

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Town of Provincetown,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

Dec. 30, 1876.



PROVINCETOWN:

ADVOCATE STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

1877.

## TOWN OFFICERS FOR 1876.

*Selectmen and Assessors*—Henry W. Cowing, D. C. Cook, Benjamin Dyer.

*Overseers of Poor*—Benjamin Dyer, Henry W. Cowing, Daniel C. Cook.

*Town Clerk and Treasurer*—Seth Smith.

*Collector of Taxes*—John Swift.

*School Committee*—Anna J. Hutchinson, Mercy M. Lewis, Harriet F. Mitchell, J. S. Atwood, L. N. Paine, R. W. Swift.

*Chief Engineer of Fire Department*—J. D. Hilliard.

*Assistant Engineers*—Jonathan Cook, C. A. Cook, Amasa Taylor, L. N. Paine, Enos N. Young, E. K. Cook.

*Road Commissioners*—J. S. Atwood, N. D. Freeman, John M. Carnes.

*Constables*—R. D. Baxter, John M. Carnes, J. W. Beatty, Charles C. Atkins, W. H. Herbolt, Joseph Whitcomb, Daniel F. Lewis.

*Fence Viewers*—Henry Atkins, R. G. Alexander, Joseph Weeks.

*Trustees of Town Library*—Isaiah Gifford, Augustus Mitchell, J. W. Davis, J. M. Crocker, E. K. Cook, A. T. Williams, Edmund Smith.

*Board of Health*—D. S. Kelley, B. A. Lewis, Eben Holway.

*Beach Grass Committee*—Lemuel Cook, Jabez Atwood, Leonard Cook.

*Surveyors of Wood, Bark and Lumber*—J. S. Atwood, N. C. Brooks, Geo. Allen.

*Field Drivers*—Uriah Small, F. M. Bowley, Josiah Hill.

*Pound Keepers*—Josiah Hill, F. M. Bowley.

*Sealer of Weights and Measures*—Seth Smith.

*Monument Committee*—J. D. Hilliard.

## REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF PROVINCETOWN:

The selectmen of the Town of Provincetown, respectfully submit their Annual Report for the year ending December 30th, 1876:

### *Valuation of the Town May 1st, 1876.*

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Real Estate,     | \$1,029,411 00 |
| Personal Estate, | 894,170 00     |
|                  | <hr/>          |
|                  | \$1,923,581 00 |

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Number of Polls at \$2. each, | 1151    |
| Acres of Land taxed,          | 750     |
| Rate of Taxation on \$1000,   | \$17 50 |
| Number of Legal Voters,       | 1003    |
| Number of Dwelling Houses,    | 829     |
| Number of Horses,             | 80      |
| Number of Cows,               | 29      |

### *Appropriations.*

|   |           | Deficiency. | Balance.  |
|---|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Support of the Poor,  | \$3200 00 | \$259 32    |           |
| Schools in addition to balance<br>in Treasury,                              | 7600 00   |             | \$2867 44 |
| Fire Department, including finish-<br>ing Engine Rooms as recom-<br>mended, | 3000 00   |             | 13 36     |
| Lewis' Tubular Reservoir as rec-<br>ommended,                               | 100 00    |             | 15 62     |
| Roads and Sidewalks,  | 3500 00   | 465 11      |           |
| Bridge Repairs,   | 300 00    |             | 113 03    |

|   |           | Deficiency. | Balance. |
|---|-----------|-------------|----------|
| Night Watch and Police,                   | \$1500 00 | \$231 68    |          |
| Interest on Railroad Loan,                | 2200 00   | 447 49      |          |
| Interest on Demand Loans,                 | 2000 00   | 92 13       |          |
| Repairs on School Houses,                 | 500 00    |             | \$195 72 |
| Repairs on Town House, Hill and<br>Fence, | 100 00    | 48 52       |          |
| Abatement of Taxes,                       | 200 00    | 57 34       |          |
| Discount on Taxes,                        | 1000 00   | 67 67       |          |
| School Incidentals,                       | 500 00    | 255 40      |          |
| Incidental Expenses,                      | 4000 00   | 4271 06     |          |
| Public Library,                           | 350 00    | 6 57        |          |
| State and County Taxes,                   | 5200 00   |             | 1258 26  |
| New Reservoirs,                           | 500 00    |             | 500 00   |
| Purchase of Jail,                         | 100 00    |             | 100 00   |

---

\$35,859 00

Overlayings on Taxes, 184 15

---

\$36,034 15

Non-Resident Bank Tax, 2,021 86

---

\$38,056 01

*Support of the Poor.*

|                                |           |           |       |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Paid Orders of Overseers Poor, |           | \$3837 27 |       |
| Town Appropriation,            | \$3200 00 |           |       |
| Received from Town of Truro,   | 10 00     |           |       |
| “ “ “ Dennis,                  | 2 45      | X         |       |
| “ “ State on ac't. Poor,       | 43 14     |           |       |
| “ “ Estate H. Winslow,         | 322 36    |           |       |
| Deficiency,                    | 259 32    |           |       |
|                                |           |           | <hr/> |
|                                | \$3837 27 | \$3837 27 |       |

*Public Schools.*

|                                    |             |             |       |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------|
| Paid Orders School Committee,      |             | \$8026 90   |       |
| Balance in Treasury, Jan. 1, '76,  | \$2982 31   |             |       |
| Mass. School Fund,                 | 312 03      | X           |       |
| Town Appropriation,                | 7600 00     |             |       |
| Balance in Treasury Dec. 31, 1876, |             | 2867 44     |       |
|                                    |             |             | <hr/> |
|                                    | \$10,894 34 | \$10,894 34 |       |

*Roads and Sidewalks.*

|                                 |           |           |       |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Paid Orders Road Commissioners, |           | \$3996 11 |       |
| Town Appropriation,             | \$3500 00 |           |       |
| Rec'd. Sale of Old Plank,       | 31 00     | X         |       |
| Deficiency,                     | 465 11    |           |       |
|                                 |           |           | <hr/> |
|                                 | \$3996 11 | \$3996 11 |       |

*Bridge Repairs.*

|                                  |          |          |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|-------|
| Paid Orders Road Commissioners,  |          | \$197 72 |       |
| Town Appropriation,              | \$300 00 |          |       |
| Rec'd. sale of Old Bridge Plank, | 10 75    |          |       |
| Balance in Treasury,             |          | 113 03   |       |
|                                  |          |          | <hr/> |
|                                  | \$310 75 | \$310 75 |       |

*Town House, Hill and Fence.*

|                                      |          |          |       |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------|
| Paid Asa Atkins, Sods and Labor,     |          | \$16 60  |       |
| Loring Rogers, Lumber,               |          | 16 62    |       |
| George Allen, Lumber,                |          | 3 52     |       |
| Philander Crocker, Iron work,        |          | 8 35     |       |
| Reuben Brown, Labor on Town House,   |          | 23 75    |       |
| Benjamin Dyer, Nails,                |          | 3 75     |       |
| J. A. West, Sundries,                |          | 10 53    |       |
| W. H. H. Weston,                     |          | 4 50     |       |
| John Young, Care of House and Clock, |          | 70 22    |       |
| Freeman & Hilliard, Sundries,        |          | 2 26     |       |
| Town Appropriation,                  | \$100 00 |          |       |
| Rec'd. from Sale of Old Fence,       | 11 58    |          |       |
| Deficiency,                          | 48 52    |          |       |
|                                      |          |          | <hr/> |
|                                      | \$160 10 | \$160 10 |       |

*Public Library.*

|                                  |          |          |       |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|-------|
| Paid Orders Trustees,            |          | \$577 46 |       |
| Balance in Treasury Jan. 1, '76, | \$149 38 |          |       |
| Rec'd. from Dog Fund,            | 71 51    |          |       |
| Town Appropriation,              | 350 00   |          |       |
| Deficiency,                      | 6 57     |          |       |
|                                  |          |          | <hr/> |
|                                  | \$577 46 | \$577 46 |       |

*Fire Department.*

|                           |                  |                  |  |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|
| Paid Orders of Engineers, |                  | \$2986 64        |  |
| Town Appropriation,       | \$3000 00        |                  |  |
| Balance in Treasury,      |                  | 13 36            |  |
|                           | <u>\$3000 00</u> | <u>\$3000 00</u> |  |

*Night Watch and Police.*

|   |                  |                  |  |
|---|------------------|------------------|--|
| Paid Night Watch and Police to Dec. 31, 1876, |                  | \$1731 68        |  |
| Town Appropriation,                           | \$1500 00        |                  |  |
| Deficiency,                                   | 231 68           |                  |  |
|   | <u>\$1731 68</u> | <u>\$1731 68</u> |  |

We recommend \$1700. for Watch and Police the ensuing year.

*Lewis' Tubular Reservoir.*

|                           |                 |                 |  |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Paid Orders of Engineers, |                 | \$84 38         |  |
| Town Appropriation,       | \$100 00        |                 |  |
| Balance in Treasury,      |                 | 15 62           |  |
|                           | <u>\$100 00</u> | <u>\$100 00</u> |  |

*Discount on Taxes.*

|   |                  |                  |  |
|---|------------------|------------------|--|
| Paid John Swift discount on Taxes 1876, |                  | \$1067 67        |  |
| Town Appropriation,                     | 1000 00          |                  |  |
| Deficiency,                             | 67 67            |                  |  |
|   | <u>\$1067 67</u> | <u>\$1067 67</u> |  |

*Interest on Railroad Loans.*

|   |                  |                  |  |
|---|------------------|------------------|--|
| 1st Nat'l Bank of Prov. on \$50,000 1 year, |                  | \$3500 00        |  |
| Seamen's Savings Bank on 48,300 1 year,     |                  | 3381 00          |  |
| Town Appropriation,                         | \$2200 00        |                  |  |
| Dividends from O. C. R. R.,                 |                  |                  |  |
| for July and Dec.,                          | 3762 00          |                  |  |
| Interest on Stock sold,                     | 411 39           |                  |  |
| Interest on Securities,                     | 60 12            |                  |  |
| Deficiency,                                 | 447 49           |                  |  |
|   | <u>\$6881 00</u> | <u>\$6881 00</u> |  |

*Interest on Demand Loans.*

|                             |                  |                  |  |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|
| Paid Individuals and Banks, |                  | \$2092 13        |  |
| Town Appropriation,         | \$2000 00        |                  |  |
| Deficiency,                 | 92 13            |                  |  |
|                             | <u>\$2092 13</u> | <u>\$2092 13</u> |  |

*School Houses.*

|                               |                 |                 |  |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Paid Orders School Committee, |                 | \$304 28        |  |
| Town Appropriation,           | \$500 00        |                 |  |
| Balance in Treasury,          |                 | 195 72          |  |
|                               | <u>\$500 00</u> | <u>\$500 00</u> |  |

*Town Debt.*

|                                   |                    |                    |  |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| Demand Loans unpaid Dec. 31, '75, | \$31,132 00        |                    |  |
| "    "    in 1876,                | 2,150 00           |                    |  |
| Paid on Demand Loans,             |                    | \$11,700 00        |  |
| Demand Loans unpaid Dec. 30, '76, |                    | 21,582 00          |  |
|                                   | <u>\$33,282 00</u> | <u>\$33,282 00</u> |  |

*School Incidentals.*

|                                  |                 |                 |  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Paid Orders of School Committee, |                 | \$755 40        |  |
| Town Appropriation,              | \$500 00        |                 |  |
| Deficiency,                      | 255 40          |                 |  |
|                                  | <u>\$755 40</u> | <u>\$755 40</u> |  |

*State and County Taxes.*

|                                    |                  |                  |  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|
| Paid State Treasurer,              |                  | \$1980 00        |  |
| County " "                         |                  | 1961 74          |  |
| Town Appropriation,                | \$5200 00        |                  |  |
| Balance in Treasury Dec. 31, 1876, |                  | 1258 26          |  |
|                                    | <u>\$5200 00</u> | <u>\$5200 00</u> |  |

*New Reservoirs*

|                      |                 |                 |  |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Town Appropriation,  | \$500 00        |                 |  |
| Balance in Treasury, |                 | \$500 00        |  |
|                      | <u>\$500 00</u> | <u>\$500 00</u> |  |

*Purchase of Jail.*

|                      |          |          |
|----------------------|----------|----------|
| Town Appropriation,  | \$100 00 |          |
| Balance in Treasury, |          | \$100 00 |
|                      | <hr/>    | <hr/>    |
|                      | \$100 00 | \$100 00 |

*Abatement on Taxes.*

|                           |          |          |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|
| Paid Orders of Assessors, |          | \$344 35 |
| Town Appropriation,       | \$200 00 |          |
| Received for Extra Taxes, | 87 01    |          |
| Deficiency,               | 57 34    |          |
|                           | <hr/>    | <hr/>    |
|                           | \$344 35 | \$344 35 |

*State Aid.*

|  |          |          |
|--|----------|----------|
| Paid Aid for the year ending Dec. 31, '76, |          | \$582 00 |
| Rec'd, from State for Aid of '75,          | \$629 34 |          |
| Balance in Treasury,                       |          | 47 34    |
|  | <hr/>    | <hr/>    |
|  | \$629 34 | \$629 34 |

*Awards on Roads.*

|                                  |          |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Paid Orders the past year,       |          | \$169 27 |
| Balance in Treasury Jan, 1, '76. | \$515 57 |          |
| Balance in Treasury,             |          | 346 30   |
|                                  | <hr/>    | <hr/>    |
|                                  | \$515 57 | \$515 57 |

*Incidental Expenses.*

|  |        |        |
|--|--------|--------|
| Paid Charles H. Walker, law book,        |        | \$4 50 |
| Daniel C. Cook, expense to Barnstable,   |        | 6 00   |
| Benjamin Dyer, " "                       |        | 7 87   |
| David Bursley, jail fees,                |        | 17 98  |
| Artemas Paine, expense to Melrose,       |        | 6 40   |
| Edw. Morton, services in small pox case, |        | 50 00  |
| Goss & Richards, printing,               | 253 90 |        |
| J. D. Eldridge, services in Snow case,   |        | 50 00  |
| J. P. Johnson, moderator's fees,         |        | 10 00  |
| " " auctioneer's " "                     |        | 2 00   |
| " " office rent,                         |        | 100 00 |
| " " state agency,                        |        | 50 00  |

|  |        |          |
|--|--------|----------|
| Paid R. D. Baxter, care of J. A. Mayo,                           |        | \$16 20  |
| " " " Mrs. Fine,   |        | 14 60    |
| " " " constable fees, etc.,                                      |        | 13 00    |
| A. M. Mitchell & Co., police badges, etc.,                       |        | 15 15    |
| Robert Knowles, police calls, etc.,                              |        | 4 50     |
| " " care of Tomb, etc.,  |        | 42 25    |
| J. W. Beatty, truant committee and constable fees,               |        | 17 25    |
| Anna J. Hutchinson, services as school committee,                | 140 00 |          |
| Mercy M. Lewis, " " "  |        | 89 25    |
| R. W. Swift, " " "   |        | 45 00    |
| Harriet F. Mitchell, services as school committee,               | 112 50 |          |
| Henry Shortle, " " "   |        | 38 15    |
| " " " in Boston,   |        | 18 00    |
| J. S. Atwood, " as school committee,                             |        | 28 75    |
| Rebecca S. Cook, boarding wrecked seamen,                        |        | 10 50    |
| J. B. Crocker, services in Snow case,                            |        | 32 00    |
| D. F. Lewis, truant fees for 1875-6,                             |        | 16 00    |
| " constable fees,  |        | 10 00    |
| G. A. Smith, books and stationery,                               |        | 33 72    |
| B. F. Hutchinson, removing house,                                |        | 70 25    |
| " " services and expense to Boston,                              |        | 47 00    |
| " " legal advice for 1876,                                       |        | 55 10    |
| H. W. Cowing, numbering school children,                         |        | 25 00    |
| " " expense to Boston,   |        | 16 00    |
| James Gifford, services and expense to Boston,                   |        | 38 50    |
| Engineers services,  |        | 85 00    |
| Board of Health, expense on small pox ground,                    |        | 8 00     |
| " " services for year,   |        | 55 15    |
| Edward Marston, criers services,                                 |        | 1 00     |
| J. Willard, services in Louisa A., case,                         |        | 107 90   |
| J. C. Dodge, " " " " "   |        | 59 55    |
| H. A. Scudder, settlement of boundary of Provincetown and Truro, |        | 50 00    |
| Joseph Whitcomb, locking up tramps,                              |        | 5 00     |
| Assessors services,  |        | 690 00   |
| Stephen Cook, coal for office,                                   |        | 2 63     |
| Annie Y. Snow, law case,   |        | 3351 64  |
| N. D. Freeman, expense—passage to Boston,                        |        | 48 00    |
| William Read & Sons, police calls,                               |        | 7 00     |
| Temperance committee, expense,                                   |        | 514 49   |
| A. M. Kemp, copy book,   |        | 3 75     |
| R. G. Alexander, services as fence viewer,                       |        | 5 00     |
| 2 Selectmen's Services   |        | 43 00 00 |
| Overseers Poor.  |        | 4 00 00  |
| Town Treas   |        |          |

