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G.A.S.*

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, OVERSEERS OF POOR,

ENGINEER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT,

TOWN CLERK,

SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

BOARD OF HEALTH,

COMMITTEE ON THE ALMS-HOUSE,

AND

MONUMENT COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31,

1870.

PROVINCETOWN :

PRESS OF THE PROVINCETOWN ADVOCATE

1870.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1870.

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

THE Selectmen of the Town of Provincetown submit the following Report for the year ending January 31, 1870;— and recommend that hereafter the fiscal year end on the last day of December, thus affording ample time to make up and distribute printed Reports as now required, ten days at least before the annual meeting in February.

Appropriations by Vote of the Town.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| For support of the Poor, | \$4,000 00 |
| “ “ “ Schools (to close year 1868,) | 1,350 00 |
| “ “ “ “ 1869, | 6,000 00 |
| “ Roads and Sidewalks, | 2,500 00 |
| “ Bridge, | 400 00 |
| “ Working Cross Roads, | 250 00 |
| “ Fire Department, | 3,000 00 |
| “ New Reservoirs, | 1,000 00 |
| “ Abatement Taxes, | 300 00 |
| “ Principal and Interest Town Debt, | 2,000 00 |
| “ Incidental Town Expenses, | 5,000 00 |
| “ New Fire Engine, | 2,000 00 |
| “ Two New School Houses, | 4,000 00 |
| “ Two New Engine Houses, | 2,500 00 |
| “ Town Watch, | 1,200 00 |
| “ Awards on Parallel Roads, | 14,500 00 |
| “ “ “ Cross Roads, | 1,250 00 |
| “ State Tax, | 4,350 00 |
| “ County Tax, | 1,391 90 |
| “ Overlay, | 1,225 71 |
| | \$58,217 61 |
| Authorized to borrow (by Vote Town,) | 21,250 00 |
| | \$36,967 61 |

Valuation of the Town, May 1, 1869.

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Personal Estate, | \$1,203,007 00 |
| Real Estate, | 802,900 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$2,005,907 00 |

| | |
|--|--------|
| Number of Polls taxed at two dollars each, | 927 |
| “ “ Legal Voters, | 896 |
| “ “ “ “ paying only Poll Tax, | 182 |
| Rate of Taxation on \$100, | 1 75c. |
| Total number of Dwelling Houses, | 794 |
| “ “ “ Horses, | 86 |
| “ “ “ Cows, | 43 |
| “ “ “ Acres of Land taxed, | 669 |

Poor.

This department has suffered much inconvenience and expense the past year for the want of more suitable accommodations in the Alms-House. The attention of the Town is called to that subject.

Expense of Supporting Poor at the Alms House.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Paid Mrs. Clark, (Superintendent,) | \$190 25 |
| “ Fuel and Lights, | 103 25 |
| “ Groceries and Provisions, | 866 17 |
| “ Clothing, &c. | 92 70 |
| “ House Fixtures, Furniture and Repairs, | 29 07 |
| “ Funeral Charges, | 29 00 |
| “ Medical Attendance and Medicines, | 226 32 |
| “ Extra Labor and Assistance, | 29 25 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1,505 91 |

Expense Supporting Poor out of the Alms House.

| NAMES, | Provi- sions. | Fuel. | Cash. | Medical Attend- ance. | Fune- ral charge. | TOTAL |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Michael Whelding | | | 82 25 | 100 00 | | 182 25 |
| Mrs. A. Valentine | 137 42 | 16 87 | | | | 154 29 |
| Wid. Robert Newcomb | | | 91 00 | | | 91 00 |
| Sally Wareham | | | 88 13 | | | 88 13 |
| Wid. Asa Franzen | 42 27 | 37 00 | | | | 79 27 |
| Miss Ida Newcomb | | | 109 75 | | | 109 75 |
| Mrs. George Little | | | 38 50 | | | 38 50 |
| Wid. Priscilla Bush | 23 64 | 36 00 | | 4 50 | | 64 14 |
| Wid. Hetty Snow | 15 75 | 20 00 | 10 00 | 5 25 | | 51 00 |
| Mrs. Bradshaw | 27 01 | | | | | 27 01 |
| Wid. Joe Smith | 76 27 | 22 63 | | | | 98 90 |
| Jonathan E. Smith | 43 70 | 23 38 | | | | 67 08 |
| Wid. Dorcas Hill | 155 63 | 34 13 | | | | 189 76 |
| Wid. Abner Nickerson | 5 00 | 16 00 | | | | 21 00 |
| Amelia Stanford | | | 49 02 | | | 49 02 |
| Elizabeth Brooks | | | 55 70 | | | 55 70 |
| James Gordon | | | 5 50 | | | 5 50 |
| Frank Rogers | | | 5 50 | | | 5 50 |
| Mrs. John A. Wood | 5 25 | 7 94 | | | | 13 19 |
| John Curran (Family) | 14 66 | 11 00 | 18 23 | | | 43 99 |
| Peter Morill | 8 62 | | | | | 8 62 |
| Patrick Wall | 4 43 | 3 00 | | | | 7 43 |
| Hannah G. Holway | 10 50 | 6 00 | | | | 16 50 |
| Mrs. Manuel Silver | 2 96 | 5 00 | | | | 7 96 |
| Wid. Manuel Victorene | 13 41 | 4 71 | | | | 18 16 |
| Chil. of E.F. Newcomb | | | 37 19 | | | 37 19 |
| George Wharf Jr. | | | 16 75 | | | 16 75 |
| Nahum Haynes | 10 76 | | | | | 10 76 |
| Wid. Polly Burket | 5 25 | | | | | 5 25 |
| Effie McDonald | | | 15 00 | 19 75 | 14 50 | 49 25 |
| Wid. Maurice Powers | | | 6 00 | 6 75 | | 12 75 |
| Carrie Genn | | | | 12 75 | | 12 75 |
| Wid. Mary A. Francis | | 7 50 | | | | 7 50 |
| Nathan H. Hopkins | | 9 50 | | | | 9 50 |
| Nine Travelers | | | 10 36 | | | 10 36 |
| | | | | | | <hr/> |
| | \$602 53 | \$266 77 | \$632 98 | \$149 00 | \$14 50 | \$1665 78 |

Schools.

