop, Jr., one book.

C. W. Hildreth, one book.

McCormick Harvesting Machine Co., one book.

Trustees of Westford Academy, nine pamphlets and one hundred books.

Ayer Public Library, one book.

Allan Cameron, one book.

Augusta Larned, one book.

M. G. Luce, two books.

Ai Bicknell, two books.

Trustees of Reuben Hoar Library, one pamphlet.

Miss Josephine Rand, one pamphlet.

J. M. Fletcher, Esq., eight pamphlets.

Henry F. King, one pamphlet.

Rev. A. D. Mayo, five pamphlets.

Dr. J. L. Hildreth, one pamphlet.

Magazines.—Union Signal, Our Message, Ladies' Home Journal, Ladies' Home Companion, Ladies' World, L. A. W. Bulletin and Good Roads, Land of Sunshine, Literary News.

LIST OF BOOKS

ADDED TO THE LIBRARY DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1897-8.

A.

| | |
|--|--------|
| Acts and Resolves of Massachusetts, 1897..... | 626 |
| Census of Massachusetts, 1895, 2 vols..... | 622-3 |
| Education, Report of Board of, 1895-6..... | 618 |
| Journal of House of Representatives, 1897..... | 627 |
| Journal of Senate, 1897..... | 628 |
| Laws and Resolves of Massachusetts, 1798-9, 1800-1, 2 vols..... | 624-5 |
| Lunacy and Charity, Report of the State Board of, 1898 | 629 |
| Manual of General Court, 1897..... | 617 |
| Massachusetts Reports, Vols. 166-7..... | 619-20 |
| Public Documents of Massachusetts, 1896. 12 vols.... | 630-41 |
| Public Statutes, Supplement to, 1889-95..... | 621 |

B.

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|--|--------|
| Coast and Geodetic Survey, 1895..... | 751 |
| Commerce and Navigation of United States, 1896, 2 vols | 749-50 |
| Education; Report of Commissioner of, 1895-6. Vol. I | 753 |
| Interstate Commerce Commission, Report of, 1896.... | 752 |
| Introduction of Domestic Reindeer into Alaska. Shel- don Jackson, 1896..... | 739 |
| Marine Hospital Service, Report of, 1893, 1896..... | 746-8 |
| Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789-1897, 3 vols..... | 755-7 |
| Smithsonian Institution, Report of, 1890-95. 6 vols.... | 740-5 |
| Statistical Abstract of the United States, 1897..... | 754 |

C.

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|---|-------|
| Farthest North. Dr. Fridtjof Nansen. 2 vols..... | 488-9 |
| Hired Furnished. Margaret B. Wright..... | 496 |
| Journeys through France. H. A. Taine..... | 501 |
| Lazy Tours in Spain and Elsewhere. Louise Chandler Moulton | 491 |
| Moosehead Lake. Guide Book. C. A. J. Farrar..... | 493 |
| Passages in Foreign Travel. I. A. Jewett. 2 vols.... | 498-9 |
| Picturesque Washington. Joseph West Moore..... | 490 |

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|---|-----|
| Ruins and Excavations of Ancient Rome. Rodolfo Lanciani | 502 |
| Seat of Empire. C. C. Coffin..... | 494 |
| Some Strange Corners of Our Country. Charles F. Lummis | 500 |
| South Seas, The. Robert Louis Stevenson..... | 492 |
| Through the Dolomites. From Venice to Toblach. Alexander Robertson..... | 495 |
| Travels in West Africa. Mary H. Kingsley..... | 503 |
| Walks and Rides in the Country Round About Boston. Edwin M. Bacon..... | 497 |
| White Man's Africa. Poultney Bigelow..... | 504 |

D.

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|---|--------|
| American Revolution. John Fiske. 2 vols..... | 838-9 |
| Army of the United States, 1789-1896. Ed. by Roden- bough & Haskin..... | 836 |
| Beside Old Hearth-Stones. Abram English Brown.... | 847 |
| Canada, History of. C. G. D. Roberts..... | 842 |
| Chelmsford, Mass., History of, 1653-1820. Wilkes Allen | 877 |
| Christian History, Outlines of, A. D. 50-1880. Joseph Henry Allen..... | 863 |
| Colonial Policy of Great Britain, 1816..... | 835 |
| Documents Illustrative of United States History, 1776- 1861. Ed. by Wm. MacDonald..... | 873 |
| Dover, Mass., History of. Frank Smith..... | 874 |
| England, History of, from Accession of James I. to Out- break of Great Civil War, 1603-42. S. R. Gardiner. 10 vols..... | 848-57 |
| France. J. E. C. Bodley. 2 vols..... | 875-6 |
| Great Civil War, 1642-49. S. R. Gardiner. 4 vols.... | 858-61 |
| Great Fire, Boston, November, 1872. C. C. Coffin.... | 834 |
| Groton, Pepperell and Shirley, History of. Caleb But- ler, 1848..... | 878 |
| Hannibal, and the Crisis of the Struggle Between Car- thage and Rome. Wm. O'Connor Morris..... | 845 |
| History of Our Own Times. Justin McCarthy. Vol. III. | 843 |
| Modern France, 1789-1895. Andre Lebon..... | 872 |
| Old Virginia and Her Neighbors. John Fiske. 2 vols. | 840-1 |
| Plague in London, History of. Daniel Defoe..... | 833 |
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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

MIDDLESEX, SS.

To Eugene DeRoehn, one of the Constables of the Town of Westford, in said County,

Greeting:

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth aforesaid, to notify and warn all the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections and also in Town affairs, to meet at the Town House, in said Westford, on Monday, the fourth day of April, being the first Monday in said month, at eight o'clock A. M. The polls will be opened at 8.15 o'clock A. M., and closed at one o'clock P. M.; and they are then and there to act upon the following articles, to wit:

- 1st. To choose a Moderator.
- 2d. To see if the Town will determine the compensation of the
• Tax Collector, and act in relation to the same.
- 3d. To bring in their votes for Town Clerk, for one year; one Selectman, one Overseer of Poor, one Assessor, two School Committee, one Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds, all for three years; two Trustees of the Public Library, one for two years and one for three years; Town Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, two Constables, and one Auditor, all for one year; also to vote on the following question: "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?" all on one ballot.
- 4th. To hear the report of the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.
- 5th. To hear the report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards, and act in relation to the same.
- 6th. To hear the report of the Overseers of the Poor, and act in relation to the same.
- 7th. To hear the report of the School Committee, and act in relation to the same.
- 8th. To hear the report of the Trustees of the Public Library, and act in relation to the same.
- 9th. To hear the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds, and act in relation to the same.

- 10th. To see if the Town will accept the report of the Auditor chosen to audit the accounts of the Town Officers, and act in relation to the same.
- 11th. To see if the Town will accept the List of Jurors as reported by the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.
- 12th. To raise and appropriate money to repair Roads and Bridges.
- 13th. To raise and appropriate money for Town Debts and Charges.
- 14th. To raise and appropriate money for Public Schools.
- 15th. To raise and appropriate money to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the Town, at Westford Academy.
- 16th. To raise and appropriate money for support of Poor.
- 17th. To raise and appropriate money for School Text Books and Supplies.
- 18th. To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same.
- 19th. To determine the manner of collecting taxes for the ensuing year, also the rate of interest on taxes remaining unpaid at a time to be fixed by vote of the Town, and when and how said taxes shall be paid into the treasury, and act in relation to the same.
- 20th. To choose all other Town Officers necessary to be chosen by hand vote, and act in relation to the same.
- 21st. By request of the Veteran Association, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) to commemorate Memorial Day, and act in relation to the same.
- 22d. By request of the citizens of Graniteville and Forge Village to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in these two villages, and act in relation to the same.
- 23d. By request of Francis L. Fletcher, to see if the Town will vote to withdraw from its alliance with Ayer and Littleton for the employment of a Superintendent of Schools.

- 24th. By request of the School Committee, to see if the Town will vote to close the Long-Sought-For School and authorize the School Committee to transport the pupils to the Wright School, and act in relation to the same.
- 25th. By request of the same, to see if the Town will authorize or direct the School Committee to close the Minot's Corner School and transport the pupils to the Centre schools, and act in relation to the same.
- 26th. By request of the same, to see if the Town will appropriate money for Transportation of Scholars, and act in relation to the same.
- 27th. To see if the Town will vote to change the time of holding the Annual Town Meeting from the first Monday in April to the third Monday in March, to take effect next year, and act in relation to the same.
- 28th. To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to appoint three or more persons to act with them as a committee to inquire into the system of the care of our highways, and to make such recommendations they may see fit to the Town at some future meeting, and act in relation to the same.
- 29th. By request of Wesley O. Hawkes and others, to see if the Town will accept the provisions of Section 101, Chapter 417, Acts of 1893, in regard to a division of the Town for precinct voting, and act in relation to the same.
- 30th. By request of Abel C. Whittier, to see if the Town will vote to exempt for the term of ten years, taxes on improvement in buildings and machinery for the purpose of developing the Nashoba Springs on farm of said Whittier, and act in relation to the same.
- 31st. By request of Minot A. Bean, to see if the Town will vote to reduce the salary of the Superintendent of the Town Farm to Four Hundred Dollars (\$400) per year, and allowing Three Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$350) per year to be expended for outside labor.
- 32d. By request of Minot A. Bean, to see if the Town will vote to buy an extra pair of horses and a set of double harnesses to be used on the highway. The same not to cost over Three Hundred and Sixty Dollars (\$360), and this amount to be taken from the appropriation for highways.

- 33d. By request of Minot A. Bean, to see if the Town will vote to have the road teams kept at the Town Farm, and the Farm to furnish hay to said teams at Fourteen Dollars (\$14) per ton, allowing two and one-half tons per horse per year.
- 34th. To hear the report of Committee on Discontinuance of Old Roads, and act in relation to the same.
- 35th. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to get an estimate of the expense of lighting the Town House with gasoline, to report at some future meeting, and act in relation to the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up true and attested copies at the Town House and each Depot in said Westford, eight days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

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

Given under our hands and seals, this twenty-first day of March, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and ninety-eight.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,
 Selectmen of Westford.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Town of Westford, Mass.,

FOR THE

SCHOOL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1898.



LOWELL, MASS. :
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1898.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR 1897-98.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| A. R. CHOATE, Chairman . . . | Term expires 1898 |
| FRANK H. HILDRETH . . . | “ “ 1899 |
| GEORGE H. HARTFORD . . . | “ “ 1900 |
| W. J. SLEEPER, Secretary . . . | “ “ 1900 |
| MRS. ALTA M. TAYLOR . . . | “ “ 1898 |
| ALFRED WOODBURY . . . | “ “ 1899 |

EDMUND P. BARKER, Superintendent of Schools.

Residence, Ayer, Mass.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Citizens of Westford:

The annual report of your School Committee for the past year is a report of progress in the educational interests of the town.

So much is covered by the excellent reports of the Superintendent that the report of the Committee itself is shortened.

The school year has been somewhat broken by sickness among teachers and scholars, so that there has been interference with the best work which would be had with a term uninterrupted by such loss of time. A part of the time lost by sickness at the Graniteville schools during last year was made up this year, and the time of the other schools lost by sickness this year at Centre, Long-Sought-For and Parkerville schools has been made up.

A new heater and ventilator has been put in the Stony Brook School. The Committee were to put in a new heating apparatus when the state inspectors requested a ventilating duct in connection with it. This necessitated delay and study to endeavor to get the best work with as reasonable an outlay as possible. Westford and Chelmsford both put in the same kind and the working seems very satisfactory. It has been inspected twice by the inspectors and so far meets their approval. A study of it by the people will show the vast difference compared with, and advantage over, the older arrangement where those near the stove were over-heated and those further away often cold, with many having at times exceedingly hot air on the level of their heads and almost frozen feet. With the tests already made, the variation of temperatures at all levels and at all points of the room has not varied over from two degrees to five degrees.

Westford is behind her sister towns in length of school year. All our neighboring towns have thirty-six weeks, and, in fact, nearly all the towns of the state. We have only had thirty-four weeks generally, and this year less, for all time made up by the Graniteville schools for the year before came, of course, from this year's funds.

This brings us again to the matter of consolidation, which we have several times recommended. Further conversation with the people in those towns near that have tried it, further confirms their previous statements of success and improvement of schools and scholars. Not only is it economy, but the scholar from the outlying district gets so much more advantage that it is really surprising that the parent does not come forward and demand it of the town for his children. Such was done in our neighboring town of Concord and we presume will be here, later.

We gave you the figures last year showing the increase in the amount expended for transportation of pupils in the state for a number of years, and the increase in 1895 was over \$13,000. The increase for 1896—that being the last year covered by the report of the State Board of Education—was \$14,527.82, showing that there is a growing demand for it, and evidently both for economy and better results.

We again submit the figures of average attendance for the two smallest schools, which might advantageously be combined with other schools—the Long-Sought-For with the Wright and the Minot's Corner with the Centre schools.

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE 1897-98.

| | Long-Sought-For. | Minot's Corner. |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| April | 7.1 | 11.4 |
| May | 7.3 | 13.1 |
| June | 8.8 | 12.7 |
| September | 8.7 | 10.5 |
| October | 7.7 | 11.1 |
| November | 8.5 | 11.0 |
| December | 8.4 | 11.0 |
| January | 8.8 | 10.5 |
| February (one week)..... | 8.0 | 11.7 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| For the year..... | 8.1 | 11.4 |
| Number of grades..... | 5 | 6 |

The Long-Sought-For School, with eight pupils, having five grades, and the Minot's Corner School, with twelve pupils, six grades.

Formerly each district provided its own school. Then all

were taken under town control and the general public taxed for all. The school has been carried to the scholar; now it **has** been found better for the scholar, and more economical for the town, to carry the child to the school.

Transportation of pupils and consolidation or centralizing of schools continues to extend, and Massachusetts is by no means the only state doing so and finding it better for pupil and taxpayer. The following states also have provided legally for it: New York, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Connecticut, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Ohio and South Dakota.

The following are some of the good results given by a careful observer through the United States Commissioner of Education:

1. A much larger per cent. of enumerated pupils enrolled.
2. No tardiness among transported pupils.
3. Irregular attendance reduced.
4. Pupils better classified and graded.
5. No wet feet or clothing, nor colds resulting therefrom.
6. No quarreling, improper language or improper conduct on the way to and from school.
7. Pupils under the care of responsible persons from the time they leave home in the morning until they return at night.
8. Pupils better supplied with apparatus.
9. Pupils have the advantage of that interest, enthusiasm and confidence which large classes always bring.
10. Better teachers can be employed, hence better schools.
11. The plan insures more thorough and complete supervision.
12. It is more economical.

The new Academy building has been completed and the High School and eighth grade have been working there since September, 1897. The change from the old building is a very marked one, and while those now attending in the new, commodious building are congratulating themselves on the advance, let all recall the great results and advantage Westford has had for over one hundred years in a high grade school for her use—a lasting evidence of wisdom of early citizens and their interest in education.

The plan of closing schools on the most inclement days seems

to meet approval and the signals reach more than was anticipated in so scattered a community. The signals are given at Graniteville, Forge Village, Brookside and the Centre.

Changes have been made at the Centre Grammar School to give more light, if possible, by a skylight, and the blackboards have been improved by straightening them. The new blackboards are of slate and they will gradually be inserted throughout the town, as repairs are needed. Some were inserted at Parkerville, Stony Brook and Nabnasset schools, also, this year.

During the coming year the ceiling at Parkerville will have to be repaired and the room whitened.

Stony Brook schoolhouse needs painting soon and a cellar should be put in at the Forge Village School and the heater and fuel placed in it before long. The saving in fuel borrowed(?) will pay the interest on cost of expenditure.

Text books and supplies have been furnished as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Westford Academy for High School..... | \$185.84 |
| Eighth Grade..... | 60.28 |
| Centre Grammar..... | 36.49 |
| Centre Primary..... | 23.14 |
| Minot's Corner..... | 14.28 |
| Parkerville | 20.55 |
| Nashobah | 23.71 |
| Forge Village Grammar..... | 44.78 |
| Forge Village Primary..... | 25.90 |
| Graniteville Grammar..... | 67.56 |
| Graniteville Intermediate..... | 43.36 |
| Graniteville Primary B..... | 23.48 |
| Graniteville Primary A..... | 16.26 |
| Wright | 29.40 |
| Long-Sought-For | 15.02 |
| Nabnasset | 18.68 |
| Stony Brook..... | 39.61 |

EXPENSES PER WEEK.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Janitors | \$ 13.25 |
| Fuel | 15.00 |
| Teaching | 158.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 186.25 |
| For thirty-six weeks..... | \$6705.00 |
| Income to town from state..... | 475.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$6230.00 |
| Estimated saving by transporting two schools..... | 245.00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Necessary for thirty-six weeks of school, the same as other towns..... | \$5985.00 |

In considering the amount expended for education the value of it should be brought into mind, and we know of no better way to express this outside of the comfort one gets for himself or herself, and which he gives also to others, than to give its money value as shown by the report of the Board of Education for Massachusetts, or, better yet, let me quote the conclusion of the report of Secretary Hill for 1896:—

“The state has about three and one-half times as many inhabitants as fifty years ago, nine times as much property, and expends exclusively, for school maintenance, eleven times as much money. That is to say, the people have increased in wealth nearly three times as fast as they have increased in number, and have shown their growing regard for education by increasing their expenditures for schools even more rapidly than they have grown in wealth. Does it all pay? Attention has already been called, in a previous report, to the significant earning power of Massachusetts people, as shown by census statistics, the average being seventy-three cents for every man, woman and child, as against an average of forty cents a day for each person in the whole country.

“This excess of thirty-three cents a day means \$100 a year for each inhabitant of Massachusetts, or \$250,000,000.00 per year for the entire population,—an amount so large that the annual expenditure for education, which is about one-twenty-fifth of that sum, seems relatively insignificant.

“Thoughtful men attribute this vast excess of wealth-producing power to that intelligence, self-reliance and character that

are so well nurtured under Massachusetts influences and largely in her public schools. The expenditure for schools, if we measure results in a mere utilitarian way, seems, therefore, to pay for itself many times over.

“When we look further, however, we see returns of a more exalted kind in the expansion of the human mind, in its deeper insight into the realm of nature, in its better comprehension of social and civic duties, in the opening of new and perennial springs for its refreshment and enjoyment—and everything, indeed, that makes for its larger and richer life—returns not yielded by every school, but coming, in a large way, from the schools as a whole. Whatever one’s material earnings and possessions, it remains true that the only world he actually lives in, the only kingdom that is really his, is the kingdom of his own mind. As life is worth living, this kingdom is worth extending and enriching; and the public school, therefore, which is the most potent and persistent contributor to the wealth of this kingdom, is equally worth supporting and perfecting.”

Mr. A. Woodbury dissents from article on consolidation and transportation.

A. R. CHOATE,
 GEO. H. HARTFORD,
 F. H. HILDRETH,
 W. J. SLEEPER,
 MRS. ALTA M. TAYLOR,
 ALFRED WOODBURY,
 School Committee.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

INCOME.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Balance of Massachusetts School Fund..... | \$ 110.22 |
| Appropriation | 5600.00 |
| From state on account of Superintendent of Schools | 200.00 |
| Income Massachusetts School Fund..... | 281.28 |
| From town of Groton (tuition to March 1, 1897) | 35.00 |
| From Westford Academy for services of A. Mabelle Drew..... | 21.00 |
| | —————\$6247.50 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Teachers | \$5183.80 |
| Fuel | 488.70 |
| Janitor service..... | 435.87 |
| | <u> \$6108.37</u> |
| Balance | \$139.13 |

This shows a balance by using the income from the Massachusetts school fund in order to balance accounts. This really should not be used until this year's account and there is an actual deficit of \$142.15.

HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS IN WESTFORD ACADEMY.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Balance from last year..... | \$1186.00 |
| Appropriation | 100.00 |
| | <u> \$1286.00</u> |
| Expended for tuition..... | 1186.00 |
| | <u> </u> |
| Balance | \$100.00 |

This balance will be applied on this year's payments, and only \$1400 will need be appropriated, instead of the regular amount, \$1500.

TEXT BOOKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Appropriation | \$700.00 |
| Received from sales..... | 14.49 |
| | <u> \$714.49</u> |
| Expended | 743.36 |
| | <u> </u> |
| Overdrawn | \$28.87 |
| Due from Westford Academy on account of sales..... | 7.20 |
| | <u> </u> |
| Leaving real amount overdrawn..... | \$21.67 |

EXPENSE OF SUPERVISION.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Salary paid by town..... | \$640.00 |
| Rebate received from state..... | 500.00 |
| | <u> </u> |
| Net cost to town..... | \$140.00 |

APPROPRIATIONS RECOMMENDED.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Schools | \$6000.00 |
| High School pupils at Westford Academy..... | \$1400.00 |
| Text books and school supplies..... | \$700.00 |
| Transportation | \$350.00 |

COST OF SCHOOLS.

CENTRE.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$660.00 |
| Fuel | 78.07 |
| Care of house..... | 57.10 |

GRANITEVILLE.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Teaching | \$1394.00 |
| Fuel | 192.00 |
| Care of house..... | 162.10 |

FORGE VILLAGE.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$658.00 |
| Fuel | 77.75 |
| Care of house..... | 83.65 |

MINOT'S CORNER.

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$262.40 |
| Fuel | 23.00 |
| Care of house | 18.00 |

PARKERVILLE.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$264.00 |
| Fuel | 18.50 |
| Care of house..... | 22.25 |

NASHOBA.

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$264.00 |
| Fuel | 14.50 |
| Care of house | 18.00 |

EIGHTH GRADE.

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$351.00 |
| Fuel | 3.00 |
| Care of house | 15.00 |

NABNASSETT.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$295.20 |
| Fuel | 7.50 |
| Care of house..... | 14.85 |

STONY BROOK.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$297.00 |
| Fuel | 34.88 |
| Care of house..... | 14.37 |

LONG-SOUGHT-FOR.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$264.00 |
| Fuel | 19.13 |
| Care of house..... | 12.75 |

WRIGHT.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Teaching | \$259.20 |
| Fuel | 22.00 |
| Care of house..... | 18.50 |
| Music | \$215.00 |
| Westford Academy..... | \$1186.00 |

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the School Committee:

The schools of Westford, during the portion of the year they have been in session, have made good progress.

The Academy, with thirty-five town pupils, has done excellent work. In this school there are four distinct classes, numbering six, three, eight and eighteen pupils respectively, beginning with the highest class. Six pupils are candidates for diplomas in June. It is interesting to observe that every district in town, except Wright and Long-Sought-For, has been represented in this school. Two pupils have attended from Forge Village, seven from Graniteville, one from Nabnasset, eleven from Stony Brook, one from Minot's Corner, one from Nashoba, three from Parker-ville, and nine from the Centre and vicinity. While the valuable results achieved have been due almost entirely to the accurate scholarship and faithful teaching of the instructors, the attendant circumstances of a new building, of added appliances, and greater conveniences have increased in no small degree the interest and profit of the school.

The Eighth Grade, too, has enjoyed its facilities in the new Academy building. It has numbered twenty-one pupils, and sixteen or seventeen of them will be prepared to enter upon high school work in the Academy next fall. The teacher of this school has aided the Academy by hearing one academic recitation daily.

Of the fifteen other schools in town, but six have the same teachers now as one year ago. These have maintained well the success of former years. Of the remaining schools, two have had the same teachers throughout the entire school year; seven, during two terms. While some of these teachers have done superior work, all have put forth effort and are worthy of commendation.

ATTENDANCE.

Enrolment, 553; seven more than last year.

Average attendance, 402; four more than last year.

Per cent. of attendance, 92.6; one-half per cent. less than last year.

Tardinesses, 1377; sixty-three less than last year.

Dismissals, 326; 116 less than last year.

Visits by parents and friends, 905; 252 more than last year.

The one-half per cent. loss in attendance for the year is more than accounted for by the unusually severe storms of the last month of the winter term. Had the attendance that month been as good as during the preceding month the record for the year would have been 93½ per cent., or one-half per cent. more than last year.

The banner for best attendance has been assigned monthly as follows: Twice to the Stony Brook, Wright and Eighth Grades, each; once to Long-Sought-For and Nabnasset, each.

COURSE OF STUDIES.

Few changes have been made in the course of study during the year. The principal modifications are the following:

1. The course has been partially rewritten, extending through the first three years' work, with view to incorporating into the printed course those changes that had been made from time to time during the previous three years; and, wherever possible, to simplify it.

2. The course in physiology has been revised. The work of the first three years is oral, with Buckalew and Lewis's "The Human Body" for a teacher's guide. In the fourth and fifth grades Baldwin's Primary Lessons in Human Physiology has been furnished for pupils' use, and in the upper grammar grades Blaisdell's "How to Keep Well" has been placed in the pupils' hands. Three exercises a week during the entire fall term have been devoted to this subject, and it is believed that more and better work has been accomplished than has ever before been possible.

3. The course in literature has been strengthened by assigning certain specified selections for memorizing, seven including one patriotic song, to each grade.

TEXT-BOOKS.

Closely allied to the course of studies are the text-books used.

In the appendix will be found a revised list of text-books for use in the common schools of Westford. Not every book now in use has been included in the list, but only such as it seems desirable to purchase when the supply now on hand shall be worn out.

Much care has been taken with the reading list to make it good and adequate. In the first two years a large amount of easy reading is furnished. A part of this reading is in the direction of literature and nature stories. Beginning with the third year, while one or more regular readers is given for purposes of class drill, reading matter is also furnished in literature, history, geography and nature, each year. Though a complete set of these books may not be found in any one school at the same time, yet by transferring books from one school to another, it is made possible to give each school a wide range of valuable and interesting reading matter.

A TEACHERS' LIBRARY.

In the appendix is also given a list of the books which have been furnished the teachers as helps in their work, some in one school, others in another, and a few in all, according as they are adapted to the work done in each school. By intelligent and diligent use of these books teachers are able to render to the town services of greatly enhanced value and thereby to return to the town much more than the books cost. By bringing the titles together in one list it is hoped to make the books more available and to constitute the nucleus, at least, of a small but valuable teachers' library.

THE GRADING AT THE CENTRE SCHOOLS.

The Centre schools have been graded this year as follows:

Primary, grades I-III, thirty-six pupils.

Grammar, grades IV-VI, twenty-seven pupils.

Eighth Grade, grade VIII, twenty-one pupils.

There has been no seventh grade, owing to no promotion having been made from the Primary School in 1894.

The Primary School will receive new pupils this fall, and should promote its advanced class of eleven pupils to the fourth grade up stairs.

The Grammar School is not in condition to receive a class from below without promoting at the same time its highest class out of the school. Two classes in a grammar school is the ideal number; three, as our Grammar School has had for several years, is a possible arrangement, the number of recitations, however, requiring them to be shortened in length, so that much less advancement is made; but four grades are clearly impracticable.

Again, our Grammar School room is not large enough to accommodate four grades. It contains now thirty seats, and, with the number of pupils increased from twenty-seven to thirty-eight, there would not be floor space enough for the eight additional seats required without unduly crowding the room. The ceiling is low and the ventilation, which, with twenty-seven pupils, as now, is poor, with thirty-eight pupils would be intolerable.

So, whether we consider the instruction or the health of the pupils, it seems necessary that the Grammar School promote its advanced class of seven pupils to the next higher school,—the present Eighth Grade.

The names and grading of the schools might then be as follows:

Centre Grammar, grades VII and VIII.

Centre Intermediate, grades IV-VI.

Centre Primary, grades I-III.

MUTUAL OBLIGATIONS OF TEACHERS AND THE TOWN IN THE MATTER OF CONTRACTS.

A source of much annoyance to smaller towns is the drawing off of their good teachers to the cities through the inducements of larger salaries and greater social privileges. The small cities lose in like manner to the larger cities, and the larger to the largest. It is the law of supply and demand operating in every kind of commodity, and with teachers as with every other kind of labor. Whoever has to sell seeks the highest market. Whoever buys aims to secure the most or the best for his money. We who live in rural communities are under the same law. We sell our produce, buy our supplies, even hire our ministers, under the same law of intelligent discrimination, and the same limitations of securing and retaining only as much as our means enable us to pay

for. The fact that some of the teachers in our employ are at times thought worthy of higher pay than we can afford, while it brings regret at our comparative lack of means, should also bring gladness to our hearts and lips that we have enjoyed the services of a good teacher so long, that we have helped to make her a better teacher than when she came to us, and that in leaving us she is to be a gainer.

This hope for better things which a young teacher should feel when she takes up work in our schools is of inestimable value. It is a mighty factor in causing her to come to us in the first place, and, while with us, to do her best, and to render services of ever-increasing value. Far be it from us in hiring teachers to write over every schoolhouse door the legend—Who enters here leaves hope of preferment behind. Rather is it a wise policy to secure the best we can, especially good ability, even though at first it may be only partly developed, encourage and foster growth in the theory and practice of teaching, make it financially profitable and socially pleasant for good teachers to remain with us as long as possible, and, when merited preferment comes, give them a hearty God speed for the future.

The real cause for annoyance, where we have a right to feel aggrieved, is when a teacher leaves her work without due notice and at specially inopportune times. The evil has become so great as to attract the attention of the State Association of School Superintendents, who, at their last meeting in February, 1898, agreed upon the following statement of what they considered the proprieties that should be observed in making such changes:

“It is our judgment that no attempt should be made by superintendents, or those in charge of school affairs, to induce teachers to leave their positions immediately before the beginning of the fall term, or during the first or last month of the school year; that no attempt should be made to induce teachers to leave their positions except after notice of four weeks; that no teacher should be considered an available candidate for a new position until he shall have served at least one year in his present position unless he has made it a condition of acceptance that he may leave at any time after giving proper notice; that teachers should be mindful of the interests of the schools in which they teach, and should be

unwilling to leave their positions unless released by those who have employed them; that teachers should be unwilling to leave positions wherein they have not served at least one year, unless they have made it a condition of acceptance that they may leave at any time after proper notice; that it is the duty of school authorities, after notice of four weeks, to release teachers who can materially better themselves, unless there are unusual circumstances making such a change exceptionally injurious to the schools; that we deprecate any contract with teachers which is made mainly for the benefit of the district, town or city, whereby school authorities seek to obligate teachers to a greater degree than they obligate themselves."

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That the school year be lengthened to thirty-six weeks.
2. That instruction in vocal music be introduced into the Academy for our High School pupils.
3. That the present sixth grade class at the Centre be promoted in June to the so-called Eighth Grade, which henceforth shall constitute the Centre Grammar School.
4. That forty weeks' instruction instead of thirty-nine, as now, be given the High School pupils in the Academy.
5. That an appropriation be made for transporting the Long-Sought-For pupils to the Wright School and that the money thus saved to the town be used to lengthen the school-year in all the schools.
6. That a beginning be made in furnishing the schools with proper desks and seats. But few of the schools have seats that are execrably poor. In most of the schools the pupils may, in large part, be suitably seated, if the teacher is careful to assign seats to pupils according to their stature. Yet in nearly every school two or three pupils are found too short or too tall for any seat in the room. Let a dozen adjustable chairs and desks be purchased each year and put into those schools most needing them, perhaps three in a room, and thus furnish seats adapted to those pupils who are exceptionally short or tall. Then, when means can be raised for the purpose, have the few rooms whose furniture is wholly unsuitable, refurnished throughout.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion my thanks are due to all who have been associated with me in the school work of the year, for their mutual helpfulness, kindly consideration, and singleness of purpose. If we may not at once take all the steps forward which we would like, and which we see would be for the best interests of the town, let us at least hold fast the good we have already obtained and use to their utmost capacity the means we do have at hand for the education of the children.

Respectfully submitted,

EDMUND P. BARKER,
Superintendent of Schools.

MUSIC TEACHER'S REPORT.

To the School Committee of Westford:

The work in music during the past year has been most gratifying in nearly every instance.

The First, Second and Cecilian III Normal music readers are used in the schools of your town, while the supplementary song work has been drawn from many different sources. Each primary teacher and every teacher of an ungraded school has two classes in music. Each class above the lowest primary sings in the nine different keys, commencing with very easy exercises for the little ones; it being our purpose to teach the child to sing as easily in one key as in another. We may justly be proud of the work that has been accomplished by the teachers of the primary divisions throughout the town. Unusually good results have been obtained in some of these classes.

During my last visit to the schools of Westford I noticed particularly to see how many were not actively engaged in the entire lesson:

Forge Village Primary, singing in Part I of First Reader; all were singing.

Forge Village Grammar, just finishing First Reader; all were paying strict attention; four not singing.

Graniteville Lower Primary, singing easy exercises in all keys; all singing.

Graniteville Upper Primary, in first part of First Reader; all singing.

Graniteville Intermediate, just finishing the First Reader; every boy and girl singing and evidently enjoying the lesson.

Graniteville Grammar, singing in Part II of First Reader; all were paying good attention.

Wright School, little ones singing easy exercises in First Reader; First Division in Second Music Reader; all but four in the school were singing.

Long-Sought-For, singing in different parts of First Reader; all but one singing.

The Eighth Grade has used the Cecilian III as an exercise book.

Minot's Corner, just finishing Part I of First Reader; all were singing.

Nashoba, all but four were joining in the song work.

Centre Primary, singing in Part I of First Reader; all were singing.

Centre Grammar, just finished Part I of First Reader; all were paying attention.

Stony Brook, First Division studying Second Music Reader; Second Division in Part I of First Reader; all singing.

Nabnasset, First Division studying Second Music Reader; remainder of school in different parts of First Reader; all were singing.

We cannot hope to obtain the very best results in all grades until each class looks upon music as one of the regular studies of the school, and of just the same relative importance, during the short time devoted to it, as any other study.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. GATES-LOCKHART.

TRUANT OFFICER'S REPORTS.

Forge Village, March 4, 1898.

To the School Committee:

Gentlemen: During the year at the teacher's request I have notified the parents of one child that she must be sent to school, and the child was sent to school. I made no charge for attending to the business.

Respectfully,

G. HENRY PRESCOTT,

Truant Officer.

Graniteville, Mass., March 2, 1898.

Whole number of cases investigated, thirty-two, including five cases of truancy, which were looked into and scholars brought back into school and kept there during the balance of the term.

It seems to me that if the parents would send a note to the teachers, telling why the scholar was kept from school, and the parents knew the rule would be enforced by the school board, it would save a lot of trouble, and some expense to the town. As things are now the truant officer is handicapped with very little backing from the board. Sooner or later there will have to be an example made, and I think it will benefit all.

Respectfully submitted,

EUGENE DE ROEHN,
Truant Officer.

Westford, Mass., March 8, 1898.

To the School Committee:

I would report one case investigated for Stony Brook school and the resulting report made to the district committee.

Respectfully submitted,

AI BICKNELL.

TEXT BOOKS.

READING.

Grade I.—Davis's Beginner's Reading Book; Cyr's, Interstate, and Normal Primers; Arnold's First Reader.

Supplementary: Interstate Supplement; Thompson's Fables and Rhymes; Monroe's and Franklin Primers; Nash's and Stickney's First Readers; Hodskins' Little People's Reader.

Grade II.—Cyr's, Normal, and Normal Alternate First Readers; Arnold's Second Reader; In Mythland; Pratt's Aesop's Fables; Ford's Nature's Byways.

Supplementary: Thompson's Fairy Tale and Fable;

Smythe's Old Time Stories; Monroe's First Reader; Lane's Stories for Children; Badlam's At Home, and At Play.

Grade III.—Cyr's, Normal and Normal Alternate Second Readers; Arnold's Third Reader; Scudder's Fables and Folk Stories; Stories of Great Americans; Carroll's Around the World; Bass' Animal Life, and Plant Life.

Grade IV.—Cyr's, Normal, and Normal Alternate Third Readers; Arnold's Fourth Reader; Hans Andersen Stories; Colonial Children; King's First Book, Our World Reader, Parts I and II, or World and Its People, Book I.

Grade V.—Arnold's Fifth Reader; Whittier's Child Life; Stories from Hawthorne; Eggleston's First Book of American History; Our World Reader, Part III, King's Second Book, or Glimpses of the World.

Grade VI.—Arnold's Sixth Reader; Hawthorne's Wonder Book; Robinson Crusoe; Montgomery's Beginner's American History; King's Third, Fourth and Fifth Books, or Our Own Country, and Our American Neighbors.

Grade VII.—Arnold's Seventh Reader; Longfellow's Hiawatha and Miles Standish; Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare; Hawthorne's Grandfather's Chair; Burrough's Birds and Bees, Sharp Eyes, etc.; Modern Europe, and Life in Asia.

Grade VIII.—Arnold's Eighth Reader; Longfellow's Evangeline; Whittier's Snow Bound; Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin; Pratt's Stories from Shakespeare; Judson's Young American; Views in Africa, and Australia and the Islands of the Sea.

ARITHMETIC.

Wentworth's Primary Arithmetic; Wentworth and Reed's First Steps in Number, Pupils' Edition; Walsh's Elementary Arithmetic; Walsh's Intermediate Arithmetic; Walsh's Higher Arithmetic; Colburn's Mental Arithmetic; Bradbury's Sight Arithmetic.

LANGUAGE.

Hyde's First Book in English; Hyde's Second Book in English; Hyde's Practical English Grammar.

GEOGRAPHY.

Long's Home Geography; Frye's Primary Geography;
Frye's Complete Geography.

HISTORY.

Eggleston's History of the United States and Its People;
Mowry's History of the United States.

PHYSIOLOGY.

Baldwin's Primary Lessons in Physiology; Blaisdell's How
to Keep Well.

SPELLING.

Graves's New Graded Speller.

WRITING.

Newlands and Row's Vertical System.

MUSIC.

The Normal Course.

LIST OF TEACHERS' DESK BOOKS

Some of which may be found on each teacher's desk, according
to the grade of the school.

1. Andrews's Seven Little Sisters.
2. Andrews's Stories Mother Nature Told Her Children.
3. Badlam's Lessons in Language and Reading.
4. Bailey's First Year in Drawing.
5. Bailey and Sargent's Lessons in Drawing.
6. Boston Kindergarten Stories.
7. Boyce's Enunciation and Articulation.
8. Bright's Graded Instruction in English.
9. Chaplin's Little Folks of Other Lands.
10. Chase's Stories from Animal Land.
11. Chase's Stories from Bird Land.
12. Clapp's Observation Lessons on Minerals.
13. Crocker's Methods of Teaching Geography.

14. Dana's Plants and Their Children.
15. Davis's Beginner's Reading Book.
16. Encyclopedia of Common Things.
17. Encyclopedia of Persons and Places.
18. Everson's Outline of Plant Study.
19. Frye's Brooks and Brook Basins.
20. Frye's Manual of Geography.
21. Giffin's Dictation Exercises.
22. Gifford's Lessons in Physics.
23. Gilman's Lessons in Zoology.
24. Hill's Lessons in Geometry.
25. Jhonnot's Stories of Heroic Deeds.
26. King's Methods and Aids in Geography.
27. Lambert's Memory Gems.
28. Lovejoy's Nature in Verse.
29. Metcalf's Language Exercises.
30. Miller's My Saturday Bird Class.
31. Mowry's Elements of Civil Government.
32. Peaslee's Graded Selections.
33. Posse's Handbook of Gymnastics.
34. Prang's Use of Models.
35. Pratt's American History Stories, Vols. I, II, III, IV.
36. Pratt's Little Flower Folks, Vols. I, II.
37. Prince's Courses and Methods.
38. Prince's Arithmetic Manual.
39. Ruskin's King of the Golden River.
40. Strong's All the Year Round. Spring.
41. Tarbell's Language Manual.
42. Webster's and Worcester's Dictionaries.
43. Wentworth and Reed's First Steps in Number. Teachers' Edition.
44. Wiggin's Lessons on Manners.
45. Williams and Foster's Selections for Memorizing.

Program of Westford Academy Graduation Exercises, June 18, 1897.

PROGRAM.

- Organ Solo, Tannhauser—March and Chorus, *Wagner.*
Mr. T. R. Frost, Class of '95.
- Prayer,
Rev. Louis H. Buckshorn.
1. Essay, - - - Battle of Thermopylæ.
Charles Lewis Hildreth, Westford.
 2. Declamation, - Laureame the Marble Dream.
Esther Perry Taylor, Westford.
 3. Essay, - - - - - Trial by Jury.
Irving Porter Wright, Westford.
 4. Translation from the French of Daudet.
Marion Olive Hartford, Westford.
 5. Declamation, - - - The American Flag.
Balis Bullard Blaisdell, Carlisle.
- Song—The King of Love My Shepherd Is, - - -
- - - - - *Fred Field Bullard.*
Mr. A. E. Prescott, Class of '81.
6. Essay, - - - - - Memorial Day.
Clara Belle Wright, Westford.
 7. Declamation, - - - Charles Sumner.
John Clifford Hall, Graniteville.
 8. Essay, - - - - - Character of Portia.
Elizabeth Cushing Heywood, Westford.
 9. Translation from the French of Victor Hugo.
Leo Hamilton King, Forge Village.
 10. Declamation, - - - How Dot Heard the Messiah.
Hattie Frances Stephan, Westford.
- Song, - - - - - Selected.
Mrs. Daisy Shaw Merritt

11. Essay, - - - - - Bicycles.
Victor Henry Gurney, Forge Village.
12. Essay, - - - Ought Judges to be Elected?
John Herbert Fletcher, Westford.
13. Declamation, - The Legend of the Organ Builder.
Julia Heywood Fletcher, Westford.
14. Essay, . - - - - Hannibal.
Philip Reginald Prescott, Westford.
15. Essay, - - - - - The Old Academy.
Harriette Craven Sargent, Graniteville.
- Duet—Calm as the Night, - - - - - *Gotze*.
Mrs. Merritt and Mr. Prescott.
- Conferring of Diplomas.
By Mr. Edmund P. Barker, Supt.

GRADUATING CLASS.

COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSE.

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Elizabeth Cushing Heywood. | Harriette Craven Sargent. |
| Victor Henry Gurney. | John Clifford Hall. |
| Charles Lewis Hildreth. | Philip Reginald Prescott. |

ENGLISH AND CLASSICAL COURSE.

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Hattie Frances Stephan. | Esther Perry Taylor. |
|-------------------------|----------------------|

ENGLISH COURSE.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Julia Heywood Fletcher. | Marion Olive Hartford. |
| Clara Belle Wright. | Balis Bullard Blaisdell. |
| John Herbert Fletcher. | Leo Hamilton King. |
| Iving Porter Wright. | |

Motto: "Animo et Fide."

CLASS ODE.

By Harriette Craven Sargent.

AIR: "AMERICA."

Thou dear Academy,
 Old as the century
 And still the same!
 No more on us shall fall
 Thine ever welcome call,
 Yet in the hearts of all
 Thou wilt remain.

Thy meed of blame and praise
 Has blessed these youthful days,
 Dear school of ours.
 The years of toil spent here
 Glad memory brings near
 For they were filled with cheer
 Of happy hours.

Dear old Academy,
 Our valedictory
 With love is filled.
 We thank thee for thy care,
 Thine influence everywhere,
 And for the lessons rare
 Thou hast instilled.

Program of Eighth Grade Graduation Exercises.

Friday Evening, June 11, 1897.

PROGRAM.

- Prayer,
Rev. L. H. Buckshorn.
- Song, - - - - - Isle of Beauty.
School.
- Recitation, - - - - - Jennie McNeal's Ride.
Annie T. Harris.
- Essay, - - - - - An Eastern City.
Krikor H. Zooloomian.
- Recitation, - - - - - Our Nation's Timepiece.
J. Ellsworth York.
- Song, - - - - - I Love to Sing.
Edith M. Johnson.
- Recitation, - - - - - Harnosan.
Willie O'Brien.
- Essay, - - - - - The Battle of Gettysburg.
Edith A. Wright.
- Recitation, - - - - - The Red Jacket.
Luanna B. Decatur.
- Song,
Katie Burke.
- Recitation, - - - - - The Legend of Bregenz.
May E. L. West.
- Essay,
Eva G. Decatur.
- Recitation, - - - - - Brier Rose.
Julia F. Burke.
- Song,
Edith Wright, Annie Harris, Mabel Longbottom,
Luanna Decatur, Mollie Holden, Edith Johnson.

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Recitation, | - | - | - | - | Sense and Sentiment. |
| | | | | | Edward E. Decatur. |
| Essay, | - | - | - | - | A Plea for the Birds. |
| | | | | | Mollie E. Holden. |
| Recitation, | - | - | - | - | A Galley Slave. |
| | | | | | Frank E. McMaster. |
| Song, | - | - | - | - | The Pride of the Ball. |
| | | | | | Mabel A. Longbottom. |
| Recitation, | - | - | - | - | Home, Sweet Home. |
| | | | | | Bertha A. Prescott. |
| Essay, | - | - | - | - | Arbitration. |
| | | | | | Laura A. Tallant. |
| Recitation, | - | - | - | - | The Black Horse and His Rider. |
| | | | | | John A. Taylor. |
| Parting Song. | | | | | School. |
| Address to the Class. | | | | | Rev. A. A. Bickford. |
| Presentation of Diplomas. | | | | | |

GRADUATING CLASS.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Julia Frances Burke. | Frank Edwin McMaster. |
| Katie Burke. | Willie O'Brien. |
| Eva Gertrude Decatur. | Bertha Amelia Prescott. |
| Edward Ernest Decatur. | Laura Adeline Tallant. |
| Luanna Battles Decatur. | John Adams Taylor. |
| Edith May Johnson. | May Emma Louise West. |
| Annie Turnbull Harris. | Edith Augusta Wright. |
| Mollie Edna Holden. | John Ellsworth York. |
| Mabel Annie Longbottom. | Krikor Harry Zooloomian. |

ROLL OF HONOR.

The figures show the number of terms neither absent nor tardy.

ACADEMY.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Laura Tallant, . . . | 2 |
| Ruth Tuttle, . . . | 2 |
| Luanna Decatur, . . . | 1 |
| Clara Fritz, . . . | 1 |
| Annie Harris, . . . | 1 |
| Bertha Prescott, . . . | 1 |
| Bessie Tallant, . . . | 1 |
| Edith Wright, . . . | 1 |
| Herbert Fletcher, . . . | 1 |
| Philip Prescott, . . . | 1 |
| Charles Trull, . . . | 1 |
| Krikor Zooloomian, . . . | 1 |

EIGHTH GRADE.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Warren Blaisdell, . . . | 2 |
| Alberta Wil-son, . . . | 2 |
| Mollie Holden, . . . | 1 |
| Fannie Bannister, . . . | 1 |
| Effie Bennett, . . . | 1 |
| Eva Burnham, . . . | 1 |
| John Murphy, . . . | 1 |

CENTRE GRAMMAR.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Charlotte Prescott, . . . | 2 |
| Albert Waller, . . . | 2 |
| Isabelle Johnson, . . . | 2 |
| Dorothy Sleeper, . . . | 1 |
| Allan Whitney, . . . | 1 |
| Marguerite Bannister, . . . | 1 |
| Edith Bicknell, . . . | 1 |
| Stella Hartford, . . . | 1 |
| Robert Prescott, . . . | 1 |
| Harold Hildreth, . . . | 1 |

CENTRE PRIMARY.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Gretchen Kebler, . . . | 1 |
| Charles Carpenter, . . . | 1 |
| Frank Johnson, . . . | 1 |
| Etta McDougall, . . . | 1 |
| Natalie Sleeper, . . . | 1 |
| Mabel Miller, . . . | 1 |
| Ruth Miller, . . . | 1 |

STONY BROOK.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Alson Kimball, . . . | 3 |
| Bernard Flynn, . . . | 3 |
| Walter Johnson, . . . | 2 |
| Jessie Walkden, . . . | 2 |
| Ida Walkden, . . . | 2 |
| Tommy Flynn, . . . | 2 |
| Ella Vinal, . . . | 2 |
| Ada Kimball, . . . | 1 |
| Inez Kimball, . . . | 1 |
| Nat. Decatur, . . . | 1 |
| Lucin la Prescott, . . . | 1 |
| John Flynn, . . . | 1 |
| Effie Kimball, . . . | 1 |
| Emma Johnson, . . . | 1 |
| Walter Kimball, . . . | 1 |
| Fred Johnson, . . . | 1 |

FORGE GRAMMAR.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Venia Darling, . . . | 2 |
| Hilda Normington, . . . | 2 |
| Laura Mann, . . . | 1 |
| Emma Snider, . . . | 1 |
| Eddie Hanley, . . . | 1 |
| Marion Sweatt, . . . | 1 |
| Stella Gurney, . . . | 1 |
| Nettie Sprague, . . . | 1 |
| Eveline Leclere, . . . | 1 |

FORGE PRIMARY.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Roy Darling, . . . | 2 |
| Ora Darling, . . . | 2 |
| Willie DeRoehn, . . . | 2 |
| Georgeanna Byron, . . . | 1 |
| Katie Brown, . . . | 1 |
| Emma Snider, . . . | 1 |
| Mary Byron, . . . | 1 |
| Charles Coburn, . . . | 1 |
| Gerald Dailey, . . . | 1 |
| Annie Leclere, . . . | 1 |
| Helen Lord, . . . | 1 |

NASHOBA.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Henry McDonald, . . . | 2 |
| Ora Richardson, . . . | 1 |
| Mabel McDonald, . . . | 1 |
| Philip Whittier, . . . | 1 |

PARKERVILLE.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| George Cann, . . . | 2 |
| Arthur Bicknell, . . . | 1 |
| James Sullivan, . . . | 1 |
| Lillian Brown, . . . | 1 |
| Charles Cann, . . . | 1 |
| Margaret Sullivan, . . . | 1 |

MINOT'S CORNER.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Augusta Blaisdell, . . . | 1 |
| Inez Burnham, . . . | 1 |
| Bertha Blaisdell, . . . | 1 |
| Arthur Blaisdell, . . . | 1 |
| Johanna O'Brien, . . . | 1 |

NABNASSET.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Frank Mooney, . . . | 2 |
| James Taylor, . . . | 2 |
| Gustaf Eliason, . . . | 1 |
| Charles Taylor, . . . | 1 |
| Olga Anderson, . . . | 1 |
| Arthur Anderson, . . . | 1 |
| Elmer Frull, . . . | 1 |
| Mary Rancour, . . . | 1 |

LONG-SOUGHT-FOR.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Leonard Dane, . . . | 2 |
| Iva Sherburne, . . . | 2 |
| Julia Burke, . . . | 1 |
| Katie Burke, . . . | 1 |
| Elsie Decatur, . . . | 1 |
| Victor Sherburne, . . . | 1 |

GRANITE. UPPER PRIMARY.

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| John Grieg, . . . | 2 |
| Inez McLenna, . . . | 1 |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Agnes Charlton, . . . | 1 |
| Lillie Moran, . . . | 1 |

WRIGHT.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Fred Blodgett, . . . | 3 |
| Belle Shugrue, . . . | 2 |
| Lena Shugrue, . . . | 2 |
| Luella Wright, . . . | 2 |
| Carl Badger, . . . | 2 |
| Lillian Wright, . . . | 2 |
| Carl Wright, . . . | 2 |
| Charles Blodgett, . . . | 1 |
| Edwin Gould, . . . | 1 |

GRANITE. GRAMMAR.

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Cornelia Kierstead, . . . | 2 |
| Allan Carkin, . . . | 2 |
| Mary Charlton, . . . | 2 |
| Fred Leland, . . . | 2 |
| Clarence McLenna, . . . | 2 |
| Blenda Mattson, . . . | 1 |
| Willie Petherick, . . . | 1 |
| Alice Sheahan, . . . | 1 |
| Michael Ledwith, . . . | 1 |
| Willie Murphy, . . . | 1 |
| Roscoe Moran, . . . | 1 |
| May Grant, . . . | 1 |

GRANITE. INTERMEDIATE.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| George Petherick, . . . | 2 |
| Elsie Anderson, . . . | 1 |
| Willie Wall, . . . | 1 |
| Myron Carkin, . . . | 1 |
| Blanche Loftus, . . . | 1 |
| Frank Charlton, . . . | 1 |
| Gussie Spillane, . . . | 1 |

GRANITE. LOWER PRIMARY.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Gertrude Loftus, . . . | 2 |
| Horace Buckingham, . . . | 1 |
| Stella McLenna, . . . | 1 |
| Ella Gilson, . . . | 1 |
| Fred Petherick, . . . | 1 |
| Raymond Charlton, . . . | 1 |

COMMON SCHOOL CALENDAR, 1898-9.

1898.

- March 21. Spring term opens.
- June 10. Spring term closes.
- Sept. 6. Fall term opens.
- Nov. 18. Fall term closes.
- Nov. 28. Winter term begins.
- Dec. 23. Christmas vacation begins.

1899.

- Jan. 2. Winter term reopens.
- March 3. Winter term closes (or earlier if lack of funds requires.)
- March 20. Spring term opens.
- June 9. Spring term closes.
- Sept. 5. Fall term opens.

LIST OF TEACHERS.

| SCHOOLS. | TEACHERS. | APPOINTED. | EDUCATED. | SALARIES |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|---|---|
| Academy, { | Principal..... | 1872 | Bowdoin College, '70..... | { Town pays \$1,500 } of Salaries, \$10 00 |
| | Assistant..... | | Smith College..... | |
| Eighth Grade..... | A. Mabelle Drew..... | 1892 | Trinity College, Toronto, '96. | 10 00 |
| | | 1890 | Bridgewater Normal, '90..... | 10 00 |
| Centre Grammar..... | Martha J. Taylor..... | 1896 | Hebron Academy, Me., '91..... | 10 00 |
| | | 1897 | Mt. Holyoke College, '97..... | 10 00 |
| Centre Primary..... | Fannie B. Prescott..... | 1892 | Westford Academy..... | 9 00 |
| | | 1895 | Ayer High School, '94..... | 10 00 |
| Stony Brook..... | Lillian A. Downing..... | 1896 | Punchard Academy, '82..... | 10 00 |
| | | 1897 | Canton Training School..... | 10 00 |
| Forge Grammar..... | Etta Holt..... | 1897 | Townsend Female Seminary.. | 8 00 |
| | | 1897 | Caroline E. Hewett..... | 8 00 |
| Forge Primary..... | Emma L. Randlett..... | 1896 | Worcester Normal, '96..... | 8 00 |
| | | 1897 | Westford Academy, '97..... | 8 00 |
| Nashoba..... | Rose A. Parrott..... | 1896 | Everett Home School, '93..... | 8 00 |
| | | 1897 | Framingham Normal, '97..... | 8 00 |
| Parkerville..... | Clara B. Wright..... | 1874 | Framingham Normal, '74..... | 9 00 |
| | | 1896 | Boston University..... | 8 00 |
| Minot's Corner..... | Annie W. Chase..... | 1897 | Littleton High School, '96.... | 8 00 |
| | | 1897 | Roston University..... | 8 00 |
| Nabnasset..... | Lizzie A. Winship..... | 1897 | Bridgewater Normal, '97..... | 8 00 |
| | | 1874 | Westford Academy, '81..... | 10 00 |
| Long-Sought-For..... | Flora H. Merrill..... | 1896 | Salem Normal, '95..... | 10 00 |
| | | 1897 | Westford Academy, '92..... | 10 00 |
| Wright..... | Jessie A. Marshall..... | 1896 | Westford Academy, '81..... | 10 00 |
| | | 1897 | Bradford Academy..... | 10 00 |
| Graniteville Grammar..... | Daisy C. Bemis..... | 1897 | Westford Academy, '91..... | 10 00 |
| | | 1885 | (Address, 58 Cliff St., Roxbury, Mass.) | |
| Graniteville Intermediate..... | Harriet C. Beattie..... | 1897 | | |
| | | 1893 | | |
| Granite, Upper Primary..... | Julia M. Chamberlain..... | 1897 | | |
| | | 1897 | | |
| Granite, Lower Primary..... | Issie A. Parker..... | 1894 | | |
| | | 1891 | | |
| Music Director..... | Bertha A. Swain..... | 1891 | | |
| | | 1895 | | |
| | Mrs. Gates Lockhart..... | 1895 | | |

SCHOOL STATISTICS, 1897-8.

| No. | SCHOOLS. | Grades. | Weeks of School. | Enrolment. | Average Member-ship. | Average Attendance. | Per cent. of Attendance. | Under Five. | Between Five and Fifteen. | Between Eight and Fourteen. | Over Fifteen. | Half Days Absence. | Tardinesses. | Tardinesses per Pupil. | Dismissals | VISITS. | | |
|-----|------------------------------|---------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------------|------------|------------|-------|---------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Committee. | Supt. | Others. |
| 1 | Academy | 9-12 | 39 | 51 | 33.7 | 30.8 | 91.6 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 45 | 652 | 371 | 12.0 | 30 | 6 | 18 | 55 |
| 2 | Eighth Grade | 8 | 33 | 21 | 18. | 17. | 94.5 | 0 | 13 | 9 | 8 | 348 | 85 | 5.0 | 25 | 4 | 11 | 32 |
| 3 | Centre Grammar | 4-6 | 33 | 27 | 23.5 | 21.8 | 92.8 | 0 | 27 | 27 | 0 | 583 | 74 | 3.3 | 18 | 8 | 12 | 127 |
| 4 | Centre Primary | 1-3 | 33 | 41 | 35.1 | 31.4 | 89.9 | 3 | 38 | 14 | 0 | 1,237 | 67 | 2.1 | 29 | 5 | 10 | 75 |
| 5 | Stony Brook | 1-7 | 33 | 35 | 26.5 | 25.5 | 96.2 | 0 | 34 | 20 | 1 | 613 | 32 | 1.0 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 64 |
| 6 | Forge Grammar | 3-7 | 33 | 31 | 27.6 | 25.8 | 93.5 | 0 | 31 | 29 | 0 | 613 | 32 | 1.2 | 29 | 2 | 12 | 35 |
| 7 | Forge Primary | 1-2 | 32.8 | 43 | 32.3 | 30.4 | 94.1 | 9 | 34 | 19 | 0 | 623 | 78 | 2.5 | 31 | 2 | 12 | 17 |
| 8 | Nashoba | 1-6 | 33 | 17 | 14.8 | 13.7 | 92.6 | 0 | 16 | 11 | 1 | 359 | 98 | 6.6 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 17 |
| 9 | Parkerville | 1-7 | 33 | 23 | 15.8 | 14.1 | 89.2 | 0 | 22 | 13 | 1 | 543 | 59 | 4.2 | 5 | 4 | 10 | 70 |
| 10 | Minot's Corner | 1-7 | 33 | 13 | 12.4 | 11.4 | 92.3 | 0 | 13 | 9 | 15 | 331 | 50 | 4.4 | 38 | 3 | 10 | 37 |
| 11 | Nabnasset | 1-7 | 33 | 34 | 26.3 | 24.5 | 93.2 | 0 | 32 | 22 | 2 | 590 | 31 | 1.2 | 21 | 4 | 9 | 24 |
| 12 | Long-Sought-For | 1-6 | 33 | 12 | 8.4 | 8.1 | 96.7 | 0 | 10 | 7 | 2 | 107 | 55 | 6.7 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 62 |
| 13 | Wright | 1-7 | 33 | 21 | 17.9 | 16.9 | 94.0 | 0 | 20 | 15 | 1 | 328 | 55 | 3.0 | 9 | 2 | 9 | 36 |
| 14 | Granite, Grammar | 5-7 | 35 | 51 | 36.0 | 33.0 | 91.7 | 0 | 50 | 46 | 1 | 1,072 | 80 | 2.4 | 67 | 2 | 14 | 44 |
| 15 | Granite, Intermediate | 3-4 | 35 | 39 | 32.3 | 30.1 | 93.2 | 0 | 39 | 36 | 0 | 735 | 93 | 3.0 | 27 | 2 | 12 | 57 |
| 16 | Granite, Upper Primary | 2-3 | 35 | 41 | 35.3 | 32.8 | 92.9 | 0 | 41 | 24 | 0 | 905 | 68 | 2.0 | 12 | 1 | 12 | 67 |
| 17 | Granite, Lower Primary | 1 | 35 | 53 | 37.6 | 34.3 | 91.2 | 3 | 50 | 2 | 0 | 1,155 | 54 | 1.5 | 8 | 4 | 12 | 86 |
| | | | | Totals, 1897-8 | 434 | 402 | 92.6 | 15 | 476 | 305 | 77 | 10,502 | 1,377 | 3.4 | 326 | 58 | 191 | 905 |
| | | | | Totals, 1896-7 | 428 | 398 | 93.1 | 11 | 496 | 272 | 40 | 9,990 | 1,440 | 3.5 | 442 | 43 | 201 | 653 |

ANNUAL REPORTS
— OF THE —
TOWN OFFICERS
— OF THE —
TOWN OF WESTFORD

— FOR THE —
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1899.

— ALSO —
TOWN WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TO BE HELD MARCH 20, 1899.



LOWELL, MASS. :
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1899

ANNUAL REPORTS

—OF THE—

TOWN OFFICERS

—OF THE—

TOWN OF WESTFORD

—FOR THE—

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1899.

—ALSO—

TOWN WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TO BE HELD MARCH 20, 1899.



LOWELL, MASS. :
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1899

OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, 1898.

Town Clerk.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT.

Selectmen.

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, . . . Term expires March, 1899
WESLEY O. HAWKES, *Secretary*, . . . Term expires March, 1900
SHERMAN H. FLETCHER, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901

Assessors.

WILLIAM H. H. BURBECK, *Secretary*, . . . Term expires March, 1899
SAMUEL L. TAYLOR, . . . Term expires March, 1900
GEORGE H. HARTFORD, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901

Overseers of the Poor.

ALVIN G. POLLEY, . . . Term expires March, 1899
ALBERT R. CHOATE, *Secretary*, . . . Term expires March, 1900
LEONARD W. WHEELER, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901

Treasurer.

NAHUM H. WRIGHT.

Collector of Taxes.

WALTER C. WRIGHT.

Auditor.

ARTHUR B. PLIMPTON.

Constables.

EUGENE DE ROEHN.

JOHN A. HEALY.

School Committee.

FRANK H. HILDRETH, . . . Term expires March, 1899
ALFRED WOODBURY, . . . Term expires March, 1899
GEORGE H. HARTFORD, . . . Term expires March, 1900
WALTER J. SLEEPER, *Secretary*, . . . Term expires March, 1900
ALBERT R. CHOATE, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901
ARTHUR WRIGHT, . . . Term expires March, 1901

Sealer of Weights and Measures.

TRUE A. BEAN.

Registrars of Voters.

NELSON L. TUTTLE, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires April 30, 1899
 QUINCY W. DAY, Term expires April 30, 1900
 OSCAR R. SPALDING, Term expires April 30, 1901
 GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Clerk Ex-Officio*.

Precinct Officers.

PRECINCT 1.—Warden, J. Henry Read; Deputy Warden, Geo. H. Hartford; Clerk, John M. Fletcher; Deputy Clerk, A. P. Richardson; Inspectors, T. Arthur E. Wilson, W. H. H. Burbeck; Deputy Inspectors, Harry L. Nesmith, C. R. P. Decatur.

PRECINCT 2.—Warden, Lewis C. Dane; Deputy Warden, Joseph Wall; Clerk, Walter C. Wright; Deputy Clerk, Chas. G. Sargent; Inspectors, Albert R. Choate, Horace E. Gould; Deputy Inspectors, Reuben E. Redding, William Wall.

PRECINCT 3.—Warden, Frank H. Hildreth; Deputy Warden, Peter McGlinchy; Clerk, John J. Monahan; Deputy Clerk, Fred. W. Edwards; Inspectors, Edson G. Boynton, George J. Dunn; Deputy Inspectors, Henry B. Read, Daniel H. Sheehan.

Mr. Sargent did not qualify.

Superintendent of Streets.

BENJAMIN F. DAY.

Inspectors of Animals and Provisions.

GEORGE T. DAY, ALBERT P. RICHARDSON.

Measurer of Grain.

ALONZO H. SUTHERLAND.

Fence Viewers.

ALVIN G. POLLEY, LEWIS C. DANE,
 ALMON S. VOSE.

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber.

THOMAS E. SYMMES, HORACE E. GOULD,
 WM W. JOHNSON, JOHN A. HEALY,
 ALONZO H. SUTHERLAND, JEREMIAH DESMOND,
 MICHAEL McGLINCHY.

Field Drivers.

J. WILLARD FLETCHER, FRANK B TULIS,
 GEORGE W. HILL, RALPH WOODBURY,
 BRADLEY V. WRIGHT.

None of the Field Drivers qualified.

Weighers of Coal.

CHAS. E. WHIDDEN, JOHN A. HEALY,
 JOHN M. FLETCHER, HENRY J. HEALY,
 WM. W. JOHNSON, REUBEN E. REDDING.

Trustees of J. V. Fletcher Library.

WILLIAM E. FROST, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1899
 LOUIS H. BUCKSHORN, . . . Term expires March, 1900
 CATHERINE A. KEBLER, . . . Term expires March, 1901

Librarian.

CARRIE E. READ.

Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

GEORGE T. DAY, . . . Term expires March, 1899
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, . . . Term expires March, 1900
 NOAH PRESCOTT, . . . Term expires March, 1901

Police Officers.

AI BICKNELL, SAMUEL H. BALCH,
 WM. H. PETHERICK, LINCOLN REDDICK,
 ANTHONY H. SAUNDERS.

Fire Wards.

JOHN A. HEALY, LEONARD W. WHEELER,
 SAMUEL H. BALCH, HARRY L. NESMITH.
 Mr. Wheeler declined serving.

Forest Fire Wards.

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, EDWARD PRESCOTT.

Agent for Burial of Deceased Soldiers, Etc.

GEORGE T. DAY.

Undertakers.

ALBERT P. RICHARDSON, JOHN A. HEALY.

Superintendent of Almshouse.

SAMUEL H. BALCH.

Janitor of Town House and Library Building.

AI BICKNELL.

Appraisers of Property at Town Farm.

JOHN M. FLETCHER, FRANK C. HILDRETH,
 J. WILLARD FLETCHER.

BIRTHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1898.

| DATE. | NAMES. | PARENTS' NAMES. |
|--------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Nov. 29.... | Abbot, John Fletcher..... | John C. and Anna M. (Fletcher). |
| July 14.... | Andersen | Andrew and Julia (Andersen). |
| Mar. 8.... | Anderson, Clara..... | John and Ingrid (Nelson). |
| Aug. 16.... | Boudrow, Mabel .. | George and Mary (Richard). |
| Dec. 1.... | Brisson, Arthur..... | Arthur and Adeline (Roup). |
| April 5.... | Bunce, Dorothy..... | Henry A. and Rose (Polley). |
| Feb. 12.... | Carlson, Henry William..... | Oskar and Augusta (Anderson). |
| Jan. 29.... | Caron, Helen Delia..... | Lewis and Rose (Hamel). |
| Mar. 23.... | Caunter, William Henry..... | Horace M. and Ella (Ingalls). |
| June 14.... | Clement, Catherine Elizabeth... | Peter and Mary (O'Conner). |
| Feb. 18.... | Courtney, Alexander John..... | Alexander and Mary (Barlow). |
| Dec. 19.... | Cummings, Frederic Lee..... | Irving T. and Jennie D. (Cheney). |
| July 5.... | Cummings, John Francis..... | James F. and Maria (Mahan). |
| April 7.... | DeRoehn, Arthur C..... | George H. and Minnie (Healy). |
| Dec. 27.... | Deziel, Phillip Antoine..... | Gaspard and Emma (Houle). |
| Feb. 3.... | DuFranc, Everline | George and Agness (Chamfoubie) |
| June 11.... | Farrar, Clarence E..... | George and Annie (Pinkerton). |
| Feb. 7.... | Felch, Mineva Fletcher..... | Frank P. and Cora (Wilson). |
| June 14 .. | Fitzgerald, Edward Franklin.... | Thomas and Annie (Rawson). |
| Sept. 21 .. | Fletcher, Lewis Lorenzo | Herbert E. and Carrie D. (Hill). |
| June 28.... | Fletcher, Walter Whidden..... | J. Willard and Etta H. (Whidden). |
| Oct. 8.... | Grimley, Edward Laurence..... | James and Jane (Morren). |
| Sept. 20.... | Hanson | Martin and Sophia (Thorbjarnsson). |
| Nov. 5.... | Hanson, Alma Elvira Erika..... | Adolph C. and Eunice (Karlsen). |
| Mar. 25.... | Healy, Frederick Sullivan..... | John A. and Elizabeth (Sullivan). |
| June 5.... | Hosmer, Elizabeth Ellen..... | William and Jennie H. (Bennett). |
| May 21.... | Johnson, Frances May..... | Frank T. and Mary (Akerson). |
| Dec. 14.... | Johnson, Marion Jordan..... | William R. and Inez (Cordingly). |
| Mar. 18.... | Kyle, John Alexander..... | Samuel A. and Mary (Stirk). |
| April 28.... | McCoy, Helen May | Fred L. and Lottie (Cann). |
| Dec. 15.... | Mills, William Hugh | Herbert H. and Rose E. (Millis). |
| May 6.... | Monahan, Walter Thomas | John J. and Eva M. (McEanney) |
| Oct. 17.... | Newton, Julia Ann..... | James and Julia A. (Werren). |
| Mar. 2.... | O'Brien, Arthur..... | James H. and Annie (Dunn). |
| April 9 .. | O'Brien, Joseph..... | John W. and Elizabeth A. (Dempsey). |
| Aug. 27.... | Olaski | Charles H. and Sofia (Zervatski). |
| Feb. 20.... | Orr, Annie Lillian..... | Robert and Jennie (McMurray). |
| Aug. 27.... | Payne, Ellen..... | Thomas P. and Sarah (Davie). |
| Aug. 28.... | Pollock, Theodore Leon..... | William H. and Ella L. (Sherman). |
| June 2.... | Prescott, Mabel M..... | Nathan and Hattie M. (Duren). |
| Oct. 28.... | Prinn, William Thomas..... | Alfred T. W. and Mary E. (Ledwith). |
| Feb. 19.... | Provost, John Joseph | Henry W. and Mary A. (Larkin). |
| Feb. 2.... | Read, Edward | Henry B. and Julia M. (Chamberlin). |
| June 1.... | Ring..... | Michael E. and Elizabeth (Voto). |
| July 9.... | Rockwell, Percy Llewellyn | Guy L. and Mamie (Bicknell). |
| Jan. 4.... | Roper, Maude Helena..... | Elijah H. and Janet T. (Lord). |
| Oct. 24.... | Sears, Mary Anna..... | Joseph H. and Sophia (Brussard). |
| April 1 .. | Sevensere, Alexandre..... | John and Oliss (Rabseau). |
| Feb. 11.... | Smith, Albert William..... | William and Jennie Maud (Davis). |
| Jan. 3.... | Sweetser, Waldo James | Warren P. and Jessie (Harrap). |
| Nov. 7.... | Theall, Lewis Whittier..... | William and Lillian (Pittman). |
| Nov. 7.... | Theall, Lois Bartlett..... | William and Lillian (Pittman). |
| April 19 .. | Whitney, Virginia..... | George H. and and Ida (Woodman). |
| Oct. 29.... | Wilkinson, Celia Gertrude..... | Julian and Rachel (Hoyt). |
| Jan. 23.... | Stillborn | |
| Jan. 23.... | Stillborn .. | |
| July 2.... | Stillborn | |
| Nov. 21.... | Stillborn | |
| | One omitted. | |

Number recorded, Males 33, Females 26, Total 59.

Of American parentage, 24; foreign parentage, 17; American father and foreign mother, 10; American mother and foreign father, 8.

Correction of last year's report: child of Julian Whitney was named Stella and not Lilla.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT,

Town Clerk.

MARRIAGES

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1898.

| DATE. | NAMES. | AGE. | RESIDENCE. | BIRTHPLACE. |
|----------|---------------------------------|------|------------------|-------------------|
| Jan. 12 | Abbot, John Cameron..... | 25 | Westford..... | Westford. |
| | Fletcher, Anna Munroe..... | 20 | Belmont..... | Belmont. |
| Oct. 20 | Billson, David..... | 21 | Westford..... | England. |
| | Clarke, Agnes M..... | 21 | "..... | Lawrence. |
| June 22 | Butterworth, John James..... | 30 | "..... | Westford. |
| | Harrap, Jeannette Agnes..... | 25 | "..... | England. |
| Feb. 20 | Curtis, Robert Francis..... | 21 | Groton..... | Groton. |
| | Richard, Celia..... | 18 | Westford..... | Killingly, Ct. |
| Dec. 20 | Dane, Lewis C..... | 48 | "..... | Westford. |
| | Sprague, Hattie A. (Darrow)... | 45 | Abilene, Tex.... | Windso, Vt. |
| Nov. 2 | Defoe, Edward..... | 25 | Westford..... | Lowell. |
| | McCarthy, Anne Elizabeth..... | 19 | "..... | Concord. |
| Mar. 26 | DeRoehn, Clarence..... | 19 | "..... | Lowell. |
| | Jones, Bertha Ann..... | 17 | Chelmsford..... | Maine. |
| Apr. 18 | Downey, Dennis P..... | 31 | Marlborough.... | Marlborough. |
| | Hanley, Elizabeth A..... | 27 | Westford..... | Lowell. |
| Oct. 15 | Downs, Harvey Leroy..... | 21 | "..... | Vassalboro, Me. |
| | Potter, Maud Marion..... | 18 | "..... | Tyngsborough. |
| June 15 | Edwards, Frederick Walter..... | 23 | "..... | Westford. |
| | MacGregor, Edith Alice..... | 24 | "..... | Manchester, N. H. |
| Oct. 11 | Elliott, James..... | 29 | "..... | Ireland. |
| | Boynton, Mary Ann..... | 23 | Chelmsford..... | Lowell. |
| July 31 | Farrow, Charles B..... | 32 | Westford..... | New Brunswick. |
| | Lemay, Amelia M..... | 25 | "..... | Lowell. |
| Oct. 12 | Felch, Alfred W..... | 25 | "..... | Westford. |
| | Mason, Alice A..... | 23 | Lowell..... | Nashua, N. H. |
| Nov. 23 | Greenwood, Albert..... | 26 | Westford..... | Canada. |
| | Hagen, Maggie..... | 27 | "..... | Ireland. |
| Sept. 22 | Miller, Eugene E..... | 27 | Brockton..... | Nova Scotia. |
| | Clarke, Annie B..... | 27 | Westford..... | Prince Edward Is. |
| Jan. 16 | Miner, Joseph R..... | 20 | "..... | Canada. |
| | Cloutier, Louia..... | 17 | "..... | Canada. |
| Feb. 6 | Morrill, Frank..... | 63 | Nashua, N.H.... | Maramshe, N. B. |
| | Lewis, Sarah Ann (Shattuck)... | 62 | Westford..... | Huntington, Vt. |
| Aug. 27 | Mountain, Ernest Gideon..... | 27 | "..... | Canada. |
| | Whigham, Catherine..... | 20 | "..... | Scotland. |
| Aug. 27 | Osgood, Hollie Erwin..... | 24 | "..... | Province Quebec. |
| | Hall, Alice May..... | 21 | "..... | New Brunswick. |
| July 27 | Parlee, Frederick J..... | 24 | Chelmsford..... | New Brunswick. |
| | Palmer, Ida M..... | 19 | Westford..... | Merrimack, N. H. |
| April 17 | Payne, James H..... | 23 | "..... | Lowell. |
| | Leduc, Marie Emmerentienne..... | 22 | "..... | Canada. |
| Aug. 2 | Phelps, Frank Arthur Vreeland. | 24 | "..... | Winchester. |
| | Laungell, Lena M..... | 24 | Everett..... | Nova Scotia. |
| June 29 | Shea, James M..... | 31 | Westford..... | Glastonbury, Ct. |
| | Rogers, Catherine T..... | 21 | Chelmsford..... | Lawrence. |
| | Two omitted. | | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|------------------------------------|----|
| Number of marriages recorded..... | 25 | American groom and foreign bride.. | 3 |
| Solemnized in Westford..... | 9 | American bride and foreign groom.. | 5 |
| Westford grooms..... | 19 | Second marriage of groom..... | 3 |
| Westford brides..... | 18 | Third marriage of bride..... | 2 |
| Between Americans..... | 12 | Fourth marriage of bride..... | 1 |
| Between foreigners..... | 5 | Solemnized by Westford clergymen. | 10 |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT,

Town Clerk.

DEATHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1898.

| DATE. | NAMES, ETC. | AGE. | | |
|----------|--|------|------|-------|
| | | Yrs. | Mos. | Days. |
| Dec. 22 | Adams, Frances E. (Jordan), wife of Charles L..... | 55 | 11 | 15 |
| Feb. 12 | Bicknell, Martha (Dadmun), wid. of Ira..... | 81 | 5 | 6 |
| July 24 | Boyle, Edward L., resident of Lowell..... | 20 | 5 | — |
| Nov. 23 | Carrick, William, son of Robert and Eliza..... | 45 | 4 | 29 |
| Aug. 5 | Childs, Phebe E. (Baneroft), wid. of William T..... | 74 | 4 | — |
| Dec. 26 | Clarke, William, son of William and Ann (Ling)..... | 53 | 8 | — |
| July 13 | Crockett, Mary J., dau. of Henry C. and Lucinda (Ewer)..... | 19 | — | — |
| Dec. 29 | Cummings, Howard Winchell, son of Irving T., Jennie D. (Cheney)..... | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Mar. 20 | Day, Isaac Edmund, son of Isaac, Jr. and Betsey (Proctor)..... | 71 | 5 | 5 |
| June 22 | Decatur, Calvin A., resident of Lowell..... | 59 | 7 | 10 |
| Apr. 7 | DeRoehn, Arthur C., son of George H. and Minnie (Healy)..... | — | — | — |
| May 23 | Draper, Mildred Ellen, dau. of Chas. W. and Annie M. (Hulslander)..... | 2 | — | — |
| Nov. 6 | Drew, Thomas, son of Cephas and Ede (Symmes)..... | 72 | 6 | 16 |
| Aug. 2 | Dufan, Mary E., dau. of George and Aristene (Chamfarbie)..... | — | 6 | — |
| Apr. 29 | Elliott, Michael, son of Matthew and Mary (Kane)..... | 67 | — | — |
| July 1 | Gardel, Paul, son of August and Vitatina (Hitir)..... | 19 | 3 | 1 |
| Sept. 21 | Hanson, _____, dau. of Martin and Sophia (Thorbjornsson)..... | — | — | 1 |
| June 2 | Hill, Eliza E., dau. of George W. and Jeanette G. (Farrow)..... | 24 | 1 | 19 |
| Mar. 21 | Holt, Arthur S., son of Samuel and Martha (Woodward)..... | 50 | — | — |
| June 16 | Hunt, Ann (Wells), wife of James..... | 48 | — | — |
| Dec. 10 | Johnson, Frances May, dau. of Frank T. and Mary M. (Akerson)..... | — | 6 | 19 |
| July 27 | Kendrick, Joan (Knowles), wid. of Louis..... | 57 | — | — |
| July 14 | Keyes, George, son of Imla and Hannah (Fletcher)..... | 80 | 9 | 26 |
| Oct. 30 | Kittredge, William, resident of Boston..... | 83 | 2 | 7 |
| May 26 | Kyle, John Alexander, son of Samuel A. and Mary (Stirk)..... | — | 2 | 8 |
| Apr. 29 | Lackey, John Hudson, resident of Pepperell..... | 57 | 8 | 12 |
| Apr. 21 | Leduc, Exilda (Laquerre), wife of Gedon P..... | 22 | — | — |
| July 27 | LeFranc, Alveda, son of Alfred and A. (Rabsau)..... | — | 8 | 20 |
| Aug. 20 | Lyman, Blanche Elizabeth, dau. Wilbur S., Mary Ella (Chamberlin)..... | 12 | 10 | 4 |
| Dec. 7 | Martin, John, son of Frederick and Catherine (Keller)..... | 69 | 6 | 21 |
| Oct. 5 | McGlinchy, Ellen (Egan), wife of James..... | 62 | — | — |
| Apr. 30 | Morse, J. Decatur, son of Jonathan and Charity (Barden)..... | 68 | 8 | 3 |
| Aug. 4 | O'Brien, Annie, dau. of Cornelius and Hattie (Donovan)..... | 34 | 7 | 6 |
| May 16 | O'Brien, Elizabeth (Dempsey), wife of John W..... | 30 | — | — |
| Apr. 9 | O'Brien, Joseph, son of John W. and Elizabeth A. (Dempsey)..... | — | — | — |
| Oct. 27 | Parsons, Mary A. (Thompson), wife of Wilbert E..... | 67 | 10 | 2 |
| Nov. 3 | Prescott, Victor L. son of Nelson L. and Ella M. (Davis)..... | 19 | 1 | 12 |
| July 17 | Richardson, Myrtie A., daughter of Joseph T. and Bessie (Phillis)..... | 16 | 6 | 23 |
| June 1 | Ring, _____, son of Michael E. and Elizabeth (Votee)..... | — | — | — |
| Sept. 9 | Shearon, Ann (Fay), wid. of Michael..... | 86 | — | — |
| May 14 | Smith, Esther A. (Hunt), wid. of John..... | 74 | — | — |
| July 19 | Smith, Jacob, son of Jacob and Betsey (Sprague)..... | 85 | 10 | 8 |
| July 22 | Sprague, Imri Woods..... | 72 | 9 | 17 |
| Apr. 13 | Swanson, Carl August William, son of Noah and Sophia (Anison)..... | 18 | 10 | 17 |
| Feb. 8 | Taggart, Caroline (Quimby), wid. of Leander..... | 80 | 1 | — |
| Jan. 8 | Walker, Josiah, son of Josiah and Sarah (Jenkins)..... | 88 | 10 | 1 |
| Oct. 2 | Wheeler, Amanda Melvina, dau. of Thomas J. and Harriet (Gilson)..... | 56 | 10 | 1 |
| May 11 | Whitney, Virginia, dau. of Geo. H. and Ida (Woodman)..... | — | — | 22 |
| May 18 | Whitney, Frederick S., son of William M. and Annie M. (Earle)..... | 5 | 10 | 22 |
| Oct. 31 | Wood, Florence, dau. of Oliver and Mary Ann (Crisp)..... | 19 | 11 | 24 |
| Dec. 2 | Wright, Almira (Tenney), resident of Saugus..... | 93 | 7 | 15 |
| J'ne 28 | Wright, Kendall Asa, resident of Boston..... | 67 | 2 | 2 |
| Jan. 23 | _____, stillborn..... | — | — | — |
| Jan. 23 | _____, "..... | — | — | — |
| July 2 | _____, "..... | — | — | — |
| Nov. 21 | _____, "..... | — | — | — |

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|--------|----------|--------|
| Whole number recorded..... | 30 | 26 | 56 |
| Number of deaths in town..... | 26 | 25 | 51 |
| Residents of Westford..... | 25 | 25 | 50 |
| Non-residents brought to town for interment.. | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Number of interments in town..... | 22 | 16 | 38 |

One person who died in town was a resident of Lowell.

Cause of death of persons who died in this town: Cancer, heart disease, 5 each; stillbirth, tuberculosis, 4 each; phthisis, no vitality, meningitis, 3 each; angina pectoris, abscess of liver, typhoid fever, 2 each; bronchitis, old age, suicide, gastric ulceration, accident, premature birth, rupture of abdominal abscess, asthenia, chronic prostatitis and cystitis, accidental drowning, anæmia, cholera infantum, leucocythæmia, tubercular meningitis, senility, paralysis, aneurism of ascending aorta, nervous exhaustion, 1 each.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

NOTE.

All persons interested are respectfully requested to examine the foregoing reports of births, marriages and deaths, and if any errors are noted, or if there be omissions, that they be reported to the Town Clerk, that the records may be perfected. An error in the record, other than a mistake in copying a certificate or return, can be corrected only in accordance with a deposition under oath, made by one who was required by law to furnish the information for the original record, or by three or more credible persons having knowledge of the case. See Acts of 1897, Chap. 444, Sections 9 and 14.

Births occurring late in the year are sometimes returned without the Christian name. In such cases parents should return the name to the Town Clerk as soon as selected, as incompleteness of the record may involve much trouble in the future.

The Town Clerk hereby gives notice that he is prepared to furnish to parents, householders, physicians and midwives applying therefor, blanks for return of births, as required by law.

The Town Clerk takes this occasion to acknowledge the gift to the Town for the use of the Town Clerk, by Mr. Abiel J. Abbot, Clerk of the First Parish in this Town, of a finely bound type-written copy of the Records of the First Church of Westford, from its organization in 1727 to 1868. This is a valuable addition to our records, especially to those engaged in genealogical research.

In this connection it may also be stated that the records of the Union Society and also of the Proprietors of the Union Meeting House, which organizations have ceased to exist, together with the records of the Union Church from its organization in 1828, to its reorganization as a body corporate in 1892, have been deposited with the Town Clerk.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT ON DOGS.

Number of dogs licensed during the year ending Nov. 30,
1898:

| | |
|--|----------|
| 153 males at \$2.00, | \$306 00 |
| 8 females at \$5.00, | 40 00 |
| | ----- |
| Total, | \$346 00 |
| Deduct Clerk's fees, 161 licenses at 20 cents each, | 32 20 |
| | ----- |

Balance paid into County Treasury, \$313 80

For which the receipts of the County Treasurer are on file.

Number of dogs returned by Assessors: males, 151; females,
6; total, 157.

Owners and Keepers of Dogs Who Have Procured Licenses for Year Ending April 30, 1899.

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Abbot, Alice C. | Carmichael, James H. | Furbush, Frank L. |
| Abbot, John C. | Carver, Gertrude E. | Gilson, George Q. |
| Abbot & Co. | Carver, William R. | Gilson, Levi S. |
| Adams, Charles L. | Catchpole, Henry | Gould, Horace E. |
| Balch, Samuel H. | Champaign, Louis | Griffin, Chas. M. (2) |
| Balser, A. W. | Comey, Arthur H. | Haley, John |
| Bean, True A. | Connell, John H. | Hall, John |
| Bemis, Henry S. | Cummings, Alvin L. | Harrington, P. Henry |
| Bennett, Joseph | Cummings, Chas. M. | Hawkes, Wesley O. |
| Bennett, W. H. | Cummings, Edw. M. (2) | Healy, Frank |
| Blaisdell, Alvin J. | Decatur, Nathaniel | Healy, John A. |
| Blodgett, Josiah W. | DeRoehn, Eugene | Heywood, Albert W. |
| Blodgett, Wilford G. | Desjardines, Maria | Hill, George W. |
| Blood, Napoleon B. | Drew, Frank C. | Hodgson, James |
| Boyd, John | Drew, George | Holt, Arthur S., Mrs. |
| Brophy, Thomas | Eastman, Asa B. M. | Howard, Calvin L. |
| Buckshorn, Louis H. | Eaton, C. A. | Hutchins, Stephen E. |
| Burbeck, John | Edwards, Franklin | Jesson, Thomas |
| Bussey, George W. | Eliason, Lars J. | Johnson, J. Walter |
| Butterworth, Wm. L. | Farrar, George | Johnson, Wm. R. (fem.) |
| Callahan, John | Felch, Harry (m. and f.) | Knight, Joseph E. |
| Cameron, Donald | Field, A. L. | Krouse, Louis |
| Cann, Charles W. | Fisher, Alvan | Kyle, Samuel |
| Carkin, Charles W. | Fletcher, Harry N. (3) | Lawton, Luther |
| Carkin, Clara P. | Fletcher, Henry A. (3) | Longbottom, Fred |
| Carkin, Edwin F. | Fletcher, Herbert E. | Mann, E. L., Mrs. |
| Carkin, Isaac W. | Floyd, Mary | Marshall, Josiah E. |
| Carkin, Warren E. | Flynn, John | Martin, Frederick |

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| McDonald, Angus | Prescott, Nelson L. | Sweatt, S. D., Mrs. |
| McDougal, Alexander | Prescott, Richard D. | Sweetser, Judson F. |
| McGlinchy, James | Prescott, Wallie | Sweetser, Warren P. |
| McGlinchy, Peter | Prior, Arthur L. | Valentine, Mary E. |
| McMaster, Harry C. | Putney, Lucia | Voyer, Peter (f.) |
| Merritt, Walter J. (fem.) | Pyne, James W. | Wall, Christina |
| Miller, Frank E. | Quinn, John Wm. | Ward, John E. |
| Morse, French M. | Reddick, A. Lincoln (f.) | Webster, Frank P. |
| Mountain, Ernest G. | Reed, Chas. W. | Whidden, E. H. |
| Mountain, George E. | Roper, E. H. | Whigham, Wm. |
| Murphy, Henry J. | Sanborn, Geo. L. | Whitaker, Christopher |
| Nesmith, Harry L. (f.) | Sargent, Allan C. | Whitney, Chas. H. (m. & f.) |
| Nutting, B. F. | Sargent, Chas. G. | Whitney, Julian |
| O'Brien, Jas. 2d (m. & f.) | Sargent, Frederick G. | Whitney, Wm. M. |
| O'Brien, James H. | Saunders, A. H. | Whittier, Abel C. |
| O'Brien, John | Shaw, Judson F. | Wilson, Arthur |
| O'Brien, John, 2d | Splain, Daniel E. | Wright, Andrew S. |
| O'Brien, John W., 2d (2) | Stephan, Reinhold | Wright, Chas. H. |
| O'Dell, H. A. | Sullivan, Jeremiah | Wright, Frank C. |
| Orange, Abram | Sullivan, Thomas O. | Wright, Willey M. |
| Paige, A. M. | Swanson, Noah | Wyman, Geo. W. |
| Parker, Chas. Wm. | Sweatt, Fred A. | Wyman, Walter W. |
| Petherick, Wm. H. | | |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

WESTFORD, Feb. 4, 1898.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, 1898.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, held at the Town House, April 4, 1898, the following business was transacted:

1st. The Town Clerk appointed Lewis C. Dane, Teller, to serve during the election of Moderator, and he was duly sworn by said Clerk. J. Henry Read was elected Moderator.

2d. Voted, that the compensation of the Tax Collector be one per cent. on the amount collected.

3d. The Selectmen appointed W. H. H. Burbeck and Samuel L. Taylor Ballot Clerks, and they were sworn by the Town Clerk, and received from him the official ballots and gave their receipt therefor. Lewis C. Dane and T. Arthur E. Wilson, who had previously been appointed Tellers by the Selectmen, were sworn by the Town Clerk and took charge of the check list and ballot box, respectively. The ballot box was opened and found to be empty, the register standing on zero. The voters then proceeded to bring in their ballots for the officers named in the third article of the warrant, and also on the following question: "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town?" The Moderator appointed George W. Heywood, C. R. P. Decatur, Harry L. Nesmith and Wesley O. Hawkes Tellers, and they were sworn by the Town Clerk.

At the close of the polls the register stood on 131.

Number of names checked on Ballot Clerks' list, 131.

Number of names checked on ballot box list, 131.

Whole number of ballots cast (by count), 131.

4th. Voted, to take up the remaining articles of the warrant while the count of votes is being completed.

5th. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Selectmen as printed.

6th. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Selectmen on guide boards as printed.

7th. Voted, to accept the report of the Overseers of the Poor as printed.

8th. Voted, to accept the report of the School Committee as printed.

9th. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Trustees of the Public Library as printed. The report recommends that two hundred dollars (\$200) be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year.

10th. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds as printed. The report recommends that two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) be raised and appropriated for the care and improvement of the cemeteries during the ensuing year.

11th. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Auditor as printed.

12th. Voted, to accept the list of jurors as reported by the Selectmen, which list is as follows: Augustus Bunce, farmer; Quincy W. Day, farmer; Jeremiah Desmond, farmer; Frank C. Drew, farmer; Elbert H. Flagg, farmer; George M. Fletcher, farmer; John M. Fletcher, grocer; Thomas F. Fisher, machinist; Charles H. Follansbee, clerk; Austin H. Foss, farmer; Henry A. Gurney, farmer; Edwin E. Heywood, farmer; Frank H. Hildreth, farmer; Edward H. Holt, laborer; Samuel M. Hutchins, farmer; French M. Morse, machinist; Elmer E. Nutting, machinist; Wilbert E. Parsons, teamster; George H. Prescott, machinist; Richard D. Prescott, farmer; Nathan Prescott, painter; J. Henry Read, manufacturer; Reuben E. Redding, stable keeper; Charles N. Richardson, farmer; Ossian V. Robey, carpenter; Frank B. Tulis, painter; Leonard W. Wheeler, farmer; T. Arthur E. Wilson, farmer; Walter C. Wright, clerk.

13th. Voted, to raise and appropriate three thousand dollars (\$3000) to repair roads and bridges.

14th. Voted, to raise and appropriate four thousand dollars (\$4000) for town debts and charges.

15th. Voted, to raise and appropriate fifty-six hundred dollars (\$5600) for public schools.

16th. Voted, to raise and appropriate fourteen hundred dollars (\$1400) to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the Town, at Westford Academy.

17th. Voted, to raise and appropriate twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2500) for support of poor.

18th. Voted, to raise and appropriate seven hundred dollars (\$700) for school text books and supplies.

19th. In regard to Article 18, which was: "To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same," the Town voted to give such authority to the Town Treasurer.

20th. Voted, that the taxes of those who pay only a poll tax be payable at sight, and all other taxes shall be payable on the first day of January next, and if any taxes remain unpaid after that date the Collector shall charge interest on such taxes overdue, at the rate of seven per centum per annum, and collect the same according to law. There shall be allowed a discount on all taxes assessed of five (5) per cent. if paid on or before October 1, and three (3) per cent. if paid on or before December 1, next, if the whole tax assessed to them is paid at one time. The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Tax Collector within three days after the first days of October and December, and said Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all money he may have received, on or before the fifth days of October and December.

And, furthermore, the Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Collector between the 15th and 20th days of February next, and the Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all money he may have received within five days after the said 20th day of February.

And the Assessors are instructed to complete the assessment of taxes on or before July 1st next, and issue their warrant to the Collector of Taxes, with a list of persons assessed, with their places of abode, within five days after the said 1st day of July.

21st. Chose the following officers by hand vote:

Fence Viewers—Alvin G. Polley, Lewis C. Dane, Almon S. Vose.

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber—Thomas E. Symmes, Horace E. Gould, William W. Johnson, John A. Healy, Alonzo H. Sutherland, Jeremiah Desmond, Michael McGlinchy. Mr. Healy was sworn by the Town Clerk.

Field Drivers—J. Willard Fletcher, Frank B. Tulis, George W. Hill, Ralph Woodbury, Bradley V. Wright.

22d. Voted, to appropriate fifty dollars (\$50) to commemorate Memorial Day.

23d. Voted, to appropriate fifty dollars (\$50) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in Graniteville and Forge Village.

24th. Voted, that the Town withdraw from its alliance with Ayer and Littleton for the employment of a Superintendent of Schools, unless Littleton and Ayer will consent to employ a new Superintendent.

25th. Voted, to dismiss the 24th article, which was: "To see if the Town will vote to close the Long-Sought-For School, and authorize the School Committee to transport the pupils to the Wright School."

26th. Voted, to dismiss the 25th article, which was: "To see if the Town will authorize or direct the School Committee to close the Minot's Corner School and transport the pupils to the Centre Schools."

27th. Voted, to dismiss the 26th article, which was: "To see if the Town will appropriate money for transportation of scholars."

28th. Voted, to change the time of holding the Annual Town Meeting from the first Monday in April to the third Monday in March, to take effect next year.

29th. Voted, to instruct the Selectmen to appoint three or more persons to act with them as a committee to inquire into the system of the care of our highways, and to make such recommendations as they may see fit to the Town at some future meeting.

30th. Voted, to accept the provisions of Section 101 of Chapter 417, Acts of 1893, in regard to a division of the Town for precinct voting.

31st. Voted, to dismiss the 30th article, which was: "To see if the Town will vote to exempt for the term of ten years, taxes on improvement in buildings and machinery for the purpose of developing the Nashoba Springs on the farm of Abel C. Whittier."

32d. Voted, to dismiss the 31st article, which was: "To see if the Town will vote to reduce the salary of the Superintendent of the Town Farm to four hundred dollars (\$400) per year, and allowing three hundred and fifty dollars (\$350) per year to be expended for outside labor."

33d. Voted, to dismiss the 32d article, which was: "To see if the Town will vote to buy an extra pair of horses and a set of double harnesses to be used on the highway. The same not to cost over three hundred and sixty dollars (\$360), and this amount to be taken from the appropriation for highways."

34th. Voted, to dismiss the 33d article, which was: "To see if the Town will vote to have the road teams kept at the Town Farm, and the Farm to furnish hay to said teams at fourteen dollars (\$14) per ton, allowing two and one-half tons per horse per year."

35th. Voted, to accept the report of the committee on the discontinuance of old roads.

36th. Voted, to authorize the Selectmen to get an estimate of the expense of lighting the Town House with gasoline, to report at some future meeting.

37th. Voted, to accept the provisions of the 36th article, which was: "To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor to provide a suitable lockup at the Town Farm," with the additional proviso that the Selectmen and Overseers investigate the matter and report at a future meeting.

38th. The ballots for Town Officers having been sorted and counted, the following persons were found to have received a plurality of votes, and were declared elected:

Town Clerk—Gilman J. Wright. Sworn by Moderator.

Selectman—Sherman H. Fletcher.

Assessor—George H. Hartford. The oath required by law was administered by the Town Clerk to Mr. Hartford.

Overseer of the Poor—Leonard W. Wheeler. Sworn by Town Clerk.

Town Treasurer—Nahum H. Wright.

Collector of Taxes—Walter C. Wright. Sworn by Town Clerk.

Auditor—Arthur B. Plimpton.

Constables—Eugene De Roehn, John A. Healy. Both sworn by Town Clerk.

School Committee—Albert R. Choate, Arthur Wright. Both sworn by Town Clerk.

Trustee of J. V. Fletcher Library—Mrs. Catherine A. Kebler.

Trustee of J. V. Fletcher Library (to fill vacancy)—Louis H. Buckshorn.

Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds—Noah Prescott.

The question of licensing the sale of intoxicating liquors was decided in the negative, the vote standing: Yes, 35; No, 82; Blanks, 14.

Voted, to accept the minutes of the meeting.

Voted, to dissolve the meeting.

J. HENRY READ, Moderator.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, Town Clerk.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford, qualified by law to vote in Town affairs, held at the Town House, September 3, 1898, the following business was transacted:

1st. Chose Sherman H. Fletcher Moderator.

2d. The Selectmen reported it inexpedient to take any action in regard to lighting the Town House with gasoline.

Voted, to accept the report of the Selectmen.

3d. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Selectmen in regard to the re-location of the road petitioned for by James H. O'Brien and others.

4th. Voted, to adopt the report of the Selectmen in regard to dividing the Town into voting precincts.

5th. Voted, that the Town appropriate two thousand dollars (\$2000) to be expended under the direction of the Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor, for building an addition to the house and a lockup at the Town Farm.

6th. Voted, to accept the minutes of the meeting.

7th. Voted, to dissolve the meeting.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER, Moderator.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, Town Clerk.

RE-LOCATION OF ROAD ON PETITION OF JAMES H. O'BRIEN AND OTHERS.

Upon the aforesaid petition, due notice having been given to all persons interested to meet at the house of James H. O'Brien to be heard relative to the subject matter, we, the Selectmen of said Westford, having heard all parties interested in the foregoing petition and having viewed the location, the said Selectmen proceeded to re-locate said road as prayed. Beginning at a stone bound at the most easterly corner of the house of James H. O'Brien, thence South $53\frac{1}{2}$ degrees East 212 feet to a stone

bound at the corner of the land of Mariah Desjardines and John Flynn, as shown on plan of Thomas E. Symmes accompanying this report. The sum of five dollars (\$5.00) is awarded Mariah Desjardines for land damage. Estimated cost of re-locating said road ten dollars (\$10.00).

Said Town way as re-located is reported to the Town for their approval and acceptance.

Dated at Westford, Mass., this 6th day of August, 1898.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

Accepted and adopted at a legal meeting held September 3, 1898.

VOTING PRECINCTS.

Westford, Mass., May 7th, 1898.

To Gilman J. Wright, Town Clerk:

The Selectmen herewith make the following report in the division of the Town into voting precincts, under the acceptance of the Town of Section 101, Chapter 417, Acts of 1893, as voted at the annual meeting, held April 4th, 1898:

The following boundary lines are established for the several precincts:

PRECINCT NO. 1.

Beginning at the Chelmsford and Westford line, at the easterly part of the Town, on the road leading to Chamberlin's Corner to the junction of the road leading to Westford Depot near the Read farm, thence by this road to the four corners of roads near Samuel L. Taylor's, thence westerly by road to Tadmuck Brook, thence by said brook to Stony Brook, thence by said Stony Brook to small brook leading out of meadow near J. H. O'Brien's, thence by said brook to road that leads to the North Cemetery, thence by said road past the North Cemetery by the house of B. F. Nutting to the Lowell and Groton road, thence by said road to Keyes Brook, then by said brook to the Stony Brook Railroad, thence by said railroad to the road leading to Westford Centre, thence by said road to the Graniteville and Forge Village

road at the farm of J. V. Fletcher; thence by said Graniteville and Forge Village road to the Nashua, Acton and Boston Railroad near Pine Ridge Station, thence by said railroad to the railroad crossing near the West Cemetery, thence by road leading to Forge Village to junction of road leading from Littleton, thence by said Littleton road to Beaver Brook, thence by said brook to Westford and Littleton line, thence by Town lines of Westford, Littleton, Acton, Carlisle and Chelmsford to the point first mentioned.

PRECINCT NO 2.

Beginning at Westford and Tyngsboro line on road near Scribner's Hill, thence by said road to the corner of the road near the North Cemetery, thence by line already described for Precinct No. 1 to Westford and Littleton line, thence by Town lines of Westford, Littleton, Groton and Tyngsboro to the point first mentioned.

PRECINCT NO. 3.

Beginning at Westford and Chelmsford line on road leading to Chamberlin's Corner by line already described for Precinct No. 1, to corner of the roads near the North Cemetery, thence by line already described for Precinct No. 2, to Westford and Tyngsboro line, thence by Town lines of Westford, Tyngsboro and Chelmsford to the point first mentioned.

The number of registered voters in Precinct No. 1 is 199.

The number of registered voters in Precinct No. 2 is 176.

The number of registered voters in Precinct No. 3 is 56.

The division line of these precincts is the middle lines of roads, brooks, railroads, etc., as given in these boundaries.

Respectfully submitted,

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

The foregoing report was adopted September 3, 1898, at a legal Town meeting.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, Town Clerk.

STATE ELECTION, NOVEMBER 8, 1898.

