

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN,

FOR THE

Year ending December 31, 1878.



BOSTON:

ALBERT J. WRIGHT, PRINTER,
79 MILK STREET (CORNER OF FEDERAL).

1879.

TOWN OFFICERS FOR 1878.

Selectmen and Assessors:

H. W. COWING.

BENJAMIN DYER.

D. C. COOK.

Overseers of the Poor:

BENJAMIN DYER.

D. C. COOK.

H. W. COWING.

Town Clerk and Treasurer:

SETH SMITH.

Collector of Taxes:

JONAH G. SMALL.

School Committee:

HENRY SHORTLE.

LYSANDER N. PAINE.

AUGUSTUS MITCHELL.

JOHN D. HILLIARD.

Chief Engineer Fire Department:

JOHN D. HILLIARD.

Assistant-Engineers:

JONATHAN COOK.

CHARLES A. COOK.

GEORGE O. KNOWLES.

L. N. PAINE.

ENOS N. YOUNG.

JOHN G. WHITCOMB.

Road Commissioners:

JOHN M. CARNES.

JOHN M. GRAHAM.

WALTER N. CONWELL.

Constables:

JOS. WHITCOMB. ROBT. D. BAXTER. DANIEL F. LEWIS. JOHN M. CARNES.

Fence Viewers:

ROBERT G. ALEXANDER.

JABEZ W. ATWOOD.

B. A. LEWIS.

Trustees of Town Library:

ISAIAH GIFFORD.

A. T. WILLIAMS.

J. D. HILLIARD.

R. W. SWIFT.

HORACE A. FREEMAN.

J. HERSEY DYER.

EDWIN N. PAINE.

Trustees of Sinking Fund:

EDMOND SMITH.

J. D. HILLIARD.

ATKINS NICKERSON.

Board of Health:

E. W. HOLWAY.

B. A. LEWIS.

DAVID S. KELLEY.

Beach-Grass Committee:

JABEZ W. ATWOOD.

JOSEPH PINKNEY.

HENRY ATKINS.

Surveyors of Lumber, &c.:

GEORGE ALLEN.

REUBEN SNOW.

N. C. BROOKS.

Field Driver:

CHARLES H. WALKER.

Pound Keeper:

CHARLES H. WALKER.

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 Dec. 31, 1878.

VALUE OF THE TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN, MAY 1, 1878.

Real estate,	\$1,000,386 00
Personal estate,	886,333 00
	\$1,886,719 00

Number of polls, at \$2 each,	1,134
“ of legal voters,	952
Rate of taxation on \$1,000,	\$20 50
Number of dwelling-houses,	852
“ of horses,	85
“ of cows,	32
Acres of land,	750

APPROPRIATIONS.

Support of poor,	\$4,616 00
Schools, in addition to balance in treasury,	6,500 00
School incidentals,	500 00
Fire department,	2,500 00
Reservoirs,	200 00
Public library,	325 00
Repairs on school-houses,	150 00

Roads and walks,	\$2,000 00
Interest on railroad loan,	3,023 50
Railroad debt,	2,000 00
Interest on demand loans,	1,750 00
Abatement of taxes,	150 00
Discount on taxes,	500 00
Incidental expenses,	4,000 00
State and county taxes,	3,800 00
Decoration day,	50 00
In aid of fish petition,	75 00
Town hill and fence,	25 00
Watch and police,	1,000 00
Amount appropriated in 1877 for special repairs on school-houses, and for watch, assessed in 1878,	7,500 00
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	\$40,664 50

Overlayings on taxes,	281 24
Non-resident bank tax,	2,231 65
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Amount to be collected,	\$43,177 39

SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid orders of overseers of poor,	\$4,431 23
Town appropriation,	\$4,616 00
Received from towns, individ- uals, and State,	87 01
Balance in treasury December 31,	271 78
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	\$4,703 01 \$4,703 01

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Paid orders school committee,	\$7,143 08
Town appropriation,	\$6,500 00

Massachusetts School Fund,	\$239 71
Balance in treasury Jan. 1, 1878,	2,884 30
“ “ “ Dec. 31, '78,	\$2,480 93
	<hr/>
	\$9,624 01 \$9,624 01

ROADS AND SIDEWALKS.

Paid orders road commissioners,	\$2,373 34
Town appropriation,	\$2,000 00
Credit by sale of old plank,	6 25
Deficiency,	367 09
	<hr/>
	\$2,373 34 \$2,373 34

TOWN HILL AND FENCE.

Paid Benjamin Dyer's bill of nails,	\$3 32
John Young, labor on and care of hill,	10 30
George Allen, lumber for fence,	9 92
Town appropriation,	\$25 00
Cash in treasury to balance,	1 46
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	\$25 00 \$25 00

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Paid Salome A. Gifford, salary for the year,	\$180 00
William R. Mitchell, assistant- librarian,	91 00
Spurr & Holmes, one barrel of kerosene oil,	7 90
Widow Rachel Small, cleaning library-room,	5 00
W. H. H. Weston, bill of sun- dries,	3 65

Paid Freeman Hilliard, coal and wood,		\$8 25	
J. A. West, table, bucket, &c.,		5 35	
Town appropriation,	\$325 00		
Balance in treasury Dec. 31, '78,		23 85	
	<u>\$325 00</u>	<u>\$325 00</u>	

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Paid orders engineers,		\$2,470 15	
Town appropriation,	\$2,500 00		
Balance in treasury Dec. 31, '78,		29 85	
	<u>\$2,500 00</u>	<u>\$2,500 00</u>	

WATCH AND POLICE.

