

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, TOWN TREASURER, AUDITORS,

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Town of Pelham, N. H.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1880.

LOWELL, MASS.:

VOX POPULI PRESS: HUSE, GOODWIN & CO., 130 CENTRAL ST.
1880.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

THE Selectmen of Pelham respectfully submit the following report:—

TOWN EXPENSES.

PAY OF TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Luther C. Richardson, for services as selectman, for the year ending March 11, 1879.	\$45 00
Charles W. Hobbs, for services as selectman, for the year ending March 11, 1879.	42 00
Orlando W. Spaulding, for services as selectman, for the year ending March 11, 1879.	29 00
John Woodbury, for services as town treasurer, for the year ending March 11, 1879.	40 00
Charles W. Hobbs, for services as town clerk, for the year ending March 11, 1879.	30 00
Augustus Berry, for services as superintending school committee, for the year ending March 11, 1879,	40 00
George H. Currier, for services as collector of taxes, for the year 1878.	75 00
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	\$301 00

PAUPER EXPENSES.

Paid Hillsborough County Farm, for board and clothing Abbie W. Bean, for the year 1879, at \$3 per week,	\$156 43
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	\$156 43

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid John Carr, for labor on highways.	\$16 05
R. B. Hillman, for 1040 feet pine lumber, at \$16 per M, and 241 feet of oak lumber, at \$20 per M, furnished for Golden Brook Bridge.	21 46
	<hr/>
<i>Amount carried forward</i>	\$37 51

<i>Amount brought forward</i>	\$37 51
Paid A. D. Butler, for 662 feet bridge plank, at \$20 per M, and 3 pounds spikes	8 10
Rei Hills, for 1521 feet of plank, for Hutchinson Bridge, at \$16 per M.....	24 33
L. C. Richardson, for stringers delivered at Hutchin- son Bridge.....	6 00
L. C. Richardson, for labor on bridges	3 75
C. W. Hobbs, for labor on bridges.....	6 00
M. L. Favor, for labor on bridge.....	1 25
F. M. Woodbury, for spikes used on bridges.....	1 88
Thomas W. Simpson, for 150 feet of plank, at \$25 per M.....	3 75
Thomas W. Simpson, for labor on bridge.....	50
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	\$93 07

Hutchinson Bridge, over Beaver Brook, and the two bridges over Goldon Brook, near M. L. Favor's, have been thoroughly repaired the past year.

DOG FUND.

The following orders have been issued against the dog fund: —

To David Richardson, for damages done to sheep by dogs,	\$15 00
Wm. W. Butler, for damages done to sheep by dogs,	9 00
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	\$24 00

SNOW BILLS.

Paid J. Underwood, for breaking snow-paths in 1878, and March, 1879.....	\$ 7 37
Norris Emerson, for breaking snow-paths in 1878, and March, 1879.....	7 35
James A. Hobbs, for breaking snow-paths in March and April, 1879.....	10 95
D. B. Fox, for breaking snow-paths in March and April, 1879.....	2 62
Jonathan Searles, for breaking snow-paths in March and April, 1879.....	3 50
O. W. Spaulding, for breaking snow-paths in March and April, 1879.....	1 80
Samuel Kelly, for breaking snow-paths in March and April, 1879.....	2 40
G. L. Webster, for breaking snow-paths in March and April, 1879.....	37
Daniel Marshall, for breaking snow-paths in March and April, 1879.....	7 52
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	\$48 88

SCHOOL MONEY.

Paid District No. 1 balance of town appropriation for 1878.....	\$136 79	
Part of town appropriation for 1879....	109 45	
Literary fund.....	14 11	
	<hr/>	\$260 35
Paid District No. 2 balance of town appropriation for 1878.....	\$121 17	
Part of town appropriation for 1879....	113 11	
Literary fund.....	15 25	
	<hr/>	249 53
Paid District No. 3 part of town appropriation for 1878.....	\$217 35	
Literary fund.....	8 40	
	<hr/>	225 75
Paid District No. 4 balance of town appropriation for 1878.....	\$157 81	
Part of town appropriation for 1879....	92 59	
Literary fund.....	11 43	
	<hr/>	261 83
Paid District No. 5 balance of town appropriation for 1878.....	\$186 40	
Part of town appropriation for 1879....	82 17	
Literary fund.....	11 43	
	<hr/>	280 00
Paid District No. 6 part of town appropriation for 1879.....	\$11 00	
	<hr/>	11 00
Total.....		<hr/>
		\$1,288 46
Balance due District No. 1.....	\$139 27	
2.....	135 61	
3.....	263 79	
4.....	156 13	
5.....	166 55	
6.....	80 78	
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Total.....		\$942 13

TOWN HOUSE.