Whole number of ballots cast..... 295

Governor.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Alexander B. Bruce of Lawrence (Democratic)..... | 81 |
| George R. Peare of Lynn (Socialist Labor)..... | 1 |
| Winfield P. Porter of Newburyport (Democratic Social) | 1 |
| Samuel B. Shapleigh of Boston (Prohibition)..... | 3 |
| Roger Wolcott of Boston (Republican)..... | 198 |
| Blanks | 11 |

Lieutenant Governor.

| | |
|--|-----|
| W. Murray Crane of Dalton (R.)..... | 199 |
| John L. Kilbon of Lee (P.)..... | 4 |
| Isaac W. Skinner of Brockton (D. S.)..... | 5 |
| Edward J. Slattery of Framingham (D.)..... | 61 |
| Blanks | 26 |

Secretary.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Charles H. Bradley of Haverhill (D. S.)..... | 3 |
| Henry A. Inman of Newton (P.)..... | 3 |
| Henry Lloyd of Boston (D.)..... | 65 |
| William M. Olin of Boston (R.)..... | 180 |
| James F. Stevens of Boston (S.)..... | 12 |
| Blanks | 32 |

Treasurer.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Harry J. Jaquith of Wellesley (D.)..... | 71 |
| Edward P. Shaw of Newburyport (R.)..... | 185 |
| Herbert Morley Small of Templeton (P.)..... | 4 |
| Charles W. White of Winchester (D. S.)..... | 1 |
| Blanks | 34 |

Auditor.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Charles S. Grieves of Amesbury (D. S.)..... | 7 |
| John W. Kimball of Fitchburg (R.)..... | 188 |
| John Palme of New Bedford (S.)..... | 1 |
| Charles F. Parker of Boston (D.)..... | 65 |
| Walter E. Sanford of Attleborough (P.)..... | 5 |
| Blanks | 29 |

Attorney General.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Patrick Kilroy of Springfield (D.)..... | 68 |
| Hosea M. Knowlton of New Bedford (R.)..... | 193 |
| Blanks | 34 |

Councillor.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Marcellus H. Fletcher of Lowell (D.)..... | 76 |
| S. Herbert Howe of Marlborough (R.)..... | 185 |
| Blanks | 34 |

Senator.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Alvan Fisher of Westford (D.)..... | 112 |
| Frank A. Patch of Boxborough (R.)..... | 156 |
| Blanks | 27 |

Representative in General Court.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Herbert J. Harwood of Littleton (R.)..... | 144 |
| Charles R. White of Shirley (D.)..... | 111 |
| Herbert E. Fletcher of Westford..... | 2 |
| Blanks | 38 |

County Commissioner.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Francis Bigelow of Natick (D. and R.)..... | 192 |
| Blanks | 103 |

Special Commissioners.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Truman W. Hagar of Framingham (D.)..... | 65 |
| David T. Strange of Stoneham (R.)..... | 158 |
| Edward Everett Thompson of Woburn (R.)..... | 141 |
| George W. Van Horn of Melrose (D.)..... | 51 |
| Blanks | 175 |

District Attorney.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Fred N. Wier of Lowell (R. and D.)..... | 206 |
| Blanks | 89 |

Register of Probate and Insolvency.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Samuel H. Folsom of Winchester (D. and R.)..... | 202 |
| Blanks | 93 |

Sheriff.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Henry G. Cushing of Lowell (R. and D.)..... | 225 |
| Blanks | 70 |

Representative in Congress.

| | |
|---|-----|
| I. Porter Morse of Marlborough (D.)..... | 73 |
| George W. Weymouth of Fitchburg (R.)..... | 179 |
| Blanks | 43 |

Return of votes for Representative in General Court for Middlesex District No. 23:

| | Acton. | Ayer. | Little- ton. | Snir- ley. | West- ford. | Total. |
|--|--------|-------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| Herbert J. Harwood of Lit- tleton | 194 | 158 | 98 | 84 | 144 | 678 |
| Charles R. White of Shirley.. | 65 | 84 | 44 | 101 | 111 | 405 |
| Herbert E. Fletcher of West- ford | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| Blanks | 20 | 11 | 13 | 8 | 38 | 90 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Whole number of ballots.. | 279 | 253 | 155 | 193 | 295 | 1175 |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, Town Clerk.

ASSESSORS' REPORT.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Value of buildings, exclusive of land, May 1, 1898..... | \$624,534 00 |
| Value of land, exclusive of buildings, May 1, 1898..... | 422,141 00 |
| Value of personal estate, May 1, 1898.. | 219,749 00 |
| | \$1,266,424 00 |

AMOUNT RAISED.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| For Purchase of books for library..... | \$ 200 00 |
| Improvement of cemeteries..... | 250 00 |
| Roads and bridges..... | 3,000 00 |
| Town debts and charges..... | 4,000 00 |
| Support of schools..... | 5,600 00 |
| Tuition at academy..... | 1,400 00 |
| Support of poor..... | 2,500 00 |
| Text books and supplies..... | 700 00 |
| | \$17,650 00 |
| State tax..... | 795 00 |
| County tax..... | 1,318 23 |
| Overlayings..... | 570 71 |
| Additional tax..... | 3 90 |
| | \$20,337 84 |
| Number of Polls..... | 668 |
| Houses..... | 476 |
| Horses..... | 472 |
| Cows..... | 689 |
| Neat cattle other than cows... | 156 |
| Sheep..... | 46 |
| Swine..... | 46 |
| Acres of land.... | 18,000 |
| Tax on one hundred dollars... | \$1 50 |

TOWN PROPERTY.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Town Hall..... | \$13,500 00 |
| Public Library..... | 26,000 00 |
| Town Farm..... | 6,000 00 |
| Public Parks..... | 1,500 00 |
| Cemeteries | 1,500 00 |
| Centre Schoolhouse..... | 3,500 00 |
| Stony Brook Schoolhouse..... | 1,200 00 |
| Forge Village Schoolhouse..... | 3,800 00 |
| Nashoba Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 |
| Parkerville Schoolhouse..... | 1,800 00 |
| Minot's Corner Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 |
| Nabnassett Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 |
| Long-Sought-For Schoolhouse..... | 1,600 00 |
| Wright Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 |
| Graniteville Schoolhouse..... | 4,500 00 |
| Fire Apparatus..... | 350 00 |
| Trust Fund..... | 2,000 00 |
| | <hr/> \$73,250 00 |

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE H. HARTFORD,
W. H. H. BURBECK,
SAMUEL L. TAYLOR,

Assessors of Westford.

ABATEMENT OF TAXES, AS ORDERED BY ASSESSORS.

1892.

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Brown, Abram, heirs..... | \$1 25 |
| Brophy, Thomas..... | 2 08 |
| Callahan, John F..... | 2 00 |
| Coburn, John F..... | 2 00 |
| DeRoehn, Eugene..... | 2 00 |
| DeRoehn, George H..... | 2 00 |
| Healy, William..... | 2 00 |
| Healy, Anthony..... | 2 00 |
| O'Brien, John M..... | 2 00 |
| O'Dell, William F..... | 2 00 |
| O'Dell, Herbert O..... | 2 00 |
| Spinner, John..... | 2 00 |
| Sullivan, Jeremiah..... | 2 25 |
| Herricks heirs..... | 1 00 |
| | <hr/> \$26 58 |

25

1893.

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| Whittier, Geo. E..... | \$0 71 | |
| | <hr/> | \$0 71 |

1894.

| | | |
|------------------------|--------|---------|
| Bancroft heirs..... | \$3 75 | |
| Hutchins, Henry..... | 4 25 | |
| Reed, Willard T..... | 2 00 | |
| O'Dell, William F..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$12 00 |

1895.

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|
| Adams, Howard T..... | \$5 30 | |
| Boynton, James M., Jr..... | 2 00 | |
| Casey, Daniel W..... | 2 00 | |
| Ingalls, Geo. W..... | 2 79 | |
| | <hr/> | \$12 09 |

1896.

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|
| Boynton, James M., Jr..... | \$2 00 | |
| Casey, Daniel W..... | 2 00 | |
| Case, Elisha E..... | 2 24 | |
| Hill, Geo. C..... | 2 00 | |
| Ingalls, Geo. W..... | 2 81 | |
| Mills, Herbert..... | 2 00 | |
| Moses, Simon..... | 4 27 | |
| Putney, Samuel F..... | 1 30 | |
| Prescott, Sherman L..... | 2 21 | |
| Porter, John..... | 2 00 | |
| Peterson, Edward..... | 2 00 | |
| Sgagren, August..... | 2 00 | |
| Wilson, Joseph..... | 2 40 | |
| Wright, J. O..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$31 23 |

1897.

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------|--|
| Allard, Joseph..... | \$2 00 | |
| Anderson, Joseph B..... | 2 00 | |
| Beckman, Carl..... | 2 00 | |
| Butler, Geo..... | 2 00 | |
| Blom, Frederick..... | 2 00 | |
| Caron, Louis..... | 2 00 | |
| Chamberland, Adino..... | 2 00 | |
| Casey, Daniel W..... | 2 00 | |
| Carroll, James..... | 2 00 | |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <hr/> | \$18 00 |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|

Amount brought forward.....

\$18 00

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Carlstrum, M..... | 2 00 |
| Contoit, Geo..... | 2 00 |
| Dinsmore, John, error..... | 2 00 |
| Ericson, John..... | 2 00 |
| Eskom, Frederick..... | 2 00 |
| Foguer, David..... | 2 00 |
| Farrell, Thomas..... | 2 00 |
| Guyot, Geo..... | 2 00 |
| Garnear, Joseph..... | 2 00 |
| Hamlin, Samuel A..... | 2 00 |
| Hall, Peter G..... | 2 00 |
| Howard, Charles D., error..... | 2 00 |
| Isaac, John..... | 2 00 |
| Jordan, John..... | 2 00 |
| Jasmine, Ogret..... | 2 00 |
| Jasmine, Olnor..... | 2 00 |
| Kelley, Alexander..... | 2 00 |
| LeClaire, George..... | 2 00 |
| Lord, Peter..... | 2 00 |
| Lucy, Thomas..... | 2 00 |
| Lumberg, A..... | 2 00 |
| Morton, Adino..... | 2 00 |
| Marshall, Melbourne C..... | 2 00 |
| McLaughlin, Arthur..... | 2 00 |
| Parrott, Arthur B., error..... | 2 00 |
| Parrott, B. F., error..... | 2 00 |
| Peterson, Edward..... | 2 00 |
| Ravesheau, Eugene..... | 2 00 |
| Record, Thomas..... | 2 00 |
| Smith, Henry O..... | 2 00 |
| Tebault, Frank..... | 2 00 |
| Talbot, Joseph..... | 2 00 |
| Wilkins, Martin..... | 2 00 |
| Willett, Jule..... | 2 00 |
| Richardson, Roy W..... | 2 00 |
| Young, William..... | 2 00 |
| Fifield, Geo. H., estate of..... | 7 02 |

 \$97 02

1898.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Burley, William, error..... | \$0 23 |
| Wright, Mrs. Arthur..... | 6 00 |

 \$6 23

SUMMARY.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------|----------|
| Abatement taxes 1892 | \$26 58 | |
| 1893 | 71 | |
| 1894 | 12 00 | |
| 1895 | 12 09 | |
| 1896 | 31 23 | |
| 1897 | 97 02 | |
| 1898 | 6 23 | |
| | <hr/> | \$185 86 |

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

COMPENSATION OF TOWN OFFICERS.

TOWN TREASURER.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Nahum H. Wright, salary ending March 1, 1898..... | \$100 00 | |
| Extra time and expense on Town business | 12 50 | |
| | _____ | \$112 50 |

TOWN CLERK.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Gilman J. Wright, salary..... | \$12 00 | |
| Recording and making returns to Secretary of the Commonwealth of births, marriages and deaths for the year 1897, as follows: | | |
| 60 births at 50 cents each..... | 30 00 | |
| 28 marriages at 15 cents each..... | 4 20 | |
| 20 deaths at 20 cents each..... | 4 00 | |
| 27 deaths at 10 cents each..... | 2 70 | |
| Extra services at Annual Meeting, 1898 | 3 00 | |
| Extra services at State Election, 1898 | 3 00 | |
| Attending Town Clerks' meeting at Ayer | 2 50 | |
| Making report to Town..... | 3 00 | |
| Transmitting certificates, Chap. 444, Acts 1897..... | 25 | |
| Receiving and forwarding four depositions, Chap. 444, Acts 1897..... | 2 00 | |
| Cash paid for express, stationery, postage, dog license blanks, etc..... | 9 34 | |
| Services as Justice in administering oaths | 50 | |
| | _____ | \$76 49 |

SELECTMEN.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Sherman H. Fletcher, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Making out State Aid Book..... | 6 00 | |
| Making 24 State Aid and Indigent Soldiers Returns under Chapters 279 and 301, Acts of 1894..... | 6 00 | |
| Making out Town Report..... | 10 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways..... | 35 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 35 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$97 00 |
| George W. Heywood, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways..... | 35 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 30 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$70 00 |
| Wesley O. Hawkes, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways..... | 30 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$60 00 |

AUDITOR.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Arthur B. Plimpton, services..... | \$30 00 | \$30 00 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|

ASSESSORS.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| George H. Hartford, 30 days, taking in- voice and making taxes..... | \$75 00 | |
| 8 days extra, copying..... | 10 00 | |
| Samuel L. Taylor, 18 days, taking invoice and making taxes..... | 45 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, 36½ days, taking in- voice and making taxes..... | 91 25 | |
| | <hr/> | \$221 25 |

TAX COLLECTOR.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Walter C. Wright, collecting \$148.67 taxes of 1895 at 1 per cent..... | \$ 1 48 | |
| Collecting \$385.00 taxes of 1896 at 1 per cent..... | 3 85 | |
| Collecting \$1,275.00 taxes of 1897 at 1 per cent..... | 12 75 | |
| Collecting \$16,670.83 taxes of 1898 at 1 per cent..... | 166 71 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | \$184 79 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$184 79 | |
| Express | 35 | |
| Postage | 16 78 | |
| Cash book..... | 1 75 | |
| Blank book..... | 18 | |
| Revenue stamps..... | 68 | |
| | <hr/> | \$204 53 |

CONSTABLES AND POLICE OFFICERS.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Eugene DeRoehn, posting warrants for April meeting..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Services, notifying Town officers elected | 4 00 | |
| Posting warrants for September meet- ing | 5 00 | |
| Notifying election officers..... | 7 00 | |
| Posting warrants for November meet- ing | 5 00 | |
| Notifying delinquent dog owners..... | 10 00 | |
| John A. Healy, services as Constable..... | 17 00 | |
| Ai Bicknell, serving notices on O'Brien road | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$55 00 |

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Nelson L. Tuttle, attending 8 meetings, 1898 | \$16 00 | |
| Quincy W. Day, attending 8 meetings, 1898 | 16 00 | |
| Oscar R. Spalding, attending 8 meetings, 1898 | 16 00 | |
| Attending 7 meetings, 1897..... | 14 00 | |
| Gilman J. Wright, attending 8 meetings, 1898 | 16 00 | |
| Clerk of Board..... | 10 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$88 00 |

WARDENS, INSPECTORS, BALLOT CLERKS AND TELLERS.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| T. Arthur E. Wilson, Teller, ballot box, at April meeting..... | \$2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | \$2 00 |

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$ 2 00 | |
| Inspector at November meeting at Precinct One..... | 2 00 | |
| R. E. Redding, Inspector at Precinct Two | 2 00 | |
| J. M. Fletcher, Clerk, Precinct One..... | 2 00 | |
| L. C. Dane, Teller at April meeting..... | 2 00 | |
| Warden, Precinct Two..... | 2 00 | |
| F. H. Hildreth, Warden, Precinct Three.. | 2 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, Teller, 1897-1898..... | 4 00 | |
| Inspector, Precinct One..... | 2 00 | |
| W. C. Wright, Clerk, Precinct Two..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$22 00 |

UNDERTAKER.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Albert P. Richardson, attending 29 funerals, with hearse..... | \$58 00 | |
| Making 35 returns, and receiving per- mits | 8 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$66 75 |

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Edmund P. Barker, Superintendent..... | \$320 00 | |
| Postage and stationery..... | 12 56 | |
| W. J. Sleeper, making report to State.... | 2 50 | |
| Expense, 3 trips to Boston..... | 7 50 | |
| Record book and postage..... | 81 | |
| F. L. Read, delivering school supplies.... | 55 00 | |
| A. S. Thompson, Superintendent..... | 450 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$848 37 |

Received from State on account of Superintendent, \$500; net cost, \$282.56.

TRUANT OFFICERS.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| Eugene DeRoehn, services from February, 1897, to February, 1898..... | \$4 00 | \$4 00 |
|---|--------|--------|

APPRAISERS OF PROPERTY AT TOWN HALL.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| Albert P. Richardson, services..... | \$2 00 | |
| George H. Hartford, services and making schedule | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 00 |

INSPECTORS OF ANIMALS AND PROVISIONS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Albert P. Richardson, services..... | \$ 73 50 | |
| George T. Day, services..... | 146 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$219 50 |
| Refunded by State, \$103.87. | | |

REPAIRS OF SCHOOLHOUSES AND ARTICLES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

CENTRE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| H. B. Prescott, furnishing plan..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| J. H. Decatur, labor and stock..... | 3 25 | |
| Glass, putty and brooms..... | 3 53 | |
| Gilmer Stone, labor..... | 1 50 | |
| W. C. Edwards, labor and stock, 1896, 1897, 1899..... | 171 95 | |
| G. C. Prince & Son, frames..... | 2 00 | |
| J. L. Moss, labor..... | 2 00 | |
| Heywood Bros. and Wakefield Co., 5 desks | 14 40 | |
| Edwin Lovell, cleaning well..... | 3 50 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor, shingling house, etc. | 22 98 | |
| Amasa Pratt & Co., shingles..... | 35 82 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, zinc, nails, etc..... | 4 69 | |
| | <hr/> | \$270 62 |

STONY BROOK SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| R. D. Prescott, labor, changing desks..... | \$ 7 25 | |
| A. M. Blaisdell, labor..... | 70 | |
| A. M. Taylor, glass, etc..... | 40 | |
| H. H. Wilder, one Ideal heater and venti- lator..... | 160 00 | |
| W. C. Edwards, labor..... | 7 54 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor..... | 4 00 | |
| Wright & Bemis, glass, etc..... | 3 74 | |
| | <hr/> | \$183 63 |

FORGE VILLAGE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|--|---------|--------|
| D. E. Splain, oil can, etc..... | \$ 0 48 | |
| F. L. Fletcher, oil, etc..... | 56 | |
| I. W. Sprague, posts and wire, 1897..... | 4 52 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | \$5 56 |

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$ 5 56 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor..... | 12 38 | |
| C. E. Whidden, freight and cartage on blackboards | 2 25 | |
| J. L. Moss, repair of ventilating apparatus 1 thermometer..... | 27 89 | |
| | 25 | |
| Wright & Bemis, brooms, etc..... | 1 90 | |
| | <hr/> | \$50 23 |

NASHOBA SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Wright & Fletcher, brooms, duster, etc.... | \$1 65 | |
| A. Woodbury, labor..... | 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2 15 |

PARKERVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Wright & Fletcher, brooms and duster.... | \$ 1 35 | |
| W. C. Edwards, labor..... | 1 50 | |
| E. A. Hamlin, whitewashing..... | 11 00 | |
| J. L. Moss, labor..... | 2 00 | |
| A. Woodbury, labor..... | 3 60 | |
| | <hr/> | \$19 45 |

MINOT'S CORNER SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| R. D. Prescott, labor..... | \$ 7 40 | |
| J. H. Decatur, labor..... | 1 75 | |
| 1 feather duster..... | 1 00 | |
| C. E. Whidden, freight and cartage on blackboards | 1 80 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor, shingling house... .. | 21 72 | |
| Amasa Pratt, shingles..... | 35 81 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, zinc and nails..... | 4 38 | |
| | <hr/> | \$73 86 |

NABNASSETT SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| J. H. Decatur, labor and stock..... | \$2 90 | |
| 1 broom..... | 35 | |
| W. C. Edwards, labor..... | 4 30 | |
| C. E. Whidden, freight and cartage on blackboards | 1 50 | |
| G. H. Holt, repair of pump..... | 5 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$14 80 |

LONG-SOUGHT-FOR SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|
| J. A. Healy, labor..... | \$0 75 | |
| 1 coal hod..... | 50 | |
| L. C. Dane, labor..... | 70 | |
| F. H. Hildreth, labor, etc..... | 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2 70 |

WRIGHT SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Harry Raynes, 1 clock..... | \$6 00 | |
| J. L. Moss, labor..... | 1 00 | |
| F. H. Hildreth, labor, etc..... | 75 | |
| Wright & Bemis, broom, etc..... | 70 | |
| | <hr/> | \$8 45 |

GRANITEVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE—FOUR SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Henry Harrington, labor and stock..... | \$39 56 | |
| F. L. Fletcher, oil, chimneys, etc..... | 4 77 | |
| Chamberlain & Co., window shades..... | 8 90 | |
| E. DeRoeln, labor..... | 9 00 | |
| Harry Raynes, 1 clock..... | 6 00 | |
| H. J. Healy, chloride of lime..... | 60 | |
| Wright & Bemis, glass, etc..... | 11 04 | |
| | <hr/> | \$79 87 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$705 76 |
| Slate blackboards for Forge Village, Mi- not's Corner and Nabnasset School- houses | | 29 05 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$734 81 |

TEXT-BOOKS AND SUPPLIES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| American Book Co..... | \$ 63 08 | |
| E. W. Babb..... | 4 50 | |
| Williams & Rogers..... | 12 60 | |
| A. D. Maclachlin..... | 3 75 | |
| Ginn & Co..... | 61 60 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co..... | 203 41 | |
| University Publishing Co..... | 2 40 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | \$351 34 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$351 34 | |
| Silver, Burdett & Co..... | 60 84 | |
| H. Whittemore..... | 3 00 | |
| Maynard, Merrill & Co..... | 13 44 | |
| Houghton, Mifflin & Co..... | 9 18 | |
| Ward & Gow..... | 4 00 | |
| D. C. Heath & Co..... | 36 64 | |
| Holden Patent Book Cover..... | 1 18 | |
| L. A. Downing..... | 1 00 | |
| F. A. Frost & Co..... | 3 25 | |
| G. C. Prince & Son..... | 6 15 | |
| Wm. Ware & Co..... | 8 14 | |
| Damrell & Upham..... | 5 25 | |
| C. E. Whidden..... | 8 70 | |
| Allyn & Bacon..... | 12 50 | |
| Mrs. Gates Lockhart..... | 3 30 | |
| Wright & Fletcher..... | 60 | |
| F. L. Furbush..... | 1 50 | |
| Macmillan & Co..... | 8 91 | |
| | <hr/> | \$538 92 |
| Bills unpaid amounting to..... | | 148 46 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$687 38 |
| Cash received for books sold..... | | 13 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$674 38 |
| Appropriation | \$700 00 | |
| Unexpended balance..... | \$25 62 | |

J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | | |
|---|--------|----------|
| J. H. Sears, trimming trees..... | \$ 50 | |
| W. C. Edwards, repairs..... | 90 | |
| C. E. Crowley, repairing slate roof..... | 6 34 | |
| H. R. Barker Mfg. Co., 1 doz. Welsbach Mantles | 4 80 | |
| Brownell & Mason, repairing furnaces.... | 11 88 | |
| Abbot & Co., 38,000 lbs. coal..... | 107 73 | |
| Gilbert & Barker Mfg. Co., 2 bbls gasolene | 12 63 | |
| Express on statuary..... | 3 53 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, brushes, etc..... | 3 21 | |
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor, Feb. 1, 1897, to Feb. 1, 1898..... | 100 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$251 52 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | |

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$251 52 | |
| Carrie E. Read, Librarian, Feb. 1, 1897, to Feb. 1, 1898. | 180 00 | |
| Carrie E. Read, extra work. | 9 72 | |
| Carrie E. Read, paid express and freight. . | 2 70 | |
| W. H. Martin, repairs. | 7 09 | |
| | <hr/> | \$451 03 |
| Expense of delivering books at Granite- ville and Forge Village: | | |
| Ai Bicknell, services. | \$50 00 | \$50 00 |

EXPENSE OF FIRST DISTRICT COURT AT AYER.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| W. H. Atwood, Messiah and Geroux case. . | \$ 7 00 | |
| Brown case. | 5 00 | |
| Thos. E. Allen, Sullivan case. | 3 00 | |
| J. A. Healy, Gould case. | 4 12 | |
| Moran case. | 19 43 | |
| Taylor case. | 7 82 | |
| Chas. Laflamme, Taylor case. | 2 90 | |
| Thos. E. Allen, Taylor case. | 8 28 | |
| | <hr/> | \$57 55 |
| Received from fines. | \$83 45 | |

TOWN COUNSEL.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Burke, Marshall & Corbett, services, 1897 | \$100 00 | \$100 00 |
|---|----------|----------|

TOWN COMMON.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Ai Bicknell, cleaning common. | \$4 00 | |
| J. T. Colburn, mowing common. | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6 00 |

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| Paid by orders to Poor Department. | \$2,643 02 | \$2,643 02 |
| Appropriation, \$2,500. | | |
| See report of Overseers of Poor. | | |

PRINTING.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| F. A. Frost & Co., School Committee. | \$ 2 95 | |
| Public Burial Ground. | 1 50 | |
| A. W. Brownell, Assessors. | 1 75 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., 650 Town Reports. ... | 113 40 | |
| Stamped envelopes, etc. | 35 50 | |
| Warrants and receipts. | 6 25 | |
| Postal cards. | 6 25 | |
| School Committee. | 4 75 | |
| Circulars, etc. | 3 50 | |
| Fishing notices. | 2 25 | |
| Morning Mail Co., ballots for April meet- ing. | 11 50 | |
| Voting lists. | 12 25 | |
| Samuel Hobbs & Co., blanks for Assessors | 62 | |
| G. W. Southworth, Assessors' book. | 5 07 | |
| Greenough, Adams & Cushing, Collector's books. | 11 65 | |
| M. C. Wight & Co., tax bills and envelopes | 8 80 | |
| | <hr/> | \$227 99 |

INSURANCE.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Arthur Fenner, schoolhouse, Graniteville, \$3,000 for 5 years. | \$90 00 | |
| Town House, \$1,500 for 3 years. | 19 80 | |
| Town House, \$2,000 for 5 years. | 60 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$169 80 |

BOARD OF HEALTH.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Paid by orders. | \$79 90 | \$79 90 |
| See Board of Health report. | | |

PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Paid by orders. | \$213 66 | \$213 66 |
| See Commissioners' report. | | |

MEMORIAL DAY.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Paid by order Veteran Association. | \$50 00 | \$50 00 |
|---|---------|---------|

GUIDE POSTS AND GUIDE BOARDS.

We submit the following report on guide posts and guide boards. We have renewed and repainted about 20 guide boards during the year, and have on hand guide posts and guide boards to be erected in the spring at Nashoba Road, Brookside Corner and at the corner of the roads near Fletcher's quarry at the northeast part of the Town. A few guide boards should be repainted the coming year.

The following amount has been expended:

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Frank B. Tulis, painting guide boards. | \$ 3 00 | |
| Wall Brothers, painting guide boards. | 19 60 | |
| J. A. Walkden, making 8 guide boards. | 4 00 | |
| Geo. W. Heywood, renewing guide boards | 2 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, renewing guide boards, with team. | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$31 60 |

TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Ai Bicknell, services as Janitor from Feb. 1, 1898, to Feb. 1, 1899. | \$96 00 | |
| C. E. Whidden, 4,115 lbs. coal. | 12 86 | |
| S. B. Wright, 1 cord wood. | 4 00 | |
| C. E. Crowley, repair of slate roof. | 5 42 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, oil, chimneys, etc. | 25 57 | |
| Brownell & Mason, repair of furnaces. | 14 90 | |
| J. A. Healy, 5 tons coal. | 28 75 | |
| Geo. H. Holt, repair of pump. | 8 00 | |
| C. E. Osgood, repairs. | 25 | |
| John M. Fletcher, oil. | 5 35 | |
| 3 desks. | 18 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$219 10 |

INCOME OF TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Rent of armory from State. | \$175 00 | |
| Rent of building. | 100 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$275 00 |

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

As Authorized by Chapter 447, Acts of 1890.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| James A. Graham, from Feb. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899. | \$95 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$95 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.</i> | | \$95 00 |

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$95 00 | |
| Gilbert A. Hood, from Feb. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899..... | 44 00 | |
| Susan S. Raymond, from March 1, 1898, to Dec. 1, 1899..... | 18 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, investigating case of J. A. Graham | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$162 00 |

MILITARY AID TO INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

As Authorized by Chapter 279, Acts of 1894.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| From Jan. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899..... | \$210 00 | \$210 00 |
|---|----------|----------|

STATE AID TO SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FAMILIES.

As Authorized by Chapter 301, Acts of 1894.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| From Jan. 1, 1898, to Jan. 1, 1899..... | \$893 00 | \$893 00 |
|---|----------|----------|

FOREST FIRES.

The following forest fires have occurred during the year and estimated damage:

| | No. of Acres. | Estimated Damage. |
|---|------------------|----------------------|
| April 8.—On land of Nelson Prescott..... | 8 | \$ 15 00 |
| Heirs of Peter B. Prescott... | 2 | 10 00 |
| April 13.—On land of Noah Prescott and heirs of Nathan P. Prescott | 30 | 200 00 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 40 | \$225 00 |

On June 1st the barn of John A. Healy was burned down in Graniteville; a part of the personal property was saved. Barn and contents insured.

On July 2d the dwelling house of W. W. Johnson, near Westford Station, was burned; most of the contents were saved. House insured.

On February 17th the house and barn of Judson F. Sweetser were burned-down; loss, \$5,000; insurance, \$3,000.

EXPENSES.

The following expenses have occurred:

| | |
|---|---------|
| John A. Healy, Fire Warden, services.... | \$ 2 00 |
| John A. Healy and others, Healy fire..... | 10 20 |
| John A. Healy and others, Johnson fire... | 15 25 |
| | <hr/> |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------|
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | \$27 45 |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------|

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$27 45 | |
| John A. Healy and others, N. L. Prescott land | 4 20 | |
| John A. Healy and others, railroad land . . . | 80 | |
| John A. Healy and others, Noah Prescott land | 24 69 | |
| L. W. Wheeler, Fire Warden, services . . . | 2 00 | |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., Noah Prescott land | 7 20 | |
| A. J. Blaisdell, Rail Cut Hill, 1896..... | 6 00 | |
| George W. Heywood, Forest Fire Ward, services | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$77 34 |

GENERAL EXPENSES.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Postage for Town Reports..... | \$ 20 00 | |
| Chas. Coture, repair of wagon..... | 5 00 | |
| Lowell Police Dept., Lynch case..... | 50 | |
| J. H. Decatur, repair of wagon..... | 5 00 | |
| Waldo Brothers, drain pipe..... | 297 03 | |
| Geo. Tyler & Co., scraper blades and cast- ings for road machine..... | 17 75 | |
| F. E. Rollins, Stenographer, services on highway hearing..... | 30 00 | |
| A. W. Balsler, shoeing horses, repairing carts and sharpening tools..... | 16 95 | |
| Shovels, rakes and picks for Road Dept. . . | 13 55 | |
| Food for Election Officers, April meeting | 2 39 | |
| Rubber bands..... | 2 15 | |
| Fence wire and staples..... | 5 45 | |
| Postage | 2 46 | |
| Paint for carts and fences..... | 3 88 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, sundries as per bill . . . | 18 67 | |
| N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co., use of telephone for Town officers..... | 19 36 | |
| Wright & Bemis, postage and envelopes. . . | 1 32 | |
| J. A. Walkden, stone drag and repair of carts | 32 75 | |
| Frank Haley, shoeing horses, and repairs | 46 07 | |
| Fred L. Fletcher, repair of cavalry target | 5 00 | |
| N. L. Tuttle, repair of carts..... | 4 75 | |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., fuse and dualin. . . . | 2 47 | |
| | <hr/> | \$552 50 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | |

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$552 50 | |
| W. G. Howe, estimate on new building at Town Farm..... | 10 00 | |
| M. W. Jenkins, repair of road machine.... | 4 00 | |
| G. H. Holt, 1 pump..... | 14 50 | |
| J. E. Knight, repair of cart..... | 75 | |
| 50 revenue stamps..... | 1 00 | |
| Tools for trimming trees..... | 4 75 | |
| 3 record books..... | 4 50 | |
| S. W. Kimball, teaming desks..... | 1 00 | |
| R. E. Redding, voting shelves, Precinct 2 | 5 49 | |
| E. A. Moore, voting shelves and teaming ballot box, Precinct 3..... | 12 50 | |
| J. W. Godfrey, return of births..... | 25 | |
| C. E. Whidden, express and freight..... | 12 87 | |
| Wright & Bemis, school certificates..... | 1 70 | |
| J. A. Walkden, 1 stone jigger..... | 43 00 | |
| W. H. Bennett, M. D., return of 34 births | 8 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$677 31 |

EXPENSE OF WIDENING AND STRAIGHTENING
O'BRIEN ROAD.

| | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| Thos. E. Symmes, surveying..... | \$1 50 | |
| M. B. Desjardins, land damage..... | 5 00 | |
| Chas. Coture and others, laying wall..... | 7 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$13 50 |

EXPENSE OF WIDENING AND STRAIGHTENING
STREETS IN CENTRE OF TOWN, AS
ORDERED BY COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| H. W. Tarbell, as per contract..... | \$1,477 61 | |
| Extra work..... | 62 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense..... | 15 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,554 61 |
| Received from County, \$1,500. | | |

LAND DAMAGE.

| | | |
|----------------------|---------|---------|
| George T. Day..... | \$25 00 | |
| Nahum H. Wright..... | 15 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$40 00 |

FIRE APPARATUS.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| 1 doz. brass nozzles for force pumps..... | \$ 2 50 | |
| Lock, keys and pails..... | 3 30 | |
| A. S. Jackson, fire hooks, etc..... | 23 50 | |
| National Mfg. Co., repairs of force pumps, etc. | 22 18 | |
| J. A. Healy, labor..... | 1 00 | |
| Ladders, hook and shovels..... | 5 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$57 98 |

ROAD DEPARTMENT.

The constant rains during the year have entailed considerable more expense on the care of the roads than usual. Beside the general repairs we were obliged to expend considerable on the road near the house of A. G. Polley. This road was originally laid out by the County Commissioners, but was not thoroughly built. The drainage was bad and the material used for the road bed was soft and muddy. Constant complaint had been made, especially in the Spring, of the almost impassable condition of this road.

The Superintendent expended about \$800 in rebuilding the road, putting in 11 new culverts of 12-inch sewer pipe and widening out the road by filling in with stone and raising the road bed and covering with gravel, which has given a dry, hard road, and it ought to last for a number of years without much expense for repairs. We also contracted with H. E. Fletcher & Co., for \$200, to remove the ledge opposite the house of C. R. P. Decatur, which had become dangerous to travel.

At the April meeting the Town voted to instruct the Selectmen to appoint a committee to inquire into the system of the care of our highways, and to report at a future meeting. We appointed Herbert E. Fletcher, Hammett D. Wright, Melbourne F. Hutchins and George T. Day as that committee. One public hearing was held at the Town Hall to get the views of our citizens; the result showed that there was a diversified opinion in regard to the question. The committee has held a number of meetings and has made up its report outside of any influence of the Selectmen, and its report is published for your consideration.

In accordance with Chapter 98, Acts of 1889, Benjamin F. Day was appointed Superintendent of Streets. This year we made a different contract with him in regard to an extra team, paying him \$3.50 per day for a pair of horses and a man, instead of \$2.50 for a pair of horses without a man, as we did last year, thereby saving 50 cents a day on the team.

Under his direction the following amounts have been expended. The bills show what months they were paid, but not in all cases the months in which the work was done:

MARCH.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| J. J. Sheehan, labor..... | \$ 4 65 | |
| F. H. Hildreth, labor..... | 50 | |
| Victor Prescott, labor..... | 12 00 | |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor, Jan., Feb. and March | 43 69 | |
| Nelson Prescott, labor..... | 14 50 | |
| B. F. Day, with team, Jan., Feb. and March | 91 76 | |
| B. M. Fletcher, gravel..... | 3 90 | |
| | <hr/> | \$171 00 |

APRIL.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| I. G. Hall, labor..... | \$ 8 35 | |
| Geo. Burke, labor..... | 15 00 | |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 28 50 | |
| Victor Prescott, labor..... | 28 50 | |
| Joseph Riney, labor..... | 30 86 | |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Gravel | 19 25 | |
| Team | 58 94 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain, Jan., Feb., March and April..... | 43 10 | |
| E. J. Wood, gravel..... | 2 35 | |
| Heywood & Burbeck, gravel..... | 3 75 | |
| Nelson Prescott, labor..... | 28 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$312 10 |

MAY.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Heywood & Burbeck, gravel..... | \$22 50 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 15 10 | |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team | 71 75 | |
| Joseph Riney, labor..... | 37 71 | |
| Nelson Prescott, labor..... | 31 50 | |
| Victor Prescott, labor..... | 30 75 | |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 27 75 | |
| E. Reed, labor..... | 18 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$300 06 |

JUNE.

| | |
|---|----------|
| H. W. Tarbell, labor..... | \$108 25 |
| H. E. Gould, labor..... | 10 50 |
| Victor Prescott, labor..... | 37 50 |
| Nelson Prescott, labor..... | 36 75 |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 36 00 |
| Joseph Riney, labor..... | 37 14 |
| W. L. Butterworth, gravel..... | 8 40 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team | 87 50 |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 18 05 |
| Geo. E. Humiston, labor and gravel..... | 49 66 |
| S. L. Taylor, gravel..... | 33 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$597 75 |

JULY.

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| J. A. Healy, labor and gravel..... | \$51 40 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team | 89 00 |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 13 20 |
| Nelson Prescott, labor..... | 34 13 |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 35 63 |
| Victor Prescott, labor..... | 34 13 |
| Joseph Riney, labor..... | 37 71 |
| A. McDonald, 5,830 lbs. hay..... | 37 90 |
| H. Dane, labor..... | 2 00 |
| H. W. Tarbell, labor..... | 17 75 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$397 85 |

AUGUST.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Chas. Coture, labor..... | \$ 2 60 |
| Victor Prescott, labor..... | 36 00 |
| Nelson Prescott, labor..... | 36 00 |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 36 00 |
| E. H. Holt, labor..... | 13 50 |
| Joseph Riney, labor..... | 31 20 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team | 87 75 |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | 10 55 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$298 60 |

SEPTEMBER.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| L. J. Marden, grain, July, Aug. and Sept. | \$ 17 54 | |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., as per contract. | 200 00 | |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., labor. | 51 18 | |
| G. W. Bussey, labor. | 1 65 | |
| Joseph Riney, labor. | 37 14 | |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor. | 33 75 | |
| Victor Prescott, labor. | 24 00 | |
| E. H. Holt, labor. | 34 50 | |
| Nelson Prescott, labor. | 28 50 | |
| H. W. Tarbell, labor. | 74 50 | |
| John Dinsmore, labor. | 33 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain. | 16 05 | |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent. | 45 00 | |
| Team | 89 50 | |
| Samuel Felch, gravel. | 5 80 | |
| | <hr/> | \$692 11 |

OCTOBER.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| J. F. O'Brien, labor. | \$24 75 | |
| E. H. Holt, labor. | 31 50 | |
| Nelson Prescott, labor. | 27 00 | |
| E. E. Heywood, labor. | 5 00 | |
| John Dinsmore, labor. | 22 50 | |
| Joseph Riney, labor. | 35 42 | |
| T. Driscoll, labor. | 1 50 | |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent. | 45 00 | |
| Team | 73 50 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain. | 12 30 | |
| | <hr/> | \$278 47 |

NOVEMBER.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| I. G. Hall, labor. | \$ 7 25 | |
| John Dinsmore, labor. | 20 25 | |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor. | 20 25 | |
| Joseph Riney, labor. | 35 41 | |
| E. H. Holt, labor. | 27 00 | |
| Nelson Prescott, labor. | 11 25 | |
| S. Crossland, gravel. | 7 60 | |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent. | 45 00 | |
| Team | 73 50 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain. | 14 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$262 20 |

DECEMBER.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|------------|
| Wright & Fletcher, grain..... | \$ 9 05 | |
| B. F. Day, 3½ tons hay..... | 42 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, labor..... | 7 50 | |
| J. W. Day, labor..... | 2 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$61 05 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$3,281 25 |
| Appropriation, \$3,000. | | |
| Overdrawn, \$281.25. | | |

Schedule of property belonging to Town for use of Road Department: 2 horses, 1 set of heavy harnesses, 1 set old harnesses, 2 carts, 5 whiffletrees and chains, 1 evener and spreader, 2 spare horse collars, 2 blankets, 2 surcingles, 1 stone drag, 2 yokes, 1 road scraper, 2 wrenches, 1 wagon jack, 3 chains, 1 stone lifter, reins and hand splices, 5 rakes, 5 shovels, 1 manure fork, 1 hay fork, 2 plows, 10 blasting drills, 12 plug drills, lot of shims and wedges, 1 bush snath, 2 bush scythes, 2 axes, 1 trimming saw, 2 halters, 2 lanterns, 1 oil can, 1 tool box, 3 large hoes, 2 picks, 4 iron bars, 1 pinch bar, 1 hand hammer, 2 striking hammers, 1 stone hammer, 1 curry comb, 2 horse brushes, 2 gravel screens, 1 drill spoon, 2 stone forks, 2 mattocks, 1 two-horse sled, 2 pails, 1 old scraper (useless), 1 post rammer, 1 post spoon, 1 post-hole digger, a lot of sewer pipe, 1 ton of hay, 2 nose-bags, 1 long-handle trimming saw, 1 pruner, 1 stone jigger.

BREAKING ROADS.—FEBRUARY, 1898.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

R. E. Redding, R. C. Whidden and others \$ 78 35

DISTRICT NO. 2.

S. L. Taylor, W. W. Johnson and others.. 166 52

DISTRICT NO. 3.

S. H. Balch and others..... 21 35

DISTRICT NO. 4.

S. B. Wright, B. F. Day and others..... 106 53

Amount carried forward

 \$372 75

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$372 75 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 5. | | |
| H. L. Nesmith, W. M. Vose, A. E. Wilson and others..... | 96 62 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 6. | | |
| A. J. Blaisdell and others..... | 34 90 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 7. | | |
| Felch Bros., W. C. Edwards and others... | 87 75 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 8. | | |
| M. F. Downs, C. F. Shugrue and others.. | 158 95 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 9. | | |
| H. E. Gould and others..... | 46 80 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 10. | | |
| H. V. Hildreth, J. A. Healy and others.... | 36 25 | |
| | <hr/> | \$834 02 |

NOVEMBER STORM. 1898.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| DISTRICT NO. 1. | | |
| R. E. Redding, R. C. Whidden and others | \$ 82 33 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 2. | | |
| S. L. Taylor, W. W. Johnson and others.. | 108 80 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 3. | | |
| S. H. Balch and others..... | 11 97 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 4. | | |
| S. B. Wright and others..... | 52 46 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | \$255 56 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$255 56 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 5. | | |
| H. L. Nesmith and others..... | 38 19 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 6. | | |
| J. E. Knight..... | 1 50 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 7. | | |
| Felch Bros. and others..... | 21 35 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 8. | | |
| F. L. Downs and others..... | 10 10 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 10. | | |
| H. V. Hildreth and others..... | 20 25 | |
| | _____ | \$346 95 |

There are a number of outstanding bills on this storm which have not been presented for payment.

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1899-1900.

In making up the estimates for the amount of money asked for to be raised at the annual meeting, we have placed under the head of each department the amount that is asked for by that department.

SELECTMEN.

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Highways | \$3,000 00 | |
| Town debt and charges..... | 4,000 00 | |
| | _____ | \$7,000 00 |

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

| | | |
|----------------------|------------|------------|
| Support of poor..... | \$2,500 00 | \$2,500 00 |
|----------------------|------------|------------|

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Support of schools..... | \$6,000 00 | |
| Tuition of High School scholars..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Text books and supplies for schools..... | 600 00 | |
| | _____ | \$8,100 00 |

TRUSTEES OF J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | | |
|-------------|----------|----------|
| Books | \$200 00 | \$200 00 |
|-------------|----------|----------|

COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Public burial grounds..... | \$250 00 | \$250 00 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|

COMMITTEE ON NEW BUILDING AT TOWN FARM.

| | | |
|----------------|----------|----------|
| Material | \$300 00 | \$300 00 |
|----------------|----------|----------|

\$18,350 00

Number of orders, 424.

Total amount of orders, \$17,898.07.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

Report of Building Committee on New Ell to House
at Town Farm, with New Lock-up.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Paid F. D. Cook & Co. for lumber..... | \$394 30 |
| As Pratt & Co. for lumber..... | 14 25 |
| Gregg & Son, for lumber, finish, doors, etc..... | 169 01 |
| Alana Portalance, laying cellar wall.. | 60 00 |
| For labor..... | 126 73 |
| For freight and express..... | 35 19 |
| For carpenter work..... | 188 85 |
| J. A. Healy, lime, cement and team- ing..... | 51 60 |
| Damon Gould Co., lime, cement and hair..... | 42 68 |
| Damon Brick Co., 19,000 brick..... | 96 00 |
| Waldo Bros., sewer pipe..... | 6 04 |
| Joel Knapp & Son, iron work for cells..... | 100 00 |
| Wright & Bemis, sheet lead..... | 1 60 |
| C. E. Adams, sheathing paper and hardware..... | 6 56 |
| Wright & Fletcher, hardware..... | 54 46 |
| H. V. Hildreth, stone steps and capping..... | 41 74 |
| J. L. Moss, gutters..... | 26 50 |
| W. W. Johnson, lime and laths..... | 10 05 |
| W. W. Handley, mason work..... | 217 29 |
| W. H. Martin, plumbing..... | 352 19 |
| | <hr/> |
| Appropriation, \$2,000. | \$1,995 04 |

There is a balance due W. H. Martin, for plumbing, to the amount of \$22.21, and there is in the hands of Mr. S. H. Balch the sum of \$2 for sale of material.

The committee decided to give the Superintendent at the farm authority to buy the materials and take charge of the work, as estimates received for the building were so much in excess of the appropriation that we found it advisable to put the matter in

his hands. The lowest estimate we received was \$2,100 above the cellar, without the plumbing. We have expended between \$500 and \$600 in the basement in putting in cells and tramp room and brickwork, and \$375 for plumbing, which amounts to about \$900 more than the estimate. The Superintendent has done a good deal of the carpenter work himself at his leisure. We have nearly material enough on hand to finish the first floor, and it is estimated that if \$300 more was raised by the Town to buy material for the second floor, stairs and stock for painting, the Superintendent can complete the building himself without any expense for labor. It would seem that it is policy for the Town to do so, for if there should be a change in the Superintendent before the building was finished, and a new man should take charge who was not a mechanic, it would necessitate the hiring of a carpenter extra. The committee is desirous for the citizens to visit the farm and inspect the new building, believing they will endorse the course the committee has taken.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Board of Selectmen.

LEONARD W. WHEELER,
 ALBERT R. CHOATE,
 ALVIN G. POLLEY,

Board of Overseers of Poor.
 Committee.

LIST OF JURORS, 1898.

The following names will be reported at the Annual Meeting in March, to be placed in the jury box, subject to revision by the Town:

| Names. | Occupations. |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Wayland F. Balch, | Farmer. |
| Augustus Bunce, | Farmer. |
| Arthur H. Burnham, | Farmer. |
| John B. Carmichael, | Machinist. |
| Quincy W. Day, | Farmer. |
| Clarence R. P. Decatur, | Farmer. |
| Jeremiah Desmond, | Farmer. |
| Frank C. Drew, | Farmer. |
| George J. Dunn, | Mill Operative. |
| Elbert H. Flagg, | Farmer. |
| John M. Fletcher, | Grocer. |
| J. Willard Fletcher, | Farmer. |
| Charles H. Follansbee, | Clerk. |
| Austin H. Foss, | Farmer. |
| Allen B. Gould, | Clerk. |
| Edwin E. Heywood, | Farmer. |
| Frank H. Hildreth, | Farmer. |
| Samuel M. Hutchins, | Farmer. |
| John J. Monohan, | Clerk. |
| Elmer E. Nutting, | Machinist. |
| Charles E. Osgood, | Carpenter. |
| Nathan Prescott, | Painter. |
| J. Henry Read, | Manufacturer. |
| Reuben E. Redding, | Stable Keeper. |
| Charles N. Richardson, | Farmer. |
| Ossian V. Robey, | Carpenter. |
| T. Arthur E. Wilson, | Farmer. |
| Walter C. Wright, | Clerk. |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

The Selectmen, under the law, act as the Board of Health.

The Board appointed Wesley O. Hawkes and W. H. H. Burbeck agents for diseases and sanitary condition of the Town. Albert P. Richardson and John A. Healy were licensed as undertakers.

In the fall an epidemic of scarlet fever prevailed in Graniteville, and scattering cases occurred in other parts of the Town. No deaths occurred, as in many cases it was of a mild type. Typhoid fever was somewhat prevalent; two deaths occurred.

On account of no appropriation passed by the Legislature, nothing was done in the inspection of cattle by the inspector. A limited inspection was made of cattle at time of slaughter, and one cow condemned.

The following table is for the calendar year 1898.

The number of deaths will be found in the Town Clerk's report.

Number of infectious or contagious cases reported in 1898 is 54.

| | Number. | Deaths. |
|--------------------|---------|---------|
| Measles | 1 | — |
| Scarlet fever..... | 41 | — |
| Diphtheria | 2 | — |
| Typhoid fever..... | 10 | 2 |
| | — | — |
| | 54 | 2 |

The following expense has occurred:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Wright & Fletcher, wood alcohol and chloride of lime..... | \$11 05 |
| R. E. Redding, cleaning pond at Graniteville of dead fish..... | 2 50 |
| Express | 25 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., investigating scarlet fever cases..... | 4 00 |
| J. A. Healy, chloride of lime..... | 60 |
| Mrs. Lovell, labor..... | 4 00 |
| C. B. Coburn & Co., wood alcohol..... | 5 00 |

| | | |
|--|-------|---------------|
| Courier-Citizen Co., printing | 1 50 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense | 10 00 | |
| W. O. Hawkes, services as agent | 20 00 | |
| W. O. Hawkes, cash paid for supplies | 1 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services as agent | 20 00 | |
| | | ————— \$79 90 |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Board of Health.

REPORT ON CEMETERIES.

The following report is respectfully submitted by the Commissioners of Public Cemeteries, for the year ending March 1st, 1899:

The usual work has been done in Fairview Cemetery. The avenues have been kept in good condition and free from grass and weeds.

Care has been given to all lots, as reported, and special attention given to those having a fund for perpetual care. All have been mowed several times during the season, and any tablets needing repairs have been attended to, when authorized by the owner of the lot. Mr. H. W. Tarbell was employed, at an expense of \$30, to furnish and plant ornamental and flowering shrubs to beautify the grounds.

At the West Cemetery as much work has not been done as we had hoped and intended, but a beginning has been made, and we trust that during the coming season we can make considerable improvement, both there and at the North Cemetery. The fence has been painted two coats. Mr. H. W. Tarbell furnished and planted flowering vines over the tombs, and a row of evergreen trees has been planted on the east side, to hide the unsightly wall, if possible, at an expense of \$26.40.

The Trust Funds for perpetual care of lots show a gradual increase in numbers. The same are deposited in various savings banks in the City of Lowell, making a total amount, up to the present time, of \$700.

Regarding the subject of Trust Funds for such a purpose, the Legislature for 1897 passed a very wise law, which gives authority to executors and administrators whereby funds may be appropriated from the proceeds of an estate and devoted to the purpose of providing perpetual care of a cemetery lot. The former law only allowed the executor or administrator to provide a suitable mark or monument for the deceased. The following is a copy of the statute:

"Executors or administrators may pay to cemetery corporations or to cities or towns having burial places therein, a reasonable sum of money for the perpetual care of the lot in which the body of their testate or intestate is buried. The Probate

Court shall determine, after notice to all parties in interest, to whom the same shall be paid and the amount thereof, and such sums shall be allowed in final account of such executor or administrator."

The Commissioners would recommend that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$250 for the care and improvement of the various cemeteries during the ensuing year.

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, Chairman,
 GEORGE T. DAY, Secretary,
 NOAH PRESCOTT,
 Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Appropriation for 1898..... | \$250 00 |
| Estate of John W. Abbot, care of tomb..... | 10 00 |
| George E. H. Abbot, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Fred Ammission, lot 334, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. John Bailey, lots 51 and 52, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. John Baker, lot 330, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. W. F. Balch, lot 109, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edmund Barton, lots 40 and 41, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Ai Bicknell, Bicknell and Whitney lots, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Edson G. Boynton, lot 333, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Augustus Bunce, lots 11 and 12, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| William Burnett, lot 37, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. A. Butterfield, lot 344 and one in old ground.. | 2 00 |
| Mrs. J. T. Butterworth, lot 236, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Frank Calvert, lot 26, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John Carmichael, lot 68, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John B. Carmichael, lot 345, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Clara P. Carkin, lots 145 and 338, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Thomas Carrick, lot 373, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Eugene F. Carpenter, lot 366, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. R. Carver, lots 106 and 107, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. John Caunter, lots 21 and 22, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Charles A. Chamberlin, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Annie L. Coolidge, lot 65, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Edward Craven, lot 63, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Alice L. Davis, lot 10, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. C. Decatur, lot 268, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <u>\$299 00</u> |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$299 00 |
| Albert W. Decatur, lot 64, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| C. S. Dodge, lots 165 and 166, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Thomas Drew, lot 43, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. A. E. Dupee, lot 144, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Rachel Dupee, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| S. N. Eaton, lot 342, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Alonzo B. Falls, lot 62, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Emily A. Fletcher, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| F. L. Fletcher, lot 83, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Julia A. Fletcher, lot 69, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John M. Fletcher, lot 76, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. W. Fletcher, lot 154, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. L. J. Fletcher, lot 92, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. B. Foote, lots 22 and 23, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| W. E. Frost, lot 17, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| L. S. Gilson, lots 60 and 75, W. D., and 329, E. D..... | 3 00 |
| William Gower, lot 42, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. E. Green, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| John Greig, lot 14, W. D..... | 3 00 |
| George P. Hamlin, lot 111, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss C. S. Hamlin, lot 56, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. L. G. Hamlin, lot 57, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Alice A. Harris, lot 78, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| D. C. Harris, lot 15, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| George E. Harris, lot 27, W. D..... | 5 00 |
| W. O. Hawkes, lot 112, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss C. E. Hewitt, lot 116, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Ellen Hildreth, lot 87, and one in Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Helen C. Hildreth, lot 115, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| H. V. Hildreth, lots 42 and 43, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Frank Hindle, lot 336, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| E. H. Holt, lot 39, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| G. F. Horne, lot 16, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| S. G. Humiston, lot 142, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| George W. Hunt, lot 341, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss A. L. Johnson, lot 60, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. J. H. Laws, lot 114, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Peter Lord, lot 33, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss R. E. Luce, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| George F. Millis, lot 57, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| George C. Moore, lot 343, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Laura E. Mace, lot 30, E. D..... | 6 00 |
| F. Morton, lot 331, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. D. Morse, lot 58, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$362 00 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$362 00 |
| A. B. Noyes, lot 162, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Abram Orange, lot 48, E. D. | 1 00 |
| J. M. Osgood, lot 6, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. H. S. Parker, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Parker and Buxton, lot 365, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. M. A. Parker, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| William Petherick, lot 339, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Edward Prescott, lot 25, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Alfred L. Prinn, lot 67, W. D. | 1 00 |
| George G. Read, lot 70, W. D. | 1 00 |
| J. H. Read, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. J. W. Revere, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Anna Richardson, lot 74, W. D. | 1 00 |
| M. T. Richardson, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Miss Sarah Richardson, Fairview. | 2 00 |
| Mrs. F. K. Ripley, lot 2, E. D. | 1 00 |
| William Saville, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Miss M. Shaw, lot 355, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Jacob Smith, lot 95, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. John Smith, lot 375, E. D. | 1 00 |
| J. F. Spaulding, lot 346, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Richard Stancombe, lot 340, E. D. | 1 00 |
| F. O. Stiles, lot 41, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Thomas Symmes, Fairview. | 2 00 |
| Samuel L. Taylor, lot 101, and one in Fairview. | 2 00 |
| Mrs. S. H. Trumbull, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| J. A. Walkden, lot 15, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Duane Waller, lot 356, E. D. | 1 00 |
| William Welch, lot 18, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Isaac G. Wheeler, lot 105, W. D. | 1 00 |
| A. F. Whidden, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| C. E. Whidden (Whiting lot), Fairview. | 2 00 |
| William Whigham, lot 54, E. D. | 1 00 |
| E. J. Whitney, lots 28 and 29, E. D. | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Hiram Whitney, lot 100, W. D. | 1 00 |
| J. H. Whitney, lot 36, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Wm. M. Whitney, lot 21, W. D. | 1 00 |
| L. E. Wilkins, lot 88, W. D. | 1 00 |
| S. Willis, lot 20, W. D. | 1 00 |
| W. T. Willis, lot 19, E. D. | 1 00 |
| John Wilson, lot 146, E. D. | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Mary A. Wood, lot 53, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Myron J. Wood, lot 155, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Wm. L. Woods, lot 148, E. D. | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$412 00 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$412 00 |
| A. A. Wright, lot 34, W. D. | 1 00 |
| F. C. Wright, lot 59, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Gilman J. Wright, lots 28 and 29, W. D. | 2 00 |
| G. P. Wright, lot 25, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Hammett D. Wright (V. B. Wright lot), Fairview. | 1 00 |
| N. H. Wright, lots 46 and 47, W. D. | 2 00 |
| W. M. Wright, lot 24, E. D. | 1 00 |
| W. W. Wyman, lot 376, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Amount received for apples at Fairview. | 3 50 |
| Receipts | \$425 50 |

EXPENSES.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Fairview:— | |
| Paid H. W. Tarbell for shrubs, etc. | \$ 30 00 |
| R. E. Redding for 12 cords of manure | 42 60 |
| For grass seed. | 75 |
| For one pair of grass shears. | 1 25 |
| For postage, oil and fertilizer. | 7 33 |
| A. P. Richardson and others for labor | 247 65 |
| West Cemetery:— | |
| Paid Boutwell Bros., for iron pipe for fence | 1 27 |
| Wright & Fletcher for paint stock. . . | 13 01 |
| Nathan Prescott for painting fence. . | 12 40 |
| H. W. Tarbell for shrubs, etc. | 20 00 |
| H. W. Tarbell for labor setting trees | 6 50 |
| J. T. Colburn for labor. | 7 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$389 76 |
| Balance | \$35 74 |
| Outstanding claim, expense at North Cemetery | \$13 00 |
| Amount overdrawn, 1897. | 21 81 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$34 81 |
| Amt. remaining unexpended, as estimated | \$0 93 |

TRUST FUNDS HELD FOR CARE OF BURIAL LOTS.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Sally B. Burrill fund. | \$100 00 |
| Mary A. Putnam fund. | 100 00 |
| Samuel Horne fund. | 50 00 |
| Clara M. Wiley fund. | 100 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$350 00 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$350 00 |
| Joseph B. Griffin..... | 100 00 |
| Edwin D. Metcalf fund..... | 50 00 |
| Sarah S. Reed fund..... | 100 00 |
| C. Hamlin and C. A. Hamlin fund..... | 100 00 |
| Total | <hr/> \$700 00 |

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

For the Year Ending February 1, 1899.

AMOUNT OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT THE ALMSHOUSE, BY APPRAISAL.

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| February 1, 1898..... | \$3,097 95 |
| February 1, 1899..... | 3,010 53 |
| | \$87 42 |
| Loss on personal property..... | \$87 42 |

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Received for Milk | \$770 74 |
| Hay | 137 80 |
| T. Carney's board..... | 108 00 |
| Apples | 80 87 |
| Pork | 44 27 |
| Breaking roads..... | 33 32 |
| Calves | 13 25 |
| Use of bull..... | 7 00 |
| Cows | 88 00 |
| Witness fees on court cases.. | 15 76 |
| Use of tools..... | 4 75 |
| J. Wilkinson's rent..... | 13 08 |
| Eggs | 5 36 |
| Old wagon..... | 9 00 |
| Old pung..... | 2 00 |
| Keeping prisoners..... | 4 00 |
| Butter | 6 20 |
| Sundries | 18 19 |
| | \$1,361 59 |
| John Green's board..... | 108 00 |
| | \$1,469 59 |

PAYMENTS.

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Paid for Grain | \$319 49 |
| Groceries | 373 75 |
| Superintendent's salary..... | 450 00 |
| Labor | 370 20 |
| Cows | 100 00 |
| Meat | 147 57 |
| Fish | 20 10 |
| Lumber | 21 90 |
| Grass | 18 00 |
| Coal | 16 81 |
| Gutters on house..... | 12 00 |
| Dry goods..... | 11 67 |
| Set of wheels for farm wagon.... | 15 00 |
| Democrat wagon..... | 59 50 |
| Hardware | 14 90 |
| Cultivator | 7 50 |
| Snow bills..... | 18 94 |
| Pasturing cows..... | 12 00 |
| Ice | 9 00 |
| Phosphate | 16 50 |
| Blacksmith work..... | 26 80 |
| Seeds | 7 00 |
| Mattress | 5 50 |
| Wall paper..... | 6 00 |
| Tinsmith work..... | 9 64 |
| Medical supplies..... | 6 50 |
| Cement for cistern..... | 3 45 |
| Stone for cistern..... | 9 10 |
| Expense on court business..... | 6 32 |
| Clothing for inmates..... | 9 00 |
| Pigs | 9 00 |
| Sundries | 14 22 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$2,127 36 |

INMATES OF ALMSHOUSE, FEBRUARY 1, 1899.

Caroline A. Perham, age 75.

John P. Green, age 80.

Edward E. Holt, age 85.

Margaret O'Brine, age about 65.

Thomas Carney, age about 88.

Catherine O'Toole, age about 100.

Whole number supported at Almshouse, 6.

Number of tramps lodged at Almshouse, 361.

EXPENSE OF POOR OUTSIDE ALMSHOUSE.

| | | | |
|--|------|---------|--------|
| Paid Hospital bills for Woodward, Keyes, Raymond, Wayne, Lord, Quinn, Whitcomb and Reed..... | | \$1,257 | 28 |
| F. E. Varney, M. D., for attendance on child of Hugh McAdams.... | | | 4 50 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., for attendance on Jane Dugdale..... | \$44 | 50 | |
| Mrs. O'Toole..... | 7 | 50 | |
| Lizzie Houghton..... | 9 | 65 | |
| Charles Johnson..... | 10 | 50 | 72 15 |
| J. W. Godfrey, M. D., for attendance on Leroy Richardson..... | | | 12 35 |
| W. H. Bennett, M. D., for attendance on W. B. McNaughton..... | 29 | 50 | |
| Mrs. L. Leland..... | 34 | 50 | |
| S. J. Ingalls..... | 19 | 00 | |
| Reynolds..... | 1 | 50 | |
| Mary Crockett..... | 13 | 00 | |
| J. Wilkinson's family..... | 57 | 00 | |
| B. Leland's family..... | 20 | 06 | |
| G. Leland's family..... | 62 | 00 | 236 50 |
| For medicine for Mrs. J. Leland.... | | | 16 59 |
| Wright & Bemis for groceries for Mrs. J. Leland..... | | | 1 20 |
| Wright & Fletcher for groceries for Mrs. J. Leland..... | | | 53 00 |
| R. E. Redding for wood for Mrs. J. Leland..... | 12 | 50 | |
| George Leland..... | 4 | 63 | 17 13 |
| City of Lowell, aid to Margaret Casey | | | 30 50 |
| City of Cambridge, aid to Varnum T. Fletcher..... | | | 1 75 |
| City of Chelsea, aid to Alfred French | | | 10 00 |
| Thatcher & Ireland, groceries for Leroy Richardson..... | | | 14 08 |
| H. Amsden, house rent for Leroy Richardson..... | | | 6 00 |
| A. R. Choate, salary..... | | | 10 00 |
| A. G. Polley, salary..... | | | 10 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler, salary..... | | | 10 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler for making out Town Report..... | | | 5 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler, extra time as Over- seer..... | | | 10 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | | \$1,778 | 03 |

| | | |
|---|----------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$1,778 03 |
| W. F. Balch for making out report to State | | 5 00 |
| Wright & Bemis for groceries for George Leland..... | | 13 84 |
| Wright & Fletcher for groceries for Joseph Wilkinson..... | | 50 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total expense of poor outside Almshouse | | \$1,846 87 |
| Credit by cash received, and due, as below | | 323 25 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Cost of supporting poor outside Almshouse | | \$1,523 62 |
| Received from Town of Tyngsboro on account of McNaughton and Ingalls..... | \$ 58 50 | |
| City of Lowell on account of Mrs. Jane Dugdale | 40 50 | |
| Thomas Quinn on account of Mary Quinn..... | 149 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$248 50 |
| Due from State on account of Reynolds, Houghton, Johnson and Richardson | \$34 00 | |
| City of Lowell on account of Mrs. Jane Dugdale..... | 40 75 | |
| | <hr/> | 74 75 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$323 25 |

STATEMENT.

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| Cash received from Town Treasurer..... | \$2,643 02 | |
| Income of Farm..... | 1,361 59 | |
| In hands of Overseers, Feb. 1, 1898 | 3 85 | |
| Superintendent of Farm, Feb. 1, 1898..... | 124 37 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4,132 83 |
| Expense of poor outside Almshouse..... | \$1,846 87 | |
| Total payments at Farm..... | 2,127 36 | |
| Cash in hands of Supt., Feb. 1, 1899..... | 158 60 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4,132 83 |
| Cash received from Town Treasurer..... | \$2,643 02 | |
| In hands of Overseers, Feb. 1, 1898 | 3 85 | |
| Supt., Feb. 1, 1898.... | 124 37 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,771 24 |
| Cash in hands of Supt., Feb. 1, 1899..... | | 158 60 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$2,612 64 |

| | | |
|--|-----------|------------|
| Cash in hands of Supt., Feb. 1, 1898 | \$124 37 | |
| Drawn by order of Overseers for Farm..... | 800 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$924 37 |
| Cash in hands of Supt., Feb. 1, 1899..... | | 158 60 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Expense of poor at Farm..... | \$ 765 77 | |
| Outside Almshouse.... | 1,846 87 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,612 64 |
| Received for expense of poor; in hands of Town Treasurer..... | | 356 50 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Net expense of poor..... | | \$2,265 14 |
| Expense of tramps..... | | \$90 25 |

L. W. WHEELER,
A. R. CHOATE,
A. G. POLLEY,

Overseers of the Poor.

SCHEDULE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT ALMSHOUSE, FEBRUARY 4, 1899.

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 12 cows | \$720 00 |
| 2 horses | 100 00 |
| 1 bull | 35 00 |
| 27 tons English hay..... | 297 00 |
| 2 tons meadow hay..... | 12 00 |
| 5 tons stock hay..... | 40 00 |
| 2½ tons oat fodder..... | 15 00 |
| 10 tons ensilage..... | 50 00 |
| Grain in barn..... | 26 50 |
| 1 mowing machine..... | 25 00 |
| 1 Democrat wagon, old..... | 35 00 |
| 1 Democrat wagon, new..... | 60 00 |
| 1 hay wagon..... | 35 00 |
| 1 farm wagon..... | 25 00 |
| 1 farm wagon, new..... | 50 00 |
| 1 double sleigh..... | 25 00 |
| 1 wheel harrow..... | 10 00 |
| 1 spring tooth harrow..... | 12 00 |
| 1 horse rake..... | 5 00 |
| 1 two-horse dump cart..... | 60 00 |

Amount carried forward.....

\$1,637 50

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$1,637 50 | |
| 1 ensilage cutter..... | 10 00 | |
| 1 hay tedder..... | 25 00 | |
| 1 hay fork and gear..... | 30 00 | |
| 4 harnesses | 70 00 | |
| 3 shotes | 15 00 | |
| 60 fowls | 24 00 | |
| Whiffletrees, neck yokes and eveners.. | 15 00 | |
| 1 sleigh | 5 00 | |
| Balance in barn and outbuildings..... | 264 60 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,096 10 |

PERSONAL PROPERTY AT HOUSE.

| | | |
|--|----------|------------|
| 1 barrel pork..... | \$ 14 00 | |
| 25 bushels potatoes..... | 20 00 | |
| Vinegar stock and barrels..... | 60 00 | |
| 1 barrel sugar..... | 12 08 | |
| 1 barrel flour..... | 5 50 | |
| 35 pounds butter..... | 8 05 | |
| Vegetables | 2 00 | |
| Balance personal property at house.... | 792 80 | |
| | <hr/> | 914 43 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$3,010 53 |

JOHN M. FLETCHER,
 F. C. HILDRETH,
 J. W. FLETCHER,
 Appraisers of Property at Town Farm.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS.

In compliance with a vote of the Town passed at the Annual Meeting in April, 1898, the Committee appointed to investigate the system of repairing our Town roads and to recommend such changes as might, in their opinion, seem best, respectfully submit the following:

We have held several meetings as a Committee; have held a public hearing in the Town Hall, of which every tax-payer of the Town was notified by postal card, and requested to come and present his views; have attended a public meeting at Marshall's Hall, to which the citizens of the Town were invited by posters; and have sought by personal work to obtain the views of the voters of the Town on the subject. While your Committee have no difficulty in finding people who are ready and earnest in condemning our present system, some even going so far as to contend that our roads do not compare favorably with those of the surrounding towns, they fail to suggest to us any method that, in our judgment, would be any improvement on the present mode of repairing the highways. It is desired by all that some method should be adopted whereby our roads would be put in better condition, without increasing the rate of taxation to any great extent.

After careful inquiry, we find most of the towns in our vicinity, and, in fact, a large majority of them throughout the County, are employing the same system as in use here. While a few towns, for a brief time, abandoned this system, they have, almost without exception, returned to the old method, and also to the appointment of a Superintendent by the Selectmen—in a few instances by an election of a Superintendent by the town. When the appointment has been made by the Selectmen, it has either been a person who was a resident of the town or they have secured a competent road builder from outside.

We have considered the physical conditions of the Town, and find they are not favorable to good roads. Good gravel is scarce and must be drawn long distances; the hills are liable to be washed by every heavy shower, and the work of months is often undone in an hour; the valleys become moist and the plains are sandy; the natural soil, in most districts, is not suitable for good roads; the road mileage is very large; the appropriation per mile of roads

is very small. These are the conditions to be met and overcome, that we may have good roads in this Town. After careful investigation and deliberation, it seems best to present two separate plans for your consideration, outlined as follows:

PLAN 1.

This plan provides for minor repairs to be made by Town teams and men, but all large jobs to be done by contract. Sealed bids to be invited and contracts to be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder for delivering gravel by the load, the size of load, quality of material, rate of delivery and place of delivery to be clearly specified. Written contracts to be executed, with penalty attached for failure to fulfill the conditions of the contract.

PLAN 2.

This is the one in use at present, with some changes in detail. The teams to be owned by the Town, as far as possible. Arrangements to be made for stable room of teams in different sections of the Town, that they may be near the work in hand and thus make a full day's work possible. Where the work requires extra men or teams, they are to be hired for such time as they are needed. When the Town teams are idle or when at work in that section, they are to be kept at the Town Farm, and when so kept the Road Department shall pay the Poor Department for board of teams and men (if Town boards the men) at a rate to be agreed upon by the Selectmen and the Overseers of the Poor. In case they cannot agree upon the rate, it is to be left to the Board of Assessors, and their decision shall be final.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.

With each of these plans, your Committee would recommend that more specific attention be given to inspection of our roads, and supervision of the work of repairs. We recommend the employment of a man of experience, skilled in building roads, as Superintendent, who may be a resident or non-resident of the Town, and that he be required to make frequent inspection of the highways in order that water bars be kept up, and ditches cleaned out, to prevent damage to hilly roads by rain, and that small mud-holes and shallow places in roads may be filled before they become larger, requiring a greater supply of material to repair them. We believe in securing a thoroughly competent man and giving him full charge of the details of the work, as far as possible, and requiring him to see that the Town receives full value for each dollar

expended on its roads. We believe that no radical change should be made in the system of repairs to our roads, without a larger appropriation, which does not seem desirable at the present time. We believe that either of the plans here outlined, with intelligent and practical supervision, with prompt attention to minor repairs, will result in better roads.

GEORGE T. DAY,
HAMMETT D. WRIGHT,
HERBERT E. FLETCHER,
MELBOURNE F. HUTCHINS,

Committee Appointed by Selectmen.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Westford, Mass., Feb. 28, 1899.

The Treasurer of Westford submits the following report:

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| To cash on hand..... | \$ 2,463 52 |
| To cash borrowed..... | 16,000 00 |
| From State corporation tax, balance of 1897..... | 16 05 |
| State corporation tax, 1898..... | 1,549 78 |
| Bank tax, 1898..... | 662 00 |
| Soldiers' families, 1897..... | 940 00 |
| Indigent soldiers, 1897..... | 125 00 |
| Income Mass. School Fund..... | 359 24 |
| Armory rent..... | 175 00 |
| County Treasurer, dog licenses..... | 298 11 |
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor Town Hall..... | 100 00 |
| I. E. Day, Collector of Taxes, 1892..... | 10 00 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1893.. | 82 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1894.. | 1 51 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1895.. | 158 05 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1896.. | 512 80 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1897.. | 1,502 63 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector, before Oct. 1, 1898 | 13,922 20 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector, before Dec. 1, 1898 | 1,598 54 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector, after Dec. 1, 1898 | 1,159 63 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1894..... | 25 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1895..... | 68 05 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1896..... | 55 67 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1897..... | 72 66 |
| Walter C. Wright, interest on tax, 1898..... | 82 |
| Income library funds..... | 89 50 |
| Florence H. Read, school supplies sold..... | 13 00 |
| State, on account of Supt. of Schools..... | 500 00 |
| City of Lowell, on account of paupers..... | 40 50 |
| Town of Tyngsboro, on account of paupers.. | 58 50 |
| Alec Fisher, butcher's license..... | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$42,454 98 |

| | |
|--|-------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$42,454 98 |
| John J. Sheehan, butcher's license | 1 00 |
| Alvan Fisher, auctioneer's license | 2 00 |
| Francis Leboodly, license No. 298 | 8 00 |
| Francis Leboodly, license No. 425 | 8 00 |
| Henry J. Haley, pool room license | 2 00 |
| Morris Miller, license 401 | 8 00 |
| First District Court, Ayer | 83 45 |
| Thomas V. Quinn, board of wife | 149 50 |
| State Treasurer, on account of Inspector of Animals | 103 87 |
| J. Henry Read, board of John Green | 108 00 |
| Mrs. Wm. L. Kittredge, 24 loads of dirt | 2 40 |
| Town of Groton, tuition of scholars | 16 50 |
| County Treasurer, on account of roads | 1,500 00 |
| J. A. Healey, drain pipe | 2 28 |
| Alec Fisher, drain pipe | 12 75 |
| W. M. Whitney, drain pipe | 2 25 |
| Dr. W. J. Sleeper, drain pipe | 3 45 |
| Geo. T. Day, drain pipe | 3 63 |
| State Treasurer, burial of soldiers | 35 00 |
| Arthur Bicknell, broken glass | 25 |
| Gilbert & Barker Mfg. Co., gasolene bbls. | 1 35 |
| David Gordon, license No. 623 | 8 00 |
| F. A. Fisher, gravel | 1 00 |
| Daniel Cornell, books | 9 10 |
| Warren H. Blaisdell, tuition | 11 90 |
| Westford Academy, teaching | 33 00 |
| Mrs. L. L. Tappan, gift to Library | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Stedman, gift to Library | 1 00 |
| Miss Cheney, gift to Library | 1 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$44,575 66 |

PAYMENTS.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| By cash, notes and interest | \$15,160 00 |
| State tax | 795 00 |
| County tax | 1,318 23 |
| Overseers of Poor | 2,643 02 |
| Orders for incidental expenses | 15,255 05 |
| On account of schools | 5,880 84 |
| On account of tuition, Academy | 1,500 00 |
| On account of Library | 524 90 |
| Cash on hand | 1,480 62 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$44,575 66 |

NAHUM H. WRIGHT, Treasurer.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

Gentlemen of the Board of Selectmen:

According to custom at this time, and in compliance with the duties of Auditor, the undersigned, having duly presented several statements in relation to taxes for the year 1898, and having also made a careful examination of the accounts in all departments of finance for the year ending February 28, 1899, would submit herewith a complete report. All accounts of the Town's officers were found correctly cast and properly vouched; details of each account may be found under the head of the departments published in this pamphlet.

TAXES.

The amount of taxes assessed on the polls and on the real and personal estate, within the Town of Westford, for the year 1898, and as presented to you July 25, was as follows:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Number of polls 668, at \$2 each..... | \$ 1,336 00 |
| Tax on personal property..... | 3,297 47 |
| Tax on real estate..... | 15,700 47 |
| | |
| Total | \$20,333 94 |
| Taxes added since audit of July 25 (on real estate).. | 3 90 |
| | |
| Total tax levy for 1898..... | \$20,337 84 |

Note.—Total tax levy for 1897 was \$18,412.37.

UNCOLLECTED TAXES

| Year. | Collector. | Amount due and as reported, March 1, 1898. | Interest Collected since March 1, 1898. | Total. | Amount Collected, including Interest and Abateants, since March 1, 1898. | Amount due March 1, 1899. |
|--|------------------|--|---|----------|--|---------------------------|
| 1892 | Isaac E. Day | \$ 33 95 | \$ 2 63 | \$ 36 58 | \$ 36 58 | |
| 1893 | Walter C. Wright | 1 53 | ..... | ..... | 1 53 | |
| 1894 | Walter C. Wright | 21 97 | ..... | ..... | 13 51 | \$ 8 46 |
| 1895 | Walter C. Wright | 273 98 | ..... | ..... | 170 14 | 103 84 |
| 1896 | Walter C. Wright | 837 36 | 55 67 | 893 03 | 601 70 | 291 33 |
| 1897 | Walter C. Wright | 2,508 11 | 72 66 | 2,580 77 | 1,672 36 | 908 41 |
| Total amount of uncollected taxes, 1894-7..... | | | | | | \$1,312 04 |

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| In addition to the foregoing account, Auditor debits Walter C. Wright with the total tax levy for 1898, which was..... | \$20,337 84 |
| For interest collected since Jan. 1, 1899 (taxes of 1898) | 82 |
| Total | <u>\$20,338 66</u> |

And credits for amounts as follows:

| | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|
| Actual amount collected Oct. 1..... | \$13,920 72 | |
| Five per cent. discount allowed tax- payers on taxes paid on or before Oct. 1..... | 732 67 | |
| Actual amount collected Dec. 1..... | 1,598 32 | |
| Three per cent. discount allowed tax- payers on taxes paid on or before Dec. 1..... | 49 43 | |
| Amount collected between Dec. 2 and Feb. 9..... | 1,159 63 | |
| Interest | 82 | |
| Rebate of taxes and taxes ordered as errors | 6 23 | |
| | <u>17,467 82</u> | <u>\$17,467 82</u> |
| Residue of uncollected taxes for 1898 | | <u>\$2,870 84</u> |

RECAPITULATION.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Uncollected taxes, 1894 | \$ 8 46 |
| 1895 | 103 84 |
| 1896 | 291 33 |
| 1897 | 908 41 |
| 1898 | 2,870 84 |
| Total amount of uncollected taxes, March 1, 1899..... | <u>\$4,182 88</u> |

TOWN CLERK.

Number of dogs licensed:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| 153 at \$2 each..... | \$306 00 |
| 8 at \$5 each..... | 40 00 |
| Total amount of license fees..... | <u>\$346 00</u> |
| Clerk's fees, 161 at 20 cents each..... | 32 20 |
| Balance paid to County Treasurer, as per his vouchers..... | <u>\$313 80</u> |

Two hundred ninety-eight and eleven-hundredths dollars (\$298.11) of the dog license money has been refunded and passed to the Library account.

SELECTMEN.

Proper vouchers were found for each and every one of the 424 drafts (orders) drawn by the Selectmen on the Town Treasurer.

Total amount of drafts was seventeen thousand eight hundred ninety-eight and seven-hundredths dollars (\$17,898.07).

MASTER OF ALMSHOUSE.

| | |
|--|------------------------|
| Cash balance March 1, 1898..... | \$ 124 37 |
| Receipts from all sources for the year ending Feb. 28, 1899..... | 2,161 59 |
| Total | <u>\$2,285 96</u> |
| Expenditures for the year ending Feb. 28, 1899 | \$2,127 36 |
| Balance March 1, 1899..... | <u><u>\$158 60</u></u> |

S. H. Balch in account with Town of Westford, "New Annex" to Farm buildings:

| | |
|--|------------|
| Cash received from Town Treasurer..... | \$1,995 04 |
| From sale of lime and hair..... | 2 00 |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Total | <u>\$1,997 04</u> |
| Amount paid per vouchers, Feb. 4, 1899.. | 1,995 04 |

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Balance unexpended..... | <u><u>\$2 00</u></u> |
|-------------------------|----------------------|

Two thousand dollars (\$2,000) was the amount appropriated. February 4 all bills on account of the "Annex" had not been presented.

W. F. Balch.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Cash on hand March 1, 1898..... | \$3 85 |
| Received during April, 1898.... | 3 37 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Total | <u>\$7 22</u> |
| Expenditures per vouchers..... | <u><u>7 22</u></u> |

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| L. W. Wheeler. | |
| Cash received from Town Treasurer . . | \$2,643 02 |
| Sundry payments from May 1, 1898, to Feb. 28, 1899..... | <u>2,643 02</u> |

TREASURER.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Receipts during the year ending Feb. 28, 1899 | \$42,112 14 |
| Expenditures during the year ending Feb. 28, 1899..... | <u>43,036 04</u> |
| Excess of expenditures over receipts..... | <u>\$973 90</u> |
| Balance in the treasury March 1, 1898..... | \$ 2,463 52 |
| Received into the treasury during the year ending Feb. 28, 1899..... | <u>42,112 14</u> |
| Making a total of..... | \$44,575 66 |
| Amount paid from the treasury during the year ending Feb. 28, 1899..... | <u>43,086 04</u> |
| Balance in the treasury March 1, 1899..... | <u>\$1,489 62</u> |

LIBRARY—NAHUM H. WRIGHT, TREASURER.

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Cash balance March 1, 1898..... | \$ 41 06 |
| Receipts during the year ending Feb. 28, 1899 | <u>591 61</u> |
| Total | \$632 67 |
| Payments for the year ending Feb. 28, 1899 | <u>524 90</u> |
| Balance March 1, 1899..... | <u>\$107 77</u> |

FINANCIAL.

The financial condition of the Town March 1, 1899, was as follows:

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|---|------------------|
| State Treasurer, balance on account of new Library building (original amount was \$5,000) | \$ 4,000 00 |
| Appleton National Bank, Lowell (balance of original note for \$16,000)..... | <u>10,000 00</u> |
| Total | \$14,000 00 |

RESOURCES.

| | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------|
| Due from State Aid, on account of soldiers' families | \$ 893 00 | |
| Due from Military Aid, on account of indigent soldiers..... | 105 00 | |
| On account of burial of soldiers..... | 70 00 | |
| Balance of corporation tax due from State | 1,009 86 | |
| Taxes of 1894 remaining uncollected..... | 8 46 | |
| Taxes of 1895 remaining uncollected..... | 103 84 | |
| Taxes of 1896 remaining uncollected..... | 291 33 | |
| Taxes of 1897 remaining uncollected..... | 908 41 | |
| Taxes of 1898 remaining uncollected..... | 2,870 84 | |
| Balance of cash in the treasury..... | 1 489 62 | |
| Balance of cash in the hands of the Master of the Almshouse..... | 158 60 | |
| Balance of cash, Library Fund..... | 107 77 | |
| S. H. Balch..... | 2 00 | |
| | | 8,018 73 |
| Balance against the Town..... | | <u>\$5,981 27</u> |

Deficit March 1, 1898, was \$3,521.80.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR B. PLIMPTON.

Graniteville, March 1, 1899.

LIBRARY REPORT.

The Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library respectfully submit the following report for the year ending March 1, 1899:—

The Librarian's record shows that 14,201 volumes circulated this year, of which 4,050 volumes went to Graniteville and Forge Village.

The demands upon the Reference Room have grown. Current events have stimulated research in the larger volumes of history, geography, travel, and bound and unbound periodicals. So great has been the demand for back numbers of magazines, that the Trustees feel obliged to reserve a sum for their binding. This is at once a matter of economy and utility. Handled in odd numbers, they become soiled and torn. Bound, they are preserved, and can be readily turned to by the title and number on their back.

These magazines are the best depository of current history. The increased facilities of printing and illustrating, with the records of men who have taken part in the events, make them invaluable. There will be an increased demand for them. This department of your library, while growing, needs strengthening. The files cover only the past three years. There is but one exception,—*Littell's Living Age*. This is complete,—an invaluable help and generous gift. The great creative period in American history and literature is not represented by magazines. The Trustees look forward to the time when complete sets of the *North American Review*, *Atlantic*, *Century*, *Harper's*, *Scribner's*, etc., shall be on file.

In the purchase of books the purpose of former years grows: namely, purity and strength. From an individual standpoint, it is to be regretted that the cost of the best books in all departments has increased very largely. Few persons are able to buy the great works in travel, biography, naval history and geography that come from the press. The province and power of the public library have increased much in this very fact. The inherent value of such books is great. Upon it rests the justice of their cost. The best and highest ends of the library are reached by putting such

books within the reach of all. A reading of the appended list will show the purchase of the best books in every department during the year past. They form a solid foundation for years to come.

It is a great pleasure to record the further beautifying of the interior of the library. Generous hearts and kindly hands have been busy. The admiration of visitors has been almost as great as our joy.

Mr. Charles H. Prescott, a former townsman, now of Harvard, has had a larger share in this. Earlier in the year he kindly expressed a desire to contribute some memorial. Its mission was intrusted to Mrs. G. T. Day. It has been faithfully carried out. Six busts, two wall pieces, and a heroic statue form the splendid collection of plaster casts. The collection divides itself into busts of Shakespeare, Franklin, Sir Walter Scott, Prescott (the historian), Webster and Longfellow. The two mural pieces are "Boys Playing on Trumpets" and "The Harvesters." The heroic statue of Minerva is the cynosure of every eye entering the building. Our Town is to be congratulated on the possession of these beauties, few of which are shared by any country library. To the generous donor, hearty thanks have been sent in your behalf.

The large photograph of St. Gaudens' statue of Lincoln, at the Lincoln Park, Chicago, came as a memorial to John W. Abbot from his friend, Mr. Allan Cameron. It is the artist's masterpiece. On your library wall, it completes the trio of the world's great commoners,—Gladstone, Lincoln, Bright.

Five other pictures came to adorn. Three from the Westford Dramatic Club: "Baby," by Van Dyke; "The Dutch Cloth Syndics," by Rembrandt; "Surrender of Breda," by Velasquez. From Mrs. J. F. Barnard: framed pictures of the Boston Public Library and the State House.

Mr. C. H. Woodbury, of Boston, kindly loaned a collection of his paintings—subjects mostly painted in Holland. Miss E. J. Gay loaned a collection of pictures of colored birds. Nor must the exhibits of the Massachusetts Library Art Association be forgotten, of which your library is now a member. Two exhibits have been here, the collection loaned by Prang & Co., and the photographs of Swiss and Italian mountain scenery. They will continue during the coming year, and comprise drawings and sketches of the leading illustrators of the magazines. These features have added greatly to the beauty and efficiency of the library, greatly aiding

the educational work of the schools. In behalf of the Town, thanks have been expressed to the donors and lenders for their contributions and loans. A further list of gifts is appended.

We recommend that the sum of \$200 be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM E. FROST, Chairman,
KATE A. KEBLER,
LOUIS H. BUCKSHORN, Secretary,
Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Balance on hand | \$ 41 06 |
| Shoe and Leather Bank, dividends | 9 50 |
| Lowell Manufacturing Co., dividends | 40 00 |
| City Institution for Savings, dividends | 40 00 |
| Mrs. L. L. Tappan, gift | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Stedman, gift | 1 00 |
| Miss Cheney, gift | 1 00 |
| Appropriation | 200 00 |
| Dog Licenses | 298 11 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$632 67 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Willard Small, books | \$ 392 75 |
| F. J. Barnard & Co., rebinding books | 45 15 |
| Wright & Fletcher, magazines | 52 65 |
| D. Appleton & Co., H. M. Meek and others, sub- scription books | 29 35 |
| Library Art Club | 5 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$524 90 |
| Balance | \$107 77 |

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Number of books purchased | 380 |
| Number of books presented | 12 |
| Public documents received from the State | 15 |
| Public documents received from the United States | 86 |
| Whole number of books added during the year | 493 |
| Whole number of books in Library | 10,153 |
| Number of books lost | 2 |
| Number of books bought to replace worn-out copies | 23 |
| Number of books loaned | 14 201 |
| Number of pamphlets added | 60 |
| Cash on hand from last year | \$2 19 |
| Fines | 8 55 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$10 74 |
| Paid for supplies | 8 97 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance | \$1 77 |

GIFTS.

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| Chauncey Craven Hackett | 1 volume |
| Abiel J. Abbot | 1 " |
| Mrs. C. F. Palmer | 1 " |
| Cambridge W. C. T. U. | 1 " |
| J. V. Fletcher | 1 " |
| A Friend | 3 " |
| Dwight H. Olmstead | 1 " |
| D. S. Alexander | 1 " |
| Miss Kate S. Hamlin | 1 " |
| Commonwealth Institute Association of Christian Scientists | 1 " |
| G. F. Millis | 27 unbound volumes |
| Miss Cheney, of Concord | \$1 00 |
| Mrs. Stedman | 1 00 |
| Mrs. L. L. Tappan | 2 00 |
| Allan Cameron | Photograph of Lincoln |
| " " | Lithograph of Queen Victoria |
| Westford Dramatic Club | 3 photographs |
| Mrs. Josephine F. Barnard | 2 pen and ink sketches |
| Charles Henry Prescott, Still River, Minerva, 2 bas-reliefs, 6 busts | |

Magazines — Union Signal, Our Message, Ladies' Home Journal, L. A. W. Bulletin and Good Roads, Outlook, Land of Sunshine, Literary News, Paradise of the Pacific, Woman's Home Companion.

PAMPHLETS.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Dr. W. J. Sleeper | 5 volumes |
| J. M. Fle'cher | 2 " |
| Wm. A. Barnes | 1 " |
| Dr. J. L. Hildreth, Cambridge | 1 " |
| Walter G. Chase, Boston | 1 " |

LIST OF BOOKS

ADDED TO THE LIBRARY DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1898-9.

A

| | |
|---|-------|
| Acts and Resolves of Massachusetts, 1898 | 649 |
| Census of Massachusetts, 1895. Manufactures | 651 |
| Education, Report of Board, 1896-7 | 646 |
| Journal of House of Representatives, 1898 | 647 |
| Journal of Senate, 1898 | 648 |
| Laws and Resolves of Massachusetts, 1802-3 | 650 |
| Manual of General Court, 1898 | 653 |
| Massachusetts Reports. Vols 168, 169, 170 | 642-4 |
| Massachusetts Special Laws, 1894-97 | 645 |
| Registration Report, 1897 | 652 |

B

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|---|---------|
| Census of United States, 10th, 1880. 5 vols. | 788-92 |
| Civil Service Commission, 1897 | 770 |
| Commerce and Navigation in U. S., 1897. 2 vols. | 765-6 |
| Commercial Relations of U. S., 1896-7 | 775 |
| Congressional Record, 1873-75. 9 vols. | 776-87 |
| Education, Report of Commissioner, 1896-7. 2 vols. | 771-2 |
| Health Reports. Vol XII. 1897 | 768 |
| Interior, Report of Secretary, 1889-96 55 vols | 793-847 |
| Interstate Commerce Commission, 1897 | 769 |
| Introduction of Domestic Reindeer into Alaska, 1897, Sheldon Jackson | 767 |
| Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789-1897, 6 vols | 758-763 |
| Smithsonian Institution, U. S. National Museum. Vol XIX | 774 |
| Smithsonian Reports, U. S. National Museum, 1895 | 773 |

C

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| Capt. Cooks Three Voyages Round the World. M. Jones | 505 |
| Castilian Days. John Hay | 527 |
| Cornèr of Spain. Miriam Coles Harris | 528 |
| Edinburgh. R. L. Stevenson | 526 |
| Family Flight through Mexico. Rev. E. E. and Susan Hale | 509 |
| First Crossing of Greenland. Fridtjof Nansen | 518 |
| Girls' Wanderings in Hungary. H. Ellen Browning | 506 |
| Gondola Days. F. Hopkinson Smith | 524 |
| Great Streets of the World. Davis, Story, James, etc | 510 |
| In the Levant. C. D. Warner | 517 |
| Little Tour in France. Henry James | 519 |
| My Winter on the Nile. C. D. Warner | 516 |
| Nippur, or Explorations and Adventures on the Euphrates John Punnett Peters. 2 vols | 514-15 |
| Northward over the Great Ice. Robert E. Peary. 2 vols | 512-13 |
| Notable Voyages from Columbus to Parry. W. H. G. Kingston | 508 |
| Philippine Islands. Dean C. Worcester | 511 |
| Porto Rico of Today. Albert G. Robinson | 521 |
| Portraits of Places. Henry James | 520 |
| Puerto Rico and Its Resources. F. A. Ober | 523 |
| Thumb-Nail Sketches. George W. Edwards | 529 |
| Tropical Africa. Henry Drummond | 507 |
| Two Pilgrims' Progress. J. and E. R. Pennell | 525 |
| Yesterdays in the Philippines. Joseph E. Stevens | 522 |

D

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|---|--------|
| Alexander. History of Origin and Growth of Art of War- fare till 301 B. C. Theodore A. Dodge | 904 |
| Ave Roma. Studies from Chronicles of Rome. F. M. Crawford. 2 vols | 909-10 |
| Battlefields of '61. Willis J. Abbot | 881 |
| Bay Colony. 1624-1649. Wm. Dummer Northend | 887 |
| Bismarck and German Unity. Munroe Smith | 927 |
| Border Wars of New England, called King William's and Queen Anne's Wars. 1688-1711. S. A. Drake | 885 |
| Bradford's History of "Plimoth Plantation" | 847 |
| Bulfinch Front, The. Centennial of State House | 896 |

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| Cæsar, Commentaries of. Anthony Trollope | 892 |
| Cuba and Porto Rico with the Other Islands of the West Indies. Robert T. Hill | 902 |
| Deeds That Won the Empire. Historic Battle Scenes. Rev. W. H. Fitchett | 886 |
| De Soto and His Men in the Land of Florida. Grace King | 924 |
| English Constitution, Origin and Growth of. Part II. Hannis Taylor | 905 |
| Fifteenth Regiment, Mass. Volunteer Infantry, History of. 1861-64. Andrew E. Ford | 903 |
| From Manassas to Appomattox. James Longstreet | 900 |
| Greece, History of. Adolph Holm. 4 vols | 911-14 |
| Herodotus. George C. Swayne | 890 |
| Historic Towns of New England. Ed. by Lyman Powell | 908 |
| Holland, Story of. J. E. Thorold Rogers | 92 ² |
| Home Life in Colonial Days. Alice Morse Earle | 926 |
| Industry in England. Historical Outlines. H. de B. Gibbins | 906 |
| Jackson, Stonewall, and American Civil War. G. F. R. Henderson, (2 vols.) | 929-30 |
| Livy. Rev. W. L. Collins | 893 |
| Making of the Ohio Valley States. 1660-1837. S. A. Drake | 884 |
| Making of Virginia and the Middle Colonies. 1578-1701. S. A. Drake | 883 |
| Mankind, History of. Friedrich Ratzel. 2 vols. | 879-80 |
| Mexico of Today. The Awakening of a Nation. C. F. Lummis | 888 |
| Netherlands, History of People of. Petrus Johannes Blok | 901 |
| New Orleans, the Place and the People. Grace King | 925 |
| Papacy, History of, from the Great Schism to the Sack of Rome. M. Creighton. 6 vols. | 916-21 |
| Perugia, Story of. M. Symonds and L. D. Gordon | 928 |
| Philadelphia, the Place and the People. Agnes Repplier | 923 |
| Portugal and Its People. W. A. Salisbury | 882 |
| Revolution, The Story of. Henry Cabot Lodge. 2 vols. | 898-9 |
| Rome, History of, to death of Cæsar. W. W. How and H. D. Leigh | 915 |
| Tacitus. Wm. Bodham Donne | 891 |

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| Thucydides. Rev. W. L. Collins | 894 |
| Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedom. Wilbur H. Siebert | 907 |
| War in Cuba. Gonzalo de Quesada | 895 |
| War Memories of an Army Chaplain. H. Clay Trumbull | 931 |
| Xenophon. Sir Alexander Grant | 889 |

E

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| Alexanders of Maine, The. De Alva Stanwood Alexan- der | 952 |
| Andersen, Hans Christian. Story of My Life | 941 |
| Aristotle. Sir Alexander Grant | 929 |
| Bismarck. Some Recent Pages of His History. Moritz Busch. 2 vols. | 953-4 |
| Blackwood, William, and His Sons. Annals of a Publish- ing House. Mrs. Oliphant. 2 vols. | 918-19 |
| Brougham, John. Life, Stories and Poems. Ed. by Wm. Winter | 927 |
| Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius. Rev. James Davies | 928 |
| Cicero. Rev. W. L. Collins | 930 |
| Cicero, Roman Life in Days of. Rev. A. J. Church | 926 |
| Demosthenes. Rev. W. J. Brodribb | 932 |
| Emerson-Sterling Letters, with Sketch of Sterling's Life. Edward W. Emerson | 939 |
| Field, Eugene. Francis Wilson | 925 |
| Franklin, Benjamin. Sidney G. Fisher | 949 |
| Glimpses of Fifty Years. Frances E. Willard | 917 |
| Great Mother, A. Sketch of Madame Willard. F. E. Willard and M. B. Norton | 915 |
| Gustavus Adolphus and the Struggle of Protestantism for Existence. C. R. L. Fletcher | 922 |
| Hugo, Victor. Letters. Series II. Ed. by Paul Meurice | 955 |
| Joan of Arc, or the Maid of Orleans | 933 |
| Lee, Robert E., and the Southern Confederacy. 1807- 70. Henry A. White | 923 |
| Lincoln, Abraham. Carl Schurz | 940 |
| Memoirs of Early Italian Painters. Mrs. Jameson | 934 |
| Mitchel, Ormsby Macknight. F. A. Mitchel | 947 |
| My Long Life. Mary Cowden-Clarke | 924 |
| Neesima, Joseph Hardy. Life and Letters. A. S. Hardy | 946 |

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| Nineteen Beautiful Years. Frances E. Willard | 916 |
| Paul, the Man, Missionary, and Teacher. Orello Cone | 948 |
| Pericles and the Golden Age of Athens. Evelyn Abbott | 921 |
| Pliny's Letters. Rev. A. J. Church and Rev. W. J. Brodribb | 931 |
| Renan, Ernest. Madame James Darmesteter | 944 |
| Richardson, William Adams. Frank Warren Hackett | 950 |
| Robert the Bruce, and the Struggle for Scottish Independence. Sir Herbert Maxwell | 920 |
| Saint Francis of Assisi, Little Flowers of. Trans. by Abby L. Alger | 935 |
| Savonarola, Girolamo. Life and Times. Pasquale Villari | 951 |
| Shakespeare, William. Sidney Lee | 945 |
| Vailima Letters. R. L. Stevenson. 2 vols. | 936-7 |
| Washington, George. Horace E. Scudder | 938 |
| Wesley, John. J. H. Overton | 942 |
| Whittier, John G. Francis H. Underwood | 943 |

F

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|--|--------|
| American Citizen. Charles F. Dole | 708 |
| Anglo-Saxon Superiority. Edmond Demolins | 721 |
| Aristocracy and Evolution. W. H. Mallock | 725 |
| Atheism in Philosophy, and Other Essays. F. H. Hedge | 715 |
| Causes and Consequences. John Jay Chapman | 714 |
| Congressional Government. Woodrow Wilson | 707 |
| Control of the Tropics. Benjamin Kidd | 713 |
| Darwinism and Other Essays. John Fiske | 718 |
| Denizens of the Deep. Dr. G. Hartwig | 704 |
| Educational Reform. Charles W. Eliot | 723 |
| Foot-Notes to Evolution. David Starr Jordan | 709 |
| Geological Sketches. L. Agassiz. 2 vols. | 716-17 |
| How to Name the Birds. H. E. Parkhurst | 705 |
| Illustrated Flora of the Northern U. S., Canada, and British Possessions. N. L. Britton and A. Brown. Vols. II and III | 625-6 |
| Inebriety, Its Source, Prevention and Cure. Charles Folten Palmer | 702 |
| Laborer and Capitalist, The. Freeman Otis Willey | 722 |
| Liquor Problem in its Legislative Aspects. F. H. Wines and John Koren | 712 |

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| Lucretius. W. H. Mallock | 706 |
| Metals, Playbook of. John Henry Pepper | 700 |
| Political Economy, Science of. Henry George | 724 |
| Profit Sharing between Employer and Employee. N. P. Gilman | 719 |
| Sanitary Drainage of Houses and Towns. George E. Waring | 711 |
| Studies of Good and Evil. Josiah Royce | 710 |
| Treasures of the Earth: Mines, Minerals and Metals. William Jones | 701 |
| Winged Life in the Tropics. Dr. G. Hartwig | 703 |
| Wonderful Century, The. Alfred R. Wallace | 720 |
| Wonderful Inventions. John Timbs | 699 |

G

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|---|--------|
| Continuity of Christian Thought. A. V. G. Allen | 348 |
| Evolution of Religion. Edward Caird. 2 vols. | 349-50 |
| Freedom of Faith. Theodore T. Munger | 346 |
| Hope of Immortality, The. J. E. C. Welldon | 347 |
| Human Immortality. William James | 344 |
| Lamps and Paths. Theodore T. Munger | 345 |
| Manliness of Christ. Thomas Hughes | 343 |
| Protestant Faith, or Salvation by Belief. Dwight H. Olmstead | 342 |
| Renascent Christianity | 351 |
| Science and Health, with Key to the Scriptures. M. B. G. Eddy | 341 |
| Adventures of Francois. H. Weir Mitchell | 2130 |
| Afterwards and Other Stories. Ian Maclaren, <i>pseud.</i> | 2129 |
| Antigone. Paul Bourget | 2137 |
| Battle of the Strong, The. Gilbert Parker | 2145 |
| Border Lances | 2117 |
| Caleb West: Master Diver. F. Hopkinson Smith | 2115 |
| Castle Inn. Stanley J. Weyman | 2143 |
| Colonel Starbottle's Client. Bret Harte | 2156 |
| Day's Work, The. Rudyard Kipling | 2123 |
| Dead Souls. Nikolai V. Gogol | 2135 |
| Despot of Broomsedge Cove. Charles Egbert Craddock, <i>pseud.</i> | 2126 |
| Donal Grant. George MacDonald | 2118 |

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| Ebb Tide, The. | R. L. Stevenson and Lloyd Osbourne | 2106 |
| Flint. | Maud Wilder Goodwin | 2149 |
| Free to Serve. | E. Rayner | 2122 |
| From the Other Side. | Henry B Fuller | 2155 |
| Girl at Cobhurst, The. | Frank R Stockton | 2111 |
| Golden Age, The. | Kenneth Grahame | 2157 |
| " Sorrow, A. | Maria Louise Pool | 2132 |
| Great Love, A. | Clara Louise Burnham | 2150 |
| Helbeck of Bannisdale. | Mrs. Humphrey Ward. 2 vols. | 2152-3 |
| Her Memory. | Maarten Maartens, <i>pseud.</i> | 2139 |
| Imported Bridegroom and Other Stories. | Abraham Cahan | 2154 |
| Island Nights Entertainments. | R. L. Stevenson | 2108 |
| Life is Life, and Other Tales. | Zack, <i>pseud.</i> | 2131 |
| Little Book of Profitable Tales. | Eugene Field | 2119 |
| Locke Amsden. | D P. Thompson | 2113 |
| Lover of Truth, A. | Eliza Orne White | 2151 |
| Loves of the Lady Arabella, The. | Molly Elliot Seawell | 2146 |
| Marjorie Daw and Other People. | T. B. Aldrich | 2124 |
| Midst the Wild Carpathians. | Maurus Jokai | 2138 |
| Minister of France, Memoirs of. | Stanley J. Weyman | 2144 |
| Mistress of Sherburne, The. | A. M. Douglas | 2147 |
| On the Eve. | Ivan Turgenev | 2158 |
| On Many Seas. | Frederick Benton Williams | 2120 |
| Patty's Perversities. | Arlo Bates | 2127 |
| Plain Living. | Rolf Boldrewood | 2114 |
| Pride of Jennico. | Agnes and Egerton Castle | 2104 |
| Prince Otto. | R. L. Stevenson | 2107 |
| Puritans, The. | Arlo Bates | 2128 |
| Rangers, or The Tory's Daughter. | D. P. Thompson | 2112 |
| Red-Bridge Neighborhood. | Maria Louise Pool | 2133 |
| Red Rock. | Thomas Nelson Page | 2134 |
| Romance of Old New York, A. | Edgar Fawcett | 2164 |
| Rupert of Hentzau. | Anthony Hope, <i>pseud.</i> | 2141 |
| Sherburne Girls. | A. M. Douglas | 2148 |
| Shrewsbury. | Stanley J. Weyman | 2142 |
| Simon Dale. | Anthony Hope, <i>pseud.</i> | 2140 |
| Sportsman's Sketches. | Ivan Turgenev. 2 vols | 2161-2 |
| Sprightly Romance of Marsac. | Molly Elliot Seawell | 2105 |
| Story of Old Fort London. | Charles Egbert Craddock, <i>pseud.</i> | 2125 |
| Susan's Escort and Others. | E. E. Hale. | 2116 |

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| Tales of the Home Folks in Peace and War. J. C. Harris | 2121 |
| Taras Bulba. Nikolai V. Gogol | 2136 |
| Ten Thousand a Year. Samuel Warren. 2 vols. | 2109-10 |
| Torrents of Spring, The. Ivan Turgenev | 2163 |
| Virgin Soil. Ivan Turgenev. 2 vols. | 2159-60 |

J

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|---|------|
| Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. Mark Twain, <i>pseud.</i> | 1124 |
| Among the Forest People. Clara D. Pierson | 1125 |
| Among the Meadow People. Clara D. Pierson | 1126 |
| Bilberry Boys and Girls. Sophie Swett | 1108 |
| Boy Travellers in Australasia. H. Butterworth | 1120 |
| Boy Travellers in Central Europe. H. Butterworth | 1121 |
| Boy Travellers in the Levant. H. Butterworth | 1122 |
| Boy Travellers in Mexico. H. Butterworth | 1118 |
| Boy Travellers in Northern Europe. H. Butterworth | 1119 |
| Boy Officers of 1812. E. T. Tomlinson | 1129 |
| Boy Soldiers of 1812. E. T. Tomlinson | 1128 |
| Boys with Old Hickory. E. T. Tomlinson | 1131 |
| Cæsar, Julius Jacob Abbott | 1091 |
| Charles I. Jacob Abbott | 1094 |
| Charles II. Jacob Abbott | 1095 |
| Children's Book, The. Collection of Best and Most Famous Stories in English Language. Chosen by H. E. Scudder | 1123 |
| Cleopatra. Jacob Abbott | 1096 |
| Conquests of the Seven Hills. Mrs. C. H. B. Laing | 1086 |
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| Grandpapa's Stories, or Dame Nature. Trans. by X. B. Saintine | 1114 |
| Heroic Deeds. James Johonnot | 1103 |
| Hortense. J. S. C. Abbott | 1098 |
| Icelandic Fairy Tales. Trans. and Ed. by Mrs. A. W. Hall | 1117 |
| In the Wilds of the West Coast J. M. Oxley | 1115 |
| Josephine. J. S. C. Abbott | 1097 |
| Louis the XIV. J. S. C. Abbott | 1102 |

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| March on London Wat Tyler's Insurrection. G. A. Henty | 1113 |
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| Patriot Schoolmaster. H. Butterworth | 1116 |
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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

MIDDLESEX, SS.