Paid night watch and police, to Dec. 31, 1878,		\$777 38	
Town appropriation,	\$1,000 00		
Balance in treasury Dec. 31, '78,		222 62	
	<u>\$1,000 00</u>	<u>\$1,000 00</u>	

TUBULAR RESERVOIRS.

Paid orders of engineers,		-	
Town appropriation,	\$200 00		
Balance in treasury, Dec. 31, '78,		\$200 00	
	<u>\$200 00</u>	<u>\$200 00</u>	

DISCOUNT ON TAXES.

Paid Jonah G. Small, discount on taxes, 1878,		\$542 09	
Town appropriation,	\$500 00		
Deficiency,	42 09		
	<u>\$542 09</u>	<u>\$542 09</u>	

INTEREST ON RAILROAD LOAN.

Paid to sinking fund commissioners,		\$3,023 50	
Town appropriation,	\$3,023 50		
	<u>\$3,023 50</u>	<u>\$3,023 50</u>	

SURPLUS RAILROAD DEBT.

Paid sinking fund commissioners,		\$2,000 00	
Town appropriation,	\$2,000 00		
	<u>\$2,000 00</u>	<u>\$2,000 00</u>	

INTEREST ON DEMAND LOANS.

Paid to individuals and banks,		\$1,801 25	
Town appropriation,	\$1,750 00		
Deficiency,	51 25		
	<u>\$1,801 25</u>	<u>\$1,801 25</u>	

REPAIRS ON SCHOOL-HOUSES.

Paid orders of school committee,		\$150 47	
Town appropriation,	\$150 00		
Deficiency,	47		
	<u>\$150 47</u>	<u>\$150 47</u>	

TOWN LOANS.

Demand loans unpaid, Dec. 31, 1877, \$29,732 00			
“ in 1878,	6,150 00		
Paid on demand loans in 1878,		\$18,750 00	
Demand loans unpaid, Dec. 31, 1878,		17,132 00	
	<u>\$35,882 00</u>	<u>\$35,882 00</u>	

SCHOOL INCIDENTALS.

Paid orders of school committee,	\$854 33	
Town appropriation,	\$500 00	
Deficiency,	354 33	
	<u>\$854 33</u>	\$854 33

STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.

Paid State treasurer,	\$1,100 00	
County "	1,643 55	
Town appropriation,	\$3,800 00	
Balance in treasury, Dec. 31, '78,	1,056 45	
	<u>\$3,800 00</u>	\$3,800 00

ABATEMENT ON TAXES.

Paid orders of assessors,	\$336 77	
Town appropriation,	\$150 00	
Received for extra taxes,	84 83	
Interest on taxes of 1877,	80 94	
Deficiency,	21 00	
	<u>\$336 77</u>	\$336 77

STATE AID.

Paid aid for the year ending Dec. 31,		
1878,	\$438 00	
Received from State, for aid of		
1877,	\$554 67	
Balance in the treasury,	116 67	
	<u>\$554 67</u>	\$554 67

DECORATION DAY.

Paid treasurer Army and Navy Association,	\$36 49	
Town appropriation,	\$50 00	
Balance in treasury, Dec. 31, '78,	13 51	
	<u>\$50 00</u>	\$50 00

EAST HARBOR CAUSEWAY.

Town appropriation in 1877,	\$2,500 00	
Paid orders of committee on causeway, 1878,	\$2,343 91	
Balance in treasury, Dec. 31, '78,	156 09	
	<u>\$2,500 00</u>	\$2,500 00

FISH PETITION.

Paid committee in aid of petition,	\$66 60	
Town appropriation,	\$75 00	
Balance in treasury, Dec. 31, '78,	8 40	
	<u>\$75 00</u>	\$75 00

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Paid county of Barnstable, for rent of lock-up,	\$20 00	
N. H. Dill, fence viewer's services for 1877,	5 00	
" school committee services for 1876 and 1877,	52 50	
Mrs. B. F. Hutchinson, school committee services for 1876 and 1877,	107 00	
L. N. Paine, school committee services for 1876 and 1877,	35 00	
R. W. Swift, school committee services for 1876 and 1877,	33 75	

