

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Committee and Assessors

AND OF THE

Receipts and Expenditures

OF THE

TOWN OF PALMER,

For the Year Ending March 1, 1879.



PALMER, MASS.:

G. M. FISK & COMPANY, PRINTERS.

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TOWN WARRANT.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. HAMPDEN SS.

To *H. A. Northrop, Constable of the Town of Palmer,* GREETING:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn all the inhabitants of the Town of Palmer qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall in said Palmer on Monday, the seventeenth day of March inst. at ten o'clock A. M., to act on the following articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.

ART. 2. To determine the number of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Assessors, School Committee, and Constables the town will choose for the ensuing year.

ART. 3. To elect all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

ART. 4. To act upon the reports of Selectmen, School Committee, Overseers of the Poor, and other Town Officers.

ART. 5. To raise such sums of money as are necessary to defray the current expenses of the town for the ensuing year.

ART. 6. To determine the manner of repairing the highways and bridges for the ensuing year.

ART. 7. To see if the town will allow a discount upon the taxes that may be assessed for the ensuing year.

ART. 8. To determine the manner the town will take to collect taxes that may be assessed, and state the terms and conditions of the same.

ART. 9. To see if the town will accept the list of Jurors as revised by the Selectmen.

ART. 10. To see if the town will continue to hire the rooms now occupied for a lock-up and tramp rooms, or build new.

ART. 11. To see if the town will vote to enlarge the school-house at the Depot, or to build a new one and appropriate money for the same.

ART. 12. To see if the town will vote to defray in whole or in part the traveling expenses of scholars attending the High School from other parts of the town.

ART. 13. To see if the town will take action respecting a truant law.

ART. 14. To see if the town will make an appropriation for the benefit of the Young Men's Library Association.

ART. 15. To see if the town will accept of a highway as laid out by the Selectmen in the village of Three Rivers, described as follows: Beginning at iron bounds on the northerly side of an old highway formerly leading from Three Rivers to the house of F. Barker, and on the westerly side of the S. A. & N. E. Railroad, and running on line of said railroad north 42° east 43 1-2 rods to iron bounds, thence north 51° east 6 1-2 rods to a highway leading to Belchertown, and bounded by a maple tree standing at the corner of the two roads and nearly in front of the house of Mrs. Susan Hitchcock, the entire length of road being 51 rods, and 3 rods wide.

ART. 16. To see if the town will vote to fix an annual salary for the several Town Officers.

ART. 17. To see if the town will construct and maintain a permanent watering trough in the Depot Village of said town, and to take such further action in regard to a watering trough as may to the town seem best.

ART. 18. To choose Committees and give them instructions.

ART. 19. To hear reports of Committees and act thereon.

The names of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor, Assessors, School Committee and Constables who are voted for must be all on one ballot; Town Clerk and Treasurer on a separate ballot; and you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at the different public places designated by a vote of the town, seven days at least before the holding of said meeting, and cause this warrant to be printed in the Palmer Journal, at least two issues before the time of holding said meeting. Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon to the Town Clerk on or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this sixth day of March, A. D. 1879.

O. B. SMITH,)
H. P. HOLDEN,) *Selectmen*
JOSEPH KERIGAN,) *of*
) *Palmer.*

A true copy, Attest:

H. A. NORTHPROP,
Constable.

ASSESSORS' REPORT.

VALUATION OF PALMER 1878.

Real estate, - - - - -	\$1,336,875
Personal, - - - - -	663,429
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Total, - - - - -	\$2,000,304
Number of polls, - - - - -	1,113
Tax on polls, - - - - -	2,226
Rate per ct., - - - - -	\$11 50 to \$1000
State Tax, - - - - -	\$1,040 00
County tax, - - - - -	1,932 63
Town appropriations :	
For school teachers, fuel and care of school houses, -	7,500 00
Repairing school houses, - - - - -	600 00
Contingencies for schools, - - - - -	500 00
Bridges, - - - - -	1,000 00
Highways, - - - - -	2,500 00
Support of poor, - - - - -	2,500 00
Contingencies, - - - - -	2,000 00
Reducing town debt, - - - - -	3,000 00
Discount on taxes, - - - - -	1,000 00
Interest, - - - - -	860 00
Railings, - - - - -	200 00
Decoration day, - - - - -	100 00
Improving cemetery, - - - - -	50 00
Overlays on tax, - - - - -	447 00
	<hr/>
Total town tax, - - - - -	\$25,229 63
Non resident bank tax, - - - - -	488 40
	<hr/>
Total amount on collector's book, - - - - -	\$25,718 03

JOHN CLOUGH, } *Assessors*
 DAVID KNOX, } *of*
 D. B. BISHOP, } *Palmer.*

TREASURER'S REPORT,

Of the Receipts and Expenditures for the Year ending March 1, 1879.