The Selectmen and School Committee were instructed by the Town, at the last annual meeting, to procure building lots and erect thereon suitable buildings for two Primary Schools. They have attended to that duty, have purchased two lots and erected thereon two school-houses with the necessary out-buildings. They have furnished the school-rooms and buildings, graded and hardened the grounds, laid walks, and enclosed the premises with a good and substantial fence at a cost to the town as follows:—

| | | |
|---|------------|-------------|
| Paid Two Building Lots | \$695 00 | |
| “ Grading and Hardening the same | 130 00 | |
| | | \$825 00 |
| “ Material for two School Houses | \$2238 70 | |
| “ Labor “ “ “ | 1250 64 | |
| “ Paints and Painting “ | 167 08 | |
| | | 3,656 42 |
| “ Material for Outbuildings, fence and walks | 345 00 | |
| “ Labor “ “ “ “ | 270 00 | |
| | | 615 00 |
| “ Furniture and Fixtures for School Rooms & Buildings | 675 36 | |
| | | \$5,771 78 |
| “ Orders of Sch'Com. (to close School '68) | \$1,917 25 | |
| “ “ “ “ “ Schools 1869 | 4,736 88 | |
| “ “ “ “ “ for Books | 195 93 | \$6,850 06 |
| | | \$12,621 84 |

Awards on Roads.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Paid Awards on Parallel Road | \$10,092 00 |
| “ “ “ Vine Street | 3,582 00 |
| “ “ “ Methodist Alley | 1,206 00 |
| “ “ “ Ward's “ | 31 00 |
| | \$14,911 00 |

Roads and Sidewalks.

Agreeable to a vote of the Town the Honorable County Commissioners were petitioned to run out anew and define the northerly line of the Commercial Street road. They received said petition, and after consideration of the same declined to act thereon for want of jurisdiction in the premises. Nothing further has been done, and the line of road remains as at last annual meeting.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Paid orders of the Road Surveyors as follows:— | |
| “ Clearing Sidewalk | \$196 00 |
| “ Auctioneer & Crier | 8 50 |
| “ Material for Sidewalks | 847 93 |
| | \$1,047 43 |
| “ Clay and Shells for Roads | 395 35 |
| “ Grading and hardening New Roads | 150 00 |
| “ Sundry Bills labor on Roads | \$145 74 |
| “ Addison Nickerson labor on Roads | 199 68 |
| “ Asa Atkins “ “ | 225 41 |
| “ Alfred L. Mayo “ “ | 109 30 |
| | \$680 13 |
| “ Road Surveyors' Fees | 30 00 |
| | \$2,302 91 |

Bridge.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Paid orders of Road Surveyors | 271 34 |
|-------------------------------|--------|

Fire Department.

The Selectmen were directed by the Town, at the last annual meeting, to provide new houses, and sites, if necessary, for Engines No. 3 and 4. They have purchased one lot on Commercial Street, and built thereon a house for Engine number 3, and have built a house for Engine number 4 on the old site at the landing. Both houses were com-

pleted for use and turned over to the Fire Department in August last at an expense to the Town as follows:—

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Paid Land for No. 3 House | \$301 25 | |
| “ Building, (contract) | 1,180 00 | |
| “ Foundation and Well, (extra) | 95 00 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1,576 25 |
| “ Building No. 4 House (contract) | 1,180 00 | |
| “ Well and extra Labor | 3 04 | |
| | <hr/> | 1,215 04 |
| “ Furnishing the two Buildings | | 265 35 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$3,056 64 |
| “ Orders of Engineers | \$3,115 32 | |
| “ “ “ for Reservoirs | 952 15 | |
| | <hr/> | \$1067 47 |
| “ • Orders of Committee for New Engine | 2,000 00 | |
| “ “ “ “ Freight “ | 12 00 | |
| “ “ “ “ Sundries “ | 14 20 | |
| | <hr/> | 2,026 20 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$9,150 31 |

Night Watch.

Agreeable to a vote of the Town, a Night Watch was established in accordance with Chap. 23 Sec. 1 Gen. Statutes and placed on duty March 1, 1869.

Six persons were appointed for that purpose by the Selectmen, and were on watch during the months of March, April and May, at a cost of 414 Dollars.

The watch was not on duty during the months of June, July, August and September. October 1st, the same persons were again put on the watch and continued during the months of October, November, December and January, at a cost of 691⁵⁰/₁₀₀ Dollars making a Total cost to the Town for a Night Watch to February 1, 1,870,—1105⁵⁰/₁₀₀ Dollars.

This Watch has proved of sufficient importance the past year to warrant its continuance, and we recommend that a Night Watch be kept in Town nine months the year ensuing; said Watch to consist of eight persons; and we also recommend an appropriation of 2500 Dollars for the purpose of said Watch.

Abatement Taxes.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Paid Individuals, Collector, | \$162 90 | |
| “ Bank Tax, Non-Residents (1868,) | 157 92 | \$320 82 |
| “ “ “ (1869,) | 30 94 | |
| | <hr/> | 40 60 |
| | | \$71 54 |

Incidental Expenses.

| | | |
|---|----------|------------|
| Paid Moderator's Fees, | \$15 00 | |
| “ Printing, | 48 25 | |
| “ Books, Stamps, Stationery and Expressage | 36 79 | |
| “ Repairs and Fuel for Office, | 16 24 | |
| “ Liquor Committee, | 184 95 | |
| “ Hon. George Marston, | 75 00 | |
| “ Police Badges & Fixtures, | 36 25 | |
| “ Use of Adams Hall for Teachers' Institute, | 42 00 | |
| “ Repairs, Fixtures and care Town House, & Hill | 351 11 | |
| “ “ “ “ School House No.1, | 89 95 | |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ “ 2, | 50 48 | |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ “ 3, | 153 90 | |
| “ Rent of School Room to Jeremiah Stone, | 52 00 | |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ M. L. Adams, | 75 90 | |
| “ Stone, for Bounds, | 61 29 | |
| “ Joshua Cook, (Lock-up,) | 6 25 | |
| “ State Aid to Soldiers and Sailors, | 901 19 | |
| “ Sundry Bills, Labor, &c. | 21 87 | |
| “ State Agent (Province Land) | 29 00 | |
| “ Constable (Extra Services) | 6 44 | |
| “ Legal Advice | 50 00 | |
| “ Board of Health, (Extra Services) | 9 20 | |
| “ Monument Committee | 4 50 | |
| “ Repairs on Hears and House | 8 00 | |
| “ Care of Town Tomb | 5 00 | |
| “ Return of Deaths | 6 40 | |
| “ Liquor Agent | 300 00 | |
| “ Rent and care of Weights and Measures | 10 00 | |
| “ Paron C. Young attending Meetings & Recording | 48 00 | |
| “ “ “ “ Recording 124 Births, 30 | 37 20 | |
| “ “ “ “ “ 64 Deaths | 8 40 | |
| “ “ “ “ “ 48 Marriages 15 | 7 20 | |
| “ James Emery for collecting Taxes | 231 25 | |
| “ Discount on Taxes | 1,086 46 | |
| | <hr/> | |
| | | \$4,065 47 |

Treasurer's Account.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1870.