Paid Augustus Mitchell, school committee services for 1876 and 1877,	\$47 50
Henry Shortle, school committee services for 1876 and 1877,	73 75
Seth Smith, treasurer's services,	250 00
“ postage, expressage, and stationery,	37 33
“ attending meetings and recording,	27 90
“ sealer of weights and measures,	20 00
“ recording births, marriages, and deaths,	72 80
“ attending meeting at Truro,	3 00
B. F. Hutchinson, expense and services to Boston,	25 00
“ legal advice, &c.,	80 50
J. P. Johnson, moderator's fees,	9 00
“ office rent,	100 00
“ State agent,	24 00
Edward Marston, crying meeting,	2 00
J. W. Beatty, truant returns,	6 75
Goss & Richards, printing town warrants and receipts,	6 50
“ printing town and school reports for 1877,	157 50
“ advertising,	2 00
F. P. Goss, advertising poor proposals, &c.,	11 50
“ advertising board of health, treasurer's notices, &c.,	12 25
“ advertising selectmen's notices, &c.,	27 75
George A. Smith, printing,	11 00
“ stationery,	12 00
N. D. Freeman, passage and expense to Boston,	21 00

Paid H. W. Cowing, passage and expense to Boston,	\$12 00
Joshua Cook, care of lock-up,	25 00
Willis Higgins, labor on school-houses,	1 25
Alfred Small, “ “	5 70
“ “ almshouse,	5 23
Morris & Ireland, one safe,	70 00
Old Colony Railroad, freight on safe,	2 78
Engineers' salaries for the year,	85 00
C. H. Walker, labor and stock on almshouse,	7 50
Benjamin Dyer, stationery, &c.,	4 85
Heman S. Cook, selling remains of bridge,	3 00
John Caton, labor in cemetery,	20 20
Barnabas Turner, labor in cemetery,	11 20
James Lecount, “ “	7 20
Samuel L. Smith, “ “	12 20
Henry Havender, “ “	8 00
Wm. H. Taylor, “ “	4 00
Robert Knowles, labor and care of cemetery,	92 58
Andrew Kennedy, turning posts for cemetery fence,	4 20
George Allen, lumber for cemetery fence,	13 08
“ “ almshouse,	1 17
James Gifford, list of vessels' enrolments,	25 00
P. C. Young, post-office box rent one year,	1 00
A. T. Williams, entertainment of Standish Guards,	23 28
Mrs. John Burk, cleaning town office,	2 25
Augustus Mitchell, use of Masonic Hall,	5 00
J. M. Day, legal advice,	2 00
R. G. Alexander, services as fence viewer,	5 00
B. A. Lewis, “ “	5 00
Jabez W. Atwood, “ “	5 00
“ services as beach-grass committee,	5 00

Paid Henry Atkins, services as beach-grass committee,	\$5 00	
Samuel Knowles, use of teams,	9 00	
Board of health, services and fees,	62 00	
J. W. Anthony, labor on almshouse,	8 35	
Hiram Holmes, fixtures for almshouse,	6 01	
Assessing taxes,	578 50	
J. G. Small, collecting taxes,	404 78	
Freeman & Hilliard, coal and wood for town office,	7 48	
“ indexing files,	70	
Selectmen's services for the year,	400 00	
Overseers of the poor “	380 00	
A. L. Putnam & Co., one book for the assessors,	2 38	
J. E. & G. Bonly & Co., teaming stone to L. Point and dike,	3 50	
J. A. West, rope for undertaker's use,	1 40	
		\$3,638 05
Town appropriation,	\$4,000 00	
Balance in treasury, Dec. 31, '78,	361 95	
		<u>\$4,000 00</u> <u>\$4,000 00</u>

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1878.

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,	\$239 71
County dog fund,	109 75

Borrowed money,	\$6,150 00
H. W. Cowing, taxes 1877,	9,548 73
Bridge material sold,	156 00
Town of Truro, on account of bridge, 1877,	14 79
Junk licenses,	12 00
Corporation tax, 1877,	42
Corporation tax, 1878,	547 87
State national bank tax,	857 52
State aid, 1877,	554 67
State, on account of poor,	19 50
Town of Brewster, on account of poor,	24 36
Received from individuals,	43 15
County of Barnstable,	3 58
Sinking fund commissioners,	50
Material from sidewalk,	6 25
Old hose and leather,	1 26
Permits issued by State agent,	11 00
Interest on taxes of 1877,	80 94
J. G. Small, taxes,	35,217 99
Cash in the treasury Jan. 1, 1878,	3,097 02
	<u>\$56,697 01</u>

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

Support of poor,	\$4,315 23
Schools,	7,143 08
Roads and sidewalks,	2,373 34
Town hill and fence,	23 54
Public library,	410 90
Fire department,	2,471 41
Night watch and police,	777 38
School-house repairs,	150 47
School incidentals,	854 33
Memorial day,	36 49

Surplus railroad debt,	\$2,000 00
Interest on railroad loan,	3,023 50
Interest on demand loans,	1,801 25
Incidental expenses,	3,276 02
State aid,	438 00
Abatement on taxes,	336 77
Demand loans,	18,750 00
Discount on taxes,	542 09
State tax,	1,100 00
County tax,	1,640 55
Bank tax, non-resident,	2,231 76
Soldiers's aid,	116 00
Fish petition,	66 60
Causeway at East Harbor,	2,312 16
John M. Carnes,	116 00
Balance in the treasury Dec. 31, 1878,	387 14
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	\$56,697 01

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Loans of individuals,	\$17,132 00
Public schools,	2,480 93
Public library,	44 89
Awards on roads,	346 30
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	\$20,004 12

The following are reported as the assets of the town:—

Due from the State for State aid, 1878,	\$438 00
Due from the State for soldiers' aid, 1878,	116 00
Taxes of 1877 not collected,	1,080 00
Taxes of 1878 not collected,	7,959 40
Lewis A. Smith,	146 74
Cash in the treasury Dec. 31, 1878,	387 14
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	\$10,127 28

Town debt Dec. 31, 1878,	\$9,876 84
Town debt Dec. 31, 1877,	21,030 72
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Decreased the past year,	\$11,153 88

Respectfully submitted.

