

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

OF

WEST BRIDGEWATER

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 1, 1901.

TAUNTON, MASS.:

FROM THE PRESS OF C. A. HACK & SON,
1901.

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OWN OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

OF

WEST BRIDGEWATER

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1900.

The Press of C. H. Back & Son,
Taunton, Massachusetts 1901

TOWN OFFICERS FOR 1900.

Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor.

E. BRADFORD WILBUR, SAMUEL G. COPELAND,
GEORGE F. LOGUE.

Town Clerk.

CHARLES R. PACKARD.

Treasurer and Collector.

FRANK L. HOWARD.

School Committee.

MRS. A. L. LELACHEUR, CAROLINE H. COPELAND,
MRS. M. K. CROSBY, WILLIAM H. BOSWORTH,
CLINTON P. HOWARD, EDWARD E. BROWNE.

Trustees of Public Library.

CHARLES R. PACKARD, MRS. CHARLOTTE A. WILLIAMS,
MISS ELIZABETH KINGMAN, MISS EDITH F. HOWARD,
CURTIS EDDY, ELLIS S. LELACHEUR.

Superintendent of Streets.

WILLIAM F. RYDER.

Constables,

DAVID R. SIMMONS, JOSEPH C. HOWARD,
IRVING E. WHEELER, WILLIAM H. BOSWORTH,
JOHN J. WHITE.

Special Constables.

PRESSON WEST, MILTON C. THAYER.

Sealer of Weights and Measures.

FRANK L. HOWARD.

Fire Wardens.

WILLIAM F. RYDER,

GEORGE M. PRATT,

EDWIN H. THAYER.

Tree Warden.

WILLIAM F. RYDER.

Field Drivers.

CHARLES E. DUNBAR,

JOHN J. GILLAGIN,

JOHN CASHMAN,

Edward Howard CLINTON P. HOWARD,

W. L. WOODWORTH,

E. P. DUNBAR,

CYRUS E. ALGER,

George GEORGE J. KINGMAN.

Fence Viewers.

CLINTON P. HOWARD,

SAMUEL G. COPELAND,

GEORGE BURKE.

Measurers of Lumber.

DANIEL B. DAVIS,

CLINTON P. HOWARD,

A. S. LYON,

MOLBRY A. RIPLEY.

Measurers of Wood and Bark.

LYMAN E. COPELAND,

EDWIN H. THAYER,

FARNUM GILLESPIE,

William S. Brainard WILLIAM S. BRAINARD,
M. A. RIPLEY.

Registrars of Voters.

HORACE BARTLETT,

JAMES S. JONES,

ARTHUR C. PECKHAM.

Auditors.

GEORGE S. DRAKE,

ARTHUR C. PECKHAM.

Pound Keeper.

WARDEN OF TOWN FARM.

Public Weighers.

ARTHUR E. CLARK,

GEORGE S. DRAKE,

JAMES O. ALGER,

EDWIN H. LOTHROP,

EDWARD MADDEN,

CLINTON P. HOWARD.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ASSESSORS, OVERSEERS OF THE POOR AND SELECTMEN.

The following report of the financial condition of the
Town Dec. 31, 1900, is respectfully submitted:

REPORT OF THE ASSESSORS.

VALUATION,

As Assessed May 1, 1900.

Value of real estate,		\$988,651.00
“ “ personal estate,		264,118.00
		\$1,252,769.00

ASSESSMENTS.

State tax,	\$570.00	
County tax,	1276.41	
		1846.41
Town grant,	11,900.00	
Overlay,	289.66	
Subsequent tax,	249.44	
		12,439.10
Total tax,		\$14,285.51

Rate of tax, \$10.50 per \$1,000. Poll tax, \$2.00,

Number of polls,		441
“ acres of land,	9434.	9,434
“ dwelling houses,	.25-	405

$$\begin{array}{r}
 471.70 \\
 1586.8 \\
 \hline
 \$2358.50
 \end{array}$$

Number of horses,	315
“ cows,	709
“ sheep,	13
“ swine,	89
“ young stock,	117
“ fowl,	1,637

APPROPRIATIONS.

For support of schools,	\$4,000.00
“ repairs and supplies,	500.00
“ highways and sidewalks,	3,500.00
“ support of poor,	1,500.00
“ transportation of pupils,	450.00
“ town officers,	900.00
“ incidentals,	600.00
“ superintendent of schools,	250.00
“ pump at south school,	100.00
“ memorial service,	100.00
	\$11,900.00

TOWN PROPERTY.

Value of New Almshouse and other buildings,	5,000.00
“ town farm,	3,500 00
“ personal property,	2,682.25
“ eight school houses,	12,300.00
“ town library,	2,500.00
“ derrick,	25.00
“ road scraper,	75.00
“ four safes,	500.00
“ eight snow plows,	56.00
“ office furniture,	50.00

E. BRADFORD WILBUR, }
 SAMUEL G. COPELAND, } *Assessors.*
 GEORGE F. LOGUE, }

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF POOR.

INVENTORY AT ALMSHOUSE, DEC. 31, 1900.

18 tons English hay,	\$324.00
6½ tons meadow hay,	65.00
corn and other grain,	90.00
3 bushels beans,	7.00
13 cows and one bull,	600.00
5 bushels oats,	2.50
1 horse,	100.00
122 young fowl,	91.50
15 bushels popcorn,	22.50
150 lbs. fertilizer,	2.25
65 bushels potatoes,	48.75
4 tons corn fodder,	32.00
incubator,	15.00
corn planter,	20.00
4 hogs,	20.00
40 lbs. lard,	3.60
10 lbs. butter,	2.50
1 bbl. flour,	4 75
groceries and molasses,	18.00
sugar,	1.50
tea and coffee,	4.10
4 pork barrels,	2.00
soap and oil,	3.00
75 lbs. rolled oats,	1.50
pork,	9.00
weeder,	6.00
1 ton rye straw,	15.00
1½ tons oat straw,	18.00
65 gallons vinegar,	7.80
corn shells,	4.00
corn shells,	4.00
Amount carried forward,	<u>\$1,541.25</u>

Amount carried forward,	\$1,541.25
carpenters' tools and vise,	\$10.00
stepladder,	1.00
express wagon,	25.00
2 hay carts,	45.00
1 covered wagon,	35.00
2 tip carts,	50.00
1 pung,	6.00
harnesses,	60.00
ox sled and wheelbarrow,	6.00
3 ox yokes,	6.00
2 hay cutters,	5.00
4 stoves and hot water boiler,	60.00
grindstone,	3.00
2 mowing machines, rake and tedder,	80.00
6 plows, 3 harrows and other tools,	60.00
horse sled,	5.00
2 ladders,	3.00
washing machine,	4.00
beds and bedding,	100.00
robes and blankets,	4.00
household furniture,	215.00
tinware,	10.00
crockery,	10.00
wooden ware,	9.00
table linen and towels,	9.00
3 churns,	5.00
coal,	75.00
manure and ashes,	100.00
wood,	110.00
lumber,	30.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,682.25
Inventory Jan. 1, 1900,	2,558.50
	<hr/>
Gain in inventory,	\$123.75

RECEIPTS AT ALMSHOUSE.

Cash on hand, January 1, 1900,	\$155.32
Received for milk,	1331.08
" stock,	385.00
" poultry and eggs,	62.52
" hay,	12.75
" wood,	26.70
" use of tools,	3.00
Drawn from the Treasury for	
Lewis G. Lowe & Son, insurance,	48.60
E. H. Lothrop,	309.90
J. H. Leonard, for ashes,	69.68
G. R. Drake,	250.82
J. E. Sawyer,	475.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,130.37

EXPENDITURES AT ALMSHOUSE.