The Selectmen have examined the account of the Town Treasurer, and find that there has been received in the Treasury as follows:—

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Rec'd Individuals and Banks (borrowed money) | \$22,594 59 |
| “ State for Corporation Tax | 1,156 23 |
| “ State Aid for Soldiers & Sailors | 950 00 |
| “ Commissioners on Cape Cod Harbor (on Bridge 1868) | 47 94 |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ “ “ 1869) | 33 66 |
| “ Joseph D. Johnson for Engine House No. 4, | 275 00 |
| “ J. B. Baxter Liquor Agent | 200 00 |
| “ James Emery Tax Collector | 36,967 61 |
| “ Road Surveyors for Plank Sold | 5 50 |
| “ Bridge Committee “ “ | 9 75 |
| “ Rent of Keys to Cupola | 7 00 |
| “ Junk Licenses | 10 00 |
| “ State School Fund | 222 82 |
| Amount in Treasury, Feb. 10, 1869 | 10,221 06 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 72,701 16 |

The Treasurer has paid out for which proper vouchers have been taken as follows:—

| | |
|---|------------|
| Paid Schools | \$6,654 13 |
| “ Roads and Side Walks | 2,291 19 |
| “ Bridge | 271 34 |
| “ Incidental Expenses including State Aid | 5,923 40 |
| “ Poor in and out Alms House | 3,231 71 |
| “ Fire Department | 3,115 32 |
| “ Principal and Interest | 10,087 47 |
| “ Abatement of Taxes | 320 83 |
| “ New Reservoirs | 952 15 |
| “ State and County Tax | 5,741 90 |
| “ Bank Tax Non-Residents | 71 54 |
| “ New Fire Engine | 2,026 20 |
| “ 2 New Engine Houses | 3,056 64 |
| “ 2 “ School Houses | 5,771 78 |
| “ Town Watch | 1,105 50 |
| “ Awards on Cross Roads | 1,237 00 |
| “ “ “ Parallel Roads | 10,092 00 |
| “ “ “ Vine Street “ | 3,582 00 |
| Amount in Treasury, Jan 31, 1870 | 7,169 06 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 72,701 16 |

Town Officers.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Paid Truant Committee | \$30 00 |
| “ School Committee | 100 00 |
| “ Board of Health | 15 00 |
| “ Constables | 55 39 |
| “ Beach Grass Committee | 20 00 |
| “ Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor | 978 00 |
| “ “ Services on Roads | 144 00 |
| “ “ Extra Services | 120 00 |
| “ Town Treasurer | 200 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1,662 00 |

State and County Tax.

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Paid State Tax | \$4,350 00 |
| “ County “ | 1,391 90 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$5,741 90 |

Principal and Interest.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Paid Principal and Interest Town Debt | \$10,087 47 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|

Liquor Agency.

Dr.

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Amount of Liquor purchased | \$501 86 |
| Agent's Salary 6 months | 65 00 |
| License and Expense | 35 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$601 86 |

Cr.

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Amount Sales Liquor | 373 41 |
| “ Liquor on hand | 230 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$603 41 |
| | <hr/> |
| Gain | 1 55 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$603 41 |

Liabilities of the Town.

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Individuals and Banks, | \$28,127 00 |
| Schools, | 1,316 09 |
| Awards on Roads, | 826 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$30,269 09 |

Assets.

The following are reported as the Assets of the Town:

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Due from the State for Aid to Soldiers and Sailors | 900 00 |
| “ “ Town of Truro (acc't Bridge) | 65 61 |
| “ “ “ Concord (“ N. Haynes) | 10 76 |
| Stock on hand in Town Agency | 130 00 |
| Amount in Treasury Jan. 31, 1870 | 7,169 06 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 8,275 43 |
| Present indebtedness of the Town | 21,993 66 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$30,169 09 |

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Town Debt, Feb. 1, 1869, | \$3,814 20 |
| “ “ Jan. 31, 1870, | 21,993 66 |
| | <hr/> |
| Increase past year | \$19,179 46 |

Respectfully submitted.

SILAS S. YOUNG, } *Selectmen*
 ARTEMAS PAINE, } *of*
 JOHN SWIFT, } *Provincetown.*

Provincetown, Feb. 14th, 1870.

Births.

BIRTHS REGISTERED FOR THE YEAR 1869.

| | | | | |
|---|----------|------------|--|---------|
| The whole number was 124. Males 72, Females 52. | | | | |
| Number Born in Provincetown was 120. | | | | |
| Number Born in other Towns “ 4. | | | | |
| Number Born in January, | Males 4. | Females 1, | | Total 5 |
| “ “ “ February | “ 2 | “ 2 | | “ 4 |
| “ “ “ March | “ 2 | “ 3 | | “ 5 |
| “ “ “ April | “ 2 | “ 0 | | “ 2 |
| “ “ “ May | “ 5 | “ 2 | | “ 7 |
| “ “ “ June | “ 13 | “ 10 | | “ 23 |
| “ “ “ July | “ 9 | “ 13 | | “ 22 |
| “ “ “ August | “ 8 | “ 5 | | “ 13 |
| “ “ “ September | “ 10 | “ 2 | | “ 12 |
| “ “ “ October | “ 4 | “ 5 | | “ 9 |
| “ “ “ November | “ 6 | “ 4 | | “ 10 |
| “ “ “ December | “ 7 | “ 5 | | “ 12 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| | 72 | 52 | | 124 |

PARENTAGE.

| | | | |
|------------------------|----|--------------------------|----|
| Both Parents American, | 37 | Both Parents Portuguese, | 44 |
| “ “ Irish | 12 | “ “ from British Prov'cs | 8 |

FATHERS.

MOTHERS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Fathers American and Mothers from British Provinces | 5 |
| “ from British Provinces and Mothers American | 4 |
| “ Portuguese “ “ Irish | 4 |
| “ Irish “ “ American | 1 |
| “ American “ “ Irish | 1 |
| “ from British Provinces “ “ Irish | 2 |
| “ French “ “ American | 1 |
| “ Portuguese “ “ American | 1 |
| “ Portuguese “ “ English | 1 |
| “ Swede “ “ American | 1 |
| “ from West Indies “ “ American | 1 |
| “ English “ “ Nova Scotian | 1 |

Of the whole number of Parents there were—

| | |
|------------------|----|
| American | 89 |
| Portuguese | 94 |
| Irish | 32 |
| From Provinces | 28 |
| French | 1 |
| English | 2 |
| Swede | 1 |
| From West Indies | 1 |

Marriages.