H. W. COWING,
BENJ DYER,
D. C. COOK,
Selectmen of Provincetown.

PROVINCETOWN, Dec. 31, 1878.

STATISTICS

OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

The whole number of births registered for the year 1878 was 111. Males, 58; females, 53.

Number born in January,	6
February,	10
March,	3
April,	5
June,	15
July,	6
August,	19
September,	10
October,	12
November,	13
December,	12

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Both parents American,	36
Portuguese,	38
Irish,	4
British Provinces,	6
Spanish,	1
Mixed,	26

111

MARRIAGES.

Whole number of marriages,	36
Married in Provincetown,	33
In other towns,	3

DEATHS.

The whole number of deaths registered for 1878 was 69. Males, 46; females, 23. Ages: Under 1 year, 18; from 1 to 20 years, 14; from 20 to 40 years, 18; from 40 to 60 years, 6; from 60 to 80 years, 8; over 80 years, 5.

SETH SMITH, *Town Clerk.*

PROVINCETOWN, Dec. 31, 1878.

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. 31, 1878.

SUPPORT OF THE POOR IN THE ALMSHOUSE.

Paid salary of superintendent,	\$260 00
Groceries and provisions,	829 08
Fuel and lights,	73 17
Clothing and bedding,	106 26
Boots and shoes,	28 70
House-furniture and fixtures,	15 31
Stoves and repairs,	22 99
Medicine and medical attendance,	80 00
Funeral expenses,	12 75
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	\$1,428 26

STATISTICS OF THE ALMSHOUSE.

Whole number supported the past year,	11
Remaining in the almshouse Jan. 1, 1879,	10
Average,	11
Discharged,	1
Admitted,	1
Number of tramps the past year,	124

WHEN ADMITTED, AND AGE AT THIS DATE.

Zilla Howe,	April, 1851,	Age 49 years.
Joseph Ghen,	" 1861,	54 "
Lydia Nickerson,	Sept. 1870,	71 "
Rebecca Hill,	Dec. 1869,	32 "
Reuben A. Smith,	" 1871,	29 "
Joseph A. Hill,	Oct. 1873,	6 "
Willie C. Curren,	May, 1873,	14 "
Edward Lewis,	Oct. 1876,	69 "
Hannah Days,	Sept. 1876,	25 "
Francis Hamilton,	Oct. 1878,	59 "

SUPPORT OF THE POOR OUT OF ALMSHOUSE.

Ellen Fine and children,	\$395 63
Susan Terry and child, Dennis,	49 75
Theodore Newcomb, Barnstable,	13 00
Nahum Haynes,	29 00
Mary Jason and children, widow,	96 00
James M. Lewis and family,	65 64
Laura A. Hooton and children,	157 70
Lucy A. Hill, Harwich,	64 00
George W. Newcomb,	64 00
Catherine Atwood, Boston,	14 84
Martha Bailey and children,	39 46
Jenette Mitchell and children,	9 02
Samuel A. Atwood and family,	7 64
Mary A. Briggs,	6 45
Mary A. Little,	36 00
Martha A. Curren, widow,	4 00
George W. Freeman and family, Boston,	1 38
Priscilla Bush, widow,	65 47
Hannah G. Holway and son, widow,	154 05
Francis Wareham,	104 67

Ella F. Collins and children,	\$95 61
Robert McInnis and family,	5 25
Manuel Tarvers,	6 00
Jesse Vere,	15 76
John Tarvers,	9 04
Thomas McCarthy and family,	77 25
Flora Frates and children, widow,	70 09
William Smith,	116 00
Ida Newcomb, Harwich,	117 00
John Silver,	24 00
Joseph A. Smith and family,	24 68
M. S. Thomas and family,	41 23
Samuel Whorf,	145 15
Hiram B. Nickerson and family,	17 96
Josiah Ghen and family,	21 67
Helen Oliver and child,	85 90
Mary S. Rogers and children,	39 35
Jesse W. Smith and family, Easton,	48 66
Louisa P. Baxter,	8 17
Francis Y. Freeman and family,	34 40
Justine Costa,	27 53
John J. Roberts and family,	6 23
Joan Jason and children, widow,	31 03
Sarah Caton and children,	63 21
Margaret Hill, widow,	23 85
Manuel Jones and family,	3 13
Peter Enos,	11 72
James C. Dunham,	14 88
Widow Eliza Mecurdy,	33 00
Antoane Marshall and family,	13 21
John Swarts, Truro,	9 00
John Burke,	23 54
Henry Atkins,	18 53
Ida Silver,	4 00
Francis Hamilton, Melrose,	188 67