Balance in treasury March 1, 1878, - - - -	\$8,788 56
Received of State Treasurer for State aid in 1877, -	658 00
“ of State Treasurer, National bank tax, -	476 98
“ of State Treasurer, Corporation tax, - -	197 04
“ of State Treasurer, Income Mass. School fund,	252 25
“ of State Treasurer, State paupers, - -	67 71
“ of State Treasurer, transportation of State paupers, - - - - -	17 00
“ of County Treasurer, dog tax, - - -	275 08
“ of County Treasurer, lock-up fees, - -	27 00
“ of George Robinson, lock-up fees, - -	18 00
“ Interest on Merrick fund, - - - -	51 00
“ Interest on Thompson fund, - - -	43 29
“ Charles Gerald, - - - -	50 00
“ Circus licenses, - - - -	15 00
“ Auctioneer licenses, - - - -	2 00
“ Use of Town Hall, - - - -	29 00
“ Use of Three Rivers school-house, - -	2 00
“ Town of Becket, aid rendered H. M. Allen, -	22 09
“ Town of Wilbraham, aid rendered Daniel Grady, - - - - -	20 45
“ Town of Belchertown, aid rendered C. S. Robbins, - - - - -	5 00
“ Town of Monson, schooling Barnes, Davis and Sisk children, - - - - -	24 31
“ Tuition, Cutler children, - - - -	10 82
“ Fisherdick children, - - - -	13 59
“ Desks sold at Thorndike, - - - -	5 20
“ Cash received of J. A. Palmer, - - -	37 83

"	Cash received of H. P. Holden for pig,	-	\$5 00
"	Cash received of H. P. Holden, - -	-	2 00
"	Liquor licenses, - - - -	-	2,376 00
"	H. A. Northrop, tax 1877, - - -	-	2,029 91
"	H. A. Northrop, tax 1878, - - -	-	22,471 47
			<hr/>
			\$37,993 58

EXPENDITURES.

Paid State tax, - - - - -	\$10,40 00
Paid bank tax, - - - - -	454 42
Paid County tax, - - - - -	1,932 63
Paid State Treasurer 1-4 amount received for liquor licenses, - - - - -	594 00
State aid, - - - - -	672 00
Reducing town debt, - - - - -	9,100 00
Interest on notes - - - - -	928 45
Highways, - - - - -	2,385 13
Bridges, - - - - -	622 48
Building railing, - - - - -	228 47
Decoration day, - - - - -	100 00
Support of poor, - - - - -	2,776 96
Contingencies, - - - - -	1,782 15
New Buildings on town farm, - - - - -	2,221 96
School expenses, - - - - -	7,844 68
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	\$32,683 33
Total receipts, - - - - -	37,993 58
Total expenditures, - - - - -	32,683 33
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Balance in Treasury, - - - - -	\$5,310 25

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES B. SHAW, *Treasurer.*

REPORT

OF THE

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR,

For the year ending March 1, 1879.

SUPPORT OF POOR.

F. H. Shaw, service on town farm to May 4,	- - -	\$100 00
Chas. Sherman, taking care of poor to Jan. 1,	- - -	225 00
J. D. Sawyer, soap for town farm,	- - - -	5 25
J. F. Holbrook, coal for town farm,	- - - -	6 67
Timothy Collins, horse cart for town farm,	- - -	35 00
Marcus Noble, renovating feather beds for poor-house,	-	16 79
Silas Ruggles, M. D., medical attendance in 1877,	-	38 00
Wm. Holbrook, M. D., medical attendance in 1878,	-	35 00
Mrs. A. C. Collins, one hat for pauper,	- - -	1 50
C. A. Brown & Co., stove, plow, cultivator, etc.,	- -	48 83
J. S. Loomis, two coffins and two bedsteads,	- -	27 50
P. S. Trumble, mowing machine, repairing wagons, etc.,	- - -	27 33
Eugene Shorley, making cider,	- - - -	3 24
E. S. Gibbons, repairing shoes for paupers,	- -	1 30
Walter Winter, shoeing horses for town farm,	- -	11 05
Joseph Thompson, empty barrel,	- - - -	1 50
Dennis Mahoney, service of boar,	- - - -	1 00
Chas. Sherman, hay and sundries for town farm,	- -	54 60
George Robinson, sundries for town farm,	- - -	27 89
Foskett & Holbrook, meal and oats,	- - - -	71 17
Joseph Kerigan, wood,	- - - -	5 00
F. C. Hatch, fish,	- - - -	17 07

O. W. Studley, meat,	-	-	-	-	-	\$47	47
J. B. Shaw, goods,	-	-	-	-	-	113	15
A. H. Willis, goods,	-	-	-	-	-	5	25
H. P. & J. S. Holden, goods for town farm,	-	-	-	-	-	178	85
Alfred Trumble, beef for town farm,	-	-	-	-	-	5	97
H. P. Holden, services as overseer of the poor,	-	-	-	-	-	50	00
Joseph Kerigan, services as overseer of the poor,	-	-	-	-	-	35	00

