

19.

WESTHAMPTON, MASS.

ANNUAL REPORTS.

1896.

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
TOWN OFFICERS
OF
Westhampton, Mass.,
FOR THE
Year ending March 1st, 1896.

EASTHAMPTON, MASS. :
PRESS OF JOHN LEITCH, JR.
1896.

Selectmen's Report.

EXPENDITURES ON HIGHWAYS.

SNOW BILLS.

F. J. Hathaway	\$ 67
C. H. Bartlett	75
F. E. Holdridge	3 25
T. P. Elwell	6 62
G. A. Witherell	5 16
Charles Connors	5 40
P. A. Connery	7 51
A. T. Edwards	13 95
L. L. Rhodes	2 86
E. A. Bartlett	3 85
A. E. Damon	1 58
H. W. Montague	8 82
E. B. Clapp	13 28
E. J. Hathaway	3 60
H. C. Williams	12 27
H. M. Clapp	15 90
F. A. Bridgman	50
L. W. Clapp	4 68
I. O. Shaw	1 05
A. D. Rice	4 90
W. H. Knight	6 65

S. D. Lyman	15 05
M. G. Crandall	2 25
A. L. Snow	3 30
N. A. Kingsley	1 50
W. H. Lyman	19 93
O. W. Bartlett	1 00
T. Slattery	1 00
F. C. Montague	2 95
G. A. Witherell	1 75
Total snow bills,	———— \$171 98

HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

J. J. Fisher, 1894	20 72
Amariah Elwell	6 56
E. A. Elwell	8 20
G. A. Witherell, 1895	30 15
G. Hathaway	10 50
T. W. Collier	3 75
E. J. Hathaway	1 50
F. J. Hathaway	1 95
Irwin Prentice	46
F. E. Holdridge	15 41
J. J. Fisher	29 30
Charles Connors	35 46
L. A. Howard	37 19
L. W. Clapp	88 19
922 ft. C plank	11 99
1215 ft. H plank	12 05
Spikes	45
George Burt	42 15
Timber	1 50
E. B. Clapp	22 37
A. T. Edwards	47 80
A. D. Rice	8 16

B. Stickney	3 75
Levi Burt	10 30
L. W. Clapp	9 90
E. H. Montague	13 17
N. A. Kingsley	7 50
I. O. Shaw	36 74
W. H. Lyman	11 75
S. D. Lyman	56 75
H. L. Dodge	13 12
H. C. Williams	5 62
F. C. Montague	8 20
Timber	3 90
Orville Flint	1 50
F. E. Holdridge	10 92
J. and W. Curtis	5 00
O. W. Bartlett, plank	96
Lewis A. Howard	2 00
H. W. Montague	5 25
Joseph Hathaway	3 90
A. J. Griffin	12 00
E. A. Bartlett	7 85
E. B. Clapp	10 00
G. L. Hathaway	1 72
L. A. Howard	19 97
W. H. Lyman	1 50
Plank and timber	5 25
J. D. Norton & Son, Loudville bridge	2 75
A. T. Edwards	20 01
228 ft. lumber	2 96
L. W. Clapp	27 45
F. E. Holdridge	3 00
W. W. Kingsley	50
E. J. Burt	6 50
E. P. Torrey, plank	1 19
A. D. Rice	8 00

Joseph Whelan	3 75	
Thomas Slattery	2 00	
Charles Connors	7 50	
		204 27
I. O. Shaw	7 00	
J. Boucher	6 00	
L. L. Rhodes	15 40	
A. E. Damon	7 00	
Joseph Whelan	1 68	
Joseph Hathaway	5 02	
H. C. Williams	4 10	
Plank	1 50	
A. D. Rice	12 13	
F. A. Bridgman, plank	42	
T. P. Elwell	23 06	
I. O. Shaw	3 43	
Plank and timber	6 25	
E. L. Gorham, Breakneck road	6.00	
E. J. Burt	2 58	
F. C. Montague	7 50	
900 ft. C plank	11 70	
Chwles & Childs, 1500 ft. C plank	19 50	
Lumber	2 50	
Cowles, 466 ft. H plank	4 66	
C. H. Bartlett	3 50	
C. N. Loud	2 50	
277 ft. plank	4 15	
A. T. Edwards	7 98	
Orville Flint	1 33	
E. H. Montague	1 98	
George Knight	60	
Henry Payson	2 00	
Irwin Prentice	1 00	
F. J. Hathaway	2 42	
G. L. Hathaway	1 67	

W. W. Kingsley	3 00	
F. Howard	91	
F. E. Holdridgs	83	
L. King	5 00	
L. W. Clapp, 40 ft. plank	52	
G. E. Knight	1 50	
Levi Burt	1 50	
Total for highways and bridges		\$973 29

OVERSEERS OF POOR.