|   |           |           |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Paid Joshua Cook, care lock-up,               | \$15 00   |           |
| J. H. Dearborn, services as truant committee, | 8 00      |           |
| Isaiah Gifford, royalty on town wells,        | 48 00     |           |
| Freeman & Hilliard, labor on monument, etc.,  | 5 20      |           |
| “ “ coal for town office,                     | 2 63      |           |
| “ “ hearse house,                             | 55        |           |
| Sinking Fund Committee, expenses,             | 31 05     |           |
| W. H. H. Weston, coal hod,                    | 1 45      |           |
| J. A. West, bill on town office,              | 4 45      |           |
| “ “ keys for jail,                            | 4 85      |           |
| Joseph Weeks, services as fence viewer,       | 5 00      |           |
| W. H. H. Herbolt, services as constable,      | 10 00     |           |
| A. L. Putnam & Co., books,                    | 1 62      |           |
| John M. Carnes, constable fees,               | 10 00     |           |
| Seth Smith, postage and copying,              | 20 65     |           |
| “ attending meetings and recording,           | 30 00     |           |
| “ “ Clerk's meeting at Truro,                 | 8 00      |           |
| “ recording deaths, births and marriages,     | 80 00     |           |
| Henry Atkins, services as fence viewer,       | 5 00      |           |
| Road Commissioners, services,                 | 45 00     |           |
| John Swift, collector of taxes,               | 285 42    |           |
|   |           | \$8271 06 |
| Town Appropriation,                           | \$4000 00 |           |
| Deficiency,                                   | 4271 06   |           |
|   |           | \$8271 06 |

*Treasurer's Account for the year ending December, 30th, 1876.*

We have examined the Town Treasurer's account and find that there have been received into the Treasury the following amounts, to wit:

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Massachusetts School Fund,     | \$312 03 |
| County Dog Fund,               | 71 50    |
| Town of Truro on account Poor, | 10 00    |
| Use of Jail,                   | 1 75     |
| Borrowed Money,                | 2150 00  |
| State on account of Paupers,   | 43 14    |
| State Aid for 1875,            | 629 34   |
| National Bank Tax for 1876,    | 1112 77  |

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Corporation Tax for 1876,   | \$1306 64   |
| Old Colony Railroad dividends,                                      | 3762 00     |
| Town of Dennis on account Poor,                                     | 2 45        |
| Owners Schr. Louisa A.,   | 16 78       |
| Tax of 1875,  | 16 96       |
| Sale of Old Sidewalk Plank,   | 31 00       |
| “ “ Bridge “  | 10 75       |
| “ “ Town Hill Fence,  | 11 58       |
| J. P. Johnson for permits,  | 9 00        |
| Old Junk Licences,  | 9 00        |
| Interest on Old Colony Railroad Stock,                              | 411 39      |
| “ “ “ “ Securities,   | 60 12       |
| Extra Taxes collected,  | 71 05       |
| John Swift for taxes of 1876,                                       | 35,768 72   |
| Cash in the Treasury, Jan. 1, 1876,                                 | 15,995 57   |
|   | \$61,813 54 |
| The Treasurer has paid out upon proper vouchers the following sums: |             |
| Support of the Poor,  | \$3837 27   |
| Schools,  | 8026 90     |
| Roads and Sidewalks,  | 3996 11     |
| Bridge,   | 197 72      |
| Town House, Hill and Fence,   | 160 10      |
| Public Library,   | 577 46      |
| Fire Department,  | 2986 64     |
| Night Watch and Police,   | 1731 68     |
| Discount on Taxes,  | 1067 67     |
| Demand Loans,   | 11700 00    |
| Interest on Railroad Loans,   | 1881 00     |
| Interest on Town Debt,  | 2092 13     |
| School Houses,  | 305 03      |
| School Incidentals,   | 754 65      |
| State and County,   | 3941 74     |
| Abatement on Taxes,   | 344 35      |
| State Aid for 1876,   | 582 00      |
| Incidental Expenses,  | 8271 06     |
| Awards on Roads,  | 169 27      |
| Lewis' Tubular Reservoir,   | 84 38       |
| Bank Tax, non-residents,  | 1901 56     |
| Cash in the Treasury Dec. 30, 1876,                                 | 2204 62     |
|   | \$61,813 54 |

## LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Individuals and Banks, | \$21,582 00 |
| Public Schools,        | 2,867 44    |
| Awards on Roads,       | 346 30      |
|                        | <hr/>       |
|                        | \$24,795 74 |

The following are reported as the Assets of the Town :

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Due from State for Aid, 1876,               | \$582 00  |
| “ Lewis A. Smith,                           | 146 74    |
| “ Town of Truro on account of Bridge, 1875, | 25 35     |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ 1876,                           | 93 44     |
| Cash in Treasury,                           | 2204 82   |
|   | <hr/>     |
|   | \$3052 35 |

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Town debt Dec. 30, 1876, (not including railroad loans,) | \$21,743 39 |
| Town debt Dec. 31, 1875, (not including railroad loan,)  | 17,664 83   |
|  | <hr/>       |
| Increase the past year,                                  | \$4078 56   |

Respectfully submitted,

|                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| H. W. COWING,  | } <i>Selectmen</i>   |
| BENJAMIN DYER, |                      |
| D. C. COOK,    |                      |
|                | <i>of</i>            |
|                | <i>Provincetown.</i> |

Provincetown, Jan. 19, 1876.

## REPORT OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

The Overseers of the Poor of the Town of Provincetown submit the following Report for the year ending Dec. 30, 1876 :

### *Support of Poor in the Alms House.*

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Paid Salary of Superintendent,   | \$265 00  |
| Groceries and Provisions,        | 836 83    |
| Fuel and Lights,                 | 125 63    |
| Clothing and Bedding,            | 95 55     |
| Boots and Shoes,                 | 41 89     |
| House Furniture and Fixtures,    | 19 11     |
| Stoves and Repairs,              | 32 72     |
| Assistance and Watching,         | 12 36     |
| Medical Attendance and Medicine, | 62 68     |
| Funeral Expenses,                | 15 50     |
|                                  | <hr/>     |
|                                  | \$1507 26 |

### *Statistics of the Alms House.*

|                                       |    |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Whole number supported the past year, | 16 |
| Admitted " " "                        | 3  |
| Discharged " " "                      | 3  |
| Remaining in the House Jan. 1, 1876,  | 13 |

#### WHEN ADMITTED, AND AGE AT THIS DATE.

|                    |                 |               |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Zilla Howe,        | April 1851,     | Age 47 years. |
| Joseph Ghen,       | " 1861,         | " 52 "        |
| Lucy Hill,         | " 1851,         | " 61 "        |
| George W. Newcomb, | July 1870,      | " 47 "        |
| Lydia Nickerson,   | September 1870, | " 69 "        |
| Rebecca Hill,      | December 1869,  | " 30 "        |



## ERRATUM.

---

The following is the corrected financial standing of the Town :

### LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Individuals and Banks, | \$21,582 00 |
| Public Schools,        | 2,867 44    |
| Awards on Roads,       | 346 30      |
|                        | \$24,795 74 |

The following are reported as the ASSETS of the Town :

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Due from State for Aid, 1876,               | \$582 00    |
| “ Lewis A. Smith,                           | 146 74      |
| “ Town of Truro on account of Bridge, 1875, | 25 35       |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ 1876,                           | 93 44       |
| “ Taxes not collected,                      | 2287 29     |
| “ Cash in the Treasury,                     | 2204 82     |
|   | 5,339 64    |
| Town Debt December 31st, 1876,              | \$19,456 10 |
| “ “ “ “ 31st, 1875,                         | 17,664 83   |
|   | \$1,791 27  |

---

\$1507 26

|                   |           |       |        |        |
|-------------------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|
| Michael Whelding, | January   | 1871, | Age 89 | years. |
| Joseph A. Hill,   | October   | 1873, | " 4    | "      |
| Willie C. Curren, | May       | 1873, | " 12   | "      |
| Mary A. Frances,  | April     | 1876, | " 67   | "      |
| Edward Lewis,     | October   | "     | " 67   | "      |
| Nahum Haynes,     | November  | "     | " 77   | "      |
| Louisa Fine,      | April     | "     | " 4    | "      |
| Hannah Days,      | September | "     | " 23   | "      |
| Jane Smith,       | November  | 1875, | " 66   | "      |
| Reuben A. Smith,  | December  | 1873, | " 27   | "      |

*Support of Poor Out of Alms House.*

|                                     |         |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Ida Newcomb,                        | \$93 22 |
| Nahum Haynes,                       | 153 71  |
| S. S Gross, Worcester Hospital,     | 183 00  |
| Widow Mary A. Burch and Children,   | 17 61   |
| Laura A. Houghton. and Children,    | 91 18   |
| Widow Prissilla Bush,               | 98 87   |
| William Smith,                      | 102 00  |
| Widow Julia Powers,                 | 5 75    |
| Widow John Ellis and Children,      | 41 88   |
| Manuel F. Avela and Family,         | 55 23   |
| Hannah G. Holway and Son,           | 60 00   |
| Francis Wareham,                    | 85 58   |
| Jane Smith,                         | 67 00   |
| Widow John Fratus,                  | 47 27   |
| Andrew Wilson,                      | 30 03   |
| Mary A. Briggs, Boston,             | 8 20    |
| Mary Brady, "                       | 28 38   |
| Martha Bailey, "                    | 14 00   |
| Ellen Haynes, "                     | 108 50  |
| Jennette Mitchell, "                | 6 22    |
| Mary A. Little, "                   | 27 00   |
| Helen Glover, New Bedford,          | 109 55  |
| Joseph A. Mayo, Taunton Hospital,   | 67 10   |
| George H. Terry's Family,           | 33 15   |
| John McQuillan and Family,          | 23 05   |
| Francis Hamilton and Wife, Melrose, | 35 00   |
| Theodore Newcomb, Barnstable,       | 21 35   |
| Francis Fine and Family,            | 312 59  |
| Daniel Smith,                       | 29 55   |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| James Aspley and Family, Gloucester,       | \$4 00 |
| Widow Mary Rogers and Children,            | 82 93  |
| Hannah Days,                               | 20 00  |
| Ella F. Collins and Children,              | 76 76  |
| Hiram B. Nickerson's Family,               | 27 07  |
| Widow Anna Sidney and Children,            | 11 03  |
| Widow Joseph Silver,                       | 10 00  |
| Lucy Hill,                                 | 5 00   |
| Mrs. S. S. Gross and Children, Gloucester, | 131 25 |
| Travellers,                                | 6 00   |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Add Expense in the House,                        | \$2330 01 |
|  | 1507 26   |
|  | <hr/>     |
|  | \$3837 27 |
| Less amount paid for Poor of this Town, \$322 36 |           |
| " " Other Towns,                                 | 12 45     |
| " " State,                                       | 43 14     |
|  | <hr/>     |
|  | 377 95    |

Cost of poor to this Town the past year, \$3459 32

We would recommend an appropriation of \$3800 for Support of Poor for the year ensuing.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. DYER, } *Overseers of Poor*  
 D. C. COOK, } *of*  
 H. W. COWING, } *Provincetown.*

Provincetown, Jan. 19, 1876.

## REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

230 paid Members. 255 Volunteers without pay.

### Disbursements.

SALARIES ONE YEAR TO MAY 1, 1876.

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 230 Officers and Members at \$5.00,   | \$1150 00        |
| 4 Stewards at \$50.00,  | 200 00           |
| 1 Steward,  | 20 00            |
| 1 " "   | 5 00             |
| <b>Total salaries,</b>  | <b>\$1375 00</b> |
| Badges,   | 44 77            |
| Repairing Engines,  | 111 78           |
| 4 pieces new Suction Hose,  | 112 00           |
| 2 Goose Necks,  | 37 50            |
| Repairing Houses and making new platform at<br>Houses Engine Nos. 1 and 4 and Hook &<br>Ladder House, | 78 82            |
| Fuel and Lights,  | 88 18            |
| 2 new Flags,  | 34 50            |
| Repairing Flags,  | 6 57             |
| Repairing Hook & Ladder Truck,  | 64 06            |
| 1 new Splice Ladder,  | 37 71            |
| 500 feet New Hose,  | \$557 70         |
| Less old Leather Hose in part payment,  | 29 40            |
| Repairing Hose,   | 2 36             |
| Hand Hose and repairing,  | 12 55            |
| Repairing Relief Engine,  | 15 65            |
| Printing,   | 5 00             |
| 1 Johnson Pump,   | 8 25             |
| Incidentals,  | 278 74           |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Brass Work for Tube Reservoir,           | \$5 00    |
| Retained towards finishing Engine Rooms, | 150 00    |
|  | <hr/>     |
|  | \$2996 74 |

### Receipts.

|                           |           |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Sale of Leather,          | \$ 10     |
| Hire of Relief Engine,    | 5 00      |
| Salary 1 member retained, | 5 00      |
|                           | <hr/>     |
|                           | 10 10     |
|                           | <hr/>     |
|                           | \$2986 64 |
| Balance on hand,          | 13 36     |
|                           | <hr/>     |
| Amount Appropriation,     | \$3000 00 |

### Lewis' Tubular Well.

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Paid D. F. Lewis,     | \$80 00  |
| " for Cover complete, | 4 38     |
|                       | <hr/>    |
|                       | \$84 38  |
| Balance in Treasury,  | 15 62    |
|                       | <hr/>    |
| Appropriation,        | \$100 00 |

### Reservoirs.

At the last annual meeting five hundred dollars was appropriated for new reservoirs in addition to the tubular one.

The four inch tube reservoir at first did not give entire satisfaction and some time has been spent in experimenting to obtain a better supply of water. We caused this one to be placed near Engine No. 3, so as to be easily tried when required, and we take pleasure in stating that this is a success, furnishing a full supply of water for fire use.

Of the two reservoirs asked for at the last annual Town Meeting and referred to us, we will respectfully say, that in our judgment the supply of water is sufficient for the sized buildings in the vicinity and that another reservoir is not needed at the junction of Pleasant and Franklin streets. The other one asked for, to be placed on the premises of Henry Young, we deem to be a very unhandy and out of the way place to obtain a supply of water to use upon the buildings upon which the

petitioners intended. All reservoirs should be on the street and easy of access.

In place of this last named reservoir we at first proposed building a tight one of 10000 gallons capacity at the junction of Pleasant and Parallel streets, but the tube reservoir works so well that we thought best to place one of this kind on Parallel between Pleasant and Leverett streets; as near Pleasant street as the depth will permit, and another west of Pleasant street a short distance down Franklin street where the necessary depth can be found. About the time of doing this, and while negotiating for a larger strainer, than the one used at House of Engine No. 3, the royalty question came up, upon which subject we have had considerable correspondence, but as yet have not obtained the information we are seeking after, nor learned what the royalty will be. We are satisfied however that there is a patent upon this kind of reservoir or well.

