

REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen of the town of Provincetown submit the following report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1870.

APPROPRIATIONS BY VOTE OF THE TOWN.

For Support of the poor,	-	-	-	\$4,000 00
Schools,	-	-	-	7,861 00
Roads and Sidewalks,	-	-	-	3,000 00
Bridge,	-	-	-	500 00
New Roads,	-	-	-	4,650 00
Fire Department,	-	-	-	4,000 00
New reservoir,	-	-	-	1,500 00
Interest town debt,	-	-	-	2,500 00
Incidental expenses,	-	-	-	4,500 00
New Almshouse,	-	-	-	6,000 00
Hook and ladder house,	-	-	-	2,000 00
Repairs and moving school-houses,	-	-	-	475 00
Abatement Taxes,	-	-	-	500 00
Night watch,	-	-	-	1,600 00
Monument,	-	-	-	25 00
State tax,	-	-	-	4,400 00
County tax,	-	-	-	1,500 00
Overlay,	-	-	-	1,500 00
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				50,511 00
Authorized to borrow, (by vote of town)				- 10,887 78
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Amount assessed,	-	-	-	3,9623 22

VALUATION OF THE TOWN MAY 1, 1870.

Personal estate, - - - -	\$1,126,398 00
Real estate, - - - -	854,760 00
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	1,981,158 00
Number of Polls taxed at \$2 each, - - -	1,073
Number of legal voters, - - - -	953
Rate of taxation on \$100, - - - -	\$2
Total number of dwelling-houses, - - -	805
" " horses, - - - -	68
" " cows, - - - -	27
" " acres of land taxed, - - - -	665

NEW ALMSHOUSE.

The want of more suitable accommodations for the Poor, reported at the last annual meeting, has been supplied the past year, in the erection by the town of a large and substantial building for an Almshouse, thus affording ample accommodations for the present and future of the town in that direction.

Cost of the building :	
Paid labor and material, carpenter's contract,	\$5,135 00
" " extra,	162 82
" " Painting contract,	240 00
" " " extra,	145 00
" " foundation &c.,	297 58
Land for house-lot,	250 00
Grading " "	65 53
Furnishing the house and extra appliances :	
Paid J. West, bill furniture and fixtures,	116 56
Sparrow & Snow, bill stove and fixtures,	47 33
Waid & Alexander, bill well and pump,	38 47
J. Bradley, bill drain-pipe,	14 37
Sundry bills,	14 25
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Total cost.	\$6,526 91

POOR DEPARTMENT.

Support of Poor in the Almshouse :	
Paid Mrs. Clark, superintendent, - - -	\$216 28
Groceries and provisions, - - -	635 54
Fuel and lights, - - -	119 60
Medicine and medical attendance, - - -	75 25
House fixtures and repairs, - - -	18 35
Clothing, bedding &c., - - -	54 20
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	\$1,119 22

Statistics of the Almshouse :

Whole number supported the past year, - - -	12
" " remaining in the house Jan. 31, 1870,	9
" " admitted, - - -	3
" " left, - - -	2
" " remaining in house Jan. 10, 1871,	10

Remaining in the Almshouse :

Lorena Newcomb, admitted Feb., 1851, aged 80 years.	
Zillah Howe, " " 1853, " 41 "	
Joseph Ghen, " " 1851, " 46 "	
Lucy Hill, " Apr. 1851, " 55 "	
George Whorf, " Aug. 1869, " 33 "	
Rebecca Hill, " Dec. 1869, " 24 "	
Thomas Smith, " Nov. 1870, " 35 "	
George F. Newcomb, " July 1870, " 41 "	
Lydia Nickerson, " Sept. 1870, " 63 "	
Michael Whelding, " Jan. 1871, " 82 1-2 years.	

Assistance of Poor out of Almshouse :

NAMES.	Provisions,	Fuel.	Cash.	Med. At.	Total.
Mrs. A. Valentine,	123 81	3 63			127 44
Wid. Robert Newcomb,			91 00		91 00
Mrs. Sally Wareham,			84 92		84 92
Wid. Asa Frautzen,	35 60	44 50			80 10
Miss Ida Newcomb,			101 00		101 00
Wid. Mary A. Little,			45 25		45 25
Wid. Priscilla Bush,	18 36	29 75			48 11
Wid. Hetty Snow,	35 68	5 00	10 00	5 25	55 93
Wid. Joe Smith,	8 00	6 00			14 00
Jonathan E. Smith,	8 75	6 44			15 19
Wid. Dorcas Hill,	58 09	22 63			80 72
Wid. Abner Nickerson,	4 00	20 63			24 63
Wid. Nathan Haynes,	87 38	9 25		17 00	113 63
Wid. Polly Burket,	8 00				8 00
Nathan H. Hopkins,		22 25	50 00		72 25
George W. Newcomb,			35 20		35 20
Jennie Aspley,			8 53		8 53
Miss Susan Anthony,			21 00		21 00
Child,			4 50		4 50
Miss Mary C. Cettters,			23 85		23 85
Family of J. King,			70 00		70 00
Mrs. Anna Soule,	18 34	2 63	42 12	48 10	111 19
Wid Mary Lewis,	3 35				3 35
Wid. Isabella Williams,	6 55	6 75			13 30
Russel B. Eaton,	6 22			24 00	30 22
William G. Smith,	9 00	8 38			17 38
Wid. H. G. Holway,	19 93				19 93
George S. Peach,	5 15	6 44			11 59
Benjamin Briggs,			21 78		21 78
Two Travellers,			4 00		4 00
	456 21	194 28	613 15	94 35	1357 99

There was also expended \$15.85, funeral charges for Mrs. Anna Soule.

SCHOOL HOUSES.

Your Selectmen were directed at the last annual town meeting to repair the eastern and western school houses, and to move and repair the centre school house. They have attended to that duty ; have repaired the eastern and western houses ; moved and repaired the centre house, and made needed repairs and alterations of premises of the centre house, (rendered necessary in moving the building) at an expense as follows :

Paid material and labor repairs western house,	-	\$113 41
“ “ “ eastern “	-	136 14
“ “ “ centre “	-	279 26
“ “ moving, “ “	-	274 50
“ “ grading, - -	-	57 06
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		\$860 37

Paid Orders of Prudential Committee:

Paid Fixtures and care school-house No. 1,	-	\$154 60
“ “ “ No. 2,	-	132 55
“ “ “ No. 3,	-	180 78
“ “ eastern primary,	-	83 18
Rent of school-room, M. L. Adams,	-	50 00
“ “ J. Stone,	-	32 00
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		\$633 11

SCHOOLS.

Paid Orders of the School Committee,	-	\$7,064 11
“ “ “ “ books,	-	281 56
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		\$7,345 67

AWARD ON ROADS.

Paid Award on Parallel road,	-	\$350 00
“ Vine Street,	-	15 00
“ Ward's road,	-	10 00
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		\$375 00

BRIDGE.

Paid Material and labor repairs on bridge,	-	\$691 42
Settlement with town Truro :		
Provincetown paid,	-	691 42
Truro paid	-	95 10
		<hr/>
		\$786 52
Less material sold,	-	55 17
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		\$731 35
Cost of repairs to each town,	-	365 68

NEW ROADS.

Pursuant to a vote of the town, the committee appointed to direct and superintend the building of the Parallel road, Vine Street and Methodist Alley so called, let out to the lowest bidder, in sections, that part of the Parallel road extending from Vine Street to Court Street, so called, and from Pearl Street to Center Street, so called, Methodist Alley and that part of Vine Street which lies between the eastern boundary of Widow Lucy Bowley's premises and the Parallel Road at the bound stone near the premises of Paron C. Young.

