

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor

AND TREASURER

OF THE

TOWN OF PELHAM,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1879,

TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

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AMHERST, MASS. :  
McCLOUD & WILLIAMS, PRINTERS,  
1879.

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# SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

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## HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES.

Sylvester Jewett,	\$ 33 00
John Jones,	50 00
John Shaw,	58 00
Samuel B. Davis,	62 00
Martin G. Aldrich,	128 00
Henry Carroll,	25 00
T. W. Stratton,	100 00
John N. Pitman,	33 00
Moses L. Ward,	168 00
Israel Taylor,	61 00
Justin Canterbury,	55 00
Estus Barnes,	38 00
Moses L. Ward, extra on bridge,	15 00
John Jones, extra on valley bridge,	12 00
Sylvester Jewett, on valley bridge,	3 00
John Shaw, extra blasting stone,	51
Outstanding order for 1877,	4 68
William O. Buffum, timber for valley bridge,	8 00
Henry Cook, plank for valley bridge,	8 21
	<hr/>
	\$862 40

## COST OF POOR.

Outstanding order of 1877,	\$23 26	
Alexander Brewster,	64 42	
Mrs. Julius Wright,	60 00	
Betsey Rider,	46 00	
John Bolster,	50 00	
Charlie Davis,	15 00	
Mrs. Allen Benjamin,	80 00	
Mrs. Jerry Armstrong,	68 65	
Mrs. Lucy Davis,	24 83	
Mrs. Patrick Bailey,	22 25	
Willard Benson,	60 76	
Mrs. Alphonso E. Hudson,	89 18	
Hezekiah Pierce, doctor's bill,	20 00	
For tramps,	6 25	
Feather bed,	1 50	
	<hr/>	\$632 10

## OUTSIDE POOR.

Emory Squires, Shutesbury,	\$34 00	
Henry Weatherbee, Ware,	46 00	
Myron Gibbs, Belchertown,	7 00	
Aaron Horton, Leverett,	5 00	
Charles Field, State pauper,	38 00	
Charles Warner's boy, Deerfield,	12 79	
A. D. Blackmer, Ware,	3 30	
Mrs. Hunter, Hadley,	4 00	
	<hr/>	150 09
Total,		<hr/> \$782 19

## SCHOOLS.

West School, teacher's wages, board, building fres,		\$152 00
Valley School, " "		152 00
South School, " "		152 00
East School, " "		147 00

Fuel for West school,	10 00	
" Valley school,	9 00	
" East school,	8 00	
" South school,	8 50	
John Jones, services as superintendent,	43 75	
Town of Shutesbury, schooling Pelham children,	10 00	
Repairs on West school house,	62 67	
John Jones, repairs and sundries for schools,	13 21	
J. L. Brainard, work on blackboards,	5 50	
Town of Belchertown, tuition of Ballou's children,	8 00	
School books,	39 25	
		\$820 88

## CONTINGENT EXPENSES.

To McCloud & Williams, for printing town report for 1877,	\$ 17 40
John Jones, services as Selectman,	58 35
Sylvester Jewett, " "	53 33
Thomas W. Stratton, "	36 75
Sylvester Jewett, as Assessor,	11 00
John Jones, "	11 00
T. W. Stratton, "	10 00
Charles Jones, Collector, 1877,	47 86
Theodore F. Cook, Collector, 1876,	68 67
John W. Knight, " 1878,	30 00
Samuel B. Davis, sexton,	34 25
William O. Buffum, "	8 00
Tira Hanks, "	8 00
Mortgage on Blair lot,	286 52
Charles Jones, counterfeit bill,	20 50
S. Jewett, money paid out,	5 30
John Jones, " "	1 44
T. W. Stratton, " "	1 00
Tax on Blair lot,	4 42
Paid for running town lines,	4 75
John W. Knight, posting town warrants,	6 00
Ariel C. Keith, Treasurer,	50 00
" " sundries,	10 53

Ariel C. Keith, recording deaths, etc.,	4 80	
“ “ wood, etc.,	1 50	
James Hanks, as Auditor,	1 00	
Willard Keith, as librarian,	1 50	
S. Jewett, returning death,	25	
	<hr/>	\$793 62
Claim on Ely farm,	16 39	
“ Whitney lot,	13 52	
	<hr/>	29 91

## TOWN DEBT.

Paid on principal,	\$ 400 00	
Interest,	428 05	
Borrowed money,	1,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,828 05
County tax,	\$255 03	
State tax,	100 00	
Remits,	57 50	
	<hr/>	\$412 53

## STATE AID.

John Ely, law of 1878,	\$16 00	
Norris Chamberlain, law of 1877,	54 00	
William J. Hopkins, 1877,	18 00	
	<hr/>	\$88 00

## RECAPITULATION.

Highways and bridges,	\$ 862 40	
Pauper expenses,	782 19	
Schools,	820 88	
Town debt,	1,828 05	
County tax,	255 03	
State tax,	100 00	
Assessors' abatements,	57 50	
State aid,	88 00	
Contingent,	793 62	
Claim on Ely farm,	16 39	
Claim on E. Whitney lot,	13 52	
	<hr/>	\$5,617 58
In the treasury,		281 51
		<hr/>
		\$5,899 09