The whole number of Marriages registered was 48, as follows;

1869.
 Jan. 3. William Hammond of Portsmouth, N. H., and Mary E. Ryder of Provincetown.
 " 7. John McKenzie and Flora McDonald both of Provincetown.
 " 13. John McFadden and Isabella Campbell both of Provincetown.
 " 28. George Allen and Eunice T. Quinn both of Provincetown.
 Feb. 14. Seth N. Hartford and Hattie M. Kilburn both of Provincetown.
 Mar. 7. Angus McRitche and Ann Eliza Doggett both of Provincetown.
 " 13. Daniel A. McDonald and Julia Sykes both of Provincetown.
 " 20. John McIntosh and Martha Senior both of Provincetown.
 " 21. Elkanah Paine and Elizabeth Dilleno both of Provincetown.
 " 23. James Cummings and Mary McKenzie both of Provincetown.
 " 28. Manuel J. Jesse and Mary Zabel both of Provincetown.
 April 4. Andrew Kennedy and Nettie Wharf both of Provincetown.
 " 5. Hugh McKinnon of Provincetown and Mary W. Shaw of Truro.
 " 5. Richard Calas and Mary Zabel both of Provincetown.
 " 25. Daniel W. Dowling and Margaret Kemp both of Provincetown.
 May 2. Joseph Francis and Reita Carolina both of Provincetown.
 " 2. George B. Dushinberre of Collinsville, Ct., and Hannah E. Atkins of Provincetown.
 " 26. William H. Butler and Abbie S. Newcomb both of Provincetown.
 June 21. Joshua Snow of Provincetown and Sylvia L. Quinell of Sandwich.
 " 26. Joseph A. West and Josephine Hatton both of Provincetown.
 July 25. Charles H. Holway and Lydia A. Cook both of Provincetown.
 Aug. 15. James Birch, Jr., and Abbie E. Reynolds both of Provincetown.
 " 25. Jonah Newcomb and Ella Loring both of Provincetown.
 " 29. Frank Silver and Annie L. Prior both of Provincetown.
 Sept. 30. William L. Quinn and Mary L. Rogers both of Provincetown.
 Oct. 3. Jeremiah H. Fountain and Jane Clancy both of Provincetown.
 " 10. John W. Atkins and Eugenie McKennon both of Provincetown.
 " 10. Manuel Loring and Anna Silvara both of Provincetown.
 " 17. Edward J. Williams and Adelaid P. Freeman both of Provincetown.
 " 24. Daniel Kemp and Caty A. R. McKenzie both of Provincetown.
 " 31. George E. Cook and Bessie E. Snow both of Provincetown.
 Nov. 4. Joseph G. Alves and Marianna Paulina both of Provincetown.
 " 9. Joseph Footer and Carolina Concesarm both of Provincetown.
 " 11. George W. Crowell and Jane W. Smith both of Provincetown.
 " 18. Antone P. Rodericks and Mary Elenora both of Provincetown.
 " 14. Charles H. Marston and Fostina Morgan both of Provincetown.
 " 18. Joseph Almada and Mary Jesuz both of Provincetown.
 " 17. Francis P. Smith and Fidelia P. Dunham both of Provincetown.
 " 18. Manuel Tarvis and Maria Emelia both of Provincetown.
 " 21. William H. Herbolt and Joan F. Loring both of Provincetown.
 Dec. 4. Antone Dutra and Palceanna Amelia both of Provincetown.
 " 5. Josiah Snow and Sarah E. Newcomb both of Provincetown.
 " 5. Joseph Deloria and Mary Nickerson both of Provincetown.
 " 5. Jackson Silver and Helen Jesuz both of Provincetown.
 " 12. Heman T. Small and Olive F. Smith both of Provincetown.
 " 19. John Silver and Mary V. Francis both of Provincetown.
 " 21. Josiah Nickerson and Matilda Stoddard both of Provincetown.
 " 30. Francis M. Freeman and Mary L. Doggett both of Provincetown.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Number of Marriages in Provincetown | 48 |
| Number Married in Boston | 3 |
| " " " Orleans | 1 |
| " " " Sandwich | 1 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 48 |

The whole number of Intentions of Marriages Registered was 50.

Deaths.

The whole number of Deaths Registered for the year 1869, was Total 64, Males 26, Females 38.

| | AGE. | | |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------|----------|
| Under One Year | 13 | From 40 to 50 Years | 9 |
| From 1 to 10 Years | 12 | " 50 to 60 " | 4 |
| " 10 to 20 " | 3 | " 60 to 70 " | 5 |
| " 20 to 30 " | 7 | " 70 to 80 " | 3 |
| " 30 to 40 " | 5 | " 80 to 90 " | 3 |
| | <hr/> | | <hr/> |
| | 40 | 24 | Total 64 |

PLACES OF NATIVITY.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------|
| Provincetown of American Parentage | 24 |
| Provincetown of Foreign Parentage | 16 |
| Other Towns in Mass. | 7 |
| Maine | 3 |
| Nova Scotia | 7 |
| Ireland | 3 |
| Western Islands | 2 |
| West Indies | 1 |
| Unknown | 1 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 64 |

REPORT

OF

THE ENGINEERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY 22, 1870.

The Board of Engineers, in making their annual report, would congratulate the citizens of Provincetown upon having escaped the ravages of any serious or destructive fire during the year last past, and would recommend a continuance of that care and vigilance so necessary to avert the scourge of fire, which is so much dreaded by all communities. At the commencement of the year the town was divided into seven districts, and an Engineer placed in charge of each district, whose duty was to visit all buildings under his charge as often as he should think it necessary, but not less than twice each year, and to cause all dangerous places to be made safe; much of our success in keeping the devouring element from our midst is attributable to the promptness of the owners and occupants of buildings in abating all nuisances on their premises, tending in the direction of a fire, whenever so requested by the Engineers.

The Board would recommend that all persons who may know of a defective stove-pipe, chimney, or other dangerous fixtures in the town, make immediate complaint of the same to either of the Engineers, who will take prompt measures to have such nuisances abated. A very little care in this direction may be the means of saving valuable lives and property, and all are requested to co-operate with the Board of Engineers in protecting our town against the ravages of that dreaded enemy, fire.

The present force of the Fire Department consists of 381 men, 237 of whom are paid for their services, and 144 volunteers without pay.

The apparatus furnished by the Town for the suppression of fires consists of 26 Reservoirs, 5 Hand Engines, 1 Hook and Ladder Truck, with Ladders and Hooks, and 6 Hose Carriages, all of which are in good working order, with a sufficient quantity of Hose and other necessary apparatus to make the efforts of the firemen effective.

The Engine Houses are well furnished with all the necessary articles for the convenience of the Firemen, including a force pump in each of the principal houses, the sixth being occupied by the Relief Engine (old No. 1) which has no organized company.