Section One was sold to Thomas Lothrop for	\$1,200 00
Cost of stone, bulkhead, fencing and other exp.	137 70
Section Two was sold to Isajah Gifford for	385 00
Section Three was sold to James Gorman for	145 00
Sections Four and Five were sold to Jona. Hill for	335 00
Methodist Alley was sold to James Gorman for	87 50
Cost of selling the above sections,	8 00
Section Six was sold to Jonathan Hill for	1,100 00
Cost of bulkhead sold to Jonathan Hill for	93 70
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Total cost of working as sold,	\$3,491 90
Committee bill for services added,	152 00
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Total amount of cost,	\$3,643 90

Sections One, Two, Three, Four and Five, of Vine Street, and Parallel Road, and methodist Alley, have been completed and accepted, at a cost of \$2,298.20. Section Six, sold at \$1,193.70, is unfinished, and not accepted or paid for.

The amount appropriated by the town, was	\$4,650 00
Which leaves a balance in the Treasury un- expended of	1,006 10

And your committee would recommend that a further sum of three thousand dollars be appropriated the ensuing year, and added to said balance, for the purpose of continuing the working, grading and hardening of said Parallel Road the ensuing season.

ROADS AND SIDEWALKS.

Orders of the Road surveyors:				
Paid Cleaning sidewalks, -	-	-	-	\$174 40
Hardening for roads, -	-	-	-	702 93
Lumber for sidewalks, -	-	-	-	929 69
Spikes and nails, -	-	-	-	21 80
Hardening for Town Hill, -	-	-	-	75 00
Labor and teaming on roads, -	-	-	-	436 89
Asa Atkins, teaming, -	-	-	-	178 40
Addison Nickerson, teaming, -	-	-	-	168 78
A. S. Mayo, labor, -	-	-	-	106 45
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				\$2,794 34

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Paid orders of the Engineers, -	-	-	\$2,877 40
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HOOK AND LADDER HOUSE.—At the last annual Town Meeting, it was voted that the subject matter of Article 18 be left with the Selectmen, viz.: To extend the Hook and Ladder house the desired length in the rear, "provided the land can be purchased; and in case it can not, that they be authorized to procure a suitable locality, whereon to place the building with the addition."

For carrying into effect the foregoing vote an appropriation of \$2,000, was made.

In conformity with these instructions the Selectmen made application for the purchase of the land in rear of Hook and Ladder House, but the owners declined selling. Due consideration was subsequently given the whole subject. Consultations were held with those citizens directly interested (and who moved the matter in town meeting) and ascertaining that their views concerning the necessity and expediency of further effort at present on the part of the Selectmen, coincided with the views of the latter, it was decided not advisable to take further action in the premises the present year.

Needed and ordinary repairs were therefore made, and the outside of the building painted.

Paid repairs and painting Hook and Ladder house,
No. 1, - - - - \$95 50

NEW RESERVOIRS.

Paid Enoch Nickerson, - - - - \$200 00
M. L. Adams, - - - - 150 00
Orders of the Engineers, - - - - 1,276 02

1,626 02

NIGHT WATCH.

A night watch, consisting of six persons was on duty the past year, from Feb. 1st to June 1st, and from Sept. 1st to Jan 1, 1871, at an expense of \$1,370.

To continue this watch, (as ordered) to the annual meeting, will require a further sum of \$270.00, making the total cost of a night watch \$1,640.

We earnestly recommend the continuance of a night watch, and an appropriation of \$1,600 for this purpose.

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Paid Orders of 1869, - - - - \$42 00
Orders of 1870, - - - - 144 33
Collector 1870, - - - - 212 00

\$418 33

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Paid Moderators' fees, - - - - \$25 00
Printing, - - - - 182 90
Office expenses, - - - - 31 65
Police fixtures, - - - - 3 50
Orders Prudential Com. Town House & Hill, 219 78
" " " " Clock, - 46 55

Paid Joshua Cook, lock-up, - - - - 4 10
Sundry bills, labor &c., - - - - 14 35
State Agent, Province land, - - - - 31 00
Legal advice, - - - - 50 00
Board of Health, extra services, - - - - 16 54
Monument Committee, - - - - 1 25
Repairs on hearse and house, - - - - 15 70
Repairs and care of Town Tomb, - - - - 33 25
Return of deaths, - - - - 5 50
Sealing weights and measures, - - - - 20 00
Rent " " - - - - 10 00
Board of John Powers, Barnstable Jail, - - - - 8 95
Orator, decoration Soldiers' Monument, - - - - 20 00
Committee services, new almshouse, - - - - 120 00
Insurance " " - - - - 17 75
Collecting taxes, - - - - 250 61
Discount on taxes, - - - - 1,375 31
Board of Health, salary, - - - - 10 00
Constables, salary, - - - - 60 00
" extra duty, - - - - 27 90
Road Surveyors, salary, - - - - 30 00
Beach grass committee, salary, - - - - 15 00
Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor, 1,204 00
Town Treasurer, - - - - 200 00
Town Clerk, - - - - 89 78
Auctioneer and Crier, - - - - 16 20
Witness fees and Com. exp. in Ghen case, - 132 60

\$4,289 17

STATE AID.

Paid Soldiers and sailors, - - - - \$768 00

STATE AND COUNTY TAX.

Paid State tax - - - - \$4,350 00
County tax, - - - - 1,606 00

\$5,956 00

CELEBRATION FOURTH JULY.

Paid Fireworks, - - - -	\$216 74
Music, - - - -	140 00
Orator, - - - -	30 00
Incidental expenses, - - - -	64 00
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	\$451 60

Paid Expenses of the Fish committee, - -	\$107 52
Reception of the Plymouth Firemen. - -	330 87
Union Brass Band, - - - -	300 00

PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST.

Paid principal and interest town debt, - -	\$6,877 26
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TREASURER'S ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 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,)	\$7,875 00
State for Corporation tax, - - -	1,131 45
State Aid for Soldiers and Sailors, - -	800 00
Town of Truro, on acct. of Bridge 1869, -	65 61
" " " " " 1870, -	243 35
A. L. Putnam, school books, - - -	94 06
J. B. Baxter, Liquor Agency, - - -	100 00
Josiah Chase for land, - - -	40 00
Bridge committee, material sold, - - -	19 77
Road Surveyors, do., - - -	15 00
Nathaniel Freeman 2d., Collector of taxes.	41,769 22
Rent of keys to cupola, - - -	12 00
D. H. Barnes, old iron, - - -	5 20
Distribution of Dog fund, county, - -	50 42
Cash in Treasury Jan. 31, 1870, - - -	7,169 06
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	\$59,390 14

The Treasurer has paid out upon proper vouchers the following sums :

For New Almshouse, - - - -	\$6,295 93
Furnishing new Almshouse, - - - -	230 98
Poor in the Almshouse, - - - -	1,119 22
Poor out of the Almshouse, - - - -	1,373 84
Repairs and moving school-houses, - -	860 37
Prudential Committee, repairs and care do.,	633 11
Schools and books, - - - -	7,345 67
Award on roads, - - - -	375 00
Bridge, - - - -	691 42
New roads, - - - -	2,450 20
Road surveyors, - - - -	2,794 34
Fire Department, - - - -	2,877 40
Hook and Ladder house, - - - -	95 50
New reservoirs, - - - -	1,626 02
Night watch, - - - -	1,370 20
Abatement taxes, - - - -	418 33
Incidental expenses, - - - -	4,289 17
State aid, - - - -	768 00
State and County tax, - - - -	5,956 60
Celebration Fourth of July, - - - -	451 60
Fish Committee, - - - -	107 52
Reception of Plymouth Firemen, - - -	330 87
Union Brass Band, - - - -	300 00
Principal and interest, - - - -	6,877 26
Cash in Treasury Jan. 10, 1871, - - -	9,751 85
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	\$59,389 80

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Individuals and Banks. - - - -	\$31,802 00
Schools, - - - -	2,062 00
Award on roads, - - - -	451 00
Contract Parallel Road, - - - -	1,193 70
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	\$35,509 08

ASSETS.