Total expense of town farm, - - - - \$1,196 38

Northampton hospital; board of Harriet Gerald,	-	-	-	-	-	183	75
Northampton hospital, board of Mary Dewire,	-	-	-	-	-	43	44
City of Boston, support of Stephen Lucas,	-	-	-	-	-	14	00
City of Holyoke, support of Mrs. Timothy Sullivan,	-	-	-	-	-	196	28
City of Worcester, support of Owen Sullivan,	-	-	-	-	-	6	65
Town of East Douglass, support of James E. Burpee,	-	-	-	-	-	8	00
Town of Wilbraham, support of E. L. Stetson in 1875,	-	-	-	-	-	15	00
Town of Franklin, support of Martin Moore and wife,	-	-	-	-	-	103	91
Town of Pelham, support of Albert Bacon,	-	-	-	-	-	8	75
Town of Warren, support of Ellen Jordan,	-	-	-	-	-	18	50
J. Chapin Warner, support of Eleanor Thompson,	-	-	-	-	-	38	85
Mrs. J. Daily, support of McCarty children,	-	-	-	-	-	72	00
Mrs. Julia McGrath, support of Hurley children,	-	-	-	-	-	72	00
Mrs. Julia McGrath, support of Mrs. Ferrell,	-	-	-	-	-	11	00
W. N. Packard, goods to Lewis Brown,	-	-	-	-	-	19	06
Thomas J. Sullivan, goods to Mrs. Donovan,	-	-	-	-	-	4	85
H. P. & J. S. Holden, goods to Allen and D. Gradey,	-	-	-	-	-	34	54
Holden Brothers, goods to Mrs. Leury, \$30 ;	-	-	-	-	-		
Mrs. Russell, \$37 ; and Chas. Robbins, \$5 ;	-	-	-	-	-	72	00
Joseph Thompson, goods to Michael Dillon,	-	-	-	-	-	21	37
O. A. Parent, goods to Michael Dillon,	-	-	-	-	-	35	00
J. B. Shaw, goods to Mrs. Leury,	-	-	-	-	-	34	00
J. B. Shaw, goods to Owen Sullivan,	-	-	-	-	-	\$5	16
J. B. Shaw, goods to Daniel Shea,	-	-	-	-	-	3	73
H. P. Holden, goods to Charles Pattrell,	-	-	-	-	-	11	40
F. Smith & Co., meat to Charles Pattrell,	-	-	-	-	-	3	00
Bryan Gavin, rent for Mrs. Donovan,	-	-	-	-	-	15	00
Ellen Rouke, rent for Owen Sullivan,	-	-	-	-	-	5	00

Clark & Hastings, meat to Hannora Harrigan, - -	\$3 00
Joseph Taft, aid to Michael Hildreth, - - -	4 00
Jane Starks, care of Mrs Henry Allen, - - -	6 00
D. N. Squires, moving Mrs. Moore, - - - -	1 25
W. H. Stowe, M. D., medical attendance for Donahue in 1877, - - - - -	3 50
H. P. Holden, expenses out of Town in aid of paupers,	21 65
Joseph Kerigan, expenses out of Town in aid of paupers,	20 55

Total expenses for Town paupers not on Town farm, \$1,116 19

Mary Finity, board and care of Charles Clink, 1877, -	53 50
Estate of Chas. Shaw, goods delivered Chas. Clink, 1877,	2 70
H. T. Bishop, goods delivered Joseph Mayott, - -	15 00
Allen & Cowan, goods for State paupers, - - -	12 81
H. T. Bishop, aid to State paupers, - - - -	39 00
H. P. Holden, aid to State paupers, - - - -	9 07
David Millikin, aid to Mrs. John Hayes, - - -	18 80
J. H. Thayer, aid to Mrs. John Hayes, - - -	19 67
Palmer Mill, rent and wood for Mrs. John Hayes, -	6 75
Michael Kinnevan, care of Charles Conway, - -	24 00
William Holbrook, M. D., medical and surgical attend- ance on C. Conway, - - - - -	97 50

Total expense for State paupers, - - - \$298 80

TRAMPS.

P. W. Webster, blankets, lumber and tin cup,	\$11 29
Joseph Holbrook, coal, - - - -	9 67
W, H. Hitchcock, coal hod and shovel, -	95
H. P. Holden, stove, etc., - - -	16 71
H. P. & J. S. Holden, crackers, - -	35 72
James G. Allen, rent of room, - - -	31 25
George Holsworth, care of tramps, - -	60 00
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	\$165 59

Total amount paid for paupers and tramps, - \$2,776 96
1,190 Tramps lodged and fed.

CONTRA.

Town of Belchertown, - - - -	\$5 00	
Town of Wilbraham, - - - -	20 45	
Town of Becket, - - - -	22 09	
Charles Gerald, - - - -	50 00	
From State (for State paupers), - -	66 71	
From State (for State pauper transportation),	17 00	
Interest on Thompson fund, - - - -	43 29	
	<hr/>	\$224 54
		<hr/>
		\$2,552 42

Inventory, March 1, 1878, - - -	\$832 54	
Inventory, March 1, 1879, - - -	1,010 10	
Whole number of paupers admitted to Town farm, -	-	16
Average number of paupers admitted to Town farm, -	-	11

Respectfully submitted,

O. B. SMITH, -	} Overseers	
H. P. HOLDEN,		of,
JOSEPH KERIGAN,		Poor.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

CONTINGENCIES.