Received for the use of Town House for the year ending March 1, 1880.....		\$63 00
Paid C. W. Hobbs for care of House and articles furnished.....	\$24 00	
C. W. Hobbs, for wood.....	6 50	
F. M. Woodbury, for articles furnished..	4 24	
	<hr/>	34 74
Net income.....		<hr/> \$28 26

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Non-resident highway tax paid in labor in 1878.....	\$10 95
William Hansell, tax of 1876.....	97
William Hansell, tax of 1877.....	1 03
Joseph Roney, tax of 1877.....	1 20
Christian Anderson, tax of 1878.....	2 17
Michael Doolin, tax of 1878.....	82
Edward Doolin, tax of 1878.....	82
George W. Cluff, tax of 1878.....	91
John M. Jackman, tax of 1878.....	91
George H. Lewis, tax of 1878.....	87
Joseph Roney, tax of 1878.....	91
B. B. Titcomb, tax of 1878.....	91
George H. Titcomb, tax of 1878.....	91
Frank Wardwell, tax of 1878.....	84
John M. Willey, tax of 1878.....	2 34
Thomas McNabb, tax of 1878.....	2 33
Amount of non-resident highway tax for 1879, paid in labor.....	92 94
H. Tinker, for watering-trough.....	3 00
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	\$125 43

BOUNTIES ON FOXES AND HAWKS.

Paid L. J. Lewis, bounty on three foxes.....	\$1 50
J. Keyes, bounty on three foxes.....	1 50
A. D. Greeley, bounty on two foxes.....	1 00
J. Marsh, bounty on two foxes.....	1 00
G. C. Webster, bounty on five foxes.....	2 50
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Total on foxes.....	\$7 50
Paid A. E. Bachelder, bounty on five hawks,	\$1 00
J. Keyes, bounty on forty-nine hawks...	9 80
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Amounts carried forward.....	\$10 80
	<hr/>
	\$7 50

<i>Amounts brought forward</i>	\$10 80	\$7 50
Paid W. G. Sherburne, bounty on thirty-six hawks.....	7 20	
C. W. Moore, bounty on one hawk.....	20	
D. H. Webster, bounty on one hawk.....	20	
W. Hobbs, bounty on four hawks.....	80	
G. Griffin, bounty on three hawks.....	60	
H. Spear, bounty on six hawks.....	1 20	
C. Spalding, bounty on three hawks.....	60	
O. Muldoon, bounty on one hawk.....	20	
C. Coburn, bounty on one hawk.....	20	
L. E. Underwood, bounty on one hawk.....	20	
G. L. Webster, bounty on two hawks.....	40	
		<u>22 60</u>
Total to June 22, 1879.....		30 10

The foregoing bounties on foxes and hawks have been repaid by the State. The following bounties have been paid by the Town, and will be repaid by the State next June:—

Paid R. Slade, bounty on four hawks.....	\$0 80
J. S. Bacheider, bounty on one hawk.....	20
C. D. Kent, bounty on one hawk.....	20
C. Coburn, bounty on four hawks.....	80
C. Lewis, bounty on one hawk.....	20
F. A. Keyes, bounty on seven hawks.....	1 40
J. M. Wilson, bounty on one hawk.....	20
	<u>\$3 80</u>
Due from the State.....	\$3 80
Total bounties paid.....	\$33 00

MISCELLANEOUS.

Paid John Woodbury, for dinners in 1878.....	\$5 00
John Woodbury, expenses paying State and County taxes of 1878.....	5 70
C. W. Hobbs, for recording and copying inventory, and returning same to County Commissioners, Huse, Goodwin & Co., for printing town reports of 1879.....	20 00
C. W. Hobbs, for books and stationery in 1878.....	4 00
Assessors of First Congregational Society.....	2,422 00
G. Y. Sawyer & Sawyer, Jr., for counsel fees.....	92 00
Daniel Coburn, for labor in cemetery in 1878.....	8 75
State tax.....	1,524 00
	<u>\$4,088 45</u>
<i>Amount carried forward</i>	\$4,088 45

<i>Amount brought forward</i>	\$4,088 45
Paid County tax.....	1,510 26
John Woodbury, for services as sexton, to March 1, 1880	59 00
John Woodbury, for cash paid for printing check- lists.....	10 00
John Woodbury, for expenses paying State and County taxes of 1879.....	3 80
C. W. Hobbs, cash paid for books, stationery, post- age, etc., for the year ending March 1, 1880...	3 00
George King, for painting guide-board.....	50
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	\$5,675 01

AMOUNT OF TAXES ASSESSED FOR 1879.