The following are reported as the assets of the town :

Due from the State for State aid, -	-	\$768 00
“ Town of Truro on account of Bridge, -	-	62 63
“ Town of Concord, M. Haynes, -	-	124 39
“ Town of Dennis, R. B. Eaton, -	-	30 32
“ Anna Soule, -	-	15 00
Cash in Treasury Jan. 10, 1871, -	-	9,751 85
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		10,752 19
Present indebtedness of the town, -	-	24,756 89
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		35,509 08
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Town debt Jan. 31, 1870,		\$21,993 66
Town debt Jan. 10, 1871,		24,756 89
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Increase the past year,		2,763 23

Respectfully submitted :

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

Provincetown, Jan. 10, 1871.

TOWN OFFICERS IN 1870.

- Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor.*—SILAS S. YOUNG, ARTEMAS PAINE, JOHN SWIFT.
- Town Clerk and Treasurer.*—PARON C. YOUNG.
- Collector of Taxes.*—NATHANIEL FREEMAN, 2d.
- Superintendent of Schools.*—B. F. HUTCHINSON.
- School Committee.*—J. B. BAXTER, LUTHER NICKERSON, HENRY SHORTLE.
- Road Surveyors.*—ASA ATKINS, A. L. MAYO, ADDISON NICKERSON.
- Constables.*—JONATHAN COOK, ROBERT D. BAXTER, EDWARD J. KILBURN, JOHN W. BEATLY, J. HARVEY DEARBORN, JOHN M. CARNES.
- Board of Health.*—JONATHAN COOK, JAMES EMERY, J. B. BAXTER.
- Beach Grass Committee.*—HENRY ATKINS, JOHN SMITH, OTIS LOVERING.
- Surveyors of Wood, Bark, and Lumber.*—J. S. ATWOOD, N. C. BROOKS, JOHN DYER.
- Field Drivers.*—CHARLES H. WALKER, ZEPHENIAH RICH, GIDEON ALLEN.
- Fence Viewers.*—J. B. BAXTER, J. M. CROCKER, J. STONE.
- Pound Keepers.*—FREEMAN M. BOWLEY, JOSIAH HILL.
- Sealer of Weights and Measures.*—PARON C. YOUNG.
- Truant Committee.*—JAMES EMERY, JONATHAN COOK, JOHN YOUNG.
- Monument Committee.*—JOHN D. HILLIARD.
- Prudential Committee.*—RUFUS HOPKINS, ELISHA YOUNG, LYSANDER N. PAINE.
- Engineers of the Fire Department.*—EBEN S. SMITH, Chief, JONATHAN COOK, CHARLES A. COOK, AMASA TAYLOR, JOHN D. HILLIARD, LYSANDER M. PAINE, ENOS N. YOUNG.

REPORT OF THE ENGINEERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

CHIEF ENGINEER — EBEN S. SMITH.

ASSISTANT ENGINEERS — Jonathan Cook, Charles A. Cook, Amasa Taylor, John D. Hilliard, Lysander N. Paine, Enos N. Young.

CLERK — J. D. Hilliard.

The past year has been a very quiet one. The Department has been called out five times, to very slight fires. The total loss being but \$100.

The firemen now number 370. 237 are paid for their services, and 133 volunteers without pay.

Apparatus in charge of the Engineers, and its estimated value:

Engine No. 1, with hose carriage,	-	-	\$2,000 00
“ “ 2, “ “	-	-	300 00
“ “ 3, “ “	-	-	1,000 00
“ “ 4, “ “	-	-	800 00
Relief Engine, (old No. 1.)	-	-	200 00
Hook and Ladder, truck and apparatus,	-	-	500 00
Relief Hose Carriage, No. 1,	-	-	75 00
Engine houses Nos. 1 and 2, \$1,200 each,	-	-	2,400 00
“ “ “ 3 and 4, \$1,500 each,	-	-	3,000 00
Hook and Ladder House,	-	-	1,500 00
Relief Engine House,	-	-	500 00
2000 feet Boyd's patent Hose,	-	-	1,000 00
800 feet leather hose,	-	-	300 00
850 feet metropolitan hose,	-	-	1,000 00
26 reservoirs, \$175,	-	-	4,550 00
5 new reservoirs, built the past year, \$250,	-	-	1,250 00
			\$20,375 00

The reservoirs built the past year, give us a very much needed supply of water, and places the department on a more efficient footing than heretofore.

The Engine houses are in good order and sufficient for the present accommodation. The Hook and Ladder house is in good order, but rather small, not being long enough to carry the length of ladders very much needed on many of our buildings.

The engines are in good working order, with the exception of No. 2, which is not in a condition to make the department as serviceable as it should be. That Company have applied for a new engine, and we would recommend that if another is put in the place of this, it may be of the same size cylinder as the others.

EXPENDITURES FOR 1870.

New hose and couplings,	-	-	-	\$1,157 30
Salaries firemen,	-	-	-	1,000 00
Salaries of the Engineers,	-	-	-	43 00
Salaries of Stewards,	-	-	-	205 83
Flags and Flag-staffs,	-	-	-	62 59
Repairing hose and engines,	-	-	-	65 25
New suction strainer,	-	-	-	10 00
Repairs on old reservoirs,	-	-	-	54 01
Repairs and painting houses,	-	-	-	82 35
Printing,	-	-	-	17 50
Fuel and other incidental expenses,	-	-	-	179 57
				2,877 40
Appropriation,		\$4,000 00		
Balance on hand in Town treasury,				1,122 60
				\$4,000 00

For the coming year we would recommend the same appropriation as last year.

NEW RESERVOIRS.

In accordance with the vote of the town at the last annual meeting, five new reservoirs have been built, under the supervision of Asst. Engineer Chas. A. Cook, costing in the aggregate \$1,276.02. Appropriated for the same, \$1,500. Balance in Town Treasury \$223.98.

In closing we would modestly say that the present pay of the Engineers is, Chief, \$10; Clerk, \$8; other assistants \$5 each. The department is of that size which requires much of our time and attention, and we would respectfully ask that there be an increase of such amount as you may be pleased to put upon the value of our services.

The whole of which is respectfully submitted:

EBEN. S. SMITH,	} <i>Engineers</i>	
CHAS. A. COOK,		
AMASA TAYLOR,		} <i>Fire Department.</i>
J. D. HILLIARD		
L. N. PAINE,		
ENOS N. YOUNG.		

REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Town of Provincetown,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

Dec. 31, 1870.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

In accordance with a vote of the town at the last annual meeting, the School Committee appointed a Superintendent of Public Schools.

The committee therefore present and recommend for the careful consideration of the citizens of Provincetown, the faithful report of the Superintendent.

It is believed that under the present management, the educational interests of the town are steadily progressing, and in conformity with this belief the committee would earnestly recommend a continuance of the same.

To this end we ask authority of the town to appoint a Superintendent of Public Schools for the ensuing year, and for an appropriation of an equal amount of money as last year.

J. B. BAXTER,
LUTHER NICKERSON, } *School*
H. SHORTLE, } *Committee.*

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

To J. B. Baxter, Luther Nickerson and Henry Shortle, School Committee of the town of Provincetown.