The Tubular reservoir now in use is a four inch one, with same sized strainer; we should propose using next, a six inch strainer. The cost of these larger ones will not exceed one hundred dollars each and in very many places would not cost over seventy-five dollars all complete.

We would recommend an appropriation of five hundred dollars for this special purpose.

---

### *Fires.*

The past year has been one of small losses, yet had our department, in two instances, been inefficient a large amount of property would have been destroyed. The amount saved at the Bangs fire alone, to say the least, more than paid all the expense of the department for the year.

The first alarm was March 5, at 8.15 P.M. Partial burning of lounge in house occupied by O vra K. Smith. Damage trifling.

May 26, 2.10 A.M., house of Wm. Welsh. Damage \$100.—cause, careless use of light in the hands of a person under the influence of liquor. At this fire Mr. Welsh was badly burned and lived but a few hours, after being rescued. The coolness and efficiency of a few neighbors, before the arrival of the firemen prevented a serious fire.

July 7. 5.20 P.M. Dwelling house on Franklin street.

Damage \$10.00. Cause, careless use of matches in hands of children.

Oct. 5. 10.55 P.M. Fire on board steamer D. H. Wilson, at Steamboat Wharf. Damage \$300.00. Cause, supposed spontaneous combustion of oil clothing in the boiler room.

Oct. 9. 7.25 P.M. Solomon Bangs' store. Damage to building and contents \$200. This store was used on the first floor for storage of fish and a carpenter shop, second floor as a sail-loft. The fire originated in the carpenter shop and was well underway when the firemen arrived, being one of the best opportunities that has occurred for some time to show the promptness and efficiency of this department. The fire was confined where it originated. Had it gained, or been allowed to gain, further headway the consequences would have been disastrous.

The cause of this fire was evidently the careless throwing a burning match into some sawdust by a smoker.

Nov. 20. False alarm. Town House supposed to be on fire.

Dec. 9, 6 P. M. Burning chimney at Peter Morrill's house. No damage.

---

### *Fire Alarm.*

This subject needs our serious attention. We have prompt, vigilant and efficient firemen, and to start them quicker, even then now, requires a better system of alarm. They lose no time in responding as soon as an alarm reaches them, but with the delay in getting into one of the churches, the doors being locked and the key several buildings away, other bells strike and the location of the fire, in the western part of the town, is not definitely known until several minutes are lost in finding it.

Our salvation from the devouring element is getting a quick start, and with any system that will alarm us quickly, surely and definitely, we may safely feel that, unless under extraordinary circumstances, a fire will be stopped before it can gain controlling headway.

We mention the Welsh house fire as one occurring in the night, when the whole populace were soundly sleeping, at which there was much delay in giving an alarm; but for the determined and persistent efforts of three neighbors, who held

it in check with pails of water, well applied, the building would have been well on fire before an engine stream was in readiness, in this instance the stream came just in the nick of time. The Hook & Ladder and machines lost time locating this fire. The Solomon Bangs store fire occurred early in the evening; though confined in the room where it originated, yet the alarm was such that there was a confusion in reaching the fire, various rumors being circulated as to where it was. Two engines stopped at the reservoir near the passenger station and one engine passed the reservoir, that should have been taken, supposing from the many reports that the fire was farther on.

We again call the attention of every person to the need of quickly alarming the Town, on discovering a fire, and if possible, use all available means at hand to confine it. Do not, under any circumstances, open windows or doors, to create a draft, or break in windows or doors, before the arrival of the firemen. If you can go in by a door, or window, to where a fire is and apply a few pails of water, do so, and then close all openings if you do not succeed in stopping its progress. We prefer, and all firemen rather respond, many times, where fires are quickly extinguished, rather than be "laid upon the shelf" until a serious fire has been started and then be called.

Our aim is that extinguishing fires shall be a business and not a pastime.

We respectfully call your attention to the system of electric alarm, now taking the place of the old style of bell ringing, and leave the subject with you, to take such action as may be deemed expedient.

---

### *Houses.*

The Houses are in good repair, except the Hook & Ladder House, the front sill of which is rotten and will need to be repaired the coming season; when doing this it would be well to raise the house sufficiently to have the wood work well above ground.

In our last report we recommended the finishing of the Engine Rooms to make them warmer. Have not done the work the past season, not knowing how the appropriation would hold out. We have retained \$150 towards this purpose and propose to use this, and an equal amount from this year's appropriation, for the completion of this work the coming season.

### *Engines.*

The Engines are in good working order. The standard of No. 3 remains the same, but as the company are anxious to have further repairs, and alterations, together with new and larger wheels, we have deferred this work until absolutely necessary to be done. Should this Engine be modernized, it would be but justice to No. 4's company to make the same alterations in their machine.

This subject we leave for your consideration, as we do not, under the present financial state of affairs, wish to recommend any outlay, unless we deem it absolutely necessary and for the better protection of your property.

Engine No. 5, has a company of 50 volunteers, most of whom are members of the High and Grammar Schools, and under the care of Capt. Geo. S. Cook are a valuable addition to the department.

---

### *Hook and Ladder.*

The Hook and Ladder Truck has been repaired and altered, so that the splice ladders are more easily taken off, and have added two new splice ladders, each 25 and 26 feet long, when together, make one of 47 feet in length.

---

### *Hose.*

During the year we have purchased 500 feet new rubber lined, seamless, cotton hose, and have now on hand in all,  
 150 feet Leather, poor,  
 450 feet Cotton, condemned,  
 2250 feet 2 inch Rubber lined, Linen,  
 700 feet 2 1-2 in. " " "  
 500 feet 2 1-2 in. " " Cotton.

To bring this branch of the department to where it should be, so that there may be hose enough on hand to change the reel, after being used, that wet hose may not be run, to freeze together in winter, or mildew in summer, we would recommend a further addition, of 500 more the coming season.

---

### *Location of Engine Houses.*

This may, at first sight, appear to be of but little consequence; but the facts are, that Engine No. 1, being in a location where there is not a very large number of young men, to

give the Company that life and vim necessary, and at times many, both old and young, are away, when there is an alarm of fire, the engine is taken as far as the school house, and must wait for help to assist it over the hill. If there can be had a piece of land, on the top of the rise, and the present sight be sold, so that the whole expense will not be too great, we would recommend the moving of this house.

### *Hydrant.*

The Old Colony Railroad Company have lain a three inch pipe, from their locomotive house, to the end of their wharf, and at the corner of Central Block have furnished a hydrant connection, with necessary shut off. Engines have tried it and we find it gives one a supply, sufficient for fire stroke, but does not furnish a full supply for quick working. The Tanks, that this pipe leads from, we are told, holds 18000 gallons which will furnish a supply for two hours. A steam pump is steadily filling them, which would make the supply hold out much longer. This is a good addition, of water, in that vicinity.

### *Appropriation.*

For the payment of salaries, repairing Hook & Ladder House, purchase of Hose and other expenses of this Department, we would respectfully ask for, and recommend, an appropriation of three thousand dollars.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. D. HILLIARD,  
JONATHAN COOK,  
CHARLES A. COOK,  
AMASA TAYLOR,  
L. N. PAINE,  
ENOS N. YOUNG,  
E. K. COOK,

*Engineers  
of the  
Fire Department.*

Provincetown, Jan. 15, 1877.

### *Fire Department Rules and Regulations.*

The following Rules and Regulations for the establishing and government of a Fire Department in Provincetown, in conformity to certain acts of the Legislature, were recommended by the Board of Engineers, and adopted by the citizens of Provincetown, at a legal meeting held for that purpose, May 9th, 1859 :

SEC. 1. The Fire Department shall consist of as many Engineers (not exceeding twelve,) as the Selectmen shall appoint, and of as many Engine-men, Hydrant-men, and Hook and Ladder-men, to be divided into companies as the number of Engines, and other fire apparatus belonging to the town, shall, from time to time, require.

SEC. 2. The Engineers so appointed, shall meet and choose a Chief Engineer, a clerk, and such other officers as they may deem necessary for their complete organization, a majority of whom shall form a quorum; and in absence of the Chief Engineer, the senior Engineer present shall be the presiding officer. They shall have the superintendence and control of all the Engine and other Houses used for the purpose of the Fire Department, and of all furniture and apparatus thereto belonging, and of the Engines and all other fire apparatus belonging to the town; and over the officers and members of the several Companies attached to the Fire Department; and over all persons present at fires; and they may make such rules and regulations for the better government, discipline and good order of the Department, and for the extinguishment of fires, as they may from time to time think expedient,—the same not being repugnant to the laws of this Commonwealth, and being subject to the approbation of the Board of Selectmen.

The Assistant Engineers shall report their absence from fires and meetings of the board to the Chief Engineer, with the reasons therefor; and the Chief shall keep a record of the same, and make a report thereof, stating all the facts to the Board of Selectmen every year, prior to the election of Engineers. In the absence of the Chief Engineer, the Clerk shall make said record and report.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of said Engineers, whenever a fire shall break out in town, immediately to repair to the place of such fire and to carry with them a suitable staff or badge of their office; to take proper measures that the several Engines and other apparatus be arranged in the most advantageous situations, and duly worked for the effectual extinguishment of the fire; to require and compel assistance from all persons, as well as members of the Fire Department as others, in extinguishing the fire, removing furniture, goods or other merchandise from any building on fire, or in danger thereof, and to appoint guards to secure the same; and also in pulling down and demolishing any

house or building, if occasion requires and further to suppress all tumults and disorders. It shall also be their duty to cause order to be preserved in going to, working at, or returning from fires and at all other times when Companies attached to the Department are on duty.

SEC. 4. The Chief Engineer shall have the sole command at fires, over all the other Engineers, all members of the Fire Department, and all other persons who may be present at fires, and shall direct all proper measures for the extinguishment of fires, protection of property, preservation of order, and observance of the laws, ordinances and regulations respecting fires. In the absence of the Chief Engineer, the Engineer first present at the place of fire shall execute the duties of his office, with full power.

SEC. 5. The Engineers shall appoint annually, in April, such number of men to the Engines, Hose, Hook, Ladder, and Sail Carriages, and to constitute Fire Companies for securing property endangered by fire, as they may think expedient; but in no case shall the number exceed that authorized by the laws of this State.

SEC. 6. The term of service for the members of the Fire Department shall commence on the first day of May, and shall continue one year, or until others are appointed in their places.

SEC. 7. The Engine, Hose, Hook-and-Ladder and Sail Carriage men, and Fire Companies, may organize themselves into distinct Companies, elect their necessary officers, and establish such rules, regulations and by-laws, as may be approved by the Board of Engineers, and may annex penalties to the breach of the same, not exceeding ten dollars in any case; and in case of rejection by the Board of Engineers, of any of the officers, elected by said Companies, their names shall be returned to the Company, who shall select another person for approval; and these officers, when approved, shall hold their places until removed, or others are elected in their stead.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the Foreman to see that the several Engines and apparatus committed to their care, and the several buildings in which the same are deposited, and all things in or belonging to the same, are kept neat, clean, and ready for immediate use; it shall also be their duty to preserve order and discipline at all times in their respective Companies, and require and enforce a strict compliance with the rules and regulations of the Department, and the orders of the Engineers. They shall also keep, or cause to be kept by the clerks of their respective Companies, fair and exact rolls, specifying the time of admission, discharge, and age of each member, and accounts of all town property entrusted to the care of the several members, and of all absence and tardiness among the same, in a book provided for that purpose by the town, which rolls or record-books are always to be subject

to the order of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Engineers.

SEC. 9. It shall be the duty of the officers and members of the several Engine, Hydrant and Hook and Ladder Companies, whenever a fire shall break out in town, to repair forthwith to their respective Engines, Hose, Hook and Ladder Carriages, and other apparatus, and convey them in as orderly a manner as may be, according to the directions of the Board of Engineers, and exert themselves in the most orderly manner possible, in working and managing the said Engines, Hose, Hooks and Ladders, and other apparatus; and in performing any duty they may be called upon to do, by any Engineer; and upon permission of the Chief Engineer, shall in an orderly and quiet manner return said Engines and other apparatus to their respective places of deposit.— PROVIDED, that in the absence of all the Engineers, such direction and permission may be given by the Selectmen, or their respective Foremen.

SEC. 10. Any Officer or other member may be removed from the Fire Department by a vote of the Chief Engineer and two-thirds of the Assistant Engineers, and said vote shall be final, unless, in the case of Officers, the same shall be reversed by the Board of Selectmen within fourteen days after it shall have passed.

SEC. 11. In all cases of removal from office by the Engineers, the name of the party removed, with a statement of the reasons therefor, shall be entered on their records, and a copy of the same shall be transmitted to the Board of Selectmen, as soon as convenient.

SEC. 12. No officer, who may have been dismissed or removed from the Fire Department, shall be reinstated therein, unless by a vote of the Chief Engineer and two-thirds of the Assistant Engineers; and, in such case, said vote shall not take effect until confirmed by the Board of Selectmen; and it shall not pass the Board of Selectmen, unless two-thirds of the whole Board vote therefor. For the purpose of discharge and removal, Suction and Leading-Hosemen shall be regarded as members, and not officers.

SEC. 13. The Engineers and Members of the several Companies regularly appointed shall wear such caps, badges, or insignia, as the Board of Selectmen shall from time to time direct, to be furnished at the expense of the town; and no other person or persons shall be permitted to wear the same, except under such restrictions and regulations as the Board of Selectmen may direct.

SEC. 14. No Company shall have power to appoint or discharge any Officer or Member.

SEC. 15. The several Companies shall be provided with rooms, unless now sufficiently accommodated, for meetings for the transaction of such business as may properly come before them in the discharge of their duties as Firemen.

SEC. 16. Any Officer or Member of the Fire Department who shall willfully neglect or refuse to perform his duty, or shall be guilty of disorderly conduct or disobedience to his superiors in office, shall for such offence be dismissed from the Department.

SEC. 17. It shall be the duty of the Chief Engineer, or other Engineers, to report to the Selectmen the name of every person, not a member of either of said Companies, who shall, contrary to law, refuse or neglect to obey any order of any Engineer given at any fire.

SEC. 18. It shall be the duty of such of the Constables of the town as may be selected by the Engineers for that service, to repair, with such badge of office as the Selectmen shall direct, on the alarm of fire, immediately to the place where the fire may be, and there to use their best skill and power, under the direction of the Engineers, for the preservation of the public peace, and the prevention of theft and destruction of property, and the removal of all suspected persons; for which service they shall receive such compensation as shall be in each case ordered by the Board of Selectmen.

SEC. 19. It shall be the duty of the Chief and other Engineers to inquire for and examine into all shops and other places where shavings and other combustible materials may be collected and deposited, and at all times to be vigilant in causing the removal of the same, whenever, in the opinion of any two of them, the same may be dangerous to the security of the town from fires, and to direct the tenant or occupant of such places to remove the same; and in case of such tenant's or occupant's neglect or refusal so to do, to cause the same to be removed at the expense of such tenant or occupant, who shall, in addition, be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty dollars for such neglect or refusal; and any person who shall obstruct the Engineers, or any of them, in carrying out the provisions of this section, shall also be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty dollars.

SEC. 20. All the Companies of the Fire Department shall be furnished with a copy of these Rules and Regulations, which shall be framed and placed in their respective houses; and it shall be the duty of the Officers and Members of the Department to conform to all the requisitions and perform all the duties therein required.

SEC. 21. The Foreman or commanding-officer of each Company will remain by his Company or apparatus, of which he has charge, to preserve order and direct their operations; and all Members of the several Companies, except when otherwise engaged on special duty, will remain at or about the apparatus to which they are attached.

### *General Statutes.*

CHAP. 24, SEC. 4. The fire-wards or any three of them present at a place in immediate danger from fire and where no fire-wards are appointed, the Selectmen or Mayor and Alderman present, or in their absence two or more of the civil officers present or in their absence two or more of the chief military officers of the place present, may direct any house or building to be pulled down or demolished when they judge the same to be necessary in order to prevent the spreading of the fire.