To Eugene DeRoehn, one of the Constables of the Town of Westford, in said County,

Greeting:

You are hereby required, in the name of the Commonwealth aforesaid, to notify and warn all the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections and also in Town affairs, to meet at the Town House, in said Westford, on Monday, the twentieth day of March, being the third Monday in said month, at eight o'clock A. M. The polls will be opened at 8.15 o'clock A. M., and closed at one o'clock P. M.; and they are then and there to act upon the following articles, to wit:

- 1st. To choose a Moderator.
- 2d. To see if the Town will determine the compensation of the Tax Collector, and act in relation to the same.
- 3d. To bring in their votes for Town Clerk, for one year; one Selectman, one Overseer of Poor, one Assessor, two School Committee, one Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds, one Trustee of the Public Library, all for three years; Town Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, two Constables, and one Auditor, all for one year; also to vote on the following question: "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?" all on one ballot.
- 4th. To hear the report of the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.
- 5th. To hear the report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards, and act in relation to the same.
- 6th. To hear the report of the Overseers of the Poor, and act in relation to the same.
- 7th. To hear the report of the School Committee, and act in relation to the same.
- 8th. To hear the report of the Trustees of the Public Library, and act in relation to the same.
- 9th. To hear the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds, and act in relation to the same.

- 10th. To see if the Town will accept the report of the Auditor chosen to audit the accounts of the Town Officers, and act in relation to the same.
- 11th. To see if the Town will accept the List of Jurors as reported by the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.
- 12th. To raise and appropriate money to repair Roads and Bridges.
- 13th. To raise and appropriate money for Town Debts and Charges.
- 14th. To raise and appropriate money for Public Schools.
- 15th. To raise and appropriate money to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the Town, at Westford Academy.
- 16th. To raise and appropriate money for support of Poor.
- 17th. To raise and appropriate money for School Text Books and Supplies.
- 18th. To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same.
- 19th. To determine the manner of collecting taxes for the ensuing year, also the rate of interest on taxes remaining unpaid at a time to be fixed by vote of the Town, and when and how said taxes shall be paid into the treasury, and act in relation to the same.
- 20th. To choose all other Town Officers necessary to be chosen by hand vote, and act in relation to the same.
- 21st. By request of the Veteran Association, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) to commemorate Memorial Day, and act in relation to the same.
- 22d. By request of the citizens of Graniteville and Forge Village, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in these two villages, and act in relation to the same.
- 23d. By request of the Committee on New Building at Town Farm, to see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Dollars (\$300) for the purchase of material to complete the building at the Town Farm, and act in relation to the same.

- 24th. By request of Julian A. Cameron, to see if the Town will instruct the Selectmen to purchase enough settees to furnish the Town Hall, and act in relation to the same.
- 25th. To hear the report of the Committee on Highways, and act in relation to the same.
- 26th. By request of E. A. Moore and others, to see if the Town will vote to have the Selectmen, in their report on roads, give the amount expended on said roads by School Districts, and act in relation to the same.
- 27th. By request of Samuel L. Taylor, to see if the Town will grant the use of the Town Hall free once a month to any organization in Town, for a public meeting where an admission fee is not charged, and act in relation to the same.
- 28th. By request of Samuel L. Taylor and others, to see if the Town will authorize and direct the School Committee to close the Long-Sought-For School and transport the scholars to another school, and act in relation to the same.
- 29th. By request of Francis L. Fletcher, to see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 332, Chapter 548, Acts of 1898, and act in relation to the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up true and attested copies at the Town House and each Depot in said Westford, eight days, at least, before the time of holding said meeting.

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

Given under our hands and seals, this first day of March, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and ninety-nine.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

1911

1912

1913

1914

1915

1916

1917

1918

1919

1920

1921

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Town of Westford, Mass.

FOR THE

SCHOOL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1899.



LOWELL, MASS. :
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1899

SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR 1898-99.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------|
| A. R. CHOATE, Chairman..... | Term expires | 1901 |
| FRANK H. HILDRETH..... | “ “ | 1899 |
| GEORGE H. HARTFORD..... | “ “ | 1900 |
| W. J. SLEEPER, Secretary..... | “ “ | 1900 |
| ARTHUR WRIGHT..... | “ “ | 1901 |
| ALFRED WOODBURY..... | “ “ | 1899 |

Superintendent of Schools, A. S. THOMSON.
Residence, Littleton Common, Mass.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Citizens of Westford:

The schools of the Town have, with varying degrees of results, completed the financial year. We say with varying degrees, because, as is frequently the case, they have been somewhat interrupted by epidemic disease, and although the time is expected to be made up, the results rarely equal an unbroken term. As a whole, the schools are improved. There are several things from which they suffer:

1. A lack of visitors.
2. A lack of equipment.
3. A 36-week school year.
4. Too many small schools.

1. A lack of visitors.—Parents in particular, and all citizens in general, fail to visit the schools, and the pupils do not get the benefit of reciting before others than the teacher and a certain amount of ease that comes therefrom, hence they make a less favorable showing when the occasional one comes in. The people, also, and especially the tax-payers, do not fully become acquainted with what is going on; and in this it must be recognized that educational matters are making strides forward now, as are all other departments of life; the X, Y, Z of years ago is the A, B, C of today.

2. A lack of equipment.—This has been a great loss to the pupils in the past and they are yet suffering from it, although it has been much improved in the last two or three years, and another year will probably see them in a very much more satisfactory position. A number of maps have been bought this last year, and some schools fully, and others partly, supplied.

3. A 36-week school year.—The schools generally throughout the State have a 36-week school year below the High School grade, with few exceptions in very small towns. Our neighboring towns have such, and the last one has taken the step this year. Your schools and scholars lack this, and the length of the school year is felt in selecting and retaining good teachers. The short year compels them to remain idle so long, with expenses going

on for them just the same, that they cannot stay with us unless at a loss.

4. Too many small schools.—This subject has been brought to your attention before, and we merely remark in passing, that transporting scholars from small schools to larger ones, so that the child in the outlying district has as good as the village child—as he is justly entitled to—continues to extend throughout the State, and the Massachusetts policy in this respect is becoming a fixture in other states. The fathers and citizens in the outlying districts should demand for their children equal advantages, and means to get to them. Should not those in the villages be willing to extend and vote them?

During the past year a change of Superintendents has been made, and also a change in the union district formed by the three towns for employing a Superintendent. Ayer withdrew from the union with Littleton and Westford, and a new union district was formed, consisting of Acton, Littleton and Westford.

A. S. Thomson of Providence was chosen Superintendent, and has entered into his work since September, 1898, with enthusiasm and success. By the new arrangement Westford secures more time of the Superintendent, with no more expense, but rather with less.

During the year the Minot's Corner Schoolhouse and Centre Schoolhouse have been shingled. It was sought to have it put off until another year, but it was found impossible.

During the severe storm the first of the Winter the Forge Village ventilator was blown over, necessitating re-setting. The heating apparatus here in this schoolhouse should be placed in a cellar, to be dug and provided for that purpose and storage of fuel. Nashobah School will need repairs to the ceiling, and the Stony Brook Schoolhouse should be painted.

In many places habits of industry and thrift are taught and encouraged in the schools to the scholars, by establishing there, under the charge of the teachers, penny savings banks. They have been quite successful and the question might well be considered by us. The expense would be merely nominal.

A. R. CHOATE,
GEO. H. HARTFORD,
FRANK H. HILDRETH,
W. J. SLEEPER,
ALFRED WOODBURY,
ARTHUR WRIGHT,

School Committee.

Text books and supplies have been furnished as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Westford Academy for High School..... | \$101 14 |
| Centre Grammar, Eighth Grade..... | 98 89 |
| Centre Intermediate..... | 64 24 |
| Centre Primary..... | 15 06 |
| Minot's Corner..... | 13 01 |
| Parkerville..... | 18 20 |
| Nashobah..... | 21 81 |
| Forge Village Grammar..... | 34 33 |
| Forge Village Primary..... | 13 55 |
| Graniteville Grammar..... | 36 00 |
| Graniteville Intermediate..... | 47 78 |
| Graniteville Primary B..... | 12 75 |
| Graniteville Primary A..... | 11 57 |
| Wright..... | 19 66 |
| Long-Sought-For..... | 6 83 |
| Nabnassett..... | 13 52 |
| Stony Brook..... | 28 92 |

HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS IN WESTFORD ACADEMY.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Balance..... | \$ 100 00 | |
| Appropriation..... | 1,400 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,500 00 |
| Paid Westford Academy..... | | \$1,500 00 |
| | | <hr/> |

TEXT BOOKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Appropriation..... | \$700 00 | |
| Received from sales..... | 23 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$723 00 |
| Expended..... | | 710 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Balance unexpended and turned into Town treasury..... | | \$13 00 |

EXPENSE OF SUPERVISION.

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Salary paid by Town..... | \$782 56 |
| Rebate from State..... | 500 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Net cost to Town..... | \$282 56 |

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

INCOME.

| | | |
|--|-----------|------------|
| Balance of Massachusetts School Fund. | \$ 139 13 | |
| Appropriation | 5,600 00 | |
| From State on account of Superintendent of Schools. | 200 00 | |
| From Town of Groton (tuition to March 1, 1898) | 16 50 | |
| From W. H. Blaisdell (tuition). | 11 90 | |
| From Westford Academy for services of Florence Barnard. | 33 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6,000 53 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| Teachers | \$5,049 20 | |
| Fuel | 497 09 | |
| Janitor service. | 343 55 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5,889 84 |
| Balance | | \$110 67 |

APPROPRIATIONS RECOMMENDED.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Schools | \$6000 00 |
| High School pupils at Westford Academy | 1,500 00 |
| Text books and school supplies. | 600 00 |

COST OF SCHOOLS.

CENTRE.

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$660 00 |
| Fuel | 96 86 |
| Care of house. | 45 60 |

GRANITEVILLE.

| | |
|------------------------|------------|
| Teaching | \$1,320 00 |
| Fuel | 163 67 |
| Care of house. | 118 00 |

FORGE VILLAGE.

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$660 00 |
| Fuel | 82 36 |
| Care of house. | 65 40 |

MINOT'S CORNER.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$264 00 |
| Fuel | 14 00 |
| Care of house..... | 10 30 |

PARKERVILLE.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$261 30 |
| Fuel | 19 45 |
| Care of house..... | 16 00 |

NASHOBAH.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$264 00 |
| Fuel | 14 00 |
| Care of house..... | 11 00 |

EIGHTH GRADE.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$363 00 |
| Care of house..... | 25 00 |

NABNASSETT.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$293 40 |
| Fuel | 17 75 |
| Care of house..... | 9 50 |

STONY BROOK.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$297 00 |
| Fuel | 36 76 |
| Care of house..... | 14 75 |

LONG-SOUGHT-FOR.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$260 80 |
| Fuel | 29 74 |
| Care of house..... | 14 50 |

WRIGHT.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Teaching | \$255 20 |
| Fuel | 22 50 |
| Care of house..... | 13 50 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Music | \$ 150 50 |
| High Shool at Westford Academy..... | 1,500 00 |

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

To the School Committee of Westford:

Gentlemen:—It is my duty and pleasure to submit this, my first report, to you, and through you to the people of the Town of Westford. It is my endeavor to describe the schools as they are and to suggest improvements which may meet with your favor. Your attention is invited to the following statistics:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Whole number of pupils enrolled in all the schools | 536 |
| Number of pupils enrolled between 8 and 14 years of age | 314 |
| Number of pupils enrolled over 15 years of age | 51 |
| Average membership of all the schools | 402.8 |
| Average attendance of all the schools | 369.0 |
| Per cent, of attendance of all the schools | 91.6 |
| Aggregate of weeks schools have kept | 557.4 |

When I entered upon my duties in September, I found a large territory and a variety of conditions with which to become acquainted. I was glad to find that so many of your former teachers had remained with you, as I believe that every successive year of a teacher's service enhances that teacher's effectiveness.

It has been my policy to modify the course of study already well established, rather than to introduce radical alterations, believing that sudden changes are disastrous to the best results from pupils and teachers. A few of the most needed changes have been brought about. Geometry, which some of the teachers were endeavoring to teach, has been dropped from the curriculum in the schools below the Academy, in order to put the time upon more fundamental branches.

In our rural schools, where a teacher has to instruct several grades, it is difficult to obtain satisfactory results and keep the grades up to the standard in those branches which are indispensable to intelligent citizenship. It seemed best, therefore, to lighten the requirements in some of the less essential subjects and to emphasize the far-reaching subjects of history, language, and reading.

The reading in most of the schools is not what it should be. Although there is a fair supply of suitable reading material, limited

time in the schools where there are several grades, does not admit a proper amount of drill. The importance of reading lies in the power of judgment acquired—first, by a wide-reaching power of the intellect to comprehend subjects, gained by looking up different authors on the same subject; and second, by accuracy in discerning the exact meaning of each and weighing the reasons put forth. If a child is not able to get thought from the printed page, readily and easily, as soon as the subjects of geography and history begin, the teacher is obliged to give out lessons by the page from the prescribed text-book. The antiquated method of assigning tasks and hearing recitations is the inevitable result. I have known a pupil to say to his teacher, “If you read the problem I can do it, but I cannot read it so as to understand what it means.” This is a state of affairs which should not be. If a child does not understand the subject in hand—if the subject does not become a part of him—but simply depends upon the words of the text-book for the daily recitation, the ideas are gone as soon as the words are forgotten. We want not a dry committing to memory, but an investigating spirit and individual conclusions.

Since there is not sufficient time in school hours to properly drill each pupil in oral reading, in order to encourage pupils to practice reading out of school hours, I have decided to offer a medal for the best reader in the eighth grade.

The prize is to be awarded as follows: There are to be three readings. In the first, all readers shall render a sight passage; in the second, the pupils shall have a few minutes to prepare the passage they are to read; and in the third, a selection shall be prepared in advance of the day upon which the reading is to take place. There are to be three efficient and impartial judges appointed, who shall decide which reader best expresses the thought contained in the passages read. The idea is not to get elocutionary display, but a thoughtful and accurate portrayal of the thought which the author would express. Daily practice in oral reading is the object sought, as it is the only means of raising the general standard in proficient reading.

We have placed in the IV, V, VI grades of all the schools of the Town the Walsh Arithmetic, which gives facility in the use of number and offers a plan of practical instruction in the processes of arithmetic much more adapted to the training of the reasoning powers than could be obtained from the arithmetics used.

DRAWING

The teachers have been endeavoring to follow the State course in drawing, with varying degrees of success. This is a department in which our schools can be much improved. The development into a useful and productive citizen of that child who does not easily grasp literary studies, as language or history, may be accomplished through his talent for manual arts, as drawing and the pursuits of which it is the foundation. If a student is compelled to devote himself exclusively to studies which are of indirect value and not in his line of aptitude, he will become discouraged in the effort to improve himself and may lose all interest in mental progress.

Drawing develops in the child the ability to see the world about him accurately and with insight; also the complementary power, through the training of the hand, to express the true image conceived in the brain. This art trains the judgment, gives the proper idea of proportion, and gains exactness in expression. As reading the best in literature, so looking at the best in art, cultivates a taste for the good and noble. For this reason I would have copies of standard works of art placed before the children; the walls of our school-rooms decorated with the best and most celebrated paintings, engravings of our great Americans, and casts of fine sculpturing.

PROMOTIONS.

It is my opinion that no one is so capable as the teacher of judging whether a pupil should be promoted or not. She knows to what extent the children have mastered from day to day the work covered; and having studied the individual minds of her pupils, is most competent to determine whether a child will be benefited by repeating the work or by doing that of a more advanced grade. In doubtful cases all possible assistance should be given the teacher that she may solve wisely her difficult problem. In order to be thoroughly familiar with the ability and needs of each child I have established the custom of giving frequent oral and written tests. The written tests are made up by selecting questions from the lists handed me by the teachers. Their purpose is not to furnish marks for the report cards, but to keep the teachers in touch with the work of each other and the plan of the Superintendent. This arrangement gains a more uniform standard throughout the several schools, and avoids the undesirable "cramming" for examinations, as the teachers know about what questions to expect.

THE SCHOOLS.

Although the schools have been much broken on account of the inclement weather and contagious diseases, and absent and tardy marks are very numerous, the year can be recorded as a prosperous one. Many of the schools have done excellent work, and in all progress has been made.

The Academy, with its beautiful building and excellent teachers, has made decided advances. It is very gratifying to the Superintendent that the standard of attainment in English and modern languages has been raised. While considerable improvement has been made in the apparatus of the chemical and physical laboratory, it is hoped that still more will be made along the same line.

I would urge the importance of the natural sciences, as physics, chemistry, botany, and kindred subjects. These studies teach the child, first to know, then to rightly appreciate, and, consequently, to love, our beautiful world. The student comes to see the harmony of the laws which govern the universe, and learns to admire more deeply the hand which gives beauty to the flowers and directs the plants in their course. Therein lies the culture value of these subjects. Their utilitarian value cannot be over-estimated. In this age of scientific development and mechanical industry, when young men are so largely finding employment in electric and civil engineering, designing, architecture, and the scientific professions, we should certainly give the young men of the Town a better opportunity to exercise their talents in these fields of industry. Drawing, the basis of most of the arts and sciences, should certainly be offered to the pupils who may have an aptitude in this direction.

If some arrangement can be made between the Board of the Academy and the Town for a teacher to assist in the sciences and drawing in the Academy, and to supervise the drawing in the Town, this assistance will relieve the pressure of work in the Academy, and will materially benefit the Town schools.

The paper which is being edited by the students of the Academy is an enterprise which should be encouraged. The paper has a two-fold purpose—it gives a definite aim to the practical value of daily theme writing; it also gives experience in conducting a real business enterprise.

The Centre Grammar School, incorrectly spoken of as the Eighth Grade, is having a year of conspicuous prosperity. Pupils who have come from a distance to attend this school have been well rewarded for their efforts. Boys who had lost interest in school work have gained new life and enthusiasm in this school. The proximity to the Town Library has been put to good use.

The pupils are continually found there reading and going into the subjects taught in the school more deeply than do the prescribed text-books. The habit of supplementary reading inculcates the true scholarly spirit of personal effort and broadens the culture of the individual.

The Centre Intermediate and Primary Schools have attained a specially high rank in the tests given by the Superintendent.

During the Fall the discipline in the yard at Graniteville was not good. Through the kindness of the Chairman of the School Committee a drum was secured and the pupils march in and out, keeping step. This, together with an extra effort on the part of the teachers, has much improved the discipline at Graniteville.

The grading in these schools had become somewhat irregular. In both the Intermediate and Upper Primary there was a class doing third grade work. As it was evident that this was a waste of teaching force, I united the parts of the third grade into one class in the Upper Primary. The fifth grade was taken out of the Grammar School and placed in the Intermediate. This left the Grammar School with the sixth and seventh grades. When the bad weather came the Graniteville pupils who were attending the Centre Grammar School found it difficult to walk so far, and an eighth grade was established in the Graniteville Grammar School.

Shortly after the Winter term opened, scarlet fever broke out in the Graniteville schools, which had to be closed for four weeks. This was a serious drawback to the work of the schools. Such breaks in their work must of necessity deaden the interest of pupils. Two of the four weeks have been made up, and it is expected that the other two will be made up later in the year.

The Forge Village schools have had a quiet and prosperous year. The work has made steady progress under the very able and efficient teachers.

The teachers in the outlying schools have tried hard to keep their classes up to the standard maintained by the better-graded schools. In the examinations given by the Superintendent the

average of the classes in the outlying schools was much lower than that of the village schools. It is a pleasure to report that we have several superior teachers in these schools, who have done faithful, hard work.

Owing to a lack of funds, it was necessary to close the school year the tenth of February. In order to keep the schools open at this time of the year, when children accomplish most in their lessons, the schools were continued by drawing upon the funds of the coming year. It is earnestly hoped that the appropriation for the schools will be sufficiently increased to establish the school year at thirty-six weeks. With only thirty-two or thirty-three weeks of school good teachers will not remain in the Town from year to year, and it is impossible to keep our grades up to as high a standard of scholarship as that maintained in the surrounding towns.

I wish to extend an invitation to the people of the Town to visit the schools more frequently. We are glad to have the work of the schools inspected. It is encouraging to the teachers and Superintendent to have the citizens manifest an interest in the schools, and the children quickly appreciate and respond to any attention of the parents in their school work. There must be a sympathy between the parents and teachers, and the best way to secure this is for you who are parents to visit the schools, where you can see the teachers and pupils together in their daily relation. Do not wait until some misunderstanding arises, but early become acquainted with the teachers. The busy teacher cannot take time to call upon the parents of all her pupils, while it takes but a little time of each parent to call upon the school.

In closing this report I wish to thank the committee for their kindly counsel and firm support; the teachers for their friendly spirit and devotion to duty; and the people for the cordial manner in which I have been received.

Respectfully submitted;

ANDREW S. THOMSON,

Supt. of Schools.

COMMON SCHOOL CALENDAR, 1899-1900.

1899.

March 10—Winter term closes.

March 27—Spring term opens.

June 9—Spring term closes.

Sept. 11—Fall term opens.

Nov. 24—Fall term closes.

Dec. 4—Winter term opens.

Dec. 22—Christmas vacation begins.

1900.

Jan. 1—Winter term reopens.

Feb. 2—Winter term closes.

Calendar is subject to change.

Program of Westford Grammar School Graduating Exercises, June 10, 1898.

PROGRAM.

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Prayer, | Rev. E. H. Roper. | |
| Song, | School. | Day in Its Splendor. |
| Recitation, | John C. Murphy. | Philip Barton, Engineer. |
| Recitation, | Mary T. Loftus. | Praying for Shoes. |
| Essay, | Archie A. Hartford. | Abraham Lincoln. |
| Recitation, | Augusta E. Blaisdell. | Stavoren. |
| Recitation, | Harry O. Hartford. | Caldwell at Springfield. |
| Essay, | Letitia V. Ward. | Clara Barton. |
| Recitation, | Laura P. Hindle. | Brier Rose. |
| Trio, | Ida Cummings, Augusta Blaisdell, Mary Loftus. | Song of Peace. |
| Recitation, | Wm. E. Wright. | Storming of Stony Point. |
| Recitation, | Fannie C. Banister. | Little Nellie in the Prison. |
| Essay, | Albert W. Gurney. | Arbor Day. |
| Recitation, | Ida M. Cummings. | The Widow's Light. |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------------|--------------|
| Essay, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | Cost of War. |
| | | | | | | | | Frank G. Hall. | |
| Recitation, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | The Last Night in Gray. | |
| | | | | | | | | Warren H. Blaisdell. | |
| Recitation, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | The Outlaw. | |
| | | | | | | | | Eva L. Burnham. | |
| Song, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | Summer Night. | |
| | | | | | | | | School. | |
| Presentation of Diplomas, | | | | | | | | | |
| By Albert R. Choate, Chairman of School Committee. | | | | | | | | | |

GRADUATING CLASS.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Fannie Cummings Banister. | Augusta Elizabeth Blaisdell. |
| Warren Hezekiah Blaisdell. | Eva Lockwood Burnham. |
| Ida May Cummings. | Albert William Gurney. |
| Frank Gilmore Hall. | Archie Augustus Hartford. |
| Harry Oscar Hartford. | Laura Pamela Hindle. |
| Mary Teresa Loftus. | John Clarence Murphy. |
| Letitia Veronica Ward. | William Eldredge Wright. |

Program of Westford Academy Graduation Exercises, June 17, 1898.

PROGRAM.

Organ Solo—March, "Leonore," *Raff.*
Mr. Thomas R. Frost, Class of '95.

Prayer.

Rev. Elijah H. Roper.

1. Essay, Ought Football to be Abolished?
Charles Marshall Trull, West Chelmsford

2. Declamation, The Second Trial.
Mabel Annie Moran, Graniteville.

Song—Angels, Ever Bright and Fair, *Handel.*
Mrs. Daisy Shaw Merritt.

3. Essay, The Roman Walls in Great Britain,
Fred Eugene Reed, Graniteville.

4. Translation from the French of Daudet.
George Edward Howard, Westford.

Song—The Happiest Land, *Jude.*
Mr. Frederick P. Shaw.

5. The Character of Socrates. Translation from the Greek of
Xenophon.
Israel Blaisdell, Carlisle.

6. Essay, Zenobia.
Gertrude Annie Craven, Graniteville.

Duet—When the Wind Bloweth in from the Sea, *Smart.*
Mrs. Merritt and Mr. Shaw.

Conferring of Diplomas.
Rev. Louis H. Buckshorn.

"America."

GRADUATING CLASS.

COLLEGE PREPARATORY COURSE.

Israel Blaisdell.

ENGLISH AND CLASSICAL COURSE.

Gertrude Annie Craven.

Mabel Annie Moran.

Fred Eugene Reed.

ENGLISH COURSE.

George Edward Howard.

Charles Marshall Trull.

Mott: "Ne cede malis."

ROLL OF HONOR.

Figures show number of terms neither absent nor tardy.

FORGE GRAMMAR.

Venia Darling, . . . 2
 Nettie Sprague, . . . 1
 Eveline Leclerc, . . . 1
 Ora Darling, . . . 1
 Katherine Ward, . . . 1

LONG-SOUGHT-FOR.

Leonard J. Dane, . . . 1
 Iva M. Sherburne, . . . 1
 Elsie M. Decatur, . . . 3
 Ralph Shaw, . . . 1

WRIGHT.

Carl Badger, . . . 3
 Clarence Wright, . . . 2
 Lillian Wright, . . . 2
 Carl Wright, . . . 2
 Luella Wright, . . . 1
 Fred Blodgett, . . . 1
 Frank Shugrue, . . . 1
 Fred Shugrue, . . . 1
 Lena Shugrue, . . . 1

MINOT'S CORNER,

Johanna O'Brien, . . . 1
 Helen R. Burnham, . . . 1

NABNASSET.

Olive M. Clarke . . . 1

Elmer Trull, . . . 2
 Selina Lemay, . . . 1
 Mary E. Rancour, . . . 1
 Joey McAdam, . . . 2
 Harold H. Fletcher . . . 2

STONY BROOK.

Ella Vinal, . . . 1
 Emma G. Johnson, . . . 1
 Elmer H. Kimball . . . 1
 Walter P. Kimball, . . . 1
 Ira White, . . . 1
 Tommy F. Flynn, . . . 1
 Louis W. Jenkins, . . . 1
 Walter J. Johnson, . . . 1
 Lucinda E. Prescott, . . . 1
 Lester E. Prescott, . . . 1
 Anna B. Drew, . . . 1
 Johnny L. Flynn, . . . 1

CENTRE GRAMMAR.

Charlotte Prescott, . . . 1
 Robert Prescott, . . . 1
 Nettie Simpson, . . . 1
 Harold Hildreth, . . . 2
 Albert Waller, . . . 2
 Natalie Sleeper, . . . 1

NASHOBA.

Fannie A. Richardson, . . . 1
 Alice M. Howard, . . . 1
 Henry McDonald, . . . 1
 Ruth A. Flagg, . . . 1

GRANITEVILLE GRAMMAR.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Wm. R. Petherick, . . . | I |
| Hester M. Grant, . . . | I |
| Joseph Leland, . . . | I |
| Eva Craven, . . . | I |
| Mabel Symmes, . . . | I |
| Martha W. Symmes . . . | I |
| Elsie Anderson, . . . | I |

CENTRE PRIMARY.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Natalie Sleeper, . . . | I |
| Jessie Wood, . . . | I |
| Ruth Miller, . . . | 2 |
| John Hartford, . . . | I |
| James Hartford . . . | I |
| Mabel Miller, . . . | 2 |
| Jennie Robey, . . . | I |
| Everett Miller, . . . | 2 |
| John Feeney . . . | I |
| Frederick Clement . . . | I |

GRANITE. UPPER PRIMARY.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Stella Carkin, . . . | I |
| Agnes Charlton, . . . | I |
| May Day, . . . | I |
| John Greg, . . . | I |
| Lena Healy, . . . | I |
| Lida Lovell, . . . | I |
| Paul Symmes, . . . | I |
| Eddie Champagne, . . . | I |
| Frank DeRoehn, . . . | I |
| Fred Petherick, . . . | I |
| Horace Buckingham, . . . | I |
| Otis Day, . . . | I |
| Ella Gilson, . . . | I |

GRANITE. INTERMEDIATE.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Eva Cummings, . . . | I |
| Victoria Gardel, . . . | I |
| Angeline Brisson, . . . | I |
| Olla Lovell, . . . | I |
| George Petherick, . . . | 2 |
| Myron Carkin, . . . | I |
| Willie Wall, . . . | 3 |

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Arthur Charlton, . . . | I |
| John Greig, . . . | 2 |
| Frank Charlton, . . . | 2 |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Stella Carkin . . . | I |
|---------------------|---|

PARKERVILLE.

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Chas. Cann, . . . | 2 |
| George Cann, . . . | I |
| Amy Brown, . . . | I |
| Lillian Brown, . . . | I |
| Mildred Brown, . . . | I |
| Harvey Cann, . . . | I |

GRANITE. LOWER PRIMARY.

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Bertha Anderson, . . . | I |
| Horace Buckingham, . . . | I |
| Ella Gibson, . . . | I |
| Fred Petherick, . . . | I |
| Mary Demaris, . . . | I |
| John Lovell, . . . | I |
| Albert Petherick, . . . | 2 |
| Lawrence Demaris, . . . | I |
| Raymond Charlton, . . . | I |
| Leon DeRoehn, . . . | I |
| Willie Milligan, . . . | I |
| Vena Milot, . . . | I |
| Henry Charlton, . . . | I |
| Stella Shattuck, . . . | 2 |
| Addie Day, . . . | I |
| Albert Day, . . . | I |

FORGE VILLAGE PRIMARY.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Ora Darling, . . . | . |
| Roy Darling, . . . | 3 |
| Willie DeRoehn, . . . | . |
| Gladys Daley, . . . | . |
| Eddie Spinner, . . . | 2 |
| Mary Leclerc, . . . | . |
| Gerald Daley, . . . | 3 |
| Jack Spinner, . . . | . |
| Helen Lord, . . . | . |
| Eva Paille, . . . | . |
| Joe Ela, . . . | . |
| Lizzie Spinner, . . . | . |
| Rose Berthiaume, . . . | . |

LIST OF TEACHERS.

| SCHOOLS. | TEACHERS. | APPOINTED. | EDUCATED. | SALARIES. |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Academy { Principal | William E. Frost..... | 1872 | Boydoin, '70 | { Town Pays \$1,500. |
| { Assistant..... | M. F. Rand | 1898 | Wellesley, '96 | |
| Centre Grammar..... | Florence Barnard..... | 1898 | Smith College, '97..... | \$10 00 |
| Centre Intermediate..... | Gertrude E. Arnold..... | 1894 | Rhode Island Normal..... | 10 00 |
| Centre Primary..... | Fannie B. Prescott..... | 1892 | Westford Academy..... | 10 00 |
| Stony Brook..... | Eva M. Brewer..... | 1898 | Everett Home School..... | 9 00 |
| Forge Grammar..... | Etta Holt..... | 1896 | Punchard Academy..... | 10 00 |
| Forge Primary..... | Emma L. Randlett..... | 1897 | Canton Training School..... | 10 00 |
| Nashoba..... | Gertrude Kivlin..... | 1898 | Training School, Waltham..... | 8 00 |
| Wright..... | Marion Pierce..... | 1898 | Concord Training School..... | 8 00 |
| Minot's Corner..... | Annie W. Chase..... | 1897 | Framingham Normal..... | 8 00 |
| Nahnasset..... | Lizzie A. Winship..... | 1874 | Framingham Normal..... | 9 00 |
| Long-Sought-For..... | Hattie Stephan..... | 1898 | Lowell Normal..... | 8 00 |
| Parkerville..... | Clara B. Wright..... | 1897 | Westford Academy..... | 8 00 |
| Graniteville Grammar..... | Harriet C. Beattie..... | 1897 | Salem Normal..... | 10 00 |
| Graniteville Intermediate... | Issie A. Parker..... | 1897 | Westford Academy..... | 10 00 |
| Graniteville Upper Primary | Bertha Swain..... | 1894 | Bradford Academy..... | 10 00 |
| Graniteville Primary..... | Annie Carmichael..... | 1891 | Westford Academy..... | 10 00 |

SCHOOL STATISTICS, 1898-99.

| SCHOOLS. | Grades. | Weeks of School. | Enrollment. | Average Member-ship. | Average Attend-ance. | Per cent. of Attend-ance. | Between Five and Fifteen. | Between Eight and Fourteen. | Under Five. | Over Fifteen. |
|----------------------------------|---------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Academy | 9-12 | 39. | 42 | 32 | 29. | 91. | 6 | 6 | 0 | 36 |
| Centre Grammar | 7-8 | 33. | 19 | 22.7 | 20.6 | 91. | 10 | 10 | 0 | 9 |
| Centre Intermediate | 4-6 | 33. | 34 | 29.1 | 26. | 89.4 | 34 | 32 | 0 | 0 |
| Centre Primary | 1-3 | 33. | 45 | 27.6 | 24.8 | 89.9 | 45 | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| Forge Primary | 1-3 | 33. | 50 | 34.9 | 32.7 | 93.7 | 25 | 26 | 0 | 1 |
| Graniteville Grammar | 4-7 | 33. | 26 | 24. | 21.8 | 93.9 | 23 | 22 | 0 | 1 |
| Graniteville Intermediate | 6-8 | 30.6 | 34 | 25.8 | 23.5 | 91.1 | 34 | 32 | 0 | 0 |
| Graniteville Upper Primary | 4-5 | 30.6 | 45 | 31.1 | 29.5 | 89.1 | 45 | 41 | 0 | 0 |
| Graniteville Primary | 2-3 | 30.6 | 51 | 32.7 | 29.8 | 91. | 36 | 29 | 0 | 0 |
| Stony Brook | 1-2 | 30.6 | 59 | 37.2 | 35. | 94.1 | 56 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Nashoba | 1-7 | 33. | 28 | 22.8 | 20.8 | 91.2 | 27 | 19 | 0 | 1 |
| Parkerville | 1-7 | 33. | 19 | 15.8 | 14.2 | 90. | 16 | 11 | 0 | 3 |
| Minot's Corner | 1-7 | 33. | 20 | 15.2 | 13.3 | 87.9 | 20 | 16 | 0 | 0 |
| Nabnasset | 1-7 | 33. | 13 | 12. | 10.8 | 90. | 13 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| Long-Sought-For | 1-7 | 33. | 23 | 18.5 | 16.5 | 88.2 | 22 | 18 | 0 | 1 |
| Wright | 1-7 | 33. | 10 | 7.5 | 6.7 | 91.5 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| Forge Grammar | 1-7 | 33. | 17 | 13.7 | 14. | 97.8 | 17 | 11 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals, 1898-99 ..... | .... | 557.4 | 536 | 402.8 | 369.0 | 91.6 | 498 | 314 | 4 | 51 |
| Totals, 1897-98 ..... | .... | 574.8 | 553 | 434. | 402. | 92.6 | 476 | 305 | 15 | 77 |

ANNUAL
REPORTS OF THE TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF WESTFORD
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1900.
ALSO
TOWN WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TO BE HELD MARCH 19, 1900.



LOWELL, MASS.
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS
1900.



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LOWELL, MASS.:
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.

1900.

OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, 1899.

Town Clerk.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT.

Selectmen.

WESLEY O. HAWKES, *Secretary*, . . . Term expires March, 1900
SHERMAN H. FLETCHER, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, Term expires March, 1902

Assessors.

SAMUEL L. TAYLOR, Term expires March, 1900
GEORGE H. HARTFORD, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901
JEREMIAH DESMOND, Term expires March, 1902

Overseers of the Poor.

ALBERT R. CHOATE, *Secretary*, . . . Term expires March, 1900
LEONARD W. WHEELER, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901
CLARENCE R. P. DECATUR, Term expires March, 1902

Treasurer.

NAHUM H. WRIGHT.

Collector of Taxes.

ARTHUR L. PRIOR.

Auditor.

ARTHUR B. PLIMPTON.

Constables.

CLARENCE R. P. DECATUR. JOHN A. HEALY.

Field Drivers.

LEWIS C. DANE, FRED FELCH,
JOHN E. WARD, GEORGE COLUMB,
FLETCHER SYMMES.

None of the Field Drivers qualified.

Fence Viewers.

ALVIN G. POLLEY, LEWIS C. DANE,
ALMON S. VOSE.

Mr. Dane did not qualify.

School Committee.

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| GEORGE H. HARTFORD, | Term expires March, 1900 |
| WALTER J. SLEEPER, <i>Secretary</i> , | Term expires March, 1900 |
| ALBERT R. CHOATE, <i>Chairman</i> , | Term expires March, 1901 |
| ARTHUR WRIGHT, | Term expires March, 1901 |
| ELBERT H. FLAGG, | Term expires March, 1902 |
| FRANK H. HILDRETH, | Term expires March, 1902 |

Trustees of J. V. Fletcher Library.

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| LOUIS H. BUCKSHORN, | Term expires March, 1900 |
| CATHERINE A. KEBLER | Term expires March, 1901 |
| WILLIAM E. FROST, <i>Chairman</i> | Term expires March, 1902 |

Librarian.

CARRIE E. READ.

Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, | Term expires March, 1900 |
| NOAH PRESCOTT, | Term expires March, 1901 |
| GEORGE T. DAY, | Term expires March, 1902 |

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber.

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| THOMAS E. SYMMES, | HORACE E. GOULD, |
| WILLIAM W. JOHNSON, | JOHN A. HEALY. |
| ALONZO H. SUTHERLAND, | JEREMIAH DESMOND, |
| MICHAEL McGLINCHY, | WESLEY O. HAWKES. |

Police Officers.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| AI. BICKNELL, | SAMUEL H. BALCH. |
| WILLIAM H. PETHERICK, | LINCOLN REDDICK, |
| EUGENE DEROEHN. | ANTHONY H. SAUNDERS. |

Fire Wards.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| GILMER STONE, | JOHN A. HEALY, |
| SAMUEL H. BALCH, | HARRY L. NESMITH, |
| HENRY A. FLETCHER. | |

Forest Fire Wards.

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| W. H. H. BURECBK, | EDWARD PRESCOTT. |
|-------------------|------------------|

Inspectors of Animals and Provisions

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| GEORGE T. DAY, | ALBERT P. RICHARDSON. |
|----------------|-----------------------|

Mr. Richardson did not qualify.

Measurer of Grain.

ALONZO H. SUTHERLAND.

Weighers of Coal.

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| CHARLES E. WHIDDEN, | JOHN M. FLETCHER, |
| WILLIAM W. JOHNSON, | JOHN A. HEALY, |
| HENRY J. HEALY, | REUBEN E. REDDING. |

Scaler of Weights and Measures.

W. H. H. BURBECK.

Registrars of Voters.

QUINCY W. DAY, Term expires April 30, 1900
 OSCAR R. SPALDING, Term expires April 30, 1901
 NELSON L. TUTTLE, *Chairman*, Term expires April 30, 1902
 GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Clerk, ex-officio*.

Precinct Officers.

PRECINCT 1.—Warden, J. Henry Read; Deputy Warden, Geo. H. Hartford; Clerk, John M. Fletcher; Deputy Clerk, Alec Fisher; Inspectors, T. Arthur E. Wilson, W. H. H. Burbeck; Deputy Inspectors, Harry L. Nesmith, C. R. P. Decatur.

PRECINCT 2.—Warden, Daniel E. Splain; Deputy Warden, Wm. Wall; Clerk, Walter C. Wright; Deputy Clerk, Wm. H. Petherick; Inspectors, A. Y. W. Prinn, Horace E. Gould; Deputy Inspectors, R. E. Redding, Joseph Wall.

PRECINCT 3.—Warden, George J. Dunn; Deputy Warden, Peter McGlinchy; Clerk, Fred W. Edwards; Deputy Clerk, John J. Monahan; Inspectors, Edson G. Boynton, Thomas F. Dunn; Deputy Inspectors, Henry B. Read, James H. O'Brien.

Superintendent of Streets.

BENJAMIN F. DAY.

Agent for Burial of Deceased Soldiers and Sailors.

GEORGE T. DAY.

Undertakers.

ALBERT P. RICHARDSON, JOHN A. HEALY.

Superintendent of Almshouse.

SAMUEL H. BALCH.

Janitor of Town House and Library Building.

AI BICKNELL.

Committee to Appraise Property at Town Farm.

JOHN M. FLETCHER, FRANK C. HILDRETH,
 J. WILLARD FLETCHER.

BIRTHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1899.

| DATE. | NAMES. | PARENTS' NAME. |
|--------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Dec. 4.... | Barlow, Florentine..... | Frank and Jennie (Pelcheare). |
| July 21.... | Cameron, Eleanor..... | Julian A. and Lucy K. (Abbot). |
| Mar. 28.... | Campbell, Mary Louisa De Roehn | Charles A. and Sadie L. (Prentiss). |
| Aug. 15.... | Campling, Edward Percy..... | John and Mary (Whigham). |
| Nov. 29.... | Carkin, Marion Ardell..... | James R. and Eva A. Barton). |
| May 2.... | Cloutier, Adelor..... | Adolphus and Angelina (Barlow). |
| April 8.... | Connell, Frederick Harold..... | John H. and Margaret E. Coughlin). |
| April 1.... | Couture, Laura Marcella..... | Charles and Delema (Penson). |
| Feb. 2.... | Daley, Catharine Aller..... | Daniel and Mary (Burk). |
| Nov. 8.... | Demaris, Alphonse Willie Omer. | George and Mary (Allard). |
| July 20.... | Eliot, Winifred Agnes..... | James and Mary Ann (Boynnton). |
| Aug. 4.... | Farrow, Olive May..... | Charles B. and Amelia M. (Le May). |
| June 22.... | Field, Grace Gertrude..... | Adelbert L. and Gertrude L. (Hunter). |
| June 15.... | Flagg, Webster Elbert..... | Elbert H. and Lucy M. (Warren). |
| July 29.... | Fletcher, Austin Dana..... | J. Willard and Etta H. (Whidden). |
| Sept. 18.... | Gower, Thomas William..... | William and Elizabeth (Donahoe). |
| Aug. 17.... | Greenwood, Anastatia..... | Albert and Maggie E. (Egan). |
| Aug. 17.... | Griffin, Artemus Gage..... | Charles M. and Nellie M. (Collins). |
| Oct. 10.... | Hanson, Hilma Sofia..... | Martin and Sophia (Thorbjarnsson). |
| Dec. 11.... | Healy, Arthur Leonard..... | John A. and Lizzie (Sullivan). |
| June 19.... | Healy, Margaret Mary..... | William Henry and Bridget (McKeown). |
| Mar. 27.... | Healy, Philip H..... | Peter and Bridget (Cross). |
| June 8.... | Hill, Laura Hazel..... | Frederick O. and Laura D. (Adams). |
| Oct. 14.... | Hosmer, Beatrice Evelyn..... | William and Jennie H. (Bennett). |
| Aug. 24.... | Houle, Eve.ina..... | Amedia and Sarah (Norman). |
| July 26.... | Hunt, Maud..... | William and Elizabeth (Whigham). |
| July 19.... | Jarvis, Joseph..... | Alexander and Rose (Barlow). |
| Oct. 7.... | Johnson, Hannah Sophia Elenora | Frank T. and Mary (Ackerson). |
| July 14.... | Krevshu, Frank..... | John and Agnes (Uss). |
| Sept. 21.... | Lafrance, Arthur..... | Alfred and Marie (Rouseau). |
| Dec. 4.... | McDonald, Mary Elizabeth..... | Joseph and Nellie (Sullivan). |
| Mar. 27.... | McManamon, Elva Etta..... | Frank and Lizzie (Grant). |
| April 16.... | Mileaux, Rosa..... | Victo and Venzene (Varteras). |
| June 29.... | Mountain, Eva May..... | Ernest G. and Catherine (Whigham). |
| July 14.... | O'Brien, Nora..... | James F. and Nellie (Gogin). |
| July 21.... | O'Brien, Sarah Margaret..... | James H. and Annie (Duhn). |
| Oct. 18.... | Payer, Felixine..... | Edmond and Mary (Garceau). |
| Aug. 31.... | Payne, John Joseph..... | James H. and Mary (Le Duc). |
| Jan. 12.... | Phelps, Lillian Esther..... | Frank A. and Lena (Laungell). |
| Mar. 10.... | Prior, Marion Lena..... | Arthur L. and Jennie A. (Woodbury). |
| Aug. 26.... | Rabcho, Frank..... | Jean and Lucy (Bushey). |
| Oct. 18.... | Read, Eleanor..... | Henry B. and Julia M. (Chamberlin). |
| Mar. 22.... | Reed, Ephriam Frederick..... | Ephraim and Martha (Brown). |
| Feb. 12.... | Richardson, Esther..... | Leroy W. and Effie C. (Harris). |
| Feb. 24.... | Roske, Mary..... | Michael and Lydia (Besn). |
| Aug. 22.... | Savoie, Elizabeth..... | Joseph and Anna (Boutin). |
| Oct. 24.... | Sears, Mary Anna..... | Joseph H. and Sophie E. (Brussard). |
| Sept. 21.... | Sullivan, John Francis..... | Timothy and Bridget (Sullivan). |
| Dec. 2.... | Swanson, Carl Alfred..... | Noah and Sophia (Anderson). |
| Oct. 13.... | Sweetser, Everett Nathaniel..... | Warren P. and Jessie (Harrap). |
| Oct. 11.... | Whitney, Arthur Bliss..... | Julian and Sarah (Gray). |
| June 15.... | Wyman, Mabel Ida..... | George W. and Margaret A. (Burnett). |
| | Two illegitimate. | |
| | Four stillborn. | |

Males. Females. Total.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|
| Number recorded..... | 23 | 35 | 58 |
| Born in Westford..... | 22 | 33 | 55 |
| Of Westford parentage..... | 23 | 34 | 57 |

Of native parentage, 18; foreign parentage, 27; native father and foreign mother, 9; native mother and foreign father, 4.

Correction of last year's report: For "Dorothy Bunce," read Dorothy Christine Bunce.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT,

Town Clerk.

MARRIAGES

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1899.

| DATE. | NAMES. | AGE. | RESIDENCE. | BIRTHPLACE. |
|----------|----------------------------------|------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Nov. 1 | Adams, Charles L..... | 59 | Westford | Stoneham, Me. |
| | Brown, Effie A. (Sweetser) | 35 | " | Westford. |
| Aug. 26 | Barlow, Frank Felne..... | 18 | " | Somerset, P. Q. |
| | Pelletier, Eugenie (Plourde) .. | 22 | " | Paulien, P. Q. |
| Nov. 28 | Colburn, Charles D..... | 23 | " | Westford. |
| | Stearns, Norah M..... | 18 | " | Lynn. |
| Jan. 25 | Colon, George | 22 | " | Lowell. |
| | Payee, Evelina | 20 | " | Canada. |
| Feb. 28 | Curtis, Barnard Oren | 30 | " | Niantic, Ct. |
| | Squiers Laura Etta (Stone) ... | 26 | Tyngsboro | Billerica. |
| June 12 | Davis, Joseph W..... | 25 | Ayer | Woburn. |
| | Wood, Laura | 19 | Westford | Birmingham, Eng. |
| Oct. 7 | Farrow, Samuel | 28 | " | New Brunswick. |
| | Landry, Helena | 22 | " | Lowell. |
| Jan. 10 | Hannon, Thomas | 46 | " | Ludlow, Vt. |
| | Sprague, Georgianna (Sargent) | 41 | " | Cabot, Vt. |
| June 15 | Harrington, Patrick Henry..... | 27 | " | Westford. |
| | Dunn, Elizabeth J..... | 26 | " | " |
| June 25 | Hunt, James..... | 45 | " | England. |
| | Wood, Mary Ann (Crisp) | 44 | " | " |
| May 10 | Ireland, Eugene | 32 | Yonkers, N. Y. . | Fishkill, N. Y. |
| | Mekeel, Minnie | 30 | Coldspring, N. Y. | Putnam Co., N. Y. |
| Sept. 10 | Marshall, Beverly W..... | 33 | Pepperell | New Brunswick. |
| | Hoyt, Martha S..... | 27 | Westford | Limerick, Me. |
| June 28 | McCarty, Robert | 23 | " | Concord. |
| | Healy, Ruby | 21 | " | Ely, Canada, |
| June 7 | Morton, Fred A. | 29 | " | New Brunswick. |
| | Morton, Carrie | 24 | " | " |
| Sept. 23 | O'Brien, John W | 32 | " | Lowell. |
| | Johnstone, Isabella (Johnson). | 27 | " | Stellarton, N. S. |
| Oct. 18 | Reed, Francis B..... | 34 | Lowell | Mont Vernon, N.H. |
| | Lyman, Mary Ella (Chamberlin) | 37 | Westford | Westford. |
| Mar. 15 | Robbins, Asa F..... | 36 | Littleton | Littleton. |
| | Blaisdell, Alice Della | 23 | " | Westford. |
| Feb. 14 | Ward, John Edward | 39 | Westford | " |
| | Harrington, Eva Maud..... | 20 | Lowell | Roxbury. |
| Dec. 23 | Wilson George | 34 | Westford | Dublin, Ire. |
| | Donnally, Catherine..... | 32 | Lowell | Ireland. |
| | One omitted. | | | |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Number of marriages recorded..... | 20 |
| Solemnized in Westford | 9 |
| Westford grooms..... | 15 |
| Westford brides..... | 15 |
| Between Americans..... | 10 |
| Between foreigners | 4 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| American groom and foreign bride .. | 4 |
| American bride and foreign groom.. | 2 |
| Second marriage of groom | 0 |
| Second marriage of bride..... | 6 |
| Fourth marriage of bride..... | 1 |
| Solemnized by Westford clergymen. | 11 |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT,

Town Clerk.

DEATHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1899.

| DATE. | NAMES, ETC. | AGE. | | |
|---------|---|------|------|------|
| | | Yrs. | Mos. | Days |
| Feb. 3 | Ackerson, Ellen (Wegen), wife of Nelson M | 30 | 1 | 5 |
| Oct. 30 | Allard, Joseph, son of Christopher and Mary (Chabote) | 66 | — | — |
| Sep. 7 | Barlow, James | 93 | 8 | 13 |
| Jan. 7 | Bennett, Lilly, dau. of Joseph and Elizabeth (Hutchinson) | 14 | 1 | — |
| May 14 | Brow, Lawrence J., son of John and Susan (Howard) | 70 | 10 | 21 |
| Feb. 2 | Bussey, Elizabeth (Tankard), wid. of Peter | 87 | 3 | 19 |
| May 1 | Caunter, Ella (Ingalls), wife of Horace | 32 | — | — |
| June 28 | Cavza, Louis, resident of Lowell | 28 | — | — |
| Aug. 25 | Cloutier, Adelard, son of Delphonia and Angelina (Barlow) | — | 3 | 23 |
| Feb. 25 | Daly, Ellen (Farry), wife of John | 66 | — | — |
| June 16 | Daly, John, son of Patrick and Christian Donohoe | 82 | — | — |
| Feb. 18 | Deziel, Philip Antoine, son of Gaspard and Anna (Houle) | — | 1 | 22 |
| Dec. 22 | Dodge, Lucinda (Prescott), resident of Lowell | 52 | — | — |
| July 23 | Fellows, Sarah R., died in Boston | 79 | — | — |
| May 30 | Fletcher, Abel Bancroft, son of Abel and Susan (Richardson) | 76 | 4 | 2 |
| July 15 | Fletcher, Martha (Gould), wid. of Andrew | 61 | 10 | 20 |
| May 4 | Fletcher, Sarah (Gould), wid. of Timothy | 78 | 1 | 19 |
| Oct. 29 | Flynn, Ellen (Digan), wife of John | 48 | — | — |
| Mar 10 | Gardell, Rebecca, died in Lowell | 15 | 8 | 15 |
| Apr. 19 | Gardner, Margaret (Gillies), wid. of Robert | 73 | 11 | 30 |
| June 30 | Gould, Joseph, son of Joseph and Polly (Smith) | 80 | 4 | 13 |
| Nov. 18 | Haley, Michael Henry, son of John and Mary (Doyle) | 37 | 0 | 1 |
| Sep. 1 | Hanson, Emma (Kallison), wife of Adolf | 29 | 9 | 21 |
| Jan. 29 | Hennessey, Maurice, son of John | 75 | 3 | — |
| Oct. 8 | Hill, Almira C. (Shedd), wife of George W. | 66 | — | — |
| Aug. 9 | Hosmer, Henrietta C. (Sprowl), wife of Francis | 62 | 0 | 5 |
| Dec. 14 | Humiston, George E., resident of Everett | 24 | 6 | 22 |
| Feb. 10 | Hutchins, Lillie E. A., dau. of Stephen E. and Lucy A. (Culver) | 26 | 1 | 10 |
| Aug. 28 | Keyes, Rufus, son of Imla and Hannah (Fletcher) | 73 | 6 | 29 |
| Aug. 26 | King, Harvey A., son of Albert and Margaret (Connell) | 80 | 9 | 21 |
| Feb. 21 | Loker, Mary M. (White), wid. of Henry | 82 | 1 | 21 |
| Apr. 11 | Moore, Edward A., son of George R. and Philinda (Richardson) | 47 | 2 | 22 |
| Aug. 16 | Naylor, Hannah (Wrigley), wife of Joseph | 79 | 4 | 20 |
| Nov. 20 | O'Brien, Jennie, dau. of Cornelius and Harriet (Donovan) | 23 | 9 | 10 |
| Sep. 10 | Parker, Edwin H., son of William W. and Ida (Lackey) | 16 | 11 | 23 |
| Oct. 19 | Prescott, Joseph F., son of Ebenezer and Sally (Fletcher) | 76 | 4 | 25 |
| Nov. 20 | Richard, Lucie (Gaboury), wife of Joseph | 61 | — | — |
| May 25 | Richardson, Esther, dau. of Leroy W. and Effie C. (Harris) | — | 3 | 13 |
| Aug. 21 | Sanborn, Mary R. (Brown), wife of George W. | 75 | — | — |
| Apr. 15 | Schellenger, E. Mary, dau. of Reuben R. and Esther (Perry) | 47 | 7 | 23 |
| Mar. 19 | Sevigny, Alexander, son of Desire and Alice (Rabichau) | — | 10 | — |
| July 26 | Sherman, Harriet Maria, resident of Waltham | 63 | 5 | 12 |
| Mar. 18 | Spalding, Elbridge Gerry, son of Stephen and Betsy (Fletcher) | 82 | 9 | 9 |
| June 28 | Sullivan, Jeremiah J., son of Florence and Mary F. (Bagley) | 37 | — | — |
| Aug. 25 | Sullivan, Mary F. Bagley, wid. of (Florence) | 82 | — | — |
| May 19 | Whitney, John Henry, son of Nathaniel and Susan (Edwards) | 64 | 1 | 12 |
| May 14 | Whitney, Margaret (Connely), wife of John H. | 63 | 11 | 20 |
| Nov. 30 | Woodward, Alden H., son of Hilliard E. and Sophia | 60 | — | — |
| May 6 | Wright, Joseph, Eldrege, son of Jacob and Sally (Smith) | 75 | 9 | 14 |
| | Four stillborn. | | | |

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--|--------|----------|--------|
| Whole number recorded | 25 | 28 | 53 |
| Number of deaths in town | 22 | 24 | 46 |
| Residents of Westford | 23 | 22 | 45 |
| Non-residents brought to town for interment .. | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Number of interments in town | 16 | 15 | 31 |

Four persons who died in this town were residents of other places.

Three residents of this town died in Worcester Insane Hospital.

Cause of death of persons who died in this town: Stillbirth, pneumonia, phthisis, 4 each; tuberculosis, old age, 3 each; consumption, bronchitis, nephritis, accident, apoplexy asthenia, complication of diseases, 2 each; hereditary ataxia, neurasthenia, heart disease, gastric ulcer, whooping cough, angina pectoris, cancer, hemorrhage of stomach, marasmus, senile dementia, rheumatism, hernia, disease of liver, poison, inanition, paralysis, 1 each.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

NOTE.

All persons interested are respectfully requested to examine the foregoing reports of births, marriages and deaths, and if any errors are noted, or if there be omissions, that they be reported to the Town Clerk, that the records may be perfected. An error in the record, other than a mistake in copying a certificate or return, can be corrected only in accordance with a deposition under oath made by one who was required by law to furnish the information for the original record, or by three or more credible persons having knowledge of the case. See Acts of 1897, Chap. 444, Sections 9 and 14.

Births occurring late in the year are sometimes returned without the Christian name. In such cases parents should return the name to the Town Clerk as soon as selected, as incompleteness of the record may involve much trouble in the future.

The Town Clerk hereby gives notice that he is prepared to furnish to parents, householders, physicians and midwives applying therefor, blanks for return of births, as required by law.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT ON DOGS.

Number of dogs licensed during year ending Nov. 30, 1899 :

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| 142 males at \$2.00, | \$284.00 |
| 9 females at \$5.00, | 45.00 |
| | \$329.00 |
| Total, | \$329.00 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Deduct Clerk's fees 151 licenses at 20 cents each, | 30.20 |
| | \$298.80 |

Balance paid into County Treasury, \$298.80

For which the receipts of the County Treasurer are on file.

Of the foregoing licenses, 1 (male) was for the year ending April 30, 1899.

Number licensed since last return, Nov. 29, 1899 : males, 12 ; females, 2 ; total, 14.

Number licensed for the year ending April 30, 1900 : males, 153 ; females, 11 ; total, 164.

Number returned by Assessors : males, 161 ; females, 7 ; total, 168.

Owners and Keepers of Dogs who have Procured Licenses since last Report, Feb 4, 1899.

Licenses are for year ending April 30, 1900, unless otherwise specified.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Abbot, Alice C. | Burnham, George H. | Cummings, Chas. M. |
| Abbot, John C. | Bussey, George W. | Cummings, Edw. M. (2) |
| Adams, Chas. L. | Butterworth, Wm. L. | Curren, William |
| Adams, Howard T. (m & f) | Callahan, John | Davis, Mary |
| Balch, Samuel H. | Cameron, Donald | Deatur, C. R. P. (99&00) |
| Balsler, Arthur W. | Cann, Charles W. | Decatur, Nathaniel J. |
| Barlow, Frank | Carkin, Clara P. | DeRoehn, Eugene |
| Barlow, John | Carkin, Isaac W. | Desjardines, O iver |
| Bean, True A. | Carkin, Warren E. | Drew, Frank C. |
| Bemis, Henry S. | Carmichael, James H (2) | Eaton, C A. |
| Bennett, Joseph | Caunter, Benjamin | Edwards, Charles |
| Blaisdell, Alvin J. | Champaign, Louis | Edwards, Franklin |
| Blodgett, Josiah W. | Corney, Arthur H. | Edwards, John |
| Blood, Napoleon B. | Connell, John H. | Eliason, Lars J. |
| Buckshorn, Louis H. | Craven, Eva S. | Feeney, John |
| Burbeck, John | Cummings, Alvin L. | Felch, Frank P. |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Felch, Harry C. (m. & f) | Krouse, Louis | Roper, E. H. |
| Field, Adelbert L. | Leland, Geo. A. | Salls, Mary A. |
| Fisher, Alvan | Mann, E. L. Mrs. | Sanborn, Geo. L. |
| Fletcher, Harry N. (3) | Marshall, Josiah E. | Sargent, Chas. G. (2) |
| Fletcher, Henry A. (3) | Martin, Frederick | Shaw, Francis A. |
| Fletcher, J. Herbert | McCoy, Fred L. | Shaw, Judson F. |
| Floyd, Mary | McDonald, Angus | Shugrue, Chas. F. |
| Flynn, John | McDougall, Alexander | Splain, Daniel E. |
| Furbush, Frank L. | McGlinchy, James | Sullivan, Jeremiah J. |
| Gardner, George C. | McGlinchy, Peter | Swanson, Noah |
| Gilson, George Q. | McMaster, Harry C. | Sweatt, Fred A. |
| Gilson, Levi S. | Moore, Clifford A. | Sweetser, Howard M. |
| Gould, Horace E. | Mountain, Geo. E. | Sweetser, Warren P. |
| Gove, Morrill C. | Nesmith, Harry L. (fem.) | Toper, Samuel L. |
| Greig, John S. | O'Brien, James (fem.) | Valentine, Mary E. |
| Greenwood, Albert | O'Brien, James 2d | Voyer, Peter (fem.) ; |
| Griffin, Chas. M. (2) | O'Brien, James H. | Wall, Christina |
| Haley, John | O'Brien, John | Ward, John E. |
| Hall, John | O'Brien, John 2d | Whidden, E. H. |
| Hannon, Thomas | O'Brien, John W. 2d (2) | Whigham, Wm. |
| Harrington, P. Henry | Odell, Herbert A. | Whitaker, Christopher |
| Hartford, Geo. H. | Orange, Abraham | Whitney, Chas. H. (m & f) |
| Hawkes, Wesley O. | Paige, A. M. | Whitney, Julian |
| Healy, Frank (fem.) | Petherick, Wm. H. | Whitney, Wm. M. |
| Healy, John A. | Polley, Helen S. | Whittier, Abel C. |
| Healy, Mrs. M. | Prescott, Nelson L. | Wilson, Arthur |
| Hill, Geo. W. | Prescott, Richard D. | Woods, Wm L. |
| Hillier, Wm. | Prescott, Wallie | Wright, Andrew S. |
| Howard, Calvin L. | Prior, Arthur L. | Wright, Frank C. |
| Hutchins, Stephen E. | Putney, Lucia | Wright, Hammett D. |
| Jenne, Albert E. | Pyne, James W. | Wright, Willey M. |
| Jesson, Thomas | Reddick, Lincoln A (fem) | Wyman, Geo W. |
| Johnson, J. Walter | Reed, Chas. W. | Wyman, Walter W. |
| Johnson, Wm. R. (fem.) | Robey, Ossian V, | York, Mabel C. |
| Knight, Joseph E. | Rockwell, Guy L. (fem.) | |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

WESTFORD, Feb. 6, 1900.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, 1899.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, held at the Town House, Mar. 20, 1899, the following business was transacted :

1. The Town Clerk appointed Lewis C. Dane, Teller, to serve during the election of Moderator, and he was sworn by said Clerk. Sherman H. Fletcher was elected Moderator.

2. Voted, that the compensation of the Tax Collector be one per cent. on the amount collected.

3. The Selectmen appointed Wm. E. Frost and Wm. H. H. Burbeck, Ballot Clerks, and they were sworn by the Town Clerk, and received from him the package containing 540 general and 70 special ballots, and gave their receipt therefor. Lewis C. Dane and T. Arthur E. Wilson, who had previously been appointed Tellers by the Selectmen, were sworn by the Town Clerk and took charge of the check list and ballot box respectively. The ballot box was opened and found to be empty, the register standing on zero. The voters then proceeded to bring in their ballots for the officers named in Art. 3. Polls closed at one o'clock P. M.

At the close of the polls the register stood on 107.

Number of names checked on ballot box list, 107.

Number of names checked on Ballot Clerks' list, 107.

Whole number of ballots cast (by count), 107.

The Moderator appointed Walter C. Wright and W. H. H. Burbeck, Tellers, and they were sworn by the Town Clerk.

4. Voted, to take up the remainder of the Town Business while the count of votes is being completed.

5. Voted, to accept the report of the Selectmen as printed.

6. Voted, to accept the report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards as printed.

7. Voted, to accept the report of the Overseers of the Poor as printed.

8. Voted, to accept the report of the School Committee as printed.

9. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Trustees of the Public Library as printed. The report recommends that two hundred dollars (\$200) be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year.

10. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds as printed. The report recommends that two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) be raised and appropriated for the care and improvement of Burial Grounds during the ensuing year.

11. Voted, to accept the report of the Auditor as printed.

12. Voted, to strike the name of Austin H. Foss from the list of jurors as reported by the Selectmen.

13. Voted, to accept the list of jurors as reported by the Selectmen, as amended by the preceding vote, which list is as follows:—Wayland F. Balch, farmer; Augustus Bunce, farmer; Arthur H. Burnham, farmer; John B Carmichael, machinist; Quincy W. Day, farmer; Clarence R. P. Decatur, farmer; Jeremiah Desmond, farmer; Frank C. Drew, farmer; George J. Dunn, mill operative; Elbert H. Flagg, farmer; John M. Fletcher, grocer; J. Willard Fletcher, farmer; Charles H. Follansbee, clerk; Allen B. Gould, clerk; Edwin E. Heywood, farmer; Frank H. Hildreth, farmer; Samuel M. Hutchins, farmer; John J. Monahan, clerk; Elmer E. Nutting, machinist; Charles E. Osgood, carpenter; Nathan Prescott, painter; J. Henry Read, manufacturer; Reuben E. Redding, stable keeper; Charles N. Richardson, farmer; Ossian V. Robey, carpenter; T. Arthur E. Wilson, farmer; Walter C. Wright, clerk.

14. Voted, to raise and appropriate three thousand dollars (\$3000) to repair roads and bridges.

15. Voted, to raise and appropriate four thousand dollars (\$4000) for town debts and charges.

16. Voted, to and raise appropriate six thousand dollars (\$6000) for public schools.

17. Voted, to raise and appropriate fifteen hundred dollars (\$1500) to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the town, at Westford Academy.

18. Voted, to raise and appropriate twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2500) for support of poor.

19. Voted, to raise and appropriate six hundred dollars (\$600) for school text books and supplies.

20. In regard to Article 18, which was:—"To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same", the Town voted to give such authority to the Town Treasurer.

21. Voted, that the taxes of those who pay only a poll tax, be payable at sight, and all other taxes shall be payable on the first day of January next, and if any taxes remain unpaid after that date, the Collector shall charge interest on such taxes overdue, at such rate per annum as the law may prescribe, and collect the same according to law.

There shall be allowed a discount on all taxes assessed, of five (5) per cent, if paid on or before November 1, and three (3) per cent, if paid on or before December 1, next if the whole tax assessed to them is paid at one time. The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Tax Collector within three days after the first day of November and December, and said Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all the money he may have received, on or before the fifth days of November and December.

And furthermore, the Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Collector between the 15th and 20th days of February next, and the Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all money he may have received within five days after the said twentieth day of February.

And the Assessors are instructed to complete the assessment of taxes on or before July 1st next, and issue their warrant to the Collector of Taxes, with a list of persons assessed, with their places of abode, within five days after the said first day of July.

22. Chose the following officers by hand vote:

Fence Viewers—Alvin G. Polley, Lewis C. Dane, Almon S. Vose.

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber—Thomas E. Symmes, Horace E. Gould, William W. Johnson, John A. Healy, Alonzo H. Sutherland, Jeremiah Desmond, Michael McGlinchy, Wesley O. Hawkes. Messrs. Hawkes, Healy, Desmond and Symmes sworn by Town Clerk.

Field Drivers—Lewis C. Dane, Fred Felch, John E. Ward, George Columb, Fletcher Symmes.

23. Voted, to appropriate fifty dollars to commemorate Memorial Day.

24. Voted, to appropriate fifty dollars for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in Graniteville and Forge Village.

25. Voted, to raise and appropriate the sum of three hundred dollars for the purchase of material to complete the new building at the Town Farm.

26. Voted, to instruct the Selectmen to purchase enough settees to furnish the Town Hall.

27. Voted, to accept the report of the Committee on Highways

28. Voted, to adopt plan No. 1 of the Committee on Highways, which plan is as follows :

This plan provides for minor repairs to be made by town teams and men, but all large jobs to be done by contract. Sealed bids to be invited and contracts to be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder for delivering gravel by the load, the size of load, quality of material, rate of delivery and place of delivery to be clearly specified. Written contracts to be executed, with penalty attached for failure to fulfil the conditions of the contract.

29. Voted, that the Selectmen be instructed to report the amount expended on the roads, by giving the amount expended on each road, as named in the Westford Directory, or by the known name of said road.

30. Voted, to grant the use of the Town Hall free once a month to any organization in Town for a public meeting where an admission fee is not charged; such grant to be subject to the unanimous approval of the School Committee.

31. Voted, to adopt the provisions of Article 28, which is as follows:—"To see if the Town will authorize and direct the School Committee to close the Long Sought. For School, and transport the scholars to another school."

32. Voted, to dismiss Art. 29, which was, "To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 332, Chapter 548, Acts of 1898."

33. The ballots for town officers having been sorted and counted, the following persons were found to have received a plurality of votes and were declared elected :

Town Clerk—Gilman J. Wrightw. Sworn by Moderator.

Selectman—George W. Heywood. Sworn by the Town Clerk.

Assessor—Jeremiah Desmond. The oath prescribed by law was administered to Mr. Desmond by the Town Clerk.

Overseer of the Poor—Clarence R. P. Decatur. Sworn by Town Clerk.

Town Treasurer—Nahum H. Wright.

Collector of Taxes Arthur L. Prior.

Auditor Arthur B. Plimpton.

Constables—Clarence R. P. Decatur, John A. Healy. Both sworn by Town Clerk.

School Committee—Elbert H. Flagg, Frank H. Hildreth. Both sworn by Town Clerk.

Trustee of J. V. Fletcher Library—Wm. E. Frost.

Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds—George T. Day.

The question of licensing the sale of intoxicating liquors was decided in the negative; the vote standing: yes, 31; no, 67; blanks, 9.

34. Voted, to accept the minutes of the meeting

35. Voted, to dissolve the meeting.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER, Moderator.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, Town Clerk

STATE ELECTION NOVEMBER 7, 1899.

Whole number of ballots cast..... 318

Governor.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Albert B. Coats of Beverly (Prohibition) | 9 |
| W. Murray Crane of Dalton (Republican)..... | 222 |
| Robert Treat Paine, Jr., of Boston (Democratic).... | 64 |
| George R. Peare of Lynn (Socialist Labor)..... | 2 |
| Winfield P. Porter of Newburyport (Democratic Social) | 2 |
| Blanks | 19 |

Lieutenant Governor.

| | |
|---|-----|
| John L. Bates of Boston (R.)..... | 221 |
| John H. Mack of North Adams (D)..... | 67 |
| James H. Roberts of Cambridge (P.)..... | 5 |
| Isaac W. Skinner of Brockton (D. S.)..... | 2 |
| James F. Stevens of Boston (S. L.)..... | 1 |
| Blanks | 22 |

Secretary.

| | |
|--|-----|
| Charles H. Bradley of Haverhill (D. S.)..... | 4 |
| John B. Lewis, Jr., of Reading (P.)..... | 8 |
| Henry Lloyd of Boston (D.)..... | 62 |
| Frank McDonald of Stoneham (S. L.)..... | 1 |
| William M. Olin of Boston (R)..... | 214 |
| Blanks | 29 |

Treasurer.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Edward S. Bradford of Springfield (R.)..... | 208 |
| Joseph J. Flynn of Lawrence (D.)..... | 63 |
| Herbert B. Griffin of Winthrop (P.)..... | 4 |
| Frederick A. Nagler of Springfield (S. L.)..... | 2 |
| Charles W. White of Winchester (D. S.)..... | 1 |
| Blanks | 40 |

Auditor.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Elbridge Gerry Brown of Brockton (D.)..... | 66 |
| Frank Albin Forsstrom of Worcester (S. L.)..... | 1 |
| John W. Kimball of Fitchburg (R.)..... | 210 |
| Angus McDonald of Boston (D. S.)..... | 3 |
| Franklin A. Palmer of Stockbridge (P.)..... | 7 |
| Blanks | 31 |

Attorney General.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Addison W. Barr of Worcester (D. S.)..... | 2 |
| Hosea M. Knowlton of New Bedford (R.) | 217 |
| John H. Morrison of Lowell (D.)..... | 65 |
| Sidney Perley of Salem (P.)..... | 3 |
| Walter P. J. Skahan of New Bedford (S. L.)..... | 1 |
| Blanks | 30 |

Councillor.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Marcellus H. Fletcher of Lowell (D.)..... | 88 |
| S. Herbert Howe of Marlborough (R.)... .. | 203 |
| Blanks | 27 |

Senator.

| | |
|--|-----|
| George G. King of Concord (D.)..... | 67 |
| Frank A. Patch of Boxborough (R.)..... | 211 |
| Blanks | 40 |

Representative in General Court.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Herbert E. Fletcher of Westford (R.)..... | 244 |
| T. Frank Mullin of Ayer (D.)..... | 53 |
| Blanks | 21 |

County Commissioner.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Levi S. Gould of Melrose (D. and R.)..... | 242 |
| Joseph V. Schugel of Woburn (S. L.)..... | 6 |
| S. H. Fletcher of Westford..... | 1 |
| Blanks | 69 |

Sheriff.

| | |
|---|-----|
| John R. Fairbairn of Cambridge (D. & R.)..... | 235 |
| Alfred E. Jones of Everett (S. L.)..... | 11 |
| S. H. Fletcher of Westford..... | 1 |
| Blanks | 71 |

Return of votes for Representative in General Court for Middlesex
District No. 23 :

| | Acton. | Ayer. | Little- ton- | Shir- ley. | West- ford. | Total. |
|----------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| Herbert E. Fletcher of Westford. | 194 | 150 | 78 | 75 | 244 | 741 |
| T. Frank Mullin of Ayer..... | 52 | 103 | 15 | 33 | 53 | 256 |
| Blanks..... | 17 | 12 | 1 | 4 | 21 | 55 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Whole number of ballots..... | 263 | 265 | 94 | 112 | 318 | 1052 |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

ASSESSORS' REPORT.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Value of buildings, exclusive of land, May 1, 1899..... | \$630,334 00 |
| Value of land, exclusive of buildings, May 1, 1899..... | 421,702 00 |
| Value of personal estate..... | 224,180 00 |
| | \$1,276,216 00 |

AMOUNTS RAISED.

| | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| For purchase of books and periodicals for library..... | \$ 200 00 | |
| Improvement of cemeteries..... | 250 00 | |
| Repair of roads and bridges..... | 3,000 00 | |
| Town debts and charges..... | 4,000 00 | |
| Public schools..... | 6,000 00 | |
| Tuition at academy..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Support of poor..... | 2,500 00 | |
| Text books and school supplies.... | 600 00 | |
| To complete buildings at town farm | 300 00 | |
| | \$18,350 00 | |
| State tax..... | | 795 00 |
| County tax..... | | 1,436 51 |
| Overlayings..... | | 307 15 |
| Additional taxes..... | | 50 76 |
| Tax levy..... | | \$20,939 42 |
| Number of Polls..... | 681 | |
| Houses..... | 480 | |
| Horses..... | 497 | |
| Cows..... | 794 | |
| Sheep..... | 60 | |
| Cattle other than cows..... | 204 | |
| Swine..... | 41 | |
| Fowls..... | 1,762 | |
| Acres of land..... | 18,000 | |
| Tax on one hundred dollars.. | | \$1 53 |

TOWN PROPERTY.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Town Hall | \$13,500 00 | |
| Public Library | 26,000 00 | |
| Town Farm | 7,000 00 | |
| Centre Schoolhouse..... | 3,500 00 | |
| Stony Brook Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Forge Village Schoolhouse.... | 3,800 00 | |
| Nashoba Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Parkerville Schoolhouse..... | 1,800 00 | |
| Minot's Corner Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Nabnasset Schoolhouse..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Long-Sought-For Schoolhouse .. | 1,600 00 | |
| Wright Schoolhouse | 1,500 00 | |
| Graniteville Schoolhouse | 4,500 00 | |
| Public Parks..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Cemeteries..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Fire Apparatus..... | 350 00 | |
| Trust Funds..... | 2,000 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$74,550 00 |

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE H. HARTFORD,
SAMUEL L. TAYLOR,
JEREMIAH DESMOND,

Assessors of Westford.

ABATEMENT OF TAXES AS ORDERED BY THE ASSESSORS.

1895.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Nashua, Acton & Boston R. R..... | \$9 24 | |
| | <hr/> | \$9 24 |

1896.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Armenian Stock Co..... | \$ 2 73 | |
| Blodgett, Harry | 2 00 | |
| Butterfield, Lucien O..... | 2 00 | |
| Moran, Joseph | 2 00 | |
| Nashua, Acton & Boston R. R..... | 11 34 | |
| Shaw, Alvarado, error..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$22 07 |

1897.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------|
| Aldrich, Ambrose D..... | \$4 50 |
| Blodgett, Harry..... | 2 00 |
| Busbet, Jacob..... | 2 00 |
| Carrick, Thomas..... | 2 54 |
| Cheever, Jacob R..... | 2 81 |
| Daily, Martin..... | 2 68 |
| Felch, John K., error..... | 2 14 |
| Foley, Michael..... | 2 00 |
| Handley, Frank..... | 2 00 |
| Harmon, Thomas..... | 2 00 |
| Lomberg, Axel..... | 2 00 |
| Magar, M. G..... | 2 00 |
| McNulty, John..... | 2 00 |
| Merrill, Allen..... | 2 54 |
| Nashua, Acton & Boston R. F..... | 9 45 |
| Payer, Edward..... | 2 00 |
| Putney, Samuel F..... | 74 |
| Rapson, James..... | 2 00 |
| Seifer, John H., error..... | 2 14 |
| Voter, Ida M..... | 2 70 |
| Wilson, Joseph H..... | 2 20 |

 \$54 44

1898.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Abett, C. H..... | \$2 00 |
| Allard, Joseph..... | 2 00 |
| Anderson, James B..... | 2 00 |
| Bagdo, Aaron..... | 2 00 |
| Barlow, James..... | 2 45 |
| Brow, Wesley G., error..... | 2 00 |
| Brown, Edward W..... | 2 00 |
| Bilodeau, Fred..... | 2 00 |
| Buzzell, Allie E. B..... | 2 00 |
| Buzzell, Elijah..... | 2 75 |
| Buzzell, Prescott A..... | 2 00 |
| Carlin, Charles W..... | 2 38 |
| Caron, Lewis P..... | 2 38 |
| Conley, Michael..... | 2 00 |
| Cummings, James..... | 2 23 |

Amount carried forward.....

\$32 19

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$32 19 |
| Curtis, Barnard O | 2 00 |
| Davis, Fred S., error..... | 2 00 |
| Decatur, Bert W., error | 2 00 |
| Drew, Geo. A., error | 2 00 |
| Driscoll, Michael D., error..... | 2 00 |
| Dupont, James..... | 2 00 |
| Eaton, Fred..... | 2 00 |
| Helie, Adol.h | 2 00 |
| Henry, Francis..... | 2 15 |
| Henry, James..... | 2 45 |
| Julian, Lewis | 2 45 |
| Kirkpatrick, Edward..... | 2 00 |
| Le Clair, Peter, error | 2 90 |
| McLaughlin, Arthur..... | 2 00 |
| Meliver, Frank..... | 2 00 |
| Moran, Joseph | 2 00 |
| Nashua, Acton & Boston R. R..... | 10 50 |
| Orr, Robert..... | 2 00 |
| Orviskey, Claus | 2 00 |
| Osgood, Hollie..... | 2 23 |
| Parrott, B. F., error..... | 2 00 |
| Parker, John..... | 2 00 |
| Riney, Frank, error..... | 2 00 |
| Ryan, Nathan P..... | 2 00 |
| Servigue, John | 2 00 |
| Slumwhite, Herbert..... | 2 00 |
| Toursgnaiet, Luke..... | 2 00 |
| Veattle, Louis..... | 2 00 |
| Voter, Ida M..... | 3 00 |
| Yansen, Peter..... | 2 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$103 87 |

SUMMARY.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Abatement taxes 1895..... | \$ 9 24 |
| 1896..... | 22 07 |
| 1897 | 54 44 |
| 1898..... | 103 87 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$189 62 |

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

COMPENSATION OF TOWN OFFICERS.

TOWN TREASURER.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Nahum H. Wright, salary ending March 1, 1899..... | \$100 00 | |
| Extra time and expense on Town business..... | 16 00 | |
| | 16 00 | \$116 00 |

TOWN CLERK.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Gilman J. Wright, salary | \$12 00 | |
| Recording and making returns to Secretary of the Commonwealth of births, marriages and deaths for the year 1898, as follows: | | |
| 59 births at 50 cents each..... | 29 50 | |
| 26 marriages at 20 cents each.. . . . | 5 20 | |
| 51 deaths at 20 cents each..... | 10 20 | |
| Extra services annual Town meeting, 1899..... | 3 00 | |
| Extra services annual State election, 1899..... | 3 00 | |
| Attending Town Clerks' meeting at Ayer..... | 2 50 | |
| Making Clerk's report | 3 00 | |
| Making and transmitting five certificates under Acts of 1897.... | 1 25 | |
| Making and forwarding two depositions under Acts of 1897..... | 1 00 | |
| Postage, stationery and express..... | 4 96 | |
| Dog license blanks and telephone... | 1 15 | |
| Cash paid for administering oaths... | 50 | |
| Sealing wax and ink..... | 85 | |
| Precinct seals | 4 28 | |
| | 4 28 | \$82 39 |

SELECTMEN.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Sherman H. Fletcher, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Making out State Aid Book..... | 6 00 | |
| Making 24 State Aid and Indigent Soldier returns, Chaps. 372 and 374, Acts 1899..... | 6 00 | |
| Making out Town Report..... | 10 00 | |
| Time and expenses on highways.... | 35 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 35 00 | |
| Time and expense perambulating Town lines between Chelmsford and Westford..... | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$100 00 |
| George W. Heywood, salary... .. | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways.... | 35 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 30 00 | |
| Time and expense perambulating Town lines between Chelms- ford and Westford..... | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$73 00 |
| Wesley O. Hawkes, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways.... | 30 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$60 00 |

AUDITOR.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Arthur B. Plimpton, services..... | \$35 00 | \$35 00 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|

ASSESSORS.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Samuel L. Taylor, 33 days, taking invoice and making taxes..... | \$ 82 50 | |
| George H. Hartford, 41 1-2 days, taking invoice and making taxes..... | 103 75 | |
| George H. Hartford, taking school census, etc..... | 30 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$216 25 |

TOWN COUNSEL.

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|----------|
| Burke & Corbett..... | \$100 00 | \$100 00 |
|----------------------|----------|----------|

TAX COLLECTOR.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Arthur L. Prior, postage and express... | \$ 18 02 | |
| 1 cash book..... | 1 75 | |
| Collecting \$14,976.39 before Nov. 2 at 1 per cent..... | 149 76 | |
| Collecting \$1965.14 after Nov. 1 at 1 per cent..... | 19 65 | |
| | <hr/> | \$189 18 |
| Walter C. Wright, collecting \$4.50 tax, 1894, at 1 per cent..... | \$ 04 | |
| Collecting \$11.25 tax, 1895, at 1 per cent..... | 11 | |
| Collecting \$236.00 tax, 1896, at 1 per cent..... | 2 36 | |
| Collecting \$645.49 tax, 1897, at 1 per cent..... | 6 45 | |
| Collecting \$1,454.41 tax, 1898, at 1 per cent..... | 14 54 | |
| Revenue stamps..... | 62 | |
| | <hr/> | \$24 12 |

CONSTABLES.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Eugene DeRoehn, posting warrants for March meeting..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| John A. Healy, services..... | 27 37 | |
| John A. Healy, cash paid for expenses.. | 45 75 | |
| Summoning election officers Nov... | 7 00 | |
| Posting warrants, Nov. election.... | 5 00 | |
| Care and teaming ballot box..... | 2 50 | |
| Time and expenses notifying delin- quent dog owners..... | 15 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$107 62 |

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Nelson L. Tuttle, attending 8 meetings.. | \$16 00 | |
| Quincy W. Day, " 8 " .. | 16 00 | |
| Oscar R. Spalding, " 4 " .. | 8 00 | |
| Gilman J. Wright, " 8 " .. | 16 00 | |
| Gilman J. Wright, Clerk of Board..... | 10 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$66 00 |

PRECINCT OFFICERS, BALLOT CLERKS AND TELLERS.

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| W. H. Wall, Deputy Inspector Prec. 2, Nov., 1898..... | \$2 00 | |
| W. E. Frost, Ballet Clerk, March, 1899.. | 2 00 | |
| J. H. Read, Warden Prec. 1, Nov., 1898, | 2 00 | |
| H. E. Gould, Inspector Prec. 2, Nov., 1898 | 2 00 | |
| E. G. Boynton, Inspector Prec. 3, Nov., 1898 | 2 00 | |
| A. E. Wilson, Teller, March, 1898 and 1899 | 4 00 | |
| Geo. J. Dunn, Inspector Prec. 3, Nov., 1898, Warden, Nov., 1899..... | 4 00 | |
| A. R. Choate, Inspector Prec. 2, Nov., 1898 | 2 00 | |
| Alfred Prinn, Inspector Prec. 2, Nov., 1899 | 2 00 | |
| T. F. Dunn, Inspector Prec. 3, Nov., 1899, | 2 00 | |
| D. E. Splain, Warden Prec. 2, Nov., 1899, | 2 00 | |
| J. J. Monahan, Clerk Prec. 3, Nov., 1898, | 2 00 | |
| J. M. Fletcher, Clerk Prec. 1, Nov., 1899, | 2 00 | |
| L. C. Dane, Teller, March, 1899..... | 2 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, Ballot Clerk and Inspector, March and Nov., 1899... | 4 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$36 00 |

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Florence H. Read, delivering school supplies | \$ 76 11 | |
| Cash paid for express and teaming.. | 5 50 | |
| A. S. Thomson, Superintendent. | 750 00 | |
| Postage and stationery..... | 15 00 | |
| Extra expenses..... | 20 45 | |
| A. G. Pollard, ribbons, etc., for gradua- tion exercises..... | 2 64 | |
| | <hr/> | \$869 70 |

Received from State on account of Superintendent, \$625; net cost, \$160.45.

UNDERTAKERS.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Albert P. Richardson, attending 44 funerals with hearse..... | \$88 00 | |
| Making out 35 returns and receiving permits..... | 8 75 | |
| John A. Healy, making out 18 returns and receiving permits..... | 4 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$101 25 |

TRUANT OFFICER.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Eugene DeRoehn, services..... | \$6 00 | \$6 00 |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|

APPRAISER OF PROPERTY AT TOWN FARM.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| Noah Prescott, appraising property 1896 and 1897..... | \$4 00 | \$4 00 |
|---|--------|--------|

TOWN COMMON.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Ai Bicknell, labor on Common..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Mowing Common..... | 2 50 | |
| H. W. Tarbell, trimming and removing trees..... | 26 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$33 50 |

REPAIRS ON SCHOOLHOUSES AND ARTICLES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

CENTRE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| G. L. Bennett, labor changing seats..... | \$ 1 00 | |
| F. B. Prescott, 1 screen door..... | 1 00 | |
| 1 rubber mat..... | 2 00 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co., slate blackboards... | 10 02 | |
| B. & M. R. R., freight on same..... | 96 | |
| Halliards for flag pole..... | 30 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor and stock..... | 11 45 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor and stock..... | 4 69 | |
| 1 mat and lamp..... | 1 39 | |
| Brownell & Mason, repairs of furnace... | 21 80 | |
| G. H. Holt, repairs of pump..... | 3 50 | |
| 1 feather duster..... | 1 25 | |
| Joe Wall, setting glass, etc..... | 3 15 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, glass, putty, washing powder, brooms, etc..... | 7 84 | |
| | <hr/> | \$70 35 |

STONY BROOK SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| 1 lock..... | \$ 20 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor and stock..... | 1 90 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$2 10 |

FORGE VILLAGE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---|-------------------|---------|
| A. R. DeRoehn, labor on flag pole..... | \$ 1 50 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co., slate blackboards... | 13 73 | |
| B. & M. R. R., freight on same. | 1 25 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor..... | 75 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor and stock..... | 5 18 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$22 41 |

NASHOBA SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| W. W. Hendley, whitening schoolroom.. | \$12 00 | |
| E. H. Flagg, labor, glass, etc..... | 8 78 | |
| 2 brooms..... | 70 | |
| Town of Acton, 15 school desks..... | 11 25 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$32 73 |

PARKERVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| E. H. Flagg, moving desks, etc..... | \$7 75 | |
| 1 broom..... | 35 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$8 10 |

MINOT'S CORNER SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|----|
| 1 broom and thermometer | \$ 60 | |
| | <u> </u> | 60 |

NABNASSETT SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Wright & Bemis, 1 clock..... | \$5 50 | |
| 1 broom..... | 35 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$5 85 |

WRIGHT SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---|-------------------|--------|
| Joe Wall, labor and stock | \$1 25 | |
| Abbot & Co., labor..... | 1 00 | |
| 1 wash basin..... | 25 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor and stock | 3 27 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$5 77 |

GRANITEVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE—FOUR SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| J. W. DeRoehn, labor..... | \$ 1 00 | |
| J. L. Moss, labor..... | 1 50 | |
| Abbot & Co., labor and stock..... | 6 75 | |
| Eugene DeRoehn, labor..... | 6 50 | |
| Wright & Bemis, clock, etc..... | 7 65 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co., slate blackboards... | 23 91 | |
| B. & M. R. R., freight on same..... | 2 09 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor..... | 75 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor and stock..... | 4 00 | |
| F. L. Fletcher, oil, etc..... | 5 34 | |
| | <hr/> | \$59 49 |

EIGHTH GRADE SCHOOL.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| John A. Healy, use of team..... | \$1 00 | |
| 1 clock..... | 4 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, ammonia, etc..... | 15 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 15 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$212 55 |

TEXT-BOOKS AND SUPPLIES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|----------|
| Wright & Fletcher..... | \$ 80 | |
| F. E. Kendall..... | 5 00 | |
| A. D. Maclachlin..... | 1 50 | |
| E. E. Babb..... | 10 19 | |
| Houghton, Mifflin & Co..... | 13 01 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co..... | 273 14 | |
| Ginn & Co..... | 79 58 | |
| D. C. Heath & Co..... | 106 08 | |
| American Book Co..... | 117 48 | |
| Silver, Burdett & Co..... | 48 77 | |
| H. Holt & Co..... | 6 34 | |
| Educational Publishing Co..... | 15 00 | |
| Williams & Rogers..... | 3 57 | |
| Maynard, Merrill & Co..... | 2 70 | |
| Mrs. Gates Lockhart..... | 3 50 | |
| E. L. Randlett..... | 1 05 | |
| | <hr/> | \$687 71 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | |

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$687 71 |
| Morse & Co..... | 7 20 | |
| Library Bureau..... | 10 00 | |
| Allyn & Bacon..... | 9 59 | |
| Enterprise Printing Works..... | 1 55 | |
| H. B. Prescott..... | 18 00 | |
| F. B. Prescott..... | 2 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$736 55 |
| Bills to the amount of \$148.46 remained unpaid at close of financial year, March 1, 1899, which had not been paid out of the appropriation of that year; deducting this amount from the amount paid this year leaves \$588.09; amount received for books sold, \$10.46, makes the net amount expended this year..... | | \$577 63 |
| Appropriation | \$600 00 | |

J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor, Feb. 1, 1899, to Feb. 1, 1900..... | \$100 00 |
| Carrie E Read, Librarian, Feb. 1, 1899, to Feb. 1, 1900 | 180 00 |
| Carrie E. Read, cash paid for express, freight and teaming..... | 17 24 |
| Carrie E. Read, extra work..... | 14 58 |
| F. C. Drew, 1 cord wood | 2 50 |
| Joe Wall, labor and stock | 25 75 |
| S. B. Wright, 1-2 cord wood..... | 2 00 |
| J. L. Douglass, repairing roof | 11 30 |
| Brownell & Mason, cleaning and repairing furnaces..... | 8 65 |
| Gilbert & Barker Mfg. Co., 2 hbbs. gasoline..... | 17 26 |
| T. Costello & Co., repair of force pump. | 3 44 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$382 72 |

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$382 72 | |
| Grass seed and top-dressing..... | 4 01 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, pails, washing powder, broom, brushes, etc..... | 7 45 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, 15 19-20 tons coal at \$4 35..... | 69 38 | |
| B. & M. R. R., freight on same..... | 15 95 | |
| Cash paid for teaming same..... | 13 40 | |
| | <hr/> | \$492 91 |

DELIVERING LIBRARY BOOKS TO GRANITEVILLE AND FORGE VILLAGE.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Ai Bicknell, services..... | \$50 00 | \$50 00 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|

EXPENSE OF FIRST DISTRICT COURT AT AYER.

OFFICERS' FEES.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| P. O'Toole, Taylor case..... | \$ 1 47 | |
| D. C. Smith, Moore case..... | 3 00 | |
| T. H. Manning, Mason and Saunders cases..... | 14 41 | |
| John A. Healy, Colcomb case..... | 3 54 | |
| Sprague case..... | 12 65 | |
| Caron case..... | 11 31 | |
| Hannon case..... | 4 00 | |
| Thos. Manning, Dane case.... | 15 65 | |
| H. C. Sherwin, Parkhurst case..... | 6 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$72 78 |
| Amount received from fines... \$55 86 | | |

GUIDE POSTS AND GUIDE BOARDS.

We submit the following report on guide posts and guide boards:

* We have erected new guide posts and guide boards at the Nashoba Road, Brookside Corner, and at the corner of the roads

near Fletcher's quarry. We have also repaired and repainted a number of guide boards that had become weather-beaten. A few more should be repainted the coming year.

The expense has been as follows :

| | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| Joe Wall, painting and lettering guide boards | \$9 65 | |
| Paint and nails | 43 | |
| | <hr/> | \$10 08 |

PRINTING.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| F. A. Frost & Co., burial ground notices | \$ 3 40 | |
| School Committee | 7 10 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., 650 copies Town Reports and warrants for town meeting | 124 50 | |
| Letter heads | 5 25 | |
| 500 stamped envelopes | 12 00 | |
| Bill heads and notices | 7 00 | |
| School programmes | 24 50 | |
| Morning Mail Co., ballots for March | 11 50 | |
| Voting lists | 10 75 | |
| Notice to voters | 1 75 | |
| Greenough, Adams & Cushing, order books | 7 50 | |
| M. G. Wight & Co., tax bills and envelopes | 9 25 | |
| A. E. Day, School Committee | 40 | |
| F. A. Frost & Co., library | 2 00 | |
| H. S. Turner, School Committee | 5 50 | |
| S. W. Brownell, Assessors | 1 36 | |
| | <hr/> | \$233 76 |

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

| | |
|--|------------|
| By orders to Poor Department | \$3,287 16 |
| Received for support of insane and outside poor, \$620.85; leaves \$2,666 31 expended. | |

BOARD OF HEALTH.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Paid by orders..... | \$49 20 | \$49 20 |
| See Board of Health report | | |

PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Paid by orders..... | \$256 44 | \$256 44 |
| See Commissioners' report. | | |

MEMORIAL DAY.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Paid by order Veteran Association..... | \$50 00 | \$50 00 |
|--|---------|---------|

INSURANCE.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Arthur Fenner, town house, \$2500 for 5 years..... | \$75 00 | |
| Library, \$2500 for 3 years..... | 25 50 | |
| Center Schoolhouse, \$2500 for 3 years... | 75 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, almshouse, barn and stock \$5,599.50 for 3 years..... | 99 13 | |
| | <hr/> | \$274 63 |

TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Ai Bicknell, janitor from Feb. 1, 1900, to Feb. 1, 1900..... | \$96 00 | |
| 5 Lamps and burners..... | 3 60 | |
| F. C. Drew, 2 cords wood..... | 5 00 | |
| John A. Healy, 2,550 lbs. coal..... | 7 97 | |
| Floor wax..... | 3 00 | |
| Charles Osgood, labor..... | 2 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, 9 14-20 tons coal at \$4.35..... | 42 20 | |
| B. & M. R. R., freight on same..... | 10 00 | |
| Cash paid for teaming same..... | 8 15 | |
| S. B. Wright, 1 cord wood..... | 4 00 | |
| Pitchers and dippers..... | 1 60 | |
| Brownell & Mason, new furnace as per contract..... | 195 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$378 52 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | |

| | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$387 52 |
| Repairing old furnace..... | 23 17 | |
| 1 Duster | 1 25 | |
| Noah Prescott, 2 cords wood..... | 7 50 | |
| G. F. Millis, labor..... | 50 | |
| 2 Baskets | 1 00 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor..... | 12 51 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, oil, chimneys, broom, etc..... | 23 90 | |
| Allen, Thompson, Whitney Co., 100 seats for hall..... | 93 10 | |
| J. M. Fletcher, oil..... | 7 40 | |
| | <hr/> | \$548 85 |

INCOME FROM TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Rent of armory from state..... | \$175 00 | |
| Rent of building..... | 111 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$286 50 |

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

As authorized by Chapter 447, Acts of 1890.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Susan S. Raymond, from Jan. 1, 1899, to Feb. 1, 1900..... | \$26 00 | |
| J. A. Graham, from Jan. 1, 1899, to Feb 1, 1900..... | 104 00 | |
| Gilbert A. Hood, from Jan. 1, 1899, to Feb. 1, 1900..... | 52 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, services investigating cases of Soldiers' relief..... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$187 00 |

STATE AID TO SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS'
FAMILIES.