Paid for flour,	33.30
" meat,	152.51
" grain,	837.35
" coal,	95.64
" butter and cheese,	60.10
" fish,	24.12
" soap and oil,	17.02
" groceries,	32.67
" tea and coffee,	16.05
" crackers,	5.95
" sugar,	40.28
" vinegar,	2.40
" lard,	11.46
" beans,	6.46
" salt,	2.80
	<hr/>
Amount carried forward,	\$1338.11

Amount brought forward,		\$1338.11
Paid for paint,		4.32
“ insurance,		48.60
“ smithwork,		62.46
“ tools,		29.83
“ lumber,		1.00
“ fertilizer,		121.20
“ ground bone,		70.00
“ ashes,		69.68
“ hay,		126.30
“ stock,		341.00
“ harnesses,		35.25
“ yeast,		1.18
“ tobacco,		9.96
“ seeds,		24.90
“ hardware,		21.96
“ glass and tinware,		2.36
“ apples,		.45
“ ice,		14.71
“ clothing,		12.00
“ repairs,		18.37
“ doctor bills,		11.35
“ labor,		355.79
“ shoes,		12.00
“ warden's salary,		375.00
Cash on hand,		22.59
		<hr/>
		\$3130.37

COST OF SUPPORTING POOR AT ALMSHOUSE.

Drawn from treasury per almshouse acct.,		\$1154.00
Gain in inventory,	\$123.75	
Cash on hand,	22.59	
The town treasury has received from Horace Bartlett, trustee for board of Sarah B. Howard,	117.00	263.34
		<hr/>
		\$890.66

The warden at the Town Farm in the fall bought bone and ashes and new seeded about six acres, part of which was stump land, at an expense of about two hundred dollars, which makes this account somewhat larger than in previous years.

INMATES AT ALMSHOUSE.

	AGE	WEEKS
Edmund Alger,	87	15
Albert Staples,	58	52
George B. Randall,	74	52
Ansel Alger	83	52
George L. Edson,	88	52
Sarah B. Howard, (boarder),	68	52
Heman Randall,	69	5 $\frac{2}{7}$

The warden during the year has lodged and fed 181 tramps.

EXPENSE OF POOR OUT OF HOUSE.

Aid to Merton G. Churchill's children,	\$200.00
" Bangs H. Howes and family, (1899 bill),	92 68
" Bangs K. Howes and family, (1900 bill),	101.48
" Mrs. Richard Westcoat and children,	191.25
" Charles E. Fisher and family,	38.00
" Fred Leonard,	194.00
" Harriet Packard,	64.08
" Mrs. R. B. Morse,	47.15
" Frank Fadden's child,	68.75
" George N. Blanchard,	44.85
" Florence Eaton,	54.50
" Mrs. George Ellis and family,	18.10
" Mrs. Kinney,	64.00
" Nathaniel Pratt,	39.19

Aid to Mrs. E. J. Packard,	\$169.46
“ George Kinnear,	67.00
“ Abbie Fadden,	45.00
“ Mary Leach and child,	103.00
“ Theodore Wintworth,	48.00
“ Henry Withington,	3.00
“ Agnes Ness,	92.85
“ George Wilde,	10.50
“ Isac Bates,	39.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,795.84

Received from Merton G. Churchill, (for support of his children),	200.00
Due from Town of Dighton, for Mrs. Westcoat,	191.25
Due from Town of Easton, for Geo. M. Blanchard,	44.85
Due from State, for Mrs. Geo. Ellis and children,	18.10
Due from Town of Plymouth, for N. Pratt,	39.19
“ “ State for Geo. Kinnear,	67.00
“ “ Town of Bridgewater, for T. Wentworth,	48.00
Due from City of Brockton, for Isaac H. Bates,	39.00
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	647.39
	<hr/>
Cost to town,	1,148.45

E. BRADFORD WILBUR, }
SAMUEL G. COPELAND, } *Overseers*
GEORGE F. LOGUE, } *of the Poor.*

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

INCIDENTAL ACCOUNT.

Paid to James Young, land damage,	\$1.00
“ Frank S. Howard, return of deaths,	6.25
“ Howard & Clark Co., return of deaths,	1.00
“ E. B. Wilbur, pump at Cochesett and Center,	19.75
“ C. A. Hack & Son, printing,	61.40
“ Frank L. Howard, burying a dog,	1.00
“ City of Brockton, boundary stone,	8.33
“ H. E. Weston, rent of office and Town Hall,	150.00
“ Harris & Barker, for appearing before Legislative Committee,	100.00
“ B. F. Brooks, burying a dog,	.75
“ G. R. Drake, use of telephone,	.85
“ Thomas Groom & Co., tax books,	2.75
“ Mrs. A. S. LeLachuer, for gravel hill,	202.50
“ William E. Fay, printing,	20.25
“ Mrs. W. B. Smith, cleaning office,	1.00
“ Frank Conlon, screenes for office,	8.50
“ Frank L. Howard, postal cards and printing,	8.00
“ L. E. Hayward, care of old cemetery,	1.00
“ Philip Fay, care of old cemetery,	2.30
“ Joseph Silva, fighting fire,	1.70
“ J. S. George, fighting fire,	1.70
“ Henry Penpraese, fighting fire,	2.50
“ H. A. Marshall, fighting fire,	1.20
“ C. C. Hoffman, Town seal,	35.00
“ H. B. Wilbur, prosecuting Dupuis case,	20.00
“ Jos. C. Howard, surveying gravel hill,	1.00
“ Edmund Perkins, fighting fire,	1.00
“ Frank L. Howard, Taxon C. Reed estate,	1.37
Amount carried forward,	<hr/> \$662.10

Amount brought forward,	\$662.10
Paid to M. McCarthy, care of monument ground,	5.00
“ W. E. Fay, printing,	10.00
“ David L. Lombard, fighting fire,	5.00
“ Jos. C. Howard, fighting fire,	5.70
“ N. Chilgren, fighting fire,	6.00
“ E. Washburn, fighting fire,	2.00
“ A. L. Alger, fighting fire,	1.50
“ U. K. Leach, fighting fire,	1.20
“ Roger Keith, fighting fire,	5.60
“ H. E. Weston, fighting fire,	1.00
“ Arthur Weston, fighting fire,	4.30
“ T. H. Churchill, fighting fire,	2.40
“ George Ellis, fighting fire,	1.50
“ Chas. E. Leonard, carting boundery stone,	9.00
“ Nelson Messer, 6 boundery stones,	73 50
“ Browne & Logue, fighting fire,	.90
“ C. C. Thayer, fighting fire,	5.60
“ S. G. Copeland, wood for office,	5.00
“ S. B. Heatherington, cutting wood for office,	1.00
“ C. A. Hodgdon, fighting fire,	2.00
“ Adna Howland, fighting fire,	2.00
“ W. F. Ryder, fighting fire,	8.00
“ Frank L. Howard, warrants, stamps etc.	4.49
“ Harry L. Tower, fighting fire,	2 40
“ Walter S. Tower, fighting fire,	2.00
“ L. A. Tower, fighting fire,	1.50
“ Ira A. Pratt, fighting fire,	1.50
“ H. A. Dolbeare, statement blanks,	1.63
“ Geo. W. Alger, fighting fire,	1.00
“ W. F. Whitmarsh, return of births,	2.25
“ E. B. Wilbur, use of horse and cash expense,	27.78
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	\$864.85

TOWN OFFICERS.

Appropriation,	\$900.00
Geo. F. Logue, auditor and election officer,	4.00
Geo. S. Drake, auditor and election officer,	4.00
David R. Simmons, inspector,	100.00
David R. Simmons, constable,	77.48
Frank L. Howard, town treasurer,	235.00
Chas. E. Tisdale estate, selectman, assessor and overseer of the poor,	7.50
Howard B. Wilbur, moderator,	5.00
Geo. M. Pratt, town treasurer, (1897),	200.00
E. B. Wilbur, selectman, assessor and overseer of the poor,	242.75
L. H. Adams, election officer,	1.80
Geo. F. Logue, selectman, assessor and overseer of the poor,	109.80
Jos. C. Howard, constable,	60.52
I. E. Wheeler, constable,	2.50
James S. Jones, registrar,	7.80
S. G. Copeland, selectman, assessor and overseer of the poor,	133.25
Geo. S. Drake, election officer,	1.80
Chas. H. Eagan, election officer,	1.80
Arthur C. Peckham, registrar,	10.80
Curtis Eddy, election officer,	1.80
Horace Bartlett, registrar,	7.35
Charles R. Packard, town clerk,	68.58
John J. White, constable,	3.00
There has been paid to the officers of Brockton upon bills approved by the court for services rendered our town constables,	94.43
	<hr/>
	\$1,380.96
Received from Brockton police court, fines,	330.00
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	\$1,050.96

STATE AID.