SUPPORT OF POOR.

For William Lawler		
Northampton Lunatic Hospital	169 46	
“ Dora Howard		
Worcester Lunatic Hospital	169 46	
“ Margaret Duggan		
F. F. Guilford, board and clothing	145 84	
“ Mrs. Keating	90 00	
“ Mrs Slattery	108 00	
“ Ellen Witherell		
A. M. Belden, medical attendance	16 50	
“ For child of Delia Revit		
Mrs Morrison, for board	2 50	
Total for town poor		\$701.62
Fred Leduc (reimbursed by Holyoke)		
Dr. F. C. Bruce, medical attendance	55 00	55 00
Charles Berry (reimbursed by Huntington)		
Dr. F. C. Bruce, medical attendance	10 00	10 00
Mr. A. Morrison (due from Northampton)		
V. E. Mitchell, burial expenses	19 00	

A. C. Cobb, anti-toxine and disinfectants	5 00	
F. E. Morey	1 00	25 00
		<hr/>
Total expended for poor		791 76
Tramps	2 25	2 25

TELEPHONE.

Bill for Jan., Feb. and Mch.,	19 30	
Rec'd for use	6 45	12 85
Bill for April, May and June	21 60	
Rec'd for use	7 60	14 00
Bill for July, Aug. and Sept.,	20 45	
Rec'd for use	6 50	13 95
Bill for Oct., Nov and Dec.,	20 40	
Rec'd for use	5 50	14 90
		<hr/>
		55 70

STREET & WRIGHT FUND.

52 00

STATE AID.

48 00

STREET LIGHTS.

F. H. Judd, care street lamps		18 00
" " 1 doz. chimneys		1 00
" " oil for street lamps and town hall		6 56

PERAMBULATING TOWN LINES.

A. D. Rice	10 00	
L. W. Clapp	6 00	
F. C. Montague	2 50	
A. D. Rice, line stone	2 00	
L. W. Clapp, drawing and setting stone	1 25	21 75

WM. G. BASSETT

Consultation	6 00	
Retainer and drawing petition, T. J. Slattery	10 00	

Retainer and drawing petition, F. Howard	10 00
Serving petitions	5 00
Clerk Courts entry fees.	6 00
Hearing T. J. Slattery case	15 00

52 00

FIRE PROOF VAULT.

Brown & Bailey, 16,000 brick	96 00
M. L. & M. W. Graves, lime and cement	19 70
Berlin Iron Bridge Co., door	35 25
Berlin Iron Bridge Co., beams	9 00
Berlin Iron Bridge Co., shutters and hinges,	9 50
Merrick Lumber Co., moulding	3 68
Aaron Fisher, roofing	11 50
Aaron Fisher, paint, labor and freight	6 50
L. A. Clark, mason, \$3.00 per day	58 33
Munroe Todd, mason, \$3.00 per day	39 66
G. E. Knight	19 90
G. E. Knight, boarding masons	16 00
E. J. Burt, tending masons	13 24
G. B. Frisbee, tending masons	19 00
F. C. Montague, labor	6 83
F. C. Montague, drawing brick and lime	15 70
D. S. Bridgman, drawing brick	17 40
L. W. Clapp, labor	26 98
L. W. Clapp, drawing brick	12 00
L. W. Clapp, car fare and freight	3 95
A. D. Rice	12 08
A. D. Rice, window	1 25
Frank Howard, drawing brick	7 40
E. W. Kingsley	14 00
Cowls & Childs, lumber	4 74
C. N. Loud, lumber	8 24
Levi Burt	2 00

Westhampton Water Co.,	2 00	
	<hr/>	
	491 83	
Sold brick and lumber	9 10	
Total cost of vault		482 73

MISCELLANEOUS.