GENTLEMEN :

In compliance with my instructions at the commencement of the school year, I present my report of the schools of Provincetown for the past two terms and so much of the present term as has transpired, closing the report and the school year on the last day of December, 1870. In offering this report, permit me to say that I do not consider it my duty to write essays on the several topics that may be embraced in the broad field of school education and discipline, or any part of them for the purposes of making a book ; but simply to state the progress and present condition of the several schools, and to make such suggestions and recommendations as may seem proper, and such, as in my opinion, will better promote their interests and make them more productive of good.

The number of scholars in town, returned by the Assessors, between the ages of five and fifteen years, is 737. The number connected with the schools, during the spring term, was 771. The average attendance was 623, and the number over fifteen years of age was 66. Of the whole number of scholars 62 were in the High School, 250 in the Grammar, 150 in the Intermediate, and 329 in the Primary Schools. The average attendance at the High School was 53 ; at the Grammar, 156 ; at the Intermediate, 127 ; and at the Primary schools, 287. Of the number over fifteen years of age 36 were of the High school, 14 of the Eastern, 13 of the Center, and 3 of the Western Grammar schools. The whole number of scholars belonging to the schools during the Fall term was 718, and the

average attendance was 599. Of the whole number, 55 were of the High school, 178 of the Grammar, 140 of the Intermediate, and 345 of the Primary Schools. The average attendance at the High school was 46 ; at the Grammar 142 ; at the Intermediate 117 ; and at the Primary schools 297. The number connected with the schools, over fifteen years of age, was 48. Of this number 38 were of the High School, 2 of the Eastern, 4 of the Center, and 4 of the Western Grammar schools.

The whole number of scholars connected with the schools the present term is 817. Of this number 55 are members of the High school, 248 of the Grammar, 196 of the Intermediate, and 318 of the Primary schools. The whole number over fifteen years of age is 99. Of this number 40 are members of the High school ; 54 of the Grammar ; 1 of the Intermediate ; and 4 of the Primary schools.

The school year is divided as usual into Spring, Fall and Winter terms ; Spring and Winter terms of fourteen weeks each, and Fall term of twelve weeks. The school year commenced without any change of teacher, except the principal of the Center Grammar school. Mr. Kennedy did not wish to remain, and Mr. Charles H. Dunbar was appointed to the vacancy. About the middle of the Spring term, Miss Ballard asked for a vacation for the remainder of the term, which was granted, and Miss Hattie F. Weeks was placed in charge of the school.

During the summer vacation Mr. A. O. Burt resigned his position as Principal of the High School, a position which he had ably and acceptably held for five years, and Henry F. Burt, A.B., was elected to fill the vacancy. At the close of the Spring term, Mr. Clay's engagement terminated, and the conditions upon which he would consent to remain were thought not to be such as would promote the interests of the school, and Mr. Horace A. Freeman was appointed Principal of the Western Grammar School.

An exchange of schools taught by Miss Henrietta Whitney and Miss Alice G. Ballard, was made at this time, Miss Whitney taking the Second Center Primary, and Miss Ballard the Center Intermediate. Miss Lizzie N. Paine resigned the charge of the Western Primary, and Miss Rebecca D. Sparks was removed to that school, and Miss Hattie F. Weeks was appointed Assistant in the Center Grammar School.

Fifty applicants for admission to the High School were examined, on the day of the annual examination, and twenty-three were admitted. Six more were examined after the term commenced, and three were admitted, making twenty-six in all that have been admitted during the year.

At the commencement of the year it was my wish to hold the scholars of the several schools just where they were, without promoting any scholar to a higher grade for one year, thus raising the scholarship of all the schools before promotion, thereby securing greater proficiency in the branches taught in the several grades. But, upon a careful examination of the situation, I found it impossible to carry my wishes into effect, for want of room for the Primary scholars, except in the second Center and Eastern Primary. The scholars of these schools and the Eastern Intermediate were retained during the Spring term, and would have been longer, had it not been for the absence of so great a number from the Eastern Grammar school at the commencement of the Fall term.

Finding it impossible, as I have said, to carry out my desire, eleven scholars from the Western Primary and nine from the Western Primary No. 2. and fourteen from the Center Primary schools, were promoted to the Intermediates, at the commencement of the Spring term; and at the same time nine scholars from the Western, and seventeen from the Center Intermediate were promoted to the Grammar schools; at the commencement of the Fall term twelve scholars were promoted from the Eastern Primary to the Intermediate, and thirteen from the Intermediate to the Grammar schools.

Much as I dislike, and as strong as my prejudices are against promoting scholars from one grade of school to another, at periods of less than a year, it could not possibly be avoided, so great was the necessity for such promotion, caused by want of room in the Primary department; therefore twelve scholars from the Western, fifteen from Western No. 2, thirteen from Center, and seven Center No. 2 Primaries, were promoted to the Intermediate schools; this promotion has crowded the Western and Center Intermediate schools.

It has been said that there are seats in the Grammar school rooms, and the question has been asked, why not send up a class from each of these schools to the respective Grammar schools? To my mind the answer is both obvious and conclusive.

Admitting the fact, that the Western and Center Grammar schools are much smaller than they have been for several years past, and that there is sufficient room to seat some twenty scholars as in the Center and forty in the Western Grammar school rooms; yet there is this fact to be met and acted upon in the spirit of right and justice. There are, in either of these schools, a large class of scholars, advanced in years, whose only opportunity of gaining an education, is what time they may be able to attend school the present winter; these scholars claim and should receive the special attention of the teachers. All the time they can possibly spare, without neglect of others, should be earnestly and faithfully devoted to their instruction and advancement, in such branches of study as they can comprehend and may be made useful to them in after life. The younger scholars will suffer no material injury by remaining where they now are, in the care of good and faithful teachers.

I have endeavored to enforce the regulation in regard to absentees, as rigidly as possible, and yet to shut out no really deserving scholars from the privileges of school. In doing this the Eastern and Western schools have been entrusted to the teachers of the several departments, reporting to me any doubtful or extreme cases of absence or tardiness.

During the Spring term fifty-five permits were granted scholars to return to school. In most of these cases the parent and not the child, was the party at fault. The children were sent of errands at just the time they ought to be in school; or, the child wished to go visiting, and the parent thought some recreation was necessary, the poor child did not wish to be shut up in the school-room all the time; and so days were spent, the child lost his or her place in the class, became discouraged, and, by and by, will add another to the dunces' class, already too large from similar causes.

During the Fall term like arrangements were made with the teachers of the Eastern and Western schools with very good results. Thirty-five permits were granted to absentees, a very large proportion of whom were cranberry-pickers. There may be, and undoubtedly are, some families where the parents feel the need of all the assistance their children are able to afford, to aid in the support of the family; but in several cases, concerning which special inquiries have been made, the amount earned has been so trifling a sum, that it would scarcely meet the extra expense caused by necessary destruction of clothing, while engaged in picking. One was out of school a week, and earned seventy cents; another three days, and earned fifty cents; and another three days, and earned only twenty-five cents. It would seem that no reasonable parent, who had the well-being of his child in view, would be so unwise as to keep children from school for so small pecuniary reward. The injury done the children, the mortification they suffer, caused by losing their position in their classes, is of ten-fold greater hindrance and loss than the benefits derived from the money earned, even if there was no extra outlay to gain it.