Paid to Isaac H. Bates,	\$15.00
“ George N. Blanchard,	72.00
“ Charles E. Churchill and wife,	116.00
“ William Crockett,	108.00
“ Seth Edson,	48.00
“ James P. Gallagher,	72.00
“ Henry Hiatt,	72.00
“ Linus E. Hayward,	120.00
“ Willard Howard,	48.00
“ William H. Jennings,	72.00
“ James H. Leonard,	48.00
“ James P. Lincoln,	48.00
“ Michael Logue,	48.00
“ Andrew W. Perkins and wife,	120.00
“ Nathaniel Pratt,	72.00
“ William B. Smith,	72.00
“ George S. Wentworth,	48.00
“ Mary E. Alger,	48.00
“ Mary E. Howard,	48.00
“ Samuel D. Bartlett,	60.00
“ George Withington,	48.00
“ George T. Shaw,	44.00
“ Darius Perry,	12.00
“ Charlotte A. Williams,	44.00
“ Josiah W. Foye,	55.00
“ Joanna Linehan,	24.00
“ Cyrus L. Williams,	4.00
“ Wm. Prohett, burial of Isaac Bates,	35.00
“ F. S. Howard, burial of J. P. Gallagher,	35.00
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	\$1,654.00

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Paid to Ansel T. Bartlett,	\$54.00
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NAMES OF JURORS.

For acceptance or revision by the town at its annual town meeting.

William H. Bosworth,	— Clinton P. Howard,
Lionel H. Adams,	> T. Preston Snell,
Everett Clark,	Curtis Eddy,
Henry Hartwell,	George Burke,
William A. Cole,	S. Ellis Ryder,
— William H. Washburn,	Arthur C. Peckham,
William B. Kingman,	George R. Drake,
Octave Belmore,	Frank L. Howard,
John E. Coldwell,	David R. Simmons,
Charles E. Dunbar,	Josiah W. Foye,
Ellis R. Holbrook,	Austin A. Shaw,
Michael O'Fallon,	— George M. Pratt,
John W. Darling,	Horace Bartlett,
Robert H. Hatch,	— E. Davis Battles,
John M. Richards,	Linus E. Hayward,

NAMES OF JURORS DRAWN IN 1900.

Erland Thayer,	Charles E. Leonard,
Lyman E. Copeland,	Azel Lothrop,
Wm. H. Bosworth,	Henry O. Davenport,
Frank L. Howard,	Myron H. Packard,
Henry W. Ripley,	Seba H. Marshall,
Edward E. Bowne,	Wm. F. Ryder,
Bradford Copeland.	

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF SCHOOLS.

There has been drawn from the treasury for schools, school repairs and supplies and transportation,		\$5,717.95
Appropriation for schools,	\$4,000.00	
Appropriation for school repairs and supplies,	500.00	
Appropriat'n for transportation of pupils,	450.00	
Received from school fund,	294.38	
Received from state on account of dis- trict superintendent,	166.67	
Received from state treasurer for edu- cation of state children,	83.00	
Appropriation for pump at South School,	100.00	
	<hr/>	\$5,594.05
Overdrawn,		<hr/> \$123.90

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT.

There has been drawn from the treasury for superintendent of schools,		\$250.00
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MEMORIAL.

Appropriation,		\$100.00
Paid Charles R. Packard,	\$60.00	
Amount expended,	\$58.87	
Paid town treasurer,	1.13	
	<hr/>	\$60.00

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF HIGHWAYS.

Appropriation for roads and sidewalks,	\$3,500.00
Drawn from the treasury on bills approved by the superintendent of streets,	3,421.02
Balance,	<u>\$78.98</u>

At a meeting of the selectmen held at their room March 5,
William F. Ryder was appointed superintendent of streets.

WE RECOMMEND THE TOWN TO APPROPRIATE:

For the support of the poor,	\$1,500
“ transportation of pupils,	450
“ schools,	4000
“ repairs and supplies	500
“ highways and sidewalks,	3000
“ town officers,	900
“ incidentals,	600

TOWN MEETING.

Plymouth ss :

*To any Constable of the Town of West Bridgewater
in the County of Plymouth, Greeting :*

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, qualified to vote at elections and in town affairs, to assemble at the Town Hall, in said town on Monday, the fourth of March, at one o'clock in the afternoon, then and there to act on the following articles, viz :

ART. 1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.

ART. 2. To choose all necessary town officers.

ART. 3. To bring in their votes "Yes" or "No" on the following question ; "Shall license be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?"

ART. 4. To hear the annual report of town officers and committees, and act thereon.

ART. 5. To act on the list of jurors as reported by the selectmen.

ART. 6. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the town charges for the ensuing year, and make appropriation for the same.

ART. 7. To see if the town will authorize the treasurer to borrow money, in anticipation of taxes, to pay charges against the town.

ART. 8. To see if the town will appropriate money for necessary transportation of pupils to Grammar Schools.

ART. 9. To see if the town will purchase a lot of land adjoining the present lot at the Center school, and build thereon a three-room school building and appropriate money necessary to build, furnish and grade around the same. (By request).

ART 10. To see what action the town will take in reference to procuring a five-cent fare upon the cars of the Brockton Street Railway from any part of West Bridgewater to any part of the City of Brockton. (By petition).

ART. 11. To see what action the town will take in reference to having a survey of the town and having a set of plans for the use of the assessors and appropriate money for the same.

CAUCUS.

A citizens' caucus will be held in Town Hall on Wednesday evening, Feb. 27, 1901, at 7.30 o'clock, for the purpose of nominating all town officers for the ensuing year.

E. BRADFORD WILBUR,	} <i>Selectmen.</i>
SAMUEL G. COPELAND,	
GEORGE F. LOGUE,	

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

Balance in treasury Jan. 1, 1900,	\$10,118.52
Received from dog fund,	298.98
“ school fund,	294.38
“ town of Easton,	20.00
“ town of Raynham, rebate school supt.,	20.83
“ A. K. Harmon, fine case, W. E. Packard,	5.00
“ Edgerly & Crocker on note,	1,000.00
“ town of Dighton for Mr. Westcoat,	29.00
“ town of Bridgewater for T. F. Wentworth,	37.00
“ State treasury, bal. corporation tax,	17.42
“ State treasury, bal. Nat. Bank tax,	9.80
“ J. A. Shaw, pedler's license 1899,	6.00
“ State treasury, for support State paupers,	21.00
“ Ply. Co. S. D. & T. Co. on note,	2,000.00
“ State treasury, education State children,	83.00
“ Brockton Police Court, fines,	155.00
“ E. B. Wilbur, auctioneer's license	2.00
“ State, allowance supt. of schools,	166.67
“ unexpended Memorial appropria- tion,	1.13
Tax list for 1900,	14,036.07
Received from Brockton Police Court,	175.00
“ Quail Thornell estate,	30.39
“ corporation tax,	487.00
“ National Bank tax,	342.16

Received from State aid, chapter 374, acts 1899,	\$1,426.00
Received for burial soldiers,	35.00
" State railway tax,	863.59
" from Peoples' Savings Bank on note,	1,000.00
" interest on 1899 taxes,	135.45
" " 1898 taxes,	12.33
Received from subsequent tax,	249.44
" Merton G. Churchill, for support children,	200.00
" Geo. M. Pratt, interest on taxes,	10.75
" J. A. Shaw, pedler's license,	6.00
" Horace Bartlett, trustee for Sarah Howard,	117.00
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	\$33,411.91

EXPENDITURES.