SEC. 26. The Engineers in relation to the extinguishment of fires shall exercise the powers which fire-wards may by law have and exercise, and in relation to the nomination and appointment of engine-men shall exercise the powers and perform the duties of Selectmen. They may appoint such number of men to the Engine, Hose, Hook, Ladder and Sail Carriages, and to constitute fire companies for securing property endangered by fire, as they may think expedient; but the number of men appointed shall not exceed to each Suction Fire Engine, fifty; to each Common Engine, thirty-five; to each Hose Carriage, five; to each Hook & Ladder and Sail Carriage, twenty-five; and to each Fire Company, twenty-five.

### *General Laws, 1873.*

CHAP. 201. An act relating to the Demolition of Buildings during Fire.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

SEC. 1. The Engineer of a Fire Department, in command at a fire, shall, to the exclusion of all other persons, have the power conferred upon fire-wards by the fourth section of the twenty-fourth chapter of the General Statutes.

SEC. 2. This act shall be in force only in those cities in which it is accepted by the city council, and in those towns in which it is accepted by the legal voters.—[Approved April 16, 1873.]

At an Annual Town Meeting holden in Provincetown, Feb. 9, 1874, the subject having been duly inserted in the Warrant:

VOTED, To accept the provisions of law contained in Sec. 1 and 2, Chap. 201, of the acts of 1873 relating to the Demolition of Buildings during Fire.

SETH SMITH, Town Clerk.



## REPORT OF THE ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

The Road Commissioners herewith submit their Annual Report for the year ending January 1, 1877 :

### *Roads and Sidewalk.*

|   |           |           |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| To Appropriation by Town,                 | \$3500 00 |           |
| “ Old plank sold,                         | 31 00     |           |
| Deficiency to balance,                    | 465 11    |           |
|   |           | \$3996 11 |
|   |           |           |
| By J. & L. N. Paine, clay,                |           | \$100 00  |
| B. A. Lewis & Co., “                      |           | 13 75     |
| Asa Atkins, labor,                        |           | 188 15    |
| E. & E. K. Cook,                          |           | 48 35     |
| J. S. Atwood,                             |           | 63 20     |
| M. Ray, freight on clay,                  |           | 70 44     |
| Geo. Smith, freight on plank,             |           | 44 70     |
| R. Williams, sods,                        |           | 8 50      |
| Henry Baxter, labor,                      |           | 9 00      |
| W. H. Hammond, labor,                     |           | 8 32      |
| Jabez Atwood, “                           |           | 34 05     |
| Freight on Plank,                         |           | 18 00     |
| Cash paid for Clay,                       |           | 95 70     |
| N. D. Freeman, cash paid for advertising, |           | 9 25      |
| John M. Carnes,                           |           | 154 05    |
| “ “ cash for labor,                       |           | 61 16     |
| Justus Doane,                             |           | 1 35      |
| F. G. Arey, plank,                        |           | 726 05    |
| “ “ clay,                                 |           | 49 56     |
| Geo. W. Standish,                         |           | 19 11     |
| Geo. Allen,                               |           | 16 25     |
| Wm. Stone, clay,                          |           | 416 00    |

|                                   |  |           |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------|
| By Abram Pierce,                  |  | \$5 82    |
| Owen Collins, Gravel and Clay,    |  | 1132 25   |
| Frank A. Cook,                    |  | 3 25      |
| Reuben Freeman,                   |  | 15 70     |
| Samuel Knowles,                   |  | 248 80    |
| H. H. Watson,                     |  | 11 30     |
| Joseph Frelick,                   |  | 53 60     |
| Ryder & Young,                    |  | 6 25      |
| F. T. Doggett,                    |  | 12 00     |
| J. P. Johnson,                    |  | 1 50      |
| A. Gaylon,                        |  | 9 00      |
| Benj. Lancy,                      |  | 12 24     |
| P. Crocker,                       |  | 50        |
| B. A. Lewis & Co.,                |  | 10 50     |
| Union Wharf Co.,                  |  | 18 60     |
| Freeman & Hilliard,               |  | 36 34     |
| John Pierce,                      |  | 49 80     |
| J. & L. N. Paine,                 |  | 37 70     |
| J. E. & G. Bowly,                 |  | 32 15     |
| Charles Holway,                   |  | 4 80      |
| R. F. Smith,                      |  | 5 70      |
| Joseph Baker,                     |  | 3 00      |
| Cash for cleaning walk from snow, |  | 131 00    |
|                                   |  | \$3996 11 |

### *Bridge.*

|   |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|
| To Appropriation by Town,                       | \$300 00 |          |
| “ Old plank sold,                               | 10 75    |          |
| “ Samuel Knowles' bill, charged to incidentals, | 13 00    |          |
|   |          | \$323 75 |
|   |          |          |
| By S. A. Ryder, labor,                          |          | \$2 00   |
| George Allen, lumber,                           |          | 76 74    |
| Freeman & Hilliard,                             |          | 10 09    |
| John Pierce,                                    |          | 75       |
| Asa Atkins,                                     |          | 46 00    |
| John M. Carnes,                                 |          | 27 00    |
| Benj. Lancy,                                    |          | 7 14     |

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| By Geo. W. Standish, | \$15 00  |
| Samuel Knowles,      | 13 00    |
| Balance in Treasury, | 126 03   |
|                      | <hr/>    |
|                      | \$323 75 |

It will be perceived by the foregoing, that the expenditures on the Roads have exceeded the appropriation. The largest part of the expense has been caused by repairs on Parallel Street and the Sidewalk.

It was thought to be more economical to make repairs on this Street very thorough, so that with ordinary travel some years will have elapsed before a large outlay will again be required upon it. In order to consummate this idea a much larger quantity of material was required, than at first was supposed to be necessary.

The Sidewalk was put in thorough repair during the Summer. About twenty thousand feet Pine plank having been used for that purpose, leaving on hand for future use, about ten thousand feet.

As we have before suggested, the present walks cannot be regarded as meeting the requirements of the Town, not only when considered with reference to the accommodation which it affords the public, but also in its financial aspect. With a largely increased population, and the entire business of the Town centered upon this street, the width of the walk seems to be entirely inadequate to meet the demands of the travel upon it. The material, also, used in its construction, is entirely too expensive, when the fact is taken into consideration that it must, at least in the central portion of the Town, be replaced with new once in two or three years.

This subject has received our careful consideration for some time past, and we are of the opinion that steps should at once be taken looking toward a radical change, especially in the method of construction. A different system would doubtless at first involve a greater outlay of money, but when once completed, the expense to keep the Walk in repair would be very small.

It is unnecessary for us perhaps, at this time to present a plan, even if we have one thoroughly developed, but being fully convinced that this subject should receive your imme-

diately attention, we recommend that a committee be appointed at the coming Annual Meeting to take this entire matter under consideration and report some definite system, subject to your approval, at the Annual Meeting next succeeding its appointment.

### *Bridge.*

Temporary repairs only, have been made upon this structure during the year, with the idea that its use would soon be superceeded either by a causeway at the present location of the Bridge, or a road over the State Dike on the West side of the Railroad. A hearing was had before the County Commissioners in August last, and the result is, an order from them, which will be laid before you at this Annual Meeting for your consideration. There doubtless exists a diversity of opinion with regard to the proper location of this Road, but having carefully considered this subject in its various relations, we have been unable to arrive at any other conclusion, than that it is for the interest of the Town not only as to permanency but also as a matter of economy, to accept the order of the County Commissioners.

An appropriation of \$3000 is recommended for repairs on Roads and Sidewalk, and \$150 for repairs on Bridge.

N. D. FREEMAN, }  
 J. S. ATWOOD, } *Road Commissioners.*  
 JOHN M. CARNES, }

## REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE SINKING FUND.

First Annual Report of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund for the year 1876.

Your Commissioners organized, received from the Selectmen the Certificate for 727 Shares of Stock in the Old Colony Railroad held by the Town, made choice of Seth Smith as Treasurer and report their transactions to January 15, 1877 as follows:

### *Receipts.*

|                        |             |            |
|------------------------|-------------|------------|
| July Dividends, Stock, | \$2181 00   |            |
| January " "            | 1581 00     |            |
|                        |             | \$3,762 00 |
| 149 Shares, Stock,     | \$15,905 75 |            |
| 1 " "                  | 107 00      |            |
| 50 " "                 | 5,343 75    |            |
| 75 " "                 | 7,725 00    |            |
|                        |             | 29,081 50  |
| Interest on Deposits,  | \$23 78     |            |
| " " Securities,        | 362 45      |            |
|                        |             | 386 23     |
| Loan,                  | 3,499 38    |            |
|                        |             | 36,729 11  |

### *Disbursements.*

|                                     |             |           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Dividends passed to Town Treasurer, | \$3,762 00  |           |
| U. S. Bonds, 5s, 1881,              | \$13,000 00 |           |
| Premiums on do.,                    | 1,440 63    |           |
| Commissions on do.,                 | 3 75        |           |
|                                     |             | 14,444 38 |

|  |             |             |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Municipal Loans,                           | \$17,000 00 |             |
| Premiums on do.,                           | 467 50      |             |
| Accrued Interest on do.,                   | 384 97      |             |
| Commissions on do.,                        | 1 25        |             |
|  |             | \$17,853 72 |
| Paid Town Treasurer:                       |             |             |
| Accrued dividend on stock sold,            | \$411 39    |             |
| Interest collected on Securities, \$362 45 | 362 45      |             |
| Less accrued Interest paid,                | 302 33      |             |
|  |             | 60 12       |
| Cash on hand,                              |             | 471 51      |
|  |             | 197 50      |
|  |             | \$36,729 11 |

### *Statement of "Surplus Railroad Debt."*

|   |           |             |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| Loans to purchase Stock,                |           | \$98,300 00 |
| Securities in Sinking Fund, \$32,298 10 | 32,298 10 |             |
| Cash on hand,                           | 197 50    |             |
|   |           | \$32,495 60 |
| Less Loan,                              | 3,499 38  |             |
|   |           | \$28,996 22 |
| 452 Shares Stock unsold, \$102.         | 45,904 00 |             |
|   |           | 74,900 22   |
| "Surplus Debt,"                         |           | \$23,399 78 |

The "Loan" in the Receipts refers to an advance to the Commissioners intended to be immediately covered by sales of Stock, which declining are still held for sale by the parties subject to our limits.

### *Depression of Stocks.*

In common with other Roads the Stock of the Old Colony has declined equally with the various securities upon the market. Good investments ruling high and paying small rates of interest and themselves liable to shrink, have prevented us from changing the Stock as freely as we desired. Could the sales from Stock have been applied to the credit of the Railroad Loan the work of selling would have been much facilitated.

*Maturing Notes.*

The payment of the Notes maturing at the First National Bank, November 26, 1877 may probably be anticipated from sales of the Railroad Stock. Should this however not be the case it will be necessary to provide the deficiency in some manner. It does not seem judicious to continue to pay the present excessive rates of interest and your Commissioners think some means should be adopted to avoid it.

*Recommendations.*

Were the "Stock" all sold at present prices and could the proceeds be immediately applied to the payment of the "Railroad indebtedness" there still would be a surplus debt of nearly \$24000 for which provision must be made.

We therefore recommend that this "surplus debt" be funded in November next or sooner into five per cent. currency bonds, either to run twelve years, or to run not less than five nor more than twelve years at the option of the Commissioners or to mature or cancel such a proportion annually that the whole issue will be redeemed within a period not exceeding twelve years, the maturing bonds to be retired by an annual appropriation. The latter method would seem to be preferred to the others as it is simpler and less expensive.

By funding the "surplus debt" at this time the Town will secure the advantage for a term of years of the low rate of interest now prevailing, and if issued in bonds of a small denomination we believe will be immediately taken by home investors.

Some misapprehension has arisen in regard to the nature of the duties of the Board, and as this does not seem to be definitely stated in the vote establishing the Commission we therefore ask that the whole matter be placed under the immediate supervision and charge of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund; that the appropriation for excess of interest paid by the Town for funds borrowed to purchase stock in the Old Colony Railroad, also whatever dividends or interest received respectively from stock or securities, and all other appropriations to the Sinking Fund, be paid to the Commissioners who only shall have authority to pay the interest on the "Railroad Loan" and the principal and interest of the notes on bonds if any should be issued.

The Town having no safe for the deposit of valuables, for our protection we have hired a box in the vaults of a Safe Deposit Co., in Boston, where the securities of the Sinking Fund are now deposited.

*Appropriations.*

For excess of interest on "Railroad Loan" for the coming year your Commissioners respectfully recommend that the sum of \$2700. be appropriated. Also that an additional sum of \$2000. be appropriated to be applied to the payment of the "Surplus Railroad Debt."

EDMUND SMITH, }  
ARTEMAS PAINE, } *Commissioners of Sinking Fund.*  
J. D. HILLIARD, }

## REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Trustees of the Town Library respectfully submit their Annual Report for the year ending Jan. 1, 1877.

### *Receipts.*

|                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Balance in Treasury at last report, | \$829 29 |
| Received from Dog Fund 1875,        | 71 50    |
| “ “ J. D. Hilliard, Treasurer,      | 30 00    |
| “ “ Fines and Catalogues,           | 36 16    |
| “ “ Dividend Seamen's Savings Bank, | 30 12    |
|                                     | <hr/>    |
|                                     | \$997 07 |

### *Expenditures.*

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Paid Estes & Lauriat for Books,      | \$268 79 |
| H. A. Jennings, “                    | 3 25     |
| A. L. Putnam & Co., “                | 1 94     |
| Wm. Allen, Binding,                  | 18 72    |
| F. P. Goss, Printing,                | 9 00     |
| O. C. Railroad, Freight and Express, | 2 80     |
| A. L. Putnam & Co., Stationery,      | 1 68     |
| Higgins, Snow & Co., Paper,          | 8 84     |
| Insurance,                           | 25 00    |
| Cash on hand,                        | 657 05   |
|                                      | <hr/>    |
|                                      | \$997 07 |

Leaving in the Treasury an available balance of \$657.05 of which \$633.37 is on deposit in the S. S. Bank and \$23.68 in the hands of the Treasurer, Andrew T. Williams, Esq.

### *Condition of Library.*

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Number of Books in Library at last Report, | 2204  |
| Number added during year,                  | 212   |
|  | <hr/> |
| Making present number,                     | 2416  |

One Book *only* has been lost during the present year, which it was necessary to replace at the expense of the Town. We are happy to say that the general care of books by the readers has been reasonably good, and that the condition of the Library, considering its constant and extensive use, is as good as we are entitled to expect.

### *Circulation.*

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| The aggregate Circulation of the year ending January 1, 1877 has been | 20,297 |
| The highest month, March,   | 2,238  |
| The lowest month, September,  | 1,326  |

|                                 |       |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Names in Register Jan. 1, 1875, | 1069  |
| Names added in year 1876,       | 148   |
|                                 | <hr/> |
| Present number,                 | 1217  |

It is a noteworthy fact, which is recorded in the Report of the National Bureau of Education, that the circulation of the Public Library of Provincetown, both in proportion to the number of volumes it contains, and to the number of inhabitants, largely exceeds that of any other Public Library in the United States.

We cannot refrain from again commending the Librarian and her Assistants for the efficient and acceptable manner in which their duties, often difficult and delicate, have been discharged.

We ask for no appropriation for the purchase of books for the coming year, but recommend the appropriation of the customary sum of \$350 to meet current expenses.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

|                              |   |                  |
|------------------------------|---|------------------|
| ISAIAH GIFFORD, Pres.        | } | <i>Trustees.</i> |
| A. T. WILLIAMS, Treas.       |   |                  |
| AUG. MITCHELL,               |   |                  |
| JNO. W. DAVIS,               |   |                  |
| JNO. M. CROCKER,             |   |                  |
| E. K. COOK,<br>EDMUND SMITH, |   |                  |

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

TO THE SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN :

The Board of Health would report that the sanitary condition of our town the past year has compared favorably with that of former years. We have not been visited by any contagious disease, and we are pleased to say that our citizens have generally shown a willingness to observe the Rules and Regulations of the Board.