The question, How shall we secure a better attendance at school, remains unanswered. It is said by some that parents should be compelled by law to send their children constantly to school until they are twelve years of age. It certainly has a very bad appearance on the part of parents that the neglect of duty to their children, should call for any such expressions of

opinion; and yet we find it to be one of the most prominent themes for discussion at almost every teachers' meeting that has been held for the past year. Could parents only be made sensible of the great injury they do their children by taking them out of school at such an early age, to labor, or what is far worse, permitting them to stay out of school for no purpose at all, but to roam the street, it cannot be doubted that they would use every endeavor to have them attend punctually and constantly, until they had secured, at least, a thorough grammar school education. This might be done at the age of twelve years, as above intimated. But what are the facts? It is a fact, however mortifying it may be, that there are scholars in our Grammar school to-day, that do not read or write as well as they did five years since, when they were members of the Intermediate school. What is the reason of this? Simply because they have been taken out of school to work summers, or what is true in most cases, they have been permitted "to close school" when older scholars have left to engage in some necessary employment, to roam the streets with nothing to do, nothing to occupy their minds but to "kill time." They are found lounging around the school-room doors, waiting for the scholars to come out at recess or intermission, to join with them in their play and sport, but when the bell strikes, they stroll off down on the wharves, or by the shore, to spend their time in throwing chips or stones, or committing nuisances to the great annoyance of good citizens. These children form the dunces' class in our schools, which is a large class, from mere neglect and nothing else. How long this condition of things shall continue, is for parents to decide. No one can answer for them.

The only change of text books made thus far is the Arithmetic, changing Quackenboss for Walton's, which change has been attended with good results. A smaller and more concise History of the United States, has been substituted for Quackenboss. No scholar who has a book is required to get a new one; it is only those who need new books that are required to obtain the substituted copy.

There is an almost universal complaint from teachers, that the Geographies now in use are out of date, and very imperfect. Questions are asked respecting localities that are not mentioned in the text nor have they been placed on the map included in the text book. It is desirable that we have the best text books we can find, but it is not an easy matter to devise which is the best. We are constantly receiving circulars from publishers recommending their favorite author and claiming that their book, is the best yet produced. It is very evident that all cannot be best; there must be a good and a better among them. Some of our teachers are not willing to admit that those in use in our schools are even good, but claim that they are decidedly bad. My view of this matter is that it does not make any material difference what text book is used, provided the teacher understands the subject and the school-room is furnished with proper apparatus to aid him in imparting instruction. All the essentials of Geography may be taught very successfully from a globe and a map of the two Hemispheres. But, say our teachers, we have not even these. The assertion is true, and my wish has been to keep the expenses of the current year within the town appropriation so that what is received from the State school fund, may be appropriated for supplying these deficiencies in our school-rooms. Although I admit that the text book now in use is not the most modern and perhaps not the best, yet so far as I am acquainted with others, I am not so well satisfied of the superior excellence of any other, as to recommend a change at this time, but would suggest it as a proper subject for your careful consideration.

At the last session of the Legislature, a statute law was enacted making drawing one of the required studies of the public schools. After Bartholomew's series of drawing was adopted by you for the use of the schools, I made some inquiries concerning what they were doing in relation to the introduction of drawing into the schools in other places. I learned that in some towns, they were so fortunate as to have more or less

teachers who understood the subject sufficiently to commence, while others had taken no action on the matter whatever. We are not of that fortunate few who have among their corps of teachers those who can even make a beginning to teach others. And the question arises what shall we do? Shall we employ some suitable person to visit our school and teach drawing; or shall we employ for a term more or less, some suitable person to teach our corps of teachers and they in turn teach the scholars of the school? My opinion is for adopting the latter method, since the teachers if they are called upon to teach others, will give more attention and perfect themselves more in the art than they otherwise would.

I noticed that the School Board of the city of Boston, had sent to England to engage the services of a competent Professor of Drawing, to teach in the schools of the city; but as our funds do not warrant us in following so illustrious an example, we must be content with making the most of our means. In this connection let me say, that an effort has been made to have vocal music taught in the schools the present term; how it will succeed it is impossible to say at the present time. My wish is to have both vocal and instrumental music taught in the schools but especially in the High school. I think there should be a teacher in the High school whose special duty should be to teach music, drawing and the modern languages. Such a teacher should have a place among us, and I know of none better adapted to meet the public wants than our High school, the direct influence would be to build up the school and enlarge its field of usefulness.

I have written more than I intended at the commencement of this report, but I must beg your indulgence for a further discussion of one or two topics of interest to all who would act understandingly upon the question of education either public or private. The first theme is the classification of the scholars who attend the High school. In this school much time is lost through lack of systematic effort. In this opinion I am sup-

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-

modation; but while the Eastern has but fifty, the Center Western and Western No. 2, have about seventy-five each. What we really want as the schools are now graded and divided, is more room for Primary scholars in the Center and Western parts of the town. There are several ways in which this room can be obtained, each involving material changes in the present division of the schools.

The first would be, to put more seats in the new school-rooms, reseat the old Primary rooms and place an assistant teacher in each of the new rooms. This would call for an additional expense of not less than four hundred dollars for teachers, and other expenses probably not less than fifty dollars more. Another arrangement might be made by having Grammar schools in the Eastern and Western school-rooms, and removing the Center Intermediate up stairs, this would give us one more Primary room and would reduce the expenses. The third and last change would be to have one Grammar school at the Center occupying the whole house, with a male teacher up stairs with suitable assistants in the other rooms. The Eastern and Western Intermediates would then occupy the present Grammar school room, giving us the additional room and making still greater saving in expense, but the additional room would be where we do not need it, in the Eastern part of the town. Each change considered, present advantages and disadvantages. The first furnishes the room with considerable increase of expense; the second supplies the room where it is needed at less expense; the third furnishes the rooms at still less expense but the room is not where it is needed. I am in hopes that no radical change may become necessary the ensuing year, but that all interested will consider the suggestions made and such other methods of improvement as may arise in their minds, so that, when the time comes to act we may act understandingly in the premises.

There is quite a general complaint by those living near the several school-houses, of being annoyed by the children coming

for water. I would therefore recommend that each school-house be provided with a well and pump on the premises, and one or more sinks in the houses for the use of the scholars.

At the close of the Fall term public reviews of all the schools were instituted, for the purpose of bringing the parents, teachers and scholars together in the school-room, and that the parents might witness the exhibition of the scholars' acquirements, under the direction of the teachers. These reviews were very satisfactory and the result has been beneficial to the schools. The attendance of visitors at the schools will be given under the special reports to which I now ask your attention.

Eastern Primary — Miss Ella F. Bush, teacher. Miss Bush has had charge of this school during three terms. She has been diligent and earnest in the discharge of her duties, and has met with good success. Yet it is evident that if she had more confidence in her ability to conduct the school, her efforts would meet with more marked improvement. There is a great lack of interest in this school on the part of parents.

Whole number of scholars, Spring term 61, average 50; Fall term 49, average 42; Winter term 48. Number of visitors at public review, 0.

Center Primary, No. 2 — Miss Henrietta Whitney, teacher. This school commenced the Spring term under the charge of Miss Alice G. Ballard. At the middle of the term her health failed, and a vacation was granted, and Miss Hattie F. Weeks was placed in charge. While Miss Ballard was in the school it was always in excellent condition. Miss Weeks was earnest and faithful in her labor, and the school continues to make good progress. Though placed in a difficult position she gave evidence of skill and ability in teaching. Miss Whitney commenced with the Fall term. Her honest and energetic efforts for the good of the school are meeting their reward in the progress and good order of the scholars.

Whole number of scholars, Spring term 58, average number 50; Fall term 56, average 45; Winter 53. Number of visitors at public review, 1.

Center Primary—Alice D. Keefe teacher. Miss Keefe has been in this school one year, having had one term experience before coming here. It is but justice to say that she has succeeded remarkably well; kindness and energy are so admirably blended in her treatment of the children that she has maintained good order without severity in a room crowded with little children. Reading and Spelling are well taught.