Charles L. Gardner, injury to Jerry Rourke on highway in 1876, - - - - -	\$200 00
Charles L. Gardner, professional services, - - -	10 00
G. M. Fisk & Co., printing report, etc., - - -	46 00
G. M. Fisk & Co., printing, etc., - - - - -	21 50
G. M. Fisk & Co., printing Assessors', Sealer of Weights' and Collector's notices, - - -	12 00
G. M. Fisk & Co., printing voters' list and warrant, -	22 50
H. A. Northrop, posting warrants for 1877, - -	7 50
H. A. Northrop, collecting taxes for 1877, - -	175 00
King Knox, maintaining water tub in highway, - -	5 00
Pliny Cooley, maintaining water tub in highway, -	5 00
Walter Clafin, maintaining water tub in highway, -	5 00
D. B. Bishop, making reports, abating taxes, etc. -	112 50
David Knox, services as Assessor, - - - - -	110 00
David Knox, opening graves and returning deaths, -	203 20
A. L. Haynes, opening graves and returning deaths, -	41 80
L. M. Squiers, opening one grave, - - - - -	2 00
J. J. Moynihan, returning sixty-seven deaths, - -	16 75
John Clough, services as Assessor, - - - - -	107 50
John Clough, sealing weights and measures, - -	8 00
John Clough, books, stationery, postage, etc., - -	8 24
F. M. Connor, liquors taken to analyze in 1876, - -	5 50
William Thompson, liquors taken for samples in 1876,	3 40
Allen & Cowan, liquors taken for samples in 1876, -	8 36
Boston Duck Co., labor cleaning Town house, - -	2 92
James H. Tuthill, painting road notices, - - -	2 25

James H. Tuthill, repairing hearse, - - - -	\$30 00
W. H. Brainard, surveying Town way at Three Rivers,	3 00
H. P. & J. S. Holden, paper, envelopes and postage, -	3 85
James B. Shaw, recording births, marriages and deaths,	95 50
James B. Shaw, services as Treasurer, - - -	50 00
O. B. Smith, services as Selectman, - - - -	100 00
H. P. Holden, services as Selectman, - - - -	100 00
Joseph Kerigan, services as Selectman, - - - -	100 00
S. S. Taft, professional services, - - - -	39 00
Clark & Hastings, salt, etc., - - - -	6 81
J. F. Holbrook, coal, - - - -	6 31
The Republican Co., printing notices to builders, -	4 35
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	\$1,680 74

LOCK-UP.

James G. Allen, rent to August 1, - -	\$57 00
J. F. Holbrook, coal, - - - -	19 41
George Holsworth, care, - - - -	25 00
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	\$101 41
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	\$1,782 15

APPROPRIATION FOR DECORATION DAY.

H. E. W. Clark, - - - - -	\$100 00
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HIGHWAYS.

Robert McMaster, working highway, District No. 1, -	\$123 00
Chas. Sherman, working highway, District No. 1, -	1 20
O. N. Powell, working highway, District No. 2, - -	292 90
J. D. Sawyer, working highway, District No. 3, -	486 25
Charles Upham, working highway, District No. 4, -	378 70
John W. Brainard, working highway, District No. 5, -	115 00
Eugene Shorley, working highway, District No. 6, -	85 20
H. C. Smith, working highway, District No. 7, -	80 00
Calvin Blodgett, working highway, District No. 8, -	19 05
Bradley R. Olney, working highway, District No. 8, -	59 00
Calvin Blodgett, working highway, District No. 9, -	60 60

Bradley Olney, working highway, District No. 9,	-	\$36 00
Joseph Kerigan, working highway, District No. 10,	-	120 00
Merrick Whitney, working highway, District No. 11,	-	298 73
Abel Graves, working highway, District No. 12,	-	102 50
Charles Hastings, working highway, District No. 13,	-	124 50
E. Warner, clearing ice from highway,	- - -	2 50
		<hr/>
		\$2,385 13

BRIDGES.

O. N. Powell, repairs and taking care of bridges in District No. 2,	- - - - -	\$151 35
T. D. Potter, timber and plank,	- - - - -	84 43
C. A. Brown & Co., nails and spikes,	- - - - -	7 20
S. Leach, labor,	- - - - -	13 50
Thorndike Co., new bridge and repairs,	- - - - -	237 84
Palmer Mill, plank, spikes, etc.,	- - - - -	46 10
John P. Barnes, labor,	- - - - -	10 50
H. P. Simonds, four bolts for new bridge at Palmer,	-	1 90
Robert McMaster, culvert at Palmer Center,	- -	16 20
Joseph Kerigan, plank,	- - - - -	34 74
Charles H. Keith, drawing plank and repairing bridge,	-	2 37
C. W. Johnson, labor at new bridge at Palmer depot,	-	16 35
		<hr/>
		\$622 48

PUTTING UP RAILINGS.