As authorized by Chapter 374, Acts of 1899.

| | |
|---|------------|
| From Jan. 1, 1899, to Jan. 1, 1900..... | \$1,043 60 |
|---|------------|

MILITARY AID TO INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

As authorized by Chapter 372, Acts of 1899.

| | |
|--|---------|
| From Jan. 1, 1899, to Jan. 1, 1900 . . . | \$60 00 |
|--|---------|

BURIAL OF DECEASED SOLDIERS.

As authorized by Chapter 395, Acts of 1889.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| A. P. Richardson, burial of John H. Whitney, Co. B, 6th Mass. Vols.... | \$35 00 | |
| Burial Samuel F. Putney, Co. G, 3d Mass. Vols | 35 00 | |
| C. H. Richardson, burial William H. T. Nichols, Co. E, 6th Mass. Vols.... | 50 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$120 00 |

Town of Leominster, Mass, re-
funded the town \$35.00 on account of
burial of W. H. T. Nichols.

FOREST FIRES AND OTHER FIRES.

The following forest fires have occurred during the year and
damage estimated by the Forest Fire Wardens :

| | No. of Acres. | Estimated Damage |
|--|------------------|---------------------|
| April 18.—On land of George Jackson..... | 8 | \$ 25 00 |
| 19.—On land of R. C. Whidden | 1 | 1 00 |
| 27.—On land of R. C. Whidden, with 50 cords wood..... | 8 | 100 00 |
| 30.—On land of Town of Westford, Olive A. Prescott, Wilbert E. Parsons, heirs of A. Buttrick and Ed- ward Prescott..... | 60 | 350 00 |
| May 20.—On land of F. G. Sargent and Mrs. Emily A. Fletcher..... | 6½ | 45 00 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 83½ | \$521 00 |

On April 29 the dwelling house of Nathan Prescott was burned
down in the center of the town; most of the contents were saved.
Fire caught from a defective chimney. Insured. Estimated loss,
\$2,000.

On Sept. 15 the dwelling house of Ralph C. Whidden and
Rachel Dupee was burned down. Estimated loss, \$2,500.
Insured. Cause of fire unknown.

EXPENSES.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| John A. Healy, Fire Warden, and others, fire near Forge Village..... | \$ 1 75 | |
| John A. Healy, Fire Warden, and others, Whidden land..... | 15 40 | |
| John A. Healy, Fire Warden, J. V. Fletcher land..... | 1 00 | |
| John A. Healy, Fire Warden, and others, near J. Sullivan's..... | 37 90 | |
| John A. Heal , Fire Warden, and others, Sargent and Fletcher land..... | 20 80 | |
| John A. Healy, Fire Warden, and others, Whidden and Dupee fire..... | 18 40 | |
| W. M. Whitney, Prescott fire..... | 2 00 | |
| Gilmer Stone, Fire Warden, Prescott and forest fires..... | 13 35 | |
| H. A. Fletcher, Fire Warden, forest fire, | 14 00 | |
| C. G. Sargent's Sons, Sargent and Flet- cher fire..... | 3 25 | |
| L. J. Marden, Whidden fire..... | 2 40 | |
| J. W. Blodgett, Snake Meadow Hill.... | 1 80 | |
| Food for firemen April 27..... | 4 45 | |
| Food for firemen April 30..... | 2 68 | |
| Food for firemen May 20..... | 2 12 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, Forest Fire Ward... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$146 30 |

TROPHY OF THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

In the spring of 1899 the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, while visiting the U. S. Navy Yard at Washington, D. C., discovered that the Government had in its possession a few trophies of the Spanish war, in the shape of cannons that had been used to fortify the harbors of the ports of Cuba. An application was made to the Honorable Secretary of the Navy, Hon. John D. Long, for the loan or gift of a cannon for the Town of Westford for ornamental purposes, as well as an object lesson to the rising generation of the valor of the American soldiers and sailors.

Secretary Long very generously complied with the request and the following letter was received :

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY, }
 BUREAU OF ORDNANCE, }
 WASHINGTON, D. C., June 8, 1899. }

Sir—

1. The Bureau has this day directed the Commandant of the Navy Yard, Washington, D. C., to turn over to your order one 5 3-8 inch cast iron, muzzle-loading, smooth bore gun to be loaned the Town of Westford, Mass., that municipality to make all arrangements for transportation and pay all freight and handling charges.

2. This gun is one of those taken from Morro Castle, at the entrance of Santiago Harbor. As it is loaned for ornamental purposes only, the Bureau desires to disclaim any responsibility should it be fired.

Respectfully,
 CHARLES O'NEIL,
 Chief of Bureau of Ordnance.

Mr. S. H. Fletcher, Chairman Board of Selectmen, Westford, Mass.

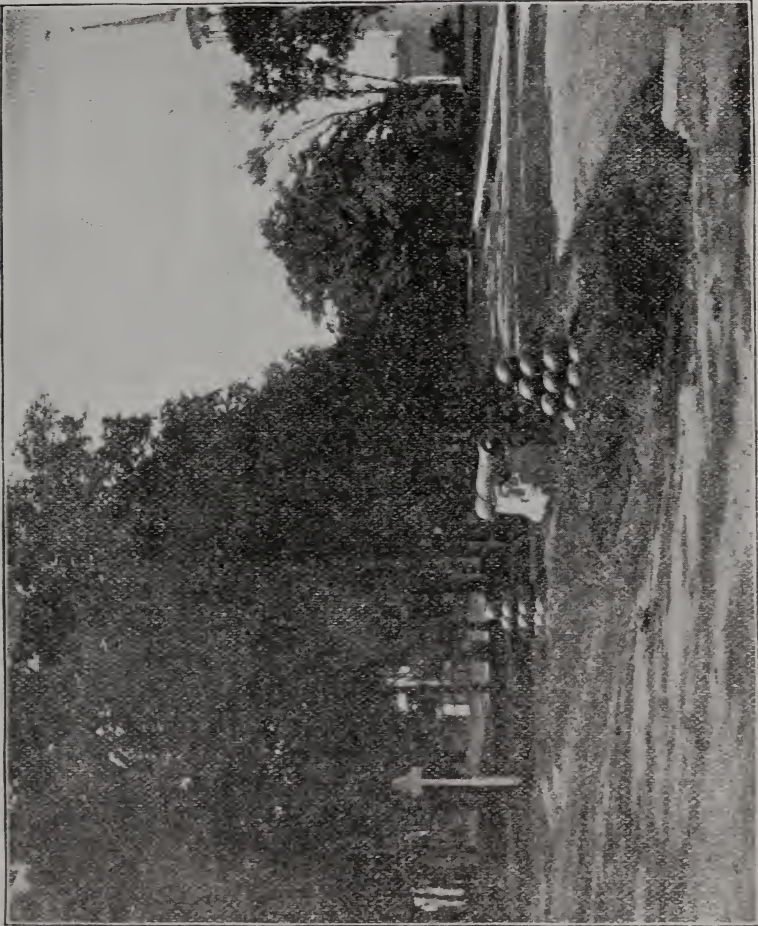
Arrangements were made with the Pennsylvania Railroad for transportation, and the cannon arrived here in June, the day of the graduating exercises in the academy. Our town was honored that day by the presence of Secretary Long, who was much interested in this ancient piece of ordnance. It was cast in 1809 and weighs 4800 pounds and is of English manufacture. A letter was written to the U. S. Consul at London, England, inquiring as to its origin and history. The following was received :

AMERICAN EMBASSY, LONDON, }
 OFFICE OF MILITARY ATTACHE, }
 123 VICTORIA STREET, Aug. 31, 1899. }

MR. S. H. FLETCHER :

*Dear Sir—*In reply to your letter of Aug. 3d to U. S. Consul, and referred to me, I beg to say that I have received the following in reply to enquiries :

El Morro Castle was ceded by the British to Spain in 1802, at the peace of Amiens, and in 1809 Britain entered into an alliance with Spain against France. In the same year the Carron Co. began



to cast guns for the British government for the first time, and it is probable that the gun in question was presented by the British government to Spain as a token of good will, and perhaps as a specimen of the latest thing out in heavy ordnance. * * * *

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

SAML. S. SUMNER,
Col. 6th Cavalry, Military Attache.

The gun has been mounted upon a granite base, on a triangular piece of ground at the east side of the Common. The Navy Department also donated 100 11-in. shells of the Civil War, which have been placed in pyramids around the Cannon. A suitable inscription in bronze has been placed upon the base. The Town of Westford is under obligation to the Honorable Secretary of the Navy for his kindness and interest he has taken in procuring this memorial of the Spanish war.

The following expense has occurred:

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| H. V. Hildreth, granite base for con- non..... | \$21 25 | |
| Bronze tablets for base and expense of putting on | 12 81 | |
| Freight and expenses on R. R..... | 20 99 | |
| R. C. Whidden, teaming..... | 3 50 | |
| G. F. Millis, labor..... | 1 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$60 05 |

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| John A. Healy, 2 ladders | \$ 3 20 | |
| Painting pails and shovels | 2 00 | |
| 5 fire poles..... | 3 00 | |
| Nat. Mfg. Co., 1 doz. Johnson force pumps | 36 00 | |
| 3 padlocks..... | 50 | |
| 1 doz. fire pails | 3 00 | |
| Rope and paint... .. | 2 75 | |
| Frank Haley, ironing poles | 1 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$52 20 |

NEW BUILDING AT TOWN FARM.

| | | |
|------------------------|----------|----------|
| Paid by orders | \$304 96 | \$304 96 |
| See Overseers' report. | | |

GENERAL EXPENSES.

| | |
|--|---------|
| F. C. Drew, fence posts | \$ 2 04 |
| Postage for Town reports | 20 80 |
| E. H. Chamberlin, M. D., return of births | 1 00 |
| W. H. Bennett, M. D., return of births.. | 1 75 |
| G. A. Harlow, M. D., return of births.. | 1 00 |
| F. E. Varney, M. D., return of births... | 2 25 |
| J. W. Godfrey, M. D., return of births.. | 75 |
| C. E. Whidden, express on town reports. | 1 25 |
| L. J. Marden, lumber for horse stalls... | 6 75 |
| J. W. O'Brien, repair of carriage | 6 75 |
| L. W. Wheeler, making report to State.. | 5 00 |
| Postage for town officer s | 8 85 |
| M. W. Jenkins, repair of hearse, etc... | 5 00 |
| H. A. Hildreth, storage for road carts. etc., 3 years | 15 00 |
| Record books | 2 30 |
| John Feeney, repair of harnesses | 10 90 |
| J. A. Walkden, repair of road scraper... | 3 00 |
| Fred Seifer, repair of wagon | 5 00 |
| Geo. Tyler & Co., 2 steel edges and cast- ings for road machine | 21 76 |
| Feed bags | 2 10 |
| A. W. Balsler, shoeing horses and repairs | 13 75 |
| J. E. Knight, repair of road machine, etc. | 14 25 |
| Hiram Dane, damage on highway | 25 00 |
| Express | 6 85 |
| H. M. Francis, plans and specifications for ell at almshouse | 93 75 |
| Frank Haley, shoeing horses and repairs. | 38 14 |
| Western Union telegram | 56 |
| Waldo Bros., drain pipe | 50 32 |
| P. Savage, fence posts | 12 44 |

Amount carried forward

\$378 31

| | |
|--|-----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$378. 31 |
| Food for election officers | 3 91 |
| B. & M. R. R., freight..... | 5 90 |
| J. A. Walkden, 1 watering trough..... | 5 25 |
| J. D. Farley, 1 check punch..... | 5 00 |
| Powder, fuse and nails for road department..... | 6 65 |
| B. F. Parrott, damage..... | 10 00 |
| J. R. Draper, M. D., services | 18 00 |
| N. L. Tuttle, 1 evener and whiffletree... | 1 00 |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., dualin..... | 1 80 |
| H. C. McMaster, repairs of cavalry target | 7 00 |
| Shovels, picks, rakes, etc., for road department..... | 9 60 |
| Dr. J. N. Murray, attending sick horse.. | 3 00 |
| W. W. Johnson, teaming chairs..... | 1 50 |
| Wright & Fletcher, sundries as per bill.. | 13 72 |
| A. P. Richardson, repair of hearse..... | 2 00 |
| R. C. Whidden, trimming old elm at Dupee Place | 2 00 |
| D. E. Splain, use of telephone, etc | 1 15 |
| N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co., use of telephone for town officers..... | 21 66 |
| Money order fees..... | 36 |
| J. A. Healy, killing dogs | 2 00 |
| Use of team..... | 1 25 |
| John M. Fletcher, administering oath ... | 25 |
| Gilman J. Wright, administering oaths.. | 1 25 |
| Wright & Fletcher, grain, Jan., Feb. and Mar., 1899..... | 40 90 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$543 46 |

ROAD DEPARTMENT.

By vote of the town at the annual meeting it was voted "to instruct the Selectmen to report the amount expended on the roads as named in the Westford Directory or by known name of said road."

We think this vote was passed under a misapprehension as to

the difficulties to be encountered if these instructions were to be carried out literally.

In the first place the Westford roads have not been named officially and the Westford Directory, so called, is not correct. It is an advertising publication, and the names of the roads as published are put down at any suggestion that may have arisen in the mind of the canvasser, and we find that a good many roads appear under two or three names. Also that the same name appears in different parts of the town.

2d. It was impossible to keep a correct account of the expenditures on each road unless we employed a number of timekeepers to watch the men to keep track of their work as they passed from one road to another.

While the Superintendent and the teams were at work at one place we had men in other parts of the town cutting brush and raking stones, and in some instances individuals making repairs in the vicinity they lived rather than to send the town teams, on account of the expense. With these difficulties confronting us, we decided to keep an account by districts, which we believe will be satisfactory and carry out the intention of the vote as passed.

We took the old school districts as a basis as laid down upon the map, and gave instructions to the Superintendent to cover the whole town as nearly as possible, and the result has been that we were obliged to overrun the appropriation.

In accordance with Chapter 98, Acts of 1839, Benjamin F. Day was appointed Superintendent of Streets.

Under his direction the following amounts have been expended. The bills show what month they were paid but not in all cases the month the work or expense occurred :

MARCH.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| W. L. Butterworth, gravel..... | \$ 2 65 | |
| John Boyd, labor..... | 29 50 | |
| B. F. Day, labor and team..... | 82 50 | |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 22 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$137 15 |

APRIL.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| C. R. P. Decatur, gravel..... | \$ 3 20 |
| S. L. Taylor, gravel..... | 2 50 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 26 62 |
| Luther Lawton, labor..... | 22 87 |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 25 12 |
| E. H. Holt, labor..... | 26 62 |
| Nelson L. Prescott, labor..... | 25 12 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 69 38 |
| Geo. Vaughn, labor..... | 27 00 |
| Geo. Demerer, labor..... | 1 00 |
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | 26 20 |

 \$300 63

MAY.

| | |
|---|----------|
| H. W. Tarbell, labor as per contract..... | \$142 00 |
| J. A. Cameron, gravel..... | 4 80 |
| R. C. Whidden, team as per contract.... | 50 00 |
| Luther Lawton, labor..... | 34 50 |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 36 75 |
| N. L. Prescott, labor..... | 38 62 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 38 62 |
| E. H. Holt, labor..... | 37 50 |
| Geo. Vaughn, labor..... | 37 71 |
| Luther Lawton, labor..... | 6 00 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 97 50 |

 \$569 00

JUNE.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| H. W. Tarbell, as per contract..... | \$105 75 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 37 88 |
| Luther Lawton, labor..... | 35 63 |
| N. L. Prescott, labor..... | 36 38 |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 34 50 |
| Geo. Vaughn, labor..... | 37 14 |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., labor..... | 11 72 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 95 63 |
| Gravel..... | 12 95 |

 Amount carried forward.....

\$452 58

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$452 58 | |
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | 25 71 | |
| Town Farm, 4220 lbs. hay..... | 23 21 | |
| R. C. Whidden, team..... | 31 50 | |
| M. F. Downs, labor..... | 4 60 | |
| E. H. Holt, labor..... | 37 88 | |
| Mrs. B. Smith, gravel..... | 5 35 | |
| | <hr/> | \$580 83 |

JULY.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| H. W. Tarbell, as per contract..... | \$104 25 | |
| I. G. Hall, labor..... | 3 70 | |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 85 88 | |
| Charles Melvin, labor..... | 15 30 | |
| E. H. Holt, labor..... | 34 88 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 34 50 | |
| N. L. Prescott, labor..... | 32 63 | |
| Luther Lawton, labor..... | 28 50 | |
| J. F. O'Brien, labor..... | 15 75 | |
| John Dinsmore, labor..... | 15 00 | |
| M. F. Downs, labor..... | 6 00 | |
| G. W. Heywood, gravel..... | 22 55 | |
| R. C. Whidden, team..... | 6 80 | |
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | 22 90 | |
| | <hr/> | \$473 64 |

AUGUST.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | \$22 42 | |
| R. C. Whidden, team..... | 8 12 | |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 88 13 | |
| E. H. Holt, labor..... | 33 94 | |
| Charles Parker, labor..... | 6 00 | |
| John Curtis, labor..... | 12 95 | |
| N. L. Prescott, labor..... | 34 50 | |
| John Dinsmore, labor..... | 39 75 | |
| Charles Melvin, labor..... | 24 50 | |
| Luther Lawton, labor..... | 9 75 | |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 33 37 | |
| M. F. Downs, labor..... | 48 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$406 43 |

SEPTEMBER.

| | |
|---|---------|
| G. F. Millis, labor..... | \$ 1 00 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 35 25 |
| E. H. Holt, labor..... | 32 83 |
| Chas. Parker, labor..... | 35 21 |
| John Dinsmore, labor..... | 25 50 |
| Geo. Vaughn, labor..... | 22 59 |
| N. L. Prescott, labor..... | 32 25 |
| M. F. Downs, labor..... | 52 50 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 91 88 |
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | 14 72 |
| Abbot & Co., laying over bridge wall... | 25 96 |

 \$414 69

OCTOBER.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | \$45 00 |
| Team..... | 82 50 |
| Gravel..... | 8 75 |
| Charles Parker, labor..... | 37 33 |
| John Dinsmore, labor..... | 10 50 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 27 38 |
| E. H. Holt, labor..... | 31 88 |
| H. Parker, labor..... | 4 50 |
| M. F. Downs, labor..... | 58 50 |
| G. W. Heywood, gravel..... | 5 10 |
| A. Bunce, gravel..... | 3 90 |
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | 12 60 |

 \$327 94

NOVEMBER.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Eben Prescott, labor..... | \$ 2 75 |
| N. L. Prescott, labor..... | 31 88 |
| I. G. Hall, labor..... | 2 55 |
| Julian Wilkinson, labor..... | 4 50 |
| Joseph Whitney, labor..... | 17 10 |
| A. J. Blaisdell, labor..... | 1 45 |
| E. H. Holt, labor..... | 13 50 |
| M. F. Downs, labor..... | 42 00 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 30 00 |
| a man..... | 16 50 |

 \$162 23

DECEMBER.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| C. L. Howard, gravel..... | \$ 1 75 | |
| H. V. Hildreth, covering stone..... | 2 00 | |
| M. F. Downs, labor..... | 13 50 | |
| Joseph Whitney, labor..... | 7 50 | |
| N. L. Prescott, labor..... | 4 50 | |
| J. A. Fletcher, labor..... | 2 00 | |
| Town Farm, 5 $\frac{49}{200}$ tons hay..... | 73 43 | |
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | 16 56 | |
| S. L. Taylor, gravel..... | 60 | |
| | <hr/> | \$121 84 |

JANUARY.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|------------|
| N. L. Prescott, labor..... | \$10 50 | |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent..... | 33 75 | |
| John Connell, labor..... | 1 75 | |
| Joseph Coture, labor..... | 50 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck,..... | 2 00 | |
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | 16 09 | |
| S. Crossland, gravel..... | 4 05 | |
| Henry Gurney, gravel..... | 6 25 | |
| | <hr/> | \$74 89 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$3,569 27 |

EXPENDITURE BY DISTRICTS.

| | | |
|---------------------|----------|------------|
| District No. 1..... | \$437 47 | |
| 2..... | 346 38 | |
| 3..... | 368 74 | |
| 4..... | 308 38 | |
| 5..... | 397 05 | |
| 6..... | 315 47 | |
| 7..... | 328 37 | |
| 8..... | 319 30 | |
| 9..... | 321 25 | |
| 10..... | 426 86 | |
| | <hr/> | \$3,569 27 |

Ap propriation, \$3000.

Schedule of property belonging to town for use of Road Department: 2 horses, 1 set of heavy harnesses, 2 carts, 5 whiffletrees and chains, 1 evener and spreader, 2 spare horse collars, 1 wrench, 1 wagon jack. 3 chains, 1 stone lifter, 1 pair hand splices, 4 rakes, 5 old shovels, 2 new shovels, 1 manure fork, 1 hay fork, 2 plows, 10 blasting drills, 12 plug drill's, lot of shims and wedges, 1 bush snath, 2 bush scythes, 2 axes, 1 trimming saw, 2 halters, 2 lanterns, 1 oil can, 1 tool box, 3 large hoes, 3 picks, 4 iron bars, 1 pinch bar, 1 hand hammer, 2 striking hammers, 1 stone hammer, 1 curry comb, 2 horse brushes, 2 horse blankets, 2 surcingles, 1 stone drag, 2 yokes, 1 road scraper, 2 gravel screens, 2 drill spoons, 2 stone forks, 1 mattock, 1 2-horse sled, 1 pail, 1 post rammer, 1 post spoon, 1 post hole digger, lot of sewer pipe, 1 stone jigger, 1 ton of hay, 2 nose bags, 1 small hoe.

BREAKING ROADS.

These bills are those remaining unpaid when the town report was published last year, and are for the snow storms of November, 1898, and February, 1899.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

| | |
|--|----------|
| W. W. Johnson, Samuel L. Taylor, H. B. Read and others..... | \$205 54 |
|--|----------|

DISTRICT NO. 2.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| R. E. Redding and others..... | 69 90 |
|-------------------------------|-------|

DISTRICT NO. 3.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| S. H. Balch and others..... | 34 05 |
|-----------------------------|-------|

DISTRICT NO 4.

| | |
|--|--------|
| B. F. Day, S. B. Wright, J. T. Colburn, and others..... | 197 09 |
|--|--------|

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <u>8506 58</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|

| | | |
|---|----------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$506 58 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 5. | | |
| H. L. Nesmith, W. M. Vose, C. L. Adams and others..... | 83 15 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 6. | | |
| A. J. Blaisdell, A. H. Burnham, H. Kabelle and others..... | 59 11 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 7. | | |
| W. C. Edwards, S. W. Kimball, Felch Bros. and others..... | 176 31 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 8. | | |
| M. F. Downs, C. F. Shugrue and others | 244 10 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 9. | | |
| H. E. Gould and others..... | 88 95 | |
| DISTRICT NO. 10. | | |
| H. V. Hildreth, J. A. Healy and others.. | 34 00 | |
| | ----- | \$1,192 20 |

ESTIMATES FOR 1900-1901.

In making up these estimates for the amount of money asked for to be raised at the annual meeting, we have placed under the head of each department the amount that is asked for by that department.

SELECTMEN.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Highways..... | \$3,000 00 | |
| Town debt and charges..... | 4,000 00 | |
| Bank wall at Westford depot..... | 200 00 | |
| | ----- | \$7,200 00 |

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Support of poor..... | \$2,500 00 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$2,500 00 |

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|---|-------------------|------------|
| Support of schools..... | \$6,000 00 | |
| Tuition of high school scholars.. | 1,500 00 | |
| Text books and supplies for schools.... | 600 00 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$8,100 00 |

TRUSTEES OF J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | | |
|------------|-------------------|----------|
| Books..... | \$150 00 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$150 00 |

COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Public burial grounds..... | \$250 00 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$250 00 |
| | | <u> </u> |
| | | \$18,200 00 |

Number of orders, 457.

Total amount of orders, \$15,749.76.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,
 Selectmen of Westford.

LIST OF JURORS, 1900.

The following names will be reported at the Annual Meeting in March, to be placed in the jury box, subject to revision by the Town :

| NAMES. | OCCUPATIONS. |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Wayland F. Balch, | Farmer. |
| William H. H. Burbeck, | Laborer. |
| Arthur H. Burnham, | Farmer. |
| Quincy W. Day, | Farmer. |
| Clarence R. P. Decatur, | Farmer. |
| Frank C. Drew, | Farmer. |
| Elbert H. Flagg, | Farmer. |
| Joel A. Fletcher, | Farmer. |
| Charles H. Follansbee, | Clerk. |
| Elias Y. Grant, | Machinist. |
| Edwin E. Heywood, | Farmer. |
| Frank H. Hildreth, | Farmer. |
| Samuel M. Hutchins, | Farmer. |
| Melbourne F. Hutchins, | Farmer. |
| John J. Monahan, | Clerk. |
| Angus McDonald, | Farmer. |
| Elmer E. Nutting, | Machinist. |
| Charles E. Osgood, | Carpenter. |
| William H. Petherick, | Mill Hand. |
| Nathan Prescott, | Painter. |
| Reuben E. Redding, | Stable Keeper. |
| Charles N. Richardson, | Farmer. |
| Ossian V. Robey, | Carpenter. |
| T. Arthur E. Wilson, | Farmer. |
| Bradley V. Wright, | Farmer. |
| Walter C. Wright, | Grocer. |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

The Selectmen, under the law, act as the Board of Health. Wesley O. Hawkes and W. H. H. Burbeck were appointed agents for diseases and sanitary condition of the Town. Albert P. Richardson and John A. Healy were licensed as undertakers.

The Town for the past year has been very free from any epidemic, and only few scattering cases of contagious diseases were reported.

The number of deaths will be found in the Town Clerk's report.

The following table of contagious diseases is for the calendar year 1899:

| | Number. | Deaths. |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Measles. | 3 | — |
| Scarlet Fever. | 8 | — |
| Typhoid Fever. | 3 | — |
| | — | — |
| | 14 | — |

The following expense has occurred:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| W. H. Bennett, M. D., services | \$ 4 00 | |
| J. R. Draper, M. D., services | 5 00 | |
| 10 gals. wood alcohol | 10 00 | |
| 1 blank book | 20 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, services | 5 00 | |
| W. O. Hawkes, services | 5 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services | 20 00 | |
| | ———— | \$49 20 |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Board of Health.

REPORT OF CEMETERIES.

The Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds submit the following report:—

The greater part of the extra work has been done at the North Cemetery the past year. The face wall on the south side has been relaid, new capstone added, and the joints thoroughly pointed with cement.

The number of persons reported as contributing \$1.00 or more, that their lots at Fairview may receive special care, shows an increase over last year. The necessary labor has been done for the improvement of the avenues and grounds. The West Cemetery has received the least attention, as the expense at the North Cemetery was more than at first anticipated, but we felt it best to complete the wall with a proper capstone, which increased the expense materially. The trees set out to hide the old wall at the West Cemetery did not thrive as we hoped. The ensuing year we shall give more attention to this Cemetery, and shall make such improvements as may seem desirable.

The Trust Funds for Perpetual Care of Lots have increased in number this year, there being twelve at the present time, and it is very probable that several more will be added in a short time. For the benefit of any person desiring to establish such a fund, we would say that any sum not less than \$50, paid to the Commissioners or the Town Treasurer, is sufficient for the purpose. The Commissioners would recommend that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$250 for the care and improvement of the various Cemeteries the ensuing year.

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, Chairman,
NOAH PRESCOTT,
GEORGE T. DAY, Secretary.

Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

TRUST FUNDS HELD FOR CARE OF BURIAL LOTS.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Sally B. Burrill fund..... | \$100 00 |
| Mary A. Putnam fund..... | 100 00 |
| Samuel Horne fund..... | 50 00 |
| Clara M. Wiley fund..... | 100 00 |
| Joseph B. Griffin fund..... | 100 00 |
| Edwin D. Metcalf fund..... | 50 00 |
| Sarah S. Reed fund..... | 100 00 |
| C. & C. A. Hamlin fund..... | 100 00 |
| Varnum B. Wright fund..... | 25 00 |
| M. Hennessey fund..... | 50 00 |
| S. Richardson fund..... | 50 00 |
| James M. Parker fund..... | 50 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$875 00 |

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Appropriation for 1899..... | \$250 00 |
| Mrs. E. S. Abbot, Fairview, care of tomb..... | 10 00 |
| George E. H. Abbot, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Fred Ammission, lot 334, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. John Bailey, lots 51 and 52, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. John Baker, lot 330, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. W. F. Balch, lot 109, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edmund Barton, lots 40 and 41, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Joseph Bennett, lot 61, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Ai Bicknell, Bicknell and Whitney lots, Fairview.... | 2 00 |
| Edson G. Boynton, lot 333, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Augustus Bunce, lots 11 and 12, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| William Burnett, lot 37, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Sally B. Burrill fund, Fairview..... | 7 08 |
| Mrs. S. A. Butterfield, lot 344, and one in old ground | 2 00 |
| Mrs. J. T. Butterworth, lot 236, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Frank Calvert, lot 26, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John Carmichael, lot 68, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$291 08 |

| | |
|--|----------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$291 08 |
| John B. Carmichael, lot 345, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Clara P. Carkin, lots 145 and 338, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. William Carrick, lot 328, E. D..... | 8 00 |
| Wm. R. Carver, lots 106 and 107, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. John Caunter, lots 21 and 22, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Charles A. Chamberlin, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Edward Craven, lot 63, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. P. Cummings, lot 93, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| E. B. Currier, lot 266, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Miss Alice L. Davis, lot 10, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. C. Decatur, lot 268, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Albert W. Decatur, lot 64, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| C. S. Dodge, lots 165 and 166, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Mary E. Drew, lot 43, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. A. E. Dupee, lot 144, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Rachel Dupee, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| S. N. Eaton, lot 342, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Alonzo B. Falls, lot 62, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. A. M. Felch, lot 257, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Emily A. Fletcher, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| F. L. Fletcher, lot 83, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Julia A. Fletcher, lot 69, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John M. Fletcher, lot 76, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. W. Fletcher, lot 154, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. L. J. Fletcher, lot 92, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. B. Foote, lots 22 and 23, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| W. E. Frost, lot 17, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Louisa Garbett, lot 55, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| August Gardel, lot 368, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| L. S. Gilson, lots 60 and 75, W. D., and 320, E. D... | 3 00 |
| William Gower, lot 42, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. E. Green, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| John Greig, lot 14, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from J. B. Griffin fund..... | 5 86 |
| Mrs. Abby Hamlin, lot 366, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| George P. Hamlin, lot 111, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from C. and C. A. Hamlin fund, lots 56 and 57, E. D..... | 3 02 |
| Mrs. Alice A. Harris, lot 78, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| George E. Harris, lot 27, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| W. O. Hawkes, lot 112, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss C. E. Hewitt, lot 116, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Ellen Hildreth, lot 87 and one in Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <hr/> \$363 96 |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$363 96 |
| Miss Helen C. Hildreth, lot 115, W. D. | 1 00 |
| H. V. Hildreth, lots 42 and 43, W. D. | 2 00 |
| Frank Hindle, lot 336, E. D. | 1 00 |
| E. H. Holt, lot 39, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. G. F. Horne, lot 16, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Income from Samuel Horne fund. | 2 93 |
| Francis Hosmer, lot 325, E. D. | 5 00 |
| S. G. Humiston, lot 142, E. D. | 1 00 |
| G. W. Hunt, lot 341, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Miss A. L. Johnson, lot 60, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Samuel A. Kyle, lot 369, E. D. | 5 00 |
| Mrs. J. H. Laws, lot 114, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Miss R. E. Luce, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Income from E. D. Metcalf fund. | 3 04 |
| George F. Millis, lot 57, W. D. | 1 00 |
| George C. Moore, lot 343, E. D. | 2 00 |
| Miss Laura E. Mace, lot 30, E. D. | 1 00 |
| F. Morton, lot 331, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary Morse, lot 58, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Abram Orange, lot 48, E. D. | 1 00 |
| J. M. Osgood, lot 6, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Lewis P. Palmer, lots 31 and 32, E. D. | 2 00 |
| Mrs. H. S. Parker, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Parker and Buxton, lot 365, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Income from J. M. Parker fund. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. M. A. Parker, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| William Petherrick, lot 339, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Miss Harriet Precious, lot 47, E. D. | 5 00 |
| Edward Prescott, lot 25, W. D. | 1 00 |
| William Prinn, lot 67, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Income from Mary A. Putnam fund, North Cemetery | 9 36 |
| George G. Reed, lot 70, W. D. | 1 00 |
| J. H. Read, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Income from Sarah S. Reed fund, West Cemetery. . . | 6 12 |
| Mrs. Anna Richardson, lot 74, W. D. | 1 00 |
| M. T. Richardson, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. F. K. Ripley, lot 2, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Nancy Sargent, lot 59, W. D. | 5 00 |
| William Saville, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Estate of E. Mary Schellenger, lot 227, E. D. | 5 00 |
| Mrs. George Scrutton, lot 375, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Frank Shaw, lot 65, W. D. | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$446 41 |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$446 41 |
| Miss M. Shaw, lot 355, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Miss Clara Smith, lot 95, W. D. | 1 00 |
| J. F. Spaulding, lot 346, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Richard Stancombe, lot 340, E. D. | 1 00 |
| F. O. Stiles, lot 41, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Thomas Symmes, Fairview. | 2 00 |
| S. L. Taylor, lot 101, and one in Fairview. | 2 00 |
| Mrs. S. H. Trumbull, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| J. A. Walkden, lot 15, E. D. | 1 00 |
| William Welch, lot 18, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Isaac G. Wheeler, lot 105, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary J. Wheeler, lot 77, W. D. | 2 00 |
| A. F. Whidden, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| C. E. Whidden, Whiting lot, Fairview. | 2 00 |
| William Whigham, lot 54, E. D. | 1 00 |
| E. J. Whitney, lots 28 and 29, E. D. | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Hiram Whitney, lot 100, W. D. | 1 00 |
| J. H. Whitney, lot 36, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Wm. M. Whitney, lot 21, W. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Wm. M. Whitney, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Income from the C. M. Wiley fund, Fairview. | 6 12 |
| L. E. Wilkins, lot 88, W. D. | 1 00 |
| William Willis, lot 20, W. D. | 1 00 |
| W. T. Willis, lot 19, E. D. | 1 00 |
| John Wilson, lot 146, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary A. Wood, lot 53, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Myron J. Wood, lot 155, E. D. | 1 00 |
| William L. Woods, lot 148, E. D. | 1 00 |
| A. A. Wright, lot 34, W. D. | 1 00 |
| F. C. Wright, lot 59, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Gilman J. Wright, lots 28 and 29, W. D. | 2 00 |
| G. P. Wright, lot 25, E. D. | 1 00 |
| Hammett D. Wright, V. B. Wright lot, Fairview. | 1 00 |
| Income from V. B. Wright fund. | 50 |
| N. H. Wright, lots 46 and 47, W. D. | 2 00 |
| W. M. Wright, lot 24, E. D. | 1 00 |
| W. W. Wyman, lot 376, E. D. | 1 00 |

 \$495 03

EXPENSES.

Fairview:—

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Paid J. H. O'Brien for 8 cords manure | \$28 00 | |
| J. H. O'Brien for teaming same... | 8 00 | |
| B. & M. R. R. freight..... | 10 44 | |
| For one lawn mower..... | 3 00 | |
| For grass seed..... | 1 50 | |
| For one lawn rake..... | 50 | |
| For perpetual care markers..... | 10 80 | |
| For freight on same..... | 1 00 | |
| For one wheelbarrow..... | 3 75 | |
| For postage, etc | 5 05 | |
| A. P. Richardson and others for labor | 224 86 | |
| | <hr/> | \$296 90 |

North Cemetery:—

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Paid Charles Farrow for laying over face wall | \$89 00 | |
| Coture & Ward for 246 feet stone capping | 49 20 | |
| W. W. Johnson for teaming same. | 13 00 | |
| For two barrels cement..... | 4 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck for labor..... | 2 50 | |
| B. F. Nutting for labor in 1898.... | 15 00 | |
| B. F. Nutting for labor in 1899.... | 10 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$182 70 |

West Cemetery:—

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Paid H. W. Tarbell for labor..... | \$5 25 | |
| J. T. Colburn for labor..... | 7 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck for labor..... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$17 25 |

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Expenses | | \$496 85 |
| Amount of money received..... | \$495 03 | |
| Unexpended balance reported 1898..... | 93 | |
| Credit by outstanding claim deducted in 1898..... | 13 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$508 96 |

Amount expended

496 85

Amount unexpended

\$12 11

In the hands of Commissioners (received
of A. P. Richardson).....

\$4 62

Balance in Town Treasury.....

7 49

Credit by outstanding claim 1898.....

\$12 11

13 00

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

RECEIPTS AT TOWN FARM.

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|--|
| Received for Milk..... | \$709 77 | |
| Cranberries..... | 11 85 | |
| Pork..... | 24 74 | |
| Old Lumber..... | 3 50 | |
| Calves..... | 19 75 | |
| Rent from J. Wilkinson ... | 10 00 | |
| Vegetables..... | 2 76 | |
| Wood..... | 11 00 | |
| Board of T. Carney..... | 108 00 | |
| Cows and Bull..... | 95 00 | |
| Keeping Prisoners..... | 2 50 | |
| Breaking Roads..... | 32 40 | |
| Eggs..... | 8 45 | |
| Hay..... | 198 87 | |
| Sundries..... | 10 40 | |
| | \$1,248 99 | |

PAYMENTS AT TOWN FARM.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Paid S. H. Balch salary from April 1, 1898, to January 1, 1900..... | \$787 50 |
| Paid for Grain..... | 451 60 |
| Groceries..... | 410 12 |
| Labor..... | 386 90 |
| Cows..... | 140 00 |
| Meat..... | 120 23 |
| Fish..... | 28 00 |
| Coal..... | 30 86 |
| Pigs..... | 6 00 |
| Plumbing.... | 20 03 |
| Express and Freight..... | 7 94 |
| Stoves..... | 33 95 |
| Dry Goods..... | 14 09 |
| Sundries..... | 22 24 |
| Medicines.... | 6 55 |

Amount brought forward

\$2,466 01

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$2,466 01 | |
| Snow bills..... | 22 50 | |
| Blacksmith..... | 24 88 | |
| Car Fare..... | 7 45 | |
| Repairing harnesses..... | 4 10 | |
| Fertilizer..... | 16 50 | |
| Bull..... | 18 00 | |
| Tobacco..... | 20 75 | |
| Lowell Journal, two years..... | 3 00 | |
| Ice..... | 13 47 | |
| Grass Seed..... | 5 00 | |
| Hardware..... | 1 75 | |
| Pasturage..... | 4 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,607 41 |
| Lumber, Gregg & Son.... | \$40 37 | |
| Freight..... | 5 10 | |
| Lumber, Amasa Pratt & Co... | 12 50 | |
| Hardware, C. E. Adams & Co. | 10 48 | |
| Blinds, Kendall, Hadley & Co.. | 15 30 | |
| Lumber..... | 87 57 | |
| Lime..... | 3 80 | |
| Hose..... | 8 00 | |
| Paints and oils..... | 36 39 | |
| Hardware..... | 13 37 | |
| Gravel roof for shed..... | 36 78 | |
| Outside windows..... | 4 80 | |
| Wall paper..... | 7 42 | |
| Balance on plumber's contract.. | 22 81 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| Total payments on account of building appropriation..... | | \$304 69 |
| Paid for Water pipe..... | \$96 06 | |
| Labor..... | 40 00 | |
| Freight..... | 1 53 | |
| Plumbing..... | 53 42 | |
| Use of sewer pump, Abbott & Co..... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| Total payments on account of water supply..... | | \$196 01 |
| Total payments at Farm..... | | \$3,108 11 |

EXPENSE OF POOR, OUTSIDE ALMSHOUSE.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Paid Hospital bills of Caunter, Reed, Lord, Quinn, Whitcomb, Wood- ward, Keyes and Raymond.... | \$1,194 67 |
| Burial expenses of A. H. Wood- ward..... | 26 50 |
| W. H. Bennett, M. D., medi- cal aid to J. Wilkinson family | \$16 50 |
| Inmates of almshouse... | 2 50 |
| Mrs. Louisa Leland.... | 6 00 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., medi- cal aid to Mrs. Mary Whitney | 33 10 |
| Dugdale family | 54 20 |
| Caron family..... | 20 00 |
| J. R. Draper, M. D., medi- cal aid to Wilkinson family.... .. | 3 00 |
| Fred Caron..... | 16 00 |
| F. E. Varney, M. D., medi- cal aid to Jennie Lashen | 20 00 |
| | <hr/> 171 30 |
| R. E. Redding, wood for Mrs. Louisa Leland | 5 00 |
| For copies of Leland deed and di- vorce record | 1 85 |
| Medicine for Mrs. Louisa Leland... | 2 55 |
| Wright & Fletcher, for groceries for Mrs. Louisa Leland..... | 52 00 |
| W. W. Parker | 6 00 |
| Rose Caron..... | 30 00 |
| J. D. Wilkinson | 32 00 |
| H. B. Hall, for groceries for Rose Caron..... | 4 00 |
| Town of Ayer, aid rendered Chas. Richards..... | 14 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | \$1,539 87 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$1,539 87 |
| Town of Tyngsboro, aid rendered D. H. Peabody..... | 42 15 |
| Town of Watertown, aid rendered Chas. Hall..... | 2 00 |
| City of Chelsea, aid rendered Alfred French..... | 8 75 |
| City of Lowell, aid rendered Mar- garet Casey | 22 50 |
| City of Boston, aid rendered Harriet Whipple | 6 80 |
| J. A. Healey, wood for J. Wilkinson | 3 75 |
| Mrs. Fifield, nurse for Lizzie Hough- ton..... | 8 00 |
| F. W. Edwards, services in Story case..... | 4 00 |
| One copy "Settlement Laws of Mas- sachusetts"..... | 2 12 |
| L. W. Wheeler, salary..... | 10 00 |
| Making out report to town..... | 5 00 |
| Extra time and expense as Over- seer of Poor..... | 25 00 |
| C. R. DeCatur, salary..... | 10 00 |
| Extra time and expenses as Over- seer of Poor..... | 8 00 |
| A. R. Choate, salary..... | 10 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total expense of poor outside almshouse. | \$1,707 94 |
| Credit by cash received as below..... | 445 39 |
| | <hr/> |
| Net cost of aid to poor outside almshouse | \$1,262 55 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Due from State on account of | | |
| Caron family..... | \$15 00 | |
| City of Lowell on account of | | |
| Dugdale family..... | 42 25 | |
| Received from Thos. Quinn, on account | | |
| of Mary Quinn..... | \$169 00 | |
| City of Lowell on account | | |
| of Jane Dugdale.... | 52 70 | |
| State Treasurer on ac- | | |
| count of Leroy Rich- | | |
| ardson..... | 17 04 | |
| Jennie Lashen | 20 00 | |
| Caron family..... | 55 00 | |
| Town of Pepperell on ac- | | |
| count of W. W. Par- | | |
| ker..... | 6 00 | |
| City of Boston on account | | |
| of Lizzie Houghton. | 17 65 | |
| John Green for board.... | 108 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$445 39 |

STATEMENT.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Cash received from Town Treasurer.... | \$3,111 70 | |
| For building appro- | | |
| priation | 304 96 | |
| sale of materials, see | | |
| last town report | 2 00 | |
| Income of Farm.... | 1,248 99 | |
| In hands of Supt. of Farm Feb. 1, 1899 | 158 60 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4,826 25 |
| Expense of poor outside Almshouse..... | \$1,707 94 | |
| Total payments at Farm..... | 3,108 11 | |
| Cash in hands of Supt. of Farm Feb. 1, | | |
| 1900 | 10 20 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4,826 25 |
| Cash in hands of Supt. Feb. 1, | | |
| 1899..... | \$ 158 60 | |
| Drawn by order of Over- | | |
| seers for Farm..... | 1,405 76 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | \$1,564 36 |

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward ..</i> | \$1,564 36 | |
| On account of building ap- propriation including balance from last year | 304 96 | |
| Received from sale of material | 2 00 | |
| | ----- | \$1,871 32 |
| Cash in hands of Supt. Feb. 1, 1900 | \$ 10 20 | |
| Expended on construction and water..... | 500 70 | |
| | ----- | 510 90 |
| Net expense of poor at Farm..... | | \$1,360 42 |
| Outside Almshouse. | | 1,262 55 |
| | | ----- |
| Net expense of poor..... | | \$2,622 97 |
| Cash received from Town Treasurer | | \$3,111 70 |
| Reimbursements in hands of Town Treas. | | 445 39 |
| | | ----- |
| Net draft from Treasury..... | | \$2,666 31 |

INMATES OF ALMSHOUSE, FEB. 1, 1900.

| | Age. |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Caroline A. Perham..... | 75 |
| John P. Green..... | 80 |
| Edward E. Holt..... | 85 |
| Joseph D. Wilkinson..... | 81 |
| Thomas Carney..... | about 89 |
| Margaret O'Brine | about 66 |
| Catherine O'Toole..... | 100 |

Whole number supported at Almshouse, 8.

Number of tramps lodged at Almshouse, 357.

The new ell for the Almshouse has been finished during the past year. A woodshed and an ice house have been built, mainly from lumber from the old ell. There remained from last year's appropriation \$6.96. An additional appropriation of \$300 was made for materials for above-mentioned work. There has been expended thereon \$304.69.

We found that running water could be put in the Almshouse while this work was in progress, cheaper than later. Therefore we

have expended for this purpose \$196.01. This places the buildings in good condition, save for lack of an adequate heating apparatus.

We considered it for the interest of the Town to pay the Superintendent of the Almshouse quarterly instead of annually, as has been done. This makes an unusually large expenditure on this account for this year.

In behalf of the Town, under the authority given us by Chap. 113, Acts of 1882, we have instituted legal proceedings against Mrs. Louisa Leland, whereby the Town has received judgment for expenditures on account of Mrs. Leland to the amount of \$393.68, with costs of \$16.81—total, \$410.49.

SCHEDULE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT ALMSHOUSE, FEB. 3, 1900.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| 11 cows..... | \$525 00 |
| 2 horses..... | 150 00 |
| 1 bull..... | 25 00 |
| 15 tons English hay..... | 270 00 |
| 10 tons stock hay..... | 130 00 |
| 15 tons ensilage..... | 75 00 |
| Grain in barn..... | 47 00 |
| 1 mowing machine..... | 20 00 |
| Wagons..... | 185 00 |
| Sleds..... | 37 75 |
| Sleighs..... | 30 00 |
| 1 hay tedder..... | 25 00 |
| 1 two-horse dump cart..... | 60 00 |
| 1 wheel harrow..... | 10 00 |
| 1 ensilage cutter..... | 8 00 |
| 1 harrow, spike tooth..... | 12 00 |
| Hay fork and gear..... | 30 00 |
| 3 shoats..... | 6 00 |
| Harnesses..... | 75 00 |
| 75 fowls..... | 30 00 |
| Balance in barn and outbuildings.... | 420 30 |

————— \$2,171 05

PERSONAL PROPERTY AT HOUSE.

| | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 2 | bbls. flour..... | 9 | 00 |
| 200 | lbs. granulated sugar | 12 | 00 |
| 1½ | bbls. pork..... | 21 | 00 |
| | Vinegar, stock and barrels..... | 60 | 00 |
| 50 | bushels potatoes..... | 37 | 00 |
| 50 | lbs. butter..... | 14 | 00 |
| | Vegetables..... | 4 | 00 |
| | Balance personal property at house.. | 712 | 87 |

 \$869 37

 \$3,040 42

JOHN M. FLETCHER,
 J. W. FLETCHER,
 F. C. HILDRETH,

Appraisers of property at Town Farm.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer of Westford submits the following report:

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| To cash on hand..... | \$ 1,489 62 |
| To cash borrowed..... | 20,000 00 |
| From State corporation tax, balance of 1898..... | 998 49 |
| State corporation tax, of 1899..... | 2,955 05 |
| Bank tax..... | 649 51 |
| Soldiers' families, 1898..... | 893 00 |
| Indigent soldiers, 1898..... | 105 00 |
| Income Massachusetts School Fund..... | 359 18 |
| Armory rent..... | 175 00 |
| County Treasurer, dog licenses..... | 289 84 |
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor Town Hall..... | 111 50 |
| Burial of indigent soldiers..... | 35 00 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1894... | 4 50 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1895... | 92 46 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1896.. | 224 74 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1897... | 645 95 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector of Taxes, 1898... | 1,478 14 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax, 1894..... | 1 48 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax, 1895..... | 73 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax, 1896..... | 35 24 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax, 1897..... | 39 44 |
| Walter C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax, 1898..... | 52 32 |
| Arthur L. Prior, Collector of Taxes, before Nov. 1, 1899..... | 14,976 39 |
| Arthur L. Prior, Collector of Taxes, before Dec. 1, 1899..... | 614 06 |
| Arthur L. Prior, Collector of Taxes, after Dec. 1, 1899..... | 1,347 02 |
| Arthur L. Prior, Collector of Taxes, interest.. | 4 06 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <i>\$47,577 72</i> |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$47,577 72 |
| Income library funds..... | 76 48 |
| Florence H. Read, school supplies sold..... | 10 46 |
| State, on account of Supt. of Schools..... | 625 00 |
| City of Lowell, on account of paupers..... | 52 70 |
| City of Boston, on account of paupers..... | 17 05 |
| State, on account of paupers..... | 92 04 |
| Alvan Fisher, auctioneer's license..... | 2 00 |
| Marry F. Nutting, license No. 302..... | 8 00 |
| Henry J. Healey, pool room license..... | 2 00 |
| Joe Wall, auctioneer's license..... | 2 00 |
| Thomas V. Quinn, board of wife..... | 169 00 |
| J. H. Read, board of John Green..... | 108 00 |
| S. L. Taylor, wood alcohol..... | 1 87 |
| Mrs. Gates Lockhart..... | 5 38 |
| Richard Prescott, old harnesses..... | 6 00 |
| Town of Leominster, refunded..... | 35 00 |
| Kate S. Hamlin, wood alcohol..... | 50 |
| Noah Prescott, drain pipe..... | 2 81 |
| Town of Pepperell, on account of paupers.... | 6 00 |
| Fred Smith, old iron..... | 4 50 |
| Refunded from Overseers..... | 6 00 |
| Gilbert & Barker Mfg. Co., gasoline barrels.. | 1 90 |
| Clerk First District Court, Ayer..... | 55 86 |
| N. H. Wright, gravel..... | 13 75 |
| Refunded on account of board of insane..... | 169 46 |
| Mrs. L. L. Tappan, gift to Library..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Richmond, gift to Library..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. T. H. Elliott, gift to Library..... | 1 50 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$49,057 58 |

PAYMENTS.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| By cash, notes and interest..... | \$19,178 13 |
| State tax..... | 795 00 |
| County tax..... | 1,436 51 |
| Overseers of Poor..... | 3,287 16 |
| Orders for incidental expenses..... | 12,462 60 |
| On account of schools..... | 6,712 32 |
| On account of tuition, Academy..... | 1,500 00 |
| On account of Library..... | 622 34 |
| Cash on hand..... | 3,063 52 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$49,057 58 |

NAHUM H. WRIGHT, Treasurer.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

Gentlemen of the Board of Selectmen :

According to custom at this time, and in compliance with the duties of Auditor, the undersigned, having duly presented sundry statements in relation to taxes for the year 1899, and having also made a careful examination of the accounts in all departments of finance for the year ending February 28, 1900, would submit herewith a complete report.

TAXES.

The amount of taxes assessed on the polls and on the real and personal estate, within the Town of Westford, for the year 1899, and as presented to you July 15, was as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Number of polls, 681, at \$2 each..... | \$ 1,362 00 |
| Tax on personal property..... | 3,430 03 |
| Tax on real estate | 16,096 63 |
| Total | \$20,888 66 |
| Taxes added since July 15..... | 53 36 |
| Total tax levy for 1899..... | \$20,942 02 |

UNCOLLECTED TAXES.

| Year. | Collector. | Amount Due and as Reported March 1, 1899. | Interest Collected since March 1, 1899. | Total. | Amount Collected, including Interest and Abatements, since March 1, 1899. | Amount Due March 1, 1900. |
|---|------------------|---|---|--------|---|---------------------------|
| 1894 | Walter C. Wright | \$ 8 46 | ..... | ..... | \$ 4 50 | \$ 3 96 |
| 1895 | Walter C. Wright | 103 84 | ..... | ..... | 103 84 | ..... |
| 1896 | Walter C. Wright | 291 33 | ..... | ..... | 233 86 | 57 47 |
| 1897 | Walter C. Wright | 908 41 | ..... | ..... | 688 01 | 220 40 |
| 1898 | Walter C. Wright | 2,870 84 | ..... | ..... | 1,584 55 | 1,286 29 |
| Total amount of uncollected taxes, 1894-8..... | | | | | | \$1,568 12 |

| | | |
|--|-------------|--------------------------|
| Auditor debits A. L. Prior with the total tax levy for 1899, which was | | \$20,942 02 |
| For interest collected since January 1, 1900 (taxes of 1899)..... | | 4 06 |
| Total | | <u>\$20,946 08</u> |
| And credits for amounts as follows : | | |
| Actual amount collected October 1..... | \$14,976 39 | |
| Five per cent. discount allowed tax payers on taxes paid on or before October 1 | 788 23 | |
| Actual amount collected December 1.... | 614 06 | |
| Three per cent. discount allowed tax payers on taxes paid on or before December 1..... | 18 99 | |
| Amount collected between December 1, 1899, and February 16, 1900 | 1,347 02 | |
| Interest | 4 06 | |
| Rebate of taxes and taxes ordered as errors | 35 41 | |
| | | <u>17,784 16</u> |
| Residue of uncollected taxes, 1899..... | | <u><u>\$3,161 92</u></u> |

RECAPITULATION.

| | | |
|---|----|--------------------------|
| Uncollected taxes, 1894..... | \$ | 3 96 |
| 1896 | | 57 47 |
| 1897..... | | 220 40 |
| 1898..... | | 1,286 29 |
| 1899..... | | 3,161 92 |
| Total amount of uncollected taxes March 1, 1900.... | | <u><u>\$4,730 04</u></u> |

TOWN CLERK.

Number of dogs licensed :

| | | |
|--|--|------------------------|
| 142 at \$2.00 each..... | | \$284 00 |
| 9 at 5 00 each..... | | 45 00 |
| Total amount of license fees..... | | <u>\$329 00</u> |
| Clerk's fees, 151 at 20 cents each..... | | 30 20 |
| Balance paid to County Treasurer and receipted for by him..... | | <u><u>\$298 80</u></u> |

Two hundred eighty-nine and eighty-four hundredths dollars (\$289.84) of the dog license money has been refunded and passed to the library account.

SELECTMEN.

Proper vouchers were found for each and every one of the 457 drafts (orders) drawn by the Selectmen on the Town Treasurer.

Total amount of orders was fifteen thousand seven hundred forty-nine and seventy-six hundredths dollars (\$15,749 76).

MASTER OF ALMSHOUSE.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Receipts from all sources for the year ending February 28, 1900, including the cash on hand March 1, 1899, was..... | \$2,815 49 |
| Expenditures for the year ending February 28, 1900.. | <u>2,805 29</u> |
| Cash on hand March 1, 1900..... | <u>\$10 20</u> |

S. H. BALCH IN ACCOUNT WITH TOWN OF WESTFORD, "NEW ANNEX" TO FARM BUILDINGS.

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Additional cash received from Town Treasurer, since February 28, 1899..... | \$304 96 |
| Amount cash unexpended February 1, 1899..... | <u>2 00</u> |
| Total | \$306 96 |
| Amount expended per vouchers..... | <u>306 96</u> |

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

L. W. Wheeler, Chairman.

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Receipts from all sources for the year ending February 28, 1900..... | \$3,111 70 |
| Expenditures for the year ending February 28, 1900.. | <u>3,111 70</u> |

TREASURER.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Receipts during the year ending February 28, 1900.. | \$47,567 96 |
| Expenditures during the year ending February 28, 1900 | <u>45,994 06</u> |
| Excess of receipts over expenditures..... | \$ 1,573 90 |
| Balance in the treasury March 1, 1899..... | <u>\$ 1,489 62</u> |

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Received into the treasury during the year ending February 28, 1900 | 47,567 96 |
| Making a total of..... | <u>\$49,057 58</u> |
| Amount paid from the treasury during the year ending February 28, 1900..... | 45,994 06 |
| Balance in the treasury March 1, 1900..... | <u><u>\$3,063 52</u></u> |

LIBRARY—NAHUM H. WRIGHT, TREASURER.

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Cash balance March 1, 1899..... | \$107 77 |
| Receipts during the year ending February 28, 1900.. | 571 82 |
| Total..... | <u>\$679 59</u> |
| Payments for the year ending February 28, 1900.... | 622 34 |
| Balance March 1, 1900..... | <u><u>\$57 25</u></u> |

FINANCIAL.

The financial condition of the Town March 1, 1900, was as follows:

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| State Treasurer, balance on account of new library building (original amount was \$5,000)..... | \$ 3,500 00 |
| Railroad National Bank, Lowell (balance of original note for \$20,000)..... | 12,000 00 |
| Five months' interest on \$12,000 at 3 1-4 per cent.... | 162 50 |
| Total | <u><u>\$15,662 50</u></u> |

ASSETS.

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Due from State on account of soldiers' families | \$1,043 50 |
| Due from military aid on account of indigent soldiers..... | 30 00 |
| On account of burial of soldiers. | 140 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <u><u>\$1,213 50</u></u> |

| | | |
|---|------------|------------------------|
| <i>Amounts brought forward</i> | \$1,213 50 | \$15,662 50 |
| Taxes of 1894 remaining uncollected..... | 3 96 | |
| Taxes of 1896 remaining uncollected..... | 57 47 | |
| Taxes of 1897 remaining uncollected..... | 220 40 | |
| Taxes of 1898 remaining uncollected..... | 1,286 29 | |
| Taxes of 1899 remaining uncollected..... | 3,161 92 | |
| Balance of cash in the treasury..... | 3,063 52 | |
| Balance of cash in the hands of the Master of the Almshouse..... | 10 20 | |
| Balance of cash—Library fund..... | 57 25 | |
| School money—balance unexpended..... | 272 17 | |
| | <hr/> | 9,346 68 |
| Balance against the Town..... | | <hr/> <hr/> \$6 315 82 |
| Deficit March 1, 1899, was \$5,981.27. | | |

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR B. PLIMPTON.

Graniteville, March 1, 1900.

LIBRARY REPORT.

The Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library respectfully submit the following report for the year ending March 1, 1900:—

The Librarian's record shows that 13,264 volumes circulated during the year, of which number 3,611 volumes went to Graniteville and Forge Village.

On Monday, December 18, 1899, the Hon. J. Varnum Fletcher, of Belmont, Mass., passed away—within three years of reaching the venerable limit of four-score years and ten. To praise justly, and to approve wisely, is never an easy task. But the labor is always lightened when honesty and honor combine with public spirit and generosity to dedicate their service to the common weal. Our Town has been as fortunate in its sons as they have been honorable and generous to her. It is but four years since we were struggling in narrow and inadequate quarters. Since that short time all has been changed. Private generosity and public spirit have been the means to the greater utility and beauty of our Library Building. To the mere passer-by, who halts and admires, surely to those who know the value of its contents, it will not be hard to grant a willing approval and bestow a just praise upon those who have created and added this usefulness and beauty: J. Varnum Fletcher, donor of the building; Augustus K. Fletcher, Stephen S. Stone, with funds of \$1000 each, and Charles Henry Prescott, to whom we owe the beautiful casts, and others. At a meeting of the Trustees on Tuesday, December 19th, it was moved and decided to close the Library on the following Wednesday, and that the Trustees attend the funeral service. The following resolutions were then reported and adopted:—

Whereas, the Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library have learned with sorrow of the death of J. Varnum Fletcher, at Belmont, Mass.,

Resolved, That in his death our Town has lost a loyal and devoted son; a man high-minded and honorable in private and

public life. His career and activity have been an inspiration to our youth. The simple story of his own steps on the road of duty and helpfulness will make manhood nobler, raise its ambitions and dignify life and action in the State, and in the home. He left us much—the mark of beauty; he did much—the mark of character; he was much—the mark of a soul.

Resolved, That these resolutions be recorded, and that a copy of the same be sent to the bereaved family, to whom in their loss the sympathy of our community is hereby tendered.

WM. E. FROST,
KATHARINE KEBLER,
LOUIS H. BUCKSHORN, Secretary.

The hope that the back files of our magazines might be supplied, has been well responded to. Among the list of contributors the two largest were Mr. Edward Craven, sending twelve bound volumes of the Century, and Mr. Augustus Bunce, twenty-four volumes of Harper's Monthly. While the gift list makes out quite a gain, it would strengthen the Library to complete the back files. The balance in the treasury is reserved for binding this year's magazines.

As a member of the Massachusetts Art Library Club, your library has had on exhibition photographic views of Venice, Southern Pacific R. R., the great collection of the Sella Alpine Views, Rutland R. R., Newfoundland, Sodeiholtz Prints, and Mrs. E. Abbot's views of Colorado.

Colored crayon portraits of the Secretary of the Navy, the Hon. John D. Long, and Rev. E. A. Horton have been placed, temporarily, in the Library. Their final destination is the Westford Academy, and are the gift of Mr. Allan Cameron, Sr.

Miss Carrie E. Read, Librarian, after a service of eleven years, has handed in her resignation. It is to take effect on April 1st. The Trustees and patrons are very sorry to accept Miss Read's resignation. She has been an efficient and painstaking public servant. Your Trustees have appointed Miss Mary P.

Bunce to fill the vacancy, with the strong assurance of the best of care and work.

There are two needs to which our Library looks forward to being supplied:—

1. Re-classification, on the Dewey system, now used by almost every library, and indispensable.

2. Card Catalogue, which shall keep on easy public record the books on hand, and those purchased from time to time. This will do away with the fragmentary printed catalogue, simpler and less expensive when established.

The time for the printing of the catalogue is on hand. If the cost of this cataloguing and printing be expended for the second item, with the adoption of the Dewey system, we shall have a permanent catalogue, to which need only be added the expense of the blank cards from year to year for the new books. Westford's generous sons and daughters, by their means and strength, began this beautiful enterprise, and it is to them and their successors that the board looks for its further useful and strengthened service.

A list of gifts is appended.

We recommend that the sum of \$150 be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year.

WM. E. FROST, Chairman,
KATHARINE KEBLER,
LOUIS H. BUCKSHORN, Secretary.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Balance on hand..... | \$107 77 |
| Shoe and Leather Bank, dividends..... | 10 00 |
| Lowell Mfg. Co., dividends..... | 25 00 |
| City Institution for Savings, dividends..... | 40 00 |
| Merrimack River Savings Bank, dividends..... | 1 48 |
| Appropriation | 200 00 |
| Dog licenses..... | 289 84 |
| Mrs L. L. Tappan, gift..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Richmond, gift..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. T. H. Elliott, gift..... | 1 50 |

 \$679 59

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Willard Small, books..... | \$452 34 |
| Wright & Fletcher, periodicals..... | 51 97 |
| F. J. Barnard & Co., rebinding books..... | 81 63 |
| D. Appleton & Co., Desmond Pub. Co., W. B. Clarke & Co., and others, subscription books..... | 31 40 |
| Library Art Club..... | 5 00 |

 \$622 34

Balance \$57 25

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

| | |
|---|---------|
| Number of books purchased..... | 343 |
| Number of books presented..... | 21 |
| Public documents received from State..... | 26 |
| Public documents received from United States..... | 56 |
| Magazines bound..... | 87 |
| Whole number added during year..... | 535 |
| Whole number of books in Library..... | 10,655 |
| Number of books lost..... | 3 |
| Number of books discarded..... | 30 |
| Number of books bought to replace worn-out copies.. | 2 |
| Number of books loaned..... | 13,265 |
| Number of pamphlets added..... | 132 |
| Cash on hand from last year..... | \$ 1 77 |
| Fines | 11 40 |

 \$13 17

Paid for supplies..... 9 51

 Balance \$3 66

GIFTS IN 1899.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----------|
| F. A. Fisher | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | volume |
| Rev. Dr. Furness, Heirs of | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | " |
| City of Boston | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | " |
| Edward Craven, (Century, bound) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 12 | " |
| Capt. Frank H. Whitcomb, Acton | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | " |
| Robert P. Clapp, Lexington | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | " |
| William Hichborn, Charlestown | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | " |
| Mass. Volunteer Aid Association | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | " |
| Luke Blanchard, W. Acton | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | " |
| M. J. Savage | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | " |
| C. C. Willoughby, Cambridge | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | pamphlet |
| Mrs. G. T. Day | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | " |
| J. M. Fletcher | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 | " |

S. H. Fletcher, 50 Old Farmers' Almanacs.

Mrs. G. T. Day, 4 volumes Scribner's Magazine, 6 volumes St. Nicholas, unbound.

Augustus Bunce, 24 volumes Harper's Monthly, unbound.

Mrs. L. L. Tappan, \$2.00.

Miss Richmond, \$2.00.

Mrs. T. H. Elliott, \$1.50.

Charles Henry Prescott, Still River. 3 busts, 1 bas relief.

Magazines—Union Signal, Our Message, Elliott's Magazine, Land of Sunshine, Paradise of the Pacific.

Magazines constantly on file in Reading Room—Harper's, Century, Scribner's, Forum, North American Review, Atlantic, Bookman, Popular Science Monthly, Cosmopolitan, Review of Reviews, Littell's Living Age, McClure, St. Nicholas, Munsey, New England, Bird's Good Housekeeping, Harper's Weekly, Leslie's Weekly, Scientific American.

LIST OF BOOKS

Added to the Library during the Financial Year 1899-1900.

A

| | |
|---|---------|
| Acts and Resolves of Massachusetts, 1804-5..... | 672 |
| Acts and Resolves of Massachusetts, 1899..... | 671 |
| Agriculture of Massachusetts, 1898..... | 673 |
| Census of Massachusetts, 1895, Vols. III and IV.... | 677-8 |
| Education, Report of Board, 1897-8..... | 657 |
| Hatch Experiment Station, Report, 1897..... | 679 |
| Journal of the House of Representatives, 1899..... | 676 |
| Journal of the Senate, 1899..... | 675 |
| Manual of the General Court, 1899..... | 654 |
| Massachusetts Public Documents, 1897. 12 vols.... | 659-670 |
| Massachusetts Reports, Vols. 171 and 172..... | 655-6 |
| Public Library Commission of Massachusetts, 1899.. | 658 |
| Soldiers and Sailors of Revolutionary War. Vol. V.. | 674 |

B

| | |
|--|---------|
| Census of United States, 1880. 2 vols..... | 886-7 |
| Civil Service Commission, 1897-8..... | 862 |
| Coast and Geodetic Survey, Report, 1897..... | 857 |
| Commerce and Navigation of United States, 1898... | 855 |
| Commercial Nomenclature, 1894. 2 vols..... | 873-4 |
| Commercial Relations of United States, 1898. 2 vols.. | 863-4 |
| Education, Report of Commissioner, 1897-8. 2 vols.. | 865-6 |
| Finance Reports, 1879, 1881. 2 vols..... | 884-5 |
| Fur-Seal and Other Fisheries of Alaska, 1889..... | 895 |
| Internal Revenue, Report of Commissioner, 1899.... | 902 |
| Introduction of Domestic Reindeer into Alaska, 1898. Sheldon Jackson..... | 904 |
| Magnetism of Ships and Deviations of the Compass, 1867..... | 903 |
| Messages and Papers of the Presidents, 1789-1897. 4 vols..... | 858-61 |
| Military Laws of United States, 1897..... | 888 |
| Ordnance, Report of Chief, 1881-2, 1891. 3 vols.... | 890-2 |
| Ordnance, Report of Chief, Index, 1867-87..... | 893 |
| Paris Universal Exposition, 1878. 4 vols..... | 870-73 |
| Patent Office Reports, 1847-55-59. 5 vols..... | 896-901 |
| Prize Cases, New York, 1861-65..... | 894 |
| Public Health Reports. Vol. 13..... | 856 |
| Signal Officer Report, 1879-81. 3 vols..... | 867-9 |

| | |
|--|--------|
| Smithsonian Institution, Annual Report, 1896. | 849 |
| Smithsonian Institution, Annual Report U. S. National Museum, 1896-7. 2 vols. | 850-1 |
| Smithsonian Institution, Annual Report Board of Regents, 1897 | 852 |
| Statistical Abstract of United States, 1898. | 848 |
| Treasury, Report of Secretary, 1889-93, 1895. 6 vols. | 878-83 |
| Treasury Laws Index, 1874. | 877 |
| Treasury Department, Laws Relating to, 1874. | 876 |
| United States National Museum, Proceedings of, 1898. Vols. 20-1. | 853-4 |
| War, Report of Secretary, 1880. | 889 |

C

| | |
|--|--------|
| America Today. William Archer. | 572 |
| Among English Hedgerows. Clifton Johnson. | 551 |
| Baedeker's Guide Books:— | |
| Belgium and Holland. | 554 |
| Eastern Alps | 562 |
| Egypt | 569 |
| Great Britain | 553 |
| Greece | 568 |
| Italy. Northern Italy. | 564 |
| Italy. Central Italy and Rome. | 565 |
| Italy. Southern Italy and Sicily. | 566 |
| Northern France | 558 |
| Northern Germany | 555 |
| Norway, Sweden and Denmark. | 557 |
| Paris and Environs. | 561 |
| Rhine from Rotterdam to Constance. | 567 |
| Southeastern France, including Corsica. | 559 |
| Southwestern France | 560 |
| Spain and Portugal. | 556 |
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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Middlesex SS.

To John A. Healy, one of the Constables of the Town of Westford, in said County,

Greeting:

You are hereby required in the name of the Commonwealth aforesaid, to notify and warn all the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections and also in Town affairs, to meet at the Town House, in said Westford, on Monday, the nineteenth day of March, being the third Monday in said month, at eight o'clock A. M. The polls will be opened at 8.15 o'clock A. M., and may be closed at 1 o'clock P. M.; and they are then and there to act upon the following articles, to wit:

- 1st. To choose a Moderator.
- 2d. To see if the Town will determine the compensation of the Tax Collector, and act in relation to the same.
- 3d. To bring in their votes for Town Clerk for one year; one Selectman, one Overseer of Poor, one Assessor, one Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds, one Trustee of the J. V. Fletcher Library, all for three years; three School Committee, one for one year, and two for three years; Town Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, two Constables, and one Auditor, all for one year; also, to vote on the following question: "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?" all on one ballot.
- 4th. To hear the report of the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.
- 5th. To hear the report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards, and act in relation to the same.
- 6th. To hear the report of the Overseers of the Poor, and act in relation to the same.
- 7th. To hear the report of the School Committee, and act in relation to the same.
- 8th. To hear the report of the Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library, and act in relation to the same.
- 9th. To hear the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds, and act in relation to the same.

10th. To see if the Town will accept the report of the Auditor chosen to audit the accounts of the Town Officers, and act in relation to the same.

11th. To see if the Town will accept the List of Jurors as reported by the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.

12th. To raise and appropriate money to repair Roads and Bridges.

13th. To raise and appropriate money for Town Debts and Charges.

14th. To raise and appropriate money for Public Schools.

15th. To raise and appropriate money to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the Town, at Westford Academy.

16th. To raise and appropriate money for support of Poor.

17th. To raise and appropriate money for School Text Books and Supplies.

18th. To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same.

19th. To determine the manner of collecting taxes for the ensuing year, also the rate of interest on taxes remaining unpaid at a time to be fixed by vote of the Town, and when and how said taxes shall be paid into the treasury, and act in relation to the same.

20th. To choose all other Town Officers necessary to be chosen by hand vote, and act in relation to the same.

21st. By request of the Veteran Association, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) to commemorate Memorial Day, and act in relation to the same.

22d. By request of the citizens of Graniteville and Forge Village, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in these two villages, and act in relation to the same.

23d. To see if the Town will vote to choose the Tree Warden hereafter by ballot, and act in relation to the same.

24th. By request of the School Committee, to see if the Town will raise and appropriate money for painting the School House at Graniteville, and act in relation to the same.

25th. To see what action the Town will take to comply with the order of the County Commissioners on relocating and widening School Street, so called, and act in relation to the same.

26th. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200) to repair the bank wall to the arch bridge opposite Marden's Mill, at Westford Depot, and act in relation to the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up true and attested copies at the Town House and each Depot in said Westford, eight days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

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

Given under our hands and seals, this first day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WFSLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Town of Westford, Mass.

FOR THE

SCHOOL YEAR ENDING, MARCH 2, 1900.



LOWELL, MASS.:
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1900.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR 1899-1900.

| | | |
|--|--------------|------|
| A. R. CHOATE, Chairman..... | Term expires | 1901 |
| W. J. SLEEPER, Secretary..... | “ “ | 1900 |
| G. H. HARTFORD, Secretary pro tem..... | “ “ | 1900 |
| FRANK H. HILDRETH..... | “ “ | 1902 |
| ELBERT H. FLAGG..... | “ “ | 1902 |
| *ARTHUR WRIGHT..... | “ “ | 1901 |

Superintendent of Schools, A. S. THOMSON.

Residence, Littleton Common, Mass.

*Deceased.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Citizens of Westford:

The School Board has been deprived of the services of two of the members a great part of the past year. The efficient Secretary, Dr. W. J. Sleeper, who has served you so well and faithfully, was obliged to visit other climes in an endeavor to regain his health, which is in a precarious condition, owing to the great demands made upon him in his profession. Mr. Arthur Wright was able to meet with the Committee but seldom the past year, consequently we missed his advice and the benefit of his experience in school matters, and he was suddenly stricken with a fatal illness near the close of the year 1899. By vote of the Town last March the School Committee were authorized to close the Long-Sought-For School and transport the children to a graded school; a petition was received from the parents, asking that the children be taken to the Centre School, and it was granted by the Committee. A contract was made with Mr. Hiram Dane to transport all pupils under the Eighth Grade from that vicinity (and he has performed his part of the contract to the entire satisfaction of the Committee) at an expense of \$7.50 per week, which is a saving to the Town, and gives better advantages for education to the children than can be had in an ungraded school. Nashoba Schoolhouse has been repaired inside and 15 seats were got to replace the wornout ones, at an expense of 75 cents per seat, about one-third the cost of new ones, which will answer the purpose just as well. The furnace at the Centre Schoolhouse is not of sufficient heating capacity to properly heat the building, and some different arrangement should be made before next Winter. It had to be repaired last Fall, also the furnace in the Graniteville Schoolhouse. The furnace in the Forge Village Schoolhouse is a menace to the safety of the children, and it should be removed and placed in a cellar dug for that purpose and the storage of fuel. Several of the schoolhouses need painting, especially the Graniteville building.

The following rules, adopted by the School Committee and the Trustees of the Academy, went into effect September 1st, 1899:

1. Students in the Academy whose average rank during any term in any prescribed branch of study shall fall below 60 per cent. shall thereafter be considered as special students, and not entitled to diplomas of graduation; provided, however, that one special examination shall be granted to any student desiring to regain his position in his class.

2. Reasonable time shall be granted for making up work lost by any student through illness or necessary detention from school.

Mr. Thomson, our efficient Superintendent, has resigned, to accept a position at Weymouth. Too frequent change in Superintendents is not beneficial to the district than is the frequent change of teachers, and we regret the loss of his services, as he is doing good work. Mr. H. E. Richardson, Superintendent of Schools in Agawam, Mass., was elected to fill the vacancy, to begin his duties April 1st, 1900.

A. R. CHOATE,

F. H. HILDRETH,

E. H. FLAGG,

G. H. HARTFORD,

School Committee.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

INCOME.

| | | |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Balance unexpended from 1898..... | \$ 369 93 | |
| Appropriation | 6,000 00 | |
| Mrs. Gates Lockhart returned..... | 5 38 | |
| From State on account of Superintendent of Schools | 250 00 | |
| Income Massachusetts School Fund..... | 359 18 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6,984 49 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Teachers, fuel and janitor service..... | 6,712 32 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance unexpended..... | \$272 17 |

APPROPRIATIONS RECOMMENDED.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Schools | \$6,000 00 |
| High School pupils at Westford Academy..... | 1,500 00 |
| Text books and school supplies..... | 600 00 |
| Text books and supplies have been furnished as follows: | |
| Westford Academy for High School..... | \$120 38 |
| Centre Grammar, Eighth Grade..... | 108 26 |
| Centre Intermediate..... | 80 70 |
| Centre Primary | 23 56 |
| Minot's Corner..... | 7 58 |
| Parkerville | 14 44 |
| Nashoba | 13 81 |
| Forge Village Grammar | 49 63 |
| Forge Village Primary..... | 24 31 |
| Graniteville Grammar..... | 61 88 |
| Graniteville Intermediate..... | 26 34 |
| Graniteville Primary B..... | 24 44 |
| Graniteville Primary A..... | 11 05 |
| Wright | 7 11 |
| Nabnassett | 12 96 |
| Stony Brook | 16 93 |

HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS IN WESTFORD ACADEMY.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Appropriation | \$1500 00 | |
| Paid Westford Academy | | \$1500 00 |

TEXT BOOKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Appropriation | \$600 00 | |
| Expended for text books..... | | \$588 09 |
| Received for books sold, turned into the treasury | | 10 46 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Net expense..... | | \$577 43 |

EXPENSE OF SUPERVISION.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--|----------|
| Salary paid by town..... | | \$783 85 |
| Rebate from State..... | | 625 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Net cost to Town..... | | \$158 85 |

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

To the School Committee of the Town of Westford:

Gentlemen:—The passage of another year makes it my duty to report to your honorable body, and, through you, to the people of the Town of Westford, the progress made by our schools during this period.

Heretofore the report which the School Committee has made to the State has covered a fiscal year from March to March. Hereafter it will cover a school year, from September to June. This change in method is suggested by the State Board of Education, in a document sent by the Secretary of the Board to the various School Committees of Massachusetts. From this letter the following paragraphs are quoted:

“The new school census (Chapter 496, Acts of 1898, Section 13) is to be taken for the first time in September, 1899. It is recommended that, in all towns and cities that do not already require it, school registers shall be opened and enrolment lists begun at that time, and that thereafter school attendance facts shall be determined for a school year beginning at that time. The attendance facts for a majority of the children in the State are already determined for such a school year. In 1895 most of the towns and cities in the State, through the chairmen of their School Committees or their Superintendents of Schools, expressed themselves in favor of such a school year. The change is feasible and desirable and the time is ripe for it.

“In the school returns to be made to the State Board of Education, on or before April 30, 1901, it is desired that school attendance data from every town and city shall cover the school year that ends in June, 1900. Towns and cities that can report on or before April 30, 1900, attendance data for the school year ending in June, 1899, or on or before April 30, 1899, attendance data for the school year ending in June, 1898, are requested to do so.

“If, in changing to the new school year recommended, there is a duplication of returns to the State because of the overlapping of school years, there is no objection, so long as the returns made cover a full year.

"Money returns of school expenditures must be made up, as heretofore, from the fiscal years of the towns and cities, whatever those fiscal years may be. The fact that money returns and attendance returns do not, and, under the present conditions, cannot cover precisely the same year throughout the State, does not materially impair the usual conclusions that are drawn from the relations of the one set to the other."

The school census was taken in September, 1899, as is now required by the State. At the end of this report may be found a tabulated statement, showing the enrolment in each school, both for the year beginning September, 1898, and ending June, 1899, and for the Fall and Winter terms of the present year.

The following is a statistical table, showing the returns of the last school census; and the enrolment and attendance in the schools from September, 1898, to June, 1899. According to the census of September, 1899:

| | |
|--|------------|
| Number of boys in Town between 5 and 15 years | 215 |
| Number of girls in Town between 5 and 15 years | 223 |
| Total | 438 |
| Number of boys in Town between 7 and 14 years | 197 |
| Number of girls in Town between 7 and 14 years | 207 |
| Total | 404 |
| Whole number enrolled in all the schools in year 1898-1899 | 505 |
| Whole number enrolled in all the schools between 5 and 15 years | 466 |
| Whole number enrolled in all the schools between 8 and 14 years | 331 |
| Whole number enrolled in all the schools over 15 years | 34 |
| Whole number enrolled in all the schools under 5 years | 5 |
| Number of public schools | 17 |
| Number of teachers required | 18 |
| Number of different teachers employed during year . . | 19 |
| Aggregate number of weeks that schools have been kept | 600.4 |

At the last Town Meeting the Town was asked to increase the appropriation for schools four hundred dollars, which was readily voted by the citizens of the Town. This extra appropri-

ation was given that there might be thirty-six weeks in a school year. By practising economy this has been accomplished. In the present school year there were eleven weeks in the Fall term, twelve in the Winter term, and there will be thirteen in the Spring term. There are sufficient funds to make this possible. Reckoning from the time that we opened the schools last February and began this financial year, up to the close of the present term, we have had thirty-eight weeks of school, but we have had the benefit of part of two portions of the Massachusetts School Fund. Considerable expense has been saved to the Town by closing the Long-Sought-For School. As nearly as I can estimate this amount is seventy-five dollars. With the same appropriation for another year a school year of thirty-six weeks can be maintained easily.

The School Committee, acting on the vote of the last Town Meeting, closed the Long-Sought-For School and took means to transport the pupils to the Center. After some time spent in securing bids for the job of transportation, Mr. Hiram Dane was employed. Mr. Dane has driven a good wagon and has done the work very satisfactorily. This is a long and difficult route over which to transport the young children, and considerable school time has been lost by a few, but I believe that, on the whole, the children have done better than they would have had they remained in their little school. The subject of transportation is taken up later under a special head in this report.

Continuing in the order in which events occurred during the year, I would speak of the improvement made in the school buildings during the summer. Slate blackboards were placed in placed in each of the larger schools. By adding a few each year we shall soon have our schools well supplied with blackboards of a superior grade. Many of the outlying schools are in much need of better blackboard surface. I would recommend to the Committee the advisability of fitting up these schools with more usable blackboards. Though I believe that a few of the very small outlying schools could be closed to good advantage, yet as long as these schools are kept open they should be maintained in the best possible manner. There is an excellent blackboard finish known as "slate tagging," which is inexpensive and durable.

Before the close of school last Spring an effort was made to ascertain how many pupils would attend the Center Grammar, or "Eighth Grade School." It was estimated from the replies given by the pupils who were eligible to attend that there would be about forty pupils in the two grades, seventh and eighth. This number could have been accommodated in the present room, but many came who had said that they did not intend to go to school any more. The room was overcrowded. This necessitated moving the seventh grade back to the Intermediate room, and the fourth grade from the Intermediate to the Primary. This arrangement made a very large Intermediate School, which was, for a time, troublesome to handle. The upper room in the Center Building is not well adapted for so large a school. The room is small and the ceiling is low. When forty pupils are seated in this room it becomes overcrowded.

The same problem of too many pupils for the room will present itself next September in the Grammar Room of the Academy. Last Fall, as has been said, it was necessary to take the seventh grade out of this room; next Fall the eighth grade alone will overreach the present seating accommodations. As nearly as I can estimate there will be forty eighth graders next year. Should the Academy Board decline to allow extra seats to be placed in the present room, the above difficulty will present itself. In this case one of two things will be necessary: either the pupils who should come from Graniteville to the eighth grade will have to be accommodated in their home school by the establishment of an eighth grade there, or more school room will have to be provided at the Center. If it could be demonstrated, as it is evident to one who watches the progress of the pupils, how much better work is done by them when they attend the Center School, it would never be permitted that the last year of the Grammar Course, which prepares directly for the Academy, should be spent in a local school.

Westford has a problem to settle in increasing the capacity and improving the buildings of the schools in the villages. The time is not far distant when an addition to the present building or increased school accommodations of some sort at the Center will be necessary. I have examined the old Academy Building,

and, though in its present condition, with no cellar under it, it is not a proper place for a school, it seems to me that this building could be fitted to accommodate one or two schools with very little expense. Perhaps an addition upon the Center Building would be more lasting and more satisfactory.

The heating arrangement of the Forge Village School is very poor. If more of our citizens would visit the lower room in this school while the children, over forty in number, who attend this school, are present, the heating and ventilating system would speedily be renovated. There should be a cellar put under the schoolhouse and the furnace put in it. We will never have a civilization of a higher moral tone until we have a more healthy and vigorous one. Most of the ill health of the present generation, and the consequent moral degeneration, is due to bad sanitary conditions. The last place in the world where this evil should exist is in our schoolhouses.

The Graniteville building is well arranged, but could be much improved by a coat of paint. It is a mistake to let our school buildings go with an untidy appearance and into a state of decay for lack of paint.

These school problems must be met by the people of Westford, and I would urge them to unite and stand by the best interests of the schools. There can be no better investment than this. The schools are the great uplifters of civilization, and the people who are interested in the improvement of our schools should attend the Town Meeting and solve some of the problems before them.

During my term of service in the Town I have studied carefully the progress made by pupils in our district schools, comparing it with the work of pupils in the better graded schools. In a few cases I have seen bright children, with a natural aptitude for study, make greater progress in the district school. A double promotion can be more easily given with few in the class. With the great majority of children we do not get nearly as much work done in our district schools as is done in the better graded schools. The training and culture of the district school is far inferior to that attained in the larger schools. The incentive which a larger class gives is wanting in a small school of many grades. It is the spirit of emulation which

prompts many to exertion; take away this spirit and pupils who do not possess scholarly tastes grow lazy and inattentive. I have watched pupils while away their time through the seventh grade, making very little effort to make headway. Before these same pupils had been in the eighth grade three months, under the stimulus of a large class of boys and girls of their own age, they have taken a new hold of work, and have astonished all by their energy and ability. I am not advocating closing up all of the district schools of this Town; but it does seem to me unwise that a school of seven pupils, within a mile and a half of a good, well graded school, which could easily accommodate this number, should be kept open.

Within the last two years I have materially changed my mind in regard to the educational benefits of a district school. Since I had attended one in my youth, and had taught one for some time, I was somewhat favorably disposed toward the district system; but our district system today is not what it was twenty or thirty years ago. The causes which have brought about these changes are well explained by G. T. Fletcher, Agent of the State Board of Education:—

“District Schools Fifty Years Ago.—The question of the consolidation of schools has for many years received the attention of educators. Conditions pertaining to changes in the population and the wealth of communities as well as the increasing educational demands of the times have rendered necessary a certain centralization of forces for economy and efficiency in school work. Fifty years ago a large percentage of the people of Massachusetts belonged to the “original stock,” and lived in country towns. District schools were numerous and large. Seldom did a school register less than twenty-five pupils; not infrequently seventy-five were enrolled during the Winter term, ranging in age from four years to twenty-one. An attendance of forty or fifty pupils was a common occurrence. Many of the schools were taught in Winter by college students,—often the brightest young men from the rural communities, whose example was a stimulus to the boys of the district to get an education. In the Summer, the teacher was often a young woman from the country academy, whose scholarship and character were an inspiration to the children. The district school was a

centre of interest and influence in the rural community. The range of studies was narrow, but the few branches then taught are regarded today as fundamental in a broader system of education. The independent thinking and the individual doing of pupils, whose age gave maturity to mind, were educating. The school was a "consolidation" of numbers and ability sufficient for the educational needs of the times. Similar conditions exist in a few country towns now, and such schools may well be nurtured by Town and State in the place of their native growth. A home life of frugality, simplicity and industry is a potent factor in the upbuilding of body and mind. But there were many poor schools then, as there are now.

"Changes that have come to the District Schools.—Within the last fifty years great changes have been wrought in social life and conditions. The increase of population and wealth in centres of commerce and manufacturing is both a cause and a result of an exodus of the farming population to the cities and large towns.

"In many rural communities farms were abandoned, or only the 'old folks' left at home, to pass there the remnant of their days, while the farm constantly depreciated in value. The young, vigorous element of the population left home to work in store or factory. Families remaining in the "hill towns," or coming to them, had few children; and, as a result, the schools became small, the local interest in them often decreasing in the same ratio. These changes came in different degrees of severity to different towns. Those most favorably situated for farming purposes 'held their own,' to quite an extent, in adult population and wealth; but the number of children constantly lessened, and the schools, though not generally reduced in number, were reduced greatly in attendance. Occasionally schools were united, to increase the number of pupils, or a Winter term was held at the centre of the town, for the older pupils of all the districts. Just when and where consolidation on a small scale began we cannot tell. The cause and the fact of a beginning are both evident. There came to the people, slowly at first, a realization that the interest, economy and efficiency that had in many cases characterized the large schools of former days were wanting. The struggle to retain the same number of schools as when

the adult population was greater, the property valuation was twice as large and the town had three times as many children of school age, was as painfully evident then as it is now. The school had been the common centre of interest, and the thought of its closing was a shock to the people. No wonder a deep-seated feeling existed, and still continues, that home interest and property valuation would suffer from the discontinuance of the local schools.

"People are now coming to see that educational advantages are not represented by the number of near-by schoolhouses. From one of the annual reports of Dr. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education, we quote as follows:

"It has been frequently demonstrated and is generally conceded that it would be better both on economical and on pedagogical grounds to unite the many small and weak schools of a township, dispersed over a large extent of territory, into a few strong, well-equipped and well-conducted graded schools, located at convenient points."

The prize reading which was held in the eighth grade last June aroused considerable attention. I think the contest increased the interest of the pupils in the important subject of oral reading. Every effort should be made to promote clear, distinct, and thoughtful reading. It is not our object to have an elocutionary display, but simply to have pupils readily and easily get thought from the printed page. If a child gets the ideas of an author it is seldom that he cannot express that meaning in his oral reading. We have some loyal citizens who might endow the schools with a few hundred dollars, the income of which should be used in presenting prizes to the best reader in the eighth grade. This means would insure an interest in oral reading and in speaking, and would have a desirable effect on the reading throughout the Town.

A slight change has been made in the course in geography. We propose to make a more extended study of local or town geography. When geography is properly taught the child is first led to observe his immediate surroundings. The conditions of the atmosphere, the natural phenomena, forms of land and water are all studied with reference to the objects themselves. The points of compass, relative situations and distances, the real

significance of a map, may all be taught with reference to the town and village in which the school is located. The school-rooms should be well supplied with globes, and maps, and other illustrative materials, in order that when the pupils pass from the consideration of their immediate environments to that of places at a distance, their understandings may be assisted by these symbolic representations. After the local geography is finished the study of the earth, as a whole, is taken up. Each pupil has a small paper globe, which he rotates and revolves, and sees the grand divisions in their proper relations. Here, in the first year of the study of geography proper, and in the fourth year of the child's school life, we give him a clear conception of this great round earth, its motions, its warm and cold belts, its forms of land and water. From this point the study of the grand divisions is taken up according to the topical method.

During the past year the study of technical grammar has been confined to the last three grades of the Grammar School. The text-book which we are using insidiously works into the lower grades a great many grammar lessons. We pass over these lessons and follow an outline of grammar work. We thus concentrate the work upon language in the lower grades, where the technical terms cannot be easily understood. Much valuable time can be wasted by trying to make clear the intricate rules of our language structure to young children before they have developed their powers of reasoning.

The teachers are making an especial effort to help the children gain a mastery of the fundamental processes of arithmetic. Speed and accuracy are very important accomplishments in dealing with number work. Reasoning power develops surprisingly fast when the operations are performed with little loss of energy. When the mechanical work of arithmetic is performed almost by reflex action, the whole energy can be concentrated upon the reasoning processes involved in the solution of the problem in hand.

A fairly thorough trial of the Rational System of reading has been made, which, we think, has proven its superiority over both the pure phonic and the sentence methods. I would suggest that the system be adopted, and the first two books of the series be purchased for the Primary Schools.

Mr. Cox has given to the music of the town a systematic course of work. The instruction is progressing on a sure scientific basis, and this kind of effort will soon show itself in the results obtained in the higher grades.

Section 11, Chapter 496, of the School Laws of Massachusetts, for 1898, reads as follows:

Section 11. No child who has not been duly vaccinated shall be admitted to a public school except upon presentation of a certificate signed by a regular practising physician that such child is an unfit subject for vaccination. No child who is a member of a household in which a person is sick with smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever or measles, or of a household exposed to contagion from a household as aforesaid, shall attend any public school during such sickness or until the teacher of the school has been furnished with a certificate from the Board of Health of the Town or City, or from the attending physician of such sick person, stating in a case of smallpox, diphtheria or scarlet fever, that a period of at least two weeks, and in a case of measles a period of at least three days, has elapsed since the recovery, removal or death of such person, and that danger of the conveying of such disease by such child has passed.

The law in regard to vaccination is not being complied with, and every year contagious diseases make inroads upon our schools. If compelling a general conformance to the law seems too radical a step, a rule should be passed by the School Committee which would make it necessary for each child entering school for the first time to present a certificate of vaccination from a practising physician before the child is admitted.

Ignorance of the law is no excuse for its violation, but in order that ignorance may not be the cause of such violation, I quote freely from the School Laws of the State, which vitally affect the schools and those who attend them. Chapter 496. Section 12, reads:

Section 12. Every child between seven and fourteen years of age shall attend some public day school in the Town or City in which he resides during the entire time the public day schools are in session, subject to such exceptions as to children, places of attendance and schools as are provided for in sections three, seven, ten and eleven of this act: provided, that the Super-

intendent of Schools or, where there is no Superintendent of Schools, the School Committee, or teachers acting under authority of said Superintendent of Schools or School Committee, may excuse cases of necessary absence.

Sect. 31. Any person having under his control a child between seven and fourteen years of age who fails for five day sessions or ten half-day sessions within any period of six months while under such control, to cause such child to attend school as required by section twelve of this act, the physical or mental condition of such child not being such as to render his attendance at school harmful or impracticable, upon complaint by a truant officer, and conviction thereof, shall forfeit and pay a fine of not more than twenty dollars. Any person who induces or attempts to induce any child to absent himself unlawfully from school, or employs or harbors while school is in session any child absent unlawfully from school, shall forfeit and pay a fine of not more than fifty dollars.

It is the duty of every parent to see to it when his child is absent, from any cause, that the absence is accounted for to the teacher, either in a written excuse or by an oral explanation.

There has been rather a large number of changes among the teachers of the Town during the last year. We cannot blame teachers for trying to improve their positions, and it shows well for the grade of our teachers that so many go from our schools to some of the best schools in the State; yet it is unfortunate for the schools that teachers cannot be induced to remain for several years. It is to be hoped that in the near future worthy teachers may be paid a salary sufficient to enable them to remain more permanently in the schools of the Town. Although we have lost many excellent teachers our schools have made good progress during the year. The teachers who have come to us have proven conscientious and capable instructors. Each of them, besides possessing good general ability, has displayed a distinct talent either in some one line of instruction, or in school discipline and management; and some have possessed all of these qualifications.

Some of the schools of the Town have shown a marked improvement during the year. The Graniteville Schools, in which some difficulty was experienced last year, are now under excellent discipline, and superior work is being secured.

Not long since the death of our friend and committeeman, Mr. Arthur Wright, was a real source of grief to us all. It is a pleasure to speak of the excellent work of this loyal citizen; of his faithful, conscientious service to the Town and to his fellow-citizens. At all times we found in Mr. Wright a man whose advice was ever to be relied upon. He was one who did his utmost to promote an amicable means of bringing about changes. As we realize how great a loss the public has sustained in his death, we know that the loss to those with whom he has been more intimately associated is much greater.

In closing this, my second and last report to this Town, I wish to thank the Committee for their cordial support and endeavor to aid my work in the schools. The most kindly relations have always existed between myself and the members of this Committee, and it is with much regret that I break these ties of friendship. To the teachers I would express my grateful appreciation for the kindly manner with which I have habitually been received, and for their ready response to any plan of work which I wished to carry out. The people of the Town have shown me many courtesies, and often I have been stimulated by their words of encouragement.

Respectfully,

ANDREW S. THOMSON.
Superintendent of Schools.

REPORT OF THE ACADEMY.

Westford, Mass, March 2, 1900

A. S. Thomson, Superintendent of Schools:

Dear Sir: Since the beginning of the Fall term, 1899, the classes of Westford Academy have done the following work:

English Literature, Senior and Junior Classes—Burke on Conciliation, Macaulay's Essays on Milton and Addison, "Sir Roger de Coverley Papers," "Last of the Mohicans," "Flight of a Tartar Tribe," "Palamon and Arcite," "Vicar of Wakefield," "Vision of Sir Launfal," "The Princess."

Second Class—Lockwood's English, recitation twice a week. Study of "Lady of the Lake," "Sir Roger de Coverley Papers," "Last of the Mohicans."

First Class—Chittenden's "Elements of English," American Masterpieces, weekly themes.

Beginner's French—First seventy lessons in Chardenal's Complete French Course, Super's French Reader, sight reading and conversation.

Advanced French—"Jeanne d'Arc," "La Chute," composition; study of irregular verbs; conversation.

General History—Study on Ancient Nations, Grecian History, Roman History to Last Century of Roman Empire.

English History—Complete study of Montgomery; History of English People.

Book-keeping—Brief study of single and double entry in Williams and Rogers' text-book.

Arithmetic—From interest to partial payments in Williams and Rogers' text-book.

Astronomy—Study of sun and inferior planets, observations of stars, planets, sunset points, etc., etc.

Junior Latin—Four Orations against Cataline and twenty chapters of the Manilian Law, with Latin prose composition.

Sophomore Latin—Twenty-seven pages of Viri Romae, forty-one pages of Caesar's Commentaries, with Latin prose composition.

Freshman Latin—First forty-nine lessons in Smiley and Storke's "Beginners' Latin Book."

Sophomore Algebra—Elimination to Affected Quadratics in Wells's "Essentials of Algebra."

Freshman Algebra—To Fractions in Wells's "Essentials of Algebra."

Senior and Junior Geometry—To seventeenth theorem of Book III. Wentworth's Revised Plane Geom., with seventy-five originals.

Junior Greek—Seventy-seven pages of Xenophon's "Anabasis," with Greek prose composition.

Senior Physics—To Electrical Measurements, Page 276 in Avery's Elementary Physics.

The teachers of the Academy are pleased to report that the Academy students have been diligent and faithful in their work, and that the spirit of the school is excellent.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM E. FROST.

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF MUSIC.

Mr. Thomson, Superintendent of Schools:

Dear Sir:—Being elected as teacher of music in the schools of Westford, I submit the following report, showing, somewhat, the condition of the schools in relation to music. Beginning with my school year in September, we took a review of some of the work done in the previous year. As we would come to points unfamiliar, there we would give our special attention. Finally, getting started, I laid out a schedule for each school, which is being successfully carried out by a set of competent, interested teachers. Difficulties arising have had constant drill, and as we have mastered them our work has taken us on, as in some grades the beginning of two-part singing, the dividing of voices. Chromatics, the divided pulsations of the beat, were taken up in other grades. The presentation of two, three and four part work, down to reading in the nine different keys, has been given in the Primary grade, and work from the first series in the "Normal Chart" has been combined with time.

I most earnestly request the hearty co-operation of the parents in this work.

The love of music in some degree is born in every soul, and with the earnest help of the teachers I am sure our harvest at the end of the year and years will be appreciated by all.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE WARREN COX,

Supervisor of Music.

TRUANT OFFICER'S REPORT.

Graniteville, Mass., Feb. 28, 1900.

To the School Committee:

Sirs: The number of cases that have come under my notice and have been investigated is twenty-three. Prosecutions, none.

Respectfully submitted,

EUGENE D'ROEHN,

Truant Officer.

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR WESTFORD 1900-1901.

1900.

March 19—Schools open.

June 15—Schools close for Summer vacation.

September 4—Schools begin Fall term.

November 23—Schools close Fall term and for Thanksgiving vacation.

December 3—Schools begin Winter term.

December 21—Schools close for Christmas vacation.

December 31—Schools open.

1901.

March 1—Schools close Winter term.

March 25—Schools begin Spring term.

Program of Westford Grammar School Graduating Exercises, June 9, 1899.

PROGRAM.

- Prayer,
Rev. P. R. Stratton.
- Music—Swing Song.
School.
- Essay—The Philippines.
Alberta Gould Wilson.
- Recitation—The Owl Critic. - - - *James T. Field.*
Etta May Sheahan.
- Essay—Heroes of the Nineteenth Century.
Ida May Walkden,
- Recitation—The Charge of the Light Brigade, - - *Tennyson.*
Fred Rockwood Blodgett.
- Song—The Daffodils.
Emma Johnson. Ida Walkden. Edna Ferguson.
Ellen Lyman. Belle Shugrue. Effie Bennett.
- Recitation—Annabel Lee, - - - *Edgar Allen Poe.*
Emma Gertrude Johnson.
- Essay—“In Union There is Strength.”
William Rockwood Petherick.
- Recitation—The Painter of Seville, - - - *Susan Wilson.*
Edna Lucinda Ferguson.
- Essay—The West Indies.
Alice Caruzu Abbot.
- Recitation—The Miller of Dee, - - - *Eva S. Ogden.*
Effie May Bennett.
- Song—There’s Music in the Air.
School.
- Argument. Resolved:—That education should be a qualification
for voting in the United States.

Affirmative—Edward Thomas Hanley, Jessie Agnes Walkden.

Negative—Ada Maria Kimball, Joseph Henry Decatur.

Tambourine Drill,

Sixteen Girls.

Presentation of Diplomas.

GRADUATING CLASS.

Jessie Agnes Walkden.

Ada Maria Kimball.

Ida May Walkden.

Effie May Bennett.

*Edna Lucinda Ferguson.

Alice Caruzu Abbot.

Emma Gertrude Johnson.

Ethel Olive Shaw.

Etta May Sheahan.

Alberta Gould Wilson.

Edwin Horace Gould.

Warren Howard Flagg.

William Owen McDonald.

Edward Thomas Hanley.

Joseph Henry Decatur.

William Rockwood Petherick.

Fred Rockwood Blodgett.

*Received prize in Eighth Grade reading contest.

Program of Westford Academy Graduating Exercises, June 23, 1899.

PROGRAM.

- Organ Solo—Marche de Fete, *Claussmann.*
Mr. Thomas R. Frost, Class of '95.
- Prayer.
Rev. P. R. Stratton.
- Essay—Territorial Expansion of the United States.
J. Henry Decater, Jr., Westford.
- Essay—The Indian Problem.
Blanche K. Gurney, Forge Village.
- Song—Come, Ever Smiling Liberty, - - - - *Handel.*
Mrs. Daisy Shaw Merritt.
- Essay—Porto Rico.
George W. Butterworth, Westford.
- Translation from the French of Daudet
Ida F. Hartford, Westford.
- Song—Palm Branches, - - - - - *Faure.*
Mr. A. E. Prescott, Class of '81.
- Essay—Natural Wealth of the Philippines.
William J. Charlton, Graniteville.
- Translation from the French of Chateaubriand.
Guy R. DeCatur, Westford.
- Duet—Night Hymn at Sea, - - - - *Goring Thomas.*
Mrs. Merritt and Mr. Prescott.
- Essay—Novel Reading.
M. Etta Gill, Ludlow, Vt.
- Organ Solo—Larghetto Op. 108, - - - - *Mozart.*
Mr. Frost.
- Conferring of Diplomas.
Superintendent A. S. Thomson.
- “America.”