Whole number of scholars Spring term 67, average 60; Fall term 80, average 72; Winter term 69. Number of visitors at public review, 4.

Western Primary—Rebecca D. Sparks teacher. This school during the first term was under the care of Miss Lizzie N. Paine, who has been long and favorably known in connection with it as teacher. Her exceedingly happy faculty of preserving good attention and inspiring her pupil with love and respect insured cheerful obedience. She taught Reading naturally and correctly, which is the highest praise that can be given a teacher of little children. Miss Sparks had earned a good name before entering this school, and she has lost nothing of her skill in management and correctness of teaching. The school under her care continues in the way of well doing.

Whole number of scholars Spring term 73, average 65; Fall term 80, average 71; Winter 78, over 15, 4. Number of visitors at review, 12.

Western Primary No. 2—Carrie F. Nickerson. Nothing that I can say of this school will add to or detract from its merits. A thorough teacher and disciplinarian always makes his mark too plainly to be affected by words. Fertile in resources, the minds of the children are awakened and stimulated to healthy action, by the will of a superior.

Whole number of scholars Spring term 70, average 62; Fall term 80, average 67; Winter 70. Number of visitors at review 6.

Eastern Intermediate—Carrie O. Atkins, teacher. Miss Atkins has taught this school so long with only a term's interruption that the school seems to be almost a part of herself. As regards discipline the school is excellent. The recitations in Arithmetic and Geography are uniformly good. If there is a falling off from its former good character, it is in the exercise of Reading, but so much depends upon the aptness of scholars to imitate the example of the teacher, that it may be unjust to criticize even the seeming want of correctness, which appears in tone of voice and inflection.

Whole number of scholars Spring term 42, average 36; Fall term 34, average 28; Winter 44. Number of visitors at review 1.

Center Intermediate—Miss Alice G. Ballard, teacher. This school was under the care of Miss Henrietta Whitney the Spring term. She was honest and industrious in her efforts to advance and attain a higher stand in all the essentials of a good school; but she partially failed through lack of sympathy on the part of the scholars and parents, and perhaps her associates in labor. She was correct and systematic in her methods of imparting instruction and with a little more fortitude and patience would have but few equals as a teacher. The scholars were well disciplined in the forms of recitation.

Miss Ballard entered the school with a reputation gained in the Primary department which secured a hearty co-operation on the part of pupils and parents in most of her efforts. There was a more marked improvement in the general order and tone of the school, than in the recitations. The contrast in the methods of teaching and discipline, was so noticeable that it did not seem like the same school. The school is very large at the

present time, and taxes the skill and ability of the teacher to the fullest extent. Yet all goes well. Were I requested to point out an error in her teaching, I should say, she has too much sympathy for the scholars, so great at times as to get the better of her more mature judgment.

Whole number of scholars Spring term 56, average number 47; Fall term 56, average 46; Winter term 78. Number of visitors at review 10.

Western Intermediate—Miss Abbie N. Hamlin teacher. Miss Hamlin has been in charge of this school some more than a year, and has acquired the most perfect control of the pupils. Being enthusiastic in her methods of dealing with the children, they soon became equally so. Reading, Arithmetic and Geography are each well taught, but the speciality is Reading. There has been much work done and well done. All things considered there is not a harder working, happier class of scholars in town than will be found in this school-room, or who merit greater commendation for their uniform good behavior.

Whole number of scholars, Spring term 52, average 44; Fall term 50, average 43; Winter term 74; over 15, 1. Number of visitors at review 14.

Western Grammar School — H. C. Freeman, teacher, assisted by Miss M. Justina Nickerson.

Mr. C. M. Clay was Principal of this school during the Spring term. It was always under good discipline, and the recitations were systematic and critical. There was a good degree of industry manifested in the several exercises, and considerable enthusiasm on the part of a few. The school as a whole presented the appearance of a military organization, where all are subject to the will of a commander, and not an institution in which skill and readiness were fit objects for competition. The process of development was slow, but in time would produce ripe scholars.

Mr. Freeman commenced his labors as Principal with the Fall term. A graduate of the State Normal School he brought with him into the school the most approved methods of teaching in the State. Teaching by topics is a favorite manner of imparting instruction, putting aside text books, and dealing entirely with principles. It takes a long while for children to become familiar with the system, but when once learned and put in practice it makes the most certain and sure scholars, and secures the most practical education. The order and discipline of the school has been good, and there has been as little disturbance from change of teachers as is common. The several branches are well and thoroughly taught by Miss Nickerson. Changes of Principals effects no material change here. The duties of the school-room are discharged with ability and success.

Whole number of scholars, Spring term 56, average 44, over 15 years 3; Fall term 51, average 40.4, over 15 years 4; Winter term 76, over fifteen years 23. Number of visitors at review 58.

Center Grammar School — C. H. Dunbar, teacher, assisted by R. D. Sparks and Hattie F. Weeks.

This school which has been much larger than either of the other Grammar schools, for the past year has been under the care of Mr. Dunbar, a very energetic and persevering disciplinarian, for two terms. At the commencement he introduced a series of gymnastic exercises, which have had a very good influence in preserving good order in the school. The several branches common to the Grammar schools have been well taught, perhaps Arithmetic should stand first; others are accurately taught according to the text book, and at the same time thoroughly. An improvement has been made in the method of teaching Geography, which is worthy of notice. Reading exercises are well conducted, but are rather mechanical, than natural. The order has been uniformly good and the scholars studious. If I were to select one point in which im-

provement is desirable or a change would suggest itself, it is the classification. Some of the classes are too large. Smaller classes and less time to a class would bring scholars more equal in scholarship and mental capacity together, and all would be more benefited by such classification.

Miss Sparks as assistant during the Spring term, was earnest in her work, and the classes in her room always recited well, not perfect, for perfection is not to be found in the school room more than elsewhere.

Miss Weeks is much more at home, as an assistant in the Grammar school, than in the Primary and the good opinion formed of her ability to teach has been most happily confirmed. She is not only scholarly in the treatment of the subject taught, but secures the attention of her pupils, is quite independent of text books and presents the subject to be taught in attractive form.

Whole number of scholars Spring term 108, average 70, over 15, 13; Fall term 81, average 61 4-10, over 15, 4; Winter term 105, over 15, 18. Number of visitors at review 88.

Eastern Grammar School—H. P. Dearborn teacher, assisted by Miss Lizzie Kenney.

Mr. Dearborn and Miss Kenney, have been associated together as principal and assistant in this school one year. It was the first time for several terms that there had been a change of both teachers. As a matter of course there was a slight breaking up of the general character for a time, but for the past two terms there is neither of the schools that has done more honest hard work than this. The teachers themselves are honest and industrious in their efforts for the improvement of their pupils, and the fruit of their labors can be readily seen not only in the particular branches taught, but in the general tone and character of the school. Thoroughness has been the guiding principle and whatever has been attempted has been

accomplished. The school has been small but those who have attended have lost nothing from this paucity of numbers. We hazard nothing in calling it a good school.

Whole number of scholars 66, average 42, over 15, 14; Fall term 46, average 37, over 15, 2; Winter term 67, over 15, 13. Number of visitors at review 33.

High School—H. F. Burt, teacher, assisted by Miss Lucia N. Cook.