John Leitch, Jr., printing Reports	\$29 00
A. W. Brownell, Assessors' Blanks	4 15
Climax Road Machine Co., repairs, road machine	9 50
G. L. Munn, Order Book	3 50
G. E. Knight, care library	20 00
" " sexton	12 00
" " mowing cemetery	6 50
" " care Hall	6 75
" " glass and setting	4 75
Ida Mae Pollard, Clark Scholarship	7 07
George N. Baker, insurance on school houses	46 00
A. C. Townsend, Dog Fund for library	69 62
A. D. Montague, Thayer Fund for Parish	25 00
A. D. Rice, express	2 05
" " tax book	1 35
F. H. Judd, express, stationery and postage	12 51
" " repairs on Ballot Box	1 00
H. A. Parsons, nails, chimneys and glass,	4 34
N. A. Kingsley, postage and collecting	4 15
A. K. Chapman, repairs	1 08
Westhampton Water Co., water, cemetery	5 00
" " tank, four months	3 36
O. W. Bartlett, attending court	2 30
" " paid A. J. Fargo	1 50
Clark Scholarship Fund, Jared Williams	5 00

TOWN OFFICERS.

John Pollard, Ballot Clerk	\$ 1 50	
N. L. Montague, Ballot Clerk	1 50	
Levi Burt, Constable	3 00	
E. A. Bartlett, Collector	32 64	
A. G. Jewett, Auditor	2 00	
O. W. Bartlett, Selectman	6 00	
“ “ Cattle Inspector	24 50	
A. D. Rice, Selectman	11 36	
“ “ Selectmen's Report	7 00	
“ “ Registrar	6 00	
“ “ Overseer of Poor	2 00	
“ “ Assessor	15 00	
F. C. Montague, Selectman	10 00	
“ “ Assessor	14 50	
“ “ Overseer of Poor	3 50	
“ “ Registrar	3 00	
L. W. Clapp, Assessor	13 50	
“ “ Selectman	6 50	
“ “ Registrar	9 00	
F. H. Judd, Salary, Clerk	15 00	
“ “ “ Sealer	5 00	
“ “ “ Elector	4 00	
“ “ “ Registrar	7 00	
“ “ “ Clerk's Report	5 00	
“ “ “ Office Room	2 00	
“ “ Recording births, deaths and marriages	8 90	
N. A. Kingsley, Salary Treasurer	25 00	
Total Town Officers,	—————	\$244 40

RECAPITULATION.

Highways	\$1,145 27
Poor	794 04
State Aid	48 00

Street and Wright Fund	52 00
Telephone	55 70
Street lamps	25 56
Fire Proof Vault	491 83
Miscellaneous	358 23
Taxes, Discount and Interest	698 33
Town Officers	244 40
	<hr/>
Total Selectmen's Orders	3,913 33
School Committee's Orders	1,535 96
	<hr/>
Total Expenditures	\$5,449 29

RESOURCES.

Balance from last year	\$ 376 12
Taxes assessed	3,699 37
Receipts of Treasurer from other sources	1,940 96
	<hr/>
	\$6,016 45

Balance March 1, 1896, \$567 16.

L. W. CLAPP, } *Selectmen*
 F. C. MONTAGUE, } *of*
 A. D. RICE, } *Westhampton*

March 4th, 1896.

Having examined and compared the Accounts and Vouchers of the Selectmen and Treasurer for the current year, I find that they agree, and that orders of the Selectmen have been paid to the amount of \$3,913.33.

A. G. JEWETT, *Auditor.*

Assessors' Report.

Real Estate Valuation	\$188,995 00	
Personal Estate Valuation	33,488 00	
Total valuation	—————	\$222,883 00
Total tax		3,699 37
Tax Levy,		
State tax	150 00	
County tax	380 05	
Schools	1,000 00	
School books	100 00	
Superintendent of schools	50 00	
Snow Bills	200 00	
Highways and Bridges	800 00	
Support of Poor	500 00	
Vault for Town Records	100 00	
Town Officers	200 00	
Contingencies	150 00	
Overlayings	67 32	
	—————	\$3,699 37

L. W. CLAPP, }
F. C. MONTAGUE, } Assessors
A. D. RICE, } of
Westhampton.

List of Jurors.

Fred D. Bridgman,	Henry M. Clapp,
Theodore P. Elwell,	Henry A. Parsons
Willie W. Kingsley,	Stephen A. Rust,
Edmund Slattery.	

Treasurer's Report.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1896.

Dr.