Town officers,	\$1,286.53
State aid,	1,656.00
Schools,	5,717.95
Highways,	3,421.02
Poor out of house,	1,795.81
Incidentals,	864.85
Out of town officers,	94.43
Memorial service,	60.00
Soldiers' relief,	54.00
Library,	365.62
School superintendent,	250.00
Almshouse,	1,154.00
Abatements,	127.83
Edgerly & Crocker, note and interest,	1,011.38
Edgerly & Crocker, note and interest,	1,029.87
County tax,	1,276.41
State tax,	570.00
Ply. Co. S. D. & Trust Co., note and interest,	2,033.33
Cash and uncollected taxes,	10,642.85
	<hr/>
	\$33,411.91

Condition of Treasury January 1, 1901.

Cash on hand,	\$2,518.51
Uncollected taxes, 1898, 1899, 1900,	5,654.65
Due from G. M. Pratt,	2,469.69
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	\$10,642.85

W. Bridgewater, Mass., Jan. 21st, 1901.

We have examined the books and accounts of all the officers intrusted with the receipt, custody or expenditure of money, and all original bills and vouchers on which money has been paid from the treasury of this town, and we find all such books, accounts, bills and vouchers to be correct.

G. S. DRAKE, }
A. C. PECKHAM, } *Auditors.*

Outstanding note against the Town,	\$1,000.00
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REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS.

The superintendent of streets has approved bills to the following named persons for material and work on the roads and sidewalks :

George G. Hopkins,	\$488.00
Joseph S. George,	193.30
John Cushman,	111.55
Chas. H. Fuller,	104.50
James Keenan,	187.85
T. Prescott Snell,	51.00
Fred J. Vosmus,	15.40
P. O'Conner Estate,	105.15
Charles Brown,	192.10
Thomas Hennessy,	189.95
Clinton P. Howard,	104.25
Charles E. Leonard,	86.50
David Frahar,	43.00
Horace Bartlett,	103.50
Elmer E. Howard,	89.40
Fred J. Hambly,	77.00
Joseph C. Howard,	87.75
George F. Ryder,	144.25
George W. Howard,	85.50
Antoine Peters,	64.30
Peter Keenan,	62.35
Frank E. Shaw,	47.00
Alger Bros.	74.85
Amount carried forward,	\$2,708.45

Amount brought forward,	\$2,708.45
Charles C. Thayer,	102.50
George J. Kingman,	54.75
James McAnagh,	59.75
Samuel G. Copeland,	24.75
E. M. Fisher,	5.45
L. E. Hayward,	15.45
George W. Sweet,	2.00
James O. Alger,	8.25
James S. Jones,	.50
E. T. Snell,	2 70
Philander Lambert,	7.60
John Norman,	2.00
W. L. Woodworth,	2.60
George H. Lincoln,	5.00
Edwin H. Lothrop	19.15
George Withington,	2.10
J. E. Ryder,	1.00
Michael McCarthy,	3.40
Marcus Pierce,	17.25
E. H. Ridlington,	20.25
Patrick McGinn,	4.00
Charles Howard,	11.25
James P. Lincoln,	2.40
Patrick Keenan,	1.20
J. M. Howard,	19.12
H. O. Davenport,	2.00
Elihu Leonard,	16.50
A. J. Pillsbury,	4.00
O. K. Ness,	2.80
George R. Drake,	.75
William F. Ryder,	292.10
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	\$3421.02

WILLIAM F. RYDER,

Superintendent.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

Marriages registered in West Bridgewater in 1900.

- Jan. 9. Ansel E. Merrill, of Brockton and Edith L. Hopkins, of West Bridgewater.
- Jan. 13. Chester H. Wadsworth, of West Bridgewater, and Inez M. Shattuck, of East Bridgewater.
- Jan. 15. Richard W. Reid, and Lizzie G. Hartwell, both of West Bridgewater.
- Fed. 27. William James Gorman, of West Bridgewater, and Margeret Ella Fox, of Bridgewater.
- April 7. Darius Peery, of Marstons Mills, and Clara N. Parker, of West Bridgewater.
- April 16. William C. Morse, and Stella L. Albro, both of Raynham.
- May 30. James R. Young, and Cora C. Vosmus, both of West Bridgewater.
- June 3. Charles E. Simino, of West Bridgewater, and Annie Benoit, of New Bedford.
- July 4. Charles C. Drake, of Middleboro, and Alice M. Holmes, of West Bridgewater.
- July 20. John Conners, of Bridgewater, and Anna Gleason Gorman, of West Bridgewater.
- Sept. 28. Sumner P. Ames, of West Bridgewater, and Margaret C. Hunter, of Andover.
- Oct. 10. Robert Caswell Pike, of Brockton, and Alice May Snow, of West Bridgewater.
- Oct. 23. Albert C. Snow, and Estella J. Shaw, both of West Bridgewater.
- Oct. 30. Edward Nelson Billington, of Easton, and Elizabeth Lillian Harvey, of West Bridgewater.
- Nov. 29. Edward F. Hennessy, of West Bridgewater, and Anne Gertrude Finnigan, of Bridgewater.

DEATHS RECORDED IN WEST BRIDGEWATER IN THE YEAR 1900.

DATE.	NAMES OF PERSONS DECEASED.	Y	M	D	CAUSE OF DEATH.	PLACE OF BIRTH.	NAMES OF PARENTS.
Jan. 27	John W. Shaw	13	4	4	Drowning	W. Bridgewater	Horatio S. Shaw and Olive Allen
Feb. 20	Joanna Hayes	51	..	..	Pneumonia	Ireland	Timothy Hayes and Joanna Saxton
Mar. 31	Samuel H. Howard	84	4	..	Bronchitis	W. Bridgewater	Alfred Howard and Hannah Hartwell
Apr. 1	Francis V. Crosby	10	6	..	Pneumonia	W. Bridgewater	Willard V. Crosby & Gert' de L. Sherrick
Apr. 6	Horatio Howard	80	3	10	La grippe	W. Bridgewater	Edwin Howard and Betsey Haskell
Apr. 6	Lavinia Howard	82	8	19	General debility	Warren, Me. . . .	Marshall Wilbar and Phebe Leonard
Apr. 10	Alice C. Willard	83	7	..	Paralysis	Shutesbury	Thos. Atherton and Alice Chubbuck
Apr. 15	Edmund Alger	86	7	11	Old age	W. Bridgewater	Nathan Alger and Rachel Smith
Apr. 16	Carrie M. Buzzell	35	11	28	Pulmon'y tubercu.	Lewiston, Me. . . .	— Thompson & Thankful Spaulding
Apr. 19	Isaac H. Bates	72	4	17	Pneumonia	Plympton	Isaac Bates and Elizabeth Wright
May 15	Fannie E. Pittsley	69	7	16	Old age	Taunton	Samuel Holmes and ———
May 16	Forrest Martin	1	7	25	Menengitis	W. Bridgewater	John A. Martin and Margaret Duggan
June 10	Earle Warren Holmes	10	8	20	Paralysis, by diphth	W. Bridgewater	Geo. H. Holmes & Emma W. Leonard
June 27	Susan D. Howard	89	11	20	Old age	W. Bridgewater	Edward Hayward and Perry Howard
Aug. 26	Ernest E. Davenport	36	7	28	Drowning	E. Bridgewater	George H. Davenport & Jane A. Nason
Sept. 2	Catherine Fraher	80	..	..	Old age	Ireland	—————
Sept. 2	Ethel M. Brainard	9	0	8	Cholera morbus	Brockton	Wm. S. Brainard and Ada J. Daniels
Sept. 13	Stephen F. O'Neil	..	8	15	Cholera infantum	W. Bridgewater	Stephen O'Neil and Margaret Conneys
Sept. 14	Isabelle B. McWhinney	29	10	14	Acute nephritis	Newmarket, N.H	William Bell and Mary A. Bell
Sept. 20	Fanny Emily Burke	..	3	18	Inanition	W. Bridgewater	John Burke and May Pittsley
Oct. 26	Harry Leon Bates	..	11	..	Convulsions	E. Bridgewater	Harry P. Bates and Sarah E. Dill
Nov. 1	Cal-b T. Keene	80	5	21	Oedema of lungs	Pembroke	Ichabod Keene and Terzah Delano
Nov. 26	Thomas M. Alger	20	5	15	Typhoid fever	W. Bridgewater	James O. Alger and Carrie E. Flagg
Dec. 23	James P. Gallagher	74	9	11	Heart failure	Holland	Edward Gallagher and Mary Noonan
Dec. 30	Edmund Perkins	54	..	..	Alcoholism	W. Bridgewater	Melvin Perkins and Mary Willis

BIRTHS RECORDED IN WEST BRIDGEWATER IN THE YEAR 1900.