The former principal Mr. A. O. Burt, retained his position until the Summer vacation and the school kept on its usual prosperous course. I think it never appeared to better advantage or seemed to move along with greater ease than during the latter part of the term. Apparently there was more study and more interest manifested in whatever was doing. The change of teachers caused some interruption, but not so much as was anticipated, for it is almost an impossibility to have a change of teacher without change of methods and manner of conducting the general discipline of the school and recitation. Of Mr. Burt's ability to teach and his sincere desire to do all in his power to advance the interests of every scholar in the school there is not the least doubt, and if his theory in regard to conducting the school was fully acquiesced in by his pupils there could be no such thing as discord in their relation as teacher and pupils. Every scholar being put upon his honor on entering the school, it would only be unfaithfulness to himself that could call for any exercise of authority on the part of the teacher, which might soon become a thing unknown to any, except those who have recently become members. We have a very good school indeed, and if any fail to improve it is their own neglect of opportunity. Miss Cook has discharged the duties of her position with faithful diligence, and her efforts have been rewarded with corresponding success.

Whole number of scholars, Spring term 62, average 55, over 15, 36; Fall term 55, average 46, over 15, 38; Winter term 55, over 15, 40. Number of visitors at review 19.

The financial record for the year is as follows to wit:

Dr. to Town appropriation, - - -	\$7,400 00
Cash received of County Treasurer, dog tax, -	50 00
	<hr/>
	7,450 00
Cr. By Cash paid teaching Spring term, -	2,170 00
“ “ “ “ Fall “ -	1,975 00
“ “ “ Fuel, - - -	488 15
“ “ “ building fire and sweeping, -	133 68
“ “ “ Spring and Fall term, -	150 00
“ “ “ Incidentals, - - -	3 00
“ “ “ Supt. salary, nine months, -	300 00
	<hr/>
	5,219 83
Dr. Balance, - - - -	2,230 17
Liabilities for Winter term teaching, - -	2,187 50
Building fires and sweeping, - - -	174 82
Supt. salary, - - - -	29 00
	<hr/>
Amount of Liabilities, - - - -	2,462 32
Balance due, - - - -	232 15

Which it is believed the State School fund will more than equal. It is proper to state in this connection that we have sufficient fuel provided to last until the Summer vacation, a supply which cost us about \$100 last spring term to furnish. If the town see fit to appropriate the same sum of money for the ensuing year as for the past, I think it will be sufficient to meet all expenses.

BOOK ACCOUNT.

Dr. To Book and case on hand, Jan. 1870, -	\$242 54
“ Cash recd. from town, - - -	80 00
	<hr/>
	322 54
Cr. By Books and case on hand, Jan. 1, 1871, -	288 68
“ Cash due the town, - - -	33 86
	<hr/>
	322 54

Gentlemen, having fulfilled my instructions, I submit to you this report, for your examination and disposal.

B. F. HUTCHINSON, Supt. of Schools.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF PROVINCETOWN, FOR THE YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1870.

The Board of Health would report that during the past year no contagious diseases have been in our midst, and with few exceptions there has been no accumulation of filth demanding the attention of the Board.

All necessary repairs have been made on the Small Pox House, which is now in good condition.

The following is the account of the Board with the town for the past year:

To Labor for burying filth, - - -	\$4 75
Labor and materials for repairing small pox house, -	16 54
Services of Board, - - -	15 00
	<hr/>
	\$36 29

Respectfully submitted,

JONATHAN COOK, } Board
 JAMES EMERY, } of
 J. B. BAXTER, } Health.

To the citizens of Provincetown in annual meeting assembled :

The undersigned, appointed a Committee at the last annual meeting to purchase a site and erect thereon an Almshouse, respectfully

REPORT :

That the aforesaid committee, after the examination of several sites for the location of the Almshouse, purchased, as the most eligible, a lot 200 feet by 150 feet, adjoining and lying north-westerly of the old Almshouse land, for the sum of \$250. Grading, sodding and grassing the same, and labor in preparing the ground covered by the building cost \$65.53. Proposals and plans for a two story house, 70 by 31 feet, and a one story L, 18 by 36 feet, was duly published, and the contract awarded to Josiah Snow, of Provincetown, the lowest bidder, for the sum of \$5,135.00. The progress of construction developed the necessity of changes and additions in the original plan, incurring the further expenditure of \$125.70.

A contract for painting was made with Dyer & Co., for \$240. A subsequent increase of material and labor, applied to the interior of the building, involved a further outlay for painting and varnishing of \$145. Other incidental and unavoidable expenditures swelled the total amount for land and building to \$6,295.93. In addition to this sum, \$230.98 was paid for furnishing the house, making the aggregate outlay for land, building, furnishing and incidentals \$6,526.91, an amount exceeding the appropriation \$526.91. This excess was defrayed by the Selectmen out of the appropriation for incidental expenses. The building was completed the last of November, and occupied the 14th of December last.

The house contains a general sitting-room, Keeper's room, dining-room, nineteen bed-rooms, kitchen, pantry, wood and coal room, a bath-room and cellar, together with four spacious halls, all, excepting the bath-room, coal-room and cellar having good hard pine floors. A tubular well, in the kitchen, furnishes an abundant supply of excellent water, and a four inch earthen pipe affords the necessary sewerage from this room into a bricked cistern some fifty feet distant from the L. In addition to the rooms mentioned there is an attic 70 by 31 feet, partly finished, that can be divided into ten commodious sleeping-rooms whenever the exigencies of the town shall require their use, and also a large open room, with planed floor, over the kitchen and adjoining rooms. These rooms are liberal in size, convenient, well lighted and ventilated, and, together with their appointments, furnish to the unfortunate class compelled to occupy them, as comfortable and as pleasant an abode as their circumstances seem to require, or the obligations of an enlightened christianity impose upon this community. Not only the present but the prospective wants of the town are thus, in the opinion of your committee, amply provided for, in a spirit and manner that cannot fail to mitigate the sorrows of the poor, and to command the approbation of our fellow men.

Your committee take pleasure in stating, what cannot always be truthfully stated of the fulfilment of contracts, that the principal contractor, Mr. Snow, fulfilled his engagements with them in every specification, with a promptness and faithfulness worthy of commendation. He has, in a word, given the town, in a thoroughly constructed house of good material, an honest equivalent for the compensation received.

The appropriation, as already indicated, proving insufficient, the committee were without means to fence the premises, or to furnish

blinds for the building. Deeming these necessary to the completion of the establishment, they recommend that there be raised and appropriated for a fence around the almshouse, \$140, and for blinds for said house the further sum of \$100, to be expended under the supervision of the Selectmen.

Those of your committee serving the town as Overseers of the Poor, have long been convinced of the necessity of a change of officers and of the management of those charged with the oversight and care of the poor. The history of this department of the business of the town has been marked with irregularity, inefficiency and the absence of all system, especially in disbursements to the needy, thereby making the discharge of duty more difficult and unsatisfactory. The poor, the officers and the town have alike suffered from this source. Considering this subject in connection with the erection of the Almshouse and the enlarged accommodations thus provided, your committee have considered this an appropriate occasion to suggest a change in the officers that are in future to have charge of the poor. It has for many years been the practice to choose the Selectmen overseers. This might have been judicious when the plan was adopted, but the great increase of business since that period, and which now requires so much attention, renders it impracticable for the Selectmen to properly discharge the duties of Overseers of the Poor in addition to the legitimate duties of their office proper. Your committee therefore recommend that there be chosen a board of three Overseers of the Poor, distinct from the Selectmen; that the Chairman of this board shall be charged with the executive duties thereof, including the examination of the settlements of paupers; that the other members shall be called upon by the Chairman only for advice and consultation, and that the compensation of each shall be in proportion to the time spent and the service rendered.