The Board have been called but a few times where negligence on the part of individuals allowed filth to accumulate in the warm season of the year. As a general rule have found the inhabitants willing to conform with the Rules and Regulations of your Board.

As regards the Small Pox House, the Board think the location rather poor, the ground being low and swampy, and would recommend the situation be changed to that of higher ground.

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

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| To labor burying filth, &c.,                 | \$40 15 |
| Labor and material, Small Pox Burial Ground, | 8 01    |
| Services of Board,                           | 15 00   |
|  | <hr/>   |
|  | \$63 16 |

|                  |   |                         |
|------------------|---|-------------------------|
| DAVID S. KELLEY, | } | <i>Board of Health.</i> |
| E. W. HOLWAY,    |   |                         |
| BANGS A. LEWIS,  |   |                         |

## REPORT OF THE TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE.

In commencing their report your Committee beg leave to notice the condition of this community, prior to and at the time of their appointment. For the past few years the use of intoxicating liquors had increased, particularly among the younger class of our people. No organized efforts having been made to prevent its introduction, the traffic gradually increased, and through the leniency of the authorities, the citizens or both, it was thus allowed to get a foothold among us. Stores, run by native-born citizens, were opened upon our main street, professedly to retail cigars and tobacco, but really for the sale of liquor, at which congregated our young men many of whom, not only learned to drink, but also received their first lessons in the gamblers art. Professional sharpers were in time allured hither to participate in the rich spoils fleeced from the pockets of our citizens, or from seamen who had returned from successful voyages in our vessels. Next in order came adventurers from abroad and hiring "leased" premises, commenced the sale of liquor on their own account, by opening a public bar. Club Rooms were established, drinking and gambling dens multiplied, until at length the leading citizens becoming thoroughly alarmed, met in council in January, 1876 and chose a committee of five prominent gentlemen "to present the subject of Temperance at our Annual Town Meeting and recommend some immediate action relative thereto."

During this time there were not wanting among our citizens those, who were willing to aid and abet the traffic in many ways. Individuals hired their buildings for the sale of rum; Packets, Railroad, Steamer and Fishing Vessels all brought the article into Town and "fleet jiggers" and "innocent hacks" were always at hand to convey packages and parcels to their destination.

### *Organization.*

The Committee organized early and proceeded to the task assigned them fully impressed with its responsibilities and realizing as keenly the necessity for action as any individual who had voted to sustain them; but the business was new and untried and of such a nature that it must not be placed in inexperienced hands. Relying upon the promises of our friends for aid we spent much valuable time without making perceptible progress, and the traffic increasing and its supporters emboldened by our apparent apathy, we were finally compelled to depend upon our own resources. From this time our efforts progressed, yet at this time we received the most censure and upbraidings from our friends, for we had seemingly done nothing to stop the unlawful sale and without restraint it had broken out afresh. At this crisis we found who the friends of Temperance were, also its foes, for the latter sneered and reproached us for our inefficiency, but uttered not a word of complaint.

### *Results*

|  |      |
|--|------|
| May be briefly summed as follows:  |      |
| Fined for keeping a common nuisance,   | 7    |
| Fined for keeping and selling without license,                                 | 1    |
| Compelled to quit the business and leave town,                                 | 3    |
| In default of payment of fine sent to jail,                                    | 1    |
| Places searched,   | 22   |
| Gallons seized,  | 159  |
| Lots forfeited at court,   | 7    |
| Gallons forfeited  | 111  |
| Lots returned by order of court,   | none |
| Lots carried to Superior Court by appeal,                                      | 2    |
| Lots carried to Superior Court by valuation,                                   | 1    |
| Old places reported closed,  | 3    |
| Fine suspended on probation,   | 5    |
| Arrested for vagrancy and fined but agreeing to leave town sentence suspended, | 2    |
| Evidence obtained but not used,  | 1    |

Report says that about fifty gallons of liquor have at various times been clandestinely destroyed by our citizens but how much credit may be attached to these rumors we leave the public to judge.

We would not deceive ourselves by believing that we have entirely stopped the introduction of liquor into town or that its illegal sale has entirely ceased. On the contrary we are aware that it comes in various ways, and that the more stringent the provisions to prevent its transportation, the greater the inducement to bring it. It reaches us by hundreds of methods known only to the initiated against which it would be difficult to provide. When we consider there are persons on the Railroad, the Express, our Packets, Steamers and Fishing Vessels that will handle it for a consideration,— even passengers may bring small packages to supply their wants or those of their friends,— is it any matter of surprise that it comes? Following the law of supply and demand is any reasonable person so insane as to believe that a surplus may ever accumulate where the demand is so great?

In twelve places searched we found no liquor yet are persuaded, that in nearly all of those places, it is kept for sale, though we did not succeed in finding it. In many of these places we found secret closets, trap-doors and other stow-away nooks, such as are not found in ordinary houses indicating that at some previous time they may have been used for concealment. We are aware there are places near the main street where liquor is constantly sold yet have not been able to find it by an examination of the premises.

There are also other places not yet searched which are not above suspicion. It matters not how high the parties may be socially, the law is no respecter of persons and the time may come when even the greatest among us may bow before its majesty.

But if unable wholly to suppress the unlawful traffic we may well congratulate ourselves on the check given to the spread of inebriety; the unlicensed vending of spirits; and the steadiness which our action has imparted to the friends of temperance. During the Autumn intemperance ran riot in our streets. Citizens stood aghast, wondering what would come next, censuring the authorities and counselling unlawful action.

Hundreds of fishermen, from the fishing fleet drawn on shore by the odor of rum, mingled with our citizens, crowding the streets, rife for mischief, their passions aroused by the contact of alcohol obtained at an open bar, to and from which flowed a constant stream of drinkers. Scarcely a day passed without seeing a drunken man carried to the lock-up, quite an

unusual event. Then liquor came by every mode of conveyance by land and sea frequently in packages as large as a barrel.

All this has changed. The lock-up has not been opened to admit an intoxicated person for months. Only through the connivance of the common carriers liquor now reaches us, very slyly and in small quantities. Under the sharp surveillance of the police, its supporters have been compelled to abandon one position and then another until at length, like the hunted wolf, they have sought the covert of the forest.

Even our packet masters feel the reforming hand of the times. To their credit we believe they now refuse to freight liquor on their vessels. With some we know this to be so. These we trust will continue loyal to their sentiments and induce others to cherish the same honorable feelings.

#### *Cape Cod Express Co.*

In pursuance of our labors we have been brought into contact with the agents of the above company. During the month of October they were daily bringing into town a large quantity of liquor in small lots, evidently designed for illegal sale. So common had the traffic become, that the owners of the liquor came openly to the office for it, bringing with them their empty packages and orders for further supplies. A raid upon the Express Office and a seizure of liquor therefrom partially stopped this business for a time, but still it came, though in a more secret manner, disguised in every conceivable way. Another raid followed and this time the circumstances, attending the seizure, together with the well known character of the party to whom the liquor was addressed, who perhaps were well known to the Express Company, led the Committee to infer that the company were determined to transport liquor into our midst to irresponsible parties.

At the two hearings at Barnstable, Nov. 10th, and Dec. 5th, relative to the two lots seized at the Express Office, both were severally condemned, but the Express Company, who appeared at each hearing as claimants, appealed and the two cases were sent up to the April term of the Superior Court to be holden at Barnstable. On both of these occasions the Committee freely interchanged views with the proprietors of the Express Company. On their part they disclaimed all in-



tention of bringing any liquor into Provincetown that would in any way give trouble to its citizens, and would not even take an order from a party who was not responsible. We replied, we did not wish in any way to interfere with the lawful business of the company, but were resolved to do all in our power to prevent liquors being brought into town to be illegally sold.

The messengers of the Express Co., have now been located in town a sufficient length of time to know the character of their customers and when individuals come to their Office with their empty packages concealed in sacks or baskets and take away their goods in the same sly and covert manner without challenge or scrutiny on their part we are forced to the conclusion, that so long as their customers are able to pay for the transportation of liquor the company will continue to bring it no matter how much trouble it entails upon this community.

#### *Club Room.*

Choice spirits who did not wish to be seen lounging around a public bar-room and drinking with the common herd, hired or induced an "educated gentleman" to hire a suite of rooms in the centre of the town,—better known as a club room,—had them fitted up in a style corresponding to their tastes and stocked with a superior quality of liquors both foreign and domestic of various grades, where they might meet, introduce their friends and away from wives and home, pursue unmo- lested their round of dissipation. On these social occasions when his guests lingered beyond the small hours of the night, the spirit of "genius" would seize the cunning hand of the proprietor, and in these moods of convivial excitement, would fashion and dash off "as nice work as could be found in the State outside of the State Prison."

From the evidence of the night watch these sessions were frequently protracted until a late hour in the morning. The different members of the club gained admission to the room by a peculiar key furnished by the proprietor. The door closing with a spring was always locked when closed and could be opened from either side. Into this club were admitted about twelve members. Report says that a greater number applied for admission but not possessing the requisite qualifications, were passed.

#### *Consumers and Dealers.*

As much as we regret to announce it, the experience of the Committee has been, the habit of indulgence in intoxicating drinks or of drinking to excess, is not wholly confined to the lower classes nor to those of foreign birth or extraction. The ramifications of the rum interest are so extensive, and the places of its sale so accessible, we find that both among our native and foreign born citizens the use of liquor is very common.

The selling of liquor with a few exceptions, is in the hands of foreign born citizens, who have facilities for obtaining supplies not enjoyed by the native born.

#### *Opposition.*

The principal opposition we have experienced has come from the dealers and their customers. This we had a right to expect, for the bond of sympathy between them is very sensitive. Venders, who have pursued without restraint a profitable business for years and from their savings, had not only purchased comfortable homes but had laid aside surplus funds, were not disposed to submit without a struggle. Of a class without principle or manly feeling the only method to reach them, was to enter their places of business,—in the majority of instances dwelling houses,—and seize their stock in trade. In one or two instances where this has been done it has had the most salutary effect. To dealers with small capital, the loss of their stock at the outset is an irreparable misfortune, from which there is rarely any recovery and frequently ending in financial ruin and discredit.

If no open opposition has manifested itself we have assurance there are those, who professing friendliness toward the interests committed to our hands, have nevertheless secretly used their influence against us. We speak only in a general sense having no individual instances in view. At the beginning we were led by offers of sympathy to expect support and assistance from certain quarters, but at a decisive moment we were surprised at our disappointment.

"Aid and comfort" furnished to the enemies of temperance, becomes opposition to its friends even though it be of a mild type. It is not necessary then for one to openly war against the objects for which your Committee were appointed, to be-

come an opponent? The same purpose may be accomplished, by secretly espousing the cause of our adversaries, and on every occasion giving them seasonable warning of anticipated trouble or otherwise providing them with information.

---

### *Respect for Law.*

Your committee have never entertained a feeling of bitterness against any citizen whose business they have interrupted or premises visited; nor do they wish any person thus visited or interfered with to believe them to have been influenced by other than the purest motives. It was the unlawful business we sought not the individual. If any person by pursuing an illegal business, places himself beyond the protection of the law, it is not our fault.

We believe every individual entitled to the protection of law and as a proof of our respect for law, we did not counsel any unlawful act towards the proprietors of the chief liquor store in town and even had the police force stationed around the building, to protect their property.

---

### *Public Press.*

One of the most efficient agents, in any community to strengthen and sustain the hands of those engaged in the suppression of a public evil, like the liquor traffic, is the Public Press. Aside from its privileges the least duty which it can perform to society is to identify itself with all efforts put forth for its well-being, to denounce the wrong and to array its forces on the side of good order and sobriety. On all occasions, whether from design or not we cannot say, we have remarked the silence of our local press. When the traffic in intoxicating liquors during the past season had assumed such proportions as to alarm our people to a sense of their danger and our citizens were eagerly inquiring "what are the committee doing?" not one manly, vigorous protest or indignant remonstrance ever came from the Press in our midst, either to arouse them to action or stimulate them in their work.

---

### *Proffered Assistance.*

During the year we were waited upon by the chairman of the Committee of an institution wishing to co-operate with us in our labors. As this was at a time in which it would not

have been prudent to have divulged our plans, acting from a sense of duty, we declined to act with that committee but suggested to its chairman that in our opinion "there was work enough for both committees acting independently and they had better go ahead." We presume this committee may have acted with us and wish not to deprive them of their just due.

---

### *Explanations.*

After the avenues through which liquor reached us had been quite effectually closed a barrel of the contraband;—it could not have been "Extract of Lemon" for that would have remained in Truro;—on two different occasions was landed at the Truro depot from the Old Colony freight train and from thence conveyed to our dealers. The last barrel was brought to town by a citizen of Truro, living at the head of Pamet, but to the credit of the citizens of Truro, be it said, this man was a citizen of foreign extraction, not one of the native born who, when the circumstances were related to them, were exceeding wroth. In reference to one of these cases a member of the Committee visited Truro and when the nature of his errand was barely whispered, the sensibilities of a certain individual were greatly shocked. We have not desired to cast unjust reflections upon the citizens of other towns, but in this instance the sequel proved the correctness of our views.

---

### *How to Aid.*

We can only act on information and as a consequence the right kind of information is of great value. No person is supposed to know all that is transpiring in the community but every one has his or her circle of acquaintances and has opportunities for knowing what is taking place within a certain radius. Whoever has faith in the Committee and their work would be of invaluable service by giving timely notice of any irregularity of which they are cognizant. If citizens expect their servants to do the work it is but fair they should be posted on all that is going on that they may more intelligently act.

Promptness is also a matter of much moment in this business. If any information is to come do not let it be withheld until too late. The foes of temperance and order are vigilant and any efforts to thwart them, must be made with decision and promptness.

There are many tenements in this town. Every owner thereof should know from personal inspection who his tenants are, what their general reputation is and for what purpose his premises are occupied, whether as nuisances, places of common resort or by respectable classes. We are induced to make this suggestion from the statement of one, who expressed much surprise when a seizure of liquor was made in one of his tenement, situated on his own premises although he might have visited the building in question daily if desired.

---

*Peculiar Temptations and Situation.*

This town from its situation suffers more than any other in the vicinity from the traffic in liquor. A considerable part of our population spend months away from home on board of vessels, exposed to temptations from the society and companionship of seamen, many of whom have no restraining power over their appetite, but are only too willing to lead others astray.

If nothing is done at home to counteract the effect of evil habits contracted abroad it will be bad enough, but it becomes infinitely worse when these habits, through evil associations, are confirmed at home. Were there no bar-rooms or liquor shops in our midst, the young might pass unscathed through the long period of winter idleness, which annually comes upon us.

We have besides a large floating population coming and going, who have no fixed home and many of this class believe in having a good time when they can have liquor.

The presence of such elements among us, must always be a source of annoyance, if not serious trouble if the trade in liquors is not curtailed and held in check by the authorities, by a proper enforcement of the law regulating its sale.

---

*"Honor to whom Honor is Due."*

We do not wish to make any invidious comparisons but may be pardoned for referring to a single exception which in these days of greed and venality is so creditable to the nobility of human nature. A young man of this town, without friends or influence, just starting in life, looking to the community for patronage, with a family to provide for, accepts

the command of a fishing vessel to ply between this port and Boston. The owner, who considers that employees have no rights he is bound to respect, orders the captain to bring him some liquor for a "friend." Mark his answer. He refuses, tells his surprised owner he will abandon his vessel rather than freight the detestable stuff and to-day he is out of employment, because forsooth he would not become a servile tool neither in the hands of the "owner" or his "friend." The moral courage and devotion exhibited in this one act, stand out in bold contrast to that base and mercenary spirit, which in vainly trying to drag down a worthy person to its mire and dirt, only, if possible, covered itself with further shame and disgrace.

---

*Acknowledgments.*

The clergy have shown to us their active sympathy. We appreciate their uniform interest in our labors and throughout the darkest days we have been cheered and sustained by their animating words. In them we knew we had friends.

To Deputy Sheriff Whitcomb and his able corps of assistants, who have rendered most valuable aid without which we should have been powerless to prosecute our labors with any degree of success, we acknowledge our obligations.