State tax.....	\$1,524 00
County tax.....	1,510 26
School tax.....	1,333 50
Highway tax.....	1,500 00
Dog tax	84 00
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	\$5,951 76

Rate upon \$1,000 — \$7.50, not including highway tax, which is payable in labor.

CHARLES W. HOBBS,
ORLANDO W. SPAULDING,
LUTHER C. RICHARDSON,

PRIHAM, March 1, 1880.

Selectmen of Priham.

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT.

MARCH 1, 1880.

THE Treasurer of the town charges himself with the following receipts: —

DR.

To Cash in treasury March 1, 1879.....	\$2,397 36
Cash received from F. M. Woodbury, collector of taxes,	4,063 26
Cash received from Geo. H. Carrier, balance due of uncollected taxes of list of 1878.....	1,585 75
Cash received from the State Treasurer, the savings-bank tax.....	386 17
Cash received from the State Treasurer, the railroad tax.....	125 88
Cash received from the County of Hillsborough, as part of funeral expenses of P. Thistle.....	10 00
Cash received from State of New Hampshire, for bounties paid on hawks and foxes.....	31 20
Cash received from C. W. Hobbs, agent of town hall,	63 00
Cash received from William Coburn, B. F. Richardson, Samuel Kelley, O. W. Richardson, G. Smith, Aaron Wells, and K. J. Chaplin, for lots in cemetery.....	7 00
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	\$8,669 62

The Treasurer credits himself as follows: —

CR.

By cash paid on orders issued from selectmen.....	\$7,719 74
Leaving the amount of cash in treasury, March 1, 1880,	<hr/>
	\$949 88

LITERARY FUND.

Amount on hand and unappropriated.....	\$59 94
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DOG TAX FUND.

Amount of cash in treasury, March 1, 1879.....	\$63 00
Paid an order in favor of David Richardson.....	15 00
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	\$48 00
Amount of taxes assessed on dogs in 1879.....	\$84 00
Amount of taxes collected and paid into treasury March 1, 1880.....	47 00
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Leaving a balance due of.....	\$37 00

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE TOWN,

MARCH 1, 1880.

Amount of cash in the treasury.....	\$949 88
Outstanding taxes now unpaid or in hands of collector..	660 53

JOHN WOODBURY,

Treasurer.

AUDITORS' REPORT.

THE subscribers having been appointed a committee to examine the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer of the Town of Pelham for the year ending March 1, 1880, report that we find all orders issued by the Selectmen, duly vouched and receipted for, and the Treasurer's accounts correctly kept, accurately cast, and properly vouched.

DANIEL MARSHALL,
GEO. L. BUTLER,
OTIS G. SPEAR,

PELHAM, March 1, 1880.

Auditors.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FOR THE TOWN OF PELHAM,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1880.

THE OUTLOOK.

There is much in this to encourage. The success of the schools the past year, on the whole, has been gratifying. There have been some fine terms of school, some live teachers, some thorough and model teaching.

In some instances there has been fine scholarship, but inexperience in teaching; in others, good scholarship, but a lack of energy; and in others, not the literary and professional qualification that our schools need; but, from a general survey of the field, there is reason to believe that the cause of education is progressing. The people are coming to a better understanding of it, the schools are getting out of the ruts, the tread-mill course of study is departing, teachers are beginning to dispense with the text-book in recitations, and there can be seen in the schools a throb of life, and flush of true health and beauty, that the Normal School has quickened.

SUGGESTIONS.

Many suggestions of previous reports need repeating. Our two-headed system of committees destroys all re-

sponsibility in regard to the teacher. In view of what has been said in previous reports on this topic, it may be sufficient to emphasize the importance of a thorough acquaintance on the part of the committee who employs the teacher, with the wants of the school; and it should be remembered that the standard of the teacher's qualifications is ever rising in our schools.

THE TEACHERS WE NEED.