All the property for the suppression of fires is placed under the supervision and care of the Board of Engineers, and they would here remark that 19 of the Reservoirs now in use furnish a good supply of water, and the other seven have been built some years and do not furnish the needed supply, therefore it will be necessary to enlarge these poor reservoirs, or build new ones as near the locality of the old ones as possible, in order that the Department may be prepared for any emergency in case of a destructive fire.

During the past year the Department has been called out five times to suppress fires, viz:—

| | |
|---|----------|
| In March, a vessel was partially destroyed at Brooks Wharf, damage about | \$500 00 |
| In April, the store of Arnold Smalls was partially burned, damage trifling. | |
| May 28th, Adam Macool's Cooper's Shop was partially burned, damage slight. | |
| June 16, Isaiah Gifford's Store was destroyed, contents partially saved, loss | 2,000 00 |
| July 5th, Wm. W. Smith's Boat Shop was damaged, | 25 00 |

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Total losses, | \$2,075 00 |
| No insurance. | |

The estimated value of the Town's property, now under the charge of the Engineers, is as follows:—

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Engine Houses Nos. 3 & 4 \$1,500 each | \$3,000 00 |
| do do Nos. 1 & 2 1,200 do | 2,400 00 |
| Hook and Ladder House | 1,500 90 |
| Relief Engine House | 500 00 |
| Engine No. 1 with Hose Carriage | 2,000 00 |
| do 2 do | 500 00 |
| do 3 do | 1,000 00 |
| do 4 do | 800 00 |
| Relief Engine do | 200 00 |
| Hook and Ladder Truck and Apparatus | 500 00 |
| Hose Carriage No. 1 | 75 00 |
| 2000 feet Boyd's Patent Hose | 1,000 00 |
| 800 " Leather Hose | 300 00 |
| 26 Reservoirs \$175 00 each | 4,550 00 |
| Total | 18,325 00 |

EXPENDITURES FOR 1869.

| | |
|--|----------|
| 450 feet new Leading Hose | 802 53 |
| 3 pieces new Suction Hose | 144 00 |
| 3 pairs Suction Hose Couplings | 24 75 |
| Repairing old Suction Hose | 79 00 |
| 4 Force Pumps with Hose, &c. | 148 28 |
| Firemen for services | 1,037 50 |
| Engineers' Salaries | 43 00 |
| Salaries Stewards, Engines and Hook & Ladder Co. | 115 00 |
| 4 new Ladders and Fixtures | 40 00 |
| Repairing Hose Carriage | 5 00 |
| Painting and Varnishing Engines | 7 79 |
| 1 Copper Crotch Piece | 13 00 |
| 8 Steel Middle Pole Keys | 4 50 |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Repairing and Covering Pipes | 12 2 |
| 1 Blunderbuss Pipe | 15 00 |
| 1 Water Sheet Nozzle | 6 00 |
| Repairing Cotton Hose | 30 25 |
| 2 Fire Axes with Picks | 10 00 |
| 37 pair Screw Couplings for Leading Hose | 130 50 |
| 50 Firemen's Badges | 21 45 |
| 1 Fire Hat and 2 Capes | 11 00 |
| 1 Patent Spray Nozzle and Fixtures | 16 00 |
| 1 doz. Suction Hose Washers | 75 |
| 1 Flag for No. 2, lettered | 23 75 |
| Hanging Alarm Bell | 12 00 |
| A. L. Putnam's bill Books | 3 60 |
| Hiram Holmes' bill Chimneys, &c. | 6 16 |
| Charles H. Howe's bill sundries | 5 08 |
| Amasa Taylor's bill, Pipe, &c. | 5 50 |
| Artemas Paine's bill | 50 |
| J. A. West's bill sundries | 1 85 |
| H. & S. Cook & Co.'s bill Fuel, &c. | 36 98 |
| E. & E. K. Cook & Co.'s bill sundries | 19 72 |
| J. E. & G. Bowley's bills sundries | 16 10 |
| Geo. W. Pettis' bill Covering Suction Hose | 9 41 |
| Freeman & Hilliard's bill Fuel, &c. and freight Hose | 90 41 |
| Refreshments and Watching at fire I. Gifford's store | 24 36 |
| 6 Spanners and Belts | 9 00 |
| Bills of Flagstuffs | 133 38 |
| Total Expenditures | \$3,115 35 |

Cr.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| By Town appropriation, 1869 | \$3,000 |
| Excess over Appropriation | \$115 35 |

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 4,

1870.

PRESS OF THE PROVINCETOWN ADVOCATE

1870.

REPORT.

A MODERATE share of prosperity has attended the schools of Provincetown, during the past school year, and it may be said that increased interest is manifesting itself among teachers and pupils. This, in a great measure, can be traced as a direct result of the "Teachers' Institute" which was held in our town during the fall term. The general interest manifested in the various exercises of the "Institute" must necessarily have left an influence which will long be felt in our midst.

The school year was divided, as usual, into a spring term of fourteen weeks, a fall term of twelve weeks, and a winter term of fourteen weeks.

The Selectmen's report shows the whole number of scholars in Provincetown, on the 1st day of May, 1869, to have been 715, the whole number on the 1st day of May, 1868, being 743, a decrease for the year of 28. At the beginning of the school year there were forty-five scholars who applied for admission to the High School, twenty-two of whom were admitted.

HIGH SCHOOL.

This school was taught by Mr. A. O. Burt, during the year, assisted during the spring term by Miss

Sarah A. Hamlen, and by Miss Lucie N. Cook during the fall and winter terms.

| | Spring | Fall | Winter |
|--------------------------------------|---------|------|--------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 61 | 48 | 56 |
| Average attendance | 50 | 40 | 50 |
| Per cent. of " | 82 | 83 | 89 |
| No. of scholars over 15 years of age | 39 | 30 | 44 |
| Average attendance for the year | 47 | | |
| Per cent. of " | 85 | | |
| Cost per scholar | \$31 26 | | |

EASTERN SCHOOL.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.