Charles Upham, railings, District No. 4,	- - -	\$6 56
J. W. Brainard, railings, District No. 5,	- - -	21 37
Eugene Shorley, railings, District No. 6,	- - -	60 00
Bradley R. Olney, railings, District No. 8,	- - -	39 00
Horace Smith, railings, District No. 7,	- - -	39 40
T. D. Potter, railings, District No. 11,	- - -	29 39
Abel Graves, railings, District No. 12,	- - -	3 00
John P. Barnes, railings at Palmer Depot,	- - -	4 25
Calvin R. Shaw, railings near Brimfield,	- - -	25 50
		<hr/>
		\$228 47

NEW BUILDINGS ON TOWN FARM.

Ethan Warriner, barn, - - - - -	\$613 00
S. Leach, building poor house, - - - - -	926 21
T. D. Potter, lumber for poor house, - - - - -	229 04
Alfred Trumble, grading around buildings, - - - - -	58 04
Owen Reardon, grading around buildings, - - - - -	37 00
F. F. Taylor, grading around buildings, - - - - -	13 00
George Moores, labor around poor house, - - - - -	5 50
George Griffin, stone work and pointing cellar at poor house, - - - - -	92 41
Samuel Shaw, labor around poor house, - - - - -	2 50
H. P. Holden, eaves-troughs, - - - - -	33 05
Charles L. Gardner, insurance, - - - - -	16 25
Boston Duck Co., labor and paint, - - - - -	19 33
S. D. Shaw, brick and labor, - - - - -	6 00
Bradley R. Olney, blasting rocks, - - - - -	2 50
Josiah Gates, clearing out cellar, - - - - -	7 50
C. A. Brown & Co., lead-pipe, etc., - - - - -	51 56
David W. Darling, labor on farm, - - - - -	26 57
William Ferguson, labor on farm, - - - - -	2 50
H. Hamilton, labor on farm, - - - - -	5 00
George Mooers, services as Building Committee, - - - - -	25 00
John A. Squires, services as Building Committee, - - - - -	20 00
Enos Calkins, services as Building Committee, - - - - -	30 00
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	\$2,221 96

REDUCING DEBTS OF THE TOWN.

Paid P. P. Potter notes, - - - - -	\$2,600 00
J. K. Child, (admr.), - - - - -	1,500 00
Rebecca Gates, - - - - -	200 00
Reuben Rogers, - - - - -	1,650 00
Robert McMaster, - - - - -	1,500 00
Mary B. Webster, - - - - -	450 00
Palmer Savings Bank, - - - - -	1,200 00
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	\$9,100 00

CLAIMS AGAINST THE TOWN MARCH 1, 1879.

Notes and interest, - - - -	\$5,512 00
Due H. A. Northrop, "Collector," - -	175 00
" Chas. Sherman, "services," - -	75 00
" J. A. Palmer, - - - -	150 00
" City of Newburyport, - - - -	81 25
" For rent of lock-up and tramp room, -	121 25
	<hr/> \$6,114 50

DUE THE TOWN MARCH 1, 1879.

Balance in treasury, - - - -	\$5,310 25
H. A. Northrop, "Taxes," - - - -	2,000 00
State, for "State aid," - - - -	672 00
Town of Chicopee, - - - -	30 37
State, on act. State paupers, - - - -	346 23
	<hr/> \$8,358 85

O. B. SMITH,)
 H. P. HOLDEN,) *Selectmen*
 JOSEPH KERIGAN,) *of*
) *Palmer.*

The Selectmen recommend the following appropriations:

For paupers, - - - - -	\$2,500 00
Contingencies, - - - - -	2,000 00
Highways, - - - - -	2,500 00
Bridges, - - - - -	1,000 00
Putting up railings, - - - - -	200 00
Library association, - - - - -	500 00
Interest on town debt, - - - - -	312 00

REPORT

OF THE

Committee on Schools.

THE schools of the town the past year have, on the whole, been well conducted. There is room for improvement, indeed; but there have been no complete failures in any quarter.

The teachers generally have shown a genuine interest in their work. They have been competent to instruct, and the majority of their pupils have made good progress. We would call public attention to the duty of commending and co-operating with such teachers as have an evident enthusiasm for their calling. One of the difficulties of school management is to secure instructors who will magnify their profession. So many try teaching as a merely temporary employment, and, in consequence, fail to give their schools the full force and vigor of their minds, that we deem ourselves very fortunate to have secured in our list so many teachers who are absorbed in teaching.

In some parts of the town the schools have been visited by a goodly number of the friends and parents of the children. In the case of several schools, on the other hand, there has been a great lack in this regard. We are persuaded from a comparison of those schools which parents have looked after by personally inspecting them, with those which have gone comparatively unvisited, that no one thing so much stimulates both pupil and teacher as the knowledge that they are to be frequently under the eye of their patrons. Nor is it possible at all to judge of schools without visiting them. A great

amount of misapprehension concerning their condition would be done away were such visitation common. If we could be instrumental in reforming the popular practice so far as to double or treble the number of visitors in them we should thus insure for them an efficiency which nothing else can give.

The High School goes on favorably. It has an earnest and faithful teacher. It is more and more extensively patronized, by the citizens of the town. Its greatest present necessity is the employment of an assistant teacher. The range of studies pursued in it is so wide and the number of its classes so great that no one teacher can do them justice.