To the Attorney of the town for his kindness and courtesy and to numbers of our citizens, who have freely given us time, advice and information, and whose co-operation has lightened our task, we desire to express our thanks.

---

*Recommendations.*

The Committee believing that the work commenced by them, should not be left to take care of itself, recommend the appointment of a committee of seven for the year 1877 to be known as the "Temperance Committee," whose duty shall be to see that the laws regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors are enforced with discretionary power to use all lawful means and remedies for the accomplishment of these ends, which are deemed essential to the welfare of this community.

We also recommend the committee, if one should be chosen, or if no committee should be chosen, then some other person, to take charge of the unfinished business at Barnstable in April next, the two Express Company cases, before men-

tioned then coming up for trial and possible a claimant may appear for the liquors seized at the "Club Room", which were adjudged to be of more than the value of fifty dollars and sent up from the Trial Justice Court.

To this committee the authority and support of the Town should be unqualifiedly pledged for there is nothing that can stand in the way of a wholesome law, in the hands of an efficient committee backed by the force of municipal power and a strong public opinion. Such authority is a terror to the transgressor.

Great care should be taken in the selection of your committee, also in the choice of persons to act as constables, for if we wish the work to be faithfully and well done it should be confided to proper hands.

### *Remedy.*

In view of all that has been said it becomes a vital question, what is to be done to prevent the further spread of intemperance and the creation of a sentiment that will labor for its removal? Our hope is in the young under proper training and guidance.

We do not expect the mature in years or the aged to forsake the error of their ways, much less labor for the recovery of others. Society even at this crisis, cannot stop to reclaim this class whose confirmed habits renders their salvation a hopeless task.

But those who are to fill our places, upon whom the framework of society is to rest, who are to give character and tone to the future, these if found wandering, must be restored to the paths of sobriety and enlisted in the work of purification. If the strong appetite cannot be wholly eradicated it may be kept under wholesome restraint.

We believe therefore some organized effort should be put forth to arouse the young people, and induce them to join in a crusade against rum and its advocates. If the hearts of the multitude could be reached and the young engaged in the work of reform the last vestige of rum would soon disappear.

Young men of Provincetown do you realize your responsibilities at this critical moment? Here is an opportunity, such as never before existed, for covering your names with lasting honor if you are but true to your manhood and unflinchingly

press forward to the realization of your hopes. A whole community stands waiting in anxious suspense. What will you do? What is your decision? The dearest interests of society are in your keeping. Will you permit them to be trampled under foot and the noble birth-right of our fathers bartered for rum?

### *Conclusion.*

We beg to say to the Committee, should one be chosen, you have our hearty sympathy and co-operation in your labors and as individuals we pledge you constant support feeling that your efforts can only result in the advancement of the highest interests of the town and the moral well-being of this community.

Citizens of Provincetown we leave this subject in your hands confident that your undiminished interest will prompt you to continue the reforming agencies already at work.

JOSHUA PAINE,  
NATHANIEL HOPKINS,  
ABNER B. RICH,  
J. D. HILLIARD,  
E. K. COOK,  
DAVID CONWELL,  
EDMUND SMITH,

} *Committee.*

## REPORT OF MONUMENT COMMITTEE.

---

The Army and Navy Association represent, that Asa Franzen faithfully served his country, in the Navy, during the late rebellion, and continued in the service until his death, they respectfully request that his name be placed upon the Town Monument.

Your Committee knowing of no reason why the request should not be granted would recommend that the same be done.

J. D. HILLIARD, *Committee.*

SPECIAL

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

---

In addition to our report on page 39, we further report that one case of small pox made its appearance in this town Oct. 10, 1876.

We also further recommend the erection of a new pest house, the cost not to exceed \$600.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID S. KELLEY, }  
E. W. HOLWAY, } *Board of Health.*  
BANGS A. LEWIS, }

## FINAL REPORT FOR SCHOOL YEAR 1875.

The whole number of scholars belonging to the Winter School forty; average attendance twenty-eight and seven tenths; number over fifteen years of age thirty-seven.

The whole number belonging to the High School forty-five; average attendance forty-one and ninety-five one-hundredths; number over fifteen years thirty-nine.

The whole number belonging to Grammar School seventy-six; average attendance sixty-nine and two-tenths; number over fifteen years twenty-five.

The whole number in Western High Intermediate sixty; average attendance fifty-four.

The whole number in Center High Intermediate forty-four; average attendance forty and two-tenths; number over fifteen two.

The whole number in Eastern High Intermediate forty-four; average attendance forty.

The whole number in Western Intermediate fifty-five; average attendance forty-nine and two-tenths.

The whole number in Center Intermediate sixty-one; average attendance fifty-four and seven-tenths.

The whole number in Eastern Intermediate forty-seven; average attendance forty-one and three-tenths; over fifteen years one.

The whole number in Eastern Primary fifty-seven; average attendance fifty-two.

The whole number in Johnson Street Primary eighty-six; average attendance seventy-one and eight tenths.

The whole number in Center Primary sixty-three; average attendance fifty-three and eight-tenths.

The whole number in Conant Street Primary fifty-four; average attendance forty-three and six-tenths.

The whole number in Western Primary No. 1 fifty-four; average attendance forty-seven.

The whole number in Western Primary No. 2 fifty-five; average attendance forty-five and four-tenths.

The whole number of scholars attending school during the Winter term were 841; average attendance 732.85; number over fifteen years of age 104; per cent. of attendance 87.13.

|                                   |           |                |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Balance in Treasury Jan. 1, 1876, |           | \$2982 31      |
| Paid for teaching,                | \$2205 00 |                |
| Winter School,                    | 238 00    |                |
| Fires and sweeping,               | 238 75    |                |
|                                   | <hr/>     | 2681 75        |
| Balance in Treasury,              |           | <hr/> \$300 56 |

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY SHORTLE,  
MERCY M. LEWIS,  
JOSEPH S. ATWOOD,  
HARRIET F. MITCHELL,  
REUBEN W. SWIFT,  
ANNA J. HUTCHINSON.

## FINAL REPORT FOR SCHOOL YEAR 1875.

The whole number of scholars belonging to the Winter School forty; average attendance twenty-eight and seven tenths; number over fifteen years of age thirty-seven.

The whole number belonging to the High School forty-five; average attendance forty-one and ninety-five one-hundredths; number over fifteen years thirty-nine.

The whole number belonging to Grammar School seventy-six; average attendance sixty-nine and two-tenths; number over fifteen years twenty-five.

The whole number in Western High Intermediate sixty; average attendance fifty-four.

The whole number in Center High Intermediate forty-four; average attendance forty and two-tenths; number over fifteen two.

The whole number in Eastern High Intermediate forty-four; average attendance forty.

The whole number in Western Intermediate fifty-five; average attendance forty-nine and two-tenths.

The whole number in Center Intermediate sixty-one; average attendance fifty-four and seven-tenths.

The whole number in Eastern Intermediate forty-seven; average attendance forty-one and three-tenths; over fifteen years one.

The whole number in Eastern Primary fifty-seven; average attendance fifty-two.

The whole number in Johnson Street Primary eighty-six; average attendance seventy-one and eight tenths.

The whole number in Center Primary sixty-three; average attendance fifty-three and eight-tenths.

The whole number in Conant Street Primary fifty-four; average attendance forty-three and six-tenths.

The whole number in Western Primary No. 1 fifty-four; average attendance forty-seven.

The whole number in Western Primary No. 2 fifty-five; average attendance forty-five and four-tenths.

The whole number of scholars attending school during the Winter term were 841; average attendance 732.85; number over fifteen years of age 104; per cent. of attendance 87.13.

|                                   |           |                |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Balance in Treasury Jan. 1, 1876, |           | \$2982 31      |
| Paid for teaching,                | \$2205 00 |                |
| Winter School,                    | 238 00    |                |
| Fires and sweeping,               | 238 75    |                |
|                                   |           | <hr/> 2681 75  |
| Balance in Treasury,              |           | <hr/> \$300 56 |

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY SHORTLE,  
MERCY M. LEWIS,  
JOSEPH S. ATWOOD,  
HARRIET F. MITCHELL,  
REUBEN W. SWIFT,  
ANNA J. HUTCHINSON.



*Organization of the School Committee for 1876.*


---

JOSEPH S. ATWOOD, Chairman.

---

ANNA J. HUTCHINSON, Secretary.

---

## COMMITTEE ON HIGH SCHOOL :

LYSANDER N. PAINE, MERCY M. LEWIS,  
ANNA J. HUTCHINSON.

---

## COMMITTEE ON GRAMMAR SCHOOL :

JOSEPH S. ATWOOD, REUBEN W. SWIFT,  
HARRIET F. MITCHELL.

---

## COMMITTEE ON HIGH INTERMEDIATE :

MERCY M. LEWIS, LYSANDER N. PAINE.

---

## COMMITTEE ON INTERMEDIATE :

HARRIET F. MITCHELL, JOSEPH S. ATWOOD.

---

## COMMITTEE ON PRIMARY :

ANNA J. HUTCHINSON, REUBEN W. SWIFT.

---

The regular meetings of the Board are on the first Wednesday of the month at the residence of the Secretary, at half past 7 o'clock P. M.

*Present Corps of Teachers.*

## HIGH SCHOOL :

A. G. FISHER, A. B., Principal.

SARA A. HAMLIN, Assistant.

---

## GRAMMAR SCHOOL :

H. A. FREEMAN, Principal.

MARY E. EMERY, Assistant.

---

## HIGH INTERMEDIATE :

REBECCA D. SPARKS, *Eastern.*

LIZZIE W. CLARK, *Center.*

ELLA A. SMALL, *Western.*

---

## INTERMEDIATE :

LIZZIE P. CHAPMAN, *Eastern.*

ADDIE S. MITCHELL, *Center.*

S. LIZZIE STARR, *Western.*

---

## PRIMARY.

JENNIE KEEFE, *Eastern.*

ABBIE C. SPARKS, *Johnson Street.*

BESSIE G. WILEY, *Johnson St., Assistant,*

MARY E. RYDER, *Center.*

ANNIE B. FRELICK, *Conant Street.*

LOIS B. HAMLIN, *Western No. 1.*

LUCINDA W. WHORF, *Western No. 2.*

---

## WINTER SCHOOL :

WALTER HERBERT SMALL.

## REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

---

### FELLOW CITIZENS :

In accordance with the Statutes, your School Committee, empowered by law and your votes with the superintendance and education of the pupils of the public schools offer their Annual Report :

The several schools have continued through the year with few changes in our corps of teachers and but slight variation in the work required. The progress in the various departments has been uniform and constant; with so little friction and so good a share of satisfactory results, that the Report of eighteen hundred seventy-six might with propriety be a repetition of the preceding year.

One event has cast a shadow over all during the school year: the death of Mrs. MERCY M. LEWIS, an active member of the School Board; a lady whose disinterestedness and faithfulness in the discharge of her duties endeared her to all with whom she was called to labor.

### *School Accomodations.*

Our greatest need is properly constructed, commodious and well ventilated school houses. Many of our school rooms are over-crowded, ill-lighted and worse ventilated. The only means of ventilation of several of them being through open windows or doors; the draft from the windows blowing directly upon the backs of the pupils, the effect of which is little less disastrous than a drawn sword, piercing them; perhaps not as instantaneous in its effect, but as sure. The draft from the doors is directly upon the feet of teacher and children, the results, if not immediate suffering, colds,

croup, catarrh, and other diseases too numerous to mention, thus laying the foundation for a diseased life. Ventilation, a constant change of air, is absolutely necessary. A single respiration consumes about a quarter of the oxygen in the pint that is inhaled. The same air may be breathed again—but has not the full power to purify the blood, and cannot carry off the waste as fast as it is deposited in the veins. To meet these wants, and enable the respiration to do its intended work on the blood, every school room should have some means provided for supplying fresh air to its occupants. Some system of ventilation that will carry the foul air away, and bring pure air in, should be supplied to every school room, for otherwise occupants must suffer a depreciation of life. They cannot enjoy the vigor and sprightliness, of body and mind, that can only be derived from pure blood. They can neither think with as much clearness, nor study with as much energy, as they could if they had a plentiful supply of pure air to breathe, and of purified blood flowing through their arteries.

We will give the dimensions of one of the four school rooms, which are of like construction; length of room, 50 feet, width, 17 feet, height, 10 feet, which would give 8500 cubic feet.—A child requires four cubic feet of fresh, pure air every minute to preserve the blood pure. In one hour sixty children (the number often found in some of these rooms) would need 14,400 cubic feet. A gas burner will require as much a minute as ten men, which added to that consumed by the children would give 18,000 cubic feet. Who can live, act and think in such a vitiated and exhausted atmosphere, with any degree of animation, or force? When the Creator has surrounded us with an atmosphere forty-five miles in depth, can we longer remain so parsimonious in this matter. We hope not.

### *School Discipline and Education.*

Is it not far more easy for parents to find imperfections, than to suggest improvements? We think it is. Much more frequently do we hear of faults condemned, than merits approved in the presence of children. Parents and guardians are also very apt to listen to reports, coming from the school room, which may have little or no foundation in fact, and deeply censure the teacher, without any definite knowledge of

the circumstances involved. This is to be regretted, in as much as the teacher stands in the place of the parent, when in the school room. Would it not be considered decidedly wrong in the teacher, to criticise the parents, in the presence of the children? What is wrong in the latter case cannot be right in the former. In a family, where there are several children, the parents often have to adjust difficulties and differences between them, for no two children in the same family are alike in health, temperament and disposition, consequently the same discipline is not required. Children have to be reached by different methods. What is true in the family is true in the school. On entering a school room where fifty or sixty pupils are seated, we observe the pupils as a whole—but on a careful study of individual scholars, we see a marked diversity in physical development and mental capacity; different organic structure of the brain, different temperament, each in a measure what they are by inheritance and home influence. Some are from homes of culture and refinement, where the atmosphere is redolent with love and kindness; others from homes quite the reverse; where the children are sent to school to be out of the way—who when at home do not find that encouragement and counsel, that kindly interest which should be the inheritance of every child. Do not pupils of every school need different discipline? While it is natural for some to respect and obey the teacher, there will be those who will strive to annoy and disturb. Is the fault always in the child? Probably not. It is in the very nature of some to be idle, restless and disobedient. The cause lies farther back. The teacher cannot mould these by one and the same method. The *true* teacher will study the good of each pupil, will seek to draw out the better nature and suppress all evil tendencies, to mould those entrusted to his or her care into as perfect scholars as their nature and capacity will admit. The intelligent teacher can do much, but cannot supply mental capacity. If the pupil is wanting in calculation, the instructor can never make him a genius in mathematics, he can only develop and strengthen what is by nature bestowed on the child. What is true in this, is true of every other faculty of the mind. It is the teachers work to fashion these elements, discordant though they may be, to his or her idea, or standard of excellence. To them should be accorded a generous liberty of action; although supervision by the School Board is well de-

finer, in the Course of Study, length of sessions, &c., a strict responsibility to which they should be held, yet no instructor should be prevented from a degree of independence, or be deprived of doing his or her work in their own way. If teachers are intelligent, conscientious, impartial and well cultured, we should accord to them some individuality of their own. Do we not hold them in a measure responsible for the progress of the pupils committed to their care and instruction? Are they not responsible to a Higher Power than any human Board of men and women for the unfolding, guiding and fashioning the youthful minds entrusted to them? Especially would we have every teacher inculcate lessons of *morality* and *truth*, in all grades of schools. These lessons cannot be taught too early. Childhood is more sensitive to lasting impressions than mature years. Educate the youth to habits of *truth*, *justice*, and *right* and we need not fear for the future of the free institutions of our country, for it has been said, and wisely, that, "Education is the chief corner stone of the Republic." Educate the *moral* perceptions of a child to see the *right*—because right—and be guided thereby. To resist the *wrong*—because wrong. Teach him to say that little monosyllable, *no*, when tempted and you will have made an impression on him that neither time nor eternity can efface. Pupils should be thrown on their own responsibility, be made to feel that idleness is a crime, while industrious, persistent habits of study, formed in the school room will develop and strengthen all the faculties, so they may better grasp the thoughts and ideas which may present themselves in after years. The discipline of responsibility makes the pupil self-reliant, gives power and dignity to him. Each individual scholar who wishes to be well educated should seek to develop all the faculties of the mind. Knowledge is the golden key which opens to him the halls of literature, science and art. Pupils should be stimulated by the successes of the past, to attempt for themselves. It was the discipline of responsibility and culture, combined with energy and devotion to principle, that made Charles Sumner a tower of strength, a political Hercules, in the nation. It was the same, that enabled Charlotte Cushman to overcome all obstacles that obstructed her career in life, and rise to such eminence in her profession, as to receive the crown of laurel on her brow. These are exceptional cases you will say. We admit it. But, at the same

time, every child should receive the best moral and intellectual training of which their capacity will admit. Every one who does his best, under the circumstances is equally entitled to honor, though in the lowliest walks of life. Cultivated mental powers, combined with a corrupt heart are but dangerous weapons in the hands of those designing evil.