A. A. Platts was the instructor of this school for the spring and fall terms, assisted by Miss Carrie F. Nickerson. Mr. H. P. Deerborn, assisted by Miss Lizzie H. Kenney, was the teacher during the winter term.

| | Spring | Fall | Winter |
|--------------------------------------|---------|------|--------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 78 | 58 | 84 |
| Average attendance | 43 | 42 | 78 |
| Per cent. of " | 55 | 72 | 92 |
| No. of scholars over 15 years of age | 14 | 3 | 20 |
| Average attendance for the year | 54 | | |
| Per cent. of " | 73 | | |
| Cost per scholar | \$16 65 | | |

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

This school was under the instruction of Miss Carrie O. Atkins during the spring and winter terms. Miss Alice D. Keefe was the teacher for the fall term.

| | Spring | Fall | Winter |
|------------------------|--------|------|--------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 43 | 45 | 43 |
| Average attendance | 34 | 35 | 41 |
| Per cent. of " | 79 | 78 | 95 |
| Average " for the year | 37 | | |
| Per cent. of " " " | 84 | | |
| Cost per scholar | \$8 10 | | |

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

The teacher of this school was Miss Rebecca A. Bush during the spring and fall terms. Miss Ella L. Bush was the teacher for the winter term.

| | Spring | Fall | Winter |
|------------------------|------------|------|--------|
| Whole No. of Scholars | 59 | 65 | 50 |
| Average attendance | 46 | 50 | 37 |
| Per cent. of " | 78 | 77 | 74 |
| Average " for the year | 44 | | |
| Per cent. of " " " | 76 | | |
| Cost per scholar | " " \$5 67 | | |

CENTER SCHOOL.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.

This school was taught by Mr. M. R. Chase during the spring and fall terms, assisted by Miss Abbie N. Hamlen for the spring term, and by Miss Ella L. Bush the fall term. Mr. J. H. Kennedy taught the winter term, assisted by Miss Rebecca D. Sparks.

| | Spring | Fall | Winter |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|------|--------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 105 | 79 | 115 |
| Average attendance | 72 | 66 | 105 |
| Per cent. of " | 68 | 83 | 91 |
| No. of scholars over 15 years of age | 15 | 5 | 16 |
| Average attendance for the year | 81 | | |
| Per cent. of " " " | 81 | | |
| Cost per scholar | " " \$11 71 | | |

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

The teacher of this school for the year was Miss Henrietta Whitney.

| | <i>Spring</i> | <i>Fall</i> | <i>Winter</i> |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 47 | 43 | 52 |
| Average attendance | 40 | 35 | 46 |
| Per cent. of “ | 85 | 81 | 88 |
| Average “ for the year | 40 | | |
| Per cent. of “ “ “ | 85 | | |
| Cost per scholar | \$7 49 | | |

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

This school was taught by Miss Rebecca D. Sparks during the spring and fall terms, and by Miss Alice D. Keefe for the winter term.

| | <i>Spring</i> | <i>Fall</i> | <i>Winter</i> |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 53 | 46 | 67 |
| Average attendance | 48 | 41 | 62 |
| Per cent. of “ | 90 | 89 | 92 |
| Average “ for the year | 50 | | |
| Per cent. of “ “ | 90 | | |
| Cost per scholar “ “ | \$5 99 | | |

NEW PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

Miss Alice G. Ballard was the instructor of this school for the year.

| | <i>Spring</i> | <i>Fall</i> | <i>Winter</i> |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 52 | 68 | 47 |
| Average attendance | 44 | 56 | 45 |
| Per cent. of “ | 84 | 82 | 95 |
| Average “ for the year | 48 | | |
| Per cent. of “ “ | 86 | | |
| Cost per scholar “ “ | \$6 78 | | |

WESTERN SCHOOL.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.

This school was under the instruction of Mr. Charles M. Clay during the year, assisted by Miss Justina M. Nickerson.

| | <i>Spring</i> | <i>Fall</i> | <i>Winter</i> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Whole number of scholars | 55 | 48 | 89 |
| Average attendance | 41 | 44 | 87 |
| Per cent. of “ | 80 | 85 | 97 |
| No. of scholars over 15 years of age | 1 | 2 | 42 |
| Average attendance for the year | 57 | | |
| Per cent. of “ “ | 89 | | |
| Cost per scholar “ | \$15 77 | | |

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

This school was taught the spring term by Miss Lucie N. Cook, and by Miss Abbie N. Hamlen the fall and winter terms.

| | <i>Spring</i> | <i>Fall</i> | <i>Winter</i> |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 43 | 39 | 45 |
| Average attendance | 35 | 34 | 43 |
| Per cent. of “ | 81 | 87 | 95 |
| Average “ for the year | 37 | | |
| Per cent. of “ “ | 88 | | |
| Cost per scholar “ | \$5 89 | | |

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

Miss Lizzie H. Paine was the teacher of this school for the year.

| | <i>Spring</i> | <i>Fall</i> | <i>Winter</i> |
|------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 49 | 47 | 71 |
| Average attendance | 44 | 37 | 68 |
| Per cent. of “ | 81 | 78 | 95 |
| Average “ for the year | 50 | | |
| Per cent. of “ “ | 89 | | |
| Cost per scholar “ | \$5 99 | | |

NEW PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

This school was under the instruction of Miss Lizzie H. Kenney the spring and fall terms. Miss Carrie F. Nickerson was the teacher for the winter term.

| | Spring | Fall | Winter |
|--------------------------|--------|------|--------|
| Whole No. of scholars | 55 | 55 | 59 |
| Average attendance | 48 | 49 | 51 |
| Per cent. of " " | 87 | 89 | 86 |
| Average " " for the year | 49 | | |
| Per cent. of " " | 87 | | |
| Cost per scholar | \$6 58 | | |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Whole No. of scholars in all the schools for Sp'ng term | 700 |
| " " " " Fall | 641 |
| " " " " Winter | 778 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Aver. No. of scholars in all the schools for Sp'ng term | 548 |
| " " " " Fall | 526 |
| " " " " Winter | 713 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Average per cent. of attendance in all the schools for the Spring term | 78 |
| " " " " Fall | 82 |
| " " " " Winter | 92 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| Whole No. of scholars over 15 years of age, attending school the Spring, term | 79 |
| " " " 15 " Fall | 13 |
| " " " 15 " Winter | 122 |

Per cent. of attendance in all the schools for the year 84

Average cost per scholar, throughout the schools for the year \$10 56

There were 28,090 days schooling lost during the school year by absentees—equal to the loss of schooling for one scholar 140 years 4 months and 10 days, or for ten scholars more than 14 years each, and yet the average attendance for the year was greater than ever before in this town.*

Agreeably to a vote of the last town meeting, two neat and substantial Primary School Houses have been built, the cost of which will appear in the Selectmen's report.