——GRADUATING CLASS.——

LATIN SCIENTIFIC COURSE.

Mary Etta Gill.

Blanche Katherine Gurney.

ENGLISH COURSE.

George Warren Butterworth.

William Joseph Charlton.

John Henry Decater, Jr.

Guy Roberts DeCatur.

Ida Florence Hartford.

Motto: "Festina lente."

ROLL OF HONOR.

The number after each name indicates the number of terms that the pupil has been neither absent nor tardy.

CENTER GRAMMAR.

Charlotte Prescott . . . 1
Allan Whitney . . . 1

CENTER INTERMEDIATE.

Howard Ferguson . . . 1
Gladys Fletcher . . . 1
Grace Fletcher . . . 2
Estella Hartford . . . 1
Harold Hildreth . . . 1
Inez Kimball . . . 1
Harold Lyman . . . 1
Eva Pyne . . . 1
Charles Robey . . . 1
Natalie Sleeper . . . 1
Frank Shugrue . . . 1
Lena Shugrue . . . 1
Blanche Waller . . . 1

CENTER PRIMARY.

Olive Pyne . . . 1
Jennie Robey . . . 1
Frederick Shugrue . . . 1
May Shugrue . . . 1

GRANITEVILLE GRAMMAR.

Frank Charlton . . . 1
Eva Craven . . . 1
Edward Riney . . . 1

GRANITE. INTERMEDIATE.

Myron Carkin . . . 1
Stella Carkin . . . 2
Frank Charlton . . . 1
May Day . . . 1
Carrol Furbush . . . 1
John Greig . . . 2
Lillie Moran . . . 1
George Petherick . . . 1
Willie Wall . . . 1

GRANITE. UPPER PRIMARY.

Eddie Champagne . . . 1
Agnes Charlton . . . 2
Walter Cummings . . . 1
Albert Day . . . 2
Otis Day . . . 2
Ella Gilson . . . 1
Willie Ledmith . . . 1
Gertrude Loftus . . . 1
Fred Petherick . . . 1
Cora Shattuck . . . 1

GRANITE. LOWER PRIMARY.

Willie Buckingham . . . 1
George Champagne . . . 1
Henry Charlton . . . 1
Raymond Charlton . . . 3
Addie Day . . . 1
Ruth Furbush . . . 1
Annie Gower . . . 1
Mabel Loftus . . . 1
Willie Milligan . . . 1

FORGE GRAMMAR.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Katie Brown . . . | 1 |
| Gerald Daley . . . | 1 |
| Ora Darling . . . | 2 |
| Roy Darling . . . | 1 |
| Venia Darling . . . | 3 |
| May Lord . . . | 3 |
| Bella Valentine . . . | 1 |

FORGE PRIMARY.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Medie Berthiaume . . . | 1 |
| Nerry Berthiaume . . . | 2 |
| Roy Darling . . . | 1 |
| Annie Leclerc . . . | 1 |
| Mary Leclerc . . . | 2 |
| Helen Lord . . . | 1 |
| Marion Lord . . . | 2 |
| Philips Lord . . . | 1 |
| Gertie Morton . . . | 1 |
| Mary Record . . . | 1 |
| Barber Reed . . . | 1 |
| Felix Savoie . . . | 1 |

STONY BROOK.

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Nat Decatur . . . | 1 |
| Anne Drew . . . | 1 |
| Johnnie Flynn . . . | 2 |
| Tommy Flynn . . . | 1 |
| Ella Vinal . . . | 1 |
| Ira White . . . | 1. |

PARKERVILLE.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Charles Cann . . . | 1 |
|--------------------|---|

MINOT'S CORNER.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Helen R. Burnham . . . | 1 |
|------------------------|---|

NABNASSET.

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Harold Fletcher . . . | 2 |
| Elmer Trull . . . | 3 |

WRIGHT.

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Carl Badger . . . | 3 |
| Alfred Couture . . . | 1 |
| Lewis Couture . . . | 1 |
| Carl Wright . . . | 2 |
| Lillian Wright . . . | 2 |

NASHOBA.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Elsie Decatur . . . | 1 |
| Ora Idelle Richardson . . . | 1 |

LIST OF TEACHERS FOR WESTFORD FOR 1899-1900.

| SCHOOLS. | TEACHERS. | APPOINTED. | EDUCATED. | SALARY. |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Academy { Principal..... | William E. Frost..... | 1872 | Bowdoin, '70..... | { Town days \$1,500 \$11 00 10 00 10 00 10 00 10 00 10 00 11 00 10 00 10 00 10 00 8 00 9 00 8 00 8 00 8 00 8 00 |
| Academy { Assistant..... | Miss Lang..... | 1899 | Smith, '99..... | |
| Eighth Grade..... | Gertrude Sanborn..... | 1900 | Wellesley, '99..... | |
| Center Intermediate..... | Pauline Buckinmster..... | 1899 | East Providence Training..... | |
| Center Primary..... | Harriet Merrill..... | 1900 | Haverhill, '99..... | |
| Forge Grammar..... | Etta Holt..... | 1896 | Punchard Academy..... | |
| Forge Primary..... | Marion Brown..... | 1899 | Quincy Training..... | |
| Graniteville Grammar..... | Burr J. Merriam..... | 1899 | Oneonta Normal, N. Y..... | |
| Graniteville Intermediate..... | Issie A. Parker..... | 1897 | Westford Academy..... | |
| Graniteville Upper Primary..... | Bertha Swain..... | 1894 | Bradford Academy..... | |
| Graniteville Lower Primary..... | Annie Carmichael..... | 1891 | Westford Academy..... | |
| Wright..... | Marian Pierce..... | 1898 | Concord Training..... | |
| Nabnasset..... | Lizzie A. Winship..... | 1894 | Framingham Normal..... | |
| Stony Brook..... | Anna Mellen..... | 1899 | Lowell Normal..... | |
| Minot's Corner..... | Eva Bassett..... | 1899 | Concord Training..... | |
| Parkerville..... | Jennie Stowell..... | 1899 | Fitchburg Normal..... | |
| Nashoba..... | Fannie Rich..... | 1899 | Bridgewater Normal..... | |

STATISTICS FOR 1898-1899.

| NAME OF SCHOOL. | Grades. | Weeks of School. | Number Enrolled. | Average Member-ship. | Average Attend-ance. | Percent. of Attend-ance. | Number Between 8 and 14. | Number Between 5 and 15. | Number Under 5. | Number Over 15. |
|--------------------------------|---------|------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Academy | 9-12 | 39. | 38 | 34.67 | 31.71 | 91.4 | 6 | 12 | 0 | 26 |
| Center Grammar | 7-8 | 36. | 30 | 22.1 | 20.77 | 94. | 22 | 27 | 0 | 3 |
| Center Intermediate..... | 4-6 | 36. | 36 | 17.5 | 16.54 | 94. | 36 | 36 | 0 | 0 |
| Center Primary..... | 1-3 | 36. | 34 | 29.51 | 26.63 | 90. | 13 | 34 | 0 | 0 |
| Graniteville Grammar | 6-7 | 35.6 | 25 | 22.34 | 20.08 | 90. | 25 | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| Graniteville Intermediate..... | 4-5 | 35.6 | 45 | 35.26 | 31.44 | 89. | 41 | 45 | 0 | 0 |
| Graniteville Upper Primary.... | 2-3 | 35.6 | 51 | 33.26 | 30.33 | 91. | 26 | 50 | 0 | 1 |
| Graniteville Lower Primary... | 1 | 35.6 | 50 | 37.87 | 35.21 | 93. | 4 | 47 | 2 | 1 |
| Forge Grammar..... | 1-3 | 36. | 26 | 23.62 | 22.39 | 95. | 26 | 25 | 0 | 1 |
| Forge Primary..... | 4-7 | 36. | 26 | 34.78 | 32.23 | 93. | 34 | 39 | 2 | 0 |
| Wright | 1-7 | 36. | 15 | 12.4 | 11.8 | 95. | 12 | 14 | 0 | 1 |
| Nahnasset | 1-7 | 36. | 29 | 19.83 | 17.72 | 84.3 | 20 | 28 | 0 | 1 |
| Stony Brook | 1-7 | 36. | 24 | 22.79 | 20.9 | 88. | 19 | 24 | 0 | 0 |
| Minot's Corner | 1-7 | 36. | 14 | 12.3 | 11.09 | 90. | 11 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Parkerville | 1-7 | 36. | 22 | 16.15 | 14.44 | 89. | 16 | 22 | 0 | 0 |
| Nashoba..... | 1-7 | 36. | 17 | 14.55 | 12.84 | 88. | 14 | 16 | 1 | 0 |
| Long-Sought-For..... | 1-7 | 24. | 8 | 6.78 | 6 | 97. | 6 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| Totals ..... | .... | 600.4 | 505 | 23.28 | 21.31 | 91.5 | 331 | 466 | 5 | 34 |

STATISTICS FOR FALL AND WINTER TERMS, 1899-1900.

| NAME OF SCHOOL. | Number Enrolled | Average Membership. | Average Attendance. | Per Cent. of Attendance. | Number Between 7 and 14. | Number Between 5 and 15. | Number Over 15. | Number Under 5. |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Academy | 38 | 37.5 | 34.7 | 91.3 | 6 | 22 | 16 | 0 |
| Center Grammar | 28 | 95.2 | 22.6 | 87.9 | 18 | 22 | 6 | 0 |
| Center Intermediate | 42 | 36.4 | 32.1 | 89.8 | 39 | 40 | 0 | 2 |
| Centre Primary | 35 | 30.1 | 25.7 | 83.4 | 23 | 35 | 0 | 0 |
| Graniteville Grammar | 28 | 26.7 | 23.4 | 90. | 19 | 27 | 1 | 0 |
| Graniteville Intermediate | 37 | 35.2 | 31.8 | 89. | 36 | 37 | 0 | 0 |
| Graniteville Upper Primary | 34 | 31.7 | 29.2 | 91. | 32 | 34 | 0 | 0 |
| Graniteville Primary | 40 | 37. | 34. | 92.5 | 10 | 36 | 0 | 4 |
| Forge Grammar | 25 | 24.3 | 23.2 | 95.3 | 24 | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| Forge Primary | 48 | 42.2 | 39.4 | 93.3 | 33 | 48 | 0 | 0 |
| Wright | 9 | 7.2 | 6.9 | 95.8 | 7 | 9 | 0 | 0 |
| Nabnasset | 32 | 23.8 | 20. | 84.2 | 20 | 30 | 2 | 0 |
| Stony Brook | 21 | 19.7 | 16.6 | 83.7 | 13 | 21 | 0 | 0 |
| Minot's Corner | 14 | 13.3 | 11.6 | 86.8 | 11 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Parkerville | 18 | 16.6 | 12.4 | 85.5 | 14 | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| Nashoba | 14 | 13.2 | 11.5 | 86.8 | 12 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| | 463 | 26.2 | 23.6 | 89.+ | 317 | 332 | 25 | 6 |

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE . . .



Town of Westford

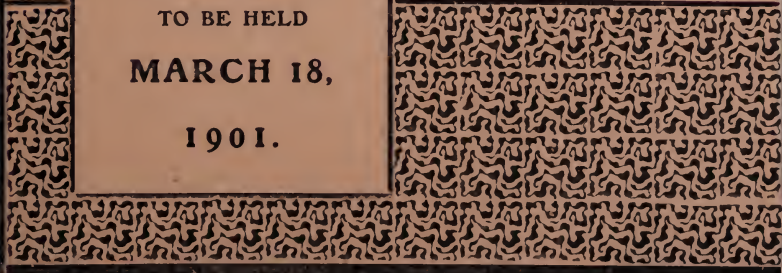


ALSO

**TOWN
WARRANT
FOR ANNUAL
TOWN
MEETING**

**TO BE HELD
MARCH 18,
1901.**

**For the
Year ending
March first,
Nineteen
Hundred
and one**



ANNUAL
REPORTS OF THE TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF WESTFORD

FOR THE
YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1901.

ALSO
TOWN WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TO BE HELD MARCH 18, 1901.



LOWELL, MASS. :
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1901.

OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, 1900.

Town Clerk.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT.

Selectmen.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, . . . Term expires March, 1902
WESLEY O. HAWKES, *Secretary*, . . . Term expires March, 1903

Assessors.

GEORGE H. HARTFORD, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901
JEREMIAH DESMOND, . . . Term expires March, 1902
SAMUEL L. TAYLOR, . . . Term expires March, 1903

Mr. Desmond died April 21. Wm. H. H. Burbeck was chosen by joint vote of the Selectmen and Assessors to serve until the next annual meeting.

Overseers of the Poor.

LEONARD W. WHEELER, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires March, 1901
CLARENCE R. P. DECATUR, . . . Term expires March, 1902
ALBERT R. CHOATE, *Secretary*, . . . Term expires March, 1903

Treasurer.

NAHUM H. WRIGHT.

Collector of Taxes.

ARTHUR L. PRIOR.

Auditor.

ARTHUR B. PLIMPTON.

Mr. Plimpton died September 27. The Selectmen appointed Hugh F. Leith to fill the vacancy.

Constables.

JOHN A. HEALY.

EUGENE DE ROEHN.

Field Drivers.

FREDERICK W. EDWARDS,

WILLIAM H. JOHNSON,

CHARLES D. COLBURN.

None of the Field Drivers qualified.

Fence Viewers.

ALVIN G. POLLEY,

ALMON S. VOSE,

AUGUSTUS BUNCE.

Tree Warden.

WM. H. H. BURBECK.

School Committee.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| ALBERT R. CHOATE, <i>Chairman</i> , | . . . | Term expires March, 1901 |
| JOHN C. ABBOT, | . . . | Term expires March, 1901 |
| ELBERT H. FLAGG, | . . . | Term expires March, 1902 |
| FRANK H. HILDRETH, | . . . | Term expires March, 1902 |
| GEORGE H. HARTFORD, | . . . | Term expires March, 1903 |
| LOUIS H. BUCKSHORN, | . . . | Term expires March, 1903 |

Trustees of J. V. Fletcher Library.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| CATHERINE A. KEBLER, | . . . | Term expires March, 1901 |
| WILLIAM E. FROST, <i>Chairman</i> , | . . . | Term expires March, 1902 |
| LOUIS H. BUCKSHORN, | . . . | Term expires March, 1903 |

Librarian.

MARY P. BUNCE.

Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| NOAH PRESCOTT, | . . . | Term expires March, 1901 |
| GEORGE T. DAY, | . . . | Term expires March, 1902 |
| GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, | . . . | Term expires March, 1903 |

Mr. Prescott died November 11.

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber.

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| THOMAS E. SYMMES, | HORACE E. GOULD, |
| WILLIAM W. JOHNSON, | JOHN A. HEALY, |
| ALONZO H. SUTHERLAND, | JEREMIAH DESMOND, |
| MICHAEL McGLINCHY, | WESLEY O. HAWKES. |

Messrs. Desmond and Hawkes did not qualify.

Police Officers.

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| AI BICKNELL, | SAMUEL H. BALCH, |
| WILLIAM H. PETHERICK, | LINCOLN REDDICK, |
| CLARENCE R. P. DECATUR, | ANTHONY H. SAUNDERS. |

Officers to Enforce Law Against Sunday Hunting and Fishing.

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| CLARENCE R. P. DECATUR, | SAMUEL H. BALCH, |
| JOHN A. HEALY, | LINCOLN REDDICK. |

Fire Wards.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| GILMER STONE, | JOHN A. HEALY, |
| SAMUEL H. BALCH, | HARRY L. NESMITH, |
| HENRY A. FLETCHER. | |

Forest Fire Wards.

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| W. H. H. BURBECK, | EDWARD PRESCOTT. |
|-------------------|------------------|

Inspector of Animals and Provisions.

GEORGE T. DAY.

Measurer of Grain.

LEWIS J. MARDEN.

Weighers of Coal.

CHARLES E. WHIDDEN,
WILLIAM W. JOHNSON,
HENRY J. HEALY,

JOHN M. FLETCHER,
JOHN A. HEALY,
REUBEN E. REDDING.

Sealer of Weights and Measures.

W. H. H. BURBECK.

Registrars of Voters.

OSCAR R. SPALDING, Term expires April 30, 1901
NELSON L. TUTTLE, *Chairman*, . . . Term expires April 30, 1902
QUINCY W. DAY, Term expires April 30, 1903
GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Clerk ex-officio*.

Precinct Officers.

PRECINCT 1.—Warden, J. Henry Read; Deputy Warden, Geo. H. Hartford; Clerk, John M. Fletcher; Deputy Clerk, Alec. Fisher; Inspectors, T. Arthur E. Wilson, W. H. H. Burbeck; Deputy Inspectors, Harry L. Nesmith, C. R. P. Decatur.

PRECINCT 2.—Warden, Daniel E. Splaine; Deputy Warden, William Wall; Clerk, Walter C. Wright; Deputy Clerk, Wm. H. Petherick; Inspectors, Alfred T. W. Prinn, Horace E. Gould; Deputy Inspectors, Reuben E. Redding, Joseph Wall.

PRECINCT 3.—Warden, Thomas F. Dunn; Deputy Warden, Peter McGlinchy; Clerk, William R. Taylor; Deputy Clerk, John J. Monahan; Inspectors, Edson G. Boynton, Amos B. Polley; Deputy Inspectors, Henry B. Read, James H. O'Brien.

Superintendent of Streets.

BENJAMIN F. DAY.

Agent for Burial of Deceased Soldiers and Sailors.

GEORGE T. DAY.

Undertakers.

ALBERT P. RICHARDSON,

JOHN A. HEALY.

Superintendent of Almshouse.

SAMUEL H. BALCH.

Janitor of Town House and Library Building.

AI BICKNELL.

BIRTHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1900.

| DATE. | NAMES. | PARENTS' NAMES. |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--|
| July 29.... | Anderson, Wenda Olivia..... | Andrew and Julia (Anderson). |
| Aug. 1.... | Barr, Margaret Anderson..... | James and Lizzie (Hardie). |
| April 6.... | Billeau, Joseph Arthur..... | Arthur and Alacandine (Seymour). |
| Feb. 7.... | Boyd, John E..... | John and Delia (Seymour). |
| April 13.... | Cameron, Donald Fiske..... | Donald and Meta J. (Fiske). |
| May 17.... | Canton, Eugene Albert..... | Carl and Josephine (Byron). |
| June 27.... | Clement, Jeanette E..... | Peter and Mary (O'Connor.) |
| June 15.... | Connell, Leo Augustus..... | John H. and Margaret E. (Coughlin). |
| Oct. 10.... | Courtney, Joseph Delphio..... | Alexandre and Marie (Barlow). |
| Mar. 15.... | Draper, Mary Louise..... | Joseph R. and Nellie (Packard). |
| Mar. 2.... | Du Frain, Antoinette..... | George and Arnastine (Chamfoubie). |
| Sept. 13.... | Edwards, Edna Louisa..... | Frederick W. and Edith A. (MacGregor). |
| June 4.... | Felch, Mildred Beatrice..... | Frank P. and Cora B. F. (Wilson). |
| Nov. 5.... | Flavell, Chester Jefferson..... | Charles L. and Florence (Dane). |
| April 15.... | Good, George Albert..... | Jonathan and Mary (O'Brien). |
| April 5.... | Harrington, Alice Elizabeth..... | Henry P. and Lizzie J. (Dunn). |
| Oct. 16.... | Healy, Charles Leo..... | William J. and Ellen (Dunn). |
| Oct. 24.... | Jarvis, Mariea..... | Alexander and Rose (Barlow). |
| April 6.... | Johnson, Clifford Fletcher..... | William H. and Amy L. (Peckens). |
| Mar. 19.... | Kabele, Daisy Marguerite..... | Henry M. and Mary (Krouse). |
| Nov. 5.... | Kimball, Rachel Elsie..... | George A. and Annie (Wilson). |
| Dec. 15.... | Lorman, Dorothy Susan..... | Robert E. and Mary Bertha (Farrar). |
| Feb. 17.... | Lovell, Jessie Alfreda..... | Edward and Minnie (Daly). |
| June 27.... | McCarthy, Laura Catherine..... | Robert J. and Ruby Ann (Healy). |
| July 24.... | McLeod, Ellen Gertrude..... | Donald J. and Gertrude M. (Adams). |
| Sept. 14.... | McManamon, Frederick Martin..... | Frank and Lizzie (Grant). |
| June 5.... | Morton, Ellen May..... | Fennimore and Lillie (Northrup). |
| April 11.... | Richardson, Joseph Thomas..... | Joseph T. and Etta A. (Smith). |
| July 5.... | Robey, Lillian May..... | Ossian V. and Mary (Eastman). |
| Oct. 9.... | Sears, Joseph Oscar..... | Joseph H. and Sophie E. (Brussard). |
| Sept. 3.... | Shaw, Clarence..... | Judson F. and Lillian E. (Gardner). |
| Nov. 26.... | Snow, Eva Charlotte..... | Albert E. and Minnie (Johnson). |
| Oct. 23.... | Sullivan, George Thomas..... | Timothy and Bridget (Sullivan). |
| Oct. 25.... | Sullivan, John Joseph..... | John and Nora (Sullivan). |
| Aug. 11.... | Whitney, Waldo..... | George H. and Ida F. (Woodman). |
| Aug. 1.... | Wood, Edith M..... | Henry O. and Clara (Rushworth). |
| | Four stillborn. | |

Number recorded: Males, 21; females, 19; total, 40. Of native parentage, 15; foreign parentage, 14; native father and foreign mother, 6; native mother and foreign father, 5.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

MARRIAGES

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1900.

| DATE. | NAMES. | AGE. | RESIDENCE. | BIRTHPLACE. |
|----------|--------------------------------|------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Oct. 20 | Anderson, Carl Gustaf..... | 33 | Westford..... | Sweden. |
| | Hasselind, Alma..... | 33 | "..... | " |
| Dec. 24 | Bowker, John Williamson..... | 23 | Lowell..... | Lancashire, Eng. |
| | Longbottom, Mabel Annie..... | 19 | Westford..... | Yorkshire, Eng. |
| Sept. 18 | Bridgford, Ralph..... | 36 | "..... | England. |
| | Felch, Lizzie M..... | 30 | "..... | Tyngsboro. |
| Sept. 5 | Carmichael, John, Jr..... | 37 | "..... | Scotland. |
| | Precious, Harriet..... | 26 | "..... | England. |
| Dec. 25 | Cole, Berton E..... | 24 | Lowell..... | Ellenburg, N. Y. |
| | Hartford, Marion O..... | 21 | Westford..... | Lowell. |
| April 15 | Farrow, Albion Coleman..... | 21 | Dunstable..... | " |
| | Twiss, Gertrude Beatrice..... | 21 | "..... | Hartford, Ct. |
| Nov. 3 | Felch, Harry C..... | 22 | Townsend..... | Westford. |
| | Turner, Clara E..... | 19 | "..... | Rockland, Me. |
| Sept. 12 | Flavell, Herbert Walter..... | 20 | Groton..... | Groton. |
| | Sherburne, Bessie Gertrude... | 21 | Westford..... | Chelmsford. |
| June 4 | Haley, Stephen..... | 26 | "..... | Canada. |
| | Darling, Edith..... | 23 | "..... | New Brunswick. |
| June 8 | Ingalls, Harry Melvin..... | 20 | Lowell..... | Westford. |
| | Mitchell, Zina L..... | 20 | Westford..... | Lowell. |
| July 29 | Leclair, Charles..... | 24 | "..... | Stanford, P. Q. |
| | Lesieur, Laura..... | 18 | "..... | Point Du Lac, P. Q. |
| June 6 | Longbottom, Richard Ernest.... | 24 | "..... | Yorkshire, Eng. |
| | Burnett, Polly..... | 24 | "..... | " |
| June 27 | McNaughton, David..... | 28 | Hardwick, Vt..... | Scotland. |
| | Beil, Isabella G..... | 24 | Lowell..... | Canada. |
| Oct. 3 | Norris, Peter..... | 42 | Westford..... | Manchester, N. H. |
| | Floyd, Mary (Spencer)..... | 39 | "..... | Nova Scotia. |
| June 21 | Parsons, Wilbert E..... | 54 | "..... | Brooks, Me. |
| | Wyeth, Hannah (Prescott)..... | 59 | "..... | Westford. |
| Oct. 16 | Precious, William C..... | 30 | "..... | England. |
| | Brown, Annie O..... | 21 | "..... | " |
| June 5 | Provost, Alfred..... | 34 | "..... | Canada. |
| | Gilson, Ella Frances..... | 26 | "..... | Westford. |
| Aug. 13 | Riard, Honara..... | 26 | "..... | Three Rivers, P. Q. |
| | Benoit, Marieloise..... | 19 | "..... | " |
| Apr. 22 | Riard, Selemine..... | 22 | "..... | Province Quebec. |
| | Garceaux, Anna..... | 21 | "..... | " |
| Feb. 20 | Spalding, Oscar R..... | 32 | "..... | Westford. |
| | Prescott, Fannie B..... | 27 | "..... | " |
| May 13 | Suchovich, William..... | 28 | "..... | Rossai, Poland. |
| | Suncko, Rosa..... | 19 | "..... | " |
| Dec. 25 | Teale, Walter H..... | 24 | Lawrence..... | England. |
| | Hoyt, Isabelle..... | 24 | Westford..... | New Brunswick. |
| July 3 | Wood, Henry Oliver..... | 25 | Camden, N. J..... | Birmingham, Eng. |
| | Rushworth, Clara..... | 24 | Westford..... | Bradford, Eng. |
| | Two omitted. | | | |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Number of marriages recorded..... | 25 |
| Solemnized in Westford..... | 17 |
| Westford grooms..... | 16 |
| Westford brides..... | 22 |
| Between Americans..... | 9 |
| Between foreigners..... | 13 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| American groom and foreign bride... | 1 |
| American bride and foreign groom... | 2 |
| Second marriage of groom..... | 1 |
| Second marriage of bride..... | 2 |
| Solemnized by Westford clergymen.. | 14 |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

DEATHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1900.

| DATE. | NAMES, ETC. | AGE. | | |
|----------|--|------|------|------|
| | | Yrs. | Mos. | Days |
| May 24 | Billings, Florilla, died in Taunton..... | 87 | 2 | 4 |
| April 4 | Butler, John..... | 71 | — | — |
| Jan. 12 | Caldwell, Lydia A., died in Lowell..... | 63 | — | — |
| Apr. 29 | Cameron, Allan, son of Alexander..... | 77 | 8 | — |
| July 1 | Carlin, Marion Ardell, daughter of James R. and Eva A. (Barton) | — | 7 | 2 |
| June 21 | Charlton, Mary Beatrice, daughter of Arthur and Mary (Clark)... | 17 | 2 | — |
| Feb. 2 | Collins, Fred P., son of Phineas G. and Ellen A. (Read)..... | 26 | 6 | — |
| Oct. 26 | Courtney, Joseph Delphio, son of Alexander and Marie (Barlow). | — | — | 18 |
| June 20 | Curren, Mary (Egan), wife of William..... | 49 | — | — |
| Sept. 13 | Day, John Warren, son of John and Hannah (Wright)..... | 63 | 1 | 27 |
| Apr. 21 | Desmond, Jeremiah, son of Jeremiah and Fanny (Barry)..... | 41 | 10 | 2 |
| Aug. 24 | Dion, Amelia, daughter of Joseph and Lida (Greenwood)..... | — | 5 | 5 |
| Jan. 17 | Dyar, Morgiana, died in Stoneham..... | 69 | 10 | 22 |
| June 26 | Elliott, Kathryn, resident of Lowell..... | — | 5 | 29 |
| Sept. 7 | Elliott, Mary Ann (Burnes), widow of Michael..... | 65 | — | — |
| Sept. 4 | Elliott, Winifred Agnes, daughter of James and Mary A. (Boynton) | 1 | 1 | 15 |
| Apr. 8 | Fletcher, George Manson, son of Benj. M. and Lucinda (Vose).... | 42 | 3 | 4 |
| Mar. 2 | Garvin, Abigail (Kimball), widow of James..... | 104 | 2 | 27 |
| June 11 | Humiston, Harriet S. (Flagg), wife of Samuel G..... | 55 | 11 | 27 |
| Nov. 1 | Johnson, Lydia A. (McCorkell), wife of Andrew..... | 37 | 5 | 25 |
| Nov. 24 | Kebler, Frederick, died in Belmont..... | 48 | — | — |
| Mar. 26 | Kidder, Charlotte F. (Bruce), resident of Chelmsford..... | 66 | 3 | 16 |
| Oct. 24 | Kimball, Levi, son of David..... | 75 | 4 | 20 |
| Aug. 10 | LaFrance, Arthur, son of Alfred and Marie (Rosseau)..... | — | 10 | 20 |
| Apr. 13 | McCarthy, Thomas..... | 71 | 5 | — |
| Sept. 15 | McCarty, Charles J., son of Dennis and Ellen (Lennon)..... | 40 | — | — |
| June 19 | Metcalf, William, died in Camden, N. J..... | 80 | — | — |
| Dec. 31 | Moss, Jane (Leech), wife of James L..... | 65 | — | 7 |
| Oct. 15 | O'Brien, Cornelius, son of John and Jane (Allen)..... | 60 | — | — |
| Jan. 3 | O'Brien, George A., son of John M. and Honora (Foley)..... | 20 | 5 | 20 |
| June 21 | O'Brien, James, son of Arthur and Celia..... | 80 | 9 | — |
| July 8 | O'Brien, Nora, daughter of James F. and Nellie (Gogin)..... | — | 11 | 24 |
| Oct. 2 | Perkins, William H., son of John B. and Annie (Burchell)..... | — | 3 | 15 |
| Sept. 27 | Plimpton, Arthur B., son of Henry and Evelina (Bacon)..... | 51 | 4 | 28 |
| Nov. 11 | Prescott, Noah, son of Nathan P. and Bethiah (Sargent)..... | 55 | 5 | 20 |
| May 20 | Prescott, Philip Reginald, son of Noah and Fanny A. (Tower).... | 19 | 8 | 1 |
| Jan. 6 | Putney, Samuel F., son of Samuel and Sarah K. (Blossom)..... | 61 | 9 | 15 |
| May 22 | Raymond, John W., son of Joseph and Susan (Willis)..... | 43 | 2 | 15 |
| Dec. 15 | Raymond, Susan (Willis), died in Lowell..... | 72 | — | — |
| Sept. 26 | Read, Mary E. (Falls), wife of J. Henry..... | 62 | 8 | 13 |
| Aug. 1 | Saboca, Georgie, daughter of Joseph and Annie (Bouton)..... | 1 | 0 | 18 |
| Oct. 31 | Whitney, Joseph, son of John and Elizabeth (Doughty)..... | 68 | 10 | 12 |
| Aug. 11 | Whitney, Waldo, son of George H. and Ida F. (Woodman)..... | — | — | — |
| June 11 | Wing, Thomas, died in West Newton..... | 55 | 0 | 13 |
| Jan. 2 | Wright, Arthur, son of Asa and Bathsheba (Dadmun)..... | 62 | 4 | 9 |
| | Four stillborn. | | | |

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|--------|----------|--------|
| Whole number recorded..... | 30 | 19 | 49 |
| Number of deaths in town..... | 25 | 13 | 38 |
| Residents of Westford..... | 27 | 13 | 40 |
| Non-residents brought to town for interment.... | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Number of interments in town..... | 18 | 14 | 32 |

One person who died in this town was a resident of Lowell.

Three residents of this town died in other places.

Fred P. Collins, Sergeant-Major 14th U. S. Infantry, died at Manila, P. I. His body was brought home and buried in Fairview Cemetery with military honors.

Philip Reginald Prescott, private Company E, 46th Mass. Regiment, died at Indan, P. I.

Causes of death of persons who died in this town: Tuberculosis, pneumonia, stillbirth, 4 each; cancer, 3; heart disease, enteritis, cholera infantum, inanition, 2 each; paralysis, old age, disease of stomach, angina pectoris, disease of liver, peritonitis, intestinal obstruction, asphyxia. Bright's disease, cystitis, general debility, bronchitis, accident, complication of diseases, 1 each.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

NOTE.

All persons interested are respectfully requested to examine the foregoing reports of births, marriages and deaths, and if any errors are noted, or if there be omissions, that they be reported to the Town Clerk, that the records may be perfected. An error in the record, other than a mistake in copying a certificate or return, can be corrected only in accordance with a deposition under oath made by one who was required by law to furnish the information for the original record, or by three or more credible persons having knowledge of the case. See Acts of 1897, Chap. 444, Sections 9 and 14.

Births occurring late in the year are sometimes returned without the Christian name. In such cases parents should return the name to the Town Clerk as soon as selected, as incompleteness of the record may involve much trouble in the future.

The Town Clerk hereby gives notice that he is prepared to furnish to parents, householders, physicians and midwives applying therefor, blanks for return of births, as required by law.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT ON DOGS.

Number of dogs licensed during year ending Nov. 30, 1900:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 178 males at \$2.00, | \$356 00 |
| 18 females at \$5.00, | 90 00 |

| | |
|--------|----------|
| Total, | \$446 00 |
|--------|----------|

| | |
|---|-------|
| Deduct Clerk's fees, 196 licenses at 20 cents each, | 39 20 |
|---|-------|

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Balance paid into County Treasury, | \$406 80 |
|------------------------------------|----------|

For which the receipts of the County Treasurer are on file.

Of the foregoing licenses, 1 (male) was for the year commencing May 1, 1898; 25 males and 3 females were for the year commencing May 1, 1899.

Number licensed since last return, Nov. 29, 1900: males, 9; females, 2.

Number licensed for year commencing May 1, 1900: males, 161; females, 17; total, 178.

Number returned by Assessors: males, 157; females, 13; total, 170.

Owners and Keepers of Dogs Who Have Procured Licenses Since Last Report, Feb. 6, 1900.

Licenses are for the year commencing May 1, 1900, unless otherwise specified.

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Abbot, Alice C. | Bussey, George W. | Cummings, Edward M. |
| Abbot, John C. | Butterworth, Wm. L. | Cummings, Irving T. |
| Adams, Charles L. | Cameron, Donald | Dane, Hattie A. ('99 & '00) |
| Balch, Samuel H. | Campling, John | Davis, Mary ('98 & '00) |
| Balsler, Perley ('99) | Cann, Charles W. | Decatur, C. R. P. |
| Barlow, Frank (m. & f.) | Carlin, Isaac W. | Decatur, John H. |
| Bemis, Henry S. | Carlin, Warren E. | Decatur, Nathaniel J. |
| Bennett, Joseph | Carmichael, J. H. | Downs, Matthew F. (99, m&f) |
| Blaisdell, Alvin J. | Catchpole, Henry | Downs, Matthew F. (m & f) |
| Blodgett, Josiah W. (2) | Champaign, Louis | Drew, Frank C. |
| Blood, Napoleon B. | Comey, Arthur H. ('99) | Driscoll, Timothy |
| Brisson, Arthur | Comey, Arthur H. (2) | Eaton, Charles A. |
| Buckshorn, Louis H. | Connell, John H. | Edwards, Charles |
| Burbeck, John | Craven, Edward | Edwards, Franklin |
| Burnham, Arthur H. | Cummings, Alvin L. | Eliason, Lars J. |
| Burnham, George H. | Cummings, Charles M. | Feeney, John |

| | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Felch, Harry C. | Lawton, Luther ('99 & '00) | Reed, Charles W. (2) |
| Field, Adelbert L. | Leland, George A. | Sargent, Charles G. (2) |
| Fisher, Alvan | Lord, David | Shaw, Frank A. |
| Flavell, Chas. E. ('99 & '00) | Mann, Evilena L. | Shaw, Judson F. |
| Fletcher, Harry N. (3) | Marshall, Joseph | Shugrue, Charles F. |
| Fletcher, Henry A. (3) | Martin, Frederick | Sherburne, George J. |
| Fletcher, J. Herbert | McDonald, Angus | Sherburne, Victor R. ('99) |
| Fletcher, J. Willard (99 & 00) | McDougall, Alexander | Splain, Daniel E. |
| Floyd, Mary | McGlinchy, James | Stooss, H. J. |
| Flynn, John | McGlinchy, Peter | Sullivan, Jeremiah, Mrs. |
| Flynn, John L. | McMaster, Harry C. | Swanson, Noah |
| Furbush, Frank L. | Mellor, Thomas | Sweetser, Warren P. |
| Gardner, George C. | Merritt, Walter J. (f.) | Tooper, Samuel L. |
| Gilson, George Q. | Monahan, John ('99 & '00) | Valentine, Mary E. |
| Gould, George E. ('99) | Moore, Clifford A. | Vinal, Charles E. ('99) |
| Gould, Horace E. | Morse, French M. | Vinal, Charles E. (f.) |
| Gower, William | Mountain, George E. | Voyer, Peter (f.) |
| Greig, John S. | Murphy, Edward M. | Ward, Elbridge B. |
| Griffin, Charles M. (2) | Murphy, Henry J. | Ward, John E. |
| Gurney, Henry A. | Nesmith, Harry L. (f.) | Whidden, Elmer H. |
| Haley, John | O'Brien, James (f.) | Whigham, John |
| Hall, John | O'Brien, James, 2d (m. & f.) | Whigham, William |
| Hannon, Thomas | O'Brien, James H. | Whitney, Chas. H. (m. & f.) |
| Harrington, Henry P. (2) | O'Brien, John | Whitney, Julian A. |
| Harrup, Thomas ('99 & '00) | O'Brien, John, 2d | Whitney, William M. |
| Healy, Frank (f.) | O'Brien, John W., 2d (2) | Whitaker, Christopher |
| Healy, Henry J. | Odell, Herbert A. | Whittier, Abel C. (f.) |
| Healy, John A. ('99 & '00) | Orange, Abraham | Wild, James T. |
| Healy, Ruby | Paige, A. M. | Wilson, Arthur |
| Hill, George W. | Petherick, William H. | Woods, William L. |
| Howard, Calvin L. | Polley, Alvin G. | Wright, Andrew S. |
| Hutchins, Stephen E. | Prescott, Nelson L. . | Wright, Charles H. |
| Jarvis, Everett P. (f.) | Prescott, Richard D. | Wright, Flora M. |
| Jenne, Albert E. (m. & f.) | Prescott, Wallie | Wright, Frank C. |
| Jesson, Thomas | Prior, Arthur L. | Wright, Hammet D. |
| Johnson, J. Walter | Provost, Thomas N. | Wright, Walter C. |
| Johnson, William R. (f.) | Putney, Lucia | Wright, Willey M. |
| Knights, Joseph E. | Quinn, John | Wyman, George W. |
| Krouse, Louis | Reddick, Lincoln A. (f.) | Wyman, Walter W. |
| Lamere, George F. (f.) | Read, Henry B. | York, Mabel C. |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

WESTFORD, Feb. 9, 1901.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, FEB. 24, 1900.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford, Mass., qualified by law to vote in town affairs, held at the Town House, Feb. 24, 1900, the following business was transacted :

1. Voted, to choose a Moderator by nomination.
 2. Chose Sherman H. Fletcher Moderator.
 3. Voted, to ratify the act of L. W. Wheeler in purchasing on execution, in behalf of the Town, the premises attached on the original writ in suit of the Inhabitants of the Town of Westford vs. Louisa R. Whitney, otherwise known as Louisa R. Leland.
 4. Voted, to authorize the Board of Overseers of the Poor to contract for the sale of the premises purchased on execution by the Town, the same that were attached on the original writ in suit of the Inhabitants of the Town of Westford vs. Louisa R. Whitney, otherwise known as Louisa R. Leland, to such person or persons and upon such terms as they may in their discretion determine upon, and the Selectmen are hereby authorized and empowered to sign, execute, seal, deliver and acknowledge a quit-claim deed of the same to the purchaser or purchasers, in the name of and in behalf of the Town, and the Board of Overseers of the Poor are also authorized to sell any or the whole of the standing wood on said premises, which in their judgment they think best for the interest of the Town.
 5. Voted, to accept the minutes of the meeting.
 6. Voted, to dissolve the meeting.
- A true record.

Attest: GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, 1900.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford, Mass., qualified by law to vote in town affairs, held at the Town House in said Westford, March 19, 1900, the following business was transacted:

1. John M. Fletcher and T. Arthur E. Wilson, who had previously been appointed Tellers by the Selectmen, were duly sworn by the Town Clerk.

2. Chose J. Henry Read Moderator.

3. Voted, that the compensation of the Collector of Taxes be one per cent. on the amount collected, and that the Selectmen be authorized to pay, in behalf of the Town, for a surety bond for the Collector in favor of the Town, for an amount that in their judgment may be necessary.

4. The Selectmen appointed Wm. E. Frost and Wm. H. H. Burbeck Ballot Clerks, and they were sworn by the Town Clerk and received from him the official ballots and gave their receipt therefor. The ballot box was opened and found to be empty, the register standing on zero. The voters then proceeded to bring in their ballots for the officers named in Article 3, and also on the following question:—"Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town?"

Polls closed at 1.03 P. M.

At the close of the polls the register stood on 184.

Number of names checked on Ballot Clerk's list: males, 180; females, 3.

Number of names checked on ballot box list: males, 180; females, 3.

Whole number of ballots cast: by males, 180; by females, 3.

Wm. E. Frost and Wm. H. H. Burbeck were appointed Tellers by the Moderator and were sworn by the Town Clerk.

5. Voted, to take up the remaining articles of the warrant while the votes for the different candidates for town officers were being counted.

6. Voted, to accept the report of the Selectmen as printed.

7. Voted, to accept the report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards as printed.

8. Voted, to accept the report of the Overseers of the Poor as printed.

9. Voted, to accept the report of the School Committee as printed.

10. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library as printed. The report recommends that one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year.

11. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds as printed. The report recommends that two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) be raised and appropriated for the care and improvement of cemeteries during the ensuing year.

12. Voted, to accept the report of the Auditor as printed.

13. Voted, to excuse Wayland F. Balch, Frank C. Drew, John J. Monahan and Charles N. Richardson from the list of jurors as reported by the Selectmen.

14. Voted, to add the names of Louis H. Buckshorn, Frank Calvert and Franklin Edwards to the Selectmen's list.

15. Voted, to accept the list of jurors reported by the Selectmen, as amended by the two votes last preceding, which list is as follows: — Louis H. Buckshorn, clergyman; William H. H. Burbeck, laborer; Arthur H. Burnham, farmer; Frank Calvert, machinist; Quincy W. Day, farmer; Clarence R. P. Decatur, farmer; Franklin Edwards, carpenter; Elbert H. Flagg, farmer; Joel A. Fletcher, farmer; Charles H. Follansbee, clerk; Elias Y. Grant, machinist; Edwin E. Heywood, farmer; Frank H. Hildreth, farmer; Samuel M. Hutchins, farmer; Melbourne F. Hutchins, farmer; Angus McDonald, farmer; Elmer E. Nutting, machinist; Charles E. Osgood, carpenter; William H. Petherick, mill hand; Nathan Prescott, painter; Reuben E. Redding, stable keeper; Ossian V. Robey, carpenter; T. Arthur E. Wilson, farmer; Bradley V. Wright, farmer; Walter C. Wright, grocer.

16. Voted, to take up the 16th Article.

17. Voted, to raise and appropriate two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for support of poor.

18. Voted, to take up the 14th Article.

19. Voted, to raise and appropriate fifty-seven hundred dollars (\$5,700) for public schools.

20. Voted, to raise and appropriate thirty-three hundred dollars (\$3,300) to repair roads and bridges.

21. Voted, to raise and appropriate four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for town debts and charges.

22. Voted, to raise and appropriate fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500) to pay tuition of high school scholars, residents of the Town, at Westford Academy.

23. Voted, to raise and appropriate six hundred dollars (\$600) for school text books and supplies.

24. In regard to Article 18, which was:—“To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same,” the Town voted to give such authority to the Town Treasurer.

25. Voted, that the taxes of those who pay only a poll tax be payable at sight, and all other taxes shall be payable on the first day of January next, and if any taxes remain unpaid after that date, the Collector shall charge interest on such taxes overdue, at the rate of seven per cent. per annum, and collect the same according to law.

There shall be allowed a discount on all taxes assessed of five (5) per cent. if paid on or before October 1, and three (3) per cent. if paid on or before December 1, next, if the whole tax assessed to them is paid at one time. The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Tax Collector within three days after the first days of October and December, and said Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all the money he may have received, on or before the fifth days of October and December.

And furthermore, the Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Collector between the 15th and 20th days of February next, and the Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all money he may have received, within five days after the said 20th day of February.

And the Assessors are instructed to complete the assessment of taxes on or before July 1 next, and issue their warrant to the Collector of Taxes with a list of persons assessed, with their places of abode, within five days after the said first day of July.

26. Voted, to choose the remaining officers by hand vote.

27. Chose the following:—

Fence Viewers—Alvin G. Polley, Almon S. Vose, Augustus Bunce.

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber — Thomas E. Symmes, Horace E. Gould, William W. Johnson, John A. Healy, Alonzo H. Sutherland, Jeremiah Desmond, Michael McGlinchy, Wesley O. Hawkes.

Field Drivers — Frederick W. Edwards, William H. Johnson, Charles D. Colburn.

Tree Warden — William H. H. Burbeck.

28. Voted, to appropriate fifty dollars (\$50) to commemorate Memorial Day.

29. Voted, to appropriate seventy-five dollars (\$75) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in Graniteville, Forge Village and Brookside.

30. Voted, to choose the Tree Warden hereafter by Australian ballot.

31. Voted, to raise and appropriate one hundred dollars (\$100) for painting the schoolhouse at Graniteville.

32. Voted, that the Selectmen be instructed to carry out the order of the County Commissioners in regard to relocating and widening School Street, so called.

33. Voted, that the Selectmen be instructed to let out the work of widening School Street by contract, after advertising the same to the lowest responsible bidder, and that the work be completed this year.

34. Voted, to raise and appropriate two hundred dollars (\$200) to repair the bank wall to the arch bridge opposite Marden's Mill at Westford Depot.

35. The votes for town officers were sorted and counted and the following persons having received a plurality of votes were declared elected to the offices specified: —

Town Clerk — Gilman J. Wright. Sworn by Moderator.

Selectman — Wesley O. Hawks. Sworn by Town Clerk.

Assessor — Samuel L. Taylor.

Overseer of the Poor — Albert R. Choate.

Town Treasurer — Nahum H. Wright.

Collector of Taxes — Arthur L. Prior.

Auditor — Arthur B. Plimpton.

Constables — John A. Healy, Eugene De Roehn. Mr. De Roehn sworn by Town Clerk.

School Committee for One Year — John C. Abbot.

School Committee for Three Years — Louis H. Buckshorn, George H. Hartford.

Trustee of J. V. Fletcher Library — Louis H. Buckshorn.

Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds — George W. Heywood.

The question of licensing the sale of intoxicating liquors was decided in the negative, the vote standing:—yes, 46; no, 104; blanks, 20.

36. Voted, to accept the minutes of the meeting.

37. Voted, to dissolve the meeting.

J. HENRY READ, *Moderator.*

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, APRIL 14, 1900.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, held in the Town House in said Westford, April 14, 1900, the following business was transacted:—

1. Chose Herbert E. Fletcher Moderator. Sworn by Town Clerk.

2. Voted unanimously, to authorize the Town Treasurer, under the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow in behalf of the inhabitants of Westford the sum of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) for a term of twelve years, with payment of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) annually on the principal, with interest payable semi-annually.

3. Voted, that the Tax Collector be required to make a report annually of the uncollected taxes.

4. Voted, to reconsider the last vote passed.

5. Voted, that the Tax Collector be required to render annually a list of uncollected taxes, and give names and amounts, and that a copy of this vote be printed on the margin of each tax bill.

6. Voted, to accept the minutes of the meeting.

7. Voted, to adjourn.

A true record.

Attest: GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

STATE ELECTION, NOVEMBER 6, 1900.

Party designations:— R., Republican; D., Democratic; P., Prohibition; S., Socialist Labor; D. S., Democratic Social.

| | Prec. 1. | Prec. 2. | Prec. 3. | Total. |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Whole number of ballots cast..... | 177 | 168 | 59 | 404 |

President and Vice President.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|----|-----|
| Bryan and Stevenson (D.)..... | 29 | 39 | 12 | 80 |
| Debs and Harriman (D. S.)..... | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Malloney and Remmel (S.)..... | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| McKinley and Roosevelt (R.)..... | 127 | 108 | 36 | 271 |
| Woolley and Metcalf (P.)..... | 3 | 7 | 0 | 10 |

Governor.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----|-----|
| Michael T. Berry of Haverhill (S.)..... | 4 | 2 | 0 | 6 |
| Chas. H. Bradley of Haverhill (D. S.).... | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 |
| W. Murray Crane of Dalton (R.)..... | 125 | 100 | 31 | 256 |
| John M. Fisher of Attleboro (P.)..... | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 |
| Robert Treat Paine of Boston (D.)..... | 28 | 34 | 13 | 75 |
| Blanks | 17 | 28 | 14 | 59 |

Lieutenant Governor.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----|-----|
| John L. Bates of Boston (R.)..... | 126 | 104 | 31 | 261 |
| John B. O'Donnell of Northampton (D.) | 26 | 31 | 12 | 69 |
| Wilbur M. Purrington of Williams- burg (P.)..... | 2 | 3 | 0 | 5 |
| Moritz E. Ruther of Holyoke (S.)..... | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| George H. Wrenn of Springfield (D. S.) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Blanks | 22 | 29 | 16 | 67 |

Secretary.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----|-----|
| Addison W. Barr of Worcester (D. S.).. | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Alfred E. Jones of Everett (S.)..... | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| William M. Olin of Boston (R.)..... | 125 | 104 | 29 | 258 |
| William H. Partridge of Newton (P.)... | 3 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| Luther Stevenson of Hingham (D.)... | 20 | 31 | 12 | 63 |
| Blanks | 27 | 28 | 18 | 73 |

Treasurer.

| | Prec. 1. | Prec. 2. | Prec. 3. | Total. |
|---|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Edward S. Bradford of Springfield (R.) | 126 | 103 | 30 | 259 |
| Joseph L. Chalifoux of Lowell (D.).... | 22 | 32 | 12 | 66 |
| Napoleon B. Johnson of Milford (P.)... | 3 | 3 | 0 | 6 |
| Fred A. Nagler of Springfield (S.)..... | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Stephen O'Shaughnessy of Boston (D. S.) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Blanks | 25 | 29 | 17 | 71 |

Auditor.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|----|----|-----|
| Elbridge Gerry Brown of Brockton (D.) | 25 | 40 | 12 | 77 |
| Frank Albin Forsstrom of Worcester (S.) | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| William G. Merrill of Malden (P.)..... | 4 | 2 | 2 | 8 |
| Henry E. Turner of Malden (R.)..... | 121 | 99 | 26 | 246 |
| Frank S. Walsh of Brockton (D. S.)... | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 |
| Blanks | 26 | 24 | 19 | 69 |

Attorney General.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|----|-----|
| John A. Billings of Rockland (D. S.)... | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Allen Coffin of Nantucket (P.)..... | 1 | 4 | 1 | 6 |
| John C. Crosby of Pittsfield (D.)..... | 31 | 25 | 12 | 68 |
| Hosea M. Knowlton of New Bedford (R.) | 121 | 101 | 28 | 250 |
| Frank MacDonald of Stoneham (S.)... | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Blanks | 24 | 36 | 17 | 77 |

Representative in Congress.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|----|----|-----|
| Charles D. Lewis of Framingham (D.).. | 31 | 31 | 15 | 77 |
| Charles Q. Tirrell of Natick (R.)..... | 124 | 99 | 33 | 256 |
| Blanks | 22 | 38 | 11 | 71 |

Councillor.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|-----|
| S. Herbert Howe of Marlboro (R.)..... | 122 | 101 | 37 | 260 |
| John J. Mahoney of Lowell (D.)..... | 26 | 32 | 12 | 70 |
| Edwin S. Mayo of Everett (S.)..... | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Blanks | 28 | 34 | 10 | 72 |

Senator.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----|-----|
| Frank L. Blood of Groton (D.)..... | 29 | 31 | 9 | 69 |
| Herbert E. Fletcher of Westford (R.).. | 130 | 107 | 43 | 280 |
| Blanks | 18 | 30 | 7 | 55 |

Representative in General Court.

| | Prec. 1. | Prec. 2. | Prec. 3. | Total. |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| William N. Cowles of Ayer (D.)..... | 32 | 42 | 13 | 87 |
| Melvin W. Longley of Shirley (R.).... | 119 | 98 | 35 | 252 |
| Blanks | 26 | 28 | 11 | 65 |

County Commissioner.

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|-----|
| Truman W. Hagar of Framingham (D.) | 28 | 32 | 16 | 76 |
| John O'Donnell of Woburn (S.)..... | 2 | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Samuel O. Upham of Waltham (R.)... | 123 | 100 | 35 | 258 |
| Blanks | 24 | 34 | 8 | 66 |

Register of Deeds.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|-----|
| James Everett of Lowell (S.)..... | 8 | 13 | 2 | 23 |
| Joseph P. Thompson of Lowell (R.)... | 133 | 104 | 36 | 273 |
| Blanks | 36 | 51 | 21 | 108 |

County Treasurer.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----|-----|
| Albert M. Grant of Everett (S.)..... | 6 | 14 | 2 | 22 |
| Joseph O. Hayden of Somerville (R.)... | 125 | 101 | 35 | 261 |
| Blanks | 46 | 53 | 22 | 121 |

Return of Votes for Representative in General Court for Middlesex District, No. 23.

| | Acton. | Ayer. | Little- ton. | Shir- ley. | West- ford. | Total. |
|------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|--------|
| William N. Cowles of Ayer.. | 98 | 276 | 45 | 118 | 87 | 624 |
| Melvin W. Longley of Shirley | 265 | 161 | 118 | 124 | 252 | 920 |
| Blanks | 44 | 41 | 22 | 24 | 65 | 196 |
| Whole number of ballots.... | 407 | 478 | 185 | 266 | 404 | 1740 |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

ASSESSOR'S REPORT.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Value of buildings, exclusive of land, May 1, 1900..... | \$619,198 00 |
| Value of land, exclusive of the buildings, May 1, 1900..... | 439,671 00 |
| Value of personal estate, May 1, 1900.. | 222,808 00 |
| | \$1,281,677 00 |

AMOUNT RAISED.

| | | |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| For purchase of books for library..... | \$ 150 00 | |
| Improvement of cemeteries..... | 250 00 | |
| Support of poor..... | 2,000 00 | |
| Schools..... | 5,700 00 | |
| Repair of roads and bridges..... | 3,300 00 | |
| Town debts and charges..... | 4,000 00 | |
| High school scholars..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Text books and supplies..... | 600 00 | |
| Painting Graniteville school house. | 100 00 | |
| Repair of bank wall at bridge, oppo- site Marden's Mill..... | 200 00 | |
| Payment of note, with interest.... | 1,432 00 | |
| | | \$19,232 00 |
| State tax..... | | 795 00 |
| County tax..... | | 1,418 57 |
| Overlayings..... | | 455 14 |
| Additional taxes..... | | 77 70 |
| | | \$21,978 41 |
| Total tax levy, 1900..... | | |
| Number of Polls..... | 703 | |
| Houses..... | 474 | |
| Horses..... | 427 | |
| Cows..... | 719 | |
| Neat cattle other than cows..... | 230 | |
| Sheep..... | 53 | |
| Swine..... | 46 | |
| Fowls..... | 1,055 | |
| Land, acres..... | 18,000 | |
| Tax on one hundred dollars.... | | \$1 60 |

TOWN PROPERTY.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Town Hall..... | \$13,500 00 | |
| Public Library | 26,000 00 | |
| Town Farm..... | 7,000 00 | |
| Public Parks | 1,500 00 | |
| Cemeteries | 1,500 00 | |
| Centre School House..... | 3,500 00 | |
| Stony Brook School House | 1,500 00 | |
| Forge Village School House..... | 3,800 00 | |
| Nashoba School House..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Parkerville School House..... | 1,800 00 | |
| Minot's Corner School House..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Nabnasset School House | 1,500 00 | |
| Long-Sought-For School House..... | 1,600 00 | |
| Wright School House..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Graniteville School House..... | 4,500 00 | |
| Fire Apparatus | 350 00 | |
| Trust Funds | 2,000 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$74,550 00 |

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE H. HARTFORD,
SAMUEL L. TAYLOR,
W. H.H. BURBECK,
Assessors of Westford.

ABATEMENT OF TAXES AS ORDERED BY THE ASSESSORS.

1896.

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|
| Brown, John | \$ 2 00 | |
| Humiston, George E..... | 2 00 | |
| Lee, Joseph..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$ 6 00 |

1897.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| Ashley, Henry L..... | 2 00 | |
| Brown, John, 2nd..... | 2 00 | |
| Dion, Flavin | 2 54 | |
| Farrow, George M..... | 2 61 | |
| Hovanesian, Mikel..... | 2 81 | |
| Johnson, Charles | 2 00 | |
| Humiston, George E..... | 2 34 | |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <hr/> | \$16 30 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | . | \$16 30 |
| Lee, Joseph..... | \$2 00 | |
| O'Brien, John..... | 2 00 | |
| Parker, Wm. W..... | 4 97 | |
| Raymond, John | 2 00 | |
| 1898. | <hr/> | \$27 27 |
| Brewster, Thomas | 2 00 | |
| Brown, John | 2 00 | |
| Brown, George..... | 2 00 | |
| Brow, Byron | 1 01 | |
| Cutter, Samuel H | 2 00 | |
| Clark, Frederick W..... | 2 38 | |
| Dion, Joseph..... | 2 00 | |
| Downs, Fred..... | 2 00 | |
| Desalvan, Richard..... | 2 00 | |
| Dufresne, George..... | 2 00 | |
| Early, Wm. W..... | 2 00 | |
| Farrow, George M..... | 2 23 | |
| Hall, Peter G | 2 00 | |
| Hall, James..... | 2 00 | |
| Hanson, Adolph S..... | 1 65 | |
| Hennesey, Frank..... | 2 00 | |
| Humiston, George E..... | 2 30 | |
| Hedstrom, John N. A. | 2 00 | |
| Jasmine, Alex., error..... | 3 13 | |
| Johnson, John..... | 2 00 | |
| Johnson, Mandin | 2 00 | |
| Kirby, Patrick..... | 2 00 | |
| Lamere, Andrew | 2 00 | |
| Murphy, John..... | 2 00 | |
| Maloney, Michael..... | 2 00 | |
| Nickles, Nathan..... | 2 00 | |
| Parker, Wm. W..... | 8 90 | |
| Raymond, John..... | 2 00 | |
| Raymond, William..... | 2 00 | |
| Sullivan, John..... | 2 00 | |
| Smith, Wm..... | 2 00 | |
| Webster, Frank P..... | 2 75 | |
| Jordan, John A..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$74 35 |

1899.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Allard, Joseph..... | \$2 00 |
| Brophy, Thomas..... | 2 77 |
| Brophy, Thomas J..... | 2 00 |
| Barlow, F., error..... | 2 00 |
| Brisson, Anthony..... | 2 00 |
| Brown, John..... | 2 00 |
| Benney, James T..... | 1 53 |
| Blake, James..... | 2 00 |
| Brisson, S..... | 2 00 |
| Columb, George..... | 2 00 |
| Crabb, Everett..... | 2 00 |
| Dearborn, Asa..... | 2 00 |
| Deronia, Adalord..... | 2 00 |
| Dupont, Peter..... | 2 00 |
| Dinsmore, John, error..... | 2 00 |
| Hall, James H., error..... | 2 00 |
| Humiston, George E..... | 2 00 |
| Hedstrom, Alfred..... | 2 00 |
| Harrup, Thomas..... | 2 00 |
| Hall, Alfred J..... | 2 00 |
| Hayes, Elmer J..... | 2 00 |
| Howard, John..... | 2 00 |
| Hall, Frank P..... | 2 31 |
| King, Harvey..... | 2 00 |
| Kelley, Oliver..... | 2 00 |
| Leland, Hiram..... | 2 00 |
| Leland, Louisa, Mrs..... | 10 86 |
| Logue, John..... | 2 00 |
| Lecluire, August..... | 2 00 |
| Laplane, Victor..... | 2 00 |
| McLaughlin, Arthur..... | 2 00 |
| Marshall, John F..... | 2 00 |
| Morris, Wallace..... | 2 31 |
| Malone, Dennis..... | 2 00 |
| McLenna, Chas. E., error..... | 2 00 |
| Mitchel, James..... | 2 00 |
| McAuley, Edgar..... | 2 00 |

Amount carried forward.....

\$83 78

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|---------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$83 78 |
| McCarty, Chas. J..... | 2 00 | |
| Northrup Adino | 2 00 | |
| Odell, Richard C..... | 2 00 | |
| Robinson, Fred, error..... | 2 00 | |
| Sherburn, Elmer R..... | 2 15 | |
| Snyder, Samuel H..... | 2 38 | |
| Sandwee, Amido | 2 00 | |
| Shea, Edward..... | 2 00 | |
| Stopford, Joseph..... | 2 00 | |
| Serat, James..... | 2 00 | |
| Smith, Chas. A..... | 2 00 | |
| Underhill, Colby..... | 2 00 | |
| Vickery, David, estate of.... | 69 | |
| Wiggins, Fred, error..... | 2 23 | |
| York, Matthew..... | 2 00 | |
| Kelly, Georgiana..... | 2 44 | |
| Wright, George O..... | 2 00 | |

 33 89

 117 67

1900.

| | | |
|--------------------------|------|--|
| Clough, Moza A..... | 2 00 | |
| Healy, Henry, error..... | 2 00 | |
| Hildreth, Albert A..... | 16 | |
| Payne James H..... | 24 | |
| Reed, Willard T..... | 40 | |

 4 80

SUMMARY.

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------|--|
| Abatement taxes 1896..... | 6 00 | |
| 1897..... | 27 27 | |
| 1898..... | 74 35 | |
| 1899..... | 117 67 | |
| 1900..... | 4 80 | |

 230 09

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

LIST OF UNPAID TAXES.

| 1896. | | |
|---|--------|----------|
| Green, Harry C. | \$ 49 | |
| Herrick, Estate of Henry | 2 27 | |
| Leland, Leroy B. | 2 00 | |
| Whittier, Geo. E. | 97 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 73 |
| 1897. | | |
| Blair, Geo. F. | 68 | |
| Daily, Jas. | 2 00 | |
| DeRoehn, Eugene | 2 68 | |
| Floyd, Saml. N. | 2 00 | |
| Green, Harry C. | 41 | |
| Herrick, Estate of Henry | 1 89 | |
| Hamlin, Edward A. | 2 61 | |
| Leland, Leroy B. | 2 00 | |
| O'Brien, James F. | 2 00 | |
| Shaw, Francis A. | 2 00 | |
| Shugrue, Chas. F. | 5 13 | |
| Whittier, Geo. E. | 81 | |
| | <hr/> | \$24 21 |
| 1898. | | |
| Bicknell, Chas. H. | 15 58 | |
| Blair, Geo. F. | 75 | |
| Barrett, J. H. | 30 | |
| Carkin, Edward F. | 2 00 | |
| Carr, Michael | 2 30 | |
| DeRoehn, Eugene | 2 00 | |
| Demaris, Geo. | 3 58 | |
| Felch, Mrs. Ann | 34 46 | |
| Fletcher, Estate of Samuel | 179 41 | |
| Green, Harry C. | 45 | |
| Herrick, Estate of Henry | 2 10 | |
| Hamlin, Edward A. | 3 13 | |
| Johnson, Wm. W. | 24 21 | |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <hr/> | \$270 27 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | | \$270 27 |
| Johnson, W. H. | \$2 00 | |
| Leland, Hiram | 2 00 | |
| Leland, Leroy B. | 2 00 | |
| Moss, James L. | 2 75 | |
| O'Brien, John | 2 00 | |
| O'Brien, James F. | 2 00 | |
| O'Dill, Wm. F. | 2 45 | |
| Parkhurst, E. K. | 30 | |
| Shaw, Francis A. | 2 00 | |
| Sheahan, John J. | 2 38 | |
| Shugrue, Chas. F. | 31 48 | |
| Sheahan, Mrs. Thos. | 1 20 | |
| Vickery, Estate of David | 68 | |
| Wood, Albert J. | 2 00 | |
| Ward, Daniel | 19 86 | |
| Wright, Gilman F. | 29 75 | |
| Wyman, Walter W. | 2 23 | |
| | <hr/> | \$107 08 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$407 29 |

WALTER C. WRIGHT,

Tax Collector.

UNPAID TAXES FOR YEAR 1899.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Charles L. Adams | \$21 21 |
| Howard T. Adams | 8 74 |
| Loammi C. Bicknell | 13 62 |
| Charles H. Bicknell | 15 22 |
| John H. Brown | 1 54 |
| Arthur W. Balser | 3 53 |
| James Barlow | 2 77 |
| John P. Brown | 2 38 |
| Israel Berthuine | 2 00 |
| Joseph Berthuine | 2 00 |
| George Bodreau | 2 00 |
| James R. Carkin | 2 46 |
| Charles W. Carkin | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Bridgett Carr | 6 89 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$86 36 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$86 36 |
| Mrs. Walter H. Cummings | 9 18 |
| Irving T. Cummings | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Nellie S. Carkin | 1 61 |
| Harry L. Clark | 2 00 |
| Lewis G. Clark | 2 00 |
| Frederick W. Clark | 2 00 |
| Herbert Cann | 2 00 |
| Carl Carlton | 2 00 |
| Charles A. Campbell | 2 38 |
| Otis L. Caldwell | 38 |
| Mrs. Lewis C. Dane | 11 70 |
| Alfred O. Davis | 2 69 |
| Nathaniel J. Decatur | 2 77 |
| William H. Decatur | 16 00 |
| Eugene Deroehn | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Joseph Duren Estate | 6 12 |
| Charles W. Draper | 2 00 |
| Samuel N. Eaton | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Ann Felch | 55 69 |
| Samuel Fletcher Estate | 112 99 |
| Harry N. Fletcher | 2 00 |
| Henry Herrick Estate | 2 14 |
| James Hunt | 3 68 |
| Isaac Hillier | 2 00 |
| Jackson and Kirby | 3 06 |
| Wallace W. Johnson | 29 84 |
| William H. Johnson | 2 00 |
| Selden W. Kimball | 21 74 |
| George A. Leland | 2 00 |
| Edwin F. Lovell | 2 00 |
| Minnie R. Lovell | 38 |
| James A. Litchfield | 2 38 |
| Luther Lawton | 12 71 |
| Victor Lequerre | 15 |
| Rufus D. Lamphier | 2 00 |
| Joseph F. McCarthy | 2 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$329 59 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$329 59 |
| George E. Mountain | 21 89 |
| Ernest G. Mountain | 77 |
| Fred A. Morton | 2 00 |
| Wilfred Morton | 2 00 |
| Warren E. Merrill | 2 00 |
| Jacob Magar | 2 00 |
| Aubrey Morton | 2 00 |
| B. F. Nutting | 34 89 |
| John O'Brien | 2 00 |
| John W. O'Brien | 12 02 |
| James F. O'Brien | 2 38 |
| Mrs. James F. O'Brien | 7 27 |
| John O'Brien, 2nd | 19 83 |
| Wilbert E. Parsons | 44 84 |
| William W. Parker | 35 44 |
| Frank D. Riney | 2 15 |
| Joseph B. Riney | 2 15 |
| Charles F. Shugrue | 31 45 |
| John J. & D. H. Sheahan | 23 72 |
| John J. Sheahan | 2 00 |
| Francis A. Shaw | 2 00 |
| Frederick Stirk | 2 38 |
| Heber H. Saunders | 2 00 |
| Howard W. Sweetser | 2 61 |
| John E. Ward | 11 86 |
| Daniel Ward | 19 28 |
| John H. Whitney Estate | 15 07 |
| Charles E. Whidden | 53 40 |
| Gilman F. Wright | 30 46 |
| Walter W. Wyman | 2 38 |
| Ida M. Wyman Estate | 14 92 |
| Horace W. Wyman | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Hannah Wyeth | 37 48 |
| Charles L. West | 10 04 |
| Mrs. Clara Fillebrown | 2 60 |
| William G. Stevens | 2 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <u>\$463 28</u> |

NON-RESIDENTS.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$463 28 |
| George L. Cady | 43 55 |
| Sarah Wadsworth Estate | 4 52 |
| Mrs. Sarah Bacon | 3 06 |
| Mrs. Ida M. Voter | 12 24 |
| Adams & Barron | 4 21 |
| Mrs. Thomas Sheahan | 1 22 |
| Adams & Dutton | 77 |
| John D. Cartwright | 4 59 |
| E. K. Parkhurst | 31 |
| J. Warren Gould | 1 99 |
| Willisted & Marrinell | 5 21 |
| John Ward | 4 28 |
| Marshall E. Graves | 2 07 |
| Joseph H. Bergeron | 1 15 |
| J. B. Morse | 1 53 |
| Fletcher & Woods | 4 59 |
| Reed & Jaffrey | 1 84 |
| George Hutchinson | 3 21 |
| Herman Lamphier | 25 18 |
| Thomas H. Elliott | 3 82 |
| Keyes & Cornell | 2 14 |
| George F. Blair | 77 |
| George W. Cummings | 38 |
| Edward Duren | 3 83 |
| Mrs. Mary E. Courtney | 15 68 |
| Charles Crevier | 1 53 |
| Harry C. Green | 46 |
| Bernard Riley | 3 83 |
| Charles F. Varnum | 22 65 |
| George A. Parker | 39 24 |
| Total | \$1,099 08 |

Signed.

A. L. PRIOR,

Tax Collector.

February 15, 1901.

UNPAID TAXES FOR YEAR 1900, UNPAID FEB. 15, 1901.

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Charles L. Adams | \$20 53 |
| Henry L. Ashley | 2 00 |
| Victor Allarie | 2 00 |
| Charles Amos | 2 00 |
| Joseph Allard Estate | 10 00 |
| Emily C. Blood | 13 44 |
| George L. Bennett | 2 56 |
| Loammi C. Bicknell | 14 08 |
| Charles H. Bicknell | 15 84 |
| Alvin J. Blaisdell | 63 68 |
| John H. Brown | 2 80 |
| Arthur W. Balser | 2 00 |
| John P. Brown | 2 00 |
| William C. Burleigh | 2 00 |
| Flavier Boucher | 2 00 |
| Charles Bellow | 2 00 |
| Napolean Bean | 2 24 |
| Amos Body | 2 00 |
| George Benjamin | 2 00 |
| George H. Burnham | 2 00 |
| Joseph Berthume | 2 00 |
| John Batchelder | 2 00 |
| James R. Carkin | 2 00 |
| Charles W. Cann | 3 28 |
| Michael Carr | 2 40 |
| Mrs. Bridgett Carr | 7 20 |
| John F. Coburn | 2 00 |
| Peter Clement | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Walter H. Cummings Estate | 9 60 |
| Irving T. Cummings | 2 24 |
| John Campling | 2 00 |
| Warren Carkin | 2 00 |
| William O. Carkin | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Nellie S. Carkin | 2 56 |
| Harry L. Clark | 2 00 |
| Fred W. Clark | 2 00 |
| Carl Carlton | 2 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <u>\$216 45</u> |

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$216 45 |
| William T. Carr | 2 24 |
| John Charuskie | 2 00 |
| Cyrus Chase | 2 00 |
| Joseph H. Cooper | 2 00 |
| James Corner | 2 00 |
| Percy A. Chapman | 2 00 |
| Otis L. Caldwell | 40 |
| Hugh Daley | 2 80 |
| Lewis C. Dane | 15 04 |
| Dennis Dean | 2 00 |
| C. R. P. Decatur | 31 92 |
| Nathaniel J. Decatur | 2 80 |
| William H. Decatur | 82 40 |
| Timothy Driscoll | 15 84 |
| George Demarais | 2 24 |
| Moses Duggrey | 2 00 |
| Fred Defoe | 2 00 |
| John Dinsmore | 2 00 |
| Victor Dufree | 2 00 |
| Joseph Drapo | 2 00 |
| Minot H. A. Evans | 53 20 |
| Samuel N. Eaton | 2 00 |
| Charles A. Eaton | 2 32 |
| Mrs. Ann Felch | 56 96 |
| Samuel Fletcher Estate | 189 36 |
| Harry N. Fletcher | 2 00 |
| John L. Flynn | 2 00 |
| Samuel M. Floyd | 2 00 |
| Lydia Griffin Estate | 28 80 |
| Fred S. Gould | 2 00 |
| Frank Gilmore | 2 00 |
| George C. Gardner | 2 88 |
| Ohanian Giragos | 2 00 |
| John A. Healy, 2nd | 2 00 |
| Anthony Healy | 2 00 |
| Henry Herrick Estate | 2 24 |
| Thomas Hughes | 2 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$533 44 |

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$533 44 |
| Daniel Harrington | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Georgianna Hannon | 32 00 |
| Fred Hill | 2 00 |
| William Hunt | 2 00 |
| Edward Hunt | 2 32 |
| William Howard | 2 00 |
| Emil Hanahuen | 2 00 |
| Pearl Harmon | 5 60 |
| Thomas Harrap | 2 00 |
| Jackson & Kirby | 3 20 |
| William W. Johnson | 30 88 |
| William H. Johnson | 2 00 |
| Selden W. Kimball | 17 10 |
| Hoyt S. Knights | 3 60 |
| Thomas Kent | 2 00 |
| Thomas Kiernan | 2 00 |
| David Keefe | 2 00 |
| John Kelly | 2 00 |
| William Kitchen | 2 00 |
| George A. Leland | 2 16 |
| Leroy B. Leland | 2 00 |
| Hiram Leland | 4 00 |
| Mrs. Louisa Leland | 3 76 |
| Edwin F. Lovell | 2 00 |
| Axel Lundberg | 18 48 |
| Luther Lawton | 13 20 |
| Arthur Lamphron | 2 32 |
| Joseph Lesure | 2 00 |
| Fred Lafrane | 2 24 |
| Thomas Larkin | 2 00 |
| Henry Lewis | 2 00 |
| Eugene Levine | 2 00 |
| Henry Laborgue | 2 00 |
| George F. Lamere | 2 00 |
| David Lahey | 2 00 |
| Frederick Martin, 2nd | 2 16 |
| Joseph McCarthy | 2 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <u>\$187 02</u> |

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$187 02 |
| Henry Monahan | 18 00 |
| Frank McGlinchy | 2 00 |
| Ernest G. Mountain | 80 |
| James L. Moss | 2 00 |
| Warren E. Merrill | 2 00 |
| Arthur McLaughlin | 2 00 |
| Timothy Mahoney | 2 00 |
| William E. McBride | 2 00 |
| Michael McGovern | 2 00 |
| James McMurray | 2 00 |
| Joseph McDonald | 2 00 |
| John Morton | 2 40 |
| Frank J. Moran | 2 16 |
| Joseph Moran | 2 00 |
| Isaac Milot | 2 16 |
| Joseph Mellett | 2 00 |
| Asdoor Mosek | 2 00 |
| B. F. Nutting | 36 00 |
| Adino Northrup | 2 00 |
| Moses G. Nichols | 2 00 |
| Marjorie Noel | 2 00 |
| Charles F. Naylor | 2 00 |
| Cornelius O'Brien | 17 20 |
| James H. O'Brien | 25 84 |
| John W. O'Brien | 12 16 |
| John O'Brien | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Honora O'Brien | 60 96 |
| Frank D. O'Brien | 2 24 |
| Mrs. James F. O'Brien | 7 60 |
| John O'Brien, 2d | 24 00 |
| John W. O'Brien, 2d | 2 24 |
| Robert O'Dell | 2 00 |
| Wilbert E. Parsons | 47 79 |
| B. F. Parrott | 6 00 |
| Edward Payerer | 2 24 |
| Joseph Payerer | 2 24 |
| Frank A. V. Phelps | 12 96 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <u>\$320 99</u> |

| | |
|---|----------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$320 99 |
| Charles D. Pace | 2 00 |
| John C. Paige | 2 00 |
| J. Henry Read | 82 80 |
| Frank B. Riney | 2 24 |
| Joseph B. Riney | 2 00 |
| Joseph Richards | 2 00 |
| John Rivard | 2 00 |
| William Ritchey | 2 00 |
| Joseph Rosseau | 2 00 |
| Oliver Rushler | 2 00 |
| Jeffrey Robichard | 2 00 |
| Charles F. Shugrue | 33 28 |
| John J. and D. H. Sheahan | 24 80 |
| John J. Sheahan | 2 00 |
| Daniel H. Sheahan | 15 20 |
| Mrs. Michael Sheron | 10 00 |
| Francis A. Shaw | 2 00 |
| Florence Sullivan Estate | 8 80 |
| Timothy Sullivan | 2 00 |
| John Sullivan | 2 00 |
| Michael Sullivan | 2 00 |
| Thomas O. Sullivan | 39 84 |
| Frederick Stirk | 2 40 |
| Nathaniel Sweetser Estate | 12 00 |
| Judson F. Shaw | 21 52 |
| William G. Stevens | 2 16 |
| Edward St. Peter | 2 00 |
| Charles F. Shaw | 2 00 |
| Simon Smith | 2 00 |
| James Shea | 2 00 |
| John Sweeney | 2 00 |
| Benjamin Tirrell | 2 00 |
| Peter Vayo | 2 00 |
| Charles E. Vinal | 2 48 |
| John Wayne | 26 16 |
| John E. Ward | 11 92 |
| Daniel Ward | 20 56 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <hr/> \$358 16 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$358 16 |
| Joseph T. Whitney | 2 80 |
| Mrs. Sarah F. Whitney | 35 44 |
| Thomas Whiggam | 2 00 |
| Wiley M. Wright | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Wiley M. Wright | 10 00 |
| Gilman F. Wright | 32 00 |
| Walter W. Wyman | 2 40 |
| Mrs. Ida M. Wyman Estate | 15 60 |
| George W. Wyman | 2 24 |
| Hannah Wyeth | 39 20 |
| Charles L. West | 10 16 |
| Fred Wiggin | 2 24 |
| George O. Wright | 2 00 |
| William B. Wood | 2 00 |

1900.

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Suhavich, William | 2 00 |
| Walter Wilson | 2 00 |
| James H. Wilson | 2 00 |
| Elbridge B. Ward | 6 80 |
| Mrs. Mary J. Ward | 20 00 |
| Myron D. Waller, Jr. | 2 00 |
| Frank McManiman | 2 00 |

NON-RESIDENTS.

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| Mrs. Sarah Bacon | 3 20 |
| Hart & Fowler | 1 92 |
| E. S. Wolfe | 96 |
| Nathan Simonds Estate | 80 |
| Mrs. Joel Boynton | 3 52 |
| Mrs. Ida M. Voter | 12 80 |
| Adams & Barron | 4 40 |
| Mrs. Thomas Sheahan | 1 28 |
| John D. Cartwright | 4 80 |
| George H. Holt | 64 |
| Leonard J. Mansfield | 3 20 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <u>\$234 40</u> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$234 40 |
| E. K. Parkhurst Estate | 32 |
| Tripena Robbins Estate | 72 |
| Benjamin O. Robbins | 5 20 |
| Willisted & Marinell | 5 44 |
| John Ward | 4 48 |
| Charles A. Vinal | 16 00 |
| Mrs. Georgianna Kelly | 2 56 |
| Thomas E. Edmunds | 60 |
| Charles F. M. Fish | 2 80 |
| Mrs. Kendall Wright | 40 |
| Frank A. Fletcher | 8 56 |
| Fletcher & Woods | 4 80 |
| George Morse | 4 56 |
| George C. Danforth | 14 40 |
| George Proctor | 64 |
| Charles G. Wright | 5 76 |
| Reed & Jaffrey | 1 92 |
| Mrs. Charles P. Hartwell | 80 |
| George Hutchinson | 3 36 |
| Thomas H. Elliott | 37 28 |
| Cornell & Keyes | 2 24 |
| George F. Blair Estate | 80 |
| Alden Buttrick Estate | 2 00 |
| George W. Cummings | 40 |
| Edward Duren | 4 00 |
| Mrs. Mary E. Courtney | 17 60 |
| Charles Crevier | 2 80 |
| Frank Brady | 9 60 |
| Harry C. Green | 48 |
| E. G. Russell | 12 80 |
| Bernard Riley | 4 00 |
| Charles F. Varnum | 23 68 |
| Bertram N. Hutchins | 1 60 |
| Morris Daley | 14 00 |
| Herman Lamphier | 26 32 |
| Otis L. Wright | 1 20 |
| Jeptha Cummings Estate | 2 48 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$246 60 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | \$246 60 |
| George A. Parker | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 16 40 |
| George L. Cady | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 56 00 |
| A. W. Lambert | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 50 |
| L. T. Lambert | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 00 |
| | | | | | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | | | | | \$2,173 96 |

(Signed)

A. L. PRIOR,

Collector of Taxes.

Town of Westford, Feb. 15, 1901.

REPORT OF TREE WARDEN.

Citizens of Westford :

As Tree Warden the past year I submit the following report. In April I went over all the roads in the western part of the Town and spiked all the trees, using fifteen hundred spikes. Found some of the trees had been spiked and the bark had nearly grown over them, and after using what spikes the Improvement Association had, and while waiting for another supply from the state, I received from the State Board of Agriculture a circular and the law on shade trees and their preservation. I found that it did not require them to be spiked during the summer. I bolted eight trees which I found had been split by the ice and wind, using nine bolts at a cost of \$2.10 ; also trimmed a large number of trees in different parts of the Town which were liable to do damage to covered carriages, and have asked the Selectmen to have the law for the preservation of shade trees printed in the Town Report for the benefit of all land owners.

W. H. H. BURBECK,
Tree Warden for 1900.

ACTS OF 1899.

[Chap. 330.]

An Act to codify and amend the laws relative to the preservation of trees.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows :

Section 1. Every town shall at its annual meeting for the election of town officers elect a Tree Warden, who shall serve for one year and until his successor is elected and qualified. He may appoint such number of deputy tree wardens as he deems expedient, and may at any time remove them from office. He and his deputies shall receive such compensation for their services as the town may determine, and, in default of such determination, as the Selectmen may prescribe. He shall have the care and

control of all public shade trees in the town, except those in public parks or open places under the jurisdiction of park commissioners, and of these also he shall take the care and control if so requested in writing by the park commissioners. He shall expend all funds appropriated for the setting out and maintenance of such trees. He may prescribe such regulations for the care and preservation of such trees, enforced by suitable fines and forfeitures, not exceeding twenty dollars in any one case, as he may deem just and expedient; and such regulations, when approved by the Selectmen and posted in two or more public places in the town, shall have the force and effect of town by-laws. It shall be his duty to enforce all provisions of law for the preservation of such trees.

Section 2. Towns may appropriate annually a sum of money not exceeding in the aggregate fifty cents for each of its ratable polls in the preceding year, to be expended by the Tree Warden in planting shade trees in the public ways, or, if he deems it expedient, upon adjoining land, at a distance not exceeding twenty feet from said public ways, for the purpose of shading or ornamenting the same: *provided, however*, that the written consent of the owner of such land shall first be obtained. All shade trees within the limits of any public way shall be deemed public shade trees.

Section 3. Whoever, other than a Tree Warden or his deputy, desires the cutting or removal, in whole or in part, of any public shade tree, may apply to the Tree Warden, who shall give a public hearing upon the application at some suitable time and place, after duly posting notices of the hearing in two or more public places in the town, and also upon the said tree: *provided, however*, that the Warden may, if he deems it expedient, grant permission for such cutting or removal, without calling a hearing, if the tree in question is on a public way outside of the residential part of the town, the limits of such residential part to be determined by the Selectmen. No tree within such residential part shall be cut by the Tree Warden, except to trim it, or removed by him without a hearing as aforesaid; but in all cases the decision of the Tree Warden shall be final.

Section 4. Towns may annually raise and appropriate such sum of money as they deem necessary, to be expended under the direction of the Tree Warden in exterminating insect pests within

the limits of their public ways and places, and in the removal from said public ways and places of all trees and other plants upon which such pests naturally breed: *provided, however*, that where an owner or lessee of real estate shall, to the satisfaction of the Tree Warden, annually exterminate all insect pests upon the trees and other plants within the limits of any public way or place abutting on said real estate, such trees and plants shall be exempt from the provisions of this section.

Section 5. Whoever affixes to any tree in a public way or place a playbill, picture, announcement, notice, advertisement or other thing, whether in writing or otherwise, or cuts, paints or marks such tree, except for the purpose of protecting it and under a written permit from the Tree Warden, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars for each offence.

Section 6. Whoever wantonly injures, defaces, breaks or destroys an ornamental or shade tree within the limits of any public way or place shall forfeit not less than five nor more than one hundred dollars, to be recovered by complaint, one-half to the complainant and the other half to the use of the town.

Section 7. Whoever negligently or carelessly suffers a horse or other beast driven by or for him, or a beast belonging to him and lawfully in a public way or place, to break down, injure or destroy a shade or ornamental tree within the limits of said public way or place, or whoever negligently or wilfully by any other means breaks down, injures or destroys any such tree, shall be liable to the penalties prescribed in the foregoing section, and shall in addition be liable for all damages caused thereby.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the Tree Warden to enforce the provisions of the preceding sections. [*Approved May 4, 1899.*]

[Chapter 436.]

An Act Relative to the Protection of Shade Trees.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows :

Section 1. Section eight of chapter fifty-four of the Public Statutes is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following words :—and shall forfeit not less than five nor more

than one hundred dollars to be recovered by complaint ; one-half to the complainant and the other half to the use of the municipality in which such injury is done,— so as to read as follows : —

Section 8. Whoever negligently or carelessly suffers a horse or other beast driven by or for him, or a beast belonging to him and lawfully on the highway, to break down, destroy, or injure a tree, not his own, standing for use or ornament on said highway, or negligently or wilfully by any other means breaks down, destroys, or injures any such tree, shall be subject to an action for damages at the suit of the owner or tenant of the land in front of which the tree stands, and shall forfeit not less than five nor more than one hundred dollars to be recovered by complaint ; one half to the complainant and the other half to the use of the municipality in which such injury is done.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

[*Approved May 27, 1899.*

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

COMPENSATION OF TOWN OFFICERS.

TOWN TREASURER.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Nahum H. Wright, salary ending March 1, 1900..... | \$100 00 | |
| Extra time and expense on town business.... | 21 50 | |
| | 21 50 | \$121 50 |

TOWN CLERK.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Gilman J. Wright, salary..... | \$12 00 | |
| Recording and making returns to Secretary of Commonwealth of births, marriages and deaths for the year 1899, as follows : | | |
| 58 births at 50 cents each.... | 29 00 | |
| 20 marriages at 20 cents each.... | 4 00 | |
| 49 deaths at 20 cents each.... | 9 80 | |
| Extra services at annual meeting, 1900..... | 3 00 | |
| Extra services at State election.... | 5 00 | |
| Attending Town Clerks' meeting at Ayer..... | 2 50 | |
| Making Clerk's report..... | 3 00 | |
| Making and transmitting certificate under Acts of 1897..... | 25 | |
| Making and forwarding two depositions under Acts of 1897..... | 1 00 | |
| Services as Justice administering oaths..... | 2 75 | |
| Stationery, postage, telephone and express..... | 2 99 | |
| Dog license blanks..... | 1 00 | |
| Cash paid Justice for administering oaths..... | 75 | |
| | 75 | \$77 04 |

SELECTMEN.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Sherman H. Fletcher, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Making out State Aid Book..... | 6 00 | |
| Making 24 State Aid and Indigent Soldiers returns, under Chaps. 372 and 374, Acts of 1899.... | 6 00 | |
| Making out Town Report.. | 10 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways and culverts..... | 40 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman... | 35 00 | |
| Perambulating town line between Littleton and Westford..... | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$105 00 |
| George W. Heywood, salary.... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways and culverts..... | 40 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectmen..... | 35 00 | |
| Perambulating Town line between Littleton and Westford..... | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$83 00 |
| Wesley O. Hawkes, salary..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways and culverts..... | 35 00 | |
| Extra time as Selectman..... | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$65 00 |

AUDITOR.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Arthur B. Plumpton, services..... | \$35 00 | \$35 00 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|

ASSESSORS.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| George H. Hartford, 35 days, taking invoice and making taxes.... | \$87 50 | |
| George H. Hartford, taking school census..... | 25 00 | |
| Samuel L. Taylor, 28 days, taking invoice and making taxes.... | 70 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, 22 days, making taxes | 55 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$237 50 |

TAX COLLECTOR.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Field & Cowles, collector's bond..... | \$ 40 00 | |
| Revenue stamp for bond..... | 50 | |
| Arthur L. Prior, cash book and express. | 1 90 | |
| Postage and express..... | 19 05 | |
| Collecting \$1,861.39 taxes, 1899, at 1 per cent.... | 18 60 | |
| Collecting \$15,865.18 taxes, 1900, at 1 per cent..... | 158 65 | |
| Collecting \$1,425.04 taxes, 1900, at 1 per cent..... | 14 25 | |
| Collecting \$1,397.01 taxes, 1900, at 1 per cent..... | 13 97 | |
| | <hr/> | \$266 92 |

CONSTABLES.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Eugene DeRoehn, posting warrants for April and Nov. meetings..... | \$10 00 | |
| Notifying town officers elected and appointed..... | 10 00 | |
| John A. Healy, posting warrants for Feb. and March meetings..... | 10 00 | |
| Services and expenses..... | 15 00 | |
| Killing dogs..... | 3 00 | |
| For expenses..... | 32 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$80 50 |

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Nelson L. Tuttle attending 8 meetings | \$16 00 | |
| Quincy W. Day " " | 16 00 | |
| Oscar R. Spalding " " | 16 00 | |
| Gilman J. Wright " " | 16 00 | |
| Services as clerk..... | 10 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$74 00 |

CATTLE INSPECTOR.

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|
| George T. Day, services..... | \$94 00 | \$94 00 |
| \$47.00 refunded from State | | |

ELECTION OFFICERS.

Annual Meeting, March 19, 1900.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| William E. Frost, ballot clerk..... | \$ 2 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, ballot clerk..... | 2 00 | |
| T. Arthur Wilson, teller..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6 00 |

STATE ELECTION.—PRECINCT ONE.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| J. H. Read, warden, Nov., 1899..... | \$2 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, inspector, Nov., 1900 | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 00 |

PRECINCT TWO.

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| D. E. Splain, warden, Nov., 1900..... | \$3 00 | |
| W. C. Wright, clerk, Nov., 1899..... | 2 00 | |
| W. C. Wright, clerk, Nov., 1900..... | 5 00 | |
| Alfred Prinn, inspector, Nov., 1900 | 3 00 | |
| Joe Wall, inspector, Nov., 1900..... | 3 00 | |
| H. E. Gould, inspector, Nov., 1899 | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$18 00 |

PRECINCT THREE.

| | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| Thos. F. Dunn, warden, Nov., 1900.... | \$3 00 | |
| W. R. Taylor, clerk, Nov., 1900..... | 5 00 | |
| E. G. Boynton, inspector, Nov., 1900... | 3 00 | |
| E. G. Boynton, inspector, Nov. 1899. . . | 2 00 | |
| A. B. Polley, inspector, Nov., 1900..... | 3 00 | |
| F. W. Edward, clerk, Nov., 1899..... | 2 00 | |
| A. H. Saunders, care of ballot box and team, Nov., 1899 and 1900.... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$23 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$52 00 |

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| A. S. Thompson, superintendent..... | \$146 00 | |
| W. J. Sleeper, making report and expenses | 9 77 | |
| H. E. Richardson, superintendent.... | 600 00 | |
| H. E. Richardson, expenses and postage | 29 31 | |
| F. H. Read, delivering school books as supply agent..... | 35 00 | |
| George E. Gould, use of team..... | 1 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$821 58 |

UNDERTAKER.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| A. P. Richardson, attending 33 funerals with hearse..... | \$66 00 | |
| Making 23 returns and receiving permits..... | 5 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$71 75 |

TRUANT OFFICER.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| Eugene DeRoehn, services and ex- penses..... | \$6 84 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6 84 |

TREE WARDEN.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services..... | \$10 00 | |
| Cash paid for bolts, tree ink and tarred paper..... | 4 49 | |
| | <hr/> | \$14 49 |

TOWN COMMON.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Ai Bicknell, labor..... | \$5 00 | |
| Ai Bicknell, mowing common..... | 2 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$7 50 |

REPAIRS OF SCHOOL AND ARTICLES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

CENTRE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| J. A. Healy, constable service..... | \$ 1 50 | |
| F. Symmes, repair of clock..... | 1 00 | |
| H. Dane, labor and stock..... | 25 55 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor and stock..... | 15 60 | |
| F. E. Miller, guards for windows..... | 1 25 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, locks, glass, wire, screens, pails, duster, etc..... | 13 17 | |
| Joe Wall, labor and stock..... | 6 20 | |
| H. H. Wilder, repairs of furnaces..... | 21 67 | |
| | <hr/> | \$85 94 |

FORGE VILLAGE SCHOOLHOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| J. A. Healy, constable service..... | \$1 50 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor and stock..... | 7 96 | |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor and stock..... | 10 55 | |
| A. Pratt & Co., lumber..... | 9 42 | |
| H. Dane, labor and stock..... | 34 25 | |
| Nails..... | 65 | |
| D. E. Splain, coal hod, etc..... | 38 | |
| Wright & Bemis, brooms, etc..... | 2 65 | |
| The H. B. Smith Co., grates for furnace | 6 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$73 86 |

NASHOBA SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| E. H. Flagg, labor..... | \$ 1 60 | |
| Brooms and thermometer..... | 60 | |
| | <hr/> | \$ 2 20 |

PARKERVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| E. H. Flagg, labor, glass, pump, etc.... | \$12 00 | |
| Hiram Dane, labor and stock..... | 7 50 | |
| Brooms, dust pan and brushes..... | 1 55 | |
| | <hr/> | \$21 05 |

MINOT'S CORNER SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|------|
| Hiram Dane, labor and stock..... | \$7 50 | |
| Broom, dust pan and brushes..... | 1 25 | |
| | <hr/> | 8 75 |

NABNASSETT SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Henry Harrington, labor and stock.... | \$20 58 | |
| J. L. Moss, labor..... | 1 50 | |
| Eugene DeRoehn, labor..... | 1 50 | |
| Brooms and brush..... | 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$24 33 |

LONG-SOUGHT-FOR SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Henry Harrington, labor | \$1 88 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1 88 |

WRIGHT SCHOOLHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|-------|--------|
| Henry Harrington, labor | \$ 83 | |
| Wright & Bemis, brooms, glass, etc.... | 1 32 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2 15 |

GRANITEVILLE SCHOOLHOUSE—FOUR SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| J. A. Healy, labor..... | \$ 75 | |
| H. H. Wilder, repair of furnace..... | 95 76 | |
| Eugene DeRoehn, labor..... | 7 00 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor and stock.... | 46 76 | |
| Abbott & Co., labor and stock..... | 4 75 | |
| J. W. DeRoehn, painting school house. | 42 77 | |
| F. L. Fletcher, oil, dusters, chimneys, etc. | 8 80 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, paint stock..... | 57 67 | |
| A. R. DeRoehn, labor | 1 60 | |
| L. W. Seems, repair of clocks..... | 2 75 | |
| Wright & Bemis, brooms, glass, ther- mometers, etc..... | 20 47 | |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$289 08 |

EIGHTH GRADE SCHOOL.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| J. A. Healy, constable services..... | \$1 50 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor..... | 2 67 | |
| James Stanley, repair of clock..... | 1 00 | |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 5 17 |
| | | <hr/> <hr/> |
| | | \$514 41 |

TEXT BOOKS AND SUPPLIES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| J. L. Hammett Co..... | \$265 86 |
| American Book Co..... | 55 03 |
| F. E. Kendall..... | 3 00 |
| Silver, Burdett & Co..... | 9 15 |
| Ginn & Co..... | 85 58 |
| D. C. Heath & Co..... | 6 05 |
| T. H. Castor & Co..... | 3 60 |
| Educational Publishing Co..... | 43 18 |
| The Morse Co..... | 5 50 |
| E. E. Babb & Co..... | 73 |
| B. J. Merriam..... | 3 25 |
| The Beal Press..... | 10 00 |
| Wright & Potter Co..... | 2 00 |
| Houghton, Mifflin & Co..... | 28 56 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | \$521 49 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$521 49 | |
| Boston School Supply Co..... | 1 67 | |
| J. & I. E. Moore..... | 9 40 | |
| S. A. Weaver | 2 25 | |
| Brooks Bros | 3 00 | |
| A. D. MacLahlin | 3 00 | |
| G. T. Gilfoil | 27 00 | |
| Masury, Young & Co..... | 16 90 | |
| C. E. Whidden..... | 9 51 | |
| Sibley & Ducker | 3 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$597 97 |
| Appropriation..... | \$600 00 | |
| Received from sale of books..... | | 4 05 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Net cost..... | | \$593 92 |

J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor, Feb. 1, 1900, to Feb. 1, 1901..... | \$100 00 |
| Carrie E. Read, Librarian, February and March..... | 30 00 |
| Carrie E. Read, extra work..... | 16 20 |
| Carrie E. Read, cash paid express and teaming | 2 85 |
| Mary P. Bunce, Librarian, April 1, 1900, to Feb. 1, 1901..... | 150 00 |
| Mary P. Bunce, cash paid express and freight | 5 57 |
| Wright & Fletcher, 10 $\frac{6}{10}$ tons egg coal at \$4.50..... | 47 70 |
| B. & M. R. R., freight on coal..... | 10 60 |
| W. W. Johnson, teaming coal..... | 8 85 |
| Brownell & Mason, repairing and clean- ing furnaces..... | 15 57 |
| G. H. Phelps, repair of slates on roof... | 2 50 |
| Gilbert & Barker, 3 bbls. gasoline..... | 23 10 |
| W. W. Johnson, 1 cord wood..... | 2 50 |
| H. Dane, labor..... | 1 75 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$417 19 |

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$417 19 | |
| W. E. Frost, thermometer and mantels | 4 50 | |
| Chas. E. Osgood, labor..... | 2 00 | |
| 1 lawn rake..... | 50 | |
| 1 lawn mower..... | 3 00 | |
| 1 wrench..... | 75 | |
| 2 floor brushes..... | 2 50 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, door springs, putty, screws, snow shovel, etc..... | 3 53 | |
| 200 lbs. top dressing for lawn..... | 3 80 | |
| | <hr/> | \$437 77 |

DELIVERING LIBRARY BOOKS TO GRANITEVILLE, FORGE VILLAGE
AND BROOKSIDE.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Ai Bicknell, services..... | \$71 00 | \$71 00 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|

EXPENSE OF FIRST DISTRICT COURT AT AYER.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| C. R. Decatur, Dane case..... | \$ 3 65 | |
| J. A. Healy, court expenses..... | 5 10 | |
| J. A. Healy, Farwell case..... | 14 98 | |
| H. C. Sherwin, Lawton case..... | 9 25 | |
| S. H. Balch, Whitney case..... | 4 03 | |
| | <hr/> | \$37 01 |
| Received from fines..... | \$30 85 | |

GUIDE POSTS AND GUIDE BOARDS.

The following report on guide posts and guide boards is submitted :

We have not during the past year renewed any guide posts or guide boards, as those now erected are in very good condition. During the coming year a few may need repainting and new ones supplied.

PRINTING.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Courier-Citizen Co., stamped envelopes. | \$ 12 00 |
| Courier-Citizen Co., 675 Town Reports. | 128 00 |
| Courier-Citizen Co., warrants, notices, circulars, etc..... | 32 51 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$172 51 |

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$172 51 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., school committee.. | 2 25 | |
| Morning Mail Corp., ballots, notices, poll tax lists, voting lists, etc..... | 39 15 | |
| G. W. Southworth, assessors..... | 5 67 | |
| Wright & Potter Co., school committee. | 1 08 | |
| M. G. Wight & Co, tax collector, for tax bills, envelopes, etc..... | 9 10 | |
| F. A. Frost & Co, school committee... | 4 12 | |
| | <hr/> | \$233 88 |

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Paid by orders to Poor Department.... | \$2,931 50 | \$2,931 50 |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|

BOARD OF HEALTH.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Paid by orders..... | \$19 50 | \$19 50 |
| See Board of Health Report. | | |

PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Paid by orders..... | \$200 89 | \$200 89 |
| See Commissioners' Report. | | |

MEMORIAL DAY.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Paid by order Veteran Association..... | \$ 50 00 | \$ 50 00 |
|--|----------|----------|

INSURANCE.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| S. H. Fletcher, Town House, \$2700 for 3 years..... | \$35 94 | \$35 94 |
|--|---------|---------|

TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|----------|--|
| Ai Bicknell, janitor from Feb., 1900, to Feb. 1, 1901 | \$96 00 | |
| Standard Fire Extinguisher Co., for 2 fire extinguishers | 25 00 | |
| C. E. Osgood, labor..... | 1 13 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, 7½ tons furnace coal at \$4.25 | 31 88 | |
| B. & M. R. R., freight on coal..... | 7 50 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$161 51 | |

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$161 51 | |
| W. W. Johnson, cartage on coal..... | 6 30 | |
| Brownell & Mason, repairs of furnace.. | 3 61 | |
| J. M. Fletcher, oil, etc..... | 10 44 | |
| W. W. Johnson, 1 cord wood..... | 2 50 | |
| G. H. Phelps, repair of slate roof..... | 2 00 | |
| Wright and Fletcher, oil, glass, wax, chimneys, etc..... | 22 44 | |
| J. L. Moss, labor | 1 50 | |
| G. H. Holt, repair of pump..... | 1 25 | |
| | <hr/> | \$211 55 |

INCOME FROM TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Rent of Armory from state..... | \$175 00 | |
| Rent of building | 95 25 | |
| | <hr/> | \$270 25 |

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

As authorized by Chapter 447, Acts of 1890.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| James A. Graham, from Feb. 1, 1900, to Feb. 1, 1901..... | \$96 00 | |
| Gilbert A. Hood, from Feb. 1, 1900, to Feb. 1, 1901..... | 48 00 | |
| Susan S. Raymond, Feb. 1, 1900, to Nov. 1, 1901 | 56 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, services investigating cases of Soldiers' Relief..... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$205 00 |

STATE AID TO SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS'
FAMILIES.

As authorized by Chapter 374, Acts of 1899.