To balance from last year	\$376 12
To cash from A. G. Jewett, int. on Wright Fund	25 00
“ “ N. A. Kingsley, int. on Wright Fund	25 00
“ “ Oliver Ducharm, Expenses of Delia Rivit	80 00
“ “ T. J. Slattery	81 25
“ “ Hamp. Co. Bank, Scholarship Fund	5 00
“ “ Estate Whiting Street	57 50
“ “ Haydenville Savings Bank on Note	350 00
“ “ George E. Knight Lumber and Brick	5 50
“ “ F. C. Montague, Brick	3 60
“ “ County Treasurer, Dog Fund, refunded	69 62
“ “ Town of Chesterfield	1 25
“ “ Town of Huntington	10 00
“ “ L. W. Clapp, Old Road Machine	10 00
“ “ F. H. Judd, int. on Thayer Fund	31 25

“	“	State Treasurer, insane paupers	286 66
“	“	“ Tuition School Children	51 30
“	“	“ Corporation tax	20 76
“	“	“ National Bank tax	298 07
“	“	“ State aid	60 00
“	“	“ School Fund	469 20
“	“	Town Assessment	3,699 37

Total	\$6,016 45
-------	------------

Cr

By paid Orders of Selectmen	3,913 33
“ “ “ School Committee	1,535 96
“ Balance due the Town	567 16

From this balance, due the town, one hundred seven and 50-100 dollars (\$107.50), is from the Street, and Wright Fund, which leaves for use of the town, only \$459.66.

N. A. KINGSLEY, *Treasurer.*

March 4, '96.

I find on examination, that the accounts of the Treasurer, are correct, that he has paid on orders of the Selectmen, three thousand nine hundred and thirteen and 33-100 dollars (\$3,913.33), and on orders of the School Committee, one thousand five hundred and thirty-five and 96-100 dollars (\$1,535.96), and to meet a balance due the town of five hundred sixty-seven and 16-100 dollars (\$567.16), he has on hand in currency two hundred seventeen and 16-100 dollars (\$217.16), and that there is due from the collector on

Unpaid Taxes	\$350 00
--------------	----------

A. G. JEWETT, *Auditor.*

Town Clerk's Report.

FOR THE YEAR 1895. *1896*

BIRTHS RECORDED.

- 1 Feb. 11, Elmer Charles Williams. ✓
- 2 Mar. 4, Herman Allen Searle.
- 3 " 11, Raymond Russell Crandall. ✓
- 4 April 25, Winifred Blanche Howard. ✓
- 5 May 15, Eva Mabel Berry.
- 6 " 20, Erland Seward Townsend.
- 7 July 1, Margurite Fayhee.

Births recorded in previous years.

1885	'86	'87	'88	'89	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94
9	10	10	12	8	12	12	15	15	12

MARRIAGES RECORDED. *1895*

- 1 Aug. 5, Egbert D. Damon.
Susan E. Witherell.
- 2 Dec. 25, George Amlaw.
Agnes M. Holdridge.

Marriages recorded in previous years.

1885	'86	'87	'88	'89	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94
5	5	5	4	6	4	3	4	5	5

DEATHS RECORDED: 1895

1	Feb.	6,	Clara A. Perrot.
2	"	9,	La Duc. infant.
3	May	6,	Marcia M. Trask.
4	"	8,	Annie Slattery.
5	"	24,	Cordelia T. Clapp.
6	"	29,	Myro A. Morrison.
7	"	31,	Horace F. Clapp.
8	June	3,	Hubert W. Stickney. ✓
9	"	16,	Herman A. Searle.
10	July	27,	Lena G. Shaw.
11	Nov.	6,	Lewis Howard.

Deaths recorded in previous years.

1885	'86	'87	'88	'89	'90	'91	'92	'93	'94
7	6	14	5	5	4	5	13	12	10

Causes of death. Consumption, 2; Heart Disease, 2; Pneumonia, 1; Diphtheria, 1; Paralysis, 1; Loco Motor Ataxy, 1; Anemia, 1; Teething, 1; Still Born, 1.

Mortgages of Personal Property recorded, 4.

DOGS LICENSED.