Maria Gross and child, Gloucester,	\$21 00
Widow Mary Ellis and children,	6 00
King Rogers' children,	10 00
Widow Mary Silver and children,	10 33
Joseph Farara and family,	10 32
William Whalen and family,	13 35
Manuel F. Avela,	10 50
James Smith,	3 08
John Jason,	3 63
Widow Julia Powers,	2 48
Widow Hannah Ryder,	5 46
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Add expense in the house,	\$3,002 97
	1,428 26
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	\$4,431 23
Less amount paid for poor by State and towns,	87 01
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Cost of poor to this town the past year,	\$4,344 22
Amount appropriated for the poor,	4,616 00
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Balance in the treasury,	\$271 78

Respectfully submitted,

BENJ. DYER,
DANIEL C. COOK
H. W. COWING,

Overseers of the Poor of Provincetown.

PROVINCETOWN, Dec. 31, 1878.

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE SINKING FUND.

Treasurer's statement for the year ending, Dec. 31, 1878:

Cash on hand from last report, . . . \$1,346 41

RECEIPTS.

Interest on investments, . . . \$1,641 55
 Town appropriation for interest, . . . 3,023 50
4,665 05

Sale U. S. bonds, . . . \$26,773 12
 Sale municipal bonds, . . . 15,292 50
42,065 62

Sale town loan due 1890, . . . \$2,000 00
 Premium on town loan, 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., . . . 35 00
2,035 00

Town appropriation on account railroad debt, . . . 2,000 00
 Call loan, Seamen's Savings Bank, . . . 669 42
\$52,781 50

DISBURSEMENTS.

Seamen's Savings Bank, railroad loan, . . . \$48,300 00

Interest on railroad loan at 7 per cent., . . . \$3,381 00
\$51,681 00
 Interest on municipal loan (issued by town), \$22,000, at 5 per cent., . . . 1,100 00
 Balance paid Town Treasurer, . . . 50
\$52,781 50

The funds in the hands of the Treasurer being insufficient to meet the obligations maturing at the Seamen's Savings Bank Aug. 1, 1878, your Commissioners sold the balance of the bonds (\$2,000) authorized by the vote of February, 1877, and made a temporary loan at the above bank for \$669.42 to cover the balance as authorized by the vote of February, 1878.

Outstanding obligations of the town for "Railroad Debt" to date are,—

MUNICIPAL LOAN.

Fives, due 1879, . . . \$2,000 00
 " " 1880, . . . 2,000 00
 " " 1881, . . . 2,000 00
 " " 1882, . . . 2,000 00
 " " 1883, . . . 2,000 00
 " " 1884, . . . 2,000 00
 " " 1885, . . . 2,000 00
 " " 1886, . . . 2,000 00
 " " 1887, . . . 2,000 00
 " " 1888, . . . 2,000 00
 " " 1890, . . . 2,000 00

Demand loan, due 1879, . . . \$24,000 00
 . . . 669 42
Total, . . . \$24,669 42

In conclusion your Commissioners respectfully ask the following appropriations :—

For bonds coming due Aug. 1, 1879, . . .	\$2,000 00
demand loan due Aug. 1, 1879, . . .	669 42
interest 5 per cent. town loan, \$24,000, . . .	1,200 00
interest 6 per cent. demand loan, . . .	40 17
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	\$3,909 59

All of which is respectfully submitted.

EDMUND SMITH,
J. D. HILLIARD,
ATKINS NICKERSON,
Sinking Fund Commissioners.

PROVINCETOWN, Dec. 31, 1878.

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

DISBURSEMENTS.

Salaries one year to May 1, 1878.

230 members, at \$5,	\$1,150 00
4 stewards, at \$50,	200 00
1 steward,	25 00
1 steward,	20 00
1 steward,	5 00
Total salaries,	<hr/>
	\$1,400 00

Reservoirs—cleaning and repairs,	20 55
Apparatus—repairs, painting, and varnishing,	145 81
Houses—repairs and rebuilding platforms,	93 78
Hose—repairs,	28 70
Hose—new suction and connecting coupling for Engine No. 5,	51 00
Flag—1 new for Engine No. 2,	16 50
Flag—repairs,	5 00
Fuel and lights,	86 64
Printing,	15 25
Badges,	10 55
Lantern globes,	5 10
Horse hire at fires and alarms, 1877 and 1878,	28 00
Incidentals,	314 53
	<hr/>
	\$2,221 41

Advance payment on account of 500 feet new hose,	\$250 00	
		<u>\$2,471 41</u>
Appropriation,	\$2,500 00	
Received from sale of old hose and leather,	1 26	
Balance in town treasury,		<u>29 85</u>
	<u>\$2,501 26</u>	<u>\$2,501 26</u>