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| From Jan. 1, 1900, to Jan. 1, 1901..... | \$1,043 00 | \$1,043 00 |
|---|------------|------------|

MILITARY AID TO INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

As authorized by Chapter 372, Acts of 1899.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| From Jan. 1, 1900, to Jan. 1, 1901..... | \$85 00 | \$85 00 |
|---|---------|---------|

FOREST FIRES AND OTHER FIRES.

The following fires have occurred during the past year, and estimated damages by the Forest Fire Wards :

| | | No. of Acres. | Damage. |
|-------|--|---------------|----------|
| April | 7—On land of M. F. Downs and others.. | 2 | \$25 00 |
| | 7—On land of A. A. Flint and Waldo Cummings | 8 | 25 00 |
| | 26—On land of J. DeCarteret and others. | 3 | 75 00 |
| May | 4—On land of Harriet Randall..... | 1½ | 15 00 |
| | 12—On land of heirs of Wm. Kittredge.. | 3 | 5 00 |
| | 26—On land of heirs of A. B. Buttrick... | 8 | 50 00 |
| | 26—On land of Frank C. Hildreth..... | 2 | 8 00 |
| | 26—On land of Edward Prescott..... | 2½ | 10 00 |
| June | 15—On land of W. C. Edwards..... | 3 | |
| Sept. | 17—On land of Noah Prescott..... | 3 | 60 00 |
| | | 36 | \$273 00 |

DWELLING HOUSES AND BARNs.

- June 6—The dwelling house of Mrs. Lydia B. Sherman. Value of building, \$1,200. Insurance, \$1,000. Cause of fire, overturn of oil lamp.
- June 28—Barn of George C. Moore, used as storehouse by Ralph C. Whidden. Cause of fire, supposed to be from spark from fire in shanty near by occupied by workmen.
- July 4—Barn of Charles Coture. Cause of fire unknown. Value of building, \$400. Insurance, \$300.
- Oct. 1—Attempt was made to burn down dwelling of Joseph D. Wilkinson, but the fire was extinguished without much damage.
- Dec. 6—This same dwelling was burned down, with total loss. Value of building, \$50. No insurance. Cause of fire incendiary.

EXPENSES.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Edward Prescott, services as Forest Fire Ward, 1898 and 1899..... | \$10 00 | |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co. and others, fire on land of Downs, Abbot Estate, Flint Cummings, De Carteret, Edwards and Prescott..... | 36 60 | |
| J. A. Healey, Fire Ward, and others... | 43 88 | |
| H. H. Mills..... | 1 00 | |
| C. R. Decatur and others..... | 4 00 | |
| Gilmer Stone, Fire Ward. | 6 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$102 23 |

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| J. W. DeRoehn, painting ladder building at Graniteville..... | \$5 00 | \$5 00 |
|--|--------|--------|

GENERAL EXPENSES.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Postage for Town Reports..... | \$ 20 60 | |
| Good Roads Machine Co., castings for road machine..... | 21 50 | |
| C. E. Whidden, freight and express.... | 5 21 | |
| B. H. Brow, rent of land for cavalry rifle range, July, 1897, to July, 1899 | 10 00 | |
| D. H. Waller, rent of land for cavalry rifle range, July, 1899, to July, 1900 | 7 50 | |
| P. Savage, fence posts..... | 5 00 | |
| W. C. Robbins, difference on horse.... | 160 00 | |
| M. D. Jones & Co., S. A. R. markers... | 5 00 | |
| Waldo Bros., drain pipe..... | 147 67 | |
| Freight on drain pipe..... | 16 28 | |
| Dr. E. D. Harris, attending sick horse.. | 28 00 | |
| S. E. Spencer, rubber stamps..... | 75 | |
| H. A. Hildreth, storage for carts..... | 5 00 | |
| M. W. Jenkins, shoeing horses, repairing carts and jobbing..... | 18 95 | |
| M. W. Jenkins, ironing cart..... | 30 00 | |
| M. W. Jenkins, 110 fence posts..... | 7 70 | |
| | <hr/> | \$489 16 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | | |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$489 16 |
| Food for election officers, March, 1900.. | 3 01 |
| Congregational Society, land damage, relocating streets, 1898..... | 5 00 |
| J. W. O'Brien, repairing cavalry target.. | 7 00 |
| Cash paid for freight and express..... | 2 19 |
| 1 bill book..... | 2 25 |
| 4 barrels of Portland and Rosendale cement..... | 7 70 |
| Fence posts, wire and staples.... | 10 73 |
| 2 feed bags..... | 2 50 |
| 4 blank books..... | 2 50 |
| Dr. J. N. Murray, attending sick horse. | 14 00 |
| Shovels, rakes, picks, forks and tools for road department..... | 26 09 |
| N. E. Telephone & Telegraph Co., use of telephone for town officers..... | 28 22 |
| Postage for town officers..... | 7 62 |
| W. C. Robbins, difference on horse.... | 135 00 |
| J. W. Godfrey, M. D., return of 4 births | 1 00 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., return of 22 births | 5 50 |
| Wright & Fletcher, articles as per bill.. | 10 05 |
| Frank Haley, blacksmith's bill | 19 58 |
| J. E. Knight, repairing carts and jobbing | 10 20 |
| J. A. Walkden, new cart body and repairs | 42 50 |
| Abbot & Co., use of telephone.... | 1 65 |
| N. L. Tuttle, 1 drag..... | 5 75 |
| G. Deizel, ringing bell July 4..... | 2 00 |
| A. E. Day, ringing bell July 4..... | 2 00 |
| John A. Healey, repairs of barge on account of damage on highway ... | 25 00 |
| John Feeney, repair of harnesses | 8 25 |
| Town of Littleton, one-half payment for new town bound..... | 2 98 |
| F. E. Miller, blacksmithing..... | 22 47 |
| Carter Ink Co., record ink..... | 1 25 |
| Copying contract on culverts..... | 1 00 |
| Ai Bicknell, repairs of pump..... | 1 00 |
| H. S. Knight, blacksmithing..... | 7 43 |

ROAD DEPARTMENT.

In the spring of 1900, during the months of February and March, when we usually have drifting snow storms, this part of the country was visited with a series of heavy rain storms which did an immense amount of damage in this section of the country, and our town as well as the surrounding towns suffered to an unusual extent. The ground being frozen, the water rushed down into the valleys and water courses, getting under the frost, washing out the roads and undermining many of the culverts so as to leave them in a dangerous condition. A number of the culverts were not large enough to take such a volume of water and in many places the highways were overflowed. The road at Brookside leading from that place to Chamberlain's corner was completely washed away on the hillside and the road had to be practically rebuilt. At Greig's corner at Graniteville the water from the roadside overflowed on to the land of John Greig and damaged his land and buildings. We found the only way we could take care of the surface water was to widen the road and build a retaining wall, grade up the road so as to get suitable gutters and to put in a 12-inch pipe to conduct the water to the other side of the road, thence into Stony Brook. Abbot & Co. and Mr. Greig very generously gave land enough to carry out these improvements.

Two culverts were rebuilt and enlarged in the north part of the town and one in the south part on the Littleton and Lowell road. These we let out, with the retaining wall, by contract to the lowest bidder. The bridge at Forge Village over the Stony Brook, at the crossing of the Stony Brook R. R., was found in a dangerous condition and part of the wall fallen down, and the whole structure had an appearance of a liability of coming down at any time. We did not think it was for the interest of the town to leave it in the condition it was in until another spring, for if it collapsed with a big rush of water the town would be liable to heavy damages to the mill property situated below. It was in such condition that it was impossible to get an accurate estimate of the expense of rebuilding, as part of the work would have to be done by the railroad company. Upon consultation with the R. R. Co., we decided to have H. E. Fletcher & Co. do the work by the day, as this firm was to do the work for

the R. R. Co., and it was much better to have one party do the whole work. The expense was considerable, but less than was expected. All parts of the town were more or less affected, which helped swell the expense. We have kept separate under the headings "Road Department," "Culverts" and "Bridge at Forge Village," the expense of each. In accordance with Chapter 98, Acts of 1898, Benjamin F. Day was appointed Superintendent of Streets.

Under his direction the following amounts have been expended. The bills show what month they were paid but not in all cases the month the work or expense occurred.

MARCH.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|
| L. J. Marden, grain..... | \$18 78 | |
| S. M. Hutchins, labor..... | 30 | |
| | <hr/> | \$19 08 |

APRIL.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| W. W. Johnson, team..... | \$35 63 | |
| G. H. Whitney, labor.... | 27 74 | |
| B. Billings, labor..... | 13 50 | |
| S. Crossland, labor..... | 30 75 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 15 00 | |
| Team..... | 48 00 | |
| A. Barteaux, labor..... | 37 17 | |
| M. Barteaux, labor..... | 38 00 | |
| J. Good, labor..... | 22 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$268 29 |

MAY.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| M. Barteaux, labor..... | \$38 00 | |
| S. Crossland, labor..... | 32 35 | |
| A. Barteaux, labor..... | 37 71 | |
| B. Billings, labor..... | 36 00 | |
| C. Crabb, labor..... | 36 00 | |
| I. G. Hall, labor..... | 4 30 | |
| L. J. Marden, grain, March and April.. | 27 82 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team..... | 63 00 | |
| J. Good, labor..... | 36 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$356 93 |

JUNE.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Charles Crabb, labor..... | \$ 40 50 |
| Town Farm, 11,590 lbs. hay..... | 104 31 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent.... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 52 00 |
| One horse for team.... | 26 00 |
| A. Barteaux, labor..... | 37 14 |
| M. Barteaux, labor..... | 38 00 |
| B. Billings, labor..... | 38 25 |
| J. Good, labor..... | 38 25 |
| S. Crossland, labor..... | 31 50 |
| G. H. Whitney, labor.... | 16 00 |
| Jeptha Wright, gravel..... | 9 10 |
| W. W. Johnson, team and men..... | 71 75 |

 \$547 80

JULY.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| J. Good, labor..... | \$35 25 |
| B. Billings, labor..... | 35 25 |
| Chas. Crabb, labor..... | 35 25 |
| S. Crossland, labor.... | 35 25 |
| A. Barteaux, labor..... | 9 00 |
| M. Barteaux, labor..... | 38 00 |
| B. Gilmore, labor..... | 11 30 |
| Edw. Billings, labor..... | 4 50 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent.... | 45 00 |
| Team..... | 50 00 |
| One horse for team..... | 24 00 |
| J. A. Healy, grain..... | 41 28 |

 \$364 08

AUGUST.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| W. C. Robbins, use of horse..... | \$15 00 |
| C. H. Bicknell, gravel and labor..... | 3 60 |
| B. Billings, labor..... | 17 25 |
| J. Good, labor..... | 35 25 |
| M. Barteaux, labor..... | 38 00 |
| S. Crossland, labor..... | 33 00 |
| Chas. Crabb, labor..... | 35 25 |

Amount carried forward..... \$177 35

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$177 35 | |
| B. Gilmore, labor..... | 37 71 | |
| D. McCloud, labor..... | 7 50 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team | 62 00 | |
| One horse for team..... | 26 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$355 56 |

SEPTEMBER.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| A. L. Day, labor..... | \$ 6 00 | |
| Geo. Billings, labor..... | 6 00 | |
| M. Crabb, labor..... | 29 25 | |
| J. Dinsmore, labor..... | 39 75 | |
| M. Barteaux, labor..... | 38 00 | |
| J. Good, labor..... | 30 00 | |
| D. McCloud, labor..... | 33 00 | |
| S. Crossland, labor..... | 36 90 | |
| H. Billings, labor..... | 6 00 | |
| B. Gilmore, labor..... | 27 00 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team | 48 00 | |
| One horse for team..... | 24 00 | |
| S. M. Hutchins, gravel..... | 30 25 | |
| M. F. Downs, labor..... | 15 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$414 15 |

OCTOBER.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------|
| W. W. Johnson, team..... | \$ 3 50 | |
| Geo. Billings, labor..... | 14 52 | |
| M. Crabb, labor..... | 36 75 | |
| D. McCloud, labor..... | 26 25 | |
| J. Good, labor..... | 35 25 | |
| S. Crossland, labor..... | 28 50 | |
| M. Barteaux, labor..... | 38 00 | |
| A. L. Day, labor..... | 7 50 | |
| H. Billings, labor..... | 13 02 | |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 | |
| Team | 48 00 | |
| One horse for team..... | 25 00 | |
| J. Dinsmore, labor..... | 36 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$358 04 |

NOVEMBER.

| | |
|--|---------|
| H. Billings, labor..... | \$31 02 |
| Conant & Co., grain..... | 16 81 |
| M. Crabb, labor..... | 10 50 |
| A. S. Vose, labor..... | 90 |
| C. B. Farrow, labor..... | 10 00 |
| M. Barteaux, labor..... | 38 00 |
| J. Dinsmore, labor..... | 24 00 |
| J. C. Miller, labor..... | 6 00 |
| S. Crossland, labor..... | 27 00 |
| D. McCloud, labor..... | 27 00 |
| J. Good, labor..... | 29 25 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 45 00 |
| Team | 44 00 |
| One horse for team..... | 22 00 |
| D. Desmond, labor and plank for bridge | 10 23 |

\$341 71

DECEMBER.

| | |
|---|---------|
| J. A. Haley, grain for August, September, October and November..... | \$65 55 |
| W. W. Johnson, team and men..... | 40 25 |
| J. C. Miller, labor..... | 3 00 |
| S. Crossland, labor..... | 18 00 |
| D. McCloud, labor..... | 15 75 |
| Geo. Billings, labor..... | 11 25 |
| John Wayne, labor..... | 8 00 |
| J. Good, labor..... | 15 75 |
| A. L. Day, labor..... | 16 88 |
| M. F. Downs and others, labor..... | 51 00 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 18 75 |
| Team | 23 50 |
| One horse for team..... | 11 75 |

\$299 43

JANUARY.

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Gilmer Stone, labor..... | \$ 25 |
| S. Crossland, labor..... | 3 00 |
| J. Good, labor..... | 3 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <hr/> \$6 25 |

| | | |
|--|------------|-------------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$ 6 25 | |
| S. L. Felch, labor..... | 12 40 | |
| C. M. Griffin, labor..... | 12 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, labor..... | 11 25 | |
| S. M. Hutchins, gravel..... | 9 25 | |
| H. F. Hildreth, covering stones, etc.... | 13 91 | |
| | | <u>\$65 06</u> |
| | | <u>\$3,390 13</u> |
| Received for use of team and men..... | \$17 25 | |
| Appropriation..... | \$3,300 00 | |
| Overdrawn | \$72 88 | |

**SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY BELONGING TO THE TOWN FOR
USE OF ROAD DEPARTMENT.**

1 horse, 1 set heavy harnesses, 2 carts, 4 old whiffletrees and chains, 1 evener and spreader, 2 spare horse collars, 1 wrench, 1 wagon jack, 3 chains, 1 stone lifter, 1 pair hand splices, 5 rakes, 5 shovels, 1 new shovel, 1 manure fork, 1 hay fork, 2 plows, 10 blasting drills, 12 plug drills, lot of shims and wedges, 1 bush snath, 2 bush scythes, 1 ax, 1 trimming saw, 2 halters, 2 lanterns, 1 oil can, 1 tool box, 3 large hoes, 2 small hoes, 2 picks, 4 iron bars, 1 pinch bar, 1 hand hammer, 2 striking hammers, 1 stone hammer, 1 curry comb, 1 horse brush, 2 horse blankets, 2 surcingles, 1 stone drag, 2 yokes, 1 road scraper, 2 gravel screens, 1 drill spoon, 2 stone forks, 1 mattock, 1 two horse sled, 1 pail, 1 post rammer, 1 post spoon, 1 post hole digger, lot of sewer pipe, 1 stone jigger, 400 lbs. hay, 2 nose bags, 4 new whiffletrees, 1 trowel, 1 paving hammer, 2 grab hooks, $\frac{1}{2}$ barrel cement.

Expense of repairing roads in February and March, 1900, on account of washouts, with amount paid each person for labor:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| George Burke..... | 4 20 |
| F. L. Downs..... | 4 65 |
| J. M. O'Brien..... | 7 15 |
| R. C. Whidden with team | 32 90 |
| I. G. Hall and others..... | 5 97 |
| H. J. Murphy | 35 85 |
| J. H. Colburn..... | 15 40 |
| | <u>106 12</u> |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$106 12 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$106 12 |
| E. Decatur | 3 00 |
| Geo. Hutchins | 3 00 |
| H. B. Read | 10 20 |
| W. W. Johnson with team..... | 53 25 |
| B. F. Day with team..... | 60 91 |
| B. F. Day, superintendent..... | 39 38 |
| L. Eliason | 17 10 |
| G. H. Whitney..... | 23 63 |
| N. Swanson..... | 34 80 |
| S. Crossland | 30 38 |
| A. Gardell..... | 1 95 |
| Chas. Coture..... | 1 20 |
| J. A. Healey with team | 58 30 |
| J. F. Sweetser | 17 90 |
| S. L. Taylor | 11 55 |
| G. O. Jackson..... | 1 50 |
| T. H. Hamblett..... | 3 38 |
| J. W. O'Brien | 1 43 |
| S. T. Hildreth..... | 1 35 |
| F. H. Hildreth | 3 85 |
| I. L. Mansfield..... | 16 50 |
| John Flynn | 2 75 |
| J. H. O'Brien..... | 10 05 |
| H. Allorie | 14 25 |
| S. Semore | 15 00 |
| Eben Prescott..... | 4 00 |
| H. E. Gould..... | 6 95 |
| E. H. Flagg..... | 1 50 |
| G. Swanson..... | 9 90 |
| H. Mills..... | 30 |
| John Connell..... | 45 |
| John Payne | 3 46 |
| T. Driscoll..... | 87 |
| R. E. Redding | 9 15 |
| A. H. Sutherland..... | 3 60 |
| F. W. Banister | 8 00 |
| W. C. Edwards..... | 4 65 |
| M. F. Downs with team..... | 39 00 |

RETAINING WALL AT GRANITEVILLE, OPPOSITE LAND OF
JOHN GREIG.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Thos. E. Symmes, survey and plan.... | \$ 2 25 | |
| J. A. Healy, building retaining wall as per contract..... | 229 97 | |
| J. A. Healy, grading.... | 52 01 | |
| | _____ | \$284 23 |

REBUILDING CULVERTS.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| C. B. Farrow, rebuilding culvert as per contract..... | \$ 92 00 | |
| M. F. Downs, rebuilding culvert as per contract..... | 73 00 | |
| Angus McDonald, rebuilding culvert as per contract..... | 115 00 | |
| | _____ | \$280 00 |

BRIDGE AT FORGE VILLAGE.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., rebuilding bridge | \$524 95 | |
| Am. Bolt Co., irons for fence..... | 20 47 | |
| Boston & Maine R. R., freight..... | 83 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, labor on fence..... | 2 50 | |
| A. H. Sutherland, labor on fence..... | 3 00 | |
| | _____ | \$551 75 |

BANK WALL AT MARDEN'S MILL.

At the annual meeting \$200 was appropriated to repair the bank wall to the arch bridge at Marden's Mill. We had a survey and plan made for the purpose of commencing work, but in the meantime the adjoining property changed ownership, and not knowing what improvements might be made we deemed it advisable to postpone the work until a future time, although a new wall will have to be built soon.

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Paid Thos. E. Symmes for survey and plan..... | \$1 50 | \$1 50 |
|--|--------|--------|

BREAKING ROADS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| C. L. Adams, 1899..... | \$ 3 40 | |
| C. M. Griffin and others, 1899..... | 27 15 | |
| H. E. Gould..... | 6 75 | |
| J. T. Colburn..... | 1 50 | |
| C. F. Shugrue..... | 7 15 | |
| A. H. Sutherland..... | 75 | |
| W. C. Edwards..... | 2 55 | |
| M. F. Downs..... | 14 00 | |
| S. H. Balch..... | 3 90 | |
| W. W. Johnson..... | 18 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$85 90 |

RELOCATION AND WIDENING OF SCHOOL STREET OR CARLISLE ROAD.

At the Annual Meeting the Town voted to instruct the Selectmen to carry out the order of the County Commissioners on the relocation and widening of School street, so-called, as petitioned for by residents of that street, and to complete the work this year. The work was done under the direction of the County Engineer, the County Commissioners awarding the Town \$1,000 on completion of the work to their acceptance. Advertisements for proposals to build the road were placed in the Boston and Lowell papers and also mailed to contractors. The following proposals were received :

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Merrick & Wentworth, Malden..... | \$5,190 00 |
| C. A. Parsons, Lowell..... | 3,675 00 |
| Tony Leonard & Co., Boston..... | 3,192 50 |
| H. W. Tarbell, Lowell..... | 2,948 50 |
| John A Healy, Westford..... | 2,920 00 |

The contract was awarded to John A. Healy of Westford.

The following amount has been expended :

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Morning Mail Corp., printing advertisement for proposals..... | \$ 8 00 |
| Boston Herald Co., printing advertisement for proposals..... | 10 50 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <hr/> \$18 50 |

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$ 18 50 | |
| G. B. Lenfest, printing forms for contractors' specifications..... | 31 50 | |
| L. J. Marden, surveyors' stakes..... | 2 06 | |
| John A. Healy, work as per contract... | 2,920 00 | |
| John A. Healey, extra work removing ledge, laying wall, etc..... | 366 93 | |
| C. B. Farrow, laying wall..... | 50 00 | |
| John E. Ward, stone..... | 31 37 | |
| Chas. L. Hildreth, land damage..... | 50 00 | |
| W. F. Balch, damage to land for water course..... | 25 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense on road | 15 00 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, 4 trips to Cambridge consulting County Commissioners. | 5 00 | |
| Geo. W. Heywood, time and expense on road | 15 00 | |
| | ————— | \$3,530 36 |
| Received from the County..... | \$1,000 00 | |
| Net expense | 2,530 36 | |

**EXTENSION OF SCHOOL STREET OR CARLISLE ROAD BY
MASSACHUSETTS HIGHWAY COMMISSION.**

The Legislature of 1900 passed an act whereby certain small towns in which no state highway had been built, that five per cent. of the annual appropriation for state highways should be reserved for constructing or repairing highways in these towns, and that no town should receive in one year a sum exceeding forty per cent. of its average appropriations for highway purposes for the five years next previous. Forty per cent. of the average appropriation of this town amounted to \$1,400. Such allotment and expenditure could be made only on petition of the Selectmen, and it was left discretionary with the Highway Commission to determine whether an allotment would be made or not. Under this act, the Selectmen petitioned for an allotment to this town for the extension of the Carlisle road, and after a number of in-

terviews with the Commission an allotment of \$1400 was made, which is the maximum amount that could be received. This money is to be expended under their direction and they require the Selectmen to contract to do the work, but before work could be commenced the Highway Commission required the bounds of the road established, and it was necessary to have the County Commissioners make a survey and establish the location of the road. Two hearings were held before them, and a survey was made beginning at the end of road just completed near the Wheeler house and thence to Minot's Corner. The Commissioners, after making the survey, believed it would be a great benefit to the town to complete the road to this place, and to aid the town in the work have awarded the sum of \$500, to be paid on completion of the road, with the time for completion extended far enough ahead so as not to require the work done all in one year, and have issued their decree accordingly. This sum, with the amount the state has allotted, amounts to \$1,900. It is seldom that a town is so favored with help from the county and state, and it is on the same plan and direction we have been working for a number of years for a state highway; and if we expect to receive aid from this source the town must do its part, as it would be short-sighted policy not to do so. It is much better for the town to comply with the decree of the County Commissioners and do the work than to have them do it and charge the expense to the town, as they can under the law in case the town should refuse. We have also petitioned the State Highway Commission, under the law of 1900, for another allotment for this road this year, and if we should get this the expense to the town would be very small, if anything.

STATE HIGHWAY.

In 1895, the Selectmen petitioned the Massachusetts Highway Commission and had a survey made for the state to assume the road leading from the centre of the town to the Carlisle line as a state highway, commonly known as the Carlisle road. The Selectmen have repeatedly urged the Commission to take some action on it, but nothing has been done. During the past year or so the Great Road, so called, leading from Concord through Acton and thence to Littleton, passing near the West-

ford line at Nashoba hill, has been taken as a state highway, and a number of miles built from Concord line towards Littleton. With the Great Road as a state highway, it would probably be many years in the future before a parallel road, as petitioned for in 1895, would be considered or built; therefore the Selectmen have petitioned the Highway Commission to assume the road as a state road from Minot's Corner via Nashoba hill to connect with the Great Road. The distance from Minot's Corner to the Great Road is a little shorter than it is to the Carlisle line, and much easier grade and better material for road bed. This route is a practical one and would give an excellent outlet for heavy teaming in the fall for the farmers to get their produce to Boston. During the past year a member of the Board of the Highway Commission, with the State Engineer and the Selectmen, have looked over this route and we are looking for a favorable action in the future.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| S. H. Fletcher, four trips to Boston for consultation and hearings before State Highway Commission..... | \$5 00 | \$5 00 |
|---|--------|--------|

STONY BROOK VALLEY STREET RAILWAY CO.

A petition was filed with the Board of Selectmen by a majority of the directors of this railway company, dated September 5, 1900, for a location of a street railway through this town on the public highways. A hearing was granted and took place at the Town Hall on October 24, 1900. As this petition asking for a location did not take in the centre of the town, and the citizens of the town desired it to go through the centre village, the directors filed a new petition covering this route. A hearing was granted and took place December 6, 1900, a large number of citizens being present. Mr. Horace B. Parker of Newton, Mass., represented the railway company, and stated if the location was granted that the management of the road intended to equip the road in first-class condition as to rolling stock and road bed, and cars at least once an hour would be run for the accommodation of our people to Ayer and Lowell. The Selectmen, believing that a majority of the citizens were in favor of the railway, have granted the following location and franchise, with restrictions

carefully guarding the interest of the town, which we print herewith. The following expense was incurred at hearings, preparing location order and franchise and viewing route :

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| George Bowers, City Engineer, Lowell, consultation services..... | \$15 00 | |
| F. E. Rollins, stenographer at hearing. | 10 00 | |
| B. M. & M. E. Hutchins, type writing and rewriting copies of location order..... | 12 70 | |
| S H. Fletcher, time and expense pre- paring location order and franchise and consulting railway manager.... | 15 00 | |
| George W. Heywood, time and expense with railway manager..... | 5 00 | |
| Wesley O. Hawkes, time and expense with railway manager..... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$62 70 |

To the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Westford :

Gentlemen:—Your petitioners, being a majority of the directors of the Stony Brook Valley Street Railway Company, respectfully represent that they have completed the preliminary organization of said company and have published their Articles of Association with all their stockholders in the manner required by law, and have otherwise so complied with the statutes of this commonwealth as to be in a legal position to apply for a location.

Your petitioners pray for the following locations in the Town of Westford, viz. :

Commencing at the dividing line between the Town of Groton and the Town of Westford, thence through Central street to what is known as Forge Village, thence by way of Union street to what is known as Graniteville Station, thence via Main street and a private way near Sargent's Mills to Broadway, thence via Broadway to the bridge crossing the Stony Brook Branch of the Boston & Maine Railroad near the house of John Counter, thence via the highway to Westford Centre and a private way to the main street of Westford near the house of Oren Coolidge, thence via Main street to Depot street, thence via Depot street to a point near Westford Station, thence via Lowell road

so-called to the house of Samuel L. Taylor, thence via Willard Fletcher Bridge road to the road leading to Brookside Station, thence via Lowell road to the dividing line between the Town of Westford and the Town of Chelmsford; with the necessary turnouts.

Your petitioners pray that they may have leave to build and operate a railway along said line and by the overhead or trolley system of electric power, and to that end that they may have leave to erect the necessary poles for the support of an overhead trolley system.

Respectfully submitted,

HORACE B. PARKER,
FRANCIS A. CUDDIHY,
FRANK LAWRENCE BLOOD,
THOMAS F. CAREY,

Majority of the Directors Stony
Brook Valley St. Ry. Co.

TOWN OF WESTFORD.

IN THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.

November 19, 1900.

Upon the foregoing petition, it is hereby ordered that fourteen days notice be given by the petitioners to all parties interested, that this board will, on the sixth day of December, at 2 o'clock p. m., Town Hall, Westford, Mass., take into consideration the expediency of granting the prayer of the above petition, when any parties who object thereto may appear and be heard. Said notice is to be given by publication of a copy of said petition, and this order thereon, in the Lowell Morning Citizen.

Passed :-

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WESLEY O. HAWKES,
Selectmen of Westford.

A true copy of petition and order of notice thereon.

Attest :

WESLEY O. HAWKES,
Secretary of the Board.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.

WESTFORD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MASS.

Westford, Mass., Dec. 6, 1900.

This certifies that a petition from the Directors of the Stony Brook Valley Street Railway Company for location of its tracks in Westford was filed with the Selectmen of said Westford, November 19, 1900. Said petition and order were published in the Morning Citizen on November 21, 1900.

Attest :

GILMAN J. WRIGHT,
Town Clerk of Westford.

TOWN OF WESTFORD.

IN THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.

Whereas, The Stony Brook Valley Street Railway Company, by a majority of its directors, has petitioned for a location of the tracks of a street railway in the Town of Westford, and for permission to construct, equip, maintain and operate a street railway thereon of a single track with all necessary turnouts and connections, to make use of an overhead system of electric power, to erect and maintain the necessary poles, wires, etc., along said route; and due notice of a hearing upon said petition having been given and a hearing had thereon, it is

Ordered, That a location is hereby granted to the said railway company as petitioned for, over the following streets, viz. :

Commencing at the dividing line between the Town of Groton and the Town of Westford, thence through Central street to what is known as Forge Village, thence by way of Union street to what is known as Graniteville Station, thence via Main street to Sargent's Mills on said street, thence via Broadway to the bridge crossing the Stony Brook Branch of the B. & M. R. R. near the house of John Counter, thence via the highway to Westford Centre to the junction of roads near the house of the late J. W. Day, thence to Main street of Westford, near the house of Oren Coolidge, thence via Main street to Depot street, thence via Depot street to a point near Westford Station, thence via Lowell road, so called, to the house of Samuel L. Taylor,

thence via Williard Fletcher Bridge road to the road leading to Brookside Station, thence via Lowell road to the dividing line between the Town of Westford and the Town of Chelmsford; with the necessary turnouts.

The location and rights described aforesaid are granted upon the following express conditions, a violation of any which shall, at the election of the Board of the Selectmen, operate as a forfeiture of the location and rights herein granted :

SHALL COMPLY WITH ALL LAWS.

Section 1. The right to build and operate the railway is upon the condition that said company shall comply with all the laws of the commonwealth applicable thereto, also with all the requirements of the By-Laws of the Town of Westford and the regulations of the Selectmen, both those now in force, and those that may hereafter be adopted.

ACCEPTANCE OF LOCATIONS.

Section 2. The locations hereby granted shall be deemed and taken to be the true locations of the tracks of the railway if an acceptance thereof in writing by said directors is filed with the Board of Selectmen within thirty days after receiving notice of the granting of the location.

PLAN TO BE FILED.

Section 3. Before beginning the construction of said railway said railway company shall file with the Town Clerk of Westford a description and plan of said location, showing in detail the proposed location of all tracks, sidings, turnouts, switches and poles, and such alterations in the width and grading of said streets, including filling and excavating within the limits thereof, as may be considered necessary for said road; and said location shall be approved or modified within ten days by the Selectmen in writing before said work of construction is commenced.

Section 4. The whole work of construction, and the kind and quality of material used, shall be under the direction of and satisfactory to the Selectmen, and approved by them.

RAILS.

Section 5. Said company shall lay and use nine-inch, one-half groove girder rails, of weight not less than ninety pounds per yard and sixty feet long, where the track is laid in the centre of the street. "T" rails weighing not less than sixty pounds per yard may be used where the location is outside of the travelled way.

TIES.

Section 6. The said company shall use ties not less than six inches face, five inches thick, and six feet six inches long, of chestnut, or such other material as the Selectmen shall approve. Ties to be laid not over twenty-four inches apart.

STREET WIDENING.

Section 7. If, in the opinion of the Selectmen, the widening, straightening or rebuilding of any street, or the building or rebuilding of any bridge or culvert, is rendered necessary by reason of the location or construction of said road under this order, or by reason of reconstruction or repairs of said railway, or in the location or construction of any extension thereof, such widening, straightening, building or reconstruction or rebuilding shall be done by said Town or by said company, as the Selectmen may elect; any widening, straightening or building of the railway located by this order to be shown upon said plan before construction is commenced, and the entire cost and expense of any work required to be done under this section shall be paid by said railway company, including the cost of land or any rights therein, or any damages for the taking thereof.

The entire cost of all such filling and excavating as may be required by the Selectmen within existing limits or layouts of streets, in order to provide for the railway or any extension thereof, including all expense incident to such filling and excavating, and the settlement of all damages and claims arising therefrom, shall be borne by said company. Any filling and excavating required in the construction of said railway hereby located to be shown upon the said plan before commencing construction.

GRADE.

Section 8. All tracks shall be laid under the direction of the Selectmen, and where they direct, in conformity with the existing grade of the several streets in which they are laid. In case a change in the grade of any street or portion thereof shall be deemed necessary by the Selectmen for the proper laying of said tracks, the expense of making such changes shall be borne by said company.

Wherever surface water may collect or be obstructed by the construction of said railway, means for its disposal shall be provided as the Selectmen may direct at the expense of said company.

Said company shall not run snow plows or remove snow from its tracks unless they remove an amount of the snow from said streets sufficient to make such streets safe and convenient for public travel and satisfactory to the Selectmen. If any snow or ice is removed by said company, and it is done so as to leave any part of the street dangerous in the opinion of the Selectmen or Superintendent of Streets, they or either of them may cause such snow or ice to be removed as to make said streets safe and convenient for public travel, and the expense thereof shall be charged to and paid by the said railway company.

In a side location the rail nearest the centre of the street shall be so placed as to allow for an inclination of 1-2 inch to the foot from the crown of the street to said rail, and gutters shall be constructed by said company on all side locations between the outer rail and the nearest street line, unless otherwise ordered in writing by the Selectmen.

Section 9. If at any time said Town shall lay sewer mains or other pipes in said streets, or widen said streets, or raise or lower the grade thereof, or make any alteration or excavation therein, and it shall be necessary to remove any of the tracks of said company, the expense of such removal and of relaying said tracks shall be borne by said company.

Section 10. All ways shall be left in as good and safe condition as when work was commenced, and the same shall be satisfactory to the Selectmen.

Section 11. Said company shall not have open the surface of any one street, for the purpose of constructing said tracks, for

a distance of more than 2,500 feet at any one time, without a written permit from the Selectmen.

SURPLUS MATERIAL.

Section 12. All surplus material removed from any of said streets during the construction of said railway, shall be transported to any part of the said Town, within one mile from place of removal, at the expense of said company, and placed wherever required by the Selectmen.

POLES.

Section 13. All poles erected by said company shall be of chestnut or cedar, or of such wood and size and form as the Selectmen may direct, and shall be of sufficient strength to carry any and all wires that may at any time be attached to them, and shall be kept painted and of such color as the Selectmen shall determine. All poles shall be placed where the Selectmen designate, and the location of any said pole shall be changed at the expense of said company whenever the Selectmen shall deem it necessary for the public convenience, welfare and safety, and shall so direct in writing. Crossbars shall be placed on all the poles erected by the company if required by the Selectmen. All poles shall be firmly set not less than six feet in the ground, and shall be on one side of the street wherever required by the Selectmen, be of such height, not exceeding forty feet above ground, as the Selectmen may order, so as to provide suitable spaces on said poles, above the wires and attachments of the railway company, for attaching and supporting other wires.

WIRES.

Section 14. Trolley wires, feed wires, and all other wires shall be of first quality, and of such capacity as the Selectmen from time to time may require; shall be maintained not less than twenty feet from the ground, and guard wires shall be placed over said trolley wires wherever required from time to time by the Selectmen.

Said Board of Selectmen shall have the right to order that all wires in said street shall be placed upon the poles of said

company, without prejudice, however, to the right of said company to receive reasonable compensation from other companies for the use of its polls, or arrangements shall be made by said company with all other companies now having wires strung or having the right to string wires in said streets, whereby they shall be granted the right to use said company's poles for their wires; but no wires belonging to any other company or person shall be placed upon said poles without permission first being obtained in writing from the Selectmen.

Any department of said Town shall have the exclusive use of the upper crossbar and the top of each pole, free of charge, for the purpose of placing wires thereon for its own use.

All wires shall be so placed as not to interfere with, or be in dangerous proximity to, any existing wires belonging to the Town of Westford.

Proper copper wires of the best quality, properly connected and bounded to the rails, shall be laid to convey all return electricity.

PAVED.

Section 15. Said company shall, at its own expense, properly pave with new granite rectangular paving blocks, or paving blocks satisfactory to the Selectmen, all the space between the rails and also eighteen inches outside of each rail, wherever said track shall be laid in the centre of any street; also between the rails of all turnouts and switches, and eighteen inches beyond the outside rails of the turnouts and switches, except to such switches and turnouts or parts thereof as the Selectmen shall in writing authorize to be maintained without paving.

Wherever said track passes opposite the entrance of any private avenue or driveway, said company shall plank, pave or macadamize said driveway or avenue, as required by the Selectmen, between the rails and for suitable distance on the sides thereof. And wherever the track crosses a street, walk or gutter, said company shall properly pave or macadamize the same, if required by the Selectmen.

RUNNING OF CARS AND ROLLING STOCK.—FARES.

Section 16. Said Stony Brook Valley Street Railway Company shall run its cars as often as every hour between Ayer Junction and North Chelmsford, and shall also run its cars throughout the year at such times as will accommodate the school children going to and returning from school.

And use good appliances, rolling stock and machinery satisfactory to the Selectmen, and keep the same and all tracks, appliances, turnouts and property used in connection therewith, in first class order and repair, and shall charge not exceeding five cents for each single fare for a continuous passage from any point in Westford to any point in Westford reached by its tracks. All school children attending the public schools shall be carried to and from school on such days as the schools are in session for ten rides for twenty-five cents, which will be furnished in the form of strip tickets good for school children only. Said tickets to be furnished to the Superintendent of Schools in such numbers as he may request, who will take charge of the sale of the same to the children attending the public schools.

Said company shall carry free of charge all members of the police and fire department wearing their badge of office in the performance of their duties.

BOND.

Section 17. The said company before beginning the construction of said railway shall execute and deliver to the Town of Westford a bond in the penal sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) conditioned to indemnify the said Town, its officers and agents, from and against all claims and demands for injury to person or property, all costs, charges and expenses, or compensation for or on account of any defect or defects in said streets in consequence of said company's failure to keep its tracks, turnouts and switches in repair, or in any way resulting from the construction and operation of said street railway company upon and over said streets, and to reimburse said Town for all loss or damage at any time sustained by it on account of said defects.

And also that it will save harmless said Town and its officers and agents from all claims or demands for injury to per-

son or property, costs, charges and expenses growing out or resulting from the erection, maintenance or use of said poles or wires on the said streets, including the transmission of electric currents, or escape of the same, and from any and all loss, cost or damage of every kind which it may at any time suffer by reason of the erection, maintenance, operation and use of electric system for motive power.

The Selectmen may at any time after the expiration of the above bond, or any subsequent bond, require a new bond upon the same conditions as above set forth.

TREES.

Section 18. No trees or shrub shall be cut or trimmed by said railway company except by permission of the Tree Warden.

TIME OF COMPLETION. WHEN LOCATION OR PORTIONS THEREOF BECOME VOID.

Section 19. The railway company shall build and put in operation on or before June 1, 1902, and all portions of the location hereby granted on which the railway shall not be complete and in operation before June 1, 1902, shall be void.

EXTENSION OF TIME.

But the time within which locations which have been granted or any of them shall be built upon, may be extended by the Selectmen upon application by the said Stony Brook Valley Street Railway Company prior to June 1, 1902, if the failure to build upon said location or any of them to said date shall not be owing to the fault or neglect of said company.

NOT TO SELL.

Section 20. Said Stony Brook Valley Street Railway Company shall not sell or lease its tracks or location, nor any part thereof, nor the rights acquired hereunder, to any person or corporation without the written consent of the Selectmen.

HEATING OF CARS.

Section 21. Said company shall heat all cars when in use by them for the transportation of passengers, at such times, by such means, and to such extent as the Selectmen shall from time to time determine.

INSPECTOR.

Section 22.—Said company agrees that the Selectmen shall appoint an inspector of all the work required for the construction of said railway, and they may remove him for any cause and appoint another. Said company shall pay said inspector for his services.

Section 23.—The terms "Board of Selectmen," "Selectmen," and "Board," as used in this order of location and in terms, conditions and obligations to which said order is subject, are intended and shall be taken to extend to, and include all successors of the existing Board of Selectmen of the Town of Westford.

Westford, Mass., Dec. 6, 1900.

Signed.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

Westford, December 6, 1900.

The foregoing is a true copy for location of the Stony Brook Valley Street Railway Company on file in the office of Town Clerk, Westford, Mass.

Attest :

GILMAN J. WRIGHT,
Town Clerk.

Boston, Mass., Jan. 4, 1901.

To the Honorable Board of Selectmen, Westford, Mass.

Gentlemen :—We hereby accept your order dated Dec. 6, 1900, granting to the Stony Brook Valley Street Railway Com-

pany a location in the Town of Westford for its tracks, poles, etc., necessary for the operation of its railway by the overhead trolley system, and the conditions therein named.

HORACE B. PARKER,
 THOMAS F. CAREY,
 FRANCIS A. CUDDIHY,
 WALTER J. SLEEPER,
 FRANK LAWRENCE BLOOD,
 BENJ. H. HARTWELL,
 SAMUEL NAYLOR,

*Directors of the Stony Brook Valley
 Street Railway Company.*

A true copy.

Attest :

THOMAS F. CAREY,
Clerk.

Westford, Mass., Jan. 5, 1901.

I hereby certify that the acceptance of the Directors of the location granted to the Stony Brook Valley Street Railway Company was filed in the Town of Westford on the 5th of Jan. 1901.

Attest :

GILMAN J. WRIGHT,
Town Clerk of Westford.

ESTIMATES FOR 1901-1902.

In making these estimates for the amount of money asked for to be raised at the Annual Meeting, we have placed under the head of each department the amount that is asked for by that department.

SELECTMEN.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Highways..... | \$3,500 00 |
| Town debt and charges..... | 4,000 00 |

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

| | |
|----------------------|----------|
| Support of poor..... | 1,800 00 |
|----------------------|----------|

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Support of schools..... | 6,000 00 |
| Tuition of high school scholars..... | 1,500 00 |
| Text books and supplies for schools..... | 600 00 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <u>\$17,400 00</u> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|

Amount brought forward..... \$17,400 00

TRUSTEES OF J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

Books 150 00

COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

Public burial grounds..... 200 00

\$17,750 00

Number of orders, 447.

Total amount of orders, \$18,757.65.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

LIST OF JURORS.

The following names will be reported at the Annual Meeting in March to be placed in the jury box, subject to revision by the Town :

| NAMES. | OCCUPATIONS. |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Henry A. Bunce, | Farmer. |
| Arthur H. Burnham, | Farmer. |
| Quincy W. Day, | Farmer. |
| Thomas F. Dunn, | Engineer. |
| Edward Fisher, | Lawyer. |
| Elbert H. Flagg, | Farmer. |
| Joel A. Fletcher, | Farmer. |
| Charles H. Follansbee, | Clerk. |
| Elias Y. Grant, | Machinist. |
| Edwin E. Heywood, | Farmer. |
| Frank C. Hildreth, | Farmer. |
| Frank H. Hildreth, | Farmer. |
| Samuel M. Hutchins, | Farmer. |
| Melbourne F. Hutchins, | Farmer. |
| Benjamin F. Nutting, | Farmer. |
| Elmer E. Nutting, | Machinist. |
| Charles E. Osgood, | Carpenter. |
| William H. Petherick, | Mill Hand. |
| Nathan Prescott, | Painter. |
| Ossian V. Robey, | Carpenter. |
| Homer M. Seavey, | Farmer. |
| Samuel L. Taylor, | Farmer. |
| William Wall, | Painter. |
| T. Arthur E. Wilson, | Farmer. |
| J. Everett Woods, | Farmer. |
| Bradley V. Wright, | Farmer. |
| Almon S. Vose, | Farmer. |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

Westford, Mass., March 1, 1901.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

The Selectmen, acting as the Board of Health, appointed Wesley O. Hawkes and W. H. H. Burbeck agents for diseases and sanitary condition of the Town.

Albert P. Richardson and John A. Healy were licensed as undertakers.

During the past year, as in the year previous, the town has been very free from contagious diseases, only a few cases being reported.

The number of deaths will be found in the Town Clerk's Report.

The following table of contagious diseases is for the calendar year 1900 :

| | Number. |
|--------------------|----------|
| Diphtheria..... | 2 |
| Measles..... | 5 |
| Scarlet fever..... | 2 |
| Typhoid fever..... | 2 |
| | <hr/> 11 |

The following expense has occurred :

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| R. E. Redding, cleaning pond at Graniteville from dead fish..... | \$ 2 50 | |
| W. O. Hawkes, services..... | 10 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services..... | 7 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$19 50 |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WESLEY O. HAWKES,
Board of Health.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

RECEIPTS AT TOWN FARM.

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------|--|
| Received for Milk | \$641 15 | |
| Hay | 104 31 | |
| Board of T. Carney..... | 108 00 | |
| Cows and bull..... | 69 00 | |
| Apples..... | 54 37 | |
| Eggs..... | 12 76 | |
| Calves..... | 15 50 | |
| Cranberries..... | 28 25 | |
| Pork | 28 96 | |
| Breaking roads..... | 3 90 | |
| Potatoes..... | 6 50 | |
| Vegetables | 4 40 | |
| Hens | 8 35 | |
| Sundries | 8 45 | |
| | \$1,093 90 | |

PAYMENTS AT TOWN FARM.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Paid S. H. Balch, salary from Jan. 1, 1900, to Jan. 1, 1901..... | \$450 00 |
| Paid for Labor..... | 368 82 |
| Groceries..... | 374 60 |
| Meat..... | 147 52 |
| Grain | 418 04 |
| Steam heating plant..... | 409 96 |
| Cows..... | 177 50 |
| Bull..... | 16 00 |
| Window and door screens..... | 18 20 |
| Wall paper and window shades | 12 56 |
| Dry goods..... | 13 67 |
| Blacksmith work..... | 16 93 |
| Tinware | 11 65 |
| Pasturing cows..... | 14 00 |
| Fertilizer | 19 00 |
| Paint..... | 25 00 |
| | \$2,493 45 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <i>\$2,493 45</i> |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$2,493 45 | |
| Fish | 25 08 | |
| Tobacco | 20 00 | |
| Lumber | 27 41 | |
| Coal | 21 24 | |
| Ice..... | 10 30 | |
| Medical supplies..... | 8 50 | |
| Water front and couplings.... | 8 60 | |
| Car fares..... | 10 00 | |
| Pigs..... | 5 00 | |
| Hardware..... | 5 15 | |
| Grass and garden seeds..... | 8 00 | |
| Sundries | 19 62 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,662 35 |

EXPENSE OF POOR OUTSIDE ALMSHOUSE.

| | | |
|---|------------|--------|
| Paid Hospital bills of Reed, Lord, Quinn, Whitcomb and Raymond | \$702 69 | |
| City of Lowell, on account of Margaret Casey..... | 30 00 | |
| Record of Leland Deed. \$1 00 | | |
| Charles A. Eveleth, sher- iff's fees in Leland case..... | 46 81 | |
| Ralph C. Whidden, work on Leland lumber... | 238 52 | |
| T. E. Symmes, survey- ing Leland land and lumber | 20 99 | |
| | <hr/> | 307 32 |
| Marshall & Son, groceries for Frank Goss..... | 17 37 | |
| F. E. Varney, M. D., on account Mrs. Goss..... | 2 25 | |
| L. B. Leland, board of Mrs. Louisa Leland..... | 15 00 | |
| J. R. Draper, M. D., on account Mrs. Louisa Leland..... | 66 65 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$1,141 28 | |

| | |
|---|----------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$1,141 28 |
| J. R. Draper, M. D., on account Mrs. Perham..... | 4 75 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., on account Mrs. Jane Dugdale..... | 5 00 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., on account Mrs. Mary H. Whitney..... | 25 25 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., on account Hannah Sullivan | 4 00 |
| J. W. Godfrey, M. D., on account Mrs. Noel..... | 10 00 |
| J. W. Godfrey, M. D., on account Mrs. Jos. Whitney..... | 9 46 |
| J. W. Godfrey, M. D., on account Jos. Whitney..... | 7 80 |
| B. H. Hartwell, M. D., on account Jos. Whitney | 2 00 |
| Thatcher & Ireland, on account Jos. Whitney..... | 11 44 |
| City of Lowell, on account James Savage..... | 2 00 |
| John H. Knowles, groceries for Wilson family..... | 7 93 |
| Samuel Hobbs & Co., blanks.... | 58 |
| John H. Knowles, groceries for F. Boucher..... | 11 51 |
| Wright & Fletcher, groceries for J. D. Wilkinson..... | 20 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler, salary..... | 10 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler, extra time and expense | 10 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler, making out report to town..... | 5 00 |
| C. R. Decatur, salary..... | 10 00 |
| C. R. Decatur, extra time and expense | 20 00 |
| A. R. Choat, salary..... | 10 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | <hr/> \$186 72 |

| | | |
|---|----------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$186 72 | |
| L. W. Wheeler, making State pauper report | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,333 00 |
| Credit by cash received as below | | 970 48 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Net cost of aid to poor outside almshouse | | \$362 52 |

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Due for board of John P. Green at town farm | \$108 00 | |
| Due from Town of Chelmsford on account of Frank Goss and wife | 19 62 | |
| City of Lowell on account of Jane Dugdale | 5 00 | |
| Hannah Sullivan | 4 00 | |
| State on account of F. Boucher | 11 51 | |
| Received from State Treasurer on account Caron family | 15 00 | |
| Mrs. Noel | 10 00 | |
| Wilson family | 7 93 | |
| Abbott & Co., rent of house on town farm | 7 50 | |
| J. C. Miller, rent of house of J. D. Wilkinson | 4 00 | |
| F. Emerson, apples on land of J. D. Wilkinson | 5 00 | |
| Thos. Quinn on account of Mary Quinn | 175 05 | |
| N. J. Decatur for wood on Leland land | \$40 00 | |
| A. Fisher for wood on Leland land | 1 00 | |
| G. E. Gould for wood on Leland land | 5 00 | |
| L. J. Marden, lumber on Leland land | 700 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$746 00 |

\$970 48

STATEMENT.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Cash received from Town Treasurer. . . | 2,898 00 | |
| In hands Superintendent of farm | | |
| Feb. 1, 1900..... | 1 20 | |
| Income of farm..... | 1,093 90 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4,002 10 |
| Expense of poor outside almshouse.... | \$1,333 00 | |
| Total payments at farm..... | 2,662 35 | |
| Cash in hands Superintendent of farm | | |
| Feb. 1, 1901 | 6 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4002 10 |
| Cash in hands Superintendent of farm | | |
| Feb. 1, 1900 | \$10 20 | |
| Drawn from Town Treasurer for | | |
| farm | 1,565 00 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | \$1,575 20 | |
| Cash in hands Supt. of farm Feb. 1, 1901 | 6 75 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| Net expense at farm..... | \$1,568 45 | |
| Net expense of poor outside almshouse | 362 52 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,930 97 |
| Cash received from Town Treasurer... | \$2,898 00 | |
| Reimbursements in hands of Town | | |
| Treasurer..... | 970 48 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| Net draft from Town Treasurer..... | | \$1,927 52 |

INMATES OF ALMSHOUSE, FEB. 1, 1901.

| | AGE. |
|---|----------|
| Caroline A. Perham..... | 76 |
| John P. Green..... | 81 |
| Edward E. Holt..... | 86 |
| Joseph D. Wilkinson..... | 81 |
| Thomas Carney..... | about 90 |
| Margaret O'Brine..... | about 67 |
| Caroline O'Toole..... | 101 |
| Mary Elizabeth Cowdry..... | 42 |
| Whole number supported at almshouse..... | 8 |
| Number of tramps lodged at almshouse..... | 501 |

The expenses of this department have been so much less than expected that we have kept within a reduced appropriation.

The need of a better heating apparatus at the almshouse has been very apparent for some time, so that when we found ourselves in possession of funds recovered by us in behalf of the Town in reimbursement for former expenditures, sufficient to place a steam heating apparatus in the almshouse, we considered it for the interest of the Town so to do, considering it to be more economical for the Town, all things considered, than stoves. Whenever any of the Board have visited the almshouse we have found everything neat and clean and every evidence that the inmates were well cared for. That such care pays is shown by the small amount of medical bills for the inmates. It is the wish of the Overseers and the master of the almshouse that the citizens of the Town would more generally visit this institution and so better understand what is done there.

L. W. WHEELER,

A. R. CHOATE,

C. R. DECATUR,

Overseers of the Poor.

SCHEDULE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT THE ALMSHOUSE
FEBRUARY 2, 1901.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 11 cows..... | \$440 00 |
| 2 horses..... | 125 00 |
| 1 bull..... | 25 00 |
| 13 tons English hay..... | 260 00 |
| 6 tons stock hay..... | 100 00 |
| 5 tons ensilage..... | 25 00 |
| Grain in barn..... | 27 50 |
| 1 mowing machine..... | 20 00 |
| Wagons..... | 175 00 |
| Sleds..... | 32 00 |
| Sleighs..... | 30 00 |
| 1 hay tedder..... | 25 00 |
| 1 two horse dump cart..... | 60 00 |
| 1 wheelbarrow..... | 10 00 |
| 1 ensilage cutter..... | 8 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <u>\$1,362 50</u> |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$1,362 50 | |
| 1 harrow, spike tooth..... | 12 00 | |
| Hay fork and gear..... | 30 00 | |
| 2 shoats..... | 12 00 | |
| Harnesses..... | 75 00 | |
| 40 fowls..... | 20 00 | |
| Balance in barn and outbuildings.... | 411 10 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,922 60 |

PERSONAL PROPERTY AT HOUSE.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|------------|
| 1¼ barrels flour..... | 9 50 | |
| 250 pounds granulated sugar.... | 15 00 | |
| 1½ barrels pork..... | 24 00 | |
| Vinegar, stock and barrels.... | 50 00 | |
| 60 bushels potatoes..... | 45 00 | |
| 35 pounds of butter..... | 9 10 | |
| Vegetables..... | 3 00 | |
| Groceries..... | 10 00 | |
| Balance of personal property at house | 715 79 | |
| | <hr/> | \$881 39 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$2,803 99 |

JOHN M. FLETCHER,
F. C. HILDRETH,
J. W. FLETCHER,

Appraisers of property at Town Farm.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Westford submits the following report :

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| To cash on hand..... | \$ 3,063 52 |
| To cash borrowed..... | 22,000 00 |
| From State corporation tax, balance 1899..... | 14 63 |
| State corporation tax, 1900..... | 3,085 48 |
| State bank tax, 1900..... | 560 96 |
| Soldiers' families..... | 1,043 00 |
| Indigent soldiers'..... | 30 00 |
| Income Massachusetts School Fund..... | 404 78 |
| Armory rent..... | 175 00 |
| County Treasurer, dog licenses..... | 386 46 |
| County Treasurer, fines unlicensed dogs..... | 15 85 |
| A. Bicknell, Janitor Town Hall..... | 95 25 |
| Burial of indigent soldiers..... | 70 00 |
| Mrs. John W. Raymond, funeral expenses of husband..... | 26 50 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, tax of 1894..... | 3 96 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, tax of 1896..... | 26 22 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, tax of 1897..... | 153 74 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, tax of 1898..... | 829 06 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax, 1896..... | 5 82 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax, 1897..... | 20 26 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax, 1898..... | 96 96 |
| Alvan Fisher, auctioneer license..... | 2 00 |
| N. J. Decater, wood on Leland lot..... | 40 00 |
| Collection from Episcopal services, donated... .. | 10 46 |
| Thos V. Quinn, board of wife..... | 175 05 |
| Clerk, District Court, Ayer..... | 15 00 |
| Emerson Bros., apples on Wilkinson place.... | 5 00 |
| J. C. Miller, rent of Wilkinson house..... | 4 00 |
| Abbot & Co., rent of house at town farm. | 7 50 |
| County Treasurer, on account of roads..... | 1,000 00 |
| State Treasurer, on account of paupers..... | 32 93 |
| Westford Academy, on account of music teacher..... | 25 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <i>\$33,424 39</i> |

| | | |
|---|----------|----|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$33,424 | 39 |
| State, on account superintendent of schools ... | 625 | 00 |
| State, on account inspection of animals..... | 47 | 00 |
| Gilbert & Barker Mfg. Co., gasoline barrels... | 2 | 40 |
| Income of Library fund..... | 82 | 50 |
| Accidental Insurance Co., on account Louis Caya..... | 7 | 00 |
| A. L. Prior, tax of 1899..... | 2,030 | 37 |
| A. L. Prior, tax of 1900 before Oct. 1.... | 15,865 | 18 |
| A. L. Prior, tax of 1900 before Dec. 1..... | 1,425 | 04 |
| A. L. Prior, tax of 1900 after Dec. 1..... | 1,605 | 99 |
| A. Fisher, wood on Leland lot..... | 1 | 00 |
| G. E. Gould, wood on Leland lot.... | 5 | 00 |
| L. J. Marden, lumber on Leland lot..... | 700 | 00 |
| B. F. Day, cash paid Dr. E. D. Harris. | 4 | 00 |
| Mary F. Nutting, license No. 357..... | 8 | 00 |
| John A. Haley, work of road, team and men. . | 17 | 25 |
| Carrie E. Read, wood alcohol..... | | 25 |
| | <hr/> | |
| | \$55,850 | 37 |

PAYMENTS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----|
| By cash, notes and interest..... | \$23,238 | 23 |
| State tax..... | 795 | 00 |
| County tax..... | 1,418 | 57 |
| Orders for incidental expenses..... | 18,757 | 65 |
| On account of schools..... | 6,596 | 10 |
| Account of tuition, Academy..... | 1,500 | 00 |
| Account of Library..... | 522 | 53 |
| Cash on hand..... | 3,022 | 29 |
| | <hr/> | |
| | \$55,850 | 37 |

NAHUM H. WRIGHT,
Treasurer.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

The Chairman, Board of Selectmen, Westford, Mass.

Dear Sir:— Pursuant to the duties of Auditor, I herewith beg to submit to you a report of my examination of the several departments of the Town's accounts for the year ending March 1, 1901.

TAXES.

Uncollected, to the debit of Walter C. Wright.

| YEAR. | Balance due March 1, 1900. | Interest collected since March 1, 1900. | Totals. | Payments to credit of same since March 1, 1900, including abate- ments | Balance due March 1, 1901. |
|---|-------------------------------|---|----------|--|-------------------------------|
| 1894 | \$ 3 96 | — | \$ 3 96 | \$ 3 96 | — |
| 1896 | 57 47 | \$ 5 82 | 63 29 | 50 85 | \$ 12 44 |
| 1897 | 220 40 | 20 26 | 240 66 | 201 27 | 39 39 |
| 1898 | 1,286 29 | 96 96 | 1,383 25 | 1,000 37 | 382 88 |
| Total amount uncollected to debit Walter C. Wright, | | | | | \$434 71 |

TO THE DEBIT A. L. PRIOR FOR YEAR 1899.

| | | |
|---|------------|--|
| To balance uncollected on Feb. 15, 1900 | \$3,161 92 | |
| Additions since, as per Assessors' notices..... | 53 55 | |
| Interest paid on past due taxes..... | 77 40 | |
| | \$3,292 87 | |
| By net taxes collected Feb. 15, 1900, to Feb. 16, 1901..... | \$1,953 40 | |
| Abatements since, as per Assessors' notices..... | 162 99 | |
| Interest on past due taxes..... | 77 40 | |
| Balance to collect on Feb. 15, 1901.. | 1,099 08 | |
| | \$3,292 87 | |

TO THE DEBIT OF A. L. PRIOR FOR THE YEAR 1900.

To amount assessed, as per Assessors' warrant for the year as follows :

| | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Real estate..... | \$16,941 89 | |
| Personal property..... | 3,564 82 | |
| Polls, 697 at \$2.00..... | 1,394 00 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | \$21,900 71 | |
| Additions since, as per Assessors' notices | 75 70 | |
| Interest paid on overdue taxes..... | 4 10 | |
| | <hr/> | \$21,980 51 |
| By net collections to Oct. 1, 1900..... | \$15,850 78 | |
| 5 per cent. discount on as- sessed value of same, \$16,685.03..... | 834 25 | |
| Collected on acct. without discount..... | 14 40 | |
| | <hr/> | \$16,699 43 |
| Net collection for October and November..... | \$1,425 04 | |
| 3 per cent. discount on assessed value, \$1,469.11..... | 44 07 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,469 11 |
| Collections from Dec. 1, 1900, to Feb. 16, 1901 | \$1,601 89 | |
| Interest on overdue taxes paid..... | 4 10 | |
| Abatements as per Asses- sors' notices..... | 32 00 | |
| | <hr/> | 1,637 99 |
| Balance to collect to debit of Collector | \$2,173 98 | |
| | <hr/> | \$21,980 51 |

TOWN CLERK.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Dog licenses : | | |
| 178 males at \$2.00..... | \$356 00 | |
| 18 females at \$5.00..... | 90 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$446 00 |
| Less Clerk's fees, 196 licenses at 20 cents each..... | | 39 20 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Balance paid to County Treasurer and received for by him..... | | 406 80 |

SELECTMEN.

Proper vouchers are on file for each and all of the 447 orders drawn by the Selectmen on the Treasurer during the year, amounting altogether to \$18,757.65.

MASTER OF ALMSHOUSE.

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| To balance cash on hand from previous year..... | \$10 20 | |
| Receipts from all sources for the year to Feb. 1, 1901..... | 2,658 90 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,669 10 |
| By expenditures for the year to Feb. 1, 1901..... | \$2,662 35 | |
| Balance cash on hand Feb. 1, 1901.. | 6 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,669 10 |

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

L. W. Wheeler, Chairman.

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| To receipts for the year ending Feb. 1, 1901. | | |
| From Town Treasurer..... | \$2,898 00 | |
| From other sources..... | 33 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,931 50 |
| By expenditures for the year to Feb. 1, 1901..... | | \$2,931 50 |

LIBRARY.

N. H. Wright, Treasurer.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| By balance in hands of Treasurer March 1, 1900..... | \$ 57 25 | |
| Receipts from various sources..... | 645 27 | |
| | <hr/> | \$702 52 |

| | | |
|---|-------------------|----------|
| To expenditures for the year to March 1, 1901..... | \$522 53 | |
| Balance on hand March 1, 1901..... | 179 99 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$702 52 |

TREASURER.

| | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| To Balance on hand March 1, 1900.... | \$ 3,063 52 | |
| Receipts from all sources during year | 52,786 85 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$55,850 37 |
| By total payments from the Treasury for the year to March 1, 1901.... | \$52,828 08 | |
| Balance on hand March 1, 1901.... | 3,022 29 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$55,850 37 |

STATEMENT OF CONDITION.

LIABILITIES.

| | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| Due State Treasurer on account Library Loan of \$5,000..... | \$3,000 00 | |
| 5 months' interest on same at 4 per cent. | 50 00 | |
| Loan from State Treasurer for Town's general expenses..... | 12,000 00 | |
| 5 months' interest on same at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent..... | 160 00 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$15,210 00 |

ASSETS.

| | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| Uncollected taxes, year 1896..... | \$ 12 44 | |
| Uncollected taxes, year 1897..... | 39 39 | |
| Uncollected taxes, year 1898..... | 382 88 | |
| Uncollected taxes, year 1899..... | 1,099 08 | |
| Uncollected taxes, year 1900..... | 2,173 98 | |
| Due from State Aid (soldiers' families).. | 1,043 00 | |
| Due from Military Aid..... | 42 50 | |
| Balance of cash in hands of Master of Almshouse | 6 75 | |
| Balance of cash in treasury..... | 3,022 29 | |
| Deficit as on March 1, 1901..... | 7,387 69 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$15,210 00 |

Deficit as returned for year 1899, \$6,315.82

My thanks are due to your Treasurer and other officers, who rendered me every courtesy and facility necessary to my examination.

H. F. LEITH,
Auditor.

LIBRARY REPORT.

The Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library respectfully submit the following report for the year ending March 1, 1901:—

In behalf of the town, the Trustees gratefully acknowledge many gifts to the Library during the past year. Thanks are especially due for the offertory, amounting to \$10.46, at the Episcopal service held in the Town Hall last fall, by the Rev. Thomas L. Fisher of Ayer.

The removal of Rev. Louis H. Buckshorn to New Hampshire last December caused a vacancy in the Board of Trustees. His interest in the Library and his assistance in its management are greatly missed by his associates.

Many of the books purchased this year are of great interest and value. The collection includes the best works obtainable on South Africa and the Boer War, and on China; a finely illustrated set of John L. Stoddard's celebrated lectures in ten volumes; eight volumes of Stanford's Compendium of Geography and Travel, with numerous illustrations and maps; the complete works of Thomas Jefferson, in ten volumes; a good edition of Jane Austen's novels; and a large number of carefully selected histories and biographies.

The binding of last year's magazines, the rebinding of many much used books, and the purchase of desirable works soon to be published, require a larger balance than usual to be reserved in the treasury.

Under the guidance of Superintendent Richardson, the teachers and pupils of our public schools are now making systematic use of the Library in educational work. The small and meagre text-books in History, Geography and Literature are supplemented by complete and more interesting works; and our young people are being unconsciously taught how to use the Library, and to derive from it the help and instruction in which it abounds. It has long been an unfailing source of entertainment and recreation; its practical usefulness for increasing knowledge and promoting sound scholarship among our people is still too little appreciated.

The last catalogue of the Library was printed in 1889. The titles of books purchased since then are contained in eleven annual supplements. The inconvenience and confusion resulting from these conditions have been complained of by many, and with good reason. There are probably few families in town in which the old catalogue and the eleven supplements are preserved and kept on file for use in selecting books. The lists contained in these twelve separate publications form so cumbrous and unsatisfactory a guide to the resources of our Library that they are but little used. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that our books may be considered as not catalogued at all. Many make no attempt to use the Library as a whole, but restrict their reading to the books catalogued in the last supplement. This causes a disproportionate demand for the new books, and much disappointment at the frequent delays in obtaining them. The labor of the Librarian is difficult and perplexing. People come to the delivery counter, sometimes in crowds, desiring books, but often unable to give their class, number or exact title. Hurried search must be made through the catalogue and its numerous supplements, or among the 11,000 volumes on the shelves.

Under these unfavorable conditions, it is not to be wondered at that the circulation is too small. The usefulness of the Library is seriously impaired; a new catalogue is imperatively needed.

But a catalogue like that of 1889 will afford only temporary relief. The supplements will accumulate again, and the trouble and confusion will soon return.

After consultation with Mr. C. B. Tillinghast, State Librarian and member of the Library Commission, we have decided to recommend to the town a modification of the Dewey, or decimal system of cataloguing. It provides for an accurate classification of the books; the card catalogue in the Library is always complete to date and perfect in arrangement; it enables the Librarian, or any one else, to find easily and readily what works the Library contains on any specified subject.

The expense of the work would be large if an expert were employed to do it; but this seems to be unnecessary. With the assistance kindly offered by Mr. Tillinghast, we believe the card catalogue can be made during the ensuing year by Miss Bunce

and those whom she may need to work under her direction. We recommend that the sum of three hundred and fifty dollars be raised and appropriated for this purpose. On the completion of the card catalogue, lists of the books must be printed for general circulation in the town. But money for this purpose will not be needed until next year.

We recommend that the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year.

WILLIAM E. FROST, Chairman,
CATHARINE A. KEBLER, Secretary,
Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Balance on hand..... | \$ 57 25 |
| Shoe and Leather Bank, dividends..... | 11 00 |
| Bigelow Carpet Co., dividends..... | 31 50 |
| City Institution Savings Bank, dividends..... | 40 00 |
| Episcopal offertory..... | 10 46 |
| Fines for unlicensed dogs..... | 15 85 |
| Dog licenses..... | 386 46 |
| Appropriation..... | 150 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$702 52 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|--|----------|
| F. J. Barnard & Co., binding..... | \$ 56 35 |
| Library Art Club..... | 5 00 |
| Willard Small, books..... | 357 83 |
| Balch Bros. & Co., books..... | 30 00 |
| D. Appleton & Co. and others, books..... | 23 95 |
| H. D. Noyes & Co., periodicals..... | 49 40 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$522 53 |
| Balance..... | \$179 99 |

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Number of books purchased..... | 305 |
| Number of books presented..... | 9 |
| Public documents received from State..... | 27 |
| Public documents received from United States..... | 22 |
| Magazines bound..... | 57 |
| Whole number added during year..... | 420 |
| Whole number of books in Library..... | 11,056 |
| Number of books lost..... | 8 |
| Number of books discarded..... | 11 |
| Number of books bought to replace worn-out copies.. | 3 |
| Number of books loaned..... | 13,771 |
| Number of pamphlets added..... | 72 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Cash on hand from last year..... | \$3 66 |
| Fines..... | 8 65 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$12 31 |
| Paid for supplies..... | 8 52 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance..... | \$3 79 |

GIFTS IN 1900.

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Mass. Sons of the American Revolution..... | 1 volume |
| J. Henry Fletcher, Belmont..... | 1 " |
| Mrs. R. W. Lord, Boston..... | 2 " |
| H. S. Underwood..... | 1 " |
| Finley Acker..... | 1 " |
| Everett S. Stackpole, D. D., Cambridge..... | 1 " |
| G. T. Day..... | 1 " |
| Henry Wood..... | 1 " |
| Mrs. Lucia Putney, N. Chelmsford..... | 14 " |
| Sergt. Fred P. Collins, Photographs of Manila and 5 newspapers | |
| Edward E. DeCatur..... | Bald eagle |
| Mrs. G. T. Day, 14 Vols. Atlantic Monthly Magazine, unbound | |
| Mrs. G. T. Day..... | 4 photographs |
| Capt. S. H. Fletcher, newspaper sent from Manila by Philip R. Prescott. | |
| Episcopal offertory, Rev. Thos. L. Fisher..... | \$10 46 |
| Miss Eva E. Fletcher..... | Ladies' Home Journal |
| Dr. W. J. Sleeper..... | 1 pamphlet |
| Henry Wood..... | 1 " |
| Mrs. Lucia Putney, N. Chelmsford..... | 1 " |
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REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

The Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds submit the following report :

The Trust Funds for perpetual care of lots continue to increase in number, two having been received by the Town Treasurer the past year—both from persons no longer residents of the Town. We would again say that any person desiring to establish such a fund can do so by paying to the Commissioners, or the Town Treasurer, any sum not less than \$50.

The avenues and grounds at Fairview Cemetery have received the attention necessary to keep them in excellent condition, as usual. The improvement from year to year can easily be seen by any one visiting this cemetery.

As last year, the greater part of the work, outside of Fairview, has been done at the North Cemetery, as the Commissioners, after due consideration, decided that the work of putting in a new wall on the east side of the cemetery had best be done this year, thus completing the work begun last year, which will obviate the spending of any large amount at that cemetery for some time. But little has been done at the West Cemetery, as the Commissioners have been unable to decide what was best to do on the north and east sides of the cemetery, where the old stone walls now stand. They would be glad to receive at an early date suggestions from parties interested in that cemetery, that they may begin the work of improvement as soon as possible.

The sum of \$62.22 remaining in the Town treasury unexpended, the Commissioners would recommend that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$200 for the coming year—being \$50 less than was raised last year—the same to be expended for the care and improvement of the various cemeteries.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Appropriation for 1900..... | \$250 00 |
| Mrs. J. W. Abbott, Fairview, care of tomb..... | 10 00 |
| George E. H. Abbott, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Fred Ammission, lot 334, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. John Baker, lot 330, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. W. F. Balch, lot 109, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edmund Barton, lots 40 and 41, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Joseph Bennett, lot 61, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Ai Bicknell, 2 lots, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Edson G. Boynton, lot 333, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Augustus Bunce, lots 11 and 12, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Wm. Burnett, lot 37, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Sally B. Burrill fund, Fairview..... | 6 12 |
| Mrs. S. A. Butterfield, lot 334, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. J. T. Butterworth, lot 236, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Frank Calvert, lot 26, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John Carmichael, lot 68, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John B. Carmichael, lot 345, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Clara P. Carkin, lots 145 and 338, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Wm. Carrick, lot 328, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. R. Carver, lots 106 and 107, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| C. A. Chamberlin, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| P. G. Collins, lot 35, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| C. A. Chamberlin, lot 53, W. D..... | 4 00 |
| Miss Annie L. Coolidge, lot 65, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edward Craven, lot 63, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| E. B. Currier, lot 266, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Horace M. Caunter, lot 226, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Mrs. John Caunter, lots 21 and 22, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Alice L. Davis, lot 10, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary A. Davis, lot 364, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Jonathan Davis, Fairview..... | 3 00 |
| C. S. Dodge, lots 165 and 166, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| J. C. Decatur, lot 268, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Albert W. Decatur, lot 64, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | <u>\$316 12</u> |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$316 12 |
| Mrs. Lizzie Drew, lot 43, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. A. E. Dupee, lot 144, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Rachel Dupee, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Caroline Davis, lot 258, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Alonzo B. Falls, lot 62, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. A. M. Felch, lot 257, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Emily A. Fletcher, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| F. L. Fletcher, lot 83, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Julia A. Fletcher, lot 69, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John M. Fletcher, lot 76, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. W. Fletcher, lot 154, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Lucy J. Fletcher, lot 92, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. B. Foote, lots 22 and 23..... | 2 00 |
| Wm. E. Frost, lot 17, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Louisa Garbett, lot 55, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| August Gardel, lot 368, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| L. S. Gilson, lots 60 and 75, W. D., and lot 320, E. D. | 3 00 |
| Wm. Gower, lot 42, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. E. Green, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| John Greig, lot 14, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from J. B. Griffin fund, Fairview..... | 4 04 |
| Mrs. Abby Hamlin, lot 366, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| George P. Hamlin, lot 111, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from C. & C. A. Hamlin fund, lots 56 & 57, E. D. | 6 12 |
| George E. Harris, lot 27, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| W. O. Hawkes, lot 112, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss C. E. Hewitt, lot 116, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Ellen Hildreth, lot 87, W. D., and one in Fairview | 2 00 |
| Miss Helen C. Hildreth, lot 115, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| H. V. Hildreth, lots 42 and 43, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Frank Hindle, lot 336, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| E. H. Holt, lot 39, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. G. F. Horne, lot 16, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Samuel Horne fund..... | 2 02 |
| Francis Hosmer, lot 325, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Elliot F. Humiston, lots 136 and 142, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| G. W. Hunt, lot 341, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$369 30 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$369 30 |
| Edmund J. Hunt, lot 367, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Income from M. Hennessey fund, lot 239, E. D.... | 1 50 |
| Miss A. L. Johnson, lot 60, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss R. E. Luce, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. J. H. Laws, lot 114, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| George A. Leland, lot 247, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| George F. Millis, lot 57, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| George C. Moore, lot 343, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Laura E. Mace, lot 30, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| F. Morton, lot 331, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary Morse, lot 58, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Frank E. Miller, lot 36, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from E. D. Metcalf fund..... | 2 03 |
| J. M. Osgood, lot 6, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Lewis P. Palmer, lots 31 and 32, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. H. S. Parker, Fairview | 1 00 |
| Parker & Buxton, lot 365, E. D | 1 00 |
| Income from J. M. Parker fund..... | 2 02 |
| Wm. Petherick, lot 339, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Harriet Prescious, lot 47, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edward Prescott, lot 25, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. Prinn, lot 67, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Noah Prescott, lot 347, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Noah Prescott, for Eli Tower lot, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Income from Mary A. Putnam fund, North Cemetery | 4 12 |
| George G. Reed, lot 70, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. H. Reed, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Sarah S. Reed fund, West Cemetery.. | 6 24 |
| Mrs. Anna Richardson, lot 74, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| M. T. Richardson, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. F. K. Ripley, lot 2, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from S. Richardson fund..... | 2 02 |
| Mrs. Nancy Sargent, lot 59, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. Saville, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. George Scrutton, lot 375, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss M. Shaw, lot 355, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Clara Smith, lot 95, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| <i>Amount carried forward</i> | \$429 23 |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$429 23 |
| J. F. Spaulding, lot 346, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Richard Stancomb, lot 340, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| F. O. Stiles, lot 41, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Thomas Symmes, 2 lots, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| S. L. Taylor, lot 101, W. D., 227, E. D., one in Fairview | 3 00 |
| Mrs. S. H. Trumbull, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| J. A. Walkden, lot 15, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. Welch, lot 18, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Isaac G. Wheeler, lot 105, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary J. Wheeler, lot 77, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| A. F. Whidden, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| C. E. Whidden, Whiting lot, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Wm. Whigham, lot 54, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| E. J. Whitney, lots 28 and 29, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Hiram Whitney, lot 100, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Wm. M. Whitney, lot 21, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Wm. M. Whitney, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Income from C. M. Wiley fund, Fairview..... | 6 12 |
| Income from Luther E. Wilkins fund, lot 88, W. D.. | 1 50 |
| Samuel Willis, lot 20, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. T. Willis, lot 19, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| John Wilson, lot 146, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Sarah E. P. Wells fund, West Cemetery | 2 03 |
| Myron J. Woods, lot 155, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Wm. L. Woods, lot 148, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| A. A. Wright, lot 34, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. F. C. Wright, lot 59, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Gilman J. Wright, lots 28 and 29, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| G. P. Wright, lot 25, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from V. B. Wright fund..... | 1 00 |
| N. H. Wright, lots 46 and 47, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| W. M. Wright, lot 24, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Agnes York, lot 234, E. D..... | 2 00 |

 \$476 88

EXPENSES.

Fairview :—

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Paid A. P. Richardson and others for labor..... | \$236 65 | |
| J. H. O'Brien for 8 cords manure | 24 00 | |
| W. W. Johnson for teaming same | 4 00 | |
| J. H. O'Brien for teaming same | 4 00 | |
| B. & M. R. R., freight on manure | 9 64 | |
| Grass seed..... | 1 90 | |
| | <hr/> | \$280 19 |

North Cemetery :—

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Paid Charles Farrow for laying wall.. | \$60 00 | |
| J. E. Ward for stone capping.... | 33 40 | |
| R. E. Redding, teaming capping | 10 00 | |
| W. W. Johnson, teaming and cement..... | 1 50 | |
| For two casks Portland cement.. | 5 00 | |
| For one cask common cement... | 1 35 | |
| Freight on cement..... | 30 | |
| Bartlett & Dow for chains..... | 1 16 | |
| B. F. Nutting for labor..... | 10 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck for labor.... | 4 40 | |
| | <hr/> | \$127 11 |

West Cemetery :—

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| Paid C. L. Johnson, painting fence.... | \$3 60 | |
| J. T. Colburn for labor..... | 7 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck for labor.... | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$13 60 |

General Expense :—

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------|--------|
| Postage stamps, envelopes, etc.... | 5 00 | |
| Axle oil, etc..... | 87 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 87 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Amount appropriated by the Town.... | \$250 00 | |
| Amount received for care of lots..... | 226 88 | |
| | <hr/> | \$476 88 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Unexpended balance in Town Treasury | |
| 1899..... | 12 11 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$488 99 |
| Amount expended..... | 426 77 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance in hands of Town Treasurer... | \$62 22 |

TRUST FUNDS HELD FOR CARE OF BURIAL LOTS.

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Sally B. Burrill fund..... | \$100 00 |
| Mary A. Putnam fund..... | 100 00 |
| Samuel Horne fund..... | 50 00 |
| Clara M. Wiley fund..... | 100 00 |
| Joseph B. Griffin fund..... | 100 00 |
| Edwin D. Metcalf fund..... | 50 00 |
| Sarah S. Reed fund..... | 100 00 |
| C. and C. A. Hamlin fund..... | 100 00 |
| Varnum B. Wright fund..... | 25 00 |
| M. Hennessey fund..... | 50 00 |
| S. Richardson fund..... | 50 00 |
| James M. Parker fund..... | 50 00 |
| Sarah E. P. Wells fund..... | 100 00 |
| Luther E. Wilkins fund..... | 50 00 |

\$1025 00

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, Chairman,
 GEORGE T. DAY, Secretary,
Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MIDDLESEX SS.

TO EITHER CONSTABLE OF THE TOWN OF WESTFORD, IN SAID COUNTY, Greeting:

You are hereby required, in the name of the Commonwealth aforesaid, to notify and warn all the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections and also in Town affairs, to meet in the Town House, in said Westford, on Monday, the eighteenth day of March, being the third Monday in said month, at 8 o'clock A. M. The polls will be opened at 8.15 o'clock A. M., and may be closed at 1 o'clock P. M.; and they are then and there to act upon the following articles, to wit:

1st. To choose a Moderator.

2d. To bring in their votes for Town Clerk for one year; one Selectman and one Overseer of the Poor for three years; two Assessors, one for one year and one for three years; one Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds for three years; two Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library, one for two years and one for three years; three School Committee, one for two years and two for three years; Town Treasurer; Collector of Taxes; Two Constables; one Auditor and one Tree Warden all for one year. Also to vote on the following question: "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this Town?" All on one ballot.

3d. To hear the report of the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.

4th. To hear the report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards, and act in relation to the same.

5th. To hear the report of the Overseers of the Poor, and act in relation to the same.

6th. To hear the report of the School Committee, and act in relation to the same.

7th. To hear the report of the Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library, and act in relation to the same.

8th. To hear the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds, and act in relation to the same.

9th. To see if the Town will accept the report of the Auditor chosen to audit the accounts of the Town Officers, and act in relation to the same.

10th. To see if the Town will accept the List or Jurors as reported by the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.

11th. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen hereafter to pay a proper charge of an Insurance Company for acting as surety on the official bond given to the Town by the Tax Collector for the faithful discharge of his duties, and act in relation to the same.

12th. To see if the Town will determine the compensation of the Tax Collector, and act in relation to the same.

13th. To raise and appropriate money to repair Roads and Bridges.

14th. To raise and appropriate money for Town Debts and Charges.

15th. To raise and appropriate money for Public Schools.

16th. To raise and appropriate money to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the Town, at Westford Academy.

17th. To raise and appropriate money for support of Poor.

18th. To raise and appropriate money for School Text Books and Supplies.

19th. To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same.

20th. To determine the manner of collecting taxes for the ensuing year, also the rate of interest of taxes remaining unpaid at a time to be fixed by vote of the Town, and when and how said taxes shall be paid into the treasury, and act in relation to the same.

21st. To choose all other Town Officers necessary to be chosen by hand vote, and act in relation to the same.

22d. By request of the Veteran Association, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) to commemorate Memorial Day, and act in relation to the same.

23d. To see what action the Town will take to comply with the order of the County Commissioners on relocating and widening Carlisle Road, so called, and act in relation to the same.

24th. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to repair and paint the flag pole on the Town Common, and act in relation to the same.

25th. To establish the salary of the Sealer of Weights and Measures, and act in relation to the same.

26th. By request of the citizens of Graniteville and Forge Village, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in these two villages, and act in relation to the same.

27th. By request of the School Committee, to see if the Town will authorize the School Committee to put a cellar under the Forge Village Schoolhouse, also to appropriate money for the same, and act in relation to the same.

28th. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to sign any contract that may be required by the Massachusetts Highway Commission for the expenditure of money allotted by them from time to time to the Town for highway purposes, and act in relation to the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up true and attested copies at the Town House and at each depot in said Westford, eight days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

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

Given under our hands and seals, this first day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and one.

Signed.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF WESTFORD, MASS.,

FOR THE

SCHOOL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1901.



LOWELL, MASS. :
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1901.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE 1900-1901.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| A. R. CHOATE, Chairman | . . . | Term Expires 1901. |
| L. H. BUCKSHORN, Secretary | . . . | " " 1903. |
| JOHN C. ABBOT, Secretary pro tem. | . . . | " " 1901. |
| GEO. H. HARTFORD | | " " 1903. |
| FRANK H. HILDRETH | | " " 1902. |
| ELBERT H. FLAGG | | " " 1902. |

Superintendent of Schools,
H. [E. RICHARDSON, Residence, Littleton Depot.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Citizens of Westford :

The School Board herewith submits its report for the past year.

Under the supervision of our Superintendent, Mr. Richardson, the schools have made rapid progress. We have been handicapped by the loss of some of our best teachers, but in most cases the places have been well filled, and the work has continued without interruption. As to the eighth grade, we were somewhat unfortunate in our selection after Miss Carter resigned, but under Miss Ruth Fisher splendid headway has been made. There has been a great deal of sickness this winter, which has had a tendency to interfere with the studies, also changing superintendents, as we did in March last, bringing in new ideas and to a degree new methods, even though it be for the best, must necessarily be a drawback at first. Notwithstanding these facts, we feel that this year has been a most successful one.

A word as to consolidation. Some time ago, owing to the small number of children attending the Long Sought For School, it was deemed advisable to close it and transport the scholars to Westford; later the Wright School was closed, and the scholars were carried to Graniteville. In both cases the results have been most encouraging. The children have attained a far better training than they possibly could under the district system. More time, more competent teachers, better appliances, are some of the many things which tend to make graded work so much superior.

Consolidation means a far better education for the child, and a diminished expense in the end to the town. Whenever distance will permit, it is by all means desirable to consolidate.

There is one matter which demands our close attention, and before long we must have it; that is, a ninth grade. At the present time the average child enters the Academy totally unfitted to carry on the course, simply because the ninth year work is lacking, and time will only permit the work being partially done in the previous grades. Under these conditions one of two things must happen: Either the scholar must plod along without getting the best from each study, or else the work in the Academy must be sacrificed to take up the branches neglected and yet necessary to obtain the best results.

There is still another subject which must be considered, and that is, the question of room for the eighth grade. The Academy Trustees have very kindly given the use of one of their rooms, but with the steady increase in number the space will soon be too small to accommodate all. Last fall we were obliged to put in extra seats, and more could not well be placed there.

In regard to repairs at the Center School, a new furnace is badly needed. This winter we have had a great deal of trouble and have been obliged to close at times, the temperature being below 60 degrees. At Forge Village a cellar is a necessity, and the furnace should be changed and put down there.

With that end in view, we are asking for an appropriation to do the work. Several of the buildings will need, before long, painting inside and outside, besides other minor repairs, which will not be expensive.

There are two matters which the Board would like to submit for your consideration: First, that the two school-houses now vacant be sold, if possible. They will not certainly increase in value by allowing them to stand idle, and there is no possibility of their being used again by the town for educational purposes. Second, that the eighth grade scholars be transported. This certainly should be done another year, as the distances from Forge Village, Graniteville and other parts of the town are too great for the children to walk.

Regarding the money to be expended for the schools. The demand for a better education is increasing daily, and the State requires that the school keep a longer number of weeks; and in towns of five hundred families a high school or its equivalent

must be maintained. More competent teachers are necessary to carry out the modern ideas; in fact, it is impossible to do the work satisfactorily with less money than we ask for. In closing, we wish to express our regret at the resignation of our former Secretary, Mr. Buckshorn, and thank him for the services he rendered while with the Board.

A. R. CHOATE,
J. C. ABBOT,
G. H. HARTFORD,
F. H. HILDRETH,
E. H. FLAGG,

School Committee.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

INCOME.

| | | |
|--|-----------|------------|
| Balance unexpended from 1899..... | \$ 272 17 | |
| Appropriation..... | 5,700 00 | |
| From State on account of Superintendent of Schools..... | 250 00 | |
| Income Massachusetts School Fund. . . | 404 78 | |
| From Westford Academy for services of music teacher..... | 25 00 | |
| Tuition of scholars at Westford Academy..... | 1,500 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$8,151 95 |

EXPENDED.

| | | |
|---|------------|---------------|
| Teachers..... | \$5,208 95 | |
| Fuel..... | 686 35 | |
| Janitor service..... | 394 80 | |
| Transporting scholars..... | 306 00 | |
| Tuition scholars Westford Academy... .. | 1,500 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$8,096 10 |
| Balance unexpended | | <hr/> \$55 85 |

SUPPLIES FURNISHED NOT INCLUDING BOOKS.

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Westford Academy..... | \$27 20 |
| Eighth Grade..... | 23 13 |
| Centre Grammar..... | 22 20 |
| Centre Primary | 11 86 |
| Stony Brook..... | 8 11 |
| Nabnassett..... | 10 78 |
| Wright..... | 2 48 |
| Graniteville Grammar..... | 20 73 |
| Graniteville Intermediate..... | 21 19 |
| Graniteville Upper Primary..... | 16 71 |
| Graniteville Lower Primary..... | 11 36 |
| | <hr/> |
| <i>Amount carried forward.....</i> | \$175 75 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <i>Amount brought forward</i> | \$175 75 | |
| Forge Village Grammar..... | 16 54 | |
| Forge Village Primary..... | 16 02 | |
| Nashoba..... | 8 61 | |
| Parkerville..... | 6 87 | |
| Minot's Corner..... | 12 37 | |
| | <hr/> | \$236 16 |
| Books..... | | 361 81 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$597 97 |

APPROPRIATIONS RECOMMENDED.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Schools..... | \$6,000 00 | |
| Tuition scholars at Westford Academy. | 1,500 00 | |
| Text books and school supplies..... | 600 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$8,100 00 |

COST OF SCHOOLS.

EIGHTH GRADE.

| | | |
|---------------|----------|----------|
| Teaching..... | \$424 00 | |
| Heating..... | 125 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$549 00 |

CENTRE.

| | | |
|--------------------|-------|----------|
| Teaching..... | \$724 | |
| Fuel..... | 66 49 | |
| Care of house..... | 90 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$880 99 |

GRANITEVILLE.

| | | |
|--------------------|------------|------------|
| Teaching..... | \$1,522 00 | |
| Fuel..... | 198 71 | |
| Care of house..... | 117 30 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,838 01 |

FORGE VILLAGE.

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Teaching..... | \$748 40 | |
| Fuel..... | 101 27 | |
| Care of house..... | 99 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$949 17 |

MINOT'S CORNER.

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Teaching..... | \$288 00 | |
| Fuel..... | 39 62 | |
| Care of house..... | 17 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$345 37 |

PARKERVILLE.

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Teaching..... | \$288 00 | |
| Fuel..... | 39 00 | |
| Care of house..... | 11 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$338 50 |

NASHOBA.

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Teaching..... | \$288 00 | |
| Fuel..... | 24 50 | |
| Care of house..... | 25 75 | |
| | | \$338 25 |

STONY BROOK.

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Teaching..... | \$324 00 | |
| Fuel..... | 60 44 | |
| Care of house..... | 11 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$395 44 |

NABNASSETT.

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Teaching..... | \$289 80 | |
| Fuel..... | 28 82 | |
| Care of house..... | 18 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$337 12 |

WRIGHT.

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Teaching | \$104 00 | |
| Fuel | 2 50 | |
| Care of house..... | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$109 50 |
| Music teacher..... | \$208 75 | |
| Transporting scholars..... | 306 00 | |

EXPENSE OF SUPERVISION.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------|----------|
| Salary paid by Town..... | 775 31 | |
| Rebate from State..... | 625 00 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| Net cost to Town..... | | \$150 31 |

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

To the School Committee of Westford:

Gentlemen:—I hereby submit my first and the eighth annual report of the Superintendent of Schools.

The following is a statistical table, showing the returns of the last school census; and the enrollment and attendance in the schools from September, 1899, to June, 1900:

| | |
|---|-------|
| Number of boys in town between 5 and 15 years..... | 215 |
| Number of girls in town between 5 and 15 years..... | 223 |
| Total..... | 438 |
| Number of boys in town between 7 and 14 years..... | 197 |
| Number of girls in town between 7 and 14 years..... | 207 |
| Total..... | 404 |
| Whole number enrolled in all the schools..... | 481 |
| Whole number between 5 and 15 years..... | 436 |
| Whole number between 7 and 14 years..... | 337 |
| Whole number over 15 years..... | 45 |
| Average membership..... | 412.1 |
| Average attendance..... | 369.9 |
| Per cent. of attendance..... | 89.7 |
| Number of teachers..... | 17 |
| Number of weeks in school year..... | 36 |

When entering upon my duties, last April, I found the work in the schools well systematized, and the cause of education well advanced, although the general organization of the schools is inferior to that in towns which have settled the district school question by consolidation. This experiment, so generally and successfully tried in other towns, can be repeated, I believe, with equally good results in Westford. Today the weight of opinion

is decidedly in favor of all possible consolidation of schools as being in the line of economy and efficiency. The arguments in favor of consolidation were so fully set forth in last year's report that it is unnecessary for me to repeat them here.

In the cities, and in many towns throughout the State, nine years' preparatory work is necessary for admission to the High School, while in Westford only eight years are required. The eighth grade is doing excellent work, and is not expected to do that of the ninth grade; but we feel strongly that another year in the grammar school is almost indispensable for the better preparation and mental development of those who are to do successfully the work of the Academy. It is an acknowledged fact that, even in the most perfect school systems, a gulf exists between the grammar and secondary schools, due, in part, to the most difficult High School studies, as well as to different methods employed; and how to bridge this gulf is a problem much discussed by school authorities. Students entering the Academy inadequately prepared, and with little maturity of mind, are naturally easily discouraged, and apt to leave school early in the course. For the best interests of the young people, and for the greater efficacy of the Academy, which labors at a disadvantage, although with signal success, in spite of unfavorable conditions, I would recommend the establishment of a ninth grade in the grammar school.

Under the management of Mr. Frost and his assistant, faithful and commendable work is being done in the Academy, and Westford is to be congratulated upon supporting an institution of such excellent character. The Academy should not be considered a school for the favored few, whose training is outside of that with which the lower schools are related. The Academy training is the right of all, and should be the goal placed before every pupil in the different grades throughout the town.

The present corps of teachers is faithful, zealous, and well deserves the support of parents and citizens. While all do not possess the same degree of ability in all lines, each teacher has shown herself strong in some special direction. There have been comparatively few changes during the year. In April, two of our best teachers, Miss Annie Carmichael of the Graniteville

lower primary, and Miss Bertha Swain of the upper primary, resigned to accept more lucrative positions in Weymouth. In September, Miss Lizzie A. Winship of the Nabnasset School, who had taught so long and faithfully, retired from the service, much to the regret of all who were associated with her in the work. Although it was not my privilege to have known Miss Winship long, I am convinced that by her resignation Westford has lost one of her most thorough, earnest, and successful teachers.

In June, written examinations were given by the Superintendent, in all subjects, in all the schools, with very satisfactory results in the great majority of cases.

Five teachers' meetings have been held during the year. Time has been taken for such general recommendations as visits to the school-room suggest, as well as for the consideration of the different subjects taught in the schools. Mr. A. W. Clark, of Boston, was present at two of the meetings, and gave the teachers valuable instruction in writing; and Miss Prescott has given special directions regarding the work in music.

The course of study had not been revised, with the exception of slight changes in the geography work, since it was first drawn up by Mr. Barker. A revision was necessary to more fully meet the present needs of the schools. As few changes as possible were made, although the history course is entirely new. The subject of history is receiving more attention in the best schools throughout the country than at any previous time. Whereas, formerly it was taught only in the upper grammar grades, now it is begun in the lower primary and continued throughout the course. Even the youngest children are attracted by stories from history; and while they have had little experience, and cannot understand complicated forms of life, stories of the Indians and Esquimos, especially adapted to children, representing the beginnings of history in ideas of time, place and customs, they take much interest in.

History is a subject well adapted to two ends: To arouse a love for study, and to give a knowledge of how to study. By the present method of teaching it, pupils are given that best of helps, a key to the use of books. Whatever tastes are formed

in childhood will prevail through life, and if a love of study is not formed then, it probably never will be. It has been well said that literature is best history, as it takes us into the very heart and life of a people. So literature is correlated as much as possible with history, and thus pupils become familiar with many of the choicest selections in literature. In Lowell and Whittier we breathe the very atmosphere of the Civil War, and who would think of teaching Puritan New England without "Miles Standish," or the French and Indian War without "Evangeline?"

Throughout the course many books not in the schools are referred to in order to encourage pupils to form the habit of using the Public Library. In recent additions made to the Library it is very gratifying to know that the needs of the schools have been considered, and that a goodly number of excellent reference books are at the disposal of teachers and students.

Mr. Warren Cox resigned his position as Supervisor of Music last June, and Miss Ida Prescott of Westfield was chosen as his successor. Miss Prescott has charge also of the music in the Littleton schools. She has outlined a systematic course of study which is being followed successfully in all the grades. Now special instruction is given in the Academy once a week, as in the other schools. During the year individual work has been emphasized, believing that in music, as in other subjects, the best progress is made when pupils work independently. We grow only by self activity and by what we do for ourselves. It is not expected that all will sing equally well, but the individual method gives every pupil a special opportunity to discover and develop any latent talent that he may possess, whether appreciated or not by him at the time.

Formerly much of the work consisted of singing in concert, when a few of the more capable ones sustained the singing, with the result that a few made satisfactory progress, while the majority gained no working knowledge of music.

The value of music as a disciplinary study is now generally recognized. By conformity to strict and systematic drill, pupils learn to do quick and accurate work. Although a large portion of the music period is required in learning to read the language,

realizing that this is simply a means to an end, the expressive side of the study should not be overlooked, and the aim should be to develop a love and appreciation of the best music. Some one has well said, "Beautiful music produces good impressions, good impressions lead to right living, right living encourages good citizenship, good citizenship makes a state and a nation strong."

The use of water colors has been introduced into the eighth grade, not for the purpose of teaching the pupils to make pretty pictures, but rather to train their powers of observation and expression, as well as to make more real every line of school work. Every subject taught in our schools gains new power and life, as the brush and pencil tells its own truth concerning it. To train pupils to observe is to introduce them to the world of beauty that surrounds them. How blindly most of us go through life, merely for the lack of a little training in early years in learning how to observe. I believe that this work could be introduced into all the grades with good results.

The work of the schools, on the whole, has advanced well throughout the year. We know that the great part of what a pupil learns in school is forgotten in later life. The value of an elementary education, therefore, consists largely in the power gained through the acquirement of knowledge, rather than in the knowledge acquired. Yet there are certain fundamental facts belonging to all school subjects that should be so thoroughly taught as to remain permanently in the mind of the pupil and be available at all times. The aim is to give instruction in all important facts, and through this instruction to develop and broaden the intellectual life of the pupils. Success in this depends upon the character of the instruction given, which, in every case, is more important than the quantity.

The purpose of true education is so to develop the individual as to enable him to make the most of himself, or, in other words, it consists in drawing out and developing all the God-given faculties that he possesses. To the home and the school belongs largely the duty of accomplishing this purpose. If the home does not fulfil its duty in this respect, the schools must supply the defect.

Parents sometimes underrate the aim of school work, and consider that the mere accumulation of facts is the object of school training. But unless brain power is gained, the work of the school is well-nigh void.

In the proper and well directed performance of his school work, the child should gain such a command of his faculties, and such an accumulation of will power, that he will ever be ready to seize opportunity "by the forelock," and meet every obligation of duty.

He should be so trained that, when coming to the cross-roads in life, with no guide-board to direct, he may be able to choose for himself the right way. Every lesson should be so taught and learned as to contribute to this all desirable attainment. Merely to memorize, or to learn with reference to special display, is not educational in any proper sense of the term. Indeed, it may weaken, rather than strengthen, the pupil. To bring into action the latent faculties of the child, is absolutely demanded of the teacher, and with this view a knowledge of the child mind is an absolute necessity to successful work in the school-room. For school instruction should "adopt the means by which a non-thinking, non-reflecting, non-speaking child can most surely be trained into a noble citizen, ready to contend for the right and to die for the right."

In the gift of free will we are endowed by our Creator with the power to work out our own destiny; and it is the highest function of education to help us overcome the disadvantages of troublesome environment and unfavorable circumstances, in the gaining of a noble manhood and womanhood. True education can but make a true man. If one seems to be educated and is not a true man or woman, it is safe to infer that one has been the victim of wrong or faulty instruction. In a word, let it be said that any conception of education is imperfect and inadequate, that does not contemplate the production of that well-rounded character which shall embody in principle and action, "Whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report."

In conclusion, I wish to thank the committee for their support, and for the cordial manner in which I have been received, and the teachers for their co-operation in the work.

Respectfully submitted.

HERBERT E. RICHARDSON.

REPORT OF THE ACADEMY.

Herbert E. Richardson, Superintendent of Schools:

Dear Sir:—In the town report, issued last March, a statement was made of the work done by the Academy students during nearly two-thirds of the school year ending in June, 1900. The classes continued their study of the subjects therein indicated, except that Chemistry, Botany, Civics and Physiology were taken up during the spring term, in place of Physics, General History, Astronomy and English History. It seems unnecessary to state here in detail the studies pursued by the several classes, as the report submitted last March shows what the students had done during nearly two terms of the school year, and indicates the rate of their progress. The interest of the students in their studies was well maintained during the spring term. For several years past the requirements for admission to colleges and technical schools have been gradually increased, both in the number of subjects and in the amount of work to be done. A short time ago the requirements for the State Normal Schools were made nearly equal to those of the smaller colleges; and the catalogues now state explicitly that a four years' course in a good High School is necessary for the preparation of candidates. In the cities and large towns of the State, the studies of the ninth grade are completed in the grammar school; and it may be fairly assumed that the Normal Schools require students who apply for admission to have done thoroughly the work of a four years' High School course, in addition to the ninth grade work of the grammar school. A large majority of Normal School and college students come from cities and populous suburban towns; and the examinations and standards of entrance are naturally adapted to the teaching capacity of the large and thoroughly equipped High Schools having an adequate number of teachers in every department. Under these conditions, it is evident that Academies and High Schools in which

only two teachers are employed, and in which pupils are admitted after leaving the eighth grade, are unable to prepare students for college or Normal School without considerable difficulty. It cannot be done in a three years' course of study; even the four years' course is sufficient only for those students who attend regularly and are faithful and zealous in their work. The best and largest secondary schools in the Commonwealth insist upon a preparatory course of four years. It seems hardly just to expect the country academy with two teachers, its students admitted from the eighth grade, and so widely scattered that their average attendance is necessarily poor, not merely to keep pace with the city High School, but even to gain a year upon it in the admission of students to higher institutions.

Graduates from the three years' course at the Academy were admitted to Normal Schools in September, after some work during the summer, on conditions received at the entrance examination held the last of June. Whether this fact affords reasonable grounds for censure of the Academy, or for congratulation of the candidates, is a question to be answered, after due consideration, by the people of the town.