DATE.	NAME.	SEX	NAMES OF PARENTS.
1897 November 1	Phillips Brooks Webber	Male	Arthur A. Webber and Lucy Florence Raymond
1899 February 27	Theodora Pauline Webber	Female	Arthur A. Webber and Lucy Florence Raymond
November 11	Harold Perkins Hatch	Male	Frank P. Hatch and Marcia E. Stewart
December 22	Martin David Fallon	Male	Michael Fallon and Ellen J. Duane
December 27	Herbert Joy Clark	Male	Arthur E. Clark and Sarah C. Glass
1900 January 26	Hartley Leroy Bosworth	Male	William F. Bosworth and Mildred E. Jennings
February 9	Alice Crowell	Female	Almond H. Crowell and Josephine A. Raymond
April 6	Richard Hartwell Reid	Male	Richard Reid and Lizzie G. Hartwell
May 4	Edward Leroy McAnaugh	Male	Edward H. McAnaugh and Mary Hayes
May 8	Albert Chassez	Male	Theophile Chassez and Adele Paré
May 26	Warren Sylvia	Male	John and Teresa Sylvia
June 2	Archie George	Male	Joseph George and Maria Freitus
June 24	Lillian Frances Smith	Female	Herman C. Smith and Susan Josephine Coffey
July 9	Stillborn		
July 28	Ethelyn Rebecca Leavitt	Female	William M. Leavitt and Lillian E. Clark
July 30	Ruth Celia Marshall	Female	Harry E. Marshall and Ada De Neves
August 11	Helen Maud Denley	Female	Clifton J. Denley and Elsie W. Lambert
August 13	Catherine de Madeira	Female	Manuel de Almeida and Marie Almeida
August 13	Manuel de Madeira	Male	Manuel de Almeida and Marie Almeida
August 17	George Sawyer	Male	James E. Sawyer and Sadie E. McCarthy
August 19	Clarissa Bradford Ryder	Female	George F. Ryder and Grace M. Adams
September 18	Winifred Phebe Hatch	Female	Harry P. Hatch and Flora I. Boyd
October 5	Clarence Arthur Wakelin	Male	John H. Wakelin and Harriet Corkum
October 15	Mildred Frances Wade	Female	Winthrop A. Wade and Ida May Cook
November 4	Marion d'Andrade	Female	Manuel J. d'Andrade and Isabel Amila

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The whole number of bound volumes in the library, December 31, 1900, was 5,258, 134 having been added by purchase during the year.

The total number of books, and the number of each class issued during the year 1900, is as follows, viz:

Agriculture,	1
Art,	9
Biography,	62
Fiction,	2,132
General Literature,	144
History,	101
Humorous Works,	60
Juvenile Works,	918
Magazines,	745
Poetry,	87
Works of Reference,	2
Religion and Theology,	9
Science,	52
Travels,	73
Public Documents,	5
	4,400

COST OF MAINTAINING THE LIBRARY.

Receipts

Balance cash on hand,	\$.69
Received from town treasurer,	365.62
Fines and sales,	8.25
Balance to new account,	4.06
	\$378.62

Expenditures.

Charles E. Lauriat Co.	\$101.06
Librarian's salary,	150.00
Messages and documents,	35.35
F. J. Barnard & Co.,	18.11
Wonders of Nature,	33.30
Magazines,	27.80
W. E. Fay, printing,	5.00
Miss Kingman, for books,	1.00
Oil, express, stationery, etc.,	7.00
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	\$378.62

The Cornelia Alger Fund, on deposit at the East Bridge-water Savings Bank, now amounts to \$911.38.

Respectfully submitted for trustees of library,

CHAS. R. PACKARD.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

At the beginning of the school year of 1900 the following were members of the school committee:

E. E. BROWN, W. H. BOSWORTH, for three years..

MRS. A. S. LELACHEUR, C. P. HOWARD, for two years.

MRS. M. K. CROSBY, MRS. C. H. COPELAND, for one year.

The organization for the year was as follows:

A. S. LELACHEUR, *Chairman.*

M. K. CROSBY, *Secretary.*

W. H. BOSWORTH, C. P. HOWARD and E. E. BROWN,
Committee on Repairs.

The schools were assigned as follows:

North to Mrs. Copeland,

Cochesett to E. E. Brown,

Center to Mrs. LeLacheur,

South to C. P. Howard,

East and Matfield to Mrs. Crosby,

Jerusalem to Mr. Bosworth.

To A. S. LeLacheur, M. K. Crosby and C. H. Copeland was assigned the approval of teachers selected to fill vacancies.

M. K. Crosby was appointed agent for school supplies.

W. H. Bosworth, I. E. Wheeler and F. O. Jones were chosen truant officers.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

TEACHERS.

Miss G. A. Smith,	36 weeks,	\$360.00
Miss E. A. Morrow,	36 "	499.99
Miss R. L. MacDonald,	36 "	499.96
Miss W. A. Holmes,	36 "	432.00
Miss E. M. Dunn,	36 "	360.00
Miss M. A. Dewyer,	36 "	468.00
Miss A. M. Seyser,	21 "	210.00
Miss B. H. Dickerson,	36 "	351.50
Miss E. H. Richardson,	21 "	189.00
Miss M. Smith,	21 "	168.00
Miss S. E. Child,	15 "	135.50
Miss L. F. Shaw,	15 "	120.00
Miss L. G. Reed,	14 "	126.00
Miss S. McMenamen,	1 "	8.00
Miss I. S. Wood, balance for winter term,		26.00
Miss L. E. Merritt drawing,		10.00
Miss A. M. Barnes, music,		164.25
Conveyance of music teacher,		59.50
		<hr/>
		\$4,187.70

JANITORS.

Paid for Jerusalem,	\$14.00
Cochesett,	26.00
Center,	34.00
South, 1899 and 1900,	20.00
East,	14.00
Matfield,	14.90
North,	14.00
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	\$136.90

FUEL.

Paid E. H. Lothrop, 13 tons coal,	\$57.00
B. Copeland, 3 cords hard, 2 pine (labor),	28.00
E. H. Thayer, 4 cords pine, 4 hard and labor,	39.00
C. P. Howard, 3 cords hard (labor),	21.00
C. G. Manley, 2 cords hard,	9.00
L. H. Marshall, 5 cords hard, 2 pine,	33.00
E. T. Snell, 3 cords oak, 1 1-2 pine (labor),	26.00
S. B. Hetherington, labor,	4.50
G. W. Ellis, labor,	11.77
George Penpraise, labor,	6.50
John Doyle, labor,	11.25
L. E. Hayward, labor,	3.10
	<hr/>
	\$250.12

TRANSPORTATION.

Paid D. R. Simmons, coach,	\$275.00
Electric car tickets,	152.50
	<hr/>
	\$427.50

REFERENCE BOOKS.

Periodicals from E. W. Nutter, 1899 and 1900,	\$18.97
One copy "Youth's Companion,"	1.87
	<hr/>
	\$20.84

EXPENDITURES.

Teacher's wages,	\$4,187.70
Fuel,	250.12
Janitors,	136.90
Transportation,	427.50
Periodicals,	20.84
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	\$5,023.06

RECEIPTS.

Town grant,	\$1,450.00
Income of Massachusetts school fund,	294.35
On account of district supervision,	166.67
Tuition of state wards,	83.00
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	\$4,994.02

REPAIRS.