These should be persons of enthusiasm, who have a passionate love for teaching, a natural aptness for the work, and were born to be teachers,—persons who have something positive in their make, who, to use a somewhat slang term, have some “snap” to them. They should have authority as a constitutional element, and at the same time hearts so loving as to render love the apparent sceptre of their power.

The term *handle* is most significant and expressive. It implies facile, graceful use. It expresses just what the teacher should be able to do with a school, viz. have it under perfect control, so as to move it at will. To handle a class, is to hold the attention of the class, draw out all its thought, use all its talent, and mold it according to one's pleasure. The teacher that cannot do this is not merely awkward, but a failure. Our schools demand teachers of versatile minds, a broad and thorough scholarship, and professional training. The teacher should have refined and graceful manners, and above all things, a pure heart and life. It is fearful to contemplate the disastrous influence upon children of the teacher of the least immoral taint. The teacher that pupils cannot regard as in every respect their superior, and worthy of their imitation, has no place in

the school-room; neither has that one who does not win the love of little children, though the order of the school be perfect, and its movements have the precision of clock-work.

BACKWARD SCHOOLS.

Such need the best of teachers. The notion that because a school is small and backward, a teacher of inexperience and inferior qualification will answer, is false. This notion has kept many schools backward. If any class of pupils are to be committed to the incompetent teacher, let it be the good scholars rather than the poor ones.

THE COMMON SCHOOL.

No other school is more important. This, really, has a pre-eminence among our institutions of learning. Under certain conditions, it is better than the graded school. In the reciprocal influence of older and younger minds, and the more advanced and primary studies, there is a healthy stimulus to intellectual life and development that neither grade has by itself.

THE OBJECT OF THE COMMON SCHOOL.

This is not merely to prepare for the business of life, but to develop manhood and womanhood, and qualify for citizenship in this great republic. Whenever this is lost sight of in its instruction and prescribed studies, the common school fails of its true end.

THE MORAL NATURE.

All the statutes upon education have insisted upon moral training. There would be absurdity in the state

providing schools without this. It would be whetting the dagger by which her own life would be taken. These times proclaim, in most startling tones, the importance of building up the moral nature of the young. This is too little cared for in the schools. Here the moral nature sometimes receives the bent that in after years develops in shocking immorality and crime.

FAITH IN INTELLECTUAL TOIL.

Instead of the notion, so common, that intellectual toil amounts to nothing, that its results are of little value, that it is inferior to physical toil, the child should be taught that it is the most real of all toil, that this is the noblest of all labor, and he should be taught to exercise a stronger faith in his intellectual than his physical powers, faith in what persistent mental effort will accomplish, what of wealth and happiness may thus be possessed.

MAKING THE MOST OF SCHOOL.

This should certainly be done, if the school is a good one; much more, if it is inferior. There is rarely a school that has not some worth. Certainly, the most should be made of this; and, besides, the harmony of the district is of great importance. All criticism, then, upon the schools should be guarded, all action with reference to it judicious.

THOROUGHNESS.

Too much stress cannot be laid upon this. Thorough work is important in all things and everywhere; but it has a deeper meaning in the education of a child than anywhere else. Here it is something that determines, in a large measure, the future life and character.

It should be understood that thoroughness in education consists in comprehending principles, rather than their mechanical application. An insight into principles, which are the elements of all knowledge, and the foundations of all true learning, should be the aim in the earliest instruction of children.

THINGS NEEDFUL TO THE EFFICIENCY OF OUR SCHOOLS.

1. More intelligence and care in the selection of teachers.

2. Broader views upon the subject of education.

3. More interest in the schools. Every citizen should count it his privilege and duty to visit the school once at least during the term. The pride of manhood, the responsibility of citizenship, the worth and nobility of intellectual culture, should lead our young men to take a deep interest in the common schools, and devote at least one half-day each term to them. There is no place where the influential citizen is more needed, and where he can do more good, than in the common school.

4. Such views of the value of common-school education as will banish all cliques, and sacrifice all merely personal feeling for the general good.

5. A sentiment in the homes, demanding that children at school shall be respectful, obedient, orderly, and pure.

6. An increase of the appliances of education, especially the refurnishing of the schools with dictionaries. A copy of the "Unabridged" is indispensable in the school-room. No. 3 has none. In the other districts the copy is much out of repair. It was interesting, in No. 2, to notice that an old, dilapidated copy, long disused, had been brought from its retirement to again do service to the inquiring minds of children.