At the end of the school year, the teachers will receive for their services, respectively as follows:

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------|
| A. O. Burt, | 10 months' services, | \$1,000 00 |
| Charles M. Clay, | 10 " " | 650 00 |
| M. R. Chase, | 6½ " " | 455 00 |
| A. A. Platts, | 6½ " " | 422 50 |
| J. H. Kennedy | 3½ " " | 245 00 |
| H. P. Dearborn, | 3½ " " | 227 50 |
| Sarah A. Hamlen, | 3½ " " | 105 00 |
| Lucia N. Cook, | 10 " " | 296 25 |
| Abbie N. Hamlen, | 10 " " | 226 25 |
| Henrietta Whitney | 10 " " | 250 00 |
| Carrie O. Atkins, | 7 " " | 175 00 |
| Alice D. Keefe, | 6½ " " | 145 00 |
| Lizzie H. Paine, | 10 " " | 200 00 |
| Justina M. Nickerson, | 10 " " | 200 00 |
| Rebecca D. Sparks, | 10 " " | 200 00 |
| Lizzie H. Kenney, | 10 " " | 200 00 |

* (NOTE.) In the foregoing calculations all fractions less than one-half were dropped, and all more than one half were used as whole numbers.

ported by the five years experience of Mr. A. C. Burt while occupying the position of principal of the school. There are too frequent changes of study and in the selection, the scholars do not seem to have any regard to the relation the selected study has to those already pursued and on account of these changes no one branch of study is continued for sufficient length of time to obtain so thorough an understanding of the subject as will make it either useful for practical purposes, or mental discipline. To remedy this defect, I would suggest that the school be divided into the English and Classical departments, and at the commencement of the second year in the school, every scholar shall elect which department he will enter. If the Classical, have him pursue the college course of study for the remaining three years; if the English, then let him pursue the English course of study for a like term of time, making the study of French elective in either department. If we should adopt this method there is no doubt we should cease to hear it said there is nothing gained by attending the High school, but that for any thorough preparation for business or admission to our colleges we are obliged to resort to other institutions of learning. The admission to the Classical department ought not to be confined to the lads of the school, but the young Misses should enjoy the privilege equally with the lads and should pursue the same course of study. It's a fact, however strange it may appear that the young ladies of this school are more ambitious, more persevering and do attain to a higher grade of scholarship than the young men. They leave the school better prepared to engage in the active duties of life and to discharge them with understanding and ability. Whatever may be said of "Womans Rights" it is evident that woman will occupy a very different position in society in the future, from that she occupies at the present time. Let us then encourage all young ladies so far as our influence will effect their future prospect, to prepare themselves to perform the duties of the day, whatever they may be, with becoming dignity and self respect.

The need of classification of the scholars for better improvement of time and opportunity, is not confined to the High School, but extends through all the grades, from the Primary upward; but how it is to be accomplished is not an easy matter to determine. Were we without school-houses or any school system, it would be comparatively an easy task. We already have three grades that have been long and well established, and it is neither wise nor prudent to attempt any changes by way of experiment, unless all parties interested are well convinced of the usefulness and practicability of the contemplated change.

Whether we begin with the higher and grade down, or the lower and grade up, there are two classes of scholars that attend our schools some portion of the year that must not be forgotten—the larger boys and the little children. By strict construction of the statute laws of the State, we might dispose of the former class, unless special provision were made for them. Yet it is neither wise nor well to entirely ignore their claims to consideration in enumerating and providing educational privileges for all our children. In providing for this class of scholars I would suggest that a separate school be established for all boys over fifteen years of age, where all the young men of the town may attend, twelve weeks at least, during the winter season; provided that if there are any boys over fifteen years of age who attend school during the year, those boys will remain in the Grammar schools of which they are members. The statute law provides for the establishment of such schools and the appropriation of money for their support by the town.

After provisions are made for that class of scholars, there remains about two hundred in the Grammar department, well qualified to remain, leaving some five hundred in the Intermediate and Primary departments; three-fifths of which number are members of the Primary department. If this number of Primary scholars were equally distributed through the town, there would not be much difficulty in providing for their accom-

Dr. Paine at the time of his death was nearly sixty-two years of age. He graduated at Amherst College in 1832 and three years later took the degree of M. D. at Harvard Medical College. The selection of Dr. Paine as one of the Superintending School Committee, term after term, for more than a quarter of a century, is evidence of the universal esteem of his townsmen, and the Committee avail themselves of this opportunity to express their appreciation of his public services and of his private virtues.

The vacancy occasioned by the death of Dr. Paine was filled, at a meeting of the Selectmen and School Committee, by the election of B. F. Hutchinson, Esq.

SUPERINTENDENT.

The proper supervision of the schools, increasing as they are, in number and size, together with the increasing public interest in the subject of education, requires more time and attention than is possible for any one, pursuing the ordinary avocations of life, to devote to such a purpose.

The School Committee therefore would recommend that a Committee be chosen to take into consideration the propriety of appointing a "Superintendent of Public Schools" with a salary sufficient to enable him to devote his whole time, if need be, to the public schools; the Superintendent to be associated with a Committee of three to be called the Advisory Committee, said committee to have no salary.

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

In former years, public examinations were necessarily discontinued from the fact, that each member

of the Committee was obliged to devote eight days every term, or twenty-four days a year, in addition to their duties proper as Superintending School Committee, and for which, they then, as now, each received as compensation the sum of thirty dollars annually.

Had they been gentlemen of means or of leisure, this eminently proper and unquestionably useful public exercise would undoubtedly have continued to the present time, and it is to be hoped that means may yet be devised by which this custom will be re-established.

VISITORS.

It has been long intimated that the parents of Provincetown do not visit the schools even where their own children attend. This, with few exceptions is perhaps true indeed; parents are sending their children month after month to teachers with whom they have no personal acquaintance whatever, thus silently withholding their aid and encouragement, forgetting that an occasional visit would be highly valued by both Teacher and Scholars, and would materially assist in establishing good order and discipline.

In brief then it is to be hoped that our schools will be visited, not only for censure and it may be abuse, but as a recognition of the claims of education and as an acknowledgment of the faithful services of our teachers as well as the earnest labors of the pupils.

There is, in our schools, probably no better, but equally as good material as can be found in any town of equal size of our own, and which, if well directed and properly cultivated, would reflect credit, and it

may be, honor, to the place. Pupils have entered College directly from our High School, and we know of no reason why they cannot be as well "fitted" here as elsewhere.

WINTER SCHOOL.

The winter school, which was recommended last year, was not established for want of sufficient appropriation. The necessity for such a school still exists, and we again ask the town to take this subject into consideration. This school would cost four hundred dollars, and would require an additional appropriation of that sum. During the present winter, however, Mr. Charles P. Dyer is successfully teaching a private school, which would exactly meet the demands, were it not that the expense is met by individuals and not by the town in its corporate capacity.

| | | |
|-------------------|---|---------------|
| B. F. HUTCHINSON, | } | <i>School</i> |
| J. B. BAXTER, | | |
| LUTHER NICKERSON, | | |

Provincetown, Jan. 22d, 1870.

REPORT OF BOARD OF HEALTH

OF THE

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 8, 1870.