The studies of the eighth grade do not prepare the pupils for the more difficult tasks of the secondary school. In some cases there is continual failure to learn the lessons that must be assigned; in others the labor, though partially successful, is difficult and discouraging. Hence, the younger pupils, or those who learn slowly, or those who are kept out a few weeks, being unable to do the work necessarily set for their class, or to recover lost ground, are more than willing to drop their books and studies altogether. The inevitable result of entering the Academy too early is to leave it too soon; a matter of deep regret to teachers, disappointing, if not humiliating, to parents, and of decidedly harmful influence upon the young people themselves.

It would seem advisable, therefore, to admit to the Academy next September only the more advanced division of the eighth grade pupils, and thereafter to have the ninth grade studies wholly completed in the grammar school. This measure would raise the average of scholarship in the Academy; the pupils, more mature and farther advanced, would be able to do the more diffi-

cult work required in the Academy courses; and a greater number would complete them and be duly graduated. To be sure, this plan would require pupils to wait another year—wait until they were fitted for it—before entering the Academy. Would the delay be harmful to them?

It is not my province to prescribe or apply the remedy for any defects that may appear in the system of our town schools. In response to your request for some report concerning the work of the Academy, I have ventured, however, not only to state in a general way the facts desired, and the demands which must now be met by the teachers and students of the Academy, but also to suggest a measure which will, in my opinion, greatly increase its influence and usefulness.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM E. FROST.

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF MUSIC.

Mr. Richardson, Superintendent of Schools:

Dear Sir:—My services as Supervisor of Music in the schools of Westford began in September, 1900, and during the six months' work, considerable progress has been made. The method employed is entirely different from that used heretofore, it being Prof. Sterrie A. Weaver's individual sight-singing method. By means of this every child, in all the schools, sings an exercise alone, each day in the week, having a different exercise every day. It has become a part of their day's work, and I find in most cases the children look forward with pleasure to the singing lesson. As he is capable a child is allowed to have harder exercises, for which he strives. I have labored under some disadvantage in the ungraded schools, it being difficult to teach music in a room containing all grades. In the method employed there is a certain amount of work to be covered in each grade during the year; thus the ungraded schools do not progress as rapidly as the graded schools.

I will not particularize the work of each grade, but trust the parents know what their children are doing in music, and I urge them to visit the schools during the music period and inspect the work.

The music in the Academy is not what I hope to see it in the future. As the lower grades enter there, results from the previous instruction will show, and the music should reach a higher standard, as I feel it will.

The teachers have all kindly taken up the work with energy, and I believe it has been their co-operation with me that has caused the progress in music thus far in the year.

Respectfully,

IDA P. PRESCOTT,
Supervisor of Music.

TRUANT OFFICER'S REPORT.

Graniteville, Mass., Feb. 28, 1901.

To the School Committee of the Town of Westford :

Gentlemen : In accordance with the requirements of the Commonwealth and the vote of the Town the following report is respectfully submitted.

| | | |
|--|---------|----|
| The whole number of cases investigated | | 27 |
| Truants compelled to attend school | | 2 |

The above is for the Graniteville Schools.

In December, 1900, Mr. J. H. Prescott resigned as Truant Officer of Forge Village and I was called to fill the place. Six cases were investigated. In one case there was prosecution and the child was compelled to attend school.

Respectfully submitted,

EUGENE DEROEHN,

Truant Officer.

SCHOOL CALENDAR, 1901-1902.

SPRING TERM—Begins March 18, 1901; closes June 14, 1901. Term's length, 13 weeks. Summer vacation, 12 weeks.

FALL TERM—Begins September 9, 1901; closes November 22, 1901. Term's length, 11 weeks. Vacation, one week.

WINTER TERM—Begins December 2, 1901; closes February 28, 1902. Term's length, 12 weeks.

HOLIDAYS.

April 19, Patriot's Day; May 30, Memorial Day; Thanksgiving week; Christmas week.

Program of Westford Grammar School Graduating Exercises, June 15, 1900.

PROGRAM.

| | | |
|--|--|-------------------|
| Invocation. | | |
| Rev. E. H. Roper. | | |
| Song—"The Fountain" | | <i>Lowell</i> |
| Essay—"The New England Poets." | | |
| Charlotte Prescott. | | |
| Recitation—"Grandmother's Story of Bunker Hill Battle" | | <i>Holmes</i> |
| Inez Burnham. | | |
| Song—"The Boston Tea Party" | | <i>Holmes</i> |
| Marion Hall, Belle Shugrue, Luella Wright, Johanna O'Brien, Bertha McLenna. | | |
| Declamation—"The Angels of Buena Vista" | | <i>Whittier</i> |
| Leroy Hartford. | | |
| Essay—"A Visit to Old Concord." | | |
| Jennie Ferguson. | | |
| Song—"The Poet and the Children" | | <i>Whittier</i> |
| Chorus of Girls. | | |
| Recitation—"The Building of the Ship" | | <i>Longfellow</i> |
| Alice Sheahan. | | |
| Essay—"Sons of New England." | | |
| Clarence Wright. | | |
| Song—"Hurrah for Old New England." | | |
| Presentation of Diplomas. | | |
| Supt. Herbert E. Richardson. | | |

GRADUATING CLASS.

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Clarence Wright. | Charlotte Prescott. |
| William Murphy. | Martha Symmes. |
| Alice Sheahan. | Bertha McLenna. |
| Jennie Ferguson. | Inez Burnham. |
| Allan Whitney. | Leroy Hartford. |
| Marion Hall. | Mabel Symmes. |
| Johanna O'Brien. | Belle Shugrue. |
| Luella Wright. | Austin Healy. |
| James Healy. | Arthur Bicknell. |
| William Bicknell. | Hilda Normington. |
| James Sullivan. | Edson Blaisdell. |

PROGRAM OF WESTFORD ACADEMY GRADUATION EXERCISES, JUNE 22, 1900.

PROGRAM.

- Organ Solo—March Triomphale *J. Lemmens.*
Miss Julia H. Fletcher, Class of '97.
- Prayer.
Rev. Elijah H. Roper.
- Essay—The First Post Offices.
Edith A. Wright, Westford.
- Essay—The Coliseum.
Flora E. Palmer, Graniteville.
- Song—Selected.
Mrs. Daisy Shaw Merritt.
- Translation from the French of Victor Hugo.
Luanna B. Decatur, Westford.
- Essay—Frances E. Willard.
Annie M. Connell, Tyngsboro.
- Recitative and Aria from "Scipio."
"Hear me! ye winds and waves." *Handel.*
Mr. A. E. Prescott, Class of '81.
- Essay—Comets.
Mary E. Holden, Westford.
- Duet—"Hark! Hark, my soul." *Schnecker.*
Mrs. Merritt and Mr. Prescott.
- Essay—The Enlargement of Woman's Sphere.
Eva M. Connell, Tyngsboro.
- Organ Solo—Grand Processional *S. B. Whitney.*
Mr. Thomas R. Frost, Class of '95.
- Conferring of Diplomas.
Rev. Edward A. Horton.
- "America."

GRADUATING CLASS.

ENGLISH COURSE.

Annie Maud Connell.

Mary Edna Holden.

Eva May Connell.

Flora Estella Palmer.

Luanna Battles Decatur.

Edith Augusta Wright.

Motto: "*Par labeur et par honneur.*"

ROLL OF HONOR.

ONE YEAR.

Badger, Carl
Craven, Eva
Day, Walter

Greig, John S.
Trull, Elmer
Wright, Lillian
Wright, Carl

TWO TERMS.

Buckingham, Willie
Carlton, Raymond
Day, Albert
Darling, Venia
Decatur, Elsie
Furbush, Ruth

Hartford, Estelle M.
Healy, James R.
Leclerc, Mary
Lord, May
McDougall, Etta
Mooney, Frank
Shugrue, Lena

ONE TERM.

Banister, Marguerite
Bertheaume, Medie
Bertheaume, Nerry
Brown, Kate
Buckingham, Horace
Carkin, Stella B.
Canture, Lewis
Canture, Alfred
Charlton, Frank
Charlton, Agnes
Clark, Margaret
Coburn, Charlie
Cummings, Walter
Day, Addie
Day, May E.
Darling, Roy
Darling, Ora
Daley, Gerald

Decatur, Nat
Donnelly, Mamie
Doucet, Lottie
Ferguson, Howard H.
Ferguson, Jennie
Fields, May
Fletcher, Harold
Fletcher, Grace L.
Flynn, Thomas
Flynn, John
Fulton, Loring
Fulton, Lottie
Fulton, Robert
Fulton, Stella
Gibson, Ella
Gower, Annie
Healy, J. Austin
Hildreth, Harold

Kimball, Alson
 Kimball, Inez F.
 Leclerc, Annie
 Loftus, Gertrude
 Loftus, Mabel
 Lord, Philip
 Lord, Helen
 McDonald, Mabel
 McCoy, Bertha
 Miller, Ruth
 Miller, Everett
 Morton, Gertie
 Moran, Lillie M.
 Pyne, Olive
 Pyne, Eva F.
 Record, Mary

Reed, Barber
 Richardson, Ora
 Roper, Jennie
 Roper, Frederick
 Savoir, Felix
 Shattuck, Stella
 Shattuck, Walter
 Shugrue, Frank
 Shugrue, May
 Spinner, Jack
 Sullivan, Mary
 Symmes, Anna
 Symmes, Paul
 Valentine, Bella
 Vinal, Olive
 Wright, Luella A.

Wright, Clarence

LIST OF TEACHERS, 1900-1901.

| SCHOOLS. | TEACHERS. | APPOINTED. | EDUCATED. | SALARY. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Academy { Principal | William E. Frost..... | 1872 | Bowdoin, '72..... | { Town pay* \$1,300. |
| Academy { Assistant | Alice E. Burrill..... | 1900 | Boston University, '99..... | |
| Eighth Grade..... | Ruth Fisher | 1900 | Lowell Normal..... | \$11 00 |
| Centre Intermediate..... | Cora A. S. Feltham..... | 1900 | Salem Normal..... | 10 00 |
| Centre Primary..... | Harriet Merrill | 1900 | Haverhill Training..... | 10 00 |
| Forge Grammar | Etta Holt..... | 1896 | Punchard Academy..... | 10 00 |
| Forge Primary..... | Marion Brown..... | 1899 | Quincy Training..... | 12 00 |
| Graniteville Grammar..... | Burr J. Merriam..... | 1899 | Oneonta Normal..... | 15 00 |
| Graniteville Intermediate.. | Issie A. Parker | 1897 | Westford Academy..... | 10 00 |
| Graniteville Upper Primary. | Mary E. Bemis | 1900 | Westfield Normal..... | 10 00 |
| Graniteville Lower Primary. | Flora E. Palmer | 1900 | Westford Academy..... | 8 00 |
| Nabassett | Edith K. Wilson..... | 1901 | Salem Normal..... | 8 00 |
| Stony Brook..... | Anna Mellen..... | 1899 | Lowell Normal..... | 8 00 |
| Minot's Corner | Eva Bassett..... | 1899 | Framingham Normal..... | 8 00 |
| Parkerville | Jennie Stowell..... | 1899 | Fitchburg Normal | 8 00 |
| Nashoba | Sara A. Wood | 1900 | Lowell Normal..... | 8 00 |

STATISTICS FOR 1899-1900.

| No. | NAME OF SCHOOL. | Grades. | Weeks of school. | Enrollment. | Average membership. | Average attendance. | Per cent. of attendance. | Number between 7 and 14. | Number between 5 and 15. | Number over 15. |
|-----|---------------------------------|---------|------------------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Academy | 9-12 | 39 | 38 | 34.6 | 32.85 | 92.8 | 2 | 6 | 32 |
| 2 | Eighth Grade | 8 | 36 | 29 | 25.6 | 23 | 89.8 | 18 | 20 | 9 |
| 3 | Centre Intermediate | 4-6 | 36 | 42 | 35.13 | 32.4 | 92 | 36 | 40 | 2 |
| 4 | Centre Primary | 1-3 | 36 | 35 | 29.62 | 25.45 | 85.9 | 23 | 35 | 0 |
| 5 | Graniteville Grammar | 6-7 | 36 | 25 | 23 | 23 | 92 | 27 | 37 | 1 |
| 6 | Graniteville Intermediate | 4-5 | 36 | 39 | 34 | 30 | 88 | 39 | 29 | 0 |
| 7 | Graniteville Upper Primary .. | 2-3 | 36 | 34 | 30 | 28 | 93 | 33 | 34 | 0 |
| 8 | Graniteville Lower Primary .. | 1-2 | 36 | 44 | 36 | 34 | 94 | 12 | 44 | 0 |
| 9 | Forge Grammar | 4-7 | 36 | 26 | 23.2 | 22.3 | 91.8 | 26 | 26 | 0 |
| 10 | Forge Primary | 1-3 | 36 | 52 | 45 | 36.8 | 81.9 | 39 | 52 | 0 |
| 11 | Nabasset | 1-7 | 36 | 34 | 24.3 | 20.9 | 86 | 22 | 33 | 1 |
| 12 | Stony Brook | 1-7 | 36 | 21 | 20.2 | 17.2 | 85 | 13 | 21 | 0 |
| 13 | Minot's Corner | 1-7 | 36 | 15 | 13.7 | 12.2 | 89 | 12 | 15 | 0 |
| 14 | Parkerville | 1-7 | 36 | 18 | 15.7 | 13.5 | 85.9 | 16 | 18 | 0 |
| 15 | Nashoba | 1-7 | 36 | 16 | 13.2 | 11.7 | 88.8 | 10 | 16 | 0 |
| 16 | Wright | 1-7 | 36 | 10 | 6.9 | 6.6 | 91.9 | 9 | 10 | 0 |
| | Totals ..... | ..... | 579 | 481 | 25.75 | 23.11 | 89.7 | 337 | 436 | 45 |

STATISTICS FOR FALL AND WINTER, 1900-1901.

| No. | NAME OF SCHOOL. | Number enrolled. | Average member-ship. | Average attend-ance. | Per cent. of at-tendance. | Number between 7 and 14. | Number between 5 and 15. | Number over 15. |
|-----|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Academy | 39 | 33 | 32.6 | 90 | 7 | 15 | 24 |
| 2 | Centre Grammar..... | 34 | 32 | 30.5 | 92 | 19 | 29 | 4 |
| 3 | Centre Intermediate..... | 28 | 25.9 | 23 | 89 | 27 | 27 | 1 |
| 4 | Centre Primary..... | 32 | 26.4 | 22.7 | 86 | 20 | 32 | 0 |
| 5 | Graniteville Grammar..... | 29 | 28 | 24.6 | 87.5 | 24 | 29 | 0 |
| 6 | Graniteville Intermediate..... | 38 | 35.48 | 30.45 | 85.8 | 38 | 38 | 0 |
| 7 | Graniteville Upper Primary..... | 32 | 27.5 | 24.5 | 89 | 28 | 4 | 0 |
| 8 | Graniteville Lower Primary..... | 42 | 34 | 29.6 | 86.7 | 15 | 42 | 0 |
| 9 | Forge Grammar..... | 25 | 22.9 | 21.4 | 93.7 | 23 | 25 | 0 |
| 10 | Forge Primary..... | 59 | 49.87 | 45 | 90.6 | 41 | 58 | 0 |
| 11 | Nabnasset | 26 | 21.37 | 20.5 | 89.8 | 19 | 27 | 0 |
| 12 | Stony Brook..... | 20 | 18.47 | 15 | 83 | 16 | 19 | 1 |
| 13 | Minot's Corner..... | 16 | 16 | 14.4 | 90 | 11 | 16 | 0 |
| 14 | Parkerville..... | 15 | 13.7 | 11.78 | 85.7 | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| 15 | Nashoba | 14 | 12.8 | 11.5 | 89.8 | 8 | 14 | 0 |
| | Totals..... | 449 | 26.48 | 23.82 | 89.9 | 311 | 390 | 30 |

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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN *of* WESTFORD



ALSO
TOWN
WARRANT
FOR ANNUAL
TOWN
MEETING
TO BE HELD
MARCH 17,
1902



For the Year Ending
March 1, 1902

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OF WESTFORD

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1902.

ALSO

WARRANT FOR ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

TO BE HELD MARCH 17, 1902.



LOWELL, MASS.
COURIER-CITIZEN COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1902.

Trustees of J. V. Fletcher Library.

WILLIAM E. FROST, *Chairman*.....Term expires March, 1902
 ADELINE M. KITTREDGE.....Term expires March, 1903
 CATHERINE A. KEBLER.....Term expires March, 1904

Librarian.

MARY P. BUNCE.

Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

GEORGE T. DAY.....Term expires March, 1902
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD.....Term expires March, 1903
 MELBOURNE F. HUTCHINS.....Term expires March, 1904

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber.

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| THOMAS E. SYMMES, | HORACE E. GOULD, |
| WILLIAM W. JOHNSON, | JOHN A. HEALY, |
| ALONZO H. SUTHERLAND, | MICHAEL L. McGLINCHEY, |
| WESLEY O. HAWKES, | ALFRED WOODBURY, |
| DANIEL H. SHEEHAN, | ARTHUR L. PRIOR, |
| GILMER STONE. | |

Messrs. Sutherland, Hawkes, Sheehan and Woodbury did not qualify.

Police Officers.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| AI BICKNELL, | WILLIAM H. PETHERICK, |
| CLARENCE R. P. DECATUR, | LINCOLN A. REDDICK, |
| SAMUEL H. BALCH, | ANTHONY H. SAUNDERS, |
| MARK M. MORRISON. | |

Officers to Enforce Law Against Sunday Hunting and Fishing.

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| CLARENCE R. P. DECATUR, | JOHN A. HEALY, |
| SAMUEL H. BALCH, | LINCOLN A. REDDICK, |
| MARK M. MORRISON. | |

Fire Wards.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| GILMER STONE, | SAMUEL H. BALCH, |
| JOHN A. HEALY, | HARRY L. NESMITH, |
| HENRY A. FLETCHER. | |

Mr. Stone did not accept the office.

Forest Fire Wards.

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| W. H. H. BURBECK, | EDWARD PRESCOTT. |
|-------------------|------------------|

Mr. Prescott resigned and Alvan Fishor was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Inspector of Animals.

GEORGE T. DAY.

Measurer of Grain.

LEWIS J. MARDEN.

Births Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1901.

| DATE. | NAME. | PARENTS' NAMES. |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Aug. 18, | Baker, Leo | Charles and Rose (Norman)..... |
| July 1, | Billson, Helen | Amos and Eva (Clarke)..... |
| Feb. 18, | Byron, Laura Violet | Joseph D. and Albertina (LeClair) .. |
| July 8, | Cameron, Marjory | Julian A. and Lucy K. (Abbot).... |
| Oct. 24, | Carkin, Helen Gertrude | James R. and Eva A. (Barton)..... |
| Jan. 27, | Champaign, Clifford | Louis and Mary (Denome)..... |
| June 14, | Colburn, Eleanor Stearns..... | Charles D. and Norah M. (Stearns) .. |
| July 15, | Comey, Hattie Blanche..... | Arthur H. and Susannah (Mellor) .. |
| July 23, | Dane, Mabel Gertrude | Ernest H. and Florence G. (Durgin) .. |
| Mar. 15, | Decatur, Freddie Joshua | Nathaniel and Louise (Merrill)..... |
| Nov. 2, | Defoe, Edward Gerald | Edward M. and Annie (McCarty) .. |
| Sept. 17, | Elliot, Michael | James and Mary A. (Boynton)..... |
| Nov. 10, | Fletcher, Samuel Alfred | Harry N. and Dora B. (Sargent).... |
| July 21, | Good, Myrtle May | Jonathan and Mary (O'Brien)..... |
| Oct. 18, | Gower, Catherine Alice..... | William and Elizabeth (Donahoe) .. |
| May 14, | Grimley, Etta May..... | James and Jane (Moran)..... |
| May 14, | Grimley, Josephine Frances..... | James and Jane (Moran)..... |
| Aug. 30, | Haley, Myrtle D..... | Stephen and Edith (Darling)..... |
| Aug. 19, | Hedman, Edwin Arthur Ferdinan. | Eric and Bertha A. (Wilson)..... |
| April 8, | Houle, Peter | Amede and Sarah (Norman)..... |
| Dec. 14, | Johnson, Alfred..... | John and Hannah (Yorkola)..... |
| Mar. 11, | Johnson, Carl Edward Lawton .. | Frank and Mary (Akerson)..... |
| Dec. 28, | Johnson, Alice Elizabeth | William H. and Amy L. (Peckens) .. |
| April 13, | Langley, Mary..... | Joseph and Annie (Perrin)..... |
| Mar. 10, | Longbottom, William Arthur | Richard E. and Polly (Burnett) |
| July 16, | Lord, Mabel Florence..... | David and Ada (Bishop)..... |
| Aug. 26, | McCarty, Ruby Ann | Robert and Ruby Ann (Healy)..... |
| Feb. 5, | McCoy, Henry Albert..... | Fred and Mary (Cann)..... |
| June 5, | Mills, Gertrude Carr | Herbert H. and Rose E. (Millis).... |
| Jan. 24, | Morton, Georgie Irene | Wellington and Annie (Nyder).... |
| June 21, | Morton, William F..... | F. Fletcher and Bessie (Morton) .. |
| April 12, | Mosek, Florence R..... | Mosek and Aznive (Kazanjian) |
| Mar. 30, | Mulno, Mary F..... | Victor and Virginia (Barterash).... |
| Sept. 6, | O'Brien, Paul Johnson | John W. and Isabella (Johnson) ... |
| Sept. 6, | O'Brien, Pauline Foley..... | John W. and Isabella (Johnson) ... |
| July 31, | Osgood, Leon | Charles E. and Effie J. (Hulsaver) .. |
| Aug. 3, | Parmenter, Francis Fletcher | Frank W. and Ada L. (Fletcher).... |
| Aug. 10, | Payne, Claire Beatrice | James H. and Mary (LeDuc)..... |
| May 25, | Phelps, Bruce Allen | Frank A. and Lera M. (Langell) .. |
| Aug. 24, | Ploudre, Mary Ann..... | Joseph and Philomene (Lavoie).... |
| Sept. 11, | Precious, Caroline Edith..... | William C. and Annie O (Brown) .. |
| May 30, | Prior, Mildred Beatrice | Arthur L. and Jennie A. (Woodbury) |
| Feb. 24, | Provost, Leo Francis..... | Henry and Mary (Larkin) .. |
| June 15, | Ricard, Carine..... | Honara and Marieloise (Benoi) |
| Nov. 28, | Richardson, Ulmont Ulseford..... | Joseph and Etta (Smith)..... |
| Feb. 2, | Robicho, William Leo..... | Eugene and Lucy (Boucher)..... |
| Aug. 11, | Saunders, Doris Esther..... | Fred W. and Alma E. (Agnew) |
| July 29, | Shea, Irene Frances | Joseph F. and Inez F. (Kimball) .. |
| April 29, | Spinner, Robert James | John and Elizabeth S. (Wheeler) .. |
| Jan. 27, | Suhavick, Edward..... | William and Rosa (Senke)..... |
| July 14, | Toussant, Mary Excelia..... | Gilbert and Delia (Caron)..... |
| Dec. 24, | Wall, Raymond Agnew..... | Joseph and Maria (Agnew)..... |
| Sept. 6, | Watson, William Day..... | Sebastian B. and Bessie M. (Day) .. |
| Oct. 4, | Wood, Mabel Florence | Henry and Clara (Rushworth)..... |
| April 25, | Woods, Clifford William..... | William L. and Carrie L. (Fifield) .. |

Three stillborn. Number recorded: males, 25; females, 30; total, 55. Of native parentage, 17. foreign parentage, 23. Native father and foreign mother, 8. Native mother and foreign father, 8.

EDWARD FISHER, *Town Clerk pro tempore*

MARRIAGES

RECORDED BY THE TOWN CLERK OF WESTFORD, A. D. 1901.

| DATE. | NAMES. | AGE. | RESIDENCE. | BIRTHPLACE. |
|-----------|------------------------------------|------|----------------------|-------------------|
| April 24, | Barnard, Howard Beckwith | 27 | Concord. | Waterbury, Ct. |
| | West, Wilhelmina | 25 | Westford. | Carlisle. |
| Oct. 2, | Beebe, Willard Henry | 52 | Groton | Nashua, N. H. |
| | York, Agnes N. (Plummer) | 48 | Westford | Nova Scotia. |
| Jan. 31. | Billson, Amos | 21 | Chelmsford | England. |
| | Clarke, Eva | 21 | Westford | Lawrence. |
| Oct. 19, | Blowey, Samuel | 30 | Westford | England. |
| | Orange, Florence | 18 | Westford | England. |
| July 16, | Buckshorn, Louis Henry | 36 | Concord, N. H. . . . | Cincinnati, O. |
| | Kittredge, Adeline M. (Fisher) . . | 40 | Westford | Westford. |
| June 20, | Chandler, John Franklin | 43 | Tyngsborough . . . | Keokuk, Ia. |
| | Hildreth, Emma Augusta | 41 | Westford | Westford. |
| July 27, | Clarke, Charles Henry | 38 | Boston | Milford. |
| | Cass, Etta Welthea | 27 | Somerville | Woodstock, N.H. |
| Aug. 14, | Day, Arthur Edward | 23 | Westford | Westford. |
| | Gunter, Margaret Louisa | 23 | Wollaston, Ont. . . | Wollaston, Ont |
| Oct. 23, | Fletcher, John Herbert | 21 | Westford | Westford. |
| | Gill, Mary Ftta | 21 | Ludlow, Vt. | Ludlow, Vt. |
| June 5, | Fletcher, Walter Haymon | 22 | Groton | Groton. |
| | Stirk, Ellen | 21 | Westford | England. |
| Nov. 4, | Girard, Henry | 23 | Westford | Canada. |
| | Saroi, Mary | 19 | Westford | Woonsocket, R.I. |
| Oct. 30, | Healy, Henry J | 31 | Westford | Wells River, Vt. |
| | Harrington, Margaret A. | 27 | Westford | Westford. |
| Oct. 2, | Irish, George F. | 49 | Westford | Camden, Me. |
| | Nutting, Amy B. | 32 | Westford | Lowell. |
| Sept. 25, | Jenkins, George Edward | 36 | Westford | Whip'ng'h'm, Eng |
| | Pedrick, Jessie Power | 22 | Marblehead | Marblehead. |
| July 9, | Leclair, Horrie | 21 | Westford | Canada. |
| | Paiyer, Odilide | 18 | Canada | Canada. |
| Jul | McCarthy, Joseph F | 31 | Westford | Westford. |
| | Brisson, Josephine | 21 | Westford | Canada. |
| Oct. 19, | Melvin, Charles | 25 | Westford | New Brunswick. |
| | Prescott, Esther | 23 | Westford | Brownsville, Me. |
| Aug. 28. | Meyer, August W. | 27 | Boston | Germany. |
| | Bennett, Elizabeth | 23 | Westford | England. |
| Sept. 3, | Nicklin, Lorne D. | 23 | Hubbardston | Hebron, N. H. |
| | Mooring, Lizzie M. | 23 | Gloucester | Wallace, N. S. |
| June 29, | Peterson, Lars Adolf | 46 | Westford | Sweden. |
| | Bloberg, Augusta | 33 | Westford | Sweden. |
| Feb. 24, | Shea, Joseph F. | 22 | Westford | Lowell. |
| | Kimball, Inez F. | 16 | Westford | Chelmsford. |
| June 8, | Stiles, Lorne C. | 22 | Westford | New Brunswick. |
| | Mann, Carrie F. | 23 | Westford | Providence, R. I. |
| Aug. 10, | Wyman, Walter W. | 52 | Westford | Tyngsborough. |
| | Ditmars, Gertrude A | 39 | Annapolis, N. S. . . | Annapolis, N. S. |

One omitted.

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------|---|
| Number of marriages recorded | 24 | American groom and foreign bride . . | 6 |
| Solemnized in Westford | 6 | American bride and foreign groom . . | 5 |
| Westford grooms | 15 | Second marriage of groom | 4 |
| Westford brides | 17 | Second marriage of bride | 2 |
| Between Americans | 8 | Third marriage of groom | 1 |
| Between foreigners | 5 | Solemnized by Westford clergymen . . | 5 |

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

DEATHS

Recorded by the Town Clerk of Westford, A. D. 1901.

| DATE. | NAMES, ETC. | AGE. | | |
|----------|--|------|------|------|
| | | Yrs. | Mos. | Days |
| Feb. 11 | Banister, Joan (Recd), widow of John F..... | 85 | 6 | 17 |
| May 2 | Barney, Ann M. (Sherman), wife of Theophilus..... | 61 | 4 | — |
| Mar. 30 | Carkin, William O., resident of Wilmington..... | 64 | 8 | 28 |
| Sep. 6 | Connell, Leo Augustus, son of John H. and Margaret (Coughlin)..... | 1 | 2 | 22 |
| Dec. 13 | De Roehn, Andrew J., resident of Pepperell..... | 30 | 7 | — |
| Feb. 14 | Drake, Harnet (Lawrence), widow of Seth..... | 82 | 11 | — |
| Nov. 2 | Draper, Mary Jane (Fuller), widow of Joseph R..... | 77 | 2 | — |
| Dec. 16 | Draper, Mary Louise, daughter of Joseph R. and Nelly H. (Packard)..... | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Apr. 9 | Fletcher, Emily A. (Fletcher), widow of Sherman D..... | 82 | 2 | 6 |
| Sep. 4 | Holt, Edward Henry, son of Edward..... | 62 | 10 | — |
| Sep. 11 | Houle, Peter, resident of Groton..... | — | 5 | 2 |
| Feb. 23 | Jenne, Roxie A. (Willis), widow of Gilbert E..... | 82 | — | — |
| Oct. 16 | Kalageian, Aron, son of Bagdig and Ann (Zeghaim)..... | 26 | — | — |
| July 18 | Lord, ———, daughter of David A. and Ada (Bishop)..... | — | — | 1 |
| Nov. 1 | Mace, Laura Etta, daughter of Sylvester and Sarah (Lowle)..... | 51 | 0 | 28 |
| Dec. 27 | McGlinchey, James, son of Peter and Susan..... | 67 | — | — |
| Aug. 11 | Morse, French M., son of Nathaniel..... | 73 | 7 | 26 |
| Sep. 19 | Mosek, Mary John, daughter of John and Tamam (Sachisian)..... | 20 | — | — |
| Apr. 6 | Parker, George A., died in Westboro Insane Asylum..... | 76 | — | — |
| Mar. 6 | Peebles, Jason E..... | 85 | 0 | 16 |
| Apr. 29 | Prescott, Charles Henry, resident of Harvard..... | 77 | 1 | 21 |
| Oct. 25 | Prescott, Sherman Luther, son of Luther and Olive (Prescott)..... | 62 | 6 | 29 |
| Jan. 26 | Read, Joseph Henry, son of Zaccheus and Mary (Heywood)..... | 65 | 5 | 21 |
| July 3 | Record, Corean, daughter of Narah and Mary (Bennay)..... | — | — | 19 |
| Apr. 20 | Searles, Charles J., resident of Lowell..... | 64 | 5 | 2 |
| Feb. 16 | Shattuck, Frank R., son of David H. and Ada F. (Stanley)..... | 17 | 7 | 16 |
| Nov. 24 | Sweatt, Samuel D., son of Samuel and Demaris (Jackman)..... | 66 | 11 | 10 |
| Mar. 11 | Symmes, Rebecca Pierce (Fletcher), widow of Edward..... | 87 | — | — |
| Dec. 4 | Watson, William Day, son of Sebastian B. and Bessie M. (Day)..... | — | 2 | 28 |
| June. 29 | Whitney, Alfred..... | 82 | 5 | 25 |
| Nov. 22 | Whitney, William M., son of Nathaniel and Susan (Edwards)..... | 61 | 11 | 22 |
| Oct. 16 | Wright, Lavina (Frye), resident of Lowell..... | 85 | — | — |
| Aug. 27 | Wright, Sophronia M. (Sawyer), widow of Arthur..... | 61 | 9 | 13 |
| | Three Stillborn. | | | |

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--|--------|----------|--------|
| Whole number recorded..... | 20 | 16 | 36 |
| Number of deaths in town..... | 11 | 14 | 26 |
| Residents of Westford..... | 14 | 15 | 29 |
| Non residents brought to town for interment..... | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Number of interments in town..... | 15 | 13 | 28 |

Three residents of this town died in other places.

Causes of deaths of persons who died in this town or were residents thereof : — Stillbirth, 3; heart failure, lagrippe, old age, pneumonia, hemorrhage of stomach, 2 each; erysipelas, diphtheria, paralysis, asthenia, premature birth, Bright's disease, myredema, accidental drowning, strangulated hernia, meningitis, dilatation of heart, tubercular peritonitis, disease of parotid gland, chronic bronchitis, acute bronchitis, diabetes mellitus, apoplexy, 1 each.

GILMAN J. WRIGHT, *Town Clerk.*

NOTE.

All persons interested are respectfully requested to examine the foregoing reports of births, marriages and deaths, and if any errors are noted, or if there be omissions, that they be reported to the Town Clerk, that the records may be perfected. An error in the record, other than a mistake in copying a certificate or return, can be corrected only in accordance with a deposition under oath made by one who was required by law to furnish the information for the original record, or by three or more creditable persons having knowledge of the case. See Revised Laws, Chapter 29, Sections 9 and 14.

Births occurring late in the year are sometimes returned without the Christian name. In such cases parents should return the name to the Town Clerk as soon as selected, as incompleteness of the record may involve much trouble in the future.

The Town Clerk hereby gives notice that he is prepared to furnish, to parents, householders, physicians and midwives applying therefor, blanks for return of births, as required by law.

EDWARD FISHER,

Town Clerk, pro tempore.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT ON DOGS.

Number of dogs licensed during year ending Nov. 29, 1901 :

156 males at \$2.00..... \$312 00

16 females at \$5.00..... 80 00

Total..... \$392 00

Less Clerk's fees, 172 licenses at 20 cents.... 34 40

Balance paid into County Treasury..... \$357 60

For which the receipts of the County Treasurer are on file.

Of the foregoing licenses 13 males and 2 females were for the year commencing May 1, 1900.

Number of licenses since last return Nov. 29, 1901 : 1 (male).

Number licensed for year commencing May 1, 1901 : Males, 144 ; females, 14 ; total, 158.

Number returned by Assessors : males, 145 ; females, 16 ; total, 161.

Owners and Keepers of Dogs Who Have Procured Licenses Since Last Report, Feb. 9, 1901.

Licenses are for the year commencing May 1, 1901, unless otherwise specified.

Abbot, Alice C.
 Abbot, John C.
 Anderson, Andrew
 Balch, Samuel H.
 Barteux, Maynard
 Billson, Amos
 Blaisdell, Alvin J.
 Blodgett, Josiah W.
 Blood, Napoleon B.
 Brisson, Arthur
 Burbeck, John
 Burnham, Arthur H.
 Bussey, George W.

Butterworth, William L.
 Cameron, Donald M.
 Carkin, Isaac W.
 Carmichael, James H.
 Catchpole, Henry
 Champagne, Louis
 Comey Arthur H. (2)
 Connell, John H.
 Craven, Eva S.
 Cummings, Alvin L.
 Cummings, Charles M.
 Cummings, Edward M.
 Decatur, Clarence R. P.

- Decatur, Nathaniel J.
 De Roehn, Eugene
 Downs, Matthew F.
 Drew, Frank C.
 Driscoll, Timothy
 Eaton, Charles A.
 Edwards, Charles
 Edwards, Franklin
 Edwards, Frederick W.
 Eliason, Lars J.
 Feeney, John
 Felch, Ann M.
 Field, Adelbert L.
 Fisher, Alvan
 Fletcher, Harry N. (2)
 Fletcher, Henry A. (3)
 Fletcher, J. Herbert
 Flynn, John
 Flynn, John L.
 Furbush, Frank L.
 Gove, Morrill C. (1900 & 1901)
 Greig, John S.
 Griffin, Charles M. (3)
 Gurney, Henry A.
 Haley, John
 Hall, John
 Hannon, Thomas
 Harriman, Maynard S. (f.)
 Harrington, Henry P.
 Hartford, Ida F.
 Healy, Ruby A. (f.)
 Healy, Henry J.
 Healy, John A. (2)
 Heman, Robert
 Howard, Calvin L.
 Hutchins, Stephen E.
 Jarvis, Everett P. (f.)
 Jesson, Thomas
 Jenne, Albert E.
 Johnson, William R. (f.)
 Kendrick, George W. (f.)
 Knight, Joseph E.
 Knowles, John H.
 Leland, George A.
 Lorman, Robert E.
 Sullivan, Catherine
 Swanson, Noah
 Lumburg Axel (1900 & 1901)
 Mann, Evelena L.
 Marden, Lewis J.
 Martin, Fred
 McCoy, Frederick L.
 McDonald, Angus
 McDougall, Alexander
 McGlinchey, James
 McGlinchey, Peter J.
 McLeod, Donald J.
 McMaster, Harry C.
 Merritt, Walter J. (f.)
 Mellor, Thomas
 Morse, French M.
 Morton, Orville
 Murphy, Henry J.
 Nesmith, Harry L. (f.)
 Norris, Mary
 Norris, Peter L. (1900)
 O'Brien, James (f.)
 O'Brien, James, 2nd (2)
 O'Brien, James H.
 O'Brien, John
 O'Brien, John, 2nd
 O'Brien, John W. (2)
 Odell, Herbert A.
 Paige, Anna M.
 Payne, Thomas P. (f.)
 Petherick, William H.
 Polley, Alvin G.
 Prescott, Waldo F.
 Prior, Arthur L.
 Provost, Thomas N.
 Quinn, John
 Read, Henry B.
 Reddick, Lincoln A. (f.)
 Reed, Charles W. (2)
 Robey, Ossian V. (1900)
 Richardson, Joseph T.
 Sargent, Charles G. (2)
 Seifer, William F.
 Shaw, Judson F.
 Shugrue, Charles F.
 Splaine, Daniel E.
 Stephen, Reinhold C.
 Whitney, George H.
 Whitney, Julian A. (f.)

Sweetser, Judson F.
 Sweetser, Warren P.
 Toper, Samuel L.
 Vinal, Charles E. (m. and f.)
 Voyer, Pierre
 Wall, Albert R.
 Wayne, John
 Ward, John E.
 Ward, Elbridge B.
 Whidden, Elmer H.
 Whigham, James
 Whigham, John
 Whitaker, Christopher
 Whitney, Charles H. (m. and f.)

Whitney, Nathaniel R.
 Whitney, William M.
 Whittier, Abel C. (f.)
 Wild, James T.
 Wilson, Arthur
 Woods, William L.
 Wright, Andrew S.
 Wright, Flora M.
 Wright, Hammet D.
 Wright, Willie
 Wyman, George W.
 Wyman, Walter W.
 York, Mabel C.

WESTORD, February 8, 1902.

EDWARD FISHER,
Town Clerk pro tempore.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING, 1901.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford, Mass., qualified by law to vote in town affairs, held at the Town House, March 18, 1901, the following business was transacted:

1. John M. Fletcher and T. Arthur E. Wilson, who had previously been appointed Tellers by the Selectmen, were sworn by the Town Clerk, and took charge of the check list and ballot box respectively.

2. Chose Herbert E. Fletcher Moderator. Sworn by Town Clerk.

3. The Selectmen appointed William E. Frost and C. R. P. Decatur Ballot Clerks, and they were sworn by the Town Clerk, and received from him the official ballots, and gave their receipt therefor. The ballot box was opened and found to be empty, the register standing on zero. The voters then proceeded to bring in their ballots for the officers named in Article 2, and on the following question: "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?" Polls opened at 8.15 A. M.

At the close of the polls the register stood on 130.

Number of names checked on Ballot Clerks' list: males, one hundred and twelve (112); females, four (4).

Number of names checked on ballot box list: males, one hundred and twelve (112); females, four (4).

Whole number of ballots cast (by count): by males, one hundred and twelve (112); by females, four (4).

4. Voted, to take up the remaining articles of the warrant while the votes for the different candidates were being counted by the Tellers.

5. Voted, to accept the report of the Selectmen as printed.

6. Voted, to accept the report of the Selectmen on guide boards as printed.

7. Voted, to accept the report of the Overseers of the Poor as printed.

8. Voted, to accept the report of the School Committee as printed.

9. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library as printed. The report recommends that one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year, and three hundred and fifty dollars (\$350) for a new catalogue.

10. Voted, to accept and adopt the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds as printed. The report recommends that two hundred dollars (\$200) be raised and appropriated for the care and improvement of burial grounds during the ensuing year.

11. Voted, to accept the report of the Auditor as printed.

12. Voted, to excuse Benjamin F. Nutting from serving as juror.

13. Voted, to add the name of Walter J. Sleeper to the jury list as reported by the Selectmen.

14. Voted, to accept the list of jurors reported by the Selectmen as amended by the two votes last preceding, which list is as follows: Henry A. Bunce, farmer; Arthur H. Burnham, farmer; Quincy W. Day, farmer; Thomas F. Dunn, engineer; Edward Fisher, lawyer; Elbert H. Flagg, farmer; Joel A. Fletcher, farmer; Charles H. Follansbee, clerk; Elias Y. Grant, machinist; Edwin E. Heywood, farmer; Frank C. Hildreth, farmer; Frank H. Hildreth, farmer; Samuel M. Hutchins, farmer; Melbourne F. Hutchins, farmer; Elmer E. Nutting, machinist; Charles E. Osgood, carpenter; William H. Petherick, mill hand; Nathan Prescott, painter; Ossian V. Robey, carpenter; Homer M. Seavey, farmer; Walter J. Sleeper, physician; Samuel L. Taylor, farmer; Almon S. Vose, farmer; William Wall, painter; T. Arthur E. Wilson, farmer; J. Everett Woods, farmer; Bradley V. Wright, farmer.

15. Voted, to authorize the Selectmen hereafter to pay the proper charge of an insurance company for acting as surety on the official bond given to the town by the Tax Collector for the faithful discharge of his duties.

16. Voted, that the compensation of the Tax Collector be one per cent. on the amount collected.

17. Voted, to lay Article 13 on the table.

18. Voted, to raise and appropriate two thousand dollars (\$2,000) for town debts and charges.

19. Voted, to raise and appropriate six thousand dollars (\$6,000) for public schools.

20. Voted, to raise and appropriate fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500) to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the town, at Westford Academy.

21. Voted, to raise and appropriate fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500) for support of poor.

22. Voted, to raise and appropriate six hundred dollars (\$600) for school text-books and supplies.

23. Voted, to take Article 13 from the table.

24. Voted, to raise and appropriate three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500) to repair roads and bridges.

25. In regard to Article 19, which was, "To see if the town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money, from time to time, to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same," the town voted to give such authority to the Town Treasurer.

26. Voted, that the taxes of those who pay only a poll tax be payable at sight, and all other taxes shall be payable on the first day of January next, and if any taxes remain unpaid after that date the Collector shall charge interest on such taxes overdue at the rate of six per cent. per annum, and collect the same according to law.

There shall be allowed a discount on all taxes assessed of five (5) per cent., if paid on or before October 1, and three (3) per cent. if paid on or before December 1, next, if the whole tax assessed to them is paid at one time. The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Tax Collector within three days after the first days of October and December, and said Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all the money he may have received on or before the fifth days of October and December.

And, furthermore, the Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Collector between the 15th and 20th days of February next, and the Collector shall pay to the Town Treasurer all money he may have received within five days after the said 20th day of February.

And the Assessors are instructed to complete the assessment of taxes on or before July 1 next, and issue their warrant to

the Collector of Taxes, with a list of persons assessed, with their places of abode, within five days after the said first day of July.

27. Chose the following officers by hand vote:

Fence Viewers—Alvin G. Polley, Almon S. Vose, Augustus Bunce.

Measurers of Wood and Bark and Surveyors of Lumber—Thomas E. Symmes, Horace E. Gould, William W. Johnson, John A. Healy, Alonzo H. Sutherland, Michael L. McGlinchey, Wesley O. Hawkes, Alfred Woodbury, Daniel H. Sheehan, Arthur L. Prior, Gilmer Stone. Messrs. Prior, Healy and Stone sworn by Town Clerk.

Field Drivers—Peter Norris, Henry Labun.

28. Voted, to appropriate fifty dollars (\$50) to commemorate Memorial Day.

29. Voted, to accept and adopt the order of the County Commissioners, and authorize the Selectmen to complete the road as ordered by the County Commissioners, and that we appropriate the sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) for that purpose.

30. Voted, to authorize the Selectmen to repair and paint the flag pole on the Town Common, and that the Selectmen be authorized to remove the same to the plot of town land in front of Mrs. Hamlin's house, as near the centre of the plot as possible.

31. Voted, that the salary of the Sealer of Weights and Measures be twenty-five dollars (\$25).

32. Voted, to appropriate the sum of seventy-five dollars (\$75) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library, in Graniteville, Forge Village and Brookside.

33. Voted, to authorize the School Committee to put a cellar under the Forge Village School-house, and expend therefor a sum not exceeding three hundred and fifty dollars (\$350).

34. Voted, to authorize the Selectmen to sign any contract that may be required by the Massachusetts Highway Commission for the expenditure of money allotted by them, from time to time, to the town for highway purposes.

35. The votes for Town Officers were sorted and counted, and the following persons, having received a plurality of votes, were declared elected to the offices specified:

Town Clerk—Gilman J. Wright. Sworn by Moderator.

Selectman—Sherman H. Fletcher. Sworn by Moderator.

Assessor for One Year—J. Willard Fletcher.

Assessor for Three Years—George H. Hartford. The Town Clerk administered to Mr. Hartford the oath prescribed by law.

Overseer of the Poor—Leonard W. Wheeler. Sworn by Moderator.

Town Treasurer—Nahum H. Wright.

Collector of Taxes—Arthur L. Prior. Sworn by Moderator.

Auditor—Hugh F. Leith.

Constables—Eugene De Roehn, John A. Healy. Both sworn by Moderator.

School Committee for Two Years—Homer M. Seavey. Sworn by Moderator.

School Committee for Three Years—John C. Abbot, Albert R. Choate. Mr. Choate sworn by Moderator.

Trustee of J. V. Fletcher Library for Two Years—Adeline M. Kittredge.

Trustee of J. V. Fletcher Library for Three Years—Catharine A. Kebler.

Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds—Melbourne F. Hutchins.

Tree Warden—William H. H. Burbeck. Sworn by Town Clerk.

The vote on the question of licensing the sale of intoxicating liquors was decided in the negative, the vote standing: yes, 28; no, 68; blanks, 16.

The ballots, both used and unused, and the voting lists were sealed up and indorsed as required by law, and delivered to the Town Clerk.

36. Voted, to accept the minutes of the meeting.

37. Voted, to dissolve the meeting.

A true record.

Attest: GILMAN J. WRIGHT, Town Clerk.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, AUGUST 14, 1901.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Westford, Mass., qualified by law to vote in town affairs, held at the Town House, August 14, 1901, the following business was transacted:

1. Chose Herbert E. Fletcher Moderator. Sworn by Town Clerk.

2. Voted, to appropriate one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the completion of the Carlisle Road to Minot's Corner, so called, for the purpose of getting an equal allowance from the State, under Chapter 432, Acts of 1900, as amended by Chapter 433, Acts of 1901.

3. Voted, to adopt the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, Mrs. Mary Ann Henarie, of San Francisco, California, a native of Westford, has bequeathed the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to the Selectmen of Westford, the income of which fund is to be expended for books for the J. V. Fletcher Library, therefore

Resolved, that we, legal voters of Westford, in town meeting assembled, do highly appreciate the loyalty of Mrs. Henarie to the town which was her birthplace, and that we gratefully accept, in behalf of ourselves and our posterity, her munificent bequest.

Resolved, that the Town Clerk be instructed to forward copies of these resolutions, with the action of the town thereon, to George A. Hosley and Maude Norton, son and adopted daughter of Mrs. Henarie, and to William P. Humphreys, attorney for the executors of her will.

4. Voted, to reconsider the vote by which the foregoing resolutions were adopted.

5. Voted, to amend the last of said resolutions by striking out the words "executors of the will," and inserting in place thereof the words "Town of Westford, Mass."

6. Voted, to adopt said preamble and resolutions as amended, so that they shall read as follows:

Whereas, Mrs. Mary Ann Henarie, of San Francisco, California, a native of Westford, has bequeathed the sum of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) to the Selectmen of Westford, the income of which fund is to be expended for books for the J. V. Fletcher Library, therefore

Resolved, that we, legal voters of Westford, in town meeting assembled, do highly appreciate the loyalty of Mrs. Henarie to the town which was her birthplace, and that we gratefully accept, in behalf of ourselves and our posterity, her munificent bequest.

Resolved, that the Town Clerk be instructed to forward copies of these resolutions, with the action of the town thereon, to George A. Hosley and Maude Norton, son and adopted daughter of Mrs. Henarie, and to William P. Humphreys, attorney for the Town of Westford, Mass.

7. Voted, to accept the minutes of the meeting.

8. Voted to dissolve the meeting.

A true copy.

EDWARD FISHER,

Town Clerk, pro tempore.

STATE ELECTION, NOVEMBER 5, 1901.

Party designations:—R., Republican; D., Democratic; P., Prohibition; S., Socialist; D. S., Democratic Social.

| | Prec. 1. | Prec. 2. | Prec. 3. | Total |
|---|----------|----------|----------|-------|
| Whole number of ballots cast..... | 113 | 91 | 40 | 244 |
| Governor. | | | | |
| Michael T. Berry of Haverhill (S.)..... | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| W. Murray Crane of Dalton (R.)..... | 91 | 53 | 27 | 171 |
| John B. Lewis, Jr., of Reading (P.)..... | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| Josiah Quincy of Boston (D.)..... | 17 | 24 | 10 | 51 |
| George H. Wrenn of Springfield (D. S.).. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Lieutenant-Governor. | | | | |
| John L. Bates of Boston (R.)..... | 90 | 59 | 26 | 175 |
| John W. Coughlin of Fall River (D.).... | 19 | 22 | 10 | 51 |
| Alfred E. Jones of Everett (S.)..... | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| William H. Partridge of Newton (P.).... | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| Charles W. White of Boston (D. S.).... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Secretary. | | | | |
| Frederick W. Clark of Boston (P.)..... | 2 | 4 | 1 | 7 |
| Alonzo H. Dennett of Middleborough (D. S.) | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 |
| Jeremiah O'Fihelly of Abington (S.).... | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| William M. Olin of Boston (R.)..... | 92 | 56 | 22 | 170 |
| William B. Stone of Springfield (D.).... | 17 | 18 | 6 | 41 |
| Treasurer and Receiver-General. | | | | |
| George E. Batchelder of Lynnfield (P.).. | 2 | 4 | 0 | 6 |
| Wendell P. Bosworth of Brockton (D. S.) | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Edward S. Bradford of Springfield (R.).. | 90 | 52 | 22 | 164 |
| Joseph L. Chalifoux of Lowell (D.)..... | 15 | 23 | 9 | 47 |
| Frederick A. Nagler of Springfield (S.).. | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |

Auditor.

| | Prec. 1. | Prec. 2. | Prec. 3. | Total. |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| James F. Dean of Salem (D.)..... | 13 | 20 | 10 | 43 |
| Frank Keefe of Lynn (S.)..... | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| John H. Smith of Dalton (P.)..... | 3 | 3 | 1 | 7 |
| Frank Thompson of Plymouth (D. S.)... | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Henry E. Turner of Malden (R.)..... | 86 | 54 | 23 | 163 |

Attorney-General.

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|-----|
| Allen Coffin of Nantucket (P.)..... | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| John T. Hargraves of Worcester (S.).... | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Herbert Parker of Lancaster (R.)..... | 89 | 48 | 22 | 159 |
| Arthur A. Putnam of Uxbridge (D.).... | 16 | 20 | 10 | 46 |
| Clarence E. Spelman of Westfield (D. S.) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Councillor.

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Henry H. Benoit of Lawrence (D. S.).... | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| George M. Buttrick of Everett (P.)..... | 1 | 3 | 0 | 4 |
| Francis L. Fletcher of Westford (D.).. | 16 | 51 | 13 | 80 |
| S. Herbert Howe of Marlborough (R.)... | 89 | 30 | 20 | 139 |

Senator.

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|-----|
| John P. Farley of Lowell (D.)..... | 16 | 20 | 7 | 43 |
| Herbert E. Fletcher of Westford (R.).... | 93 | 59 | 31 | 183 |

Representative in General Court.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Edwin A. Phalen of Acton (D.)..... | 18 | 21 | 10 | 49 |
| Webster C. Robbins of Acton (R.)..... | 90 | 56 | 24 | 170 |

County Commissioner.

| | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|-----|
| Francis Bigelow of Natick (D.) (R.)..... | 90 | 58 | 25 | 173 |
| Robert Lusk of Cambridge (D. S.)..... | 4 | 6 | 5 | 15 |
| William F. Merrill of Malden (P.)..... | 3 | 4 | 1 | 8 |

Associate Commissioners.

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Christian Beck of Cambridge (D. S.).... | 4 | 10 | 3 | 17 |
| Louis Eisner of Everett (D. S.)..... | 3 | 11 | 5 | 19 |
| David T. Strange of Stoneham (R.)..... | 76 | 39 | 18 | 133 |
| Edward Everett Thompson of Woburn (R.) | 67 | 43 | 21 | 131 |
| Samuel H. Warren of Weston (P.)..... | 3 | 3 | 0 | 6 |

District Attorney.

| | Prec. 1. | Prec. 2. | Prec. | Total |
|---|----------|----------|-------|-------|
| Thomas F. Rooney of Malden (D. S.) . . . | 4 | 5 | 3 | 12 |
| George A. Sanderson of Ayer (D.) (R.) . . | 97 | 60 | 24 | 181 |

Clerk of Courts.

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|-----|
| Theodore C. Hurd of Winchester (D.) (R.) | 93 | 56 | 24 | 173 |
| George F. Ritchie of Malden (D. S.) . . . | 3 | 8 | 1 | 12 |
| Henry A. Smith of Stoneham (P.) | 14 | 23 | 14 | 51 |

Sheriff.

| | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|-----|
| John R. Fairbairn of Cambridge (D.) (R.) | 96 | 58 | 28 | 182 |
| Francis P. Finegan of Everett (D. S.) . . . | 3 | 8 | 2 | 13 |
| Roscoe G. Watson of Cambridge (P.) . . . | 3 | 4 | 0 | 7 |

**Return of Votes for Representatives in General Court for
Middlesex District, No. 23.**

| | Acton. | Ayer. | Little- ton. | Shirley. | West- ford. | Total. |
|---------------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------|----------|----------------|--------|
| Edward A. Phalen of Acton . . | 74 | 74 | 21 | 20 | 49 | 238 |
| Webster C. Robbins of Acton | 149 | 156 | 83 | 73 | 170 | 631 |
| Charles M. Kimball of Acton | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| John M. Maloney of Ayer | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Blanks | 24 | 21 | 10 | 7 | 25 | 87 |
| Whole number of ballots | 248 | 252 | 114 | 100 | 244 | 958 |

A true copy.

EDWARD FISHER,

Town Clerk, pro tempore.

NOTE.

The list of Town Officers and those portions of the foregoing report to which his name is attached had been prepared by Mr. Wright before his decease, and are respectfully submitted as prepared by him.

EDWARD FISHER,

Town Clerk, pro tempore.

TREE WARDEN'S REPORT.

As Tree Warden I submit the following:

Number of trees bolted, six. The balance of work done was in trimming that I found in different parts of the town that were liable to do damage to covered carriages, as the branches were hanging down and were lower than they should be for safety to passing teams.

W. H. H. BURBECK,
Tree Warden.

February 7, 1902.

REPORT OF SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Westford, February 7, 1902.

As Sealer of Westford, Mass., I submit the following report:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Number Hay scales | 5 |
| Platform scales | 16 |
| Counter scales | 21 |
| Spring balances | 1 |
| Steelyards | 1 |
| Total | <u>44</u> |

Sealed cans and glass jars as follows:

WINE MEASURE.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Number of cans | 28 |
| Glass jars | 38 |
| Total | <u>66</u> |
| Number of measures, one gallon | 10 |
| two quart | 14 |
| one quart | 5 |
| pint | 1 |
| Total | <u>30</u> |

DRY MEASURE.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| One-half bushel | 1 |
| One peck measure | 1 |
| One-half peck measure | 2 |
| Total | <u>4</u> |

W. H. H. BURBECK,

Sealer.

ASSESSOR'S REPORT, 1901.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Value of buildings, exclusive of land, May 1. | \$717,565 00 |
| Value of land, exclusive of buildings, May 1. | 449,176 00 |
| Value of personal estate, May 1. | 317,446 00 |
| | \$1,484,187 00 |

AMOUNT RAISED.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| For purchase of books and periodicals | |
| for library | \$ 150 00 |
| Library catalogue | 350 00 |
| Public burial grounds | 200 00 |
| Public schools | 6,000 00 |
| Tuition at academy | 1,500 00 |
| Support of poor | 1,500 00 |
| Text-books | 600 00 |
| Repair of roads | 3,500 00 |
| Library note | 500 00 |
| State note, with interest | 1,352 00 |
| Town debts and charges. | 2,000 00 |
| | \$17,652 00 |
| State tax. | 892 50 |
| County tax | 1,606 62 |
| Overlayings | 512 58 |
| Additional taxes | 11 43 |
| | \$20,675 13 |
| Total tax levy | |
| Number of polls | 684 |
| Horses | 410 |
| Cows | 685 |
| Sheep | 56 |
| Neat cattle | 240 |
| Swine | 21 |
| Houses | 475 |
| Fowls | 1,876 |
| Land, acres | 18,000 |
| Tax on one hundred dollars | \$1 30 |

TOWN PROPERTY.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Town Hall | \$13,500 00 | |
| Public Library | 26,000 00 | |
| Town Farm | 7,000 00 | |
| Public parks | 1,500 00 | |
| Cemeteries | 1,500 00 | |
| Centre School-house | 3,500 00 | |
| Stony Brook School-house | 1,500 00 | |
| Forge Village School-house..... | 3,800 00 | |
| Nashoba School-house | 1,500 00 | |
| Parkerville School-house | 1,800 00 | |
| Minot's Corner School-house | 1,500 00 | |
| Nabnassett School-house | 1,500 00 | |
| Long-Sought-For School-house | 1,600 00 | |
| Wright School-house | 1,500 00 | |
| Graniteville School-house..... | 4,500 00 | |
| Fire apparatus | 350 00 | |
| Trust funds | 2,000 00 | |
| | | \$74,550 00 |

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE H. HARTFORD,

SAMUEL L. TAYLOR,

J. WILLARD FLETCHER,

Assessors of Westford.

ABATEMENT OF TAXES AS ORDERED BY THE
ASSESSORS.

1897.

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| Floyd, Samuel N..... | \$2 00 | |
| Hamlin, Edward A..... | 2 61 | |
| O'Brien, James F..... | 2 00 | |
| Shaw, Francis A..... | 2 00 | |
| | | \$8 61 |

1898.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|---------|
| Hamlin, Edward A..... | \$3 13 | |
| Leland, Hiram | 2 00 | |
| O'Brien, James F..... | 2 00 | |
| O'Brien, John | 2 00 | |
| Amount carried forward..... | | \$ 9 13 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Amount brought forward..... | | \$ 9 13 |
| O'Dell, William F..... | \$ 2 00 | |
| Shaw, Francis A..... | 2 00 | |
| Sheahan, John J..... | 2 38 | |
| Wood, Albert J..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$17 9¢ |

1899.

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Saunders, Heber H..... | \$ 2 00 | |
| Elliott, Thomas H..... | 3 82 | |
| Duren, Joseph, estate | 6 12 | |
| Whitney, J. H., estate | 15 07 | |
| Barlow, James | 2 77 | |
| Berthume, Israel | 2 00 | |
| Berthume, Joseph | 2 00 | |
| Clark, Lewis G..... | 2 00 | |
| Clark, Frederick W..... | 2 00 | |
| Clark, Harry | 2 00 | |
| Campbell, Charles A..... | 2 38 | |
| Cann, Herbert | 2 00 | |
| DeRoehn, Eugene | 2 00 | |
| Draper, Charles W..... | 2 00 | |
| Hillier, Isaac | 2 00 | |
| Litchfield, James A..... | 2 38 | |
| Leguerre, Victor | 15 | |
| Lamphier, Rufus D..... | 2 00 | |
| Morton, Fred A..... | 2 00 | |
| Morton, Wilfred | 2 00 | |
| Morton, Aubrey | 2 00 | |
| Magor, Jacob | 2 00 | |
| Parker, William W..... | 4 07 | |
| Sheahan, John J..... | 2 00 | |
| Shaw, Francis A..... | 2 00 | |
| Wyman, Horace W..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$72 7¢ |

1900.

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Allard, Joseph, estate | \$10 00 | |
| Elliott, Thomas H..... | 6 08 | |
| Allarie, Victor | 2 00 | |
| Amount carried forward..... | <hr/> | \$18 08 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|
| Amount brought forward..... | | \$18 08 |
| Boucher, Flavian | \$ 2 00 | |
| Bellow, Charles | 2 00 | |
| Body, Amos | 2 00 | |
| Benjamin, George | 2 00 | |
| Burnham, George H..... | 2 00 | |
| Batchelder, John | 2 00 | |
| Carlin, William O..... | 2 00 | |
| Clark, Fred | 2 00 | |
| Clark, Harry L..... | 2 00 | |
| Carr, William T..... | 2 00 | |
| Chase, Cyrus | 2 00 | |
| Cooper, Joseph H..... | 2 00 | |
| Connor, James | 2 00 | |
| Dean, Dennis | 2 00 | |
| Drapo, Joseph | 2 00 | |
| Gould, Fred S..... | 2 00 | |
| Gilmore, Frank | 2 00 | |
| Giragon, Ohaurian | 2 00 | |
| Howard, William | 2 00 | |
| Haviakuern, Emil | 2 00 | |
| Harrap, Thomas | 2 00 | |
| Leland, Hiram | 2 00 | |
| Lamere, George F..... | 2 00 | |
| McLaughlin, Arthur | 2 00 | |
| McBride, William E..... | 2 00 | |
| McMurray, James | 2 00 | |
| Mellett, Joseph | 2 00 | |
| Northrup, Adino | 2 00 | |
| Nichols, Moses C..... | 2 00 | |
| Marjorie, Noel | 2 00 | |
| Pace, Charles D..... | 2 00 | |
| Page, John G..... | 2 00 | |
| Richards, Joseph | 2 00 | |
| Rivard, John | 2 00 | |
| Ritchey, William | 2 00 | |
| Rushler, Oliver | 2 00 | |
| Robichard, Jeffrey | 2 00 | |
| Amount carried forward..... | ————— | \$92 08 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | | \$ 92 08 |
| Sheahan, John J..... | \$ 2 00 | |
| Shaw, Francis A..... | 2 00 | |
| St. Peter, Edward | 2 00 | |
| Tirrell, Simon | 2 00 | |
| Whitney, Joseph T..... | 2 80 | |
| Wiggin, Fred | 2 24 | |
| Wright, George O..... | 2 00 | |
| Wood, William B..... | 2 00 | |
| Wilson, Walter | 2 00 | |
| Wilson, James H..... | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$113 12 |

1901.

| | | |
|------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Abbot Worsted Co..... | \$15 60 | |
| Blood, Melvina, estate | 13 33 | |
| Brow, Byron H..... | 9 10 | |
| Elliott, Thomas H..... | 4 95 | |
| Gould, Edwin | 2 00 | |
| Morse, F. M..... | 2 00 | |
| Marden, Lewis J..... | 44 53 | |
| Murphy, Edward H..... | 4 20 | |
| Sullivan, Mrs. Jerry | 7 48 | |
| Sweatt, Samuel D..... | 2 00 | |
| Tallant, Eben W..... | 1 17 | |
| Prescott, Samuel A..... | 1 30 | |
| | <hr/> | \$107 66 |

\$326 11

SUMMARY.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Abatement taxes 1897..... | \$ 8 61 |
| 1898 | 17 96 |
| 1899 | 72 76 |
| 1900 | 113 12 |
| 1901 | 107 66 |
| | <hr/> |

\$320 11

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

UNCOLLECTED FOR 1897.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Estate of Henry Herrick | \$1 89 |
| Leroy B. Leland | 2 00 |
| George E. Whittier | 81 |
| George F. Blair | 68 |
| Harry C. Green | 41 |
| | \$5 79 |

UNCOLLECTED FOR 1898.

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Estate of Henry Herrick* | \$ 2 10 |
| W. W. Johnson | 11 64 |
| Edwin F. Carkin | 2 00 |
| Estate of Samuel Fletcher | 179 41 |
| Leroy B. Leland | 2 00 |
| J. H. Barrett | 30 |
| George F. Blair | 75 |
| Harry C. Green | 45 |
| Estate of David Vickery | 68 |
| | \$194 33 |

WALTER C. WRIGHT,
Tax Collector.

UNCOLLECTED TAXES FOR THE YEAR 1899.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Carl Cantin | \$ 2 00 |
| Howard T. Adams | 8 74 |
| Loammi C. Bicknell | 13 62 |
| Arthur W. Balsler | 3 53 |
| Nathaniel J. Decatur | 2 77 |
| Henry Herrick Estate | 2 14 |
| James Hunt | 3 68 |
| | \$36 48 |
| Amount carried forward | |

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$ 36 48 |
| William W. Johnson | 14 84 |
| Selden W. Kimball | 14 74 |
| Warren E. Merrill | 2 00 |
| James F. O'Brien | 2 38 |
| Joseph B. Riney | 2 15 |
| George F. Blair | 77 |
| Charles Crevier | 1 53 |
| Harry C. Green | 46 |
| George L. Cady | 28 55 |
| Total | <u>\$103 90</u> |
| (Signed) | A. L. PRIOR, |
| | Collector of Taxes. |

UNCOLLECTED TAXES FOR THE YEAR 1900.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Joseph Berthume | \$ 2 00 |
| Charles Amos | 2 00 |
| Emily C. Blood | 13 44 |
| George L. Bennett | 2 56 |
| Loammi C. Bicknell | 14 08 |
| Charles H. Bicknell | 15 84 |
| Arthur W. Balsler | 2 00 |
| William C. Burleigh | 2 00 |
| Napoleon Bean | 2 24 |
| Mrs. Bridget Carr | 7 20 |
| Mrs. Walter H. Cummings Estate | 9 60 |
| Irving T. Cummings | 2 24 |
| Mrs. Nellie S. Carkin | 2 56 |
| Carl Cantin | 2 00 |
| Percy A. Chapman | 2 00 |
| George Demarais | 24 |
| Moses Duggrey | 2 00 |
| Victor Dufree | 2 00 |
| Samuel N. Eaton | 1 00 |
| Samuel Fletcher Estate | 189 36 |
| Harry N. Fletcher | 2 00 |
| Samuel N. Floyd | 2 00 |
| Amount carried forward..... | <u>\$280 36</u> |

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$280 36 |
| Henry Herrick Estate | 2 24 |
| Thomas Hughes | 2 00 |
| William W. Johnson | 30 88 |
| Selden W. Kimball | 17 10 |
| Hoyt S. Knights | 3 60 |
| Thomas Kent | 2 00 |
| David Keefe | 2 00 |
| Luther Lawton | 13 20 |
| Eugene Levine | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Louisa Leland | 3 76 |
| Henry Monahan | 18 00 |
| Warren E. Merrill | 2 00 |
| Timothy Mahoney | 2 00 |
| Asdoor Mosek | 2 00 |
| B. F. Nutting | 36 00 |
| Charles F. Naylor | 2 00 |
| John W. O'Brien | 12 16 |
| John O'Brien | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Honora O'Brien | 60 96 |
| John O'Brien, 2nd | 24 00 |
| John W. O'Brien, 2nd | 2 24 |
| Robert O'Dell | 2 00 |
| B. F. Parrott | 6 00 |
| Edward Payerer | 2 24 |
| Frank B. Riney | 2 24 |
| Joseph B. Riney | 2 00 |
| Joseph Rosseau | 2 00 |
| Charles F. Shugrue | 33 28 |
| Florence Sullivan Estate | 8 80 |
| Timothy Sullivan | 2 00 |
| Michael Sullivan | 2 00 |
| Thomas O'Sullivan | 39 84 |
| Frederick Stirk | 2 40 |
| Nathaniel Sweetser Estate | 12 00 |
| Judson F. Shaw | 6 52 |
| William G. Stevens..... | 16 |
| Amount carried forward..... | <hr/> \$645 98 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$645 98 |
| Charles F. Shaw | 2 00 |
| Simon Smith | 2 00 |
| James Shea | 2 00 |
| John E. Ward | 11 92 |
| Daniel Ward | 20 56 |
| Gilman F. Wright | 32 00 |
| Walter W. Wyman | 2 40 |
| Mrs. Ida Wyman Estate | 15 60 |

NON-RESIDENTS.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| E. S. Wolfe | \$ 96 |
| Mrs. Ida M. Voter | 12 80 |
| Charles A. Vinal | 16 00 |
| Mrs. Georgianna Kelley | 2 56 |
| Charles F. M. Fish | 2 80 |
| Frank A. Fletcher | 8 56 |
| Charles G. Wright | 5 76 |
| George F. Blair Estate | 80 |
| Charles Crevier | 2 80 |
| Frank Brady | 9 60 |
| Harry C. Green | 48 |
| Bernard Riley | 4 00 |
| Bertram N. Hutchins | 1 60 |
| Morris Daley | 14 00 |
| George L. Cady | 56 00 |
| A. W. Lambert .. | 2 50 |
| L. T. Lambert | 2 00 |
| Total | <u>\$877 68</u> |

(Signed)

A. L. PRIOR,

Collector of Taxes.

UNCOLLECTED TAXES FOR 1901.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Charles L. Adams | \$ 12 59 |
| Joseph Anderson | 2 00 |
| Oscar H. Anderson | 2 00 |
| Amount carried forward..... | <u>\$16 59</u> |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$ 16 59 |
| Solomon Asdoor | 2 00 |
| Emily C. Blood | 12 35 |
| Loammi C. Bicknell | 11 31 |
| Charles H. Bicknell | 14 03 |
| Alvin J. Blaisdell | 50 04 |
| George A. Blaisdell | 2 00 |
| John H. Brown | 2 65 |
| John P. Brown | 2 00 |
| Maynard Barteaux | 2 00 |
| Paul Bick | 30 47 |
| Michael Bick | 2 00 |
| Stanley Bennett | 2 00 |
| Victor Bellengage | 2 00 |
| John Barlow | 2 00 |
| Elizabeth Caldwell Estate | 16 25 |
| Michael Carr | 2 33 |
| Mrs. Bridget Carr | 5 85 |
| John F. Coburn | 2 00 |
| Henry J. Colburn | 2 33 |
| Peter Clement | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Walter H. Cummings Estate | 9 75 |
| Irving T. Cummings | 2 00 |
| John Campling | 2 00 |
| Almos S. Carkin | 2 00 |
| Philip Cantin | 2 00 |
| Herbert H. Carlson | 2 00 |
| Herbert Cockroft | 2 00 |
| Ambrose Crommett | 2 00 |
| William J. Donnelly | 2 00 |
| Alfred O. Davis | 2 00 |
| Alfred S. Davis Estate | 20 22 |
| C. R. P. Decatur | 26 44 |
| Nathaniel J. Decatur | 2 65 |
| William H. Decatur | 57 21 |
| William H. De Roehn | 2 00 |
| George Demarais | 2 00 |
| Amount carried forward..... | \$322 47 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Amount brought forward | \$322 47 |
| Henry F. Dolliver | 2 46 |
| Flavian Dion | 2 52 |
| Frederick Davis | 2 00 |
| Minot H. A. Evans | 42 25 |
| Samuel N. Eaton | 2 00 |
| Charles A. Eaton | 2 13 |
| John Evans | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Abbie M. Evans | 5 98 |
| Samuel Fletcher Estate | 153 86 |
| Harry N. Fletcher | 2 00 |
| Thomas Finnegan | 2 00 |
| Charles Foy | 2 00 |
| Jacob Forrest | 2 00 |
| Jonathan Good | 2 00 |
| James Grimley | 2 00 |
| Charles S. Goodrow | 2 00 |
| George H. Grey | 2 00 |
| James H. Hall | 7 15 |
| Henry Herrick Estate | 1 82 |
| Thomas Hughes | 2 00 |
| Daniel Harrington | 2 00 |
| Daniel Hickey | 2 00 |
| Thomas Hunt | 2 00 |
| George Harper | 2 00 |
| Roger Hames | 2 00 |
| John H. Harvey | 2 00 |
| William H. Johnson | 1 53 |
| William W. Johnson | 24 36 |
| Mark W. Jenkins | 21 25 |
| Selden W. Kimball | 5 51 |
| George A. Leland | 2 13 |
| Leroy B. Leland | 2 00 |
| Hiram Leland | 3 63 |
| David Lord | 2 00 |
| John Loftus | 2 13 |
| Edwin F. Lovell | 8 63 |
| Amount carried forward | \$649 81 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$649 81 |
| Luther Lawton | 14 03 |
| Horace Leclair | 2 00 |
| John Lorman | 2 00 |
| Michael Larson | 2 00 |
| George W. Lincoln | 2 00 |
| Arthur London | 2 00 |
| Edward Larme | 2 00 |
| Napoleon Larme | 2 00 |
| Joseph Lacourse | 2 00 |
| Daniel Lahey | 2 00 |
| Frederick Martin, 2nd | 2 00 |
| Joseph F. McCarty | 2 00 |
| Henry Monahan | 15 00 |
| Isaac G. Minot | 1 04 |
| Herbert H. Mills | 2 00 |
| Ernest G. Mountain | 65 |
| Joseph Moran | 2 00 |
| Harry C. McMaster | 2 00 |
| Walter J. Merritt | 2 00 |
| Arthur McLaughlin | 2 00 |
| William E. McBride | 2 00 |
| Michael McGovern | 2 00 |
| William Moisson | 2 39 |
| Joseph Mardust | 2 00 |
| Thomas Miller | 2 00 |
| Frank McManiman | 2 00 |
| James Martin | 2 00 |
| Jacob Mackler | 2 00 |
| Orloff Malviney | 2 00 |
| Victor Mackey | 2 00 |
| B. F. Nutting | 30 28 |
| Adino Northrup | 2 00 |
| Moses G. Nichols | 2 00 |
| John W. O'Brien | 10 59 |
| John O'Brien | 2 00 |
| Honora O'Brien | 48 82 |
| Amount carried forward..... | \$828 61 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$828 61 |
| Frank D. O'Brien | 2 00 |
| James F. O'Brien | 6 18 |
| John O'Brien, 2nd | 20 85 |
| John W. O'Brien, 2nd | 2 00 |
| Herbert A. O'Dell | 5 90 |
| Abram Orange | 2 00 |
| George V. Osgood | 2 00 |
| Joseph Provost | 2 00 |
| B. F. Parrott | 10 40 |
| J. Perron | 2 00 |
| Henry Peltier | 2 13 |
| Alec Peno | 2 00 |
| Charles E. Palmer | 2 00 |
| James F. Quinn | 2 00 |
| John H. Quinn | 2 00 |
| Ephraim Reed | 2 00 |
| Joseph T. Richardson | 2 39 |
| Frank D. Riney | 2 00 |
| Joseph D. Riney | 2 00 |
| Eugene Robichard | 2 20 |
| Charles F. Shugrue | 28 00 |
| John Sullivan | 2 00 |
| Thomas O'Sullivan | 32 01 |
| Eugene Sullivan | 2 00 |
| Frederick Stirk | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Nathaniel Sweetser | 9 10 |
| Warren P. Sweetser | 30 26 |
| Joseph H. Sears | 2 00 |
| Judson F. Shaw | 18 58 |
| William G. Stevens | 33 |
| Andrew Swanson | 2 00 |
| Arvet Senk | 2 00 |
| Fred H. Shorey | 36 20 |
| George Tobey | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Mary Vose | 5 20 |
| Peter Voyerer | 2 00 |
| Amount carried forward..... | \$1,080 34 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$1,080 34 |
| Charles E. Vinal | 2 00 |
| John E. Ward | 10 20 |
| Daniel Ward | 16 18 |
| Mrs. Sarah F. Whitney | 30 68 |
| Thomas Whigham | 2 00 |
| Willey M. Wright | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Willey M. Wright | 8 13 |
| Everett E. Wright | 2 00 |
| Gilman F. Wright | 26 25 |
| Sidney B. Wright | 46 40 |
| Walter W. Wyman | 2 33 |
| Mrs. Ida Wyman Estate | 12 68 |
| Charles L. West | 8 18 |
| Edward Welch | 2 00 |
| Abel C. Whittier | 86 73 |
| James T. Wild | 2 13 |
| Fred F. Wiggin | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Mary J. Ward | 8 68 |
| James Watts | 2 00 |

NON-RESIDENTS.

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Sarah Wadsworth Estate | \$ 3 84 |
| E. S. Wolfe | 78 |
| Herbert Bruce Estate | 1 04 |
| Mrs. Ida M. Voter | 7 80 |
| Mrs. Thomas Sheahan | 1 04 |
| Adams & Dutton | 65 |
| John D. Cartwright | 3 90 |
| John N. Perry Estate | 3 90 |
| Tripena Robbins Estate | 78 |
| Benjamin O. Robbins | 3 06 |
| Calvin T. Wright | 6 50 |
| Willisted & Marrinell | 4 42 |
| John Ward Estate | 3 64 |
| Albert M. Spaulding | 5 20 |
| Charles A. Vinal | 13 00 |
| Amount carried forward..... | <hr/> \$1,412 46 |

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$1,412 46 |
| Mrs. Georgianna Kelley | 2 08 |
| Charles F. M. Fish | 2 28 |
| Frank A. Fletcher | 6 96 |
| Mrs. George Morse | 3 90 |
| George Proctor | 52 |
| Charles G. Wright | 4 68 |
| Mrs. Charles Hartwell | 65 |
| P. J. Riley | 1 95 |
| George F. Blair Estate | 65 |
| George W. Cummings | 33 |
| Edward Duren | 3 25 |
| Charles Crevier | 2 60 |
| Frank Brady | 9 75 |
| Harry C. Green | 39 |
| Charles F. Varnum | 19 24 |
| Bertram N. Hutchins | 1 30 |
| Pamelia Robinson | 1 63 |
| John Brady | 21 38 |
| Walter W. Johnson | 9 10 |
| Otis L. Wright | 98 |
| Catharine Tyng Estate | 1 30 |
| George A. Parker | 5 20 |
| Mary E. Courtney | 7 80 |
| Elmer Pitts | 1 43 |
| James A. Berry | 10 60 |
| Roscoe Gould | 2 00 |

Total \$1,534 41

(Signed)

A. L. PRIOR,

Collector of Taxes.

Selectmen's Report.

COMPENSATION OF TOWN OFFICERS.

TOWN TREASURER.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Nahum H. Wright, salary | \$100 00 | |
| Nahum H. Wright, extra time and expenses | 30 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$130 50 |

TOWN CLERK.

Gilman J. Wright:

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Recording 40 births at 50 cents each.. | \$20 00 | |
| 25 marriages at 20 cents each | 5 00 | |
| 40 deaths at 20 cents each.. | 8 00 | |
| 1 death at 50 cents | .50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$33 50 |

Mr. Wright died January 23, 1902. The Selectmen appointed Mr. Edward Fisher Clerk pro tem. to serve out the unexpired term of Mr. Wright, who had served as Town Clerk since March, 1887. He was a reliable, conscientious and faithful official, and the Selectmen wish here to pay a tribute to his memory, and here endorse a record of his faithful service.

SELECTMEN.

Sherman H. Fletcher:

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Salary | \$ 5 00 | |
| Making out State Aid Book | 6 00 | |
| Making 24 State Aid and Indigent Sol- diers' returns under Chapter 79, Revised Laws | 6 00 | |
| Making out Town Report..... | 10 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways and culverts | 40 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$67 00 |
| Amount carried forward..... | | \$67 00 |

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$67 00 | |
| Time and expense perambulating town lines between Groton, Tyngsboro, Carlisle and Acton | 10 00 | |
| Extra time and expenses as Selectman | 35 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$112 00 |

George W. Heywood:

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Salary | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expense on highways | 40 00 | |
| Time and expense perambulating town lines between Groton, Tyngs- boro, Carlisle and Acton..... | 10 00 | |
| Extra time and expenses as Selectman | 35 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$90 00 |

Wesley O. Hawkes:

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Salary | \$ 5 00 | |
| Time and expenses on highways..... | 40 00 | |
| Extra time and expenses as Selectman | 30 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$75 00 |

AUDITOR.

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|---------|
| Hugh F. Leith, services..... | | \$35 00 |
|------------------------------|--|---------|

ASSESSORS.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| George H. Hartford, 30 days taking invoice and making taxes..... | \$75 00 | |
| George H. Hartford, 10 days' extra time for State | 25 00 | |
| George H. Hartford, taking school census | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$125 00 |
| Samuel L. Taylor, 25 days taking invoice and making taxes | | \$62 50 |
| J. Willard Fletcher, 28 days taking in- voice and making taxes..... | | \$70 00 |

TAX COLLECTOR.

| | | |
|--|---------------|----------|
| Field & Cowles, Collector's bond..... | \$ 40 00 | |
| A. L. Prior, cash book and express.... | 2 15 | |
| A. L. Prior, postage..... | 19 00 | |
| A. L. Prior, blanks and express..... | 1 89 | |
| A. L. Prior, expense on sale of Jackson and Kirby's real estate, for non- payment of taxes | 53 11 | |
| Cash paid for recording deed of same.. | 3 50 | |
| A. L. Prior, collecting \$1,001.03, taxes of 1899 | \$ 10 01 | |
| A. L. Prior, collecting \$1,374.27, taxes of 1900 | 13 74 | |
| A. L. Prior, collecting \$18,117.53, taxes of 1901 | 181 17 | |
| | <u>204 92</u> | |
| | | \$324 57 |

CONSTABLES.

| | | |
|---|--------------|---------|
| Eugene De Roehn, posting warrants, March meeting, 1901 | \$ 5 00 | |
| Eugene De Roehn, notifying officers elected | 5 00 | |
| Eugene De Roehn, posting warrants, August meeting | 5 00 | |
| Eugene De Roehn, posting warrants, November, and notifying officers appointed | 11 00 | |
| John A. Healy, notifying delinquent dog owners | 15 00 | |
| John A. Healy, agent prevention of cruelty to children | 2 50 | |
| John A. Healy, killing dog..... | 1 00 | |
| John A. Healy, services and expenses | 35 50 | |
| L. A. Reddick, services and team..... | 5 50 | |
| | <u>85 50</u> | \$85 50 |

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Nelson L. Tuttle, attending eight meetings | \$16 00 | |
| Quincy W. Day, attending eight meetings | 16 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$32 00 |

CATTLE INSPECTOR.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| George T. Day, services..... | \$78 00 |
| \$39 refunded by State. | |

PRECINCT OFFICERS, BALLOT CLERKS AND TELLERS.

Precinct One.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| T. A. E. Wilson, Teller, November, 1900 | \$3 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, Inspector, November, 1901 | 2 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 00 |

Precinct Two.

| | | |
|---|--------|--------|
| J. A. Healy, care of ballot box..... | \$2 50 | |
| A. T. W. Prinn, Inspector, November, 1901 | 2 00 | |
| Joe Wall, Inspector, November, 1901.. | 2 00 | |
| W. C. Wright, Clerk, November, 1901 | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$9 50 |

Precinct Three.

| | | |
|---|--------|---------|
| Amos Polley, Inspector, November, 1901 | \$2 00 | |
| Edson G. Boynton, Inspector, November, 1901 | 2 00 | |
| William R. Taylor, Clerk | 3 00 | |
| Thos. F. Dunn, Warden | 3 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$10 00 |

Annual March Meeting.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------|
| W. E. Frost, Ballot Clerk | \$2 00 | |
| T. A. E. Wilson, Teller | 2 00 | |
| | | \$4 00 |
| | | \$28 50 |

TRUANT OFFICERS.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|
| Eugene De Roehn, services..... | \$8 50 | |
| Ai Bicknell, services | 2 50 | |
| | | \$11 00 |

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| F. H. Read, balance of services as Supply Agent, 1900-'01..... | \$ 25 00 | |
| J. A. Healy, use of team..... | 4 00 | |
| George H. Hartford, making report... | 5 00 | |
| George H. Hartford, expenses on tru- ant case | 1 50 | |
| H. M. Seavey, making report, express, etc. | 8 85 | |
| Masury, Young & Co., Nodusto for school rooms | 35 00 | |
| H. E. Richardson, Superintendent..... | 780 00 | |
| H. E. Richardson, postage, stationery and expenses | 17 52 | |
| H. E. Richardson, Supply Agent, etc.. | 64 99 | |
| | | \$941 86 |

Amount received from State on account of Superintendent of Schools, \$625, divided as follows: \$250 for schools; \$375 to general fund.

TOWN COUNSEL.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Burke & Corbett, services from Feb. 28, 1899, to Feb. 28, 1902..... | \$300 00 | |
| Burke & Corbett, extra services on Leland, Green and other cases.... | 150 00 | |
| Burke & Corbett, cash paid out..... | 16 85 | |
| | | \$466 85 |

UNDERTAKER.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| Albert P. Richardson, attending 31 funerals with hearse | \$62 00 | |
| Making out 22 returns..... | 5 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$67 50 |

TREE WARDEN.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services | \$10 00 |
|----------------------------------|---------|

TOWN COMMON.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| S. B. Wright, mowing common twice.. | \$6 00 |
|-------------------------------------|--------|

REPAIRS OF SCHOOL-HOUSES AND ARTICLES
FURNISHED.

CENTRE SCHOOL-HOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| H. H. Wilder & Co., repair of furnace | \$11 50 | |
| George H. Holt, repair of pump..... | 5 00 | |
| Joe Wall, labor | 2 34 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, glass, door springs, lamps, etc | 7 22 | |
| H. M. Seavey, repairs | 1 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$27 06 |

FORGE VILLAGE SCHOOL-HOUSE—TWO SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| M. H. Brown, feather duster, etc..... | \$ 1 85 | |
| F. A. Sweatt, repair of furnace..... | 75 | |
| Eugene De Roehn, labor | 2 00 | |
| John A. Healy, labor..... | 159 76 | |
| Brownell & Mason, new furnace, etc.. | 360 00 | |
| Joe Wall, labor and stock | 73 33 | |
| R. D. Prescott, labor | 1 88 | |
| Freight on grate | 27 | |
| Wright & Bemis, brooms, etc..... | 3 05 | |
| | <hr/> | \$602 89 |

NASHOBA SCHOOL-HOUSE.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Brushes, pails, etc..... | \$1 30 |
|--------------------------|--------|

PARKERVILLE SCHOOL-HOUSE.

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| One broom | 35 |
|-----------------|----|

MINOT'S CORNER SCHOOL-HOUSE.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| J. E. Knight, repairs | \$2 25 | |
| Broom and dipper | 45 | |
| H. M. Seavey, repairs | 2 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$5 45 |

NABNASSETT SCHOOL-HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| E. H. Dane, labor repairing flag pole.. | \$ 2 00 | |
| G. H. Holt, repair of pump..... | 10 25 | |
| Broom and brush | 70 | |
| | <hr/> | \$12 95 |

GRANITEVILLE SCHOOL-HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| B. J. Merriam, electric fixtures, etc.... | \$ 7 90 | |
| J. A. Healy, labor, stock and repairs.. | 78 04 | |
| Thompson Hardware Co., paint | 1 63 | |
| A. R. Choate, express..... | 25 | |
| A. R. De Roehn, labor | 2 00 | |
| Abbot & Co., labor and stock..... | 12 62 | |
| Eugene De Roehn | 3 50 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor and stock.... | 112 05 | |
| John Callaghan, two new furnaces, etc | 454 00 | |
| Robert McCarthy, labor..... | 1 00 | |
| F. L. Fletcher, oil, etc..... | 6 47 | |
| Wright & Bemis, sundries as per bill.. | 12 30 | |
| | <hr/> | \$691 76 |

EIGHTH GRADE SCHOOL.

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Dust-pan and brush | 60 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1,332 36 |

TEXT-BOOKS AND SUPPLIES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| D. C. Heath & Co..... | \$ 19 06 | |
| J. L. Hammett Co..... | 286 55 | |
| Ginn & Co..... | 21 27 | |
| Houghton, Mifflin & Co..... | 87 64 | |
| Silver, Burdett & Co..... | 1 73 | |
| B. J. Merriam | 2 98 | |
| Edward E. Babb & Co..... | 96 52 | |
| J. & I. E. Moore | 4 00 | |
| W. B. Clarke & Co..... | 10 00 | |
| Rumford Supply Co..... | 1 05 | |
| S. A. Weaver | 2 55 | |
| H. A. Axton | 9 15 | |
| Allyn & Bacon | 1 67 | |
| H. S. Turner | 4 56 | |
| Educational Publishing Co..... | 8 00 | |
| Orville Brewer | 3 20 | |
| | | \$559 93 |

Appropriation, \$600.

J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor, Feb. 1, 1901, to Feb. 1, 1902..... | \$100 00 | |
| Mary P. Bunce, Librarian, Feb. 1, 1901, to Feb. 1, 1902..... | 180 00 | |
| Mary P. Bunce, extra work..... | 15 00 | |
| Mary P. Bunce, express and freight... | 18 26 | |
| J. A. Healy, 4,480 lbs. coal..... | 15 00 | |
| James Stanley, repair of clock..... | 1 00 | |
| Hiram Dane, labor | 1 00 | |
| W. H. Martin, repairs | 19 87 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, 16 7-20 tons coal.. | 83 42 | |
| Freight on coal | 16 35 | |
| Cartage on coal | 13 78 | |
| W. E. Frost, one electric lamp..... | 5 00 | |
| J. B. Goodwin, window screens | 4 25 | |
| Gilbert & Barker Mfg. Co., gasolene.. | 14 00 | |
| 200 lbs. fertilizer | 4 00 | |
| One door mat | 2 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, soap, etc..... | 1 09 | |
| | | \$494 02 |

DELIVERING LIBRARY BOOKS TO GRANITEVILLE,
FORGE VILLAGE AND BROOKSIDE.

Ai Bicknell, services \$75 00

EXPENSE OF FIRST DISTRICT COURT AT AYER.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| John A. Healy, services and expenses on Farwell case | \$27 00 | |
| John A. Healy, services and expenses on Vinal case | 16 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$43 60 |
| Received from fines | | \$67 19 |

GUIDE POSTS AND GUIDE BOARDS.

The following report on guide posts and guide boards is submitted:

Two new guide boards have been put up at the corner of the roads near the house of Amos Leighton; one opposite the house of A. C. Whittier; one near the store of Daniel Splain in Forge Village; one at the corner of the road in the north part of the town known as Perham's Corner. A number of old guide boards should be replaced this year with new ones, and a number need repainting.

The following expense has occurred:

| | | |
|--|--------|---------|
| James A. Walkden, 12 guide boards... | \$4 20 | |
| Joe Wall, painting and lettering guide boards | 6 50 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense | 5 00 | |
| G. W. Heywood, time and expense ... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$20 70 |

PRINTING.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Courier-Citizen Co., stamped envelopes | \$ 13 25 |
| Courier-Citizen Co., 700 copies Town Report | 168 00 |
| Courier-Citizen Co., warrants and speci- men ballots and ballots..... | 20 37 |
| Courier-Citizen Co., bill heads, etc.... | 6 75 |
| | <hr/> |
| Amount carried forward..... | \$208 37 |

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$208 37 | |
| Courier-Citizen Co., notices to voters, dog notices, stamped envelopes, etc | 18 50 | |
| H. M. Dolbeare, assessors' blanks.... | 3 50 | |
| Union Printing Co..... | 2 25 | |
| Adams, Cushing & Foster, order books | 10 50 | |
| M. G. Wight & Co., tax bills, envelopes and note heads for Tax Collector.. | 11 75 | |
| F. A. Frost & Co., for School Committee | 1 75 | |
| | <hr/> | \$256 62 |

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Paid by orders to Poor Department... | \$2,921 33 |
| Appropriation, \$1,500. | |

BOARD OF HEALTH.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Paid by orders | \$49 75 |
| See Board of Health Report. | |

PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Paid by orders | \$189 74 |
| See Commissioners' Report. | |
| Appropriation, \$200. | |

MEMORIAL DAY.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Paid by order Veteran Association.... | \$50 00 |
|---------------------------------------|---------|

INSURANCE.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| Holyoke Mutual Fire Insurance Co., \$1,500 on Town House, three years | \$ 19 80 | |
| A. Fenner, Library, \$7,000, five years.. | 112 50 | |
| Boston Insurance Co., \$2,550, Forge Village School-house, five years... | 76 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$208 80 |

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| A. F. Roberts, marking fluid..... | \$ 1 45 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, salary | 25 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$26 45 |

TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor, from Feb. 1, 1901, to Feb. 1, 1902..... | \$96 00 | |
| J. A. Healy, taking water out of cellar.. | 7 50 | |
| J. A. Healy, one cord wood..... | 5 50 | |
| Floor wax | 3 00 | |
| Pails, chloride of lime, nails, etc..... | 5 28 | |
| J. M. Fletcher, oil, etc..... | 5 90 | |
| James Stanley, repairs of clocks | 2 00 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, oil, chimneys, wicks, etc | 20 40 | |
| Ai Bicknell, cleaning furnace..... | 1 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$147 08 |

INCOME FROM TOWN HOUSE.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Rent of armory from State..... | \$175 00 | |
| Rent of building | 119 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$294 50 |

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

As authorized by Chapter 79, Sections 18 and 19, Revised Laws:

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| James A. Graham from Feb. 1, 1901, to Feb. 1, 1902..... | \$96 00 | |
| Gilbert A. Hood, from Feb. 1, 1901, to Feb. 1, 1902..... | 48 00 | |
| Expense of investigating soldiers' relief | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$149 00 |
| John A. Healy, expense on case of Charles W. McClenna..... | \$8 40 | |
| Joseph R. Draper, M. D., expense on same | 1 50 | |
| | <hr/> | \$9 90 |

Refunded by Town of Andover, \$9.90.

State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors, and soldier's and sailor's families as authorized by Chapter 79, Revised Laws.

STATE AID.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| From Jan. 1, 1901, to Jan. 1, 1902..... | \$966 00 | |
| Expense investigating State Aid..... | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$971 00 |

MILITARY AID.

From Jan. 1, 1901, to Jan. 1, 1902. \$60 00

FOREST FIRES AND OTHER FIRES.

The following fires have occurred during the past year, and estimated damages by the Forest Fire Wards:

| | No. of Acres. | Damage. |
|---|---------------|------------|
| May 6—On land of Daniel Gage, Abbot heirs and others. | 200 | \$1,000 00 |
| 7—On land of J. V. Fletcher heirs | 5 | 40 00 |
| 7—On land of J. D. Carteret and others | 25 | 200 00 |
| 7—On land of Cummings heirs | 3 | 30 00 |
| 7—On land of Morris Daley. | 3 | 45 00 |
| 7—On land of Hugh Fletcher | 4 | 20 00 |
| 7—On land of heirs of Noah Prescott | 3 | 10 00 |
| 27—On land of Cummings and others | 25 | 100 00 |
| July 4—On land of Frank W. Banister | 8 | 60 00 |
| 4—On land of Joseph Bowers and others | 2 | 20 00 |
| | 278 | \$1,525 00 |

DWELLING HOUSES AND BARNs.

March 14—Dwelling house of Lewis P. Palmer, occupied by Frank J. McManaman, in Graniteville. Value of building, \$2,000; insurance, \$1,500; value of contents, \$850; insurance, \$700. Total loss. Cause of fire, unknown.

August 17—Barn of George C. Moore, near Brookside, occupied by A. H. Saunders, foreman. Value of building, \$2,500; insurance, \$2,000; damage to contents, \$1,200. Cause of fire, incendiary.

August 19—Barn of Elbridge G. Ward. Value, \$600; insurance, \$500. Cause of fire, incendiary.

EXPENSES.

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| John A. Healy, Fire Ward, and others, Gaudette land | \$ 2 50 |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., heirs Noah Pres- cott land | 4 10 |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., Gage, Abbot, Flint, Cummings and DeCarteret land | 81 80 |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., dwelling of E. G., Ward | 7 50 |
| H. L. Nesmith, Fire Ward, Texas dis- trict | 1 75 |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, Forest Fire Ward, and others, Banister and Bowers land | 9 30 |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services as Forest Fire Ward, 1900 and 1901..... | 10 00 |
| | <u>\$116 95</u> |

The above report shows that 218 acres of woodland were burned over last year. This probably does not include the whole amount, as a number of small fires were not reported. Probably 300 acres, at least, would be a fair estimate that have suffered by fire. The estimated loss as shown was \$1,525. This is a large amount of taxable property wasted, not only in the loss of the standing wood, but in the damage to the land and young growth, which takes many years to recover. Nearly all these fires are caused either by carelessness or design. Hunters, fishermen and others who travel about in the spring are to blame in many instances. A series of fires were constantly breaking out on Oak Hill, and had the appearance of being set by some party or parties. Owners of woodland are at the mercy of these parties, and the town officials are powerless to prevent this waste of property. The laws are very stringent in regard to setting fires, but the arrest and conviction of guilty parties is very rare. Country towns, with their large tracts of woodland, have suffered a heavy loss in the past few years in taxable property of this kind. It is the duty of every citizen to be vigilant and careful and try and prevent this unnecessary waste.

REPAIR OF FORGE VILLAGE SCHOOL-HOUSE.

| | | |
|---|----------|----------|
| John A. Healy, raising building..... | \$110 00 | |
| John A. Healy, putting in cellar and vault | 300 00 | |
| John A. Healy, building chimney and plastering | 128 68 | |
| John A. Healy, grading | 31 08 | |
| Henry Harrington, labor and stock.... | 215 23 | |
| | <hr/> | \$784 99 |

These repairs were done under charge of the School Committee, and the bills approved by that committee.
Appropriation for cellar, \$350.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| One dozen galvanized iron pails..... | \$3 00 |
|--------------------------------------|--------|

GENERAL EXPENSES.

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Amasa Pratt & Co., fence pickets and lumber for Forge Village bridge, 1900 | \$ 25 95 |
| Postage for Town Reports..... | 24 10 |
| J. R. Draper, M. D., return of 41 births; years 1899, 1900, 1901..... | 10 25 |
| F. E. Varney, M. D., return 12 births; years 1900, 1901 | 3 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler, making pauper report to State | 5 00 |
| Shovels, rakes and tools for Road De- partment | 22 25 |
| John Feeny, repair of harnesses, etc.. | 15 60 |
| Boutwell Bros., steel for drills..... | 1 92 |
| Iver Johnson & Co., hardware as per bill | 20 78 |
| D. H. Waller, rent of land from July 1, 1900, to July 1, 1901, for Cavalry Rifle Range | 7 50 |
| Amount carried forward..... | <hr/> \$136 35 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$136 35 |
| H. A. Bunce, ringing bell, July 4..... | 1 00 |
| R. J. Deizel, ringing bell, July 4..... | 2 00 |
| J. W. O'Brien, repair of cavalry target | 7 00 |
| N. E. Tel. & Tel. Co., use of telephone for town officers | 30 21 |
| Postage stamps for town officers..... | 11 15 |
| N. L. Tuttle, repair of carts, etc..... | 14 45 |
| Wright & Fletcher, sundries as per bill | 22 77 |
| W. W. Johnson, teaming lumber | 1 00 |
| Good Roads Machinery Co., castings for road machine | 46 15 |
| W. C. Robbins, one horse..... | 225 00 |
| H. A. Hildreth, storage for road ma- chine and carts to May 16, 1901... | 7 00 |
| Waldo Brothers, drain pipe..... | 187 73 |
| Cement | 3 75 |
| Food for election officers..... | 3 25 |
| R. G. Whidden, moving Town Clerk's safe | 3 00 |
| Freight and express | 5 75 |
| F. E. Miller, blacksmithing | 86 27 |
| G. H. Philbrick, blacksmithing..... | 1 70 |
| Delia Martin, tax refunded 1900..... | 1 28 |
| J. M. Fletcher, administering oaths.... | 1 25 |
| Dr. J. N. Murray, attending sick horse | 6 00 |
| J. A. Healy, use of team Highway Commissioner | 4 00 |
| R. E. Redding, use of team..... | 2 00 |
| J. E. Knight, repair of cart..... | 50 |

 \$810 56

ROAD DEPARTMENT.

This town has for the past few years, in the early spring, suffered severely from heavy rains, and last spring was no exception. Coming as it did, when the ground was frozen, the earth was unable to drain off the water, and the result was the highways were flooded and badly washed. This made an extra expense unlooked for, and we were obliged to overrun the appropriation.

In accordance with Chapter 98, Acts of 1898, Benjamin F. Day was appointed Superintendent of Streets. Under his direction, the following amounts have been expended. The bills show what month they were paid, but not in all cases the month the work or expense occurred.

MARCH.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| J. M. O'Brien, gravel | \$ 1 55 | |
| M. M. Morrison and others, labor.... | 6 05 | |
| J. A. Healy, grain | 13 72 | |
| D. McLeod, labor | 3 00 | |
| William Davis, 5,860 lbs. hay..... | 52 74 | |
| | <hr/> | \$77 06 |

APRIL.