General Repairs and Incidentals.

Paid J. Burrill, printing and stock,	\$20.56
J. H. Fairbanks, labor and stock,	21.18
N. W. Bradford, labor and stock, East,	33.59
C. Eddy, blinds and labor, East,	3.10
J. Conlon, labor and stock, Centre,	15.44
J. Conlon, labor and stock, East,	31.29
J. M. Howard & Son, stock for well, Centre,	30.24
W. H. Bosworth, labor on well, Centre,	37.80
E. H. Lothrop, painter's supplies,	31.03
J. Baldwin, labor and stock, Cochesett,	92.21
Flags, East and Centre,	9.50
C. P. Howard, labor, South and Centre,	12.00
W. H. Bosworth, labor and stock, N., S., Centre,	12.48
Howard & Clark, settee, Centre,	3.20
Expense for diplomas,	4.35
J. E. Wheeler, truant service,	4.50
Express, postage and team,	7.51
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	\$369.98

Small Repairs, Cleaning, Etc.

Cochesett,	\$14.50
Centre,	16.95
South,	8.50
East,	10.27
Matfield,	6.88
North, 1899-1900,	13.87
Jerusalem, 1899-1900,	16.17
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	\$87.14

SCHOOL SUPPLIES.

Paid E. E. Babb & Co., text-books,	\$67.37
Silver, Burdett & Co., readers,	26.68
Ginn & Co., text-books and copy-books,	40.11
J. L. Hammett & Co., supplies,	88.22
Houghton, Mifflin & Co., readers,	10.20
Educational Pub. Co., readers,	3.75
University Pub. Co., readers,	1.44
Express and supplies,	3.94
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	\$241.71
Whole amount of repairs,	457.12
Cost of school supplies,	241.71
	<hr/>
Total,	\$698.83
Sale of text-books,	\$3.94
Town grant for repairs and supplies,	500.00
Special grant for wells,	100.00
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	\$603.94

New Supplies on Hand Dec. 31, 1900.

Readers, geographies, arithmetics, etc.,	\$36.37
Paper, copy books and general supplies,	14.28
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	\$50.65
Inventory of stock, Jan. 1, 1900,	\$131.74
Amount drawn from treasury,	237.77
Inventory of new stock, Dec. 31, 1900,	50.65
Supplies furnished schools,	222.80

CALENDAR FOR 1901.

WINTER TERM, January 7 to March 22, 1901. Eleven weeks.

Vacation, two weeks.

SPRING TERM, April 8 to June 14. Ten weeks.

Vacation, thirteen weeks.

FALL TERM, September 9 to December 20. Fifteen weeks.

Recess. Thanksgiving week after Wednesday.

Vacation, two weeks.

WINTER TERM, 1902, January 6.

Changes may be made in this to accommodate different schools.

The year just closing has brought to our schools more changes than often occur in the same time.

Miss Irene S. Wood retired from her connection with the Cochesett primary school at the close of the spring term, and the Committee take this opportunity of publicly recognizing the great worth of her long period of service in the town.

The resignation of our District Superintendent, Mr. Frank O. Jones, which was tendered in the summer vacation, was accepted with sincere regret, as he had filled the position for over two years most acceptably to the teachers and committee.

His successor, Mr. Robert J. Fuller, has entered upon the work with enthusiasm and we look for increased prosperity of our schools under his care.

His report refers to the number in the Howard High school, which is considerably above that of the fall term of 1899. There is no class to graduate this summer, and if a class of good size enters in the fall, there will be a better showing in membership.

In our report for last year attention was called to the almost certain need of greater provision for pupils at the Centre.

Both schools there have been very crowded throughout the year, and there should be no delay in meeting this need.

In each building, all the space where it is possible to seat pupils, is occupied, with great inconvenience to regular school work.

There will probably be no seats for a new class in the primary school next fall, and it may be necessary to refuse admission to some pupils who should enter the grammar school.

In compliance with our request the superintendent's report presents our plans for relieving this serious condition of the Centre schools.

He has shown what the prospect is for numbers in the different grades and how the grades can be arranged in more rooms with great advantage to health and progress in study.

If some consolidation of schools could be properly made, the present number of teachers need not be increased, but for that, the co-operation of parents and citizens generally would be needed.

Such consolidation is now quite common in country towns, and is strongly urged by those who lead in the educational interests of our State.

The new building proposed, with fewer grades in each room, will provide for increase in numbers for many years, and will contain the essentials of school room comfort at the opening of the twentieth century.

The present grammar building, recently well equipped for its purpose, will furnish a comfortable room for two of the older grades.

In the new building it is important to have a small room to serve the double purpose of superintendent's office and for storing school supplies that could be unpacked in the building. This would greatly assist in the distribution of these supplies which is a laborious though very important work.

Of course the current expenses of these schools in heating

and janitor service would be increased, but not nearly in proportion to the resulting benefits.

Plans could be obtained and work commenced promptly upon the granting of an appropriation by the town so that the building would be ready for the fall term.

It is impossible to determine so early in the year the amount of repairs that may be required in the different buildings ; hence the repair account not infrequently exceeds the amount asked for.

As in the present year, shingling at the East building and painting at Cochesett seemed quite important.

The appropriation of \$100.00 for wells has not been exceeded in repairing that at the South, and providing a much needed new one at the Centre.

We ask for the same ordinary appropriations as last year, not being able to estimate the extra expenses of the full term, with the uncertainty attending arrangements for the Centre schools.

And we ask for a special grant that we trust will meet the cost of a new building dedicated to the advancement of our town through the education of its children in the new century.

We recommend the following appropriations :

For the support of schools,	\$4,000.00
repairs and incidentals,	300.00
text-books and supplies,	200.00
conveyance of pupils,	450.00
Centre building and furnishing,	7,000.00

At the annual meeting it will be necessary to choose two members for three years.

Respectfully submitted,

A. S. LELACHEUR,	} <i>School</i> <i>Committee.</i>
M. K. CROSBY,	
C. H. COPELAND,	
W. H. BOSWORTH,	
C. P. HOWARD,	
E. E. BROWN,	

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

To the honorable Board of School Committee of the Town of West Bridgewater.

In accordance with your regulations I herewith present to you my first annual report. It is the ninth in the series of annual reports since the formation of this union district.

As you well know, I took up the work of the year after it was two thirds finished, consequently my report must be concerned more especially with the work of the last four months. In addition to this, I wish to ask you to glance ahead at the future possibilities of your schools. When I began the work in September, all of the schools were provided with teachers; the course of study was fairly established and everything was in readiness for an auspicious beginning as well as a prosperous year. My predecessors had selected for you teachers of marked ability and adaptation for their work. This, together with the wise counsel of your secretary and yourselves, rendered my seemingly difficult task of "breaking in" not only easy but very pleasant. For this, as well as all other kindnesses shown, I wish to express my sincere thanks.

At the close of the fall term 1900, I find, that in general, your schools are all in a progressive state. The number of cases of severe discipline has been small.

CONDITION AT A few of the children, some, I regret to say,
END OF YEAR. with the consent of their parents, have wilfully remained out of school during session

time. May I, through you, say to those parents that, while there are times when it may be right to keep the children at home, the fact remains that it is a positive

ATTENDANCE. injury to their boys and girls, mentally and morally, to keep them out of school unless the cause be a just one. A mental injury, because it causes

them the loss of the instruction, hence places them in danger of non-promotion and discouragement. Furthermore, according to a public statute of Massachusetts, no parent has a right to keep a child between the ages of seven and fourteen out of the public schools for any cause other than sickness, unless he attend some school approved by the school board. Can we expect that if as parents we allow our children to disregard law, that as young men and women they will regard those laws which make them independent citizens? The scholarship of the pupils is, on the whole, good.

STANDARD. Some of the grades and schools are nearer the standard than others. This, however, is but a natural result of the difference in environment and condition. While we may never expect to see the schools with the five, six or seven grades in a room, as well classified as those with fewer grades, it has been and is my purpose to cause the work to become as near uniform as possible.