Fire department property in charge of the Engineers, and its estimated value:—

Engine No. 1 and hose carriage,	\$2,000 00
No. 2 “ “ “	2,000 00
No. 3 “ “ “	1,000 00
No. 4 “ “ “	1,000 00
No. 5 “ “ “	400 00
Reserve engine (old No. 1) and hose carriage.	200 00
Relief hose-carriage No. 1,	75 00
Hook-and-ladder truck and apparatus,	500 00
Engine-houses Nos. 1 and 2, \$1,200 each,	2,400 00
“ “ Nos. 3 and 4, \$1,500 each,	3,000 00
Engine-house No. 5,	500 00
Hook-and-ladder house,	1,500 00
350 feet cotton and leather hose,	50 00
2,250 feet 2-inch linen hose,	1,125 00
700 feet 2½-inch linen hose,	425 00
1,000 feet 2½-inch cotton hose,	800 00
500 feet 2½-inch cotton hose, part paid,	250 00
31 brick reservoirs,	5,000 00
6 tube reservoirs,	500 00
Powder-chest and powder,	45 00
	<u>\$22,770 00</u>

The alarms of fire have not been numerous the past year.

The department has seen no active services since the burning of the Town-House, in February, 1877.

January 5, an alarm was given for a burning chimney at house of Horace Watson, at 7.15 P. M. No damage.

July 13, alarm at 3.10 A. M., for burning of Smith & Chase's slaughter-house, situated on "first sand-hill," near Webber's Pond. Loss, \$2,200; insurance, \$1,500. This fire being so far away, and in a lonely spot, it was not discovered until the entire building was wholly enveloped in flames and was totally destroyed, with its contents, including two horses and a number of swine. The origin of this fire is unknown. The Tiger Engine No. 5 was only used to cool off the remains.

There have been quite a number of slight fires discovered and extinguished without alarm or damage, and the causes have been various.

We can but congratulate this community on its freedom from the devouring element, and particularly for the entire absence of incendiarism, that has been so active in other sections of the country.

The spirit of the department, we are pleased to state, is good, and though idleness begets inactivity, we feel that it is not so in this department, but that every member is as ready and prompt to respond as all have been in the past.

HOSE.

This subject was, in our last report, brought to your notice, with a suggestion that five hundred feet of hose be purchased, so as to supply Engine No. 5 with a needed want, in which item this engine has not been fully equipped. Acting upon this, and having a surplus of \$250 remaining of the appropriation, we have made a purchase of 500 feet 2½-inch rubber-lined cotton hose for	\$450 00
Paying on account,	250 00
Leaving a balance due of	<u>\$200 00</u>

which amount, by agreement, is to be paid at the convenience of the town during the coming year. With this addition, the serviceable hose on hand will be,—

150 feet leather, old.
 200 feet riveted cotton, old.
 2,250 feet 2-inch rubber-lined linen.
 700 feet 2½-inch rubber-lined linen.
 1,500 feet 2½-inch rubber-lined cotton.
 50 feet 2½-inch rubber-lined cotton.

4,850 feet, total,

Which is distributed as follows:—

Engine No. 1,	. . .	700 feet 2½-inch linen.
		300 feet 2-inch linen.
Engine No. 2,	. . .	500 feet 2½-inch cotton.
		500 feet 2-inch linen.
Engine No. 3,	. . .	500 feet 2½-inch cotton.
		500 feet 2-inch linen.
Engine No. 4,	. . .	550 feet 2½-inch cotton.
		450 feet 2-inch linen.
Engine No. 5,	. . .	500 feet 2-inch linen.
Relief Hose No. 1,	. . .	150 feet leather.
		200 feet riveted cotton.

4,850 feet, total.

The engines, the past season, have all had the paint-work renewed, or touched up, and all of them were varnished. They are all of them in good working order.

The houses are generally in good order, ordinary repairs and a small amount of painting only being needed the coming season.

PERMANENT LADDERS ON CHURCHES.

We again call the attention of the proprietors of the several churches to the mention heretofore made, and the necessity existing, of having permanent ladders on the roofs and partly down the sides of these buildings, believing the benefits to be derived in quickly reaching all parts of the roofs in the shortest possible time, if necessity should require, will, in some future day, be the salvation not only of the building, but others surrounding.

At the last annual meeting, \$200 was appropriated for tube reservoirs. Your Engineers have carefully watched the working of those now in use, finding that when not used for some time the water first coming from them is very rusty. Before putting down the two, which could have been done for the appropriation, we thought best to ascertain, if possible, at what price brass or copper tubes could be furnished in place of iron. Up to the close of the season, satisfactory figures had not been obtained, and we have rested the work. Use demonstrates that these reservoirs are available, which is not only shown here, but in other sections of the country; and if the finances of the town will warrant, we ask that the same amount be re-appropriated for this purpose the coming year.

THE OFFICERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, DEC. 31, 1878.

Chief Engineer.

J. D. Hilliard.

Assistant Engineers.

Jonathan Cook.

Enos N. Young.

Charles A. Cook.

George O. Knowles.

Lysander N. Paine.

John G. Whitcomb.

Clerk of the Board of Engineers.

Lysander N. Paine.