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|----------|
| A. E. Jenne, labor..... | \$ 50 | |
| H. Billings, labor | 39 82 | |
| S. Crossland, labor | 29 25 | |
| John Boyd, labor | 29 25 | |
| John Good, labor | 29 25 | |
| D. McLeod, labor | 30 75 | |
| A. London, labor | 38 00 | |
| J. M. O'Brien, labor | 19 10 | |
| I. G. Hall, labor | 6 00 | |
| George Billings, labor | 4 00 | |
| Peter Norris, labor | 15 50 | |
| Peter Clement, labor | 3 00 | |
| J. W. O'Brien, labor | 10 20 | |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent | 45 00 | |
| Team | 42 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$341 62 |

MAY.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|--|
| Jeptha Wright, gravel | \$28 75 | |
| John Good, labor | 32 63 | |
| Timothy Sullivan, labor | 16 88 | |
| H. Billings, labor | 37 71 | |
| Eben Smith, labor | 11 63 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| Amount carried forward..... | \$127 60 | |

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$127 60 |
| D. McLeod, labor | 30 75 |
| S. Crossland, labor | 32 13 |
| A. London, labor | 38 00 |
| W. M. Whitney, labor | 1 80 |
| W. W. Johnson, labor | 25 00 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent | 45 00 |
| Team | 48 00 |

\$348 28

JUNE.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| R. E. Redding, labor | \$20 90 |
| A. J. Blaisdell, labor | 4 50 |
| H. Billings, labor | 42 14 |
| L. J. Eliason, labor..... | 5 25 |
| John Dinsmore, labor | 5 25 |
| D. McLeod, labor | 31 50 |
| John Boyd, labor | 10 50 |
| John Dousett, labor | 24 75 |
| S. Crossland, labor | 36 75 |
| Timothy Sullivan, labor | 36 75 |
| John Good, labor | 36 75 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent | 45 00 |
| Team | 49 00 |

\$319 04

JULY.

| | |
|--|---------|
| J. A. Healy, grain, March, April, May, June, July | \$77 80 |
| John Dinsmore, labor | 29 25 |
| S. Crossland, labor | 29 25 |
| John Dousett, labor | 30 75 |
| Timothy Sullivan, labor | 35 25 |
| Thomas Doyle, labor | 16 50 |
| John Good, labor | 30 00 |
| H. Billings, labor | 21 55 |
| R. E. Redding, labor and team..... | 57 50 |
| Timothy Driscoll, labor | 15 98 |

Amount carried forward..... \$384 83

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$343 83 |
| Thomas Payne, labor | 16 65 |
| Timothy Riney, labor | 16 20 |
| F. W. Banister, labor | 3 80 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent | 45 00 |
| Team | 45 00 |

\$470 48

AUGUST.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Edwin Gould, labor | \$12 30 |
| H. E. Gould, labor | 8 20 |
| Thomas Doyle, labor | 28 50 |
| Timothy Sullivan, labor | 21 00 |
| George Sherman, labor | 38 90 |
| John Good, labor | 12 00 |
| S. Crossland, labor | 28 50 |
| John Dinsmore, labor | 37 50 |
| John Donovan, labor | 30 75 |
| I. G. Hall, labor | 15 50 |
| F. W. Page, labor | 3 00 |
| C. R. Decatur, labor | 17 50 |
| H. A. Ferguson, labor | 20 00 |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., dualin..... | 5 62 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent | 45 00 |
| Team | 50 00 |

\$374 27

SEPTEMBER.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| H. V. Hildreth, labor | \$16 75 |
| G. A. Kimball, labor | 19 76 |
| Charles Whitcomb, labor | 28 25 |
| Thomas Doyle, labor | 32 25 |
| S. Crossland, labor | 30 75 |
| John Dinsmore, labor | 27 00 |
| John Donovan, labor | 21 75 |
| George Sherman, labor | 42 14 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent | 45 00 |
| Team | 44 00 |

\$307 65

OCTOBER.

| | |
|---|--------|
| M. F. Downs, labor | 31 50 |
| H. W. Tarbell, labor | 300 39 |
| C. H. Bicknell, labor | 8 88 |
| J. A. Healy, labor and team | 116 88 |
| Thomas Doyle, labor | 10 50 |
| Charles Whitcomb, labor | 31 25 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent | 45 00 |
| Team | 52 00 |
| J. A. Healy, grain, August, September, October | 57 51 |
| John Dinsmore, labor | 34 50 |
| John Good, labor | 19 50 |
| S. Crossland, labor | 22 50 |
| George Sherman, labor | 42 71 |
| John Donovan, labor | 33 00 |
| D. McLeod, labor | 38 25 |
| George W. Heywood, gravel | 10 00 |

 \$854 37

NOVEMBER.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| S. L. Taylor, gravel | 2 40 |
| Heywood & Fletcher, gravel | 3 50 |
| S. Crossland, gravel | 4 80 |
| John Dinsmore, labor | 18 00 |
| S. Crossland, labor | 31 50 |
| Charles Whitcomb, labor | 39 12 |
| D. McLeod, labor | 26 25 |
| John Good, labor | 31 50 |
| George E. Sherman, labor | 6 73 |
| John Donovan, labor | 1 50 |
| H. W. Tarbell, labor | 239 53 |
| J. A. Healy, labor and team | 56 88 |
| B. F. Day, Superintendent | 45 00 |
| Team | 48 00 |

 \$554 71

DECEMBER.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| J. H. O'Brien, labor | \$ 1 50 | |
| J. W. Blodgett, labor | 30 20 | |
| J. A. Healy, labor and team | 123 14 | |
| S. M. Hutchins, 6,530 lbs. hay..... | 48 97 | |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$203 81 |

JANUARY.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|------------|
| W. H. H. Burbeck, labor | \$ 5 50 | |
| Charles Whitcomb, labor | 2 40 | |
| Thomas Rafferty, gravel | 5 00 | |
| C. R. Decatur, gravel and labor | 13 15 | |
| William Martin, 2,850 lbs. hay..... | 21 38 | |
| J. A. Healy, grain | 53 05 | |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$100 48 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$3,981 77 |

Appropriation, \$3,500.

Schedule of property belonging to the town for use of Road Department: 2 horses, 1 set of heavy harnesses, 2 carts, 4 whiffletrees and chains, 1 evener and spreader, 2 horse collars, 1 wrench, 1 wagon-jack, 2 chains, 1 stone-lifter, 1 pair hand splices, 9 rakes, 22 shovels, 1 manure fork, 1 hay fork, 2 plows, 12 blasting drills, 2 drill spoons, 6 plug drills, lot of shims and wedges, 1 bush snath, 2 bush scythes, 3 axes, 1 trimming saw, 2 halters, 6 lanterns, 1 oil can, 1 tool box, 3 large hoes, 2 small hoes, 12 picks, 7 iron bars, 1 pinch bar, 1 hand hammer, 2 striking hammers, 2 stone hammers, 1 currycomb and brush, 2 horse blankets, 2 surcingle, 2 stone drags, 2 yokes, 1 road scraper, 2 gravel screens, 2 stone forks, 1 mattock, 1 two-horse sled, 1 pail, 1 post rammer, 1 post spoon, 1 post-hole digger, 6 lengths sewer pipe, 1 stone jigger, 2 nose bags, 2 old lead whiffletrees, 1 trowel, 1 paving hammer, 2 grab hooks, 2 pick handles, 1 hammer handle, 25 pounds dualin, 1,500 pounds hay.

BREAKING ROADS, 1900-1901.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| I. G. Hall | \$ 8 55 |
| P. Fairfield | 1 80 |
| J. A. Healy and others | 71 73 |
| George Burke | 3 75 |
| Dennis Burke | 5 55 |
| W. Flynn | 4 95 |
| F. L. Downs | 6 75 |
| W. J. Smith | 75 |
| E. H. Dane | 9 90 |
| Kable & Krouse | 8 90 |
| N. B. Harriman | 2 62 |
| A. E. Wilson | 8 28 |
| J. M. O'Brien | 21 00 |
| B. Flynn | 7 35 |
| J. H. O'Brien | 6 00 |
| W. W. Johnson | 33 25 |
| A. H. Sutherland | 8 63 |
| George Hutchins | 4 95 |
| F. W. Banister | 7 65 |
| David Sherman | 3 75 |
| B. F. Day and others | 57 43 |
| S. L. Felch and others | 38 50 |
| C. M. Griffin | 10 00 |
| H. J. Murphy | 2 70 |
| H. E. Gould and others | 53 50 |
| S. L. Taylor and others | 78 30 |
| A. B. M. Eastman | 1 50 |
| C. H. Eastman | 1 50 |
| M. Barteaux | 3 00 |
| W. T. Reed | 6 40 |
| J. T. Colburn | 27 00 |
| Hartford Bros | 13 65 |
| John Wayne | 4 80 |
| J. A. Parsons | 1 80 |
| A. O. Davis | 2 40 |
| H. B. Read and others | 42 75 |
| Amount carried forward | <hr/> \$571 34 |

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$571 34 |
| James O'Brien | 9 15 |
| G. J. Sherburne | 6 00 |
| John Good | 3 00 |
| A. McDonald and others | 30 30 |
| C. H. Bicknell | 2 60 |
| S. B. Wright and others | 14 20 |
| A. S. Vose and others | 42 50 |
| C. F. Shuigrue and others | 44 10 |
| C. F. Keyes | 60 |
| A. E. Jenne | 2 70 |
| F. L. McCoy | 1 20 |
| J. E. Ward | 8 25 |
| R. E. Redding and others | 31 80 |
| G. A. Kimball | 52 |
| W. C. Edwards | 26 87 |
| A. J. Blaisdell | 7 50 |
| S. H. Balch and others | 19 48 |
| J. F. Shaw | 3 60 |
| C. L. West | 3 00 |
| E. H. Flagg | 5 85 |
| H. L. Nesmith | 1 50 |
| H. V. Hildreth | 5 75 |
| M. F. Downs and others | 80 61 |
| A. H. Burnham | 14 25 |
| C. R. Decatur | 16 20 |

\$952 87

STONY BROOK VALLEY STREET RAILWAY CO.

During the past year a great deal of preliminary work and changes have been made towards the perfection of plans in laying out a route that would give the best service to the several villages. A change from the original route from Forge Village to Ayer has been surveyed through Littleton, which has made a good deal of extra work and delay. In looking over the location as granted, it was found, on account of the hilly country, it would be necessary for the company to purchase or lease about three miles of private land in extent, to avoid

the heavy grade in the highways. For the safety of the traveling public, the Railroad Commissioners object to over a five per cent. grade, and it was found by going over private land the grade could be kept either at this grade or lower. To acquire the right to get a location over private land a great deal of preliminary work is required. Under the Revised Laws defining the rights of a location of street railway companies on private land, the law says that street railway companies shall first obtain the approval of the Selectmen, and then the approval of the Railroad Commissioners by filing a plan on such a scale as the Commission may prescribe, and if this Board is satisfied that the public necessity and convenience demand that portions of the proposed railway or extension should be built outside the limits of public ways substantially on the land selected, they may then authorize the construction and operation of the said railway upon said land, and authorize street railways to purchase or lease private land for that purpose. It will be seen by the above law that nothing can be done in the purchase of land or construction of the railway until the approval of the Railroad Commissioners has been received.

Under this law the Railway Company has been at work making a very complete plan of the route desired, to be filed with that Board this spring. The Selectmen have spent a good deal of time in consultation with the managers of the company, going over the locations, and interviewing land owners. Nearly all of the land owners have consented to sell what land is needed, and the management say as soon as the Railroad Commissioners give a favorable answer that work will be commenced on construction of the railway.

| | | |
|--|---------|---------|
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense consulting manager, viewing locations and use of team..... | \$15 00 | |
| George W. Heywood, time and expense consulting manager, viewing locations and use of team..... | 15 00 | |
| W. O. Hawkes, time and expense consulting manager and viewing locations | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$35 00 |

Extension of the Carlisle Road by Massachusetts Highway Commission under the law known as "The Small Town Act," also under the order of the County Commissioners.

Under the vote of the town, the Selectmen commenced work on the road in the early spring. Under the law of 1900, to receive the allotment of \$1,400, the Highway Commission required the Selectmen, in behalf of the town, to contract to do the work. The first contract extended from the Wheeler house to about 1,000 feet south of the house of George Drew. The Selectmen employed Mr. H. W. Tarbell, of Lowell, Mass., to do the work. In widening the road north of Mr. Drew's house an unexpected heavy expense occurred in removing a lot of boulders found embedded in the old roadbed and on the sides of the road, which used up considerable of the money. Under the circumstances, we could not complete the road, to within about 1,000 feet, as required in the contract. After consultation with the Highway Commission, we decided to petition to that Board for an allowance from the State under the law of 1901, so as to extend the work to Minot's Corner, as ordered by the County Commissioners.

The law of 1900 having been amended by the Legislature of 1901, requiring towns of over one million valuation to appropriate an equal amount as that allotted by the Highway Commission, a town meeting was held August 14. The town voted to appropriate \$1,000, and the Highway Commission allotted the same amount.

Under these conditions the road was completed to Minot's Corner. During the progress of the work the members of the Highway Commission visited the road a number of times, and made valuable suggestions in regard to the work. Upon the completion of the work and the acceptance of the road by the Highway and County Commissioners, the Selectmen were complimented upon the character of the work and the thoroughness in which the road was built.

The town is under many obligations to Mr. George Drew, who kindly furnished the gravel, without expense to the town, that was used for the upper grade of the roadbed, and he is to be commended for his liberality. The following is the expense:

| | | | | |
|--|----|-------|----|------------|
| John E. Ward, 30 stone posts for road bounds | \$ | 7 | 50 | |
| John E. Ward, stone steps..... | | 9 | 10 | |
| George P. Wright, land damage..... | | 100 | 00 | |
| R. E. Redding, fence posts..... | | 26 | 98 | |
| Nelson L. Tuttle, three drags..... | | 18 | 00 | |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., dualin and fuse.. | | 25 | 37 | |
| F. E. Miller, blacksmithing | | 33 | 20 | |
| J. A. Healy, dualin, road plow and repairs | | 12 | 86 | |
| Paint for railings | | 3 | 43 | |
| Shovels, picks, iron bars, axes, rakes, stone hammers and other tools.... | | 45 | 29 | |
| Drain pipe | | 72 | 97 | |
| Sixty rods field fence wire..... | | 29 | 00 | |
| Burnham & Davis, railing..... | | 22 | 33 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, labor..... | | 29 | 30 | |
| C. E. Whidden, team | | 32 | 80 | |
| H. W. Tarbell, labor | | 2,922 | 19 | |
| Labor as per bills on file..... | | 1,048 | 48 | |
| S. H. Fletcher, time and expense on road and meeting Highway and County Commissioners | | 15 | 00 | |
| George W. Heywood, time and expense on road and meeting Highway and County Commissioners | | 15 | 00 | |
| Wesley O. Hawkes, time and expense on road and meeting Highway and County Commissioners | | 10 | 00 | |
| | | | | \$4,478 80 |
| Received from County | \$ | 500 | 00 | |
| Received from State | | 2,366 | 30 | |
| Appropriation | | 1,500 | 00 | |
| | | | | \$4,366 30 |

STATE HIGHWAY.

Attention was called in last year's Town Report in regard to the Highway Commission viewing the road from Minot's Corner via Nashoba Hill for a State highway, to connect with the great road in Littleton on which they are building a State

road. During the past year the members of the Commission have looked over the two routes petitioned for: one through Parkerville to the Westford and Carlisle line, and the other via Nashoba Hill to the great road. They have examined both routes with great care in regard to grades, material for road building, cost of building, etc., and their opinion is that the route to the great road is the most practical and feasible one. They have ordered a survey of this route, and we are looking for a favorable action soon.

LIBRARY CATALOGUE.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Library, one classification..... | \$ 5 00 | |
| Carrie E. Read, services | 19 35 | |
| Mary P. Bunce, services..... | 150 00 | |
| The Fred Macy Co., cards, etc..... | 11 81 | |
| The Fred Macy Co., cabinet, etc..... | 85 88 | |
| The Fred Macy Co., supplies..... | 6 00 | |
| | | \$278 04 |
| Appropriation, \$350. | | |

REPAIR OF FLAG POLE.

| | | |
|---|---------|----------|
| W. W. Johnson, 695 feet chestnut lumber | \$12 98 | |
| George C. Moore, sawing lumber..... | 2 40 | |
| American Bolt Co., irons for pole.... | 21 00 | |
| A. H. Sutherland, labor..... | 41 61 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, labor..... | 12 00 | |
| H. E. Fletcher & Co., taking down and putting up pole and resetting same | 39 75 | |
| | | \$129 74 |

ESTIMATES FOR 1902-1903.

In making these estimates for the amount of money asked for, to be raised at the annual meeting, we have placed under the head of each department the amount that is asked for by that department.

SELECTMEN.

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Highways | \$4,000 00 | |
| Town debt and charges..... | 2,000 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$6,000 00 |

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Support of poor | \$2,400 00 |
|-----------------------|------------|

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Support of schools | \$6,000 00 | |
| Tuition of High School scholars..... | 1,500 00 | |
| Text-books and supplies for schools... | 700 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$8,200 00 |

TRUSTEES OF J. V. FLETCHER LIBRARY.

| | | |
|---------------------|----------|----------|
| Books | \$150 00 | |
| New catalogue | 300 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$450 00 |

COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC BURIAL GROUNDS.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Public burial grounds | \$200 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$17,250 00 |

Total number of orders, 454.

Total amount of orders. \$21,832.77.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,

WESLEY O. HAWKES.

Selectmen of Westford.

List of Jurors.

The following names will be reported at the annual meeting in March, to be placed in the jury box, subject to revision by the town:

| NAMES. | OCCUPATION. |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Ernest H. Dane, | Painter. |
| Quincy W. Day, | Farmer. |
| Thomas F. Dunn, | Engineer. |
| Elbert H. Flagg, | Farmer. |
| Joel A. Fletcher, | Farmer. |
| John M. Fletcher, | Merchant. |
| John Feeney, | Harness Maker. |
| Edwin E. Heywood, | Farmer. |
| Frank H. Hildreth, | Farmer. |
| Samuel M. Hutchins, | Farmer. |
| George A. Kimball, | Farmer. |
| Henry J. Murphy, | Farmer. |
| Elmer E. Nutting, | Machinist. |
| Charles E. Osgood, | Carpenter. |
| William H. Petherick, | Mill Hand. |
| Nathan Prescott, | Painter. |
| Waldo F. Prescott, | Farmer. |
| Amos B. Polley, | Farmer. |
| Ossian V. Robey, | Carpenter. |
| Homer M. Seavey, | Farmer. |
| Walter J. Sleeper, | Physician. |
| William R. Taylor, | Clerk. |
| Almon S. Vose, | Farmer. |
| John Wilson, | Farmer. |
| J. Everett Woods, | Farmer. |
| Bradley V. Wright, | Farmer. |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,

WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Selectmen of Westford.

Westford, February 27, 1902.

Board of Health.

The Selectmen, acting as the Board of Health, appointed Wesley O. Hawkes and W. H. H. Burbeck agents for diseases and sanitary condition of the town.

Edward Fisher was appointed agent of the Board for the inspection and branding of the carcasses of animals slaughtered for human food.

Alec Fisher was licensed to carry on the business of killing animals for food purposes.

Albert P. Richardson and John A. Healy were licensed as undertakers.

Fortunately, the town has been very free from contagious diseases. Only a few cases have been reported.

The number of deaths will be found in the Town Clerk's Report.

The following table of contagious and infectious diseases is for the year 1901:

| | Number. | Deaths. |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Diphtheria | 8 | 1 |
| Measles | 1 | |
| Scarlet fever | 1 | |
| Typhoid fever | 1 | |
| | 11 | 1 |

The following expense has occurred:

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Branding stamp for meat | \$ 1 75 | |
| Five gallons wood alcohol..... | 5 00 | |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, services as agent.. | 12 00 | |
| Wesley O. Hawkes, services as agent.. | 10 00 | |
| Edward Fisher, services as agent, 21 weeks, to Feb. 10, 1902, inspecting meat | 21 00 | |
| | | \$49 75 |

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
WESLEY O. HAWKES,

Board of Health.

Report of Overseers of Poor.

RECEIPTS AT TOWN FARM.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Received for milk | \$669 46 |
| Wood | 133 00 |
| Cows and bull | 107 50 |
| Thomas Carney, board .. | 108 00 |
| Hay | 43 75 |
| Pork | 24 48 |
| Rent of Wilkinson house | 28 00 |
| Potatoes | 28 80 |
| Breaking roads | 19 48 |
| Cranberries | 11 50 |
| Calves | 7 00 |
| Apples | 3 70 |
| Plums | 5 45 |
| Eggs | 3 42 |
| Tomatoes | 2 90 |
| Keeping prisoners | 2 50 |
| Peas | 1 10 |
| Corn | 1 00 |
| Tobacco | 1 30 |
| Use of bull | 3 00 |
| Turnips | 50 |
| Old window | 50 |
| Use of wagon | 50 |
| Witness fees | 1 30 |
| Labor | 2 80 |
| Overseers of Poor, board of E. Reed..... | 18 00 |
| Overseers of Poor, wood furnished Houle fam- ily | 2 50 |
| Amount carried forward..... | \$1,230 54 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$1,230 54 |
| Overseers of Poor, wood furnished Mrs. J. Le- land | 31 30 |
| Overseers of Poor, pota- toes furnished Mrs. J. Leland | 4 95 |
| John P. Green, board.... | 216 00 |

\$1,482 79

PAYMENTS AT TOWN FARM.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Paid S. H. Balch, salary from January, 1901, to January, 1902.. | \$450 00 |
| Paid for groceries | 406 16 |
| Grain | 330 24 |
| Labor | 368 70 |
| Cows and bull | 191 00 |
| Meat | 156 63 |
| Coal | 137 23 |
| Butter | 63 18 |
| Horse power and saw | 48 00 |
| Lumber, hardware, freight, mason work, for Wilkinson house | 81 54 |
| Iron beds and bedding | 38 50 |
| Cutting 25 cords wood, 1901 | 25 00 |
| Cutting 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ cords wood, 1902 | 26 75 |
| Dry goods | 26 89 |
| Tobacco | 25 34 |
| Fish | 24 08 |
| Lumber | 25 20 |
| Car fares | 14 49 |
| Standing grass | 12 00 |
| Pasturing cows | 10 50 |
| Labor filling silo | 23 45 |
| Clothing for inmates | 21 16 |
| Manure | 15 00 |

Amount carried forward..... \$2,521 04

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$2,521 04 | |
| Radiator, pipe and valves.... | 18 33 | |
| Phosphate | 19 00 | |
| Blacksmith work | 12 68 | |
| Hardware | 8 36 | |
| Medical supplies | 17 40 | |
| J. R. Draper, M. D..... | 2 30 | |
| Cot chair for sick | 2 25 | |
| Wall paper | 1 52 | |
| Snow bills | 9 38 | |
| Express | 1 60 | |
| Freight | 2 17 | |
| Lowell Journal, two years.... | 3 00 | |
| Pigs | 6 00 | |
| Agate ware | 2 25 | |
| Harness work | 3 25 | |
| Repairing shoes for inmates.. | 2 60 | |
| Sundries | 4 36 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,637 49 |

PAYMENTS ON ACCOUNT OF OUTDOOR POOR.

| | | |
|---|---------|---------|
| Paid Mrs. B. Leland, on account of Mrs. William Suhovick..... | \$10 00 | |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of Mrs. William Suhovick..... | 41 00 | |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of William Suhovick | 5 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$56 00 |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of Mrs. Louisa Leland | \$36 40 | |
| J. A. Healy, wood, on account of Mrs. Louisa Leland | 1 25 | |
| H. J. Healy, groceries, on account of Mrs. Louisa Leland | 21 11 | |
| G. E. Mountain, groceries, on ac- count of Mrs. Louisa Leland | 65 | |
| Town Farm, potatoes, on account | | |
| Amount carried forward..... | <hr/> | \$59 41 |

| | | |
|--|---------|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$59 41 | |
| of Mrs. Louisa Leland..... | 4 95 | |
| Town Farm, wood, on account of Mrs. Louisa Leland..... | 31 30 | |
| Wright & Bemis, groceries, on account of Mrs. Louisa Leland | 29 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$124 66 |
| Hospital bills for Reed, Whitcomb, Lord and Quinn | | \$630 92 |
| M. Barteaux, on account of Mar- garet Bik | \$62 50 | |
| J. W. Godfrey, M. D., on account of Margaret Bik | 50 80 | |
| Ada L. Wright, on account of Mar- garet Bik | 90 85 | |
| Charles C. Wright, on account of Margaret Bik | 3 95 | |
| Conant & Co., on account of Mar- garet Bik | 13 79 | |
| Wright & Fletcher, on account of Margaret Bik | 1 05 | |
| | <hr/> | \$222 94 |
| Town of Groton, on account of T. A. Bean | \$7 60 | |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of T. A. Bean | 4 30 | |
| | <hr/> | \$11 90 |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of family of Amade Houle..... | \$33 00 | |
| H. J. Healy, groceries, on account of family of Amade Houle.... | 4 05 | |
| G. E. Mountain, groceries, on ac- count of family of Amade Houle | 6 21 | |
| Town Farm, wood, on account of family of Amade Houle..... | 2 50 | |
| J. A. Healy, burial of child of Amade Houle | 10 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$55 76 |

| | | |
|--|----------|------------|
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of Joseph Provost | | \$11 70 |
| W. J. Sleeper, M. D., on account of Frank Shaw | \$196 90 | |
| City of Lowell, on account of Frank Shaw | 51 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$247 90 |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of Charles Baker | | \$27 10 |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of Elbridge Reed | \$23 50 | |
| J. A. Healy, on account of Elbridge Reed | 3 00 | |
| Town Farm, on account of Elbridge Reed | 18 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$44 50 |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of Michael Roach | | 6 50 |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of John Hall | | 10 40 |
| S. L. Joslin, M. D., on account of Franklin R. Metcalf | | 4 00 |
| City of Lowell, on account of Margaret Casey | | 32 50 |
| Record books and blanks | | 11 10 |
| Car fare for Varnum Fletcher.... | | 45 |
| A. R. Choate, salary as Overseer of Poor | | 10 00 |
| C. R. Decatur, salary as Overseer of Poor | | 10 00 |
| C. R. Decatur, extra time and expense | | 2 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler, salary as Overseer of Poor | | 10 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler, extra time and expense | | 20 00 |
| L. W. Wheeler, making report to town | | 5 00 |
| | <hr/> | \$1,555 33 |

REIMBURSEMENTS ON ACCOUNT OF OUTDOOR
POOR.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Received from Thomas V. Quinn, on account of board of wife..... | | \$162 50 |
| Sale of old iron from Wilkinson place | | 15 |
| State, on account of F. Boucher.. | | 11 51 |
| State, on account of Suhovick fam- ily | | 56 00 |
| State, on account of Martine Bik.. | | 110 94 |
| State, on account of Elbridge Reed | | 24 50 |
| State, on account of Charles Baker | | 27 10 |
| N. J. Decatur, for wood on Leland lot | | 25 00 |
| City of Lowell, on account of Han- nah Sullivan | | 4 00 |
| City of Lowell, on account of Jane Dugdale | | 5 00 |
| C. R. Decatur, for wood on Leland lot | | 35 00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$471 70 |
| Payments on account of outdoor poor | \$1,555 33 | |
| Reimbursements | 471 70 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| Net expense of outdoor poor..... | | \$1,083 63 |

STATEMENT.

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| Cash received from Town Treasurer... | \$2,921 33 | |
| Cash in hands of Master of Almshouse, Feb. 1, 1901 | 6 75 | |
| Cash income of farm | 1,266 79 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4,410 87 |
| Expense of outdoor poor..... | \$1,555 33 | |
| Payments at farm | 2,637 49 | |
| Cash in hands of Master of Almshouse, Feb. 1, 1902 | 2 05 | |
| Cash in hands of Town Treasurer.... | 216 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$4,410 87 |

| | | |
|---|------------|------------|
| Cash in hands of Master of Almshouse, Feb. 1, 1901 | \$ 6 75 | |
| Cash drawn from Town Treasurer for farm.... | 1,366 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,372 75 |
| Cash in hands of Master of Almshouse, Feb. 1, 1902..... | | 2 05 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Net expense at farm..... | | \$1,370 70 |
| Net expense of outdoor poor | | 1,083 63 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total expense of poor..... | | \$2,454 33 |
| Cash received from Town Treasurer... | \$2,921 33 | |
| Reimbursements in hands of Town Treasurer | 471 70 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| Net draft from Town Treasurer..... | | \$2,449 63 |

PERSONS SUPPORTED AT TOWN FARM.

| | ADMITTED. | DISCHARGED. |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| John P. Green..... | Age..... 74..... | |
| Thomas Carney..... | " About 91..... | Jan. 31, 1877..... |
| Catherine O'Tool... .. | " " 102..... | Dec. 14, 1893..... |
| Margaret O'Brine... .. | " " 67..... | Dec. 14, 1893..... |
| Edward Holt..... | " 87..... | Jan. 8, 1894 |
| Joseph D. Wilkinson .. | " 83..... | Feb. 20, 1899..... |
| True A. Bean..... | " 79..... | April 26, 1901..... |
| Carraline A. Perham .. | " 78..... | Jan. 23, 1894..... |
| Varnum T. Fletcher .. | " 59..... | Mar. 28, 1901..... |
| Mary E. Coudry.... | " 43..... | Feb. 24, 1900..... |
| Elizabeth Lord..... | " 35..... | Jan. 29, 1902..... |
| Elbridge Reed..... | " | July 21, 1901.. Sept. 1, 1901. |

Whole number 12½; average 9¾.

Number of Tramps lodged and fed, 474.

The Overseers of the Poor wish to express their appreciation of the gift to the Town Farm from Mr. Abiel J. Abbot of a copy of Drake's History of Middlesex County.

L. W. WHEELER,
A. R. CHOATE,
C. R. DECATUR,
Overseers of the Poor.

SCHEDULE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY AT ALMS-
HOUSE, FEBRUARY 1, 1902.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----|------------|
| 1 two-horse sled | \$ | 25 00 |
| 1 two-horse dump cart..... | | 50 00 |
| 16½ tons English hay | | 293 00 |
| 8 tons stock hay | | 112 00 |
| 2½ tons meadow hay | | 20 00 |
| 1 bull | | 20 00 |
| 12 cows..... | | 535 00 |
| Ensilage | | 50 00 |
| 2 shoats | | 14 00 |
| 1 hay wagon | | 50 00 |
| 2 horses | | 105 00 |
| Ice | | 50 40 |
| 1 horse power and saw | | 65 00 |
| Balance in barn and outbuildings.. | | 490 79 |
| | | \$1,880 19 |

PERSONAL PROPERTY AT HOUSE.

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----|------------|
| 75 bushels potatoes | \$ | 63 75 |
| Vegetables and apples..... | | 4 00 |
| Vinegar, stock and barrels | | 45 00 |
| 30 pounds butter | | 9 00 |
| Pork | | 14 40 |
| Groceries | | 16 82 |
| 1½ barrels flour | | 5 25 |
| Balance personal property at house | | 901 06 |
| | | \$1,059 28 |
| | | \$2,939 47 |

WILLIAM L. WOODS,
HENRY J. MURPHY,
H. E. GOULD.

Appraisers of Personal Property at Town Farm. }

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Westford submits the following report :—

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| To cash on hand..... | \$ 3,022 29 |
| To cash borrowed..... | 10,000 00 |
| From State corporation tax, balance 1900..... | 23 40 |
| State corporation tax, 1901..... | 7,408 21 |
| State bank tax, 1901..... | 571 42 |
| Soldiers' families..... | 1,043 00 |
| Indigent soldiers..... | 42 50 |
| Income Massachusetts School Fund. | 638 08 |
| Armory rent..... | 175 00 |
| County Treasurer, dog licenses..... | 339 72 |
| Ai Bicknell, Janitor Town Hall..... | 119 50 |
| Burial of indigent soldiers..... | 35 00 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, tax 1896..... | 12 44 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, tax 1897..... | 44 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, tax 1898..... | 208 53 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax 1897 | 5 10 |
| W. C. Wright, Collector, interest on tax 1898 | 25 88 |
| A. L. Prior, Collector, tax 1899..... | 845 45 |
| A. L. Prior, Collector, tax 1900..... | 1,178 82 |
| A. L. Prior, Collector, interest on tax 1899 | 175 77 |
| A. L. Prior, Collector, interest on tax 1900.... | 42 06 |
| A. L. Prior, Collector, tax 1901, before Oct. 1.. | 15,394 40 |
| A. L. Prior, Collector, tax 1901, before Dec. 1.. | 899 68 |
| A. L. Prior, Collector, tax 1901, after Dec. 1.. | 1,909 67 |
| A. L. Prior, Collector, interest on tax 1901.... | 2 48 |
| Alvan Fisher, auctioneer's license..... | 2 00 |
| N. J. Decatur, wood on Leland lot..... | 25 00 |
| Thomas V. Quinn, board of wife..... | 162 50 |
| Clerk District Court, Ayer..... | 67 19 |
| County Treasurer, on account of roads..... | 500 00 |
| Amount carried forward..... | \$44,875 53 |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$41,875 53 |
| State Treasurer, on account of paupers..... | 240 05 |
| Westford Academy, on acct. of music teacher | 25 00 |
| State, on account superintendent of schools.. | 625 00 |
| Income Library Fund..... | 88 81 |
| Old iron, J. Wilkerson house..... | 15 |
| State Treasurer, on acct. inspection of animals | 39 00 |
| Florence H. Read, school supplies sold..... | 4 05 |
| J. H. O'Brien, rebate on manure..... | 75 |
| Joe Wall, auctioneer's license..... | 2 00 |
| F. A. Emerson, license No. 244..... | 8 00 |
| Alec Fisher, butcher's license..... | 1 00 |
| Geo. Drew, on account work..... | 3 34 |
| Town Andover, on account C. W. McLenna.. | 9 90 |
| Geo. T. Day, board John Green..... | 216 00 |
| State Treasurer, on account roads..... | 2,366 30 |
| City of Lowell, on account paupers..... | 9 00 |
| Bank of Redemption, difference on exchange of stock, Shoe and Leather Bank, Library (Stone Fund)..... | 50 00 |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, fees, sealer weights and measures..... | 17 68 |
| C. R. P. Decatur, wood on Leland lot..... | 35 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$48,616 56 |

PAYMENTS.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| By notes and interest..... | \$12,181 33 |
| State tax..... | 892 50 |
| County tax..... | 1,606 62 |
| Orders, incidental expenses..... | 21,832 77 |
| On account of schools..... | 6,837 39 |
| On tuition, Academy..... | 1,500 00 |
| On account of Library..... | 552 41 |
| Deposited Merrimack River Savings Bank (Stone Fund), Library..... | 50 00 |
| Cash on hand..... | 3,163 54 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$48,616 56 |

NAHUM H. WRIGHT,
Treasurer of Westford.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

The Chairman, Board of Selectmen, Westford, Mass.

Dear Sir:—I herewith respectfully submit to you a report of my examination of the several departments of the Town's accounts, for the year ending March 1st, 1902.

TAXES.

Uncollected to debit of Walter C. Wright, as per Treasurer's account.

| Year. | Balance due March 1, 1901. | Interest collected since March 1, 1901. | Totals. | Payments to credit of same since March 1, 1901, including abatements. | Balance due March 1, 1902. |
|-------|----------------------------|---|----------|---|----------------------------|
| 1896 | \$ 12 44 | ..... | \$ 12 44 | \$ 12 44 | ..... |
| 1897 | 39 39 | \$ 5 10 | 44 49 | 16 15 | \$ 28 34 |
| 1898 | 382 88 | 25 88 | 408 76 | 254 37 | 154 39 |

Total amount to collect to debit of Walter C. Wright. \$182 73

Uncollected to debit of A. L. Prior for years 1899 and 1900, as per collector's books.

| Year. | Balance due March 1, 1901. | Interest collected since March 1, 1901. | Totals. | Payments to credit of same since March 1, 1901, including abatements. | Balance due March 1, 1902. |
|-------|----------------------------|---|------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1899 | \$1,099 08 | \$98 37 | \$1,197 45 | \$1,093 55 | \$103 90 |
| 1900 | 2,173 98 | 37 96 | 2,211 94 | 1,334 24 | 877 70 |

TO DEBIT OF A. L. PRIOR, YEAR ENDING 1901.

To amount of tax levy as per Assessor's Warrant as follows :

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Real estate | \$15,168 89 |
| Personal property..... | 4,126 81 |
| Polls 684 at \$2.00..... | 1,368 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 20,663 70 |

Additions since, as per Assessor's notices..... 20 53

Past due interest on taxes collected after January 1, 1902..... 2 48

\$20,686 71

LESS CREDITS, AS FOLLOWS :

By net collections to Oct. 1,

1901 \$15,386 36

5 per cent. discount on assessed value of same, \$16,196.17.... 809 81

Collected on acct. without discount..... 8 04

\$16,204 21

Net collections for Oct. and Nov., 1901..... \$899 68

3 per cent. discount on assessed value of same, \$912.87 27 82

\$927 50

Collections from Dec. 1, 1901 to Feb. 16, 1902 \$1,909 67

Interest on taxes paid after Jan. 16, 1902.. 2 48

Abatements for year, as per Assessor's notices 108 44

\$2,020 59

\$19,152 30

Balance to collect to debit of collector Feb. 15, 1902..... 1,534 41

\$20,686 71

TOWN CLERK.

| | | |
|--|----------|----------|
| Dog licenses issued: | | |
| 156 males at \$2.00..... | \$312 00 | |
| 16 females at \$5.00..... | 80 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$392 00 |
| Less clerk's fee, 172 licenses at 20c. each | | 34 40 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Balance paid to County Treasurer and received for by him..... | | \$357 60 |

SELECTMEN.

Proper vouchers are on file for each and all of the 454 orders drawn by the Selectmen on the Treasurer during the year, amounting altogether to \$21,832.77.

MASTER OF ALMSHOUSE.

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| To balance cash on hand from previous year..... | \$ 6 75 | |
| Receipts from all sources for the year to Feb. 1, 1902..... | 2,632 79 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,639 54 |
| By expenditures for the year to Feb. 1, 1902 | \$2,637 49 | |
| Balance cash on hand..... | 2 05 | |
| | <hr/> | \$2,639 54 |

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

L. W. Wheeler, - - - Chairman.

| | |
|--|------------|
| To amount received from Town Treas- urer for the year to Feb. 1, 1902 | \$2,921 33 |
| By expenditures for the year to July 1, 1902 | 2,921 33 |

LIBRARY.

N. H. Wright, Treasurer.

| | |
|--|----------|
| To balance cash on hand March 1, 1901 | \$179 99 |
| Receipts from various sources during year | 578 53 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$758 52 |

| | | |
|---|-------------------|----------|
| By expenditures for the year to March 1, 1902..... | \$552 41 | |
| Balance cash on hand March 1, 1902 | 206 11 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$758 52 |

TREASURER.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| To balance cash on hand March 1, 1901 | \$ 3,022 29 | |
| Receipts from all sources during year | 45,594 27 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$48,616 56 |

| | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------|
| By total payments for the year ending March 1, 1902..... | \$45,453 02 | |
| Balance cash on hand March 1, 1902 | 3,163 54 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$48,616 56 |

STATEMENT OF CONDITION.

LIABILITIES.

| | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| Due State Treasurer on Library Loan of \$5,000 | \$ 2,500 00 | |
| 5 mos. interest on same at 4 per cent .. | 41 67 | |
| Due State Treasurer on loan for general expenses of the town..... | 11,000 00 | |
| 5 mos. interest on same at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.. | 146 67 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$13,688 34 |

ASSETS.

| | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------|
| Uncollected taxes, year 1897..... | \$ 28 34 | |
| Uncollected taxes, year 1898..... | 154 39 | |
| Uncollected taxes, year 1899..... | 103 90 | |
| Uncollected taxes, year 1900..... | 877 70 | |
| Uncollected taxes, year 1901..... | 1,534 41 | |
| Due from State Aid (soldier's families). | 966 00 | |
| Due from Military Aid..... | 30 00 | |
| Balance cash in hands of Master of Almshouse | 2 05 | |
| Balance cash in hands of Treasurer.... | 3,163 54 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$6,860 33 |
| Deficit on March 1, 1902..... | 6,828 01 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$13,688 34 |
| Deficit on March 1, 1901, | \$7,387.69. | |

I have during the year suggested to the Assessors the advisability of issuing to the Treasurer, at same time as to the Collector, a duplicate notice of abatement from or addition to the tax warrant, as a guard against error, as the later notices to the Treasurer do not always agree, and the Collector is thus apt to be given credit by the Treasurer for a larger or smaller amount than is his due, which may lead to later misunderstandings. I would therefore recommend that the Assessors send to the Treasurer a duplicate of their notice to the Collector, and at same time.

H. F. LEITH,
Auditor.

Library Report.

The Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library respectfully submit the following report for the year ending March 1, 1902:

The most important event in the recent history of the Library is the receipt of the Laws Library Fund, bequeathed by Mrs. Mary Ann Henarie, of San Francisco, California, daughter of the late William Laws, of Westford. The sum left to the Library by her will was \$1,000; but the amount received was reduced to \$849.35 by counsel fee, exchange and \$50 withheld, pending the settlement of a question concerning the collateral inheritance tax. It is the opinion of counsel that the bequest will be found exempt from this tax.

At a town meeting held August 14, 1901, the following resolutions, presented by the Trustees of the Library, were passed:

Whereas, Mrs. Mary Ann Henarie, of San Francisco, California, has bequeathed the sum of \$1,000 to the Selectmen of Westford, the income of which is to be expended for books for the J. V. Fletcher Library; therefore,

Resolved, that we, legal voters of Westford, in town meeting assembled, do highly appreciate the loyalty of Mrs. Henarie to the town which was her birthplace, and that we gratefully accept, in behalf of ourselves and our posterity, her munificent bequest.

Resolved, that the Town Clerk be instructed to forward copies of these resolutions, with the action of the town thereon, to George A. Hosley and Maude Norton, son and adopted daughter of Mrs. Henarie, and to William P. Humphreys, attorney for the town of Westford.

The Library has received by gift, during the past year, many books and pamphlets, a list of which, with names of donors, is appended to this report. The sixty-seven volumes of magazines, given by Mrs. Frank Calvert, in memory of her father, Levi Flint, are of substantial value, as they cover a period when issues of national importance were ably discussed in their columns.

For all of these additions and for the interest in the Library which prompted their bestowal, the Trustees return grateful acknowledgment in behalf of the town.

Four other gifts to the Library deserve special mention: a handsome and valuable old-fashioned clock, left to the Library by the will of the late Charles H. Prescott, of Harvard, the donor of the busts and statuary received in 1898; a fine oil painting by George R. Morse entitled, "Spot Pond of a Foggy Morning," given by Miss Caroline A. Leighton, of Cambridge, in memory of her father, Edwin Forrest Leighton; an excellent portrait of Daniel Webster, painted by Joseph G. Chandler, given by Mr. E. M. Raymond, of Charlestown, in memory of his grandfather; Asa Prescott, of Forge Village; and Rescigno's copy of the celebrated Lavinia Fontana's "La Donna Samaritana," given by Mr. Raymond, in memory of his grandmother, Sophia Prescott, wife of Asa. This oil painting, six feet by four and one-half in size, is of great beauty and intrinsic value. It represents the Saviour and the Samaritan woman at the well, and is by far the noblest work of art in our Library.

Lavinia Fontana (1542-1614) occupies a very high position among the old Italian painters. Our encyclopedias mention several of her works, and state that "some of her portraits might have been taken for those of Guido." We are unable, as yet, to find any information concerning Rescigno, who made the copy. The name indicates that he was an Italian; and we feel assured that all who see the painting will consider it a fine reproduction of an acknowledged masterpiece.

These rich decorations of our Library, commemorating the names of worthy members of families honorably prominent in our local history, justly entitle their donors to the grateful remembrance of our people.

The card catalogue, for which money was appropriated last year, has proved to be an undertaking of some perplexity and of great labor. Had expert cataloguers been employed at the usual price of \$20 per week the appropriation of \$350 would have been much too small. The case of drawers and the 31,000 cards required cost \$103.69, leaving only \$246.31 for classifying the books and doing the clerical work. The card catalogue will be completed, however, without exceeding the amount appro-

priated. The old classification is entirely inadequate for a Library of this size. Each class now contains so many books, varying so widely in subject, that the old class divisions have become of little practical value. The class in History, for example, consists of 1,000 volumes, which were placed on the shelves as they came in, without sub-division. The result was that a history of Groton was placed between one of the Navy and one of Mankind, while another volume on the Navy would be 100 numbers away from the first. There are now almost as many books on some special subjects as were originally contained in a class. When the last catalogue was made some very small classes were included under one head, as Poetry, Science, Philosophy, etc. With the growth of the Library these have become large enough to form separate classes. The catalogue which is now being made consists of series of cards arranged alphabetically upon rods fastened into drawers. As each card contains the title or author of only one book, it is easy, as new books are added, to insert new cards in their proper alphabetical order; so that there will always be ready for consultation a complete author and title list of all the books in the Library.

Dewey's Decimal Classification has been adopted as the simplest method that would prove satisfactory. It is used in nearly all the libraries throughout the country. The call-numbers it employs are short, simple and not easily confused. Except in Fiction, where all books by the same author are placed together, the books are shelved by subject. Spaces for additional books are provided for by a special arrangement of figures, so that new books can be placed upon the same shelf with others of similar character.

The books, except those for Young Readers, which are catalogued separately, have been divided into ten classes, designated as follows: 0, General Works; 1, Philosophy; 2, Religion; 3, Sociology; 4, Philology; 5, Science; 6, Useful Arts; 7, Fine Arts; 8, Literature; 9, History.

Each class is sub-divided into ten parts. For example, in History, Class 9, 910 denotes Travels; 920, Biography; 930, Ancient History; 940, Europe; 950, Asia; 960, Africa; 970, North America, etc. Then 940, European History, is sub-divided into

the histories of the different nations or countries of Europe; as 941, Scotland; 942, England; 943, Germany, etc. All the classes are sub-divided in this manner; but all the divisions are not used if classes are small or as yet incomplete.

It is not necessary, however, to know the class numbers, or to understand the decimal system in order to find the books one wants, as titles and authors will be arranged alphabetically in both the cards and the printed catalogue. The numbering simply makes it possible to keep books of one subject together, and furnishes convenient class headings.

These divisions will be a great aid to reference work for the schools. As all classes of the same grade are studying the same subject, each month the teachers want every book in the Library upon that one subject. Under the new arrangement, this can be much more readily accomplished.

Children's books are classified in a similar way, so that they can easily obtain books illustrating the work they are doing in history and other studies. If a person is studying a special subject, it will be easy to select the most useful books upon it from the few on the proper shelf; heretofore the search has had to be made through the thousand or more titles of books in the same general class. The purpose of our classification and cataloguing is to arrange the books of our Library in the manner of an encyclopedia, an undertaking which has required careful, painstaking work.

The work has been very much increased by keeping the Library open during the year, as each returning book has been examined before being placed upon the shelves to see if it had been already catalogued.

The card catalogue for three-fourths of the books is now completed. Certain classes have been re-arranged, and renumbered, and are ready for circulation.

As all book numbers have been changed, the old catalogue can no longer be used; and it is necessary to consult the card catalogue at the Library until a new one has been printed.

For this reason, no books can be sent to Graniteville, Forge Village and Brookside for a short time; but they can be obtained at the Library.

Convenience and economy require that the new catalogue be printed in separate sections. The printer's copy for the classes of Fiction and Works for Young Readers will soon be prepared.

For the convenience of those who wish to select books at their homes, the catalogue should be issued without delay. A plain but compact style of printing has been decided upon, and proposals for doing the work have been solicited from Lowell, Boston, and Salem firms. According to the best estimate we can make of the number of pages, the cost of 750 catalogues of the Library, at the lowest bid we have received, will be about \$300; a large sum, but we are unable to find any way of reducing it.

We recommend that the sum of \$150 be raised and appropriated for the purchase of books and periodicals during the ensuing year; that the sum of \$300 be raised and appropriated for preparing printer's copy and printing the new catalogue; and that the Trustees be authorized, if the expense of making the catalogue exceeds \$300, to defray the additional expense out of the money received for dog licenses in 1903, the remainder to be expended, as heretofore, for books.

WILLIAM E. FROST, Chairman,

CATHARINE A. KEBLER, Secretary,

Trustees of the J. V. Fletcher Library.

Financial Statement.

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|----------|
| Balance on hand | \$179 99 |
| Appropriation | 150 00 |
| Shoe and Leather Bank, dividends | 12 00 |
| Bigelow Carpet Co., dividends | 35 00 |
| City Institution Savings Bank, dividends..... | 40 00 |
| Merrimack River Savings Bank, dividend..... | 1 81 |
| Dog licenses | 339 72 |
| | \$758 52 |

EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|--|----------|
| F. J. Barnard & Co., binding books..... | \$ 96 15 |
| H. D. Noyes & Co., periodicals | 49 60 |
| Willard Small, books | 337 36 |
| Library Art Club | 5 00 |
| D. Appleton & Co., cyclopedia | 5 00 |
| C. A. Nichols & Co., books | 5 00 |
| Milwaukee Public Library, catalogue..... | 3 50 |
| Salem Public Library, catalogue..... | 1 00 |
| Thomas H. Lawler, ledger, etc..... | 3 61 |
| A. M. Lambert, book | 2 00 |
| F. L. Hildreth, book | 1 00 |
| American Book Co., dictionaries, etc..... | 8 33 |
| F. A. Frost & Co., printing 250 letter heads and envelopes | 2 25 |
| F. A. Frost & Co., 1,000 labels..... | 3 00 |
| F. A. Frost & Co., 150 fine notices..... | 1 75 |
| W. E. Frost, cash paid for 20,000 printer's slips.... | 5 25 |
| Balch, Butler & Co., and others, subscription books | 22 61 |
| | \$552 41 |
| Balance | \$206 11 |

REPORT OF LIBRARIAN.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Number of books purchased..... | 311 |
| Number of books presented..... | 38 |
| Public documents received from the State..... | 29 |
| Public documents received from the United States | 39 |
| Magazines bound..... | 45 |
| Whole number added during year..... | 462 |
| Whole number of books in the Library..... | 11,474 |
| Number of books lost..... | 2 |
| Number of books discarded..... | 42 |
| Number of books bought to replace worn-out copies | 3 |
| Number of books loaned..... | 13,400 |
| Number of pamphlets added..... | 148 |
| Cash on hand from last year..... | \$3 79 |
| Fines..... | 5 40 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$9 19 |
| Paid for supplies..... | 6 54 |
| | <hr/> |
| Balance..... | \$2 65 |

GIFTS IN 1901.

- J. Henry Fletcher, Belmont, picture.
 E. M. Raymond, Charlestown, two paintings.
 Miss C. A. Leighton, Cambridge, painting.
 J. M. Fletcher, two volumes.
 Mrs. Joseph R. Draper, one volume.
 Solon W. Stevens, Lowell, one volume.
 Mrs. E. S. Abbot, eleven volumes.
 T. W. Balch, Philadelphia, one volume.
 D. C. Heath & Co., one volume.
 Marshall Field, Chicago, two volumes.
 Barnard Memorial, Boston, one volume.
 David Farquhar, one volume.
 Mrs. William H. Haile, Springfield, one volume.
 Mrs. Frank Calvert, sixteen volumes Harper's Magazine,
 bound; fifty-one volumes of magazines, unbound.
 Mrs. G. W. Heywood, seven volumes of magazines,
 unbound.

Miss E. F. Fletcher, two volumes of magazines, unbound.

Mrs. G. T. Day, thirty-one pamphlets.

H. B. Read, one pamphlet.

Mrs. A. J. Abbot, eight pamphlets.

Miss Emma Gay, North Chelmsford, one pamphlet.

Mrs. Joseph R. Draper, nine pamphlets

Mrs. E. S. Abbot, fifteen pamphlets.

J. M. Fletcher, three pamphlets.

Miss E. F. Fletcher, five pamphlets.

William Doogue, Boston, one pamphlet.

Miss C. E. Read, collection of programmes.

Miss F. H. Read, collection of programmes.

Magazines given: Land of Sunshine, Paradise of the Pacific.

Magazines constantly on file in Reading Room—Harper's, Century, Scribner's, Forum, North American Review, Atlantic, Bookman, Popular Science Monthly, Cosmopolitan, Review of Reviews, Littell's Living Age, McClure, St. Nicholas, Munsey, New England, Birds and Nature, Harper's Weekly, and Leslie's Weekly.

Exhibits from the Library Art Club—Rome, exhibit No. 2, Raphael in the Vatican; Oxford; Colored Japanese Photographs; Rome, exhibit No. 1, Castle St. Angelo, etc.; Grosvenor House Collection; Nuremberg; Venice, No. 4.

Report of Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

The following is respectfully submitted:

The increase in the amount of Trust Funds shows continued interest in the perpetual care of burial lots, three lots being provided for the past year, and others will soon be placed under such care.

The work done the past year can be seen by visitors to the several cemeteries. The Commissioners feel that the new gates purchased for the West Cemetery add much to the general improvement of the grounds. Those persons interested in the North and West Cemeteries who would like a change in the names of such cemeteries are requested to send in a list of such names as would be appropriate and desirable.

The S. A. R. markers, purchased by the town last year, have been placed at the graves of the following Revolutionary soldiers, all being at Concord, April 19, 1775, the first three in Captain Minot's Company, and the last two in Captain Underwood's Company:

Buried at Fairview—First Lieutenant Zaccheus Wright, who was also Captain of Company 8, Sixth Middlesex Regiment, and Captain at battle of White Plains; Sergeant William Hildreth; Corporal Hosea Hildreth; Sergeant-Major John Parker, who was also at Bunker Hill in Captain Joshua Parker's Company.

At North Cemetery—Sergeant John Wright.

Of the men from Westford at "Concord fight," the graves of one Lieutenant Colonel, two Captains, three First Lieutenants, one Second Lieutenant, five Sergeants, two Corporals, one Drummer and sixteen privates are now marked. Of this number, eight were at Bunker Hill, and four at White Plains. Of the remaining graves marked, three of the men were at Bunker Hill, one at White Plains, eleven in miscellaneous service, and nine in the War of 1812.

The Commissioners would recommend that the town raise and appropriate the sum of \$200 for the coming year, the same to be expended for the care and improvement of the various cemeteries.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Amount Received For Care of Lots.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Mrs. J. W. Abbot, Fairview, care of tomb..... | \$10 00 |
| Miss Lucy M. B. Abbot, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. John Baker, 330, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. W. F. Balch, 109, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edmund Barton, 40 and 41, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Agnes Beebe, 234, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Joseph Bennett, 61, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Al Bicknell, two lots, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Edson G. Boynton, 333, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Augustus Bunce, 11 and 12, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| William Burnett, 37, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Sally B. Burrill fund, Fairview..... | 3 52 |
| Mrs. S. A. Butterfield, 334, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. J. T. Butterworth, 236, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Francis Caldwell fund, Fairview.... | 88 |
| Mrs. Frank Calvert, 26, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John Carmichael, 68, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John B. Carmichael, 345, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Clara P. Carkin, 145 and 338, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Warren E. Carkin, 232, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Mrs. Alice Carrick, 328, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| William R. Carver, 106 and 107, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| C. A. Chamberlin, 53, W. D.. and one in Fairview | 3 00 |
| P. G. Collins, 35, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Annie L. Coolidge, 65, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edward Craven, 63, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. E. B. Currier, 266, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Horace M. Caunter, 226, E. D... .. | 1 00 |
| Mrs. John Caunter, 21 and 22, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Alice L. Davis, 10, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary A. Davis, 364, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Jonathan Davis, Fairview | 1 00 |
| Income from C. S. Dodge fund, 165 and 166, E. D | 1 75 |
| J. C. Decatur, 268, E. D..... | 1 00 |

Amount carried forward.....

\$59 15

| | |
|--|--------|
| Amount brought forward..... | 59 15 |
| Burt W. Decatur, 64, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. E. Drew, 43, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. A. E. Dupee, 144, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Rachel Dupee, Fairview | 1 00 |
| Mrs. W. P. Edwards, 66, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Alonzo B. Falls, 62, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. A. M. Felch, 257, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Emily A. Fletcher, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| F. L. Fletcher, 83, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Julia A. Fletcher, 69, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John M. Fletcher, 76, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. W. Fletcher, 154, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Lucy J. Fletcher, 92, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. B. Foote, 22 and 23, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| William E. Frost, 17, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Louisa Garbett, 55, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| August Gardel, 368, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| George Q. Gilson | 1 00 |
| L. S. Gilson, 60 and 75, W. D., 320, E. D..... | 3 00 |
| William Gower, 42, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. S. E. Green, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| John Greig, 14, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from J. B. Griffin fund, Fairview..... | 5 67 |
| Mrs. Abby Hamlin, 366, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| George P. Hamlin, 111, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from C. and C. A. Hamlin fund, 56 and 57, E. D. | 3 79 |
| George E. Harris, 27, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| W. O. Hawkes, 112, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from M. Hennessey fund, 239, E. D..... | 1 89 |
| Miss C. E. Hewitt, 116, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Ellen Hildreth, 87, W. D., and one in Fair- view | 2 00 |
| Mrs. Frank C. Hildreth, Fairview | 5 00 |
| Miss Helen C. Hildreth, 115, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| H. V. Hildreth, 42 and 43, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| Amount carried forward..... | 114 50 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$114 50 |
| Frank Hindle, 336, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| E. H. Holt, 39, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. G. F. Horne, 16, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Samuel Horne fund..... | 2 82 |
| Francis Hosmer, 325, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| S. G. Humiston, 136 and 142, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| G. W. Hunt, 341, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edmund J. Hunt, 367, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary A. Hunt, 53, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss A. L. Johnson, 60, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Andrew Johnson, 158, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Miss R. E. Luce, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. J. H. Laws, 114, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| George A. Leland, 247, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| George F. Millis, 57, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| George C. Moore, 343, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Miss Laura E. Mace, 30, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| F. Morton, 331, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary F. Morse, 58, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| James L. Moss, 242 and 243, E. D..... | 12 00 |
| Frank E. Miller, 36, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from E. D. Metcalf fund..... | 1 50 |
| J. M. Osgood, 6, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Lewis P. Palmer, 31 and 32, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| Mrs. H. S. Parker, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| Parker & Buxton, 365, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from J. M. Parker fund..... | 1 74 |
| William Petherick, 339, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Sarah Precious, 47, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Edward Prescott, 25, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Frances A. Prescott, 167 and 168, E. D., and one in Fairview | 3 00 |
| Income from Nathan P. Prescott fund, 347, E. D.. | 1 13 |
| William Prinn, 67, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Mary A. Putnam fund, North Ceme- tery | 3 86 |
| Amount carried forward..... | \$174 55 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$174 55 |
| Carrie E. Read, Fairview..... | 1 00 |
| George G. Reed, 70, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Sarah S. Reed fund, West Cemetery | 3 79 |
| Mrs. Anna Richardson, 74, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| M. T. Richardson, Fairview | 1 00 |
| Miss Sarah Richardson, two lots in Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Income from Sarah E. Richardson fund..... | 1 89 |
| Mrs. F. K. Ripley, 2, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Nancy Sargent, 59, W, D..... | 1 00 |
| William Saville, Fairview | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Charles J. Searles, 66, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. George Scrutton, 375, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. David H. Shattuck, 322, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Miss M. Shaw, 355, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Miss Clara A. Smith, 95, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| J. F. Spaulding, 346, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Richard Stancomb, 340, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| James Stewart, 138, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| F. O. Stiles, 41, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Thomas Symmes, two lots in Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| Albert Taylor, 258, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| S. L. Taylor, 101, W. D., 222, E. D., and one in Fairview | 3 00 |
| Mrs. S. H. Trumbull, Fairview | 1 00 |
| J. A. Walkden, 15, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| William Welch, 18, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from Sarah E. P. Wells fund, West Cemetery | 3 01 |
| Isaac G. Wheeler, 105, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Mary J. Wheeler, 77, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| C. E. Whidden, Whiting lot, Fairview..... | 2 00 |
| William Whigham, 54, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. E. J. Whitney, 28 and 29, E. D..... | 2 00 |
| George H. Whitney, 159, E. D..... | 5 00 |
| Mrs. Hiram Whitney, 100, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. Wm. M. Whitney, 21, W. D., and one in Fair- view | 2 00 |
| Amount carried forward..... | \$229 24 |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Amount brought forward..... | \$229 24 |
| Income from C. M. Wiley fund, Fairview..... | 3 52 |
| Income from Luther Wilkins fund, 88, W. D..... | 2 64 |
| Samuel Willis, 20, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| William T. Willis, 19, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| John Wilson, 146, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Myron J. Woods, 155, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| William L. Woods, 148, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| A. A. Wright, 34, W. D..... | 1 00 |
| Mrs. F. C. Wright, 59, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Gilman J. Wright, 28 and 29, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| G. P. Wright, 25, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| N. H. Wright, 46 and 47, W. D..... | 2 00 |
| W. M. Wright, 24, E. D..... | 1 00 |
| Income from V. B. Wright fund | 94 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$249 34 |

EXPENSES.

| | |
|--|----------|
| Fairview: | |
| Paid A. P. Richardson and others, for labor | \$260 50 |
| Paid for 500 lbs. top dressing..... | 9 50 |
| 1½ tons top dressing | 52 50 |
| Lawn mower | 3 00 |
| Grass cutter | 50 |
| Grass seed | 1 71 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$327 71 |
| North Cemetery: | |
| Paid B. F. Nutting for labor..... | \$10 00 |
| W. H. H. Burbeck, for labor.... | 2 50 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$12 50 |
| West Cemetery: | |
| Paid for iron gates for entrances..... | \$51 18 |
| One-half ton top dressing | 17 50 |
| Paint stock | 1 70 |
| M. F. Hutchins, care of cemetery.. | 8 00 |
| M. F. Hutchins, for labor..... | 1 75 |
| J. T. Colburn, for labor..... | 7 00 |
| A. J. Angel, for labor..... | 6 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$93 13 |

General expense:

| | | |
|--|----------|-----------------|
| Postage stamps for notices..... | \$5 00 | |
| Oil, etc | 75 | |
| | | <u>\$5 75</u> |
| | | <u>\$439 09</u> |
| Amount appropriated by the town..... | \$200 00 | |
| Unexpended balance in the town treasury, 1900... | 62 22 | |
| Amount received for care of lots | 249 34 | |
| | | <u>\$511 56</u> |
| Amount expended | 439 09 | |
| | | <u>\$72 47</u> |
| Balance in hands of Town Treasurer | | \$72 47 |

TRUST FUNDS HELD FOR CARE OF BURIAL LOTS.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Sally B. Burrill fund..... | \$100 00 |
| Mary A. Putnam fund..... | 100 00 |
| Samuel Horne fund | 50 00 |
| Clara M. Wiley fund | 100 00 |
| Joseph B. Griffin fund..... | 100 00 |
| Edwin D. Metcalf fund..... | 50 00 |
| Sarah S. Reed fund..... | 100 00 |
| C. and C. A. Hamlin fund..... | 100 00 |
| Varnum B. Wright fund..... | 25 00 |
| M. Hennessey fund | 50 00 |
| Sarah E. Richardson fund | 50 00 |
| James M. Parker fund | 50 00 |
| Sarah E. P. Wells fund | 100 00 |
| Luther Wilkins fund | 75 00 |
| Nathan P. Prescott fund | 50 00 |
| Charles S. Dodge fund | 100 00 |
| Francis Caldwell fund | 50 00 |
| | <u>\$1,250 00</u> |

GEORGE W. HEYWOOD, Chairman,
MELBOURNE F. HUTCHINS,
GEORGE T. DAY, Secretary,
Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

MIDDLESEX SS.

To either Constable of the Town of Westford, in said County,

GREETING :

You are hereby required, in the name of the Commonwealth aforesaid, to notify and warn all the inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote in elections, and also in Town affairs, to meet at the Town House, in said Westford, on Monday, the seventeenth day of March, being the third Monday in said month, at eight o'clock A. M. The polls will be opened at 8.15 o'clock A. M., and may be closed at 1 o'clock P. M.; and they are then and there to act upon the following articles, to wit :

- 1st. To choose a Moderator.
- 2d. To bring in their votes for Town Clerk, for one year; one Selectman, one Overseer of Poor, one Assessor, two School Committee, one Commissioner of Public Burial Grounds, all for three years; two Trustees of the Public Library, one for one year and one for three years; Town Treasurer, Collector of Taxes, two Constables and one Auditor, all for one year; also to vote on the following question: "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?" all on one ballot.
- 3d. To hear the report of the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.
- 4th. To hear the report of the Selectmen on Guide Boards, and act in relation to the same.
- 5th. To hear the report of the Overseers of the Poor, and act in relation to the same.
- 6th. To hear the report of the School Committee, and act in relation to the same.
- 7th. To hear the report of the Trustees of the Public Library, and act in relation to the same.
- 8th. To hear the report of the Commissioners of Public Burial Grounds, and act in relation to the same.

- 9th. To see if the Town will accept the report of the Auditor chosen to audit the accounts of the Town Officers, and act in relation to the same.
- 10th. To see if the Town will accept the List of Jurors as reported by the Selectmen, and act in relation to the same.
- 11th. To see if the Town will determine the compensation of the Tax Collector, and act in relation to the same.
- 12th. To raise and appropriate money to repair Roads and Bridges.
- 13th. To raise and appropriate money for Town Debts and Charges.
- 14th. To raise and appropriate money for Public Schools.
- 15th. To raise and appropriate money to pay tuition of High School scholars, residents of the Town, at Westford Academy.
- 16th. To raise and appropriate money for support of Poor.
- 17th. To raise and appropriate money for School Text Books and Supplies.
- 18th. To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, under the written direction of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time to meet the demands on the treasury, and act in relation to the same.
- 19th. To determine the manner of collecting taxes for the ensuing year, also the rate of interest on taxes remaining unpaid at a time to be fixed by vote of the Town, and when and how said taxes shall be paid into the treasury, and act in relation to the same.
- 20th. To choose all other Town Officers necessary to be chosen by hand vote, and act in relation to the same.
- 21st. By request of the Veteran Association, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Fifty Dollars (\$50) to commemorate Memorial Day, and act in relation to the same.
- 22d. By request of the citizens of Graniteville, Forge Village and Brookside, to see if the Town will appropriate the sum of Seventy-Five Dollars (\$75) for the purpose of distributing books from the Public Library in these three villages, and act in relation to the same.

- 23d. To see what action the Town will take in the suit of Henry O. Keyes for injury to horse on the highway on August 16, 1899, and act in relation to the same.
- 24th. To see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to act as its agents in any suit or suits that may arise during the current year; also in such other matters which may arise, requiring in their judgment the action of such agent, and act in relation to the same.
- 25th. To see if the Town will vote to instruct the Selectmen to give official names to the streets in the several villages and to all roads leading to adjoining towns, and report the names and localities in the next Town Report, to be accepted or revised at the next annual meeting, and act in relation to the same.
- 26th. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to paint the Town House and fence around the Town House lot, and act in relation to the same.
- 27th. By request of the School Committee, to see if the Town will vote to appropriate One Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$125) to paint the Forge Village School House, and act in relation to the same.
- 28th. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 335, Chapter 11, of the Revised Laws, in regard to choosing the Town Clerk for a term of three years, and act in relation to the same.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up true and attested copies at the Town House and each Depot in said Westford, eight days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of holding the meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands and seals, this first day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and two.

SHERMAN H. FLETCHER,
 GEORGE W. HEYWOOD,
 WESLEY O. HAWKES,

A True Copy. Attest: Selectmen of Westford.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF WESTFORD, MASS.,

FOR THE

SCHOOL YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1902.



LOWELL, MASS.:
COURIER-CITIZEN CO., PRINTERS.

1902.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE 1901-1902.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| A. R. CHOATE, Chairman | . . . | Term Expires | 1904. |
| H. M. SEAVEY, Secretary | . . . | " " | 1903. |
| JOHN C. ABBOT | . . . | " " | 1904. |
| GEO. H. HARTFORD | . . . | " " | 1903. |
| FRANK H. HILDRETH | . . . | " " | 1902. |
| ELBERT H. FLAGG | . . . | " " | 1902. |

Superintendent of Schools,
H. E. RICHARDSON, Residence, Littleton Depot.

Report of the School Committee.

To the Citizens of Westford:—

Your committee respectfully submit to you this report, together with that of the Superintendent of Schools.

We believe that good work has been accomplished in the schools, through our competent Superintendent and able corps of teachers, and that the cause of education has been advanced.

In September last a ninth grade was established, thus better fitting the pupils for entering the Academy, or rounding out the education of those who are not able to continue in school work.

Drawing and water colors have been introduced into the schools, which add to the interest and help to cultivate the artistic nature of the child. We believe that art and music tend to develop the moral character, which should be one of the functions of the school.

It is surprising as well as interesting to note with what correctness and rapidity even the younger pupils read music at sight, under the able instruction of our Supervisor of Music, and as carried out by the teachers. Their individual singing, minus all traces of embarrassment, seems to be as natural as reading from the reading book.

The Superintendent's report will cover the educational part more in detail.

As to the school buildings, the committee would report that they are in good condition at the present time, with the exception of a little paint and a few minor repairs.

The Forge Village Schoolhouse has been raised and a cellar with a cemented bottom built, in which a large new furnace has been placed. The old chimney was taken down and a three-flue chimney built in its place, to give means for ventilation. The outbuilding has been set back from the schoolhouse over a new stone and cement vault. The committee found much more to be done than they had at first anticipated, as they also took into consideration the liability of having to enlarge the building at some future time.

New furnaces have been placed in the Graniteville School-house, the old ones being insufficient for heating the building, besides being a continuous expense, amounting to forty or fifty dollars per year for repairs. The new ones have proven entirely satisfactory.

It will be necessary to provide some accommodation for the eighth and ninth grades before another school year, as the seating capacity of the room which the Trustees have so kindly allowed us the use of will be inadequate. We hope the day is not far distant when our town will have a more commodious building at the Centre to provide for the higher grades.

A. R. CHOATE,
J. C. ABBOT,
G. H. HARTFORD,
F. H. HILDRETH,
E. H. FLAGG,
H. M. SEAVEY,
School Committee.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

INCOME.

| | | |
|--|-------------------|------------|
| Balance unexpended from 1900..... | \$ 55 85 | |
| Appropriation..... | 6,000 00 | |
| From State on account of Superintendent of Schools..... | 250 00 | |
| Income Massachusetts School Fund... | 638 08 | |
| From Westford Academy for services of music teacher..... | 25 00 | |
| Tuition of scholars at Westford Academy..... | 1,500 00 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$8,468 93 |

EXPENDED.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Teachers | \$5,225 41 | |
| Fuel. | 581 93 | |
| Janitor service and cleaning..... | 521 55 | |
| Transporting scholars..... | 508 50 | |
| Tuition scholars Westford Academy ... | 1,500 00 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$8,337 39 |
| Balance unexpended..... | | <u> </u> \$131 54 |

TEXT BOOKS AND SUPPLIES FURNISHED SCHOOLS.

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Appropriation | \$600 00 |
| Amount expended..... | 559 93 |
| | <u> </u> |
| Balance | \$40 07 |

EXPENSE OF SUPERVISION.

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Salary paid by Town..... | \$780 00 |
| Rebate from State..... | 625 00 |
| | <u> </u> |
| Net cost to Town..... | \$155 00 |

APPROPRIATIONS RECOMMENDED.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Schools..... | \$6,000 00 | |
| Tuition scholars at Westford Academy. | 1,500 00 | |
| Text books and school supplies..... | 700 00 | |
| | <u> </u> | \$8,200 00 |

Superintendent's Report.

To the Westford School Committee.

Gentlemen:—My second annual report as Superintendent of Schools is herewith respectfully submitted.

The year has passed without large or striking incidents, but it has been a twelvemonth of earnest effort on the part of teachers and school officials to hold to the results of the past and to acquire something more. I most gladly acknowledge the hearty co-operation of teachers and the school committee in this endeavor and for the success obtained.

In June nearly one-half of our corps of teachers resigned, but it is with pleasure that I commend the general earnestness and efficiency of the present corps. Schools are what they are because teachers are what they are—devoted, hard-working, qualified, for “As is the teacher so is the school.” Unfortunately, owing to the attractions of higher salaries elsewhere, we frequently lose teachers just when their services have become most valuable to us.

Two facts enter into oft-repeated experiences : first, frequent resignations, or refusals to return because higher salaries are offered elsewhere ; second, our disadvantage in the search for desirable teachers because the salaries are low. No one can blame teachers for wanting to better themselves, but these stubborn facts make the task of maintaining a high standard by no means easy. You, gentlemen of the committee, I am glad to know, appreciate these difficulties, and is it not possible to lessen to a degree the inducements for such frequent changes?

It is a source of gratification to know of the high standing of our Academy graduates who entered college and normal school during the past year. Report comes to us that they are well equipped for their work and are taking honors. This indicates that our young people possess the ability and have the requisite preparation to enable them to successfully compete with the best in higher institutions of learning.

The high standard reached last year in the eighth grade has been maintained, and we are glad to report the successful formation of a ninth grade, which has materially improved our school organization. In September the majority of the eighth grade pupils were advanced to the Academy, because of lack of seating capacity of the grammar room, so that marked results from the formation of an additional grade cannot be expected at least for another year.

The discipline and general character of the work in the Centre schools are much improved and deserve commendation.

The unsettled state of affairs at Nabnasset has been corrected and good progress is now being made.

It is gratifying to report the excellent management of the Forge Village schools. The large number of children in the primary school, with three grades, makes it in many ways the most difficult position in town, and one that none but a particularly strong teacher can fill acceptably. Miss Phillips, the present teacher, is fully meeting all the requirements.

The Graniteville schools are in good condition and second to none in town. In November, at the close of the fall term, Mr. Burr J. Merriam, Principal of the grammar school, resigned to accept a better position in New Hampshire, and Mr. F. H. Saunders, of Rhode Island, was elected temporarily to fill the vacancy.

Hoping that parents and patrons will come into closer sympathy with our schools by knowing some things now engaging much attention, the following paragraphs are written,

Reading.—In all our school work I believe that reading is of greatest importance. By reading is meant not only the ability to read but the formation of a right habit in reading and a desire to read good books. To secure the desired results in this direction a large supply of reading material is necessary. Years ago one book for each pupil was thought sufficient, but now every pupil reads several books in each grade, and many books are selections from the best English classics and all have more or less literary merit.

We have during the past two years added quite largely to our reading list in all grades.

In this way pupils not only read a large amount of the best literature in school, thereby forming a taste for good reading,

which in the higher grades is supplemented by similar books taken from the public library, but are acquiring a valuable habit which will be of no small benefit all through life. The appreciation of good literature is showing itself even among the younger pupils.

Believing that "The best is none too good for the children," the following are in use in carrying out the course.

Grade I.—Cooke's "Nature Myths," Grimm's "Fairy Tales," "Hiawatha Primer," Kingsley's "Greek Heroes," Stickney's "Fairy Tales," Scudder's "Folk Stories and Fables," Andersen's "Fairy Tales," "Aesop's Fables," "Stepping Stones to Literature," No. 1, Cyr's Primer, Cyr's First Reader.

Grade II.—"Seven Little Sisters," Andrews, "Story of Lincoln," "Story of the Pilgrims," "Story of Washington," "Little Folks of Other Lands," "Story of Ulysses," Baldwin's "Fairy Stories and Fables," "In Mythland," "Story of Robert Fulton," Cyr's Second Reader, Riverside Primer, "Stories for Children," Eclectic Readers, Cooke's "Nature Myths," "Aesop's Fables."

Grade III.—"Robinson Crusoe," "Sories Mother Nature Told Her Children," "Each and All," "Seven Little Sisters," Andrews, "Stories of Marquette and Joliet," "Story of La Salle," "Story of Lincoln," "Around the World," Book I, "Andersen's Stories," "Stepping Stones to Literature," Vol. 2, Longfellow's "Challenge of Thor," "The Daffodils," Wordsworth, "Story of the Amber Beads."

Grade IV.—"Ten Boys," Andrews, "Stories from the Iliad," "Legends of Norseland," Pratt, "Stories of Norse Mythology," "Independence Bell," "Yorktown," Whittier, "Song of Marion's Men," Bryant, "Nathan Hale," Finch, "Feats on the Fiord," Martineau, "Horatius," "Stories from the Odyssey."

Grade V.—"American Indians," Starr, "American History Stories," Pratt, Eggleston's "First Book in American History," Hawthorne's "Wonder Book," "Story of Roland," Longfellow's "Hiawatha," Selections from "Miles Standish," Selections from "Lady of the Lake," "Ivanhoe," Longfellow's "Skeleton in Armor," "Sir Galahad," "The Children's Crusade," Longfellow, "Tales of Chivalry."

Grade VI.—“Stories of American History,” “Twice Told Tales,” “Knickerbocker’s History of New York,” “Grandfather’s Chair,” “Story of Siegfried,” “Hiawatha,” “Miles Standish,” “Landing of the Pilgrims,” “The North Seas,” “Pizarro,” “Cortes and Montezuma,” “Sleepy Hollow,” “Rip Van Winkle.”

Grade VII.—“Evangeline,” “The War of Independence,” Fiske, Cooper’s “Pilot,” Cooper’s “Spy,” Thackery’s “Virginians,” “The Green Mountain Boys,” “Paul Revere’s Ride,” “The Death of the Old Year,” Tennyson, Longfellow’s “Elizabeth,” Tennyson’s “The Revenge,” “Tales of the White Hills,” Burke’s “Conciliation with the Colonies.”

Grade VIII.—Lowell’s “Garrison and Wendell Phillips,” Lowell’s “Bigelow Papers,” “The Peasant and the Prince,” Lincoln’s “First Inaugural and Gettysburg Speech,” “Second Inaugural,” “Tales of the Grandfather,” “The Building of the Ship,” “Under the Old Elm,” “Old Ironsides,” “Angels of Buena Vista,” “Sheridan’s Ride,” “Nuremburg,” Longfellow, “Webster’s Reply to Hayne.”

Grade IX.—Lowell’s “Glance Behind the Curtain,” “Bigelow Papers,” “Lincoln-Douglas Debate,” “Harold, the Last of the Saxons,” “Merchant of Venice,” “Sir Roger de Coverley Papers,” Gulliver’s Travels, Wendell Phillips’ Orations, Greene’s English History, Montgomery’s English History, Dickens’ “Child’s History of England,” Speeches on the Stamp Act by Fox, Chatham, Cavendish, Barre, Lowell’s “Commemoration Ode,” “Rhoecus,” “Garrison and Wendell Phillips,” Emerson’s “Concord Hymn,” Scott’s “Talisman,” “Vision of Sir Launfal,” “One Hoss Shay,” “Ode on the Death of Wellington,” “Barbara Fritchie,” “Sheridan’s Ride,” Shelley’s “Cloud.”

In addition the following series of readers are used: Cyr’s, Stickney’s, Appleton’s, Monroe’s, Interstate, Barnes’s, New National, New Normal, Davis’s, Lippincott’s, “Stepping Stones to Literature.”

Arithmetic.—This subject, as taught in our schools, requires paramount attention from both teachers and pupils. Arithmetic is good, but is it the chief good of an education? An ordinary lifetime makes practical use of but little arithmetic.

The "Conference on Mathematics," at the National Educational Association at Saratoga, appointed by the "Committee of Ten," of which President Eliot of Harvard was chairman and Dr. Wm. T. Harris, United States Commissioner of Education, was a prominent member, recommended that the course in arithmetic be at the same time abridged and enriched; abridged by omitting entirely those subjects which perplex and exhaust the pupil, without affording any really valuable mental discipline; and enriched by a greater number of exercises in simple calculation and in the solution of concrete problems.

The Conference suggested the curtailment, or entire omission, of compound proportion, cube root, obsolete denominate quantities, duodecimals and a greater part of commercial arithmetic. It also further suggested that examples in such subjects as profit and loss, bank discount and simple and compound proportion, not easily made intelligible to the pupils, should be omitted.

In these recommendations the Conference has voiced the sentiments of thoughtful teachers everywhere.

"Pupils in the grammar grades have been required to memorize definitions when, because of the immaturity of their minds, they were unable to see through the definitions to the things defined. They have been required to solve problems of whose uses and applications they had no clear conception. Again and again they have lost sight of what they were trying to do in trying to find out how to do it. The mere manipulation of figures has been allowed to absorb their attention and to exhaust their energies."

The second important suggestion of this eminent Conference was a greater facility and a greater degree of accuracy in the work.

"The degree of approach to accuracy by a pupil does not depend so much upon the amount as upon the character of the work done. Careless facility is not merely useless: it is positively harmful. Hence, while the problems provided for the pupil may well be much more simple in respect to the amount of figuring required, the importance of accuracy must be emphasized to a very much greater degree in the grades. Pupils must not be commended at all for inaccurate work—for work in which

there is one wrong figure. It must be impressed upon him that ciphering in which there are errors has no value whatever." When the pupil leaves school he goes out into the world to learn that there is no place for a ninety per cent. accountant. If he is inaccurate his work is of no value whatever.

"A nearer approach to accuracy may be made, not by a greater amount of careless manipulation of figures in difficult problems, but by a careful solution of many simple problems in which the principal effort is to secure absolute correctness."

Evidently the arithmetic teaching in coming years will be more and more along the lines here stated.

Drawing.—This has not been taught as an isolated subject, but has been related to every line of school work. It has not been employed as an end in itself, but as a means to an end; that is, to increase the child's interest in all of his studies and to give him another mode of expression. We speak, or write, because we have a thought to express, and we should draw for the same reason. To draw simply for the purpose of producing pretty pictures would be a waste of time and detrimental to school work.

Geography, history, arithmetic and science can be more thoroughly taught when drawing, painting and modeling are employed. In the modeling of a continent, in the plan of a battlefield, in the diagram of a room that is to be carpeted, or in the painting of a leaf, the teacher has a tangible expression of the child's thought, and something the child himself is able to pass judgment upon, as he compares his product with the more perfect model. In this way, not only are his powers of observation and expression quickened, but through the exercise of his judgment, reason and memory, correct habits of study are formed.

One of the greatest art teachers of to-day, from an experience as wide as the range of his knowledge, says that the general public feeling is tending to the admission that education must include not only full command of expression by language, but of true form by the hand. Whether you are drawing a piece of Greek armor, or a hawk's beak, or a lion's paw, you will find that the mere necessity of using the hand compels attention to circumstances which would otherwise escape notice, and fastens them in the memory without further effort.

None of the essentials have been sacrificed for the sake of drawing, but one lesson a week has been required and a beginning has been made in the right direction.

Nature Study.—The study of science has been associated so long with the college and university that until recently we have failed to recognize that it has a place in the common schools. Much of elementary science may be adapted to the primary and grammar grades. The value of such instruction is not to be measured by the amount of knowledge or of discipline gained, so much as by the fact that it reveals and interprets nature in such a way that the process of development begun in school will be continued by nature herself all through life. How blindly most of us go through life merely from the lack of a little training in early years in learning how to observe.

Pestalozzi, the best known educational reformer, selected science as the best means for stimulating children's minds. His motto was, "Education is generation of power," and he sought for the source of that power in nature. He understood what is meant by "sermons in stones, books in running brooks, and good in everything." The work of Pestalozzi permeated the schools of Germany and is now making its way slowly in all the schools of the world. Nature study has been the corner stone of primary education in Germany for more than fifty years.

It will be readily granted that in the schools of the past those things which touch us closest, the earth we walk on, the air we breathe and the water we drink, all that exert potent influence upon life and general well being, sanitation, hygiene and comfort, had little or no place.

Science means bringing children into a more intelligent contact with their environment; it means that the heads of future homes shall understand sanitation, hygiene and that which pertains to health and comfort in the home, as well as in the community at large. It means that the former shall know more of the products of the soil, and of the soil itself, and how to apply a little chemistry in this direction; that he may know more of the nature of trees and plants, of insects which destroy crops and those which protect them.

Science brings to the door of the schoolroom the most fruitful and richest products of the world's experience. Its

introduction means that the common school and the common people shall have the best that the world affords; that knowledge of science shall not be confined to the few who go through the university, but that all children shall have an appreciative knowledge of and a great love for the study of nature and her marvelous works.

Each season of the year has its own peculiar influence upon living things—animal and plant. It is therefore most convenient and most interesting to study each phase of life in the appropriate season, inasmuch as one may trace then more easily the various phenomena observed in living things, to the forces in nature which cause them.

With this thought in mind, the course in science has been outlined by months. Subjects calculated to arouse a real spirit of investigation, and adapted to the season in which they are studied, have been selected.

In conclusion, we express the wish that parents might be interested to visit the schools oftener, in order to become better acquainted with the teachers, and the work that is being done. This would be an inspiration to teachers and pupils, and by bringing the home and the school into closer relations, both would be mutually helped.

Respectfully submitted,

HERBERT E. RICHARDSON.

Report of Supervisor of Music.

Mr. Herbert E. Richardson, Superintendent of Schools.

Dear Sir :— Music instruction in the schools, ably started last year by Miss Prescott, has been continued with excellent success.

In two year's time the pupil has emerged from chaos concerning "stems, hooks and bars" to an illumined understanding broad in its entirety.

With the hearty co-operation of Superintendent and grade teachers, it has been possible to convey clearly and adequately a conception of the fundamental principles of music, so that the youngest pupil thoroughly comprehends the "why and the wherefore."

The pupils formerly liked music, and under the Weaver system they have grown to take pride in it.

Interest in the music course is confined almost wholly to teachers and pupils, —and I take occasion to invite the townspeople to inspect the work, and satisfy themselves as to its success or failure.

Very respectfully.

ARTHUR FRED GEHLE,

Director of Music.

Report of Truant Officers.

In accordance with the requirements of the Commonwealth and the vote of the Town, the following report is respectfully submitted.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Cases investigated | 44 |
| Cases brought to trial | 0 |

EUGENE DE ROEHN,
AI BICKNELL,
Truant Officers.

School Calendar, 1902-1903.

SPRING TERM—Begins March 17, 1902; closes June 13, 1902.
Term's length, 13 weeks.

FALL TERM—Begins September 8, 1902; closes November 21,
1902. Term's length, 11 weeks.

WINTER TERM—Begins December 1, 1902; closes February 27,
1903. Term's length, 12 weeks.

HOLIDAYS.

April 19; May 30; Thanksgiving week; Christmas week.

ACADEMY.

SPRING TERM—March 24, 1902; June 20, 1902.

FALL TERM—September 2, 1902; November 26, 1902.

WINTER TERM—December 8, 1902; March 13, 1903.

Program of Westford Academy Graduation Exercises, June 21, 1901.

PROGRAM.

- Organ Solo—Processional March *E. Girard*
Mr. Thomas R. Frost, Class of '95.
- Prayer.
Rev. Merritt S. Buckingham.
- Singing by the School—Anchored. *M. Watson*
- Essay—The Town Meeting.
Albert D. Taylor, Westford.
- Reading—Hervé Riel.
Laura P. Hindle, Forge Village.
- Essay—Thoughts on Reading.
Ruth P. Tuttle, Westford.
- Song—Selected.
Mrs. Daisy Shaw Merritt.
- Translation from the French of Souvestre.
Frances C. Banister, Westford.
- Essay—Vivisection.
Laura A. Tallant, Westford.
- Essay—The Rime of the Ancient Mariner.
Letitia V. Ward, Forge Village.
- Singing by the School.
Voices of the Woods *Arr. from Rubenstein*
- Declamation—Toussaint-L'Ouverture *Phillips*
Edward E. Decatur, Westford.
- Translation from the French of Victor Hugo.
Augusta E. Blaisdell, Westford.
- Song—Aria from the La Reine de Saba *Gounod*
Mr. Albert E. Prescott, Class of '81.

Essay--The American Girl of the Twentieth Century.

Bessie B. Tallant, Westford.

Essay--"Know Thyself."

John A. Taylor, Westford.

Organ Solo--Concerto in F major *Rinck*

Mr. Frost.

Conferring of Diplomas.

Rev. Edward A. Horton.

"America."

GRADUATING CLASS.

CLASSICAL COURSE.

Bessie Beatrice Tallant, Laura Adeline Tallant,
John Adams Taylor.

LATIN SCIENTIFIC COURSE.

Ruth Perham Tuttle.

ENGLISH COURSE.

Frances Cummings Banister, Laura Pamela Hindle,
Augusta Elizabeth Blaisdell, Albert Davis Taylor,
Edward Ernest Emmet Decatur, Letitia Veronica Ward.

Motto: "*Know Thyself.*"

Roll of Honor, 1900-1901.

ONE YEAR.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Buckingham, Horace | Cann, Charles |
| Cann, George | Decatur, Gerald |
| Field, Mae L. | Petherick, Albert |
| Savior, Wilfred. | |

TWO TERMS.

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Blodgett, Marion L. | Cann, Harvey |
| Campling, Annie E. | Charlton, Raymond |
| Day, Walter | Darling, Roy |
| Flynn, Thomas | Flagg, Emma |
| Lord, Marion | Leclere, Corine |
| Leclere, Mary | Pameton, Joseph |
| Petherick, Fred | Pyne, Eva |
| Record, Mary | Savior, Felix |
| Wright, Lillian. | |

ONE TERM.

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Bicknell, Edith | Hedman, Annie |
| Buckingham, Willie | Hedman, Julia |
| Carkin, Myron | Helie, George J. |
| Carkin, Stella | Hildreth, Harold |
| Clarke, Margaret | Hoyt, Ethel |
| Clement, Fred | Johnson, Frederick |
| Comey, Hazel | Johnson, Walter |
| Day, Albert | Lang, Georgie |
| Darling, Ora | Lambert, Amelia W. |
| Day, May | Leclere, Annie |
| Deziel, Rene | Leclere, Acton |

Demaris, George
De Roehn, John E.
Dorine, Benoit
Draper, Lillian
Dufrane, Joseph
Field, Leslie
Filliatreault, Eva
Furbush, Ruth
Flinn, John
Ferguson, Howard
Gilson, Ella
Hartford, Stella
Healy, Nellie
Healy, Thomas
Spenner, Edward
Symmes, Paul
Wild, May

Leclere, Arthur
Lord, Philip
Lord, Helen
McNaughton, Isabella
Moran, Lillie
Prescott, Lester
Pyne, Olive
Rockwell, L. Webster
Reed, Annie
Record, Josephine
Riney, Edward
Savoir, Annie
Shugrue, Fred
Shattuck Walter
Sullivan, Mary
Trull, Elmer
Wright, Carl

LIST OF TEACHERS, 1901-1902.

| SCHOOLS. | TEACHERS. | APPOINTED. | EDUCATED. | SALARY. |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Academy { Principal..... | William E. Frost..... | 1872 | Bowdoin, '72..... | Town pays \$1,500. |
| Academy { Assistant..... | Alice E. Burrill..... | 1900 | Boston University, '99..... | |
| Centre Grammar..... | Ruth Fisher..... | 1900 | Lowell Normal..... | \$450 00 |
| Centre Intermediate..... | Lillian Small..... | 1901 | Buck-port Seminary..... | 360 00 |
| Centre Primary..... | Anna A. Wood..... | 1901 | Farmington, Me., Normal..... | 360 00 |
| Graniteville Upper Grammar | F. H. Saunders..... | 1901 | Rhode Island Normal..... | 540 00 |
| Graniteville Lower Grammar | Issie A. Parker..... | 1897 | Westford Academy..... | 340 00 |
| Graniteville Upper Primary. | Mary E. Bemis..... | 1900 | Westfield Normal..... | 360 00 |
| Graniteville Lower Primary. | Flora E. Palmer..... | 1901 | Westford Academy..... | 324 00 |
| Forge Grammar..... | Alice B. Newton..... | 1901 | Mt. H. Lyoke College..... | 360 00 |
| Forge Primary..... | I. Millie Phillips..... | 1901 | Worcester..... | 432 00 |
| Parkerville..... | Jennie E. Stowell..... | 1899 | Fitchburg Normal..... | 288 00 |
| Minot's Corner..... | Eva Bassett..... | 1899 | Framingham Normal..... | 288 00 |
| Nashoba..... | Sarah B. Nickerson..... | 1901 | Hyannis Normal..... | 288 00 |
| Stony Brook..... | Anna Mellen..... | 1899 | Lowell Normal..... | 324 00 |
| Nabnasset..... | Luanna De Catur..... | 1901 | Westford Academy..... | 288 00 |
| Director of Music in Schools | Arthur Fred Gehle..... | 1901 | ..... | 225 00 |

STATISTICS FOR 1900-1901.

| | Grades. | No. of Weeks. | Enrolment. | Average Membership. | Average Attendance. | Per cent. of Attendance. | Between 7 and 14. | Between 5 and 15. | Over 15. |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Academy | IX, X | 39 | 39 | 31.4 | 30.8 | 91 | 7 | 15 | 24 |
| Centre Grammar | XI, XII VIII, IX IV, V | 36 | 34 | 31 | 21 | 93 | 19 | 30 | 4 |
| Centre Intermediate | VI, VII | 36 | 28 | 25 | 22.7 | 90 | 28 | 28 | 0 |
| Centre Primary | I, II, III | 36 | 29 | 26.8 | 23 | 85 | 19 | 21 | 0 |
| Graniteville Upper Grammar | VI, VII | 36 | 30 | 25.48 | 25.31 | 99 | 24 | 29 | 0 |
| Graniteville Lower Grammar | IV, V | 36 | 40 | 35 | 29.8 | 85 | 37 | 37 | 0 |
| Graniteville Upper Primary | III | 36 | 32 | 27.5 | 21.7 | 90.7 | 28 | 28 | 0 |
| Graniteville Lower Primary | I, II IV, V | 36 | 48 | 36.7 | 32.6 | 88.6 | 14 | 42 | 0 |
| Forge Grammar | VI, VII | 36 | 25 | 22 | 20 | 90 | 23 | 25 | 0 |
| Forge Primary | I, II, III | 36 | 55 | 50 | 46 | 92 | 38 | 55 | 0 |
| Parkerville | I to VII | 36 | 15 | 13.7 | 11.49 | 84 | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| Minot's Corner | I to VII | 36 | 17 | 15.7 | 14 | 90 | 11 | 17 | 0 |
| Nashoba | I to VII | 36 | 14 | 12.7 | 12 | 94 | 8 | 14 | 0 |
| Stony Brook | I to VII | 36 | 25 | 19.9 | 16.5 | 83 | 16 | 20 | 1 |
| Nabasset | I to VII | 36 | 28 | 20.6 | 18 | 87 | 23 | 28 | 0 |
| Totals | | | 459 | 393.48 | 352.9 | 89.68 | 310 | 404 | 29 |

STATISTICS FALL AND WINTER TERMS, 1901-1902.

| Schools. | Enrol- ment. | Average Member- ship. | Average Atten- dance. | Per cent. of Atten- dance. | Number between 7 and 14. | Number between 5 and 15. | Number over 15. |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Academy | 38 | 31 | 28 | 90 | 6 | 27 | 11 |
| Centre Grammar | 35 | 33 | 29 | 87.6 | 16 | 9 | 10 |
| Centre Intermediate | 34 | 31.8 | 27.7 | 86.8 | 22 | 34 | 0 |
| Centre Primary | 31 | 26.7 | 22.7 | 85 | 12 | 31 | 0 |
| Graniteville Upper Grammar | 32 | 27.6 | 23.7 | 85.7 | 25 | 32 | 0 |
| Graniteville Lower Grammar | 37 | 33 | 29.6 | 89 | 37 | 37 | 0 |
| Graniteville Upper Primary | 29 | 23.8 | 21.8 | 91 | 29 | 29 | 0 |
| Graniteville Lower Primary | 40 | 37.5 | 33 | 89 | 14 | 40 | 0 |
| Forge Grammar | 30 | 22 | 20 | 80.8 | 29 | 29 | 1 |
| Forge Primary | 56 | 49 | 45 | 91.7 | 35 | 56 | 0 |
| Parkerville | 16 | 11 | 10 | 90 | 16 | 16 | 0 |
| Minot's Corner | 15 | 15 | 12.8 | 85 | 11 | 14 | 0 |
| Nashoba | 15 | 14 | 12 | 85.6 | 13 | 15 | 0 |
| Stony Brook | 25 | 23 | 19.8 | 85.5 | 19 | 25 | 0 |
| Nabnasset | 21 | 17 | 15.8 | 92.5 | 15 | 21 | 0 |

Summary of Statistics.

The following is a statistical table, showing the returns of the school census, with the enrollment and attendance in the schools from September, 1900 to June, 1901.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Number of boys in town between 5 and 15 years. . . . | 217 |
| Number of girls in town between 5 and 15 years. . . . | 203 |
| Total. | 420 |
| Number of boys in town between 7 and 14 years. . . . | 153 |
| Number of girls in town between 7 and 14 years. . . . | 133 |
| Total. | 286 |
| Whole number enrolled in all the schools. | 459 |
| Whole number between 5 and 15 years. | 404 |
| Whole number between 7 and 14 years. | 310 |
| Whole number over 15 years. | 29 |
| Average membership. | 393.48 |
| Average attendance. | 352.9 |
| Per cent. of attendance. | 89.68 |
| Number of teachers. | 16 |
| Number of weeks in school year. | 36 |

Extracts from the Public Statutes of the Commonwealth.

CHAPTER 494.

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE EMPLOYMENT OF LABOR.

Section 1. No child under fourteen years of age shall be employed in any factory, workshop or mercantile establishment. No such child shall be employed in any work performed for wages or other compensation, to whomsoever payable, during the hours when the public schools of the town or city in which he resides are in session, nor be employed at any work before the hour of six o'clock in the morning or after the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

Sect. 2. No child under sixteen years of age shall be employed in any factory, workshop or other mercantile establishment unless the person or corporation employing him procures and keeps on file and accessible to the truant officers of the town or city, and to the district police and inspectors of factories, an age and schooling certificate as hereinafter prescribed, and keeps two complete lists of all such children employed therein, one on file and one conspicuously posted near the principal entrance of the building in which such children are employed, and also keeps on file a complete list, and sends to the superintendent of schools, or, where there is no superintendent, to the school committee, the names of all minors employed therein who cannot read at sight and write legibly simple sentences in the English language.

Sect. 4. An age and schooling certificate shall not be approved unless satisfactory evidence is furnished by the last school census, the certificate of birth or baptism of such child, the register of birth of such child with a town or city clerk, or in some other manner, that such child is of the age stated in the certificate.

Sect. 6. Whoever employs a child under sixteen years of age, and whoever having under his control a child under such age permits such child to be employed, in violation of section one or two of this act, shall for such offence be fined not more than fifty dollars; and whoever continues to employ any child in violation of either of said sections of this act after being notified by a truant officer or an inspector of factories thereof, shall for every day thereafter that such employment continues be fined not less than five nor more than twenty dollars. A failure to produce to a truant officer or inspector

of factories any age and schooling certificate or list required by this act shall be prima facie evidence of the illegal employment of any person whose age and schooling certificate is not produced or whose name is not so listed. Any corporation or employer retaining any age and schooling certificate in violation of section five of this act shall be fined ten dollars. Every person authorized to sign the certificate prescribed by section five of this act who knowingly certifies to any materially false statement therein shall be fined not more than fifty dollars.

Sect. 8. Truant officers may visit the factories, workshops and mercantile establishments in their several towns and cities and ascertain whether any minors are employed therein contrary to the provisions of this act, and they shall report any cases of such illegal employment to the school committee and to the chief of the district police, or to the inspector of factories for the district. Inspectors of factories and truant officers may require that the age and schooling certificates and lists provided for in this act, of minors employed in such factories, work-hops or mercantile establishments, shall be produced for their inspection. Complaints for offences under this act shall be brought by inspectors of factories.

CHAPTER 496.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND TRUANCY.

Sect. 11. No child who has not been duly vaccinated shall be admitted to a public school except upon presentation of a certificate signed by a regular practising physician that such child is an unfit subject for vaccination. No child who is a member of a household in which a person is sick with smallpox, diphtheria, scarlet fever or measles, or of a household exposed to contagion from a household as aforesaid, shall attend any public school during such sickness or until the teacher of the school has been furnished with a certificate from the board of health of the town or city, or from the attending physician of such sick person, stating in a case of smallpox, diphtheria or scarlet fever, that a period of at least two weeks, and in a case of measles a period of at least three days, has elapsed since the recovery, removal or death of such person, and that danger of the conveying of such disease by such child has passed.

Sect. 12. Every child between seven and fourteen years of age shall attend some public day school in the town or city in which he resides during the entire time the public day schools are in session, subject to such exceptions as to children, places of attendance and schools as are provided for in sections three, seven, ten and eleven of this act: *provided*, that the superintendent of schools or, where there is no superintendent of schools, the school committee, or teachers acting under authority of said superintendent of schools or school committee, may excuse cases of necessary absence; and *provided*,

further, that the attendance of a child upon a public day school shall not be required if such child has attended for a like period of time a private day school approved by the school committee of such town or city in accordance with section two of chapter four hundred and ninety-eight of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and ninety-four, or if such child has been otherwise instructed for a like period of time in the branches of learning required by law to be taught in the public schools, or has already acquired the branches of learning required by law to be taught in the public schools, or if his physical or mental condition is such as to render such attendance inexpedient or impracticable. Every person having under his control a child as described in this section shall cause such child to attend school as required by this section.

Sect. 19. The several school teachers shall faithfully keep the registers of attendance daily, and make due return thereof to the school committee or to such person as such committee may designate. No teacher of a public school shall receive payment for services for the two weeks preceding the close of any single term until the register, properly filled up and completed, is so returned. All registers shall be kept at the schools, and at all times during the school hours shall be open to the inspection of the school committee, the superintendent of schools, the truant officers, and the secretary and agents of the state board of education.

Sect. 24. Every habitual truant, that is, every child between seven and fourteen years of age who wilfully and habitually absents himself from school contrary to the provisions of section twelve of this act, upon complaint by a truant officer, and conviction thereof, may be committed, if a boy, to a county truant school for a period not exceeding two years, and if a girl, to the state industrial school for girls, unless such child is placed on probation as provided in section twenty-eight of this act.

Sect. 25. Every habitual absentee, that is, every child between seven and sixteen years of age who may be found wandering about in the streets or public places of any town or city of the Commonwealth, having no lawful occupation, habitually not attending school, and growing up in idleness and ignorance, upon complaint by a truant officer or any other person, and conviction thereof, may be committed, if a boy, at the discretion of the court, to a county truant school for a period not exceeding two years, or to the Lyman school for boys, and, if a girl, to the state industrial school for girls, unless such child is placed on probation as provided in section twenty-eight of this act.

Sect. 26. Every habitual school offender, that is, every child under fourteen years of age who persistently violates the reasonable regulations of the school which he attends, or otherwise persistently misbehaves therein, so as to render himself a fit subject for exclusion therefrom, upon complaint by a truant officer, and conviction thereof,

may be committed, if a boy, at the discretion of the court, to a county truant school for a period not exceeding two years, or to the Lyman school for boys, and, if a girl, to the state industrial school for girls, unless such child is placed on probation as provided in section twenty-eight of this act.

Sect. 31. Any person having under his control a child between seven and fourteen years of age who fails for five day sessions or ten half day sessions within any period of six months while under such control, to cause such child to attend school as required by section twelve of this act, the physical or mental condition of such child not being such as to render his attendance at school harmful or impracticable, upon complaint by a truant officer, and conviction thereof, shall forfeit and pay a fine of not more than twenty dollars. Any person who induces or attempts to induce any child to absent himself unlawfully from school, or employs or harbors while school is in session any child absent unlawfully from school, shall forfeit and pay a fine of not more than fifty dollars.

Sect. 34. The truant officers of towns and cities shall inquire into all cases arising under sections eleven, twelve, twenty-four to twenty-six inclusive and thirty-one of this act, and may make complaints, serve legal processes, and carry into execution judgments thereunder. They shall perform the duties of oversight of children placed on probation as may be required of them under section twenty-eight of this act. A truant officer of any town or city may apprehend and take to school, without warrant, any truant or absentee found wandering about in the streets or public places thereof.

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