F. P. Elwell,	Mar. 25	J. Hathaway, 2,	May 6
F. Howard,	Apr. 13	C. T. Williams, 2,	" 6
H. L. Dodge,	" 13	H. Haunton,	" 18
E. A. Bartlett,	" 25	H. M. Clapp,	" 25
A. D. Mortague, Jr.,	" 27	Mrs. M. C. Pelton,	" 28
A. L. Snow,	" 27	H. Hathaway,	June 1
A. S. Bridgman,	" 29	A. E. Damon,	" 7
C. O. Connors,	" 30	F. J. Pomeroy,	" 8
P. Connors,	" 30	F. H. Judd,	" 14
S. A. Rust,	" 30	E. P. Lyman,	" 19
Geo. Coleman,	May 1	W. J. Lyman,	" 21
Irving Prentice,	" 1	M. K. Parsons,	Aug. 1

L. W. Clapp,	“	2	M. G. Crandall,	“	16
F. H. Judd, 2,	“	2	G. Tower,	“	20
W. J. Anderson,	“	2	F. R. Howard,	“	21
D. Courtney,	“	3	E. W. Payson,	“	24
P. Gagnon,	“	4	A. E. Howard,	Sept.	3
Levi Burt,	“	6	M. J. Slattery,	“	27
A. D. Rice,	“	6	John Devine,	“	27
N. L. Montague,	“	7	W. H. Lyman,	“	28
C. H. Morey,	“	8	J. H. Kingsley,	Oct.	1
S. D. Lyman,	“	13	John Gravelin,	“	1

FINANCIAL ACCOUNT.

Rec'd for 31 dog licenses to June 1, at \$2,	\$62 00
Rec'd for 16 dog licenses to Dec. 1, at \$2,	32 00
Rec'd for 1 dog license to Dec. 1, at \$5,	5 00
	<hr/>
	\$99 00
Less fees 48 at 20 cents each,	9 60
	<hr/>
Due County,	\$89 40

CONTRA.

By County Treasurer's receipt, June 1,	\$55 80
By County Treasurer's receipt, Dec. 2,	33 60
	<hr/>
Amount paid to County,	\$89 40
Amount returned from County,	69 62

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. JUDD, *Town Clerk.*

Westhampton, March 2nd, 1896.

Having examined the accounts of F. H. Judd, Esq., Town Clerk, for the year ending March 1st, '96, I find them correct, with vouchers for all sums paid, and credit for sums received.

A. G. JEWETT, *Auditor.*

REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF WESTHAMPTON.

STATEMENT OF SCHOOLS, TEACHERS EMPLOYED, WAGES, ETC.

CENTER SCHOOL.

Miss Mary L. Raeder, Miss Myra E. Kingsley.

No. of pupils enrolled	24
Average membership	20
Average attendance	19
No. of pupils over 15 years	2
No. of pupils under 5 years	0
No. of pupils between 8 and 14	15
No. of weeks school	32
Wages paid Teacher	\$245 00

Water Co.,	5 00
Fuel	6 38
Cleaning schoolhouse	3 50
Making fires etc. in 1894	3 00
Making fires etc. in 1895	5 00
Orville Flint, repairs	1 50
C. N. Loud	3 00
Lock, glass, etc.,	1 65

The Clark Scholarship Prize for the one who reads and spells the best at the close of the winter term, was given to Jared Williams.

Not absent or tardy during the year: Ellen J. Doherty, Alfred and Dana Pelton.

Your committee have thought it best to unite the North East with this school, and made arrangements with Mr. Kingsley to bring the pupils and teacher together, thus saving the town the expense of a separate conveyance, and have been well pleased with the result, not in expense alone, but also in the spirit of emulation which is thereby incited in the minds of the pupils and the opportunity which it has given to the teacher to develop more largely this spirit among her pupils.

The provision which the State has made, whereby the Tuition is paid for any pupil who may desire to attend a high school, has in a measure relieved the towns of the necessity of providing a school in town for such pupils. Yet your committee feel confident that the advantages which a good grammar school would give to our children would be beyond money value, and we hope, and expect, that the time is not far distant when such a school will be provided by the town and every family, where there are children, will consider it a great privilege to send their children to it.

Since the close of the winter term a beautiful picture, entitled "The Landing of the Pilgrims," has been received from a former teacher, Miss M. L. Raeder.

SOUTH SCHOOL.

Cora P. Harwood, Mary Whelan.