Ulysses Engine, No. 1.

E. Parker Cook,	Foreman.
G. C. Rich,	Assistant-foreman.
Joseph Beckus,	Assistant-foreman.
H. A. Jennings,	Clerk.
Caleb Fisher,	Steward.

Fifty paid members. Thirty-one volunteer members without pay.

Franklin Engine, No. 2.

A. Frank Hopkins,	Foreman.
Thomas Lowe,	Assistant-foreman.
Warren Fielding,	Assistant-foreman.
Joshua Cook,	Clerk.
P. S. Cutter,	Steward.

Fifty paid members. Forty-seven volunteer members without pay.

Mazeppa Engine, No. 3.

Edward A. Dyer,	Foreman.
N. P. West,	Assistant-foreman.
Walter Cook,	Assistant-foreman.
Heman S. Cook,	Clerk.
Lemuel Cook, 2d,	Steward.

Fifty paid members. Thirty-seven volunteer members without pay.

Excelsior Engine, No. 4.

George H. Holmes,	Foreman.
David N. Ghen,	Assistant-foreman.
George Allen,	Assistant-foreman.
W. B. Smith,	Clerk.
Sumner Bragdon,	Steward.

Fifty paid members. Forty-one volunteer members without pay.

Tiger Engine, No. 5.

Edward A. Paine,	Foreman.
George Miller,	Assistant-foreman.
John Adams,	Assistant-foreman.
Isaac N. Smith,	Clerk.
Jonathan Hill,	Steward.

Sixty-one volunteer members without pay.

Rescue Hook and Ladder, No. 1.

N. D. Freeman,	Foreman.
James A. Small,	Assistant-foreman.
Andrew T. Williams,	Clerk.
Charles A. Young,	Steward.

Twenty-five paid members. Five volunteer members without pay.

Relief Hose, No. 1.

James Young,	Foreman.
Enoch N. Sumner,	Assistant-foreman.
James Small,	Clerk.

Five paid members.

APPROPRIATION.

For the payment of salaries, and the ordinary expenses and repairs of this department, there will be required the sum of	\$2,000 00
To pay balance of hose bill,	200 00
Total,	\$2,200 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. D. HILLIARD,
JONATHAN COOK,
CHARLES A. COOK,
L. N. PAINE,
ENOS N. YOUNG,
GEO. O. KNOWLES,
J. G. WHITCOMB,

Engineers of the Fire Department.

PROVINCETOWN, Dec. 31, 1878.

RESERVOIRS AND THEIR LOCATION.

- No. 1. Commercial St., near Stephen Nickerson's store.
2. West Vine St., near Commercial St.
3. Commercial St., opposite Nickerson St.
4. " near house Engine No. 2.
5. School St., near Western School-house.
6. Franklin St., near Parallel St. (tube).
7. Commercial St., front of J. F. Hopkins' store.
8. Off Pleasant St., near Brown & Watson's house.
9. Commercial St., near J. F. Crocker's shop (poor).
10. " " " "
11. Parallel St., near Silas Atkins' house (tube).
12. Leverett St., near Parallel St.
13. Head of Crocker & Atwood's Wf. (Nickerson's pat).
14. Commercial St., near house Engine No. 4.
15. Court St., near upper end G. Bowley's house (poor).
16. High St., on premises Horace Watson.
17. Commercial St., front M. L. Adams' block (tube).
18. " near Jesse Cook's house (poor).
19. " " " "
20. Parallel St., near C. B. Snow's house (tube).
21. " head Forrest St.
22. Commercial St., opposite Ryder St.
23. Parallel St., near Centre School-house.
24. Com'l St., near O. C. Railroad Crossing (hydrant).
25. Commercial St., front Alex Gaylon's house (poor).
26. " head Freeman & Hilliard's Wharf.

- No. 27. Commercial St., under Isaiah Gifford's barn.
28. " near house Engine No. 3 (tube).
29. " opposite Pearl St.
30. Head Stephen Cook's Wharf (poor).
31. Parallel St., junction of Pearl St. (tube).
32. Head of Daniel Small's Wharf.
33. Commercial St., near Reuben Ryder's house.
34. " front Solomon Adams' barn.
35. " near S. S. Swift's shop.
36. " near Eastern School-house.
37. " opposite Edwin Mayo's house.
38. " near B. A. Lewis & Co.'s shop
(tube).
39. Commercial St., opposite John Swift's house.

REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Trustees of the Public Library of Provincetown, respectfully submit their Annual Report:

The Trustees would have it understood that the first report below applies only to the Library Fund, which, in their opinion, if judiciously managed, is sufficient, with the sum annually received from the dog tax, to meet the requirements of the library in the purchase and expense of repairing books, for the present.