The statistics of every country will show that the majority of criminals are almost wholly uneducated. Knowledge is power. When under the control and guidance of moral principle, it will elevate and ennoble a people; it will diminish crime and pauperism, and save the State untold expense; will dignify and enhance commerce, agriculture and add millions to the wealth and resources of the nation.

---

### *Truancy.*

Hardly a week passes in which children may not be seen on our streets, during school hours, idling away their time, contracting bad habits with vicious companions, thus polluting their minds with evil thoughts and corrupting their morals. Truancy might well be designated the school, in which many boys are educated in vice and crime.

Our truant officers have been faithful in the discharge of their duty in returning truants to their respective schools, yet the evil still exists. To some the officers are a terror—but not to all. Often the same boy will play truant many times during the term. It is not enough that they be returned.—We would respectfully ask of the town that the present “Truant Law” be so amended as to embrace the provisions of Chap. 285 of the Acts and Resolves of the Legislature of 1867.

---

### *Absence.*

Another evil in connection with all our schools which we wish to bring to notice, is absence. We referred to it, in our last Report. We now call attention to it again. The absence of children from school, at any and all times, is much to be regretted. This evil is in excess during cranberry picking. The lower grades are seriously affected by this industry.—Children from seven to twelve years of age are allowed to remain away from school from one to two weeks—thus greatly retarding its advancement and lowering the average attend-

ance of the school. On visiting one of these schools containing sixty pupils, in the Cranberry season we found less than twenty present. What was true in this school, holds true in many others. Thus classes were broken up; the character of the school lowered, order and system of arrangement gone and the teacher disheartened. This fact shows a low estimate of education and of the advantages of instruction which are provided for all. Parents who permit this absence do not realize the loss to their children. The few dollars earned in the meantime can never compensate for wasted opportunities. The moral effect of absence is disastrous to the child. It weakens him in his class, and he becomes a parasite, leaning on others for help. Punctuality in school attendance is an important feature and should not be ignored.

Irregularity of attendance is a serious obstacle in any department of labor, but in none more serious than in the school room. It begets idleness. Would that we could coin words in which to depict to the young how disastrous a thing is idleness. Arbuckle has said “That the language is not written in which that lesson can be conveyed.” It would require letters and symbols not yet invented.” It seems to us a mildew which penetrates and enshrouds the whole being. A life through which the idler is dragging along without aim or purpose, a mere drone in society. Let us all, parents, teachers and Committee, unite our endeavors and labors to exterminate this seductive evil.

“Labor is life! 'Tis the still water faileth;  
Idleness ever despaireth, bewaileth;  
Keep the watch wound, for the dark rust assaileth,  
Flowers droop and die in the stillness of noon.”

---

### *Drawing.*

This branch has had a place in our school requirements for several years. Its progress in some schools has been wavering and unsatisfactory. This fact is owing to the teachers.—But few among them have had the opportunity to acquire a knowledge of the art, consequently they bring no enthusiasm to the work. There can be no doubt of success, if the teachers will acquire knowledge requisite for systematic instruction. It is natural for children to make pictures on their slates, and oftentimes their books are filled with them. The past few years, with the little attention that has been given to Drawing,

have developed a decided talent among several pupils in that direction. We still feel convinced of its practicability and utility, in the common school. We know it is conceded that all who can learn to write can learn to draw. That drawing is simpler in its elements, more easily acquired, and quite as pleasing to the pupil. They should go hand in hand as they are helps one to the other. We would recommend to those of our teachers, who have never learned elementary Drawing, to take it up and as they learn—teach it to their pupils as they teach any other school requirement.

### *Primary.*

Whole number of scholars during Spring term, three hundred and sixty-three; average number, three hundred and twelve and one-tenth; per cent. of attendance, eighty-five and ninety-seven one-hundredths. Fall term, three hundred and eighty-eight; average, three hundred and twenty-nine and eight-tenths; per cent. of attendance, eighty-five. Whole number present term, three hundred sixty-four.

We have at the present time six Primary schools and seven teachers. There are a sufficient number of children in Town for eight Primaries. We frequently hear complaints, that children do not advance fast enough. The complaint may sometimes be just. But do not blame the teacher. In a school of sixty or more small children, where the teacher has to take account of tardiness and absence, attend to the wants of each, passing slates, pencils or crayons, answering the many questions which children are ever asking, settling little difficulties which arise, and maintaining general order,—how many minutes will be left, for individual instruction? Our school sessions, deducting two recesses of fifteen minutes each, will leave five hours or three hundred minutes per day. If we set aside the repetition of the Lord's prayer in the morning—accept chaos, in place of order, requiring the teacher to give her attention to recitation only, we shall have but five minutes for each scholar during the day, for individual instruction. As our schools are at present, no teacher can, or should, attempt individual instruction. Parents, put yourselves in the primary teachers place, one day,—and you would not ask it. Our primary teachers are doing as good work, under existing circumstances, as we can expect. Much improvement is man-

ifest and we anticipate many promotions will be made at the close of the school year. It is encouraging to the Committee that the teachers are improving from term to term. It is to be hoped while they remain teachers they will ever continue to be learners, improving from year to year,—endeavor to bring cheerfulness to the little ones, for cheerfulness is to the soul, what warmth is to the body. Ever strive to be in sympathy with these, reaching them through the heart and guiding them in the paths of truth and duty. The plastic mind of the child may be guided rightly or otherwise, by slight circumstances.

“A pebble in the streamlet scant,  
Has turned the course of many a river;  
A dew-drop on the infant plant,  
Has warped the giant oak forever.”

We do not wish to be understood that the school is wholly responsible for the moral tone of a community. The atmosphere of home in a great measure forms the moral character. If the home surroundings and street influence are low, the *best* teachers influence would be neutralized.

We are still of the opinion that three hours of school a day in this grade of school is far better for the child than all day. It has been so demonstrated in many towns. The short time it was tried in this town, proved it to be so. The children were more attentive, more interested, happier and accomplished more while attending constantly one half day than the whole day. The air would be less impure, the rooms would be ample to accommodate all the primary children, thus saving expense to the Town in erecting buildings. Children would be healthier physically and teachers could accomplish more. We all know who have taught, that teaching is a “*physically prostrating occupation*”, and in no school so much so, as in the primary. Reading, spelling and the first rudiments in numbers are required of this grade, also printing of the Roman and Arabic figures.

### *Lower Intermediate.*

The whole number of scholars belonging to this grade of schools, during the spring term was one hundred and forty-nine; average one hundred and twenty-three and eight-tenths; per cent. of attendance eighty-two and four-tenths. Fall

Term, whole number, one hundred fifty-five; average one hundred thirty-two and six-tenths; per cent. of attendance eighty-four.

Number of scholars belonging to these schools Jan. 1, 1877, one hundred and sixty.

This grade has been under the charge of the same teachers during the entire year. Miss Lizzie P. Chapman in the Eastern, Miss Addie S. Mitchell in the Center and Miss Lizzie Starr in the Western. All have been faithful, and efficient workers and the scholars have made good progress in their studies.

The course of study prescribed for this grade of schools consists of Monroe's Third Reader, Hagar's Elementary Arithmetic, Our World's Geography, Swinton's Primary Speller and the Writing Primer. These books have been in use for more than two years and the result from the use of them is satisfactory.

The number of scholars in the Eastern School was less than forty in the Spring term, and was increased by taking a class from the Primary which was over-crowded; therefore this school has been obliged to have three classes this year while the others have had two.

The Center has numbered sixty during the year, and when we take into consideration the condition of the room they are obliged to occupy we readily see that both teacher and scholar must feel the effects sooner or later.

In visiting the schools, when we enter the Western and see the conveniences and notice the difference in the state of the atmosphere arising from good ventilation in this building, we think we are but doing our duty in calling attention to these rooms. If parents would go in and stay during one session of the school, they would be satisfied that a change was needed.

### *High Intermediate.*

These Schools, three in number have been continued through the year, under the same instructors. Miss Ella A. Small having charge of the Western, Miss Lizzie W. Clark the Center and Miss Rebecca D. Sparks the Eastern school. The school at the Center labors under many disadvantages when compared with the Eastern and Western Schools in accommo-

dations. The latter having good rooms. It is a more arduous task for Miss Clark to secure and maintain order in her room as its location and surroundings serve to distract the pupils minds from their studies. The construction of the seats and desks are ill-adapted to the wants of the occupants. We hope the time is not far distant when the accommodations for this school will be better.

These schools are well disciplined and taught. Thoroughness being required of the scholars as far as capabilities will admit. The teachers imparting valuable information in the studies, by questions and remarks during the recitation, concerning the lesson assigned, not found in the text-book. Pupils are also requested by the teacher to ask questions in relation to the subject taught; and in every instance such answers are given by the teachers as will aid the pupils in arriving at correct and satisfactory results. It is an advance in the manner of conducting recitation from mechanical routine from the stereotyped questions placed in the text-book, and that parrot like method of recitation, which was once considered enough. The object of the teachers seem to be, to teach the pupils to think and reason to obtain *knowledge* and *ideas*, instead of empty words, which make no impression and are soon forgotten. The mind like the body, must digest its food to impart nourishment and growth. In fact the work in this department has been very satisfactory. The pupils have evinced an interest in the studies of Geography, Arithmetic, Reading, Spelling and Writing; and should receive the commendation of parents and guardians. Drawing has not been as successful as we wished; nevertheless there has been a decided improvement in this branch. The teachers have been faithful; and the scholars with a very few exceptions have been obedient to the rules of the school.

Spring term, whole number one hundred seventy-one; average, one hundred forty-six and seven-tenths; per cent., eighty-five and two-tenths; over fifteen years of age, none.— Fall term, one hundred fifty-eight; average, one hundred forty and two-tenths; per cent., eighty-eight and six-tenths; over fifteen, none. Present term, one hundred sixty-one.

### *Grammar School.*

Whole number during Spring term, eighty-seven; average, seventy-five and three-tenths; per cent., eighty-six and five-

tenths; over fifteen years of age, fifteen. Fall term, whole number eighty-three; average, seventy-two and one tenth; per cent., eighty-six and nine-tenths; over fifteen years of age, twenty. Number belonging to the school January 1, 1877, eighty-two.

At the beginning of the school year, a system of monthly examinations was instituted, and has been kept up with satisfactory results. This will be the basis upon which promotions will be made, and diplomas awarded to the graduating class. We deem this method of great importance, as it will better test the attainments of each pupil than a single examination at the end of the school year.

The school has been furnished with a telluric globe and additional books of reference on History this year.

The text-books in use are Monroe's Fifth Reader, Walton's Arithmetic, Swinton's Language Lessons, Swinton's Word Book, Cornell's Geography, for the first class, and Swinton's Geography for the second. The class that will enter the coming year will continue Hagar's Arithmetic which they are now using, and which will supercede Walton's. It has been the aim of the Committee to so arrange the text-books that scholars would not be obliged to abandon the use of any one until a higher grade became necessary.

This school has been in charge of the same teachers as it has been for several years past. They have been conscientious and faithful in the discharge of their duties and the pupils for the most part, studious and obedient.

#### *High School.*

This school has continued through the year under the instruction of Mr. A. G. Fisher as principal and Miss Sara A. Hamlin, assistant; both teachers of experience, who bring enthusiasm and devotion to their work: combined with generous culture, and solicitous interest, in all that pertains to elevation, in the moral and intellectual development of the pupils. Simply to become popular teachers is not their aim. But their labors have been to give character and solidity to the school, to inspire pupils with a love and devotion for knowledge; to rank each pupil according to his or her own merit as scholars; to sharpen, expand, elevate and strengthen them for still higher attainments. In this they have been successful with a great majority.

The pupils have been made to feel the necessity of constant effort; that they must study to the best advantage, to accomplish the greatest good. The results are already manifest. In the recitations may be seen clearness of conception and expression, giving evidence not only of a steady but healthy growth. Under the present able and efficient management it gives promise of still higher advancement in moral and mental culture.

Otis M. Knowles of Truro continued a member of the school during the Winter and Spring terms; paying the tuition fee of twenty dollars. This sum has been expended for books of reference and apparatus for the use of the school.

Whole number of scholars belonging to the school during the Winter term, forty-five; average attendance, forty-one and ninety-five one-hundredths; over fifteen years of age, thirty-nine. Spring term, forty-eight; average, forty; over fifteen years, thirty-eight. Fall term, forty; average, thirty-six and fourteen one-hundredths; over fifteen years, thirty-six. Present term, forty-one.

#### *Boys Winter School.*

Mr. Walter Herbert Small, a graduate of the High School, class of '74. and at present a student from the "junior class" of Dartmouth College, has charge of this school. On examination of the School Register we find the names of sixty-eight pupils entered therein; twenty-eight more than were in attendance last year. This attendance is owing in part, to the severity of the Winter, preventing many young men from following their accustomed pursuits. Mr. Small is an instructor, able and efficient, striving to both interest and advance his pupils. He has succeeded from the first in securing and maintaining order. It can truly be said "He has been master of the situation." The pupils are industrious and with few exceptions well disposed.

Reading, Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, History and Book-keeping comprise the studies taught.