No. of pupils enrolled	18
Average membership	13.8
Average attendance	12
No. of pupils over 15 years	1
No. of pupils under 5 years	0
No. of pupils between 8 and 14	11
No. of weeks school	32
Wages paid Teacher	\$192 00
Fuel, 1894-95	10 00
Fuel, 1895-96	11 00
Repairs	3 35
Cleaning schoolhouse	2 00
Making fires	5 00

Twenty-one pupils were enrolled in this school at the beginning of the year, while only three were present at the close of winter term. This irregular attendance is very injurious to a school, but may be accounted for, in part at least, by the long distance that many of them have to walk and the age of the pupils, fifteen of the eighteen enrolled being under nine years of age, and the three who were present the last day, Harry Crandall, Casper Connery and Georgie Searle, were only seven and eight years old and had to walk, each of them, a mile or more. Georgie Searle has not been absent or tardy for two terms, and Casper and Harry only absent on account of sickness for a few days, and there are others who would be just as glad to be there every day as these boys, but it would be almost an impossibility for them to do so.

NORTH EAST SCHOOL.

Myra E. Kingsley.

No. of pupils enrolled	7
Average membership	6.3

Average attendance	6
No. of pupils over 15 years	0
No. of pupils under 5 years	0
No. of pupils between 8 and 14	3
No. of weeks school	12
Wages of Teacher	\$72 00

The pupils in this school have attended the center school two terms of the past year. Your committee made arrangements with Mr Kingsley to carry them for \$2 50 a week, and your committee feel that this money has been well invested, as there would have been but three pupils if we had maintained a school here.

HILL SCHOOL.

Emily M. Clapp, Grace L. Chapman.

No. of pupils enrolled	13
Average membership	10
Average attendance	9
No. of pupils over 15 years	2
No. of pupils under 5 years	1
No. of pupils between 8 and 14	9
No. of weeks school	32
Wages paid Teacher	\$197 50
Fuel, F. D. Bridgman	8 00
Oscar Bartlett, sawing wood	1 50
Oscar Bartlett, making fires	4 00
Repairs	2 75

Your committee secured the services of Miss Clapp for the first term of the year, with the expectation of keeping her during the fall and winter term, if a boarding place could be secured nearer the school house, when the walking was bad. Miss Clapp secured a school with much larger pay, and we were consequently unable to keep her.

NORTH WEST.

Mary Whelan, Nellie M. Ingolsby.

No. of pupils enrolled	9
Average membership	6
Average attendance	5
No. of pupils over 15 years	1
No. of pupils under 5 years	0
No. of pupils between 8 and 14	5
No. of weeks school	32
Wages paid Teacher	\$192 00
Fuel	8 00
Repairs	2 50

Both of these teachers have had the advantage of Normal instruction, and although they have not had a long experience in teaching, the help they have received from the Normal, enables them to do excellent work.

Considerable repairs are needed on this school house, and one side of the roof, perhaps both, need shingling.

EXPENSES.

Teachers' Salary and Board	\$898 50
Loudville School	147 66
Superintendent	56 00
Fuel	44 88
Repairs	12 20
Books, Taintor & McAlpine	\$16 40
American Book Co.	16 13
S. E. Bridgman & Co.	13 76
Wm. Ware & Co.	7 50
E. H. School Com.	3 75
Lothrop Pub. Co.	9 60
Robert Gair	2 40
Ginn & Co.	5 28
Silver Burdette & Co.	8 95

Geo. S. Perry & Co.	4 05	
Miscellaneous for reference	6 50—	\$94 32
Tuition, Flora Kingsley	10 00	
Grace Kingsley	10 00	
Edith Shaw	10 00	
Grace Edwards	26 00	
Maurice Whelan	10 00	
E. A. Kingsley	50 33	
Elsie Bartlett	30 00—	\$146 33

TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS.

Ira O. Shaw	\$50 00	
Will Kingsley	40 00	
Westhampton Water Co.	5 00	
Janitors' services	15 50	
Jas. Spear, brooms	6 75	
Cleaning school houses	5 50	
Express and freight	7 85	
Postage and stationery	3 00	
F. D. Bridgman	7 65	
A. D. Montague, Jr.	4 00	
C. N. Loud, 9½ days	23 75—	\$1,568 89
Less rebate from State		32 93
		<hr/>
		\$1,535 96

The bill has not been received for the balance of the year from Easthampton, and when this tuition is paid, our balance reported as not expended, will be greatly reduced.

RESOURCES.

Town appropriation	\$1,000 00
Books	100 00
Superintendent	50 00

State appropriation	469 20
Balance from last year	• 145 82—\$1,765 02

Balance unexpended, \$230.06.

A. D. MONTAGUE, JR.,	} <i>School</i>	
F. D. BRIDGMAN,		} <i>Committee.</i>
C. N. LOUD,		

March 4th, '96.