It becomes our painful duty, in submitting our annual report, to announce the death of our chairman, Dr. S. A. Paine. This gentleman has been connected with the Board for several years and has been one of its most valued members.

Being one of our leading physicians, his services to the town as a member of the Board of Health have been invaluable; and the efficiency that has characterized its proceedings in years past was due in a great measure to his recommendations and suggestions.

In the death of Dr. Paine the town of Provincetown loses one of its best citizens, and the Board of Health one of its most useful members.

The sanitary condition of our Town the past year will compare favorably with that of former years.

We have been visited by no contagious diseases, and we are pleased to say that our citizens have generally shown a willingness to observe the rules and regulations of the Board of Health.

A few instances have come to our knowledge, where there seems to have been negligence, on the part of individuals, in allowing large quantities of filth to accumulate in privies in close proximity to dwellings. It is unnecessary to state that where domestic cleanliness is neglected, and filth is allowed to collect in yards and vaults, that the atmosphere becomes contaminated, especially in the warm season. The result of this is that not only individuals and

families suffer in consequence, but whole communities are sometimes infected with disease.

We wish it to be distinctly understood by our citizens, that in the observance of the rules and regulations established by the Board of Health, they rely wholly upon the common sense and judgment of the people, rather than on any legal enactments, and we trust that this allusion to the above item will be sufficient.

Your Board have no recommendations to make; they would report the property of the town in the Small Pox House in good condition needing no repairs.

Annexed is a report of the expenses incurred by the Board the past year.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| To Printing Notices | 3 00 |
| " Labor for Burying Filth | 2 25 |
| " James Emery's Bill | 3 95 |
| " Services of Board | 15 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$24 20 |

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JONATHAN COOK, }
JAMES EMERY, } *Board of Health.*

REPORT

OF

THE COMMITTEE ON THE ALMS HOUSE

To the Citizens of Provincetown in Annual Town Meeting assembled:

THE undersigned, chosen at the last annual meeting to consider the matter of altering and building an Almshouse, have attended to the duties with which they were charged and

REPORT:

That after careful investigation and consideration, they are of the opinion that the Almshouse is inadequate to the necessities of the Town both in extent and quality of the accommodations afforded; and that the construction of the building is such that, exercising due regard to cost, it does not admit of alterations or additions, that would reasonably answer the better purpose of such an institution. It is a one-story building containing four small bedrooms in the attic and five below, together with a small sitting room used in common by the keeper's family and the inmates without regard to sex or condition; there is also a kitchen, pantry, wood house &c. Allowing two lodging rooms for the keeper's family there remain seven bedrooms for the occupation of those supported there. When it is remembered that many of the unfortunate people living in the Almshouse are sick, demented and entirely unconscious of the necessity of personal cleanliness the need of separation especially in the sleeping apartments is apparent. To avoid the consequences indicated, the better class of inmates are frequently by sheer compulsion, crowded into the small low studded, ill ventilated sleeping rooms, in which the accommodations even for one person are very poor. In the con-

struction of the building, the arrangements for the housework, for the care of the sick and helpless, of which the proportion is large, and for the oversight, the ventilation and cleanliness of the establishment, seem generally to have been disregarded. Nor is there any suitable provision for the occupancy of the keeper's family. Hence the difficulties encountered by the matron in the discharge of duty to those depending on her for so many offices, and in her efforts to keep a well ordered house, have been sufficient to discourage the most patient and resolute. Very few persons indeed qualified for the position can be induced to assume its responsibilities.

The urgent want of proper accommodations in the poor house has for years been the ground of just complaint with the Overseers of the Poor, aggravating the perplexities of a charge, otherwise sufficiently onerous and troublesome.

The average number supported in the Almshouse the past year was ten persons. The number that received aid out of the Almshouse was thirty-five, or three and a half times as many as were provided for within the house.

The cost of support in the house was at the rate of \$2 75 per week for each person. Of the thirty five not inmates receiving aid, it is estimated that had there been room twelve of them, at least, would have been provided for in the house with considerable saving of cost to the town.

Your Committee have procured and inspected several plans for new buildings, with estimates of cost, and are of opinion that a suitable almshouse, with rooms for the accommodation of 35 or more persons, might be built and furnished for \$5,500. To this should be added \$250 for a site, for a well, fence, &c. They estimated the market value of the old house at not less than \$1,000. And allowing \$250 margin for incidental costs not reckoned, the net additional expenditure for a new establishment would not exceed \$5,500. The present house was erected in 1833,

thirty seven years ago, when the population of the town was about 1,800, or one-half the present number.

Your Committee will not affirm that the provisions, then and thereby made, for the poor, were unequal to the demands of charity upon our predecessors as they understood them, but they do assert that this expression of their idea was more in harmony with the prevailing notions of obligation and relations to this unfortunate class than with those which exist to-day.

A more enlightened charity; a more considerate care for their welfare is now every where manifested, and demands corresponding actions at our hands.

In view therefore, of the circumstances surrounding this subject, the imperative need of additional and better accommodations, the present and prospective increase of population, the recognized obligation of the community to the unfortunate and helpless as well as considerations of economy alike requiring that measures for the relief indicated should no longer be postponed; your Committee unanimously recommend that there be raised and appropriated six thousand dollars for the purchase of a site and the erection thereon of an Almshouse, and for the furnishing the same, the current year.

They further recommend that there be chosen a committee to carry out the foregoing recommendations, and that the Selectmen be authorized to sell the old Almshouse and pay in to the Town Treasury the proceeds of such sale.

Very Respectfully,

ARTEMAS PAINE,
JAMES GIFFORD,
SILAS S. YOUNG,
JOHN SWIFT.

} Committee.

Provincetown, February 14, 1870.

REPORT

OR

MONUMENT COMMITTEE.

THE expenditures in this department have been for printing and labor, \$4 54

It would seem almost impossible that in our community there could be found one, who has so little regard for the memory of our Fallen Heroes, as to maliciously desecrate the costly and ornamental monument, erected to the memory of those who so nobly sacrificed their lives, for our future benefit; yet there is a disposition on the part of some person or persons, unknown, to do it injury.

During the past year it has been marred, by stones or other hard substance, and a portion of the design on the shaft broken.

Your committee has made diligent inquiries, but has not been able to discover the perpetrators. It is hoped the citizens will take this matter in hand and, if possible, detect and punish the offenders.

Your committee would recommend, that the grounds, in the enclosure, be improved and a person appointed to have charge of the monument and surroundings, with authority to punish, to the full extent of the law, any trespassers.

The whole of which is respectfully submitted.

J. D. HILLIARD, *Committee.*

Provincetown, Jan. 22d, 1870.