But to employ an assistant teacher in the High School and properly to divide the other schools which are in the same building with it, would require another building, or an addition to the present one. We ask from the citizens their favorable consideration of the recommendation which we herewith make, that the town appropriate money to build a new school-house at Palmer, or so to enlarge the old one that it will accommodate the schools required there.

Under the operation of the law forbidding the employment in the mills of children between the ages of ten and fourteen except upon the certificate of the Committee that they have been in the public schools at least twenty weeks in two consecutive terms, the schools in Three Rivers and Thorndike have been so largely increased that we are now obliged to maintain four in each of those villages.

Notwithstanding the operation of the law alluded to above there are many children in the villages who are neither at work nor at study, but who should be placed in the schools. Without enlarging upon the obvious duty to look after these cases, we suggest the adoption by the town of the following by-laws concerning truant children :

ARTICLE 1. The town of Palmer hereby avails itself of the several provisions of the statutes of this Commonwealth, now in force, relating to habitual truants and absentees from

school; and, in pursuance of authority conferred thereby, adopts the following By-Laws:

ART. 2. All children between the ages of seven and fifteen years, residing in said town, and who may be found wandering about in the streets or public places of said town, having no lawful occupation or business, not attending school, and growing up in ignorance, shall be committed to the State Almshouse for confinement, instruction, and discipline.

ART. 3. Two or more truant-officers shall be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to inquire into all violations of the truant-laws, and of the law relating to compulsory education, and to do all the acts required of them by the laws of the Commonwealth.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of every truant-officer, prior to making any complaint under these laws, to notify the truant or the absentee from school, also his parent or guardian, of the offence committed, and of the penalty therefor; and, if the truant-officer can obtain satisfactory pledges for the restraint and reformation of the child, he may forbear to prosecute, so long as such pledges are faithfully kept.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the School Committee, the teachers of the public schools, and the citizens generally, to aid the truant-officers as far as possible in the discharge of their duty.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the truant-officers to keep a full record of all their official acts, and make an annual report thereof to the School Committee, who shall publish the same with their own report.

ART. 7. Nothing in these By-Laws shall be so construed as to alter or impair the obligation and duty of teachers to enforce punctuality and regularity of attendance, and to preserve good order and discipline.

The seventeen thousand five hundred dollars worth of school property in the town is in a fair condition. A considerable outlay, however, is now required for renewal of the heating apparatus in several of the houses under our charge. Hence the recommendation below of \$1,000 for contingencies.

If, after an examination of our financial statement, the citizens of the town shall be satisfied that their Committee can be trusted not to expend money unnecessarily, we would bespeak their affirmative vote upon the following estimate of

the appropriations needed for the ensuing year in this department: For teachers, fuel, and care of houses, \$8,000; repairs, \$500; contingencies, \$1,000.

Appended is a detailed statement of expenditures.

TEACHERS, FUEL, AND CARE OF HOUSES.

Appropriation, - - - - -	\$7,500 00
Frank A. Hosmer, - - - - -	\$307 00
W. H. Whiting, - - - - -	658 00
C. C. Ely, - - - - -	300 00
Sarah A. Buxton, - - - - -	300 00
Belle H. Searle, - - - - -	300 00
Alice Ross, - - - - -	300 00
Ella J. Graves, - - - - -	300 00
Emogene M. Austin, - - - - -	300 00
Fannie H. Paige, - - - - -	245 00
Katie L. Thompson, - - - - -	75 00
Ida Lewis, - - - - -	70 00
Nellie Kerigan, - - - - -	187 50
Emily C. Graves, - - - - -	200 00
Ida A. Taft, - - - - -	300 00
Lavinia M. Newell, - - - - -	300 00
Lizzie A. Holden, - - - - -	300 00
Hattie E. Wallis, - - - - -	300 00
Carrie McMaster, - - - - -	87 00
M. Emma Murdock, - - - - -	266 67
Ruth R. Cortis, - - - - -	180 00
Annie E. Olney, - - - - -	231 00
Jennie M. Kendall, - - - - -	264 00
Sarah L. Granger, - - - - -	72 00
Lizzie L. Eddy, - - - - -	166 66
Mary A. Potter, - - - - -	100 00
Addie M. Johnson, - - - - -	55 00
Charles C. Hutchinson, - - - - -	120 00
Hattie Stone, - - - - -	13 00
	<hr/> \$6,297 83

FUEL.

Joseph Holbrook, for coal, - - - -	\$226 34
Boston Duck Co., for coal, - - - -	18 97
Fremont Cleveland, for wood, - - - -	23 50
Horace Smith, for wood, - - - -	8 50
E. M. Bartlett, for wood, - - - -	28 00
Hiram Converse, for wood, - - - -	10 00
Palmer Mills Co., for wood, - - - -	3 50
Luther Collis, for wood, - - - -	15 38
S. J. Bullock, for wood, - - - -	5 00
W. Kenovan, for wood, - - - -	1 00
Charles Shaw, for wood, - - - -	10 25
Benj. Fenton, for wood, - - - -	6 75
Holden Bros., for wood, - - - -	2 00
Fosket & Holbrook, for wood, - - - -	6 00
T. D. Potter, cutting wood, - - - -	3 00
Sam'l Atwood, cutting and splitting wood, -	6 50
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	\$374 69

CARE OF HOUSES.