I find on examination, that the Town Treasurer has paid, on orders of the School Committee, \$1,535.96 for the year ending March 1st, and that the committee have receipts for the same.

A. G. JEWETT, *Auditor.*

REPORT
OF THE
School Superintendent.

TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

GENTLEMEN:—

The opportunities offered by the statute of 1895 providing a high school education for pupils of small towns at the expense of the state were quickly accepted by Westhampton. The number of our pupils in the high schools of Northampton and Easthampton is a credit to this town and its people. May that number continue to grow. In this connection the question of increased facilities at the center for preparing pupils for high school entrance is peculiarly important. The high schools which can be legally patronized are subject to

the approval of the state board and, in the constant effort to strengthen their work, will doubtless gradually add to their requirements for admission. Already algebra has been added to the requirements of the Northampton high school and as that subject is begun in the ninth grade at Easthampton it will hereafter be expected at the high school there. Westhampton will not be the town to scrimp the outfit of the children it would send away to school. It is true that with competent teachers the requirements can be met in the outside schools. But to do the work required and do it best, both for those who go and those who stay or are to go later, the best and most efficient plan is to have at some convenient place, presumably at the center, a grammar school, for which, as a general rule the other schools maintained should do preparatory work. I bespeak for this matter your early and careful consideration.

TEACHERS.

Westhampton schools will continue to suffer so long as there is a lack of funds to be applied to salaries of teachers. At the salaries paid here there is little certainty of securing efficient teachers and less hope of retaining them.

The town has been fortunate in retaining the services of Miss Kingsley and Miss Whelan, whose work at the Center and South schools since September has been a credit to the teachers and of constantly increasing value to the town. So long as native talent of this quality is willing to serve the schools at the salaries paid, the town may consider itself favored.

CONVEYANCE OF PUPILS.

During a good portion of the year all the pupils attending the Hill and South schools could have been comfortably seated and instructed at either one of the school-houses. The advantages would have outweighed the disadvantages of combining these schools.

VERTICAL WRITING.

In many towns and cities of the country vertical writing has been adopted either permanently or as an experiment. In view of these experiments it has seemed unnecessary to make any trial of the system here. So far the evidence tends to show that (1) the vertical system is more easily taught than the slant, (2) is more rapidly learned, (3) because of its likeness to print is more useful in primary grades, (4) it is more hygienic, (5) the change from slant to vertical is made by schools with little difficulty and slight loss of time. It is the opinion of your superintendent that continued experiments will tend to confirm this evidence, and that the vertical style of writing will presently be in quite general use in schools.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

More attention than formerly has been given during the past year to the subject of civil government. An effort has been made to attach the study to some event that was passing; thus the November election, the assembling of congress and the general court, and the annual town meeting have each furnished live questions to be answered by the pupils. By a continuance and extension of this plan the subject matter of civil government may all be taught in the study of institutions and events with which the child can come into actual contact. So long as children continue to leave school at the age of fourteen or thereabouts such teaching will be necessary in the intermediate and grammar years if the schools do their full duty in preparing children for intelligent citizenship.