*Financial Statement.*

|  |                   |             |
|--|-------------------|-------------|
| School Department to the Town of Provincetown,     | <i>Dr.</i>        |             |
| To balance in Treasury Jan. 1, '76,                | \$2982 31         |             |
| Town Appropriation,                                | 7600 00           |             |
| Mass. School Fund,                                 | 312 03            |             |
|  | <u>          </u> | \$10,894 34 |
| Credit by cash paid for Teaching winter term,      | \$2205 00         |             |
| “ Winter School for Boys,                          | 238 00            |             |
| “ For Spring term,                                 | 2241 50           |             |
| “ For Fall term,                                   | 1992 00           |             |
| “ Present term,                                    | 140 00            |             |
|  | <u>          </u> | \$6,916 50  |
| Credit by fires and sweeping Winter term,          | \$238 75          |             |
| “ “ “ Spring “                                     | 167 75            |             |
| “ “ “ Fall “                                       | 147 00            |             |
|  | <u>          </u> | \$553 50    |
| Credit paid for Fuel,                              | \$561 00          |             |
| Total Expenditures for 1876,                       | \$8031 00         |             |
| Balance in Treasury Jan. 1, 1877,                  | \$2863 34         |             |
| Estimated expense for balance of winter, teaching, | \$2494 75         |             |
| Do. fires and sweeping,                            | 232 30            |             |
|  | <u>          </u> | 2727 25     |
| Balance end of school year,                        | \$136 09          |             |

## Town School Book Account Jan. 1, 1877.

|                   |                   |          |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| <i>Dr.</i>        | Jan. 1st, 1877.   |          |
| Books and Case,   | \$322 07          |          |
| Balance due Town, | 13 22             |          |
|                   | <u>          </u> | \$335 29 |
| <i>Cr.</i>        | Jan. 1st, 1877.   |          |
| Books and Case,   | \$311 29          |          |
| Balance due Town, | 24 00             |          |
|                   | <u>          </u> | \$335 29 |

*Repairs.*

|  |                   |          |
|--|-------------------|----------|
| Paid Dyer & Smith, glass, putty and labor on Western School House,   | \$7 93            |          |
| O. B. Conant, glass and labor,                                       | 3 25              |          |
| C. H. Hill, care of Johnson St., School House,                       | 7 00              |          |
| A. D. Knowles, labor on Western and Conant St., School Houses,       | 11 13             |          |
| D. F. Lewis, repairs of Eastern House Cupola,                        | 24 06             |          |
| G. C. Hill, repairs on Conant St., School House,                     | 2 84              |          |
| L. Rogers, lumber,   | 15 18             |          |
| O. B. Conant, labor. glass, &c.,                                     | 4 00              |          |
| L. Rogers, lumber,   | 4 70              |          |
| J. F. Dyer, painting on Eastern School House,                        | 17 00             |          |
| James Fuller, plastering Center School House,                        | 9 50              |          |
| “ “ “ High School House,   | 9 23              |          |
| A. D. Knowles, labor, &c., on Western and Conant St., School Houses, | 11 95             |          |
| B. Lancy, lumber for East'n and Center Houses, '75,                  | 40 63             |          |
| “ “ “ “ Center School House,   | 6 63              |          |
| I. A. Small, grating for windows,                                    | 3 30              |          |
| J. A. West, work and material on H. School House,                    | 14 85             |          |
| “ “ “ “ Center do.,  | 39 29             |          |
| “ “ “ “ Eastern do.,   | 28 10             |          |
| “ “ “ “ Johnson do.,   | 10 10             |          |
| “ “ “ “ Town Hall,   | 13 65             |          |
| D. F. Lewis, labor on E. School House,                               | 75                |          |
| J. W. Anthony, labor on E. and Johnson do.,                          | 13 45             |          |
| Union Wharf Co.,   | 1 60              |          |
| E. K. Cook & Co.,  | 20                |          |
| J. Snow, repairs on Center School House,                             | 6 00              |          |
| L. Rogers, lumber for “ “  | 1 45              |          |
|  | <u>          </u> | \$307 97 |

*Incidentals.*

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Paid Rent of C. H. Intermediate,               | \$42 00 |
| R. Williams, labor,                            | 1 25    |
| Rent of C. H. Intermediate,                    | 56 00   |
| H. Holmes, labor and material on Center House, | 13 51   |
| “ “ “ “  | 23 05   |
| R. Williams, labor,                            | 75      |



|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Paid Goss & Richards, printing for Center School, | \$6 25   |
| H. Holmes, grate and shaker,                      | 3 63     |
| Freeman & Hilliard, nails and screws,             | 57       |
| Sparrow & Snow, stove for Conant St., Primary,    | 39 61    |
| J. A. West, incidentals Center High Intermediate, | 18 55    |
| “ “ “ High School,                                | 12 19    |
| “ “ “ Western School,                             | 1 23     |
| “ “ “ Center “                                    | 54 12    |
| “ “ “ Eastern “                                   | 9 16     |
| “ “ “ Johnson St., School,                        | 21 79    |
| J. & L. N. Paine, Western School,                 | 7 06     |
| W. H. H. Weston, Eastern “                        | 31 20    |
| “ “ Western and Center,                           | 1 03     |
| “ “ Center High Intermediate,                     | 14 50    |
| “ “ Johnson St., Primary,                         | 4 00     |
| A. L. Putnam & Co., books for poor children,      | 59 52    |
| “ “ “ School Incidentals,                         | 144 13   |
| Seth Smith, for brooms,                           | 80       |
| A. G. Fisher, Records and copy of Ovid,           | 4 86     |
| P. Crocker, braces for Town Hall,                 | 4 40     |
| Mrs. Smith, cleaning Eastern School House,        | 22 00    |
| “ Harvender, cleaning Center School House,        | 22 50    |
| “ L. P. Baxter, “ Johnson St., Primary,           | 11 00    |
| “ Judith Ellis, “ High School House,              | 20 00    |
| “ Sam'l Taylor, “ Western and Conant St.,         | 51 00    |
| O. Snow, labor,                                   | 1 25     |
| A. G. Fisher, book and maps for High School,      | 33 95    |
|   | \$738 36 |

### *Recommendations.*

Your Committee still recommend :

1st. The remodeling of the Eastern and Center school houses, and the building of a new house to accommodate the High and Grammar Schools.

2d. An appropriation of \$8000 00, in addition to balance in Treasury,—to defray the expense the coming year.

3d. The Town's having a Superintendent for the public schools.

4th. A special appropriation for the ventilation of the Johnson and Conant street school houses.

### *Closing.*

The year that closes with this Report has been a most eventful one. It has witnessed the assembling together of the leading educators of the old and new world.

Each country has exhibited its own models of architecture in school edifices, each its apparatus, text-books and best methods of instruction. The history of the past Century is pregnant with facts, in relation to the progress of education in Europe and America; and after the assembling of the nations, comparing, analyzing and uniting the best methods, found in each, may we not hope that the nations of the earth have girded themselves anew with strength, gathered energy and wisdom for the great future that lies before them. While we bid adieu to the closing century, and school year, may we not be unmindful of the many blessings conferred upon us as a people in matters of public education: ever recognizing a guiding Power from whom all our blessings flow. Let us still be watchful, earnest and devoted to the interest of the public schools of Provincetown.

J. S. ATWOOD,  
HARRIET F. MITCHELL,  
R. W. SWIFT,  
ANNA J. HUTCHINSON.  
L. N. PAINE.

*Rules and Regulations for the High School of  
Provincetown.*

CHAPTER I.

SESSIONS, SCHOOL BUILDINGS, &c.

*Sec. 1.* There shall be two sessions daily during the Fall and Spring terms. The morning session shall begin at 9 o'clock A. M. and close at 12 M. The afternoon session shall begin at 1.40 and close at 4.15 P. M. During the Winter term, there shall be one session daily, beginning at 9 o'clock A. M. and closing at 2 P. M.

*Sec. 2.* There shall be one recess during each session, not to exceed fifteen minutes when there are two, and twenty minutes, when there is one session.

*Sec. 3.* All pupils shall be required to leave the school room at recess, unless for good reasons excused by the Principal. Pupils detained in the school room during recess, for purpose of discipline, or recitation, shall be allowed a recess before the close of the session.

*Sec. 4.* Parents or guardians shall be held responsible by the Committee, for any damage done by pupils sent by them to school, to the school house, furniture, or any part of the premises, or property thereon, and when such damage is done, it shall forthwith be reported by the Principal to the Committee, with the names of the offender or offenders and of the parents or guardians.

CHAPTER II.

RULES RELATING TO TEACHERS.

*Sec. 1.* The Principal, or Assistant, shall be present at the school room at least fifteen minutes before the beginning of each session, and he shall not be allowed to close any session before the regular time, except on account of illness or other urgent necessity, unless the consent of the Committee be first obtained.

*Sec. 2.* The Principal shall take daily care that the school room, furniture and apparatus in the same, as well as the out-

buildings and all other property belonging to the school estate, as well as books of reference, be not defaced or injured by the scholars, and shall give prompt notice to the Committee in case any repairs or supplies are needed.

*Sec. 3.* The Principal, or his Assistant, may detain pupils after school for discipline, or to make up neglected lessons, such detention to be according to their discretion.

*Sec. 4.* For direct and violent opposition to authority, the Principal may exclude a pupil from school for the time being, and shall thereupon inform the parents or guardians of the measure, and shall report to the Committee such action, that the offender may be dealt with for such conduct according to their discretion.

CHAPTER III.

RULES PERTAINING TO PUPILS.

*Sec. 1.* No pupil shall be excused from any regular study, except by vote of the Committee.

*Sec. 2.* No pupil shall be dismissed during school hours, except in case of illness, or other urgent necessity, without a written excuse from parent, or guardian. No permanent excuse for dismissal shall be received, except by consent of the Committee.

*Sec. 3.* Pupils shall not be allowed to answer calls at the door during school hours, except of parents, or guardians, or other cases deemed by the Principal of urgent importance.

*Sec. 4.* No pupil absenting himself from an examination of his school, or leaving school before the close of the term, without permission of the Principal, shall be allowed to enter again without consent of the Committee.

*Sec. 5.* Any pupil who shall in any way injure the school building, furniture, or other school property, shall pay in full for the damage done.

*Sec. 6.* Pupils shall not be allowed in the school room until within fifteen minutes of the beginning of the session.

*Sec. 7.* Pupils having ever assembled upon the school grounds, shall not again leave them until dismissed, except by consent of the Principal.

*Sec. 8.* Pupils are required to attend constantly and punctually. They shall furnish to the teacher in all cases of absence, or tardiness, a satisfactory excuse from parents, or guardians.

*Sec. 9.* Absence for work, in ordinary employment, will not be considered satisfactory; and an absence of four half days in one term, without a satisfactory excuse, will cause a suspension of the pupil during the remainder of the term, unless re-instated by vote of the Committee.

*Sec. 10.* Any pupil who shall absent himself from school for a term, or half of a term, shall not, upon entering again, take his place in his class, unless he make up his lessons, but failing to do this, he will be dropped to the next class unless for good reasons he be advanced by the Principal.

*Sec. 11.* No pupil shall be allowed to remain in the school room between sessions, without consent of the Principal.

*Sec. 12.* Scholars needing books shall be directed by the Principal to procure them, if not provided within two days, the Principal shall notify the parent, or guardian of the kind of book needed, and in case of neglect then to provide it within two days thereafter, the Principal shall inform the Committee of the names of the scholar, parents or guardians, and of the book required, when the Committee shall at once furnish the book reporting the same to the Assessors.

#### CHAPTER IV.

##### QUALIFICATION FOR ADMISSION.

*Sec. 1.* There shall be no limitation of age as qualification for admission.

*Sec. 2.* Applicants must be able to read and write sufficiently well to attain a mark of seven, in a scale of ten.

*Sec. 3.* They shall be required to spell correctly sixty per cent. of a list of words selected by the Committee.

*Sec. 4.* They shall be required to be proficient in Written Arithmetic, English Grammar, Common School Geography, and United States History. They shall also answer correctly seventy per cent. of a list of questions prepared in each of these branches.

*Sec. 5.* There shall be one general examination of pupils, in each year, which shall be held on such a day in March as the Committee may designate.

#### CHAPTER V.

##### CLASSIFICATIONS.

*Sec. 1.* The regular system of education to be pursued in the High School shall occupy four years.

*Sec. 2.* All applicants admitted at each annual examination shall form one class, to remain together under certain conditions hereafter specified, till the completion of the course, and to be known as the Fourth, Third, Second and First, or Senior class, successively.

*Sec. 3.* The studies shall be arranged in two courses, each covering a period of four years, and they shall be called the English and Classical Course.

*Sec. 4.* Pupils may, at time of entering, under the advice of their parents or guardians and the Principal, elect which course they will pursue; and no pupil having adopted one course shall change to the other, except by consent of the Board.

*Sec. 5.* All pupils having satisfactorily completed the full course of study, in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Committee, shall receive a suitable diploma as evidence thereof.

*Sec. 6.* After completing the course of study as described above, the connection of the pupil with the school shall cease.

*Sec. 7.* Students fitting for college or other higher institutions of learning, shall be allowed to pursue their studies until they are suitably prepared.

*Sec. 8.* The duration of membership shall be limited, not by a term of years, but solely by the completion of the course of study; and any pupil incompetent, or unable to complete the course in four years, may by dropping from class to class, remain until he can graduate satisfactorily.

#### CHAPTER VI.

##### MARKING OF RECITATIONS.

*Sec. 1.* Every recitation of each pupil shall be marked on a scale of ten. Composition and Declamation on a scale of forty;

and the percentage of each pupil shall be determined at the end of every school month by the aggregate of marks thus received.

*Sec. 2.* Any pupil receiving an average for a term of less than seven, in all departments, or six in any one department, shall take his seat in the next lower class, unless re-instated by the Principal.

*Sec. 2.* A report shall be made out at the end of every school month, showing the standard and deportment of each pupil, signed by the Principal, which shall be taken home by the pupil for inspection and for the signature of the parent, or guardians, and returned to the Principal upon the following day.

*Sec. 4.* At the close of each year each class shall be carefully examined by the Principal and his Assistants, in presence of one or more of the Committee, the parents of the pupils and the public generally being invited to attend such examinations.

*Course of Study arranged for the High School.*

ENGLISH COURSE.

FIRST YEAR.

Spring Term—Algebra, Physical Geography, Analysis and Reading.

Fall Term—Algebra, Physical Geography, Book-keeping.

Winter Term—Algebra, Physiology, Book-keeping and Business Forms.

SECOND YEAR.

Spring Term—Geometry, Physiology, French or German.

Fall Term—Geometry, Natural Philosophy, French or German.

Winter Term—Natural Philosophy, Rhetoric, French or German.

THIRD YEAR.

Spring Term—Chemistry or Trigonometry, Rhetoric, French or German.

Fall Term—Chemistry or Trigonometry, English History, Geology.

Winter Term—Botany, Outline of History, Geology.

FOURTH YEAR.

Spring Term—Outline of History, Word Analysis, Botany and Astronomy.

Fall Term—English Literature, Astronomy, Analysis of Government.

Winter Term—English Literature, Intellectual Philosophy, Review of Algebra, Arithmetic, &c.

CLASSICAL COURSE.

FIRST YEAR.

Spring Term—Algebra, Physical Geography, Latin Grammar and Reader.

Fall Term—Algebra, Physical Geography, Latin Grammar and Reader.

Winter Term—Algebra, Physiology, Latin Grammar and Reader.

SECOND YEAR.

Spring Term—Geometry, Physiology, Cæsar.

Fall Term—Geometry, Natural Philosophy, Cæsar.

Winter Term—Natural Philosophy, Rhetoric, Virgil, Latin Prosody.

THIRD YEAR.

Spring Term—Chemistry or Geology, Virgil, Rhetoric.

Fall Term—Chemistry or Geology, Cicero, English History.

Winter Term—Botany, Cicero, Outline of History.

FOURTH YEAR.

Spring Term—Outline of History, Word Analysis, Botany and Astronomy.

Fall Term—English Literature, Analysis of Government, Astronomy.

Winter Term—English Literature, Intellectual Philosophy, Review of Algebra, Arithmetic, &c.

Compositions and Declamations every week during either course. Reading and Spelling exercises every week by the school. Students preparing for college may pursue a course adapted to that end.

*Statistics of Births, Marriages and Deaths.*

## BIRTHS.

The whole number of Births registered for the year 1876, was 120. Males, 61; Females, 59.

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Number born in January,                  | 4     |
| February,                                | 11    |
| March,                                   | 9     |
| April,                                   | 4     |
| May,                                     | 9     |
| June,                                    | 7     |
| July,                                    | 10    |
| August,                                  | 9     |
| September,                               | 14    |
| October,                                 | 12    |
| November,                                | 15    |
| December,                                | 16    |
|  | <hr/> |
|  | 120   |
| Both parents American,                   | 36    |
| Portuguese,                              | 54    |
| Novo Scotian,                            | 9     |
| Irish,                                   | 3     |
| Father American and Mother Nova Scotian, | 4     |
| “ Portuguese and Mother American,        | 5     |
| “ “ “ “ English,                         | 1     |
| “ “ “ “ Nova Scotian,                    | 1     |
| “ English “ “ Irish,                     | 1     |
| “ “ “ “ American,                        | 4     |
| “ French “ “ “                           | 1     |
| “ Irish “ “ Nova Scotian,                | 1     |
|  | <hr/> |
|  | 120   |

## MARRIAGES.

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| The whole number of Marriages, | 42 |
| Married in Provincetown,       | 39 |
| In other towns,                | 3  |

## DEATHS.

The whole number of Deaths registered for 1876, was 87. Males, 52; Females, 35.

AGES.—Under 1 year, 20; from 1 to 20 years, 16; from 20 to 40 years, 13; from 40 to 60 years, 9; from 60 to 80 years, 25; over 80 years, 4.