Having given some of my attention to the subject of spelling, I am convinced that for the sake of more definite work and for the assistance of the teacher in arranging this work, there ought to be in use in the grades above the fourth, some uniform text-book in Spelling. There are many words in constant use which are essential in the ordinary occupations of men and women. This fact is likely to be lost sight of by the one who presents the lesson. If however, a text-book containing the common words was in the hands of the pupil and was made the basis of the lesson in spelling, the complaint that our pupils are poor spellers would be heard less frequently. An attempt has been made to partially supply this

need, and I hope to see improvement in this
TEXT-BOOKS. subject during the ensuing year. I have also been asked about the Physiology now in use in the upper grades. Upon a somewhat careful examination, I find that the one which we now have is much too difficult and exhaustive for pupils thirteen or fourteen years old.

I hope, therefore, to be able very soon to bring to your notice for adoption a more modern book based upon scientific knowledge and at the same time simple enough to be understood by the pupils of the eighth and ninth grades. My predecessor spoke to me regarding a text-book now in use in the ninth grade. It is Carpenter's "Composition and Grammar." I found this book, as the Physiology, very difficult and unsatisfactory. The aim of the English work of this grade should be to round out the technical work of the eighth grade and help the scholars to such an understanding of spoken and written English that when they leave the Grammar School they may be able to write and speak correct English. If this can be brought about, those who do not

attend High School will be able to enter a higher station in life than they could otherwise do. With this end in view, new books have been purchased for use in the ninth grade, Scott and Denny's Elementary English Composition. This work, furnishing an abundance of themes and material for writing, carries out in detail what I have hinted at above. I feel certain that it will give the pupils of the ninth grade a start in the right direction.

From my observations and experiences during the past term, I have grown more and more to feel the need of a more definite course of study, or outline for all grades. If obliged to place a new teacher in any school temporarily or permanently, we have very little to put into her hands so that she may know just where to find the classes. The course as arranged by your first superintendent and supplemented by your second is still in use. The conditions in your schools have changed somewhat since that course was established. Many of your text-books are different. Most of your teachers are new. I shall, therefore, some time before September 1, 1901, present for your consideration a preliminary course of study, which shall be as near the actual work

performed in our schools as it is possible for me to make it. In partial anticipation of this I have herewith appended a set of rules and regulations, relating in a general way to the schools of the town. I trust these, as well as those presented relating to the duties of the superintendent, teachers and janitors, may be adopted by you and printed copies be given each of the above officers.

Credit is due my predecessors, and you as the representatives of the town, for the consolidation that has already taken place in your schools. During the past century the the schools of this country have been CONSOLIDATION. passing through various stages of development, until the educators of to-day consider that those which are most thoroughly centralized and the work of which is most carefully divided, are the ones where the best results are seen. Can you not, then as a school board, well ask yourselves and the town if you have done all that can be done in this direction?

It is a fact commonly conceded by every intelligent citizen that one teacher cannot give satisfactory instruction to more than fifty pupils in a room with one grade, nor to more than forty in a room with two, three or four NUMBER OF PUPILS grades. In the following table, compiled at your request, showing the IN A ROOM. number of pupils now in each grade in each school, I would like you to notice that next year, by the present arrangement of grades, one of the teachers at the Center will have forty or more scholars, while the other two will have all that it is possible for them to do.

By a different arrangement of grades the CONGESTION. same condition would exist, but with greater inequality of division. In the three years following, taking into consideration the probable number to dropout and the number who will come to the Center from the North, South, East and Matfield schools, the

GRADE AND PUPILS.

SCHOOL.	1900-1901.									1902-1903.								
	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.
Center Grammar, Center Primary, North, Matfield, South, East,	16	11	8	6	8	13	16	11	15			16	11	8	14	21	16	20
	6	4	6	4	5							6	4	6				
	7	13	13	9	3	3						7	13	13	9			
	9	2	5	4	2							9	2	5				
	2	4	3	4	3		4					2	4	3				
Center Grammar, Center Primary, North, Matfield, South, East,	16	11	8	8	6	15	16	20	11				16	11	22	23	21	16
	6	4	6	4	4								6	4				
	7	13	13	13	9	3							7	13	13			
	9	2	2	5	4								9	2				
	2	4	4	3	4	3	4						2	4				

same disparity will exist. This does not provide at all for those entering the primary grade during the three years. With the electric railroad, and the desirability of your town as a place of residence, this number will, in all probability, grow larger rather than smaller. Thus, it seems to me, that you must see the immediate necessity of another teacher at the Center.

True it is, you cannot ask for another teacher until you have provided a place in which she may teach. Realizing that, as well as knowing the inadequacy of the two buildings at the Center, to accomodate the present number of pupils, I have given much of my time and attention to the prospect of a new building there. In this study I have endeavored to keep in mind first, the accomodation, comfort, and sanitary condition of all the pupils; second, the good name and standing of the town and citizens of West Bridgewater; third, and not the least important factor, the expense of a building sufficient to accomodate the pupils, and at the same time built according to modern pedagogic ideas.

Of the present buildings at the Center, let me say that the small building is not sufficient to accomodate even the three grades. The teacher and pupils would always alike be crowded. The ventilation is imperfect, the lighting poor and floor arrangement inconvenient. In fact, the building, in an eastern Massachusetts town which has BUILDINGS NOW always been thrifty, is not only out of AT CENTER. place but almost a disgrace. It has served its purpose. Ought it not then to be discarded? The large building, by actual measurement, will according to modern ideas, accomodate comfortably no more than forty or fifty pupils. It is so arranged that the eighth and ninth grades can be very well taken care of by one teacher.

Starting with these hypotheses; the necessity of a fourth teacher at the Center, the small building there practically

unfit for use, the large building in reality only large enough to accomodate forty pupils and one teacher, I have at your request, the following suggestion or recommendation to make. Keeping the premises in mind, you will see that there are, or will be, three teachers at the Center in the near future with no place in which to teach. This then, anticipates for us the request that you cause to be built at the Center a three room building. This building to be so constructed as to accomodate the three schools and a supply or committee room. The plan to be so drawn as to have the three rooms on the ground floor; a corridor across the entire building to serve, by means of wire grating, as a coat room; to have slate blackboards; the building to be heated and ventilated through-out by the Fuller & Warren heating and ventilating system or one similar to it; to have a cemented basement, two rooms of which to be used for play-rooms, in stormy weather and to accomodate those who remain to dinner;

NEW BUILDING. to provide in the basement, also, for the storage of fuel; the basement to be connected with the outbuildings by a covered passage. Such a building constructed by responsible contractors, would cost not more than \$7,000.00, made of brick, and about \$1,000.00 less, built of wood. The cost of more land, grading and furnishing, would be not far from \$1,000.00 additional. With such a building and another teacher at the Center, the classification and comfort of your pupils will be so much enchanced and perfected that the Town of West Bridgewater will retain the good reputation of her schools, and will soon see them equal to those of any other town of her size in the state.

While writing this, the thought occurred to me, that it might be possible for us to provide for our fourth teacher from the present number of teachers and thus save a part, if not all, of the salary of one teacher. Transportation is not at all times and under all circumstances desirable. It is, in some cases, even objectionable. This is true in the case of a large

number of children transported by coach, but if responsible men are employed as drivers of these coaches, the objections become less. When, however, these same

FURTHER CONSOLIDATION. children can be transported by electric cars, these objections are reduced almost to nothing. In winter the cars are heated, in stormy weather closed cars are used, at all times conductors must see that there is no disorderly conduct on board. If, then, in your own town you have a school so situated that a majority of the scholars are now carrying their dinners and have a long distance to walk to and from school, if most of these scholars are within comparatively easy access to the electrics, would it not be a feasible and money-saving proposition to take such a school and teacher to this new building? If this plan was adopted the scholars would have the advantages of better instruction, fewer grades in a room

and more comfortable quarters, besides a **BENEFITS FROM THIS PLAN.** teacher to look out for their welfare during the noon hour. By such an arrangement you would save at least one-half of the salary of one teacher, to say nothing of the janitor, fuel, and repairs necessary for the old building. After giving the above suggestion your best thought and judgment, I am sure that you will ask at the next town meeting for an appropriation sufficient to cover the expense of such a building as herein described.