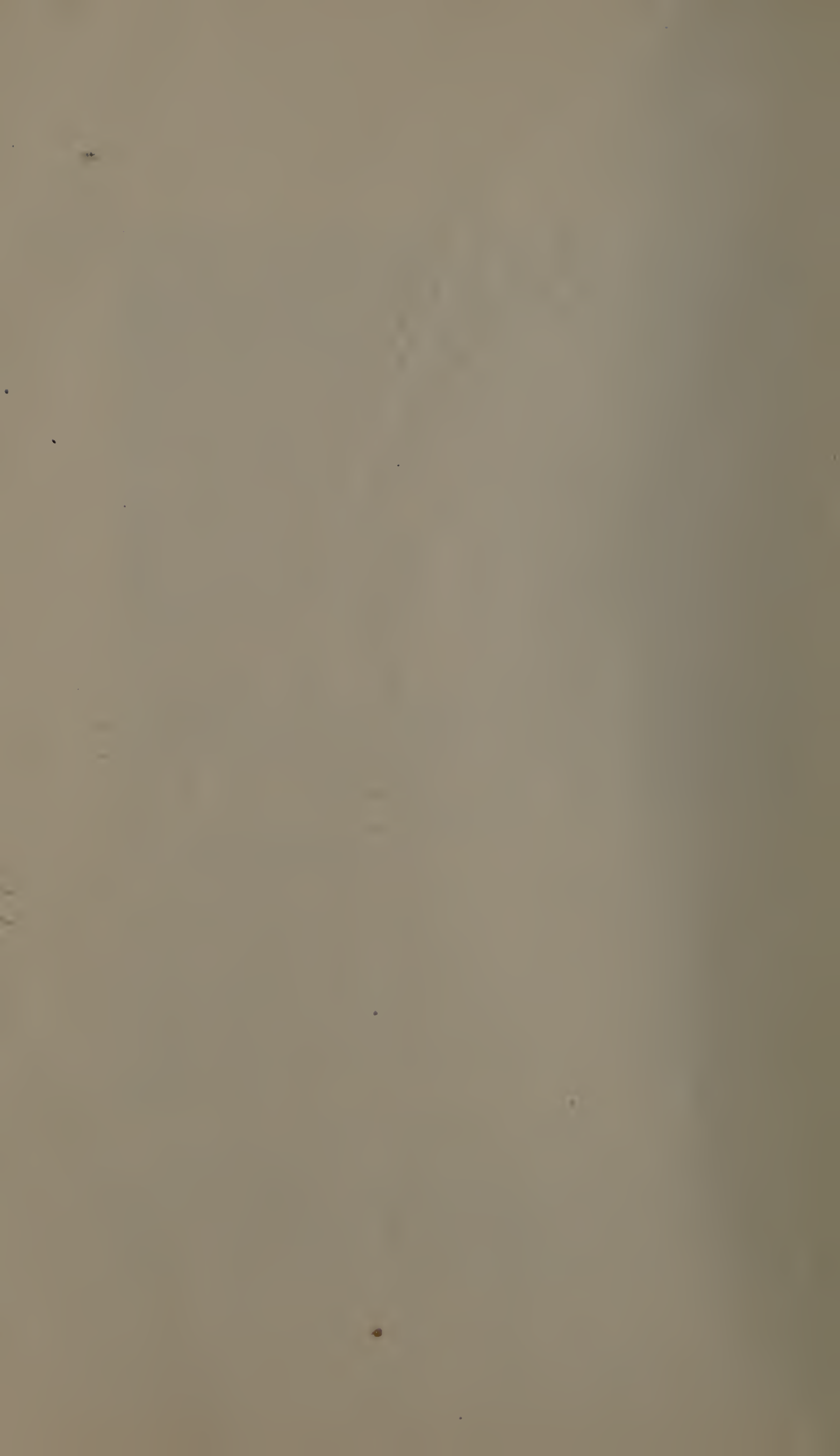
THE HIGHER VALUE.

While it seems natural to place a money value upon education, while parents may properly demand that in return for taxes or tuition the schools shall equip pupils with the wherewithal to earn a living, the nobler truth that there is a value

in education beyond the money value is bound to press itself home to minds and hearts of all thoughtful people. Boys and girls should become something more than earners of a living. Squirrels earn a living. The boys and girls that are to be the men and women of higher usefulness will be those who can not only earn a living, but who have some tastes for *living*, who can make proper use of their hours of rest, who can practice the arts of peace in times of peace, who have such clear views of honor and truth that they can point the way to a higher individual and national life. To give the inspiration to this higher life is the noblest mission of the public school. Here the child should make an acquaintance with, and cultivate a taste for, the great books of the world. Here he should learn to appreciate the world's wonderful music. Here he should learn the language of the world's masterpieces of art. Here, finally, under the influence of the man or the woman of training, of culture, of character, who is his teacher, he should learn the lessons of manners and morals which complete the stature of the man the world needs.

Respectfully,

B. CLIFTON DAY.



ARTICLES

IN THE

Warrant for Town Meeting, March 23, 1896.

Article 1.—To choose a Moderator.

Art. 2.—To choose all necessary Officers to serve the town the ensuing year.

Art. 3.—To act on all reports presented at said meeting.

Art. 4.—To see if the town will accept the Jurors' list proposed by the Selectmen.

Art. 5.—To see if the town change the dates of Annual meeting and Settlement.

Art. 6.—To see if the town will instruct the Selectmen to defend the suit brought against the town by Worthington Hooker.

Art. 7.—To raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town charges the ensuing year.

Art. 8.—To take action in regard to the collection of taxes.

Art. 9.—To see if the town will authorize its Treasurer to borrow money to meet current expenses in anticipation of taxes for the current year.

Art. 10.—To vote Yes or No on the question, shall license be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town.