Sam'l Atwood, - - - -	\$69 50
Daniel D. Shea, - - - -	52 00
Kate L. Thompson, - - - -	5 00
Harry Thompson, - - - -	10 00
Franklin Stebbins, - - - -	67 00
Emma Scott, - - - -	5 00
E. F. Shaw, - - - -	5 00
Charles Shaw, - - - -	5 00
Willie Kenovan, - - - -	5 00
Lillie Nailor, - - - -	10 00
L. F. Whiting, - - - -	7 00
Frank Hosmer, - - - -	18 00
W. H. Whiting, - - - -	42 00
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	\$300 50

GENERAL REPAIRS.

Appropriation, - - - -	\$600 00
Sterling School Furniture Co., for Thorndike school-house, - - - -	\$130 37

Nathan Howard, labor on repairs on Thorndike school-house, - - - - -	\$4 52
A. M. Bond, labor on stoves and furnace, -	7 95
Sam'l Atwood, labor on pump and seats, Three Rivers, - - - - -	2 75
T. D. Potter, labor on material on fence, Bonds Village, - - - - -	2 54
James Tuthill, labor, - - - - -	1 50
Frank Hosmer, labor, - - - - -	1 50
Ellis Dodge, labor on repairs, - - - - -	2 00
Everett Sedgwick, - - - - -	45
Francis Keyes, material, - - - - -	6 97
W. H. Hitchcock, labor on stoves and pipe, -	5 90
C. A. Brown, locks and keys, - - - - -	73
M. Sullivan labor, - - - - -	3 00
Alden & Kenerson labor, - - - - -	21 99
Charles Shaw, lock etc., - - - - -	1 67
	<hr/>
	\$193 84

MISCELLANEOUS CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

Appropriation, - - - - -	\$500 00
Frederick Allen, for insurance, - - - - -	94 50
Town of Brimfield, tuition, 1877-8, - - - - -	34 79
Town of Wilbraham, tuition, - - - - -	13 62
John Gamwell, water rent to April, 1878, - - - - -	8 00
G. M. Fisk & Co., printing blanks, - - - - -	4 00
Samuel Atwood, labor on house, - - - - -	1 50
Sherwood School Furniture Company, paint, - - - - -	6 70
E. B. Gates, freight and labor, - - - - -	18 44
Allen & Cowan, books, crayons and erasers, - - - - -	82 38
Holden Brothers, books, crayons and erasers, - - - - -	20 82
Hubbard Lawrence, brooms, - - - - -	1 68
E. S. Brooks, clocks and repairs, - - - - -	6 25
J. H. Leedham, clock, - - - - -	2 00
C. L. Kibbe, repairs lightning rods, - - - - -	9 00
E. J. Wood, duster, - - - - -	70
G. H. Appleton, thermometer, - - - - -	35
W. H. Hitchcock, pipe and repairs, - - - - -	9 29

N. C. Barrett, encyclopædia,	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$5 00
A. M. Bond, brooms,	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 00
H. P. & J. S. Holden, brooms,	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 15
W. H. Whiting, dusters,	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 15
Marshal Andrews, labor,	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 25
George Robinson, hardware,	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 21
William Nelson, labor,	-	-	-	-	-	-	75
Town of Wilbraham, tuition 1878-9,	-	-	-	-	-	-	13 20
George Whiting, painting black-boards,	-	-	-	-	-	-	1 50
B. M. Fullerton, cash paid out,	-	-	-	-	-	-	6 80
B. M. Fullerton, services as School Committee,	-	-	-	-	-	-	109 00
E. B. Gates, cash paid out,	-	-	-	-	-	-	4 38
E. B. Gates, services,	-	-	-	-	-	-	90 00
William Holbrook, services,	-	-	-	-	-	-	115 00
Town of Brimfield, years 1878-9,	-	-	-	-	-	-	8 70
							<hr/>
							\$784 11

STATEMENT OF SCHOOL FUNDS.

Appropriation for teachers, fuel, and care of houses,	-	\$7,500 00
General repairs,	-	600 00
Contingent expenses,	-	500 00
Income Massachusetts school fund,	-	252 25
Dog Fund,	-	275 08
Interest on Merrick fund	-	51 00
Tuition Cutler children	-	10 82
" Fisherdieck children,	-	13 59
Town of Monson,	-	24 31
Cash E. B. Gates, old desk sold,	-	5 20
William Holbrook, rent of room,	-	2 00
		<hr/>
Total,	-	\$9,234 25

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES FOR SCHOOLS.

Teachers' salaries,	-	\$6,297 83
Fuel,	-	374 69
Care of houses,	-	300 50

Miscellaneous contingent, - - - - -	\$784 11
General repairs, - - - - -	193 84
	<hr/>
	\$7,950 97
Balance in favor of expenditures, - - - - -	\$1,283 28

The following sums also are due the town for tuition :

From Monson, tuition of Davis, Barnes, Rourke and Ballou children, - - - - -	\$21 85
A. J. Northrop, tuition of D. G. Northrop, - - -	7 66
George Fisherdick, tuition of children, - - -	20 00
Rev. J. H. Bradford, tuition of May Bradford, -	6 00
F. H. Brown, tuition of son, - - - - -	25 50
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	\$81 01

TABULAR STATEMENT.