7. All possible concentration of scholars. The chil-

dren of No. 6 came to No. 2 the two last terms, to the benefit of all parties. Our schools need the life and stimulus of numbers. The most unfortunate thing for a family is, not that they are at a great distance from school, but a school so small that a well-qualified teacher cannot be employed, and the entire absence of everything to incite enthusiasm, and a spirit of healthy competition. The best interests of education demand a union of districts, as far as possible.

CONTINUOUS INSTRUCTION.

Only two of the schools have had the same teacher the entire year. In No. 5, the second term of a valuable school was abridged three weeks by the sudden sickness of the teacher,—a young lady held in universal esteem,—who was thus laid aside from all service for the winter. Whenever practicable, it is desirable that the same teacher be continued in the school the entire year.

STATISTICS.

DISTRICT No. 1.—Mr. Nathan Sleeper, Prudential Committee. Miss Lillie B. Atwood, of Westford, Mass., teacher of first and second terms. First term, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 22; second term, 9 weeks; number of scholars, 23. Wages, first term, \$28; second term, \$30. Third term, Miss M. Amanda Cloyd, teacher; 12 weeks; number of scholars, 22; wages, \$40; miscellaneous expenses, \$16.82; whole number of scholars, 28; 11 boys, 17 girls.

DISTRICT No. 2.—Mr. F. A. Cutter, Prudential Committee. Miss Alice Gould, teacher; first term, 6 weeks; number of scholars, 29; second term, 12 weeks; number of scholars, 35; third term, 12 weeks; number of scholars, 34; wages for first and second terms, \$28; third term, \$36; miscellaneous expenses, \$15.53; whole number of scholars, 40; 23 boys, 17 girls.

DISTRICT No. 3.—Mr. Wm. G. Butler, Prudential Committee. Miss Clara E. Spofford, teacher of first term; 9 weeks; number of scholars, 14; wages, \$28. Miss Linnie F. Butler, of Hudson, teacher

of second and third terms; 10 weeks each; number of scholars, 22; wages, \$28 and \$32; miscellaneous expenses, \$11.75; whole number of scholars, 22; 12 boys, 10 girls.

DISTRICT No. 4. — Mr. Nelson Webster, Prudential Committee. Miss Alice G. Currier, of Wakefield, Mass., teacher; first term, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 16; wages, \$28; second term, 11 weeks; number of scholars, 18; wages, \$30; third term, 12 weeks; number of scholars, 16; wages, \$34; miscellaneous expenses, \$22; whole number of scholars, 22; 11 boys, 11 girls.

DISTRICT No. 5. — Mr. William A. Giles, Prudential Committee. Miss Susan M. Smith, teacher of first and second terms; wages, \$32; first term, 9 weeks; number of scholars, 22; second term, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 22; third term, Miss Mary A. Parker, of Dracut, Mass., teacher; 13 weeks; wages, \$40; number of scholars, 23; miscellaneous expenses, \$11.45; whole number of scholars, 25; 14 boys, 11 girls.

DISTRICT No. 6. — Mr. John L. Spalding, Prudential Committee. Miss Sarah B. Sherburne, teacher; length of school, 6 weeks; number of scholars, 2; wages of teacher, —.

The wages of the teacher is per month, and includes board. The whole number of scholars is the number of different scholars that have attended school during the year in the district. The number of children in town between the ages of 5 and 15, enumerated by the selectmen in April, 184, 12 less than by the enumeration of 1878. The number that have attended school during the year, 137; 71 boys, 66 girls; 25 less than last year.

The amount of money expended for schools the past year, as appears from the school registers, is \$1,274.57: District No. 1, for 29 weeks of school, \$260.34; No. 2, for 30 weeks of school, \$249.53; No. 3, for 29 weeks of school, \$224.75; No. 4, for 31 weeks of school, \$262.50; No. 5, for 30 weeks of school, \$277.45; No. 6, for 6 weeks, —. The amount raised by the town, \$1,333.50; literary fund, \$62.53. The whole amount available for schools, \$1,396.03, \$156.93 less than last year. The amount expended for schools, excepting No. 6, \$156.50 less than last year. Not reckoning No. 6, the weeks of school are 6 less than last year.

AUGUSTUS BERRY,

PELHAM, March 1, 1880.

Superintending School Committee.