Before closing, I wish to call your attention to the fact that this year we have expended little or no money for drawing, after consulting the teachers, I found that it would be impossible for us to set satisfactory results by the method of last year. In consequence of this, what has been done up to the present time has been done by the individual teacher. At best, this is temporary and will not assist us to uniformity throughout the grades in the town. Mr. Bailey, the state agent, recommends towns the size of this to procure the services of a graduate of the Normal Art School of Boston. Many such

teachers are willing, for the sake of experience, to teach for a nominal sum. In accordance with this plan of Mr. Bailey's I would suggest that beginning September, 1901, such a teacher be employed.

I feel that I shall not have done my full duty until I urge you, in behalf of the children of your own town, to exert your utmost influence towards increasing the number of pupils now attending the high school in Howard Seminary. With such unusual advantages of apparatus, instruction and culture, it is with a feeling of regret and disappointment that I report to you only 18 scholars enrolled in that institution from a town of 1,800 inhabitants and 300 school children, making a percentage of our grammar pupils to enter the high school much below the average for towns of our size. Shelburne with 1,560 inhabitants had in 1898 an enrolment of 303 scholars, 56 of whom were in the high school. Norwell with 1,540 inhabitants had 238 pupils and 49 in the high school. Sudbury with 1,141 inhabitants and a total enrolment of 179 pupils had 40 in the high school. Is there not something that we as school board, teachers and parents can do to change this condition in our town?

In accordance with the above report, I hereby recommend: First, that you build or cause to be built a three-room school building at the Center; second, that if possible you employ a drawing teacher to begin work next September; third, that you urge parents to have their children attend the high school after finishing the prescribed grammar school course; fourth, that you adopt the appended rules and regulations as well as those submitted regarding the duties of the various officers of the school board, superintendent, teachers and janitors.

Herewith you will find appended statistics for the year ending December 31, 1900. You will also find the rules and regulations previously mentioned, and the report of the teacher of music to which I wish to call your attention.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBT J. FULLER,

Superintendent of Schools.

East Bridgewater, Jan. 7, 1901.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1900.

Number of schools,	9
Number of teachers required,	10
Number of teachers employed during the year,	11
Population of the town 1900, estimated,	1,800
Number of pupils between the ages of 7 and 14 as per school census, 1899,	207
Number of pupils between the ages of 7 and 14 as per school census, 1900,	207
Number of pupils between the ages of 5 and 15, 1899,	291
Number of pupils between the ages of 5 and 15, 1900,	291
Number of pupils enrolled in all schools, as per school registers, 1899,	292
Number of pupils enrolled in all schools, as per school registers, 1900,	302
Number of pupils enrolled between the ages of 7 and 14, 1899,	193
Number of pupils enrolled between the ages of 7 and 14, 1900,	204
Number enrolled over 15, 1899,	8
Number enrolled over 15, 1900,	3
Average membership, 1899,	257.72
Average membership, 1900,	263.71
Average attendance, 1899,	237.64
Average attendance, 1900,	245.64
Per cent. of attendance, 1899,	.922
Per cent. of attendance, 1900,	.931

ATTENDANCE BY SCHOOLS.

SCHOOL.	GRADES	ENROLLED.	AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP.	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.	PER CENT. OF ATTENDANCE
East,	I - VII	18	15.45	14.53	94
Matfield,	I - VI	50	42.91	40.43	94
North,	I - VI	29	25.38	23.66	93.1
South,	I - VI	28	24.92	22.31	89.44
Center Grammar,	V - IX	67	57.99	54.4	93.68
Center Primary,	I - IV	36	34.17	30.72	88.99
Cochesett Grammar,	V - IX	21	18.1	17.38	96.05
Cochesett Primary,	I - IV	31	26.9	25.29	94.2
Jerusalem,	I - VI	22	17.89	16.92	93.9

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF
SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF
WEST BRIDGEWATER.

SEC. 1. The school year shall begin on the first MONDAY AFTER LABOR DAY and embrace thirty-six weeks. The school year shall be divided into three terms of fifteen weeks, eleven weeks and ten weeks respectively.

SEC. 2. The following vacations and holidays are allowed to each of the schools: Two weeks at Christmas, two weeks in March, a summer vacation sufficient to always bring the opening of the school year the first Monday after Labor Day. Holidays: Saturdays, legal holidays, Washington's birthday, nineteenth of April, Memorial day and Thanksgiving day, the day after Thanksgiving, one day for the Agricultural Fair and the last Friday in October for the Plymouth County Teachers' Convention. No school shall be suspended on any other day except by a vote of the Board, or by the permission of the Superintendent or Prudential Committee.

SEC. 3. There shall be two sessions daily in all the public schools, from 9 to 12, A. M. and from 1 to 3.30 P. M.

SEC. 4. There shall be a recess of fifteen minutes during the morning session of the school for the healthful exercise of the body, also there shall be singing at least once each day. The teacher and superintendent may, if they think advisable, give a ten-minute recess in the afternoon.

SEC. 5. All teachers shall give vigilant attention to the ventilation and temperature of their school rooms, both in winter and summer, and see that the air in the room is effectually changed at each recess and at the close of the session.

SEC. 6. Teachers shall require excuses stating a satisfactory reason for absence, tardiness or dismissal from school

before the close of the session. All cases of absence from school shall be recorded in the register against a pupil's name, and when a scholar has been absent ten days in succession, the name of such pupil shall be dropped from the register.

SEC. 7. Children who have never attended school shall not be allowed to enter the first grade, except during the first month of each school year. No child less than five years old shall be allowed to enter the schools. This rule may be interpreted by the superintendent so as to meet special cases.

SEC. 8. Teachers shall not allow any new pupils to be admitted without first receiving from them a certificate of vaccination, signed by a reputable physician, that such pupils have been successfully vaccinated, or a certificate that vaccination would be dangerous to the health of said pupil.

SEC. 9. Teachers shall not use corporal punishment in the schools unless reasonable other means have been tried. A report of all such cases should be made to the Superintendent.

SEC. 10. In place of the regular visiting day, teachers may by conferring with the Superintendent, visit such schools as he may approve, for the purpose of observing the work and methods of teaching.

SEC. 11. For habitual disregard of rules or opposition to authority, a pupil may be suspended from school by the teacher, who shall immediately report the case and the reasons to the Superintendent for advice and instruction.

SEC. 12. No pupil who has been suspended from one school shall be admitted to any other, except by permission of the Superintendent.

SEC. 13. Pupils remaining for dinner must not be locked in the school building. So long as they conduct themselves properly, the building shall be open to them during the noon hour.

SEC. 14. Any or all of these Rules and Regulations may be changed or amended; notice of intention to change having been given two weeks previous to the meeting.

REPORT OF SUPERVISOR OF MUSIC.

To the Superintendent of Schools of the Town of West Bridgewater :

The music work in your schools has been carried on along the same general lines as laid down in former years, and the same satisfactory results have followed.

I think there is a stronger feeling than ever, that attention to the music in the lower grades is the key to success in the higher. Possibly this rather than almost any other study can be left to the child's natural power of absorption: but many children are not musical sponges and will gain but little by this method. If more personal work in music were required of the child, if it were put more upon the basis of the other studies, I know the result would be surprising and very satisfactory.

In my future work I shall plan more and more to this end thus giving the child independence of thought, making him personally responsible, just as he is in his language or his number work. Every teacher, be she musical or otherwise, can bring this about, and I feel it would be a great factor in the successful carrying out of the music in our schools.

If we can inspire our pupils with a love for music, give them the power to do, then with the ideal before them, music will be placed upon its firmest foundation, and rise to a lofty height.

I wish here to thank the Superintendent, School Committee and all who have aided me in my work, and in the opening of the new century, I bespeak for your schools their greatest measure of prosperity.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNIE M. BARNES,

Supervisor of Music.