	SPRING TERM TEACHERS.	Wages.	Months.	Whole No. Scholars.	Average.
Palmer, High,	Frank A. Hosmer,	\$94	3½	43	34
“ Grammar,	Lizzie A. Holden,	33½	3	28	24
“ Intermediate,	Hattie E. Wallis,	33½	3	55	42
“ Primary,	Lavinia M. Newell,	33½	3	70	53
Thorndike, Grammar,	Emily C. Graves,	33½	3	31	26
“ Intermediate,	Ida A. Taft,	33½	3	47	37
“ 2d Primary,	Harriet Stone and Lizzie L. Eddy. }	33½	3	42	34
“ 1st Primary,	M. Emma Murdock,	33½	3	60	49
Bond's Village, Grammar,	Fannie H. Paige,	33½	3	35	29
“ “ Intermediate,	Emogene M. Austin,	33½	3	47	40
“ “ Primary,	Ella J. Graves,	33½	3	64	51
Three Rivers, Grammar,	C. C. Ely,	33½	3	25	19
“ “ Intermediate,	Sarah A. Buxton,	33½	3	40	32
“ “ 2d Primary,	Belle H. Searle,	33½	3	50	38
“ “ 1st Primary,	Alice E. Ross,	33½	3	65	53
Blanchardville, Mixed,	Katie L. Thomson,	25	3	30	23
Centre, Mixed,	Jennie M. Kendall,	28	3	30	23
Whiting, “	Ida F. Lewis,	28	2½	16	13
Mason, “	Annie E. Olney,	28	2¾	20	15
Shaw, “	Nellie L. Kerigan,	25	2½	16	11
	FALL TERM.				
Palmer, High,	Wm. H. Whiting,	94	4	37	28
“ Grammar,	Lizzie A. Holden,	33½	3	34	29
“ Intermediate,	Hattie E. Wallis,	33½	3	48	39
“ Primary,	Lavinia M. Newell,	33½	3	71	57
Thorndike, Grammar,	Emily C. Graves,	33½	3	30	25
“ Intermediate,	Ida A. Taft,	33½	3	42	35
“ 2d Primary,	Lizzie L. Eddy,	33½	3	38	33
“ 1st Primary,	M. Emma Murdock,	33½	3	62	54
Bond's Village, Grammar,	Fannie H. Paige,	33½	3	40	33
“ “ Intermediate,	Emogene M. Austin,	33½	3	51	41
“ “ Primary,	Ella J. Graves,	33½	3	61	52
Three Rivers, Grammar,	C. C. Ely,	33½	3	25	21
“ “ Intermediate,	Sarah A. Buxton,	33½	3	35	28
“ “ 2d Primary,	Belle H. Searle,	33½	3	45	37
“ “ 1st Primary,	Alice E. Ross,	33½	3	65	51
Blanchardville, Mixed,	Ruth R. Cortis,	30	3	33	23
Centre, Mixed,	Jennie M. Kendall,	30	3	36	30
Whiting, “	Sarah L. Granger,	28	2½	15	12
Mason, “	Annie E. Olney,	28	2½	19	15
Shaw, “	Nellie L. Kerigan,	25	2½	13	9

	WINTER TERM. TEACHERS.	Wages.	Months.	Whole No. Scholars.	Average.
Palmer, High,	Wm. H. Whiting,	\$94	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	33	24
“ Grammar,	Lizzie A. Holden,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	32	24
“ Intermediate,	Hattie E. Wallis,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	50	42
“ Primary,	Lavinia M. Newell,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	64	46
Thorndike, Grammar,	Charles C. Hutchinson,	40	3	45	39
“ Intermediate,	Ida A. Taft,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	38	31
“ 2d Primary,	M. A. Potter,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	42	35
“ 1st Primary,	M. Emma Murdock,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	2	53	44
Bond's Village, Grammar,	Fannie H. Paige and Addie M. Johnson, }	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	45	33
“ “ Intermediate,	Emogene M. Austin,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	46	36
“ “ Primary,	Ella J. Graves,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	54	42
Three Rivers, Grammar,	C. C. Ely,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	25	21
“ “ Intermediate,	Sarah A. Buxton,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	30	23
“ “ 2d Primary,	Belle H. Searle,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	40	29
“ “ 1st Primary,	Alice E. Ross,	33 $\frac{1}{8}$	3	57	42
Blanchardville, Mixed,	Ruth R. Cortis,	30	3	24	19
Centre, Mixed,	Jennie M. Kendall,	30	3	34	26
Whiting, “	Carrie E. McMaster,	29	3	20	16
Mason, “	Annie E. Olney,	28	3	16	12
Shaw, “	Nellie L. Kerigan,	25	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	12	10

Respectfully submitted,

B. M. FULLERTON.
WILLIAM HOLBROOK.
E. B. GATES.