We have, as described, an excellent Almshouse, one not unworthy of local pride. But *who visits the poor in it?* Of the members of the several religious societies, of the numerous charitable associations here, how many of them all know by personal intercourse or inspection the condition of the town's poor, their treatment, their griefs? The town may furnish without stint shelter, food, clothing; but the nobler offices of kindness and sympathy cannot be purchased by its money. Personal attention and counsel voluntarily rendered are in this as in other matters, an indispensable requisite to the benevolent, economical and judicious administration of the affairs of those dependent for support upon the town.

ARTEMAS PAINE, }
 JAMES GIFFORD, } *Committee.*
 SILAS S. YOUNG, }
 JOHN SWIFT, }

PROVINCETOWN, February 13, 1871.

REPORT OF THE MONUMENT COMMITTEE.

Appropriated by the town,	-	-	-	\$25 00
Have paid for labor,	-	-	25	
4 sign boards,	-	-	1 00—	1 25

Balance in town Treasury, \$23 75

The necessary material for improving the grounds has not been obtained the past year, and would recommend the same amount appropriated this year, that the work may be completed.

Your committee would call your attention to the following, passed by the Legislature last year:

“Chap. 169, Sect. 1. Towns may at legal meetings grant and vote such sums as they judge necessary for the purpose of keeping in repair or decorating the graves within their limits, of soldiers or sailors who have died in the military or naval services of the United States, or the monuments or other memorials erected to their memory.”

Decoration day is being universally observed and your attention is called to this fact so that should the town wish to celebrate the day the requisite appropriation may be made.

The whole of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN D. HILLIARD, *Com.*

PROVINCETOWN, Jan. 1, 1871.

BIRTHS.

The whole number of Births registered for the year 1870 was 111. Males 53; females 58.

Number born in Provincetown, 110.

Number born in January,	Males, 3;	Females, 4;	Total, 7.
“ “ February,	“ 2	“ 3	“ 5
“ “ March,	“ 2	“ 1	“ 3
“ “ April,	“ 2	“ 5	“ 7
“ “ May,	“ 3	“ 0	“ 3
“ “ June,	“ 0	“ 4	“ 4
“ “ July,	“ 3	“ 8	“ 11
“ “ August,	“ 5	“ 6	“ 11
“ “ September,	“ 12	“ 6	“ 18
“ “ October,	“ 5	“ 12	“ 17
“ “ November,	“ 8	“ 4	“ 12
“ “ December,	“ 8	“ 5	“ 13
	—	—	—
	53	58	111

PARENTAGE.

Both parents American, 34; both parents Portuguese, 39.
“ Irish, 2 “ from British Provinces, 11.

Fathers American and mothers from British Provinces, 7.
Fathers from British Provinces and mothers American, 4.
Fathers Portuguese and mothers American, 5
Fathers Portuguese and mothers Irish, 2.
Fathers Nova Scotian and mothers Irish, 3.
Fathers from West Indies and mothers American, 1.
Fathers Scotch and mothers American, 1.
Fathers Portuguese and mothers Nova Scotian, 1.
Fathers Prussian and mothers English, 1.

Of the whole number of parents there were Americans, 87; Portuguese, 86; Irish, 9; from Provinces, 36; West Indies, 1; Prussian, 1; Scotch, 1; English, 1.

MARRIAGES.

The whole number of marriages registered was 43, as follows:

1870.

Jan. 5, Elisha B. Witherell of Charlestown and Mary L. Young of Provincetown.
Jan. 10, Josiah H. Brown and Katherine H. Cowan both of Provincetown.
Jan. 13, David L. Smith and Mary S. Burch both of Provincetown.
Jan. 16, James A. Jones and Lydia C. Smith both of Provincetown.
Jan. 25, Robert L. West and Phebe Arthur both of Provincetown.
Jan. 27, Enoch H. Wiley of Boston and Sarah E. Harvender of Provincetown.
Jan. 30, Edwin B. Rich and Sarah L. Smith both of Provincetown.
Feb. 15, Joseph Matthews and Candida Silver both of Provincetown.
Feb. 28, Antone Joseph and Gedrome Emelia both of Provincetown.
Feb. 29, William Powers and Mary J. Armstrong both of Provincetown.
Mar. 12, Joseph A. Silver and Dulciana Silver both of Provincetown.
Apr. 7, John T. Small of Boston and Rebecca A. Nickerson of Provincetown.
Apr. 10, Malcomb Campbell and Isabella McKay both of Provincetown.
Apr. 10, Joseph Whitcomb and Susie E. Knowles both of Provincetown.
Apr. 14, Samuel F. Newcomb and Almena F. Nickerson both of Provincetown.
May 7, Benjamin Joseph and Anna Loring both of Provincetown.
May 15, George Bowley Jr. and Mary W. West both of Provincetown.
May 22, Richard Tedford and Sabrina Gibson both of Provincetown.
May 28, John A. Cooper of Truro and Mary E. Smith of Provincetown.
June 7, Sumner Bragdon and Mary C. King both of Provincetown.
Aug. 5, Abner L. Pettis and Sarah E. Myers both of Provincetown.
Aug. 14, Joseph Mayo and Mary Angelica both of Provincetown.
Aug. 22, Neil McMillian and Sarah R. Gardner both of Provincetown.
Sept. 15, Thomas P. Nickerson and Louisa Marston both of Provincetown.
Sept. 22, William Wolf and Anna Peach both of Provincetown.
Sept. 25, Nathan S. Small and Ruth C. Smith both of Provincetown.

- Oct. 19, John D. Hilliard and Lizzie H. Paine both of Provincetown.
 Oct. 24, Antone Francis and Mary Dears both of Provincetown.
 Oct. 25, Ephraim Cook and Betsey L. Cook both of Provincetown.
 Nov. 6, William S. Hutchins and Sarah A. Smith both of Provincetown.
 Nov. 6, Reuben T. Ryder and Delora C. Sparks both of Provincetown.
 Nov. 6, Benjamin A. Atkins and A. Theresa A. Cobb both of Provincetown.
 Nov. 6, John M. Crocker and Mary R. Adams both of Provincetown.
 Nov. 7, John Rodericks and Mary Silver both of Provincetown.
 Nov. 7, Manuel Farera and Mary F. Williams both of Provincetown.
 Nov. 7, Joseph Manter and Philomena Rogers both of Provincetown.
 Nov. 13, Thomas Williams and Jankina Rosa both of Provincetown.
 Dec. 1, Isaiah A. Whorf of Provincetown and Thannie A. Baker of Wellfleet.
 Dec. 4, Joseph H. Howard of Boston and Kezie F. Nye of Provincetown.
 Dec. 5, Russell Atkins jr. and Hope E. Kelley, both of Provincetown.
 Dec. 11., Edward Q. Weeks and Sylvia F. Galaeear both of Provincetown.
 Dec. 13, Moses N. Gifford of Provincetown and Hattie P. Lovering of Georgetown.
 Dec. 27, Charles E. Turner and Sarah J. Mayo, both of Provincetown.
- Number of Marriages in Provincetown, 39; Married in Boston, 1; in Charlestown, 1; in No. Bridgewater, 1; in Wellfleet, 1; Total. 43
 The whole number of intentions of marriages registered was 45.

DEATHS.

The whole number of deaths registered for the year 1870, was 55. Males, 28; females, 27.

AGES.—Under 1 year, 20; from 1 to 20 years, 5; 20 to 40 years, 11; 40 to 60 years, 14; 60 to 80 years, 4; over 80, 1; total, 55.

PLACES OF NATIVITY.—Provincetown, of American Parentage, 27; Provincetown, of foreign parentage, 12; other towns in Massachusetts, 4; other towns in the United States, 4; British Provinces, ; Ireland, 4.