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

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In the treasury, March 1, 1878,	\$231 26
Rec'd from John Ward, licence as auctioneer,	2 00
John Jones, school books,	3 33
Shutesbury, support of E. Squires,	25 00
Borrowed money,	1,000 00
Chloe Newell,	9 00
From sale of C. Field's clothes,	11 16
From Adam Cole, grass on common,	25
From C. Endicott, bank tax,	3 95
Support State pauper,	15 71
School money,	211 54
Belchertown, for paupers,	15 93
Dog fund,	41 61
Ware, support of H. E. Weatherbee,	25 00
Deerfield, support of Warners,	39 99
Palmer, support of A. Bacon's wife,	8 75
Leverett, support of A. Horton,	2 00
Sale of Blair lot,	425 31
Sale of school books,	1 10
Sale of grass on Blair lot,	3 00
Charles Jones, collector, 1877,	920 52
Charles Jones, interest on taxes,	139 28
John W. Knight, collector 1878,	2,501 02
Theodore F. Cook, collector 1876,	134 38
Theodore F. Cook, interest on taxes,	128 00
	<hr/>
	\$5,899 09



## DISBURSEMENTS.

Highways and bridges,	\$862 40	
Pauper expenses,	782 19	
Schools,	820 88	
Town debts,	1,828 05	
County tax,	255 03	
State tax,	100 00	
Assessors' abatements,	57 50	
State aid,	88 00	
Contingent,	793 62	
Claim on Ely farm,	16 39	
Claim on E. Whitney lot,	13 52	
In the treasury,	281 51	
		<hr/> \$5,899 09

A. C. KEITH, TREASURER.

## TOWN LIABILITIES.

Notes,	\$7,300 00	
Interest to March 1, 1879,	203 33	
Outstanding orders,	25 00	
		<hr/> \$7,528 33

## RESOURCES.

In the treasury,	\$ 281 51
Due from J. W. Knight, collector,	1,035 71
"    J. W. Knight, interest on taxes,	62 14
"    C. W. Jones, collector,	119 77
"    Shutesbury, for E. Squires,	9 00
"    Belchertown, support M. Gibbs,	7 00
"    Leverett, support Aaron Horton,	3 00
"    Hadley, support Mrs. Hunter,	4 00
"    Ware, support Henry Weatherbee,	21 00
"    Ware, support A. D. Blackmer's children,	3 30
"    Sale of grass from Bowe,	7 00
"    Sale of grass from E. Thornton,	3 29
"    T. W. Stratton, sale of school house,	13 48

Due from T. W. Stratton, sale of Davis house,	16 45	
Value of Seth and Lucy lots,	125 00	
Claim on John Ely farm,	16 39	
Claim on E. Whitney lot,	13 52	
Rent of town hall,	5 00	
Due from State aid,	88 00	
“ sale of school books,	36 29	
“ Minor Gold, sexton's services,	2 00	
“ Stephen Rhodes, sale of C. Field's clothes,	1 75	
		\$1874 60
Total indebtedness,		\$5653 73
Debt reduced, \$635.30.		

Respectfully submitted,

SYLVESTER JEWETT,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
T. W. STRATTON,	
JOHN JONES,	
	} <i>of</i>
	} <i>Pelham.</i>

## AUDITOR'S REPORT.

This is to certify that I have examined the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer, and find them to be correct, and a balance in the treasury of \$281.51.

JAMES HANKS, AUDITOR.

# SCHOOL REPORT.

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## FELLOW CITIZENS :

It becomes our duty to submit our annual report at the end of the school year, whether it is well or ill received, and we should enter upon this duty with more cheerfulness, if we had full assurance that our people would profit by what we say to them, but we are aware that few will read, and some who do read will do so to criticise or to forget ; therefore we use brevity, and trust those who do read will remember that it has been but a few years since we consolidated our schools, reducing the number of schools to four, and adopted the plan of having three terms in a year, of ten weeks each, instead of running seven schools two terms of eight or ten weeks, as our funds would afford. We are sorry to see that there is such a want of appreciation of the worth of school privileges, as to suffer any part of a school term to be unimproved by the children, and yet we recommend the keeping of our schools up to a proper standard for the benefit of those who do and will improve them. The chronic habit that some of our people have acquired, of fault-finding, will always fail to make good schools. We are often asked who is to teach in this or that school. The question is answered, and the next suggestion is, the school will be worthless, and the only reason that can be assigned for such a state of things is because we make them worth less than they should be. The success of our schools has been, the past year, all that we could expect under the circumstances. We cannot expect to get the best teachers in all cases, because we cannot have the first choice for the wages we pay, and again we are liable to be disappointed in the

teachers we employ. But we confidently say that we believe we have been as fortunate as the people in other towns in procuring good teachers. We have learned from experience that teachers of great energy and executive ability are needed in our mixed schools, and nothing short of untiring devotion to the work will succeed well. Sluggishness in a teacher will always abate the energies of scholars. Our energetic teachers give us live schools, and turn out good scholars, and such has been the character of most of our teachers. We wish we could say the same of all.

RESOURCES OF THE TOWN FOR THE  
SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Town grant,	\$700 00	
State fund,	211 54	
Dog fund,	41 61	
	\$953 15	

EXPENDED UPON SCHOOLS.

Teachers' wages and board,	\$595 00	
Fuel for schools,	35 50	
Building and tending fires,	8 00	
Repairs on West school house,	62 67	
Repairs on other school houses and sundries,	13 21	
J. L. Brainard, repairs on blackboards, etc.,	5 50	
Paid Belchertown, tuition of H. Ballou's children,	8 00	
Paid for school books,	39 25	
Services of superintendent,	43 75	
Paid Shutesbury for tuition,	10 00	
	820 88	
Balance unexpended,		\$132 27

JOHN JONES, } *School Committee*  
 HERMAN HEED, } *of*  
 ASAHEL GATES, } *Pelham.*