Balance of donations in treasury, last report,	\$603 60
Received from dog-tax fund, 1877,	109 75
from fines and catalogues,	25 00
from dividend Seamen's Savings Bank,	11 40
	<hr/>
	\$749 75

Paid A. L. Putnam & Co., bill,	
1877-78,	\$7 07
F. P. Goss, printing,	32 50
Old Colony Railroad, express,	1 60
Higgins, Snow & Co., paper,	8 84
Estes & Lauriat, books,	102 58
William Allen, rebinding,	25 80
Insurance,	20 00
Postal cards and stationery,	95
	<hr/>
	199 34

Balance cash on hand,	\$550 41
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Cash deposited in Seamen's Savings Bank,	\$542 60
in treasurer's hands,	7 81
	<hr/>
	\$550 41

CONDITION OF THE LIBRARY.

Number of books in library last report,	2,574
purchased during the year,	95
presented,	14
	<hr/>
Present number,	2,683

CIRCULATION.

The aggregate circulation of the year has been,	20,192
Names in the register Jan. 1, 1878,	1,358
Added in 1878,	120
	<hr/>
Making the present number,	1,478

The Trustees would recommend an appropriation of \$325 to meet the expenses of the current year.

Appropriation for the annual expenses of the town library is \$325, which the town treasurer has paid, as follows:—

Salome A. Gifford, librarian, salary,	\$180 00
William R. Mitchell, assistant-librarian, salary,	91 00
Spurr & Holmes, one barrel oil,	7 90
Cleaning library-room,	5 00
William H. H. Weston, sundries,	3 65
Freeman & Hilliard, coal and wood,	8 25
J. A. West, table, pails, &c.,	5 35
	<hr/>
	\$301 15
Balance in town treasury,	\$23 85

ISAIAH GIFFORD,
A. T. WILLIAMS,
JOHN D. HILLIARD,
JOSEPH H. DYER,
R. W. SWIFT,
HORACE A. FREEMAN,
EDWIN N. PAINE,

Trustees.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE.

Whole number of arrests, exclusive of liquor cases, 25

Males,	20
Females,	5
Residents,	20
Non-residents,	5
Adults,	17
* Juvenile offenders,	8
Native born,	17
Foreign born,	8

Of the above arrests there were for —

Assault and battery,	8
Breaking, entering, and larceny,	5
Disturbance of peace,	2
Setting bonfires,	4
Obtaining goods under false pretences,	1
Desertion from vessels,	5

Arrested on account of liquor, 21

Males,	15
Females,	6
Residents,	17
Non-residents,	4
Adults,	21
Native born,	2
Foreign born,	19

Above arrests made for the following offences: —

Selling without license,	6
Drunkenness,	15

Results of the above arrests: —

Fined for keeping and selling without license,	3
and sentenced for keeping without license,	2
and sentence suspended for keeping and selling without license,	1
for drunkenness,	5
Locked up for drunkenness,	4
Fines suspended,	6

Places searched and liquor found,	5
“ “ “ no liquor found,	2
Gallons seized,	32
forfeited by order of Court,	31
Lots “ “ “ “ “	5
Gallons returned, “ “ “ “	1
Lots “ “ “ “ “	1

Imposed and immediately collected: —

For intoxication: Fines \$1; costs \$16.40. Selling without license: Fines, \$150; costs, \$48.85, . . . \$216 25

Imposed and finally collected: —

Selling without license: Fines, \$50; costs, \$17.85, . . . 67 85
 Imposed and remitted by placing on good behavior:
 Fines, \$50; costs, \$12.60, 62 60
 Imposed, and in default of payment sent to House of Correction: Fines, \$50; costs, \$15.60, . . . 65 60

\$412 30

In addition to the above there have been assisted home and on board of vessels, eleven intoxicated persons.

We leave the question of an appropriation for this department with our citizens.

Thanks are hereby extended to the officers and citizens who have assisted this department in any manner.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOSEPH WHITCOMB,
Chief of Police.

PROVINCETOWN, Dec. 31, 1878.

REPORT OF THE ROAD COMMISSIONERS.

The Road Commissioners herewith submit their Annual Report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1878.

ROADS AND SIDEWALKS.

Appropriation by the town,	\$2,000 00
Old plank sold,	6 25
	<hr/>
	\$2,006 25
Deficiency,	367 09
	<hr/>
	\$2,373 34
Paid Joseph S. Atwood, labor, 1877,	\$20 25
Commissioners' salary, 1877,	45 00
" " 1878,	45 00
Rufus Williams, crying sale of bridge,	1 00
Rufus Williams, sods,	19 50
Ryder & Young, sods,	15 75
G. W. Standish, labor,	7 50
J. P. Johnson, selling at auction, clearing of snow from side- walks,	2 50
Nathaniel Hopkins, labor and material,	36 01
J. H. Livermore, labor and material,	11 97
J. & L. N. Paine, cartage,	75
James Fuller, labor and material,	23 51

Paid Dennis Scannell, labor, . . .	\$0 75
Isaiah A. Small, chain for dike,	3 62
Central Wharf Company, spikes and nails,	4 60
Asa Atkins, labor,	16 50
Samuel Knowles, labor,	27 50
Joseph Dears, labor,	20 12
Thomas N. Paine, clay,	11 00
Charles C. Atkins,	11 25
J. E. & G. Bowley, wharfage on clay,	16 10
James Cook, 2d, oyster-shells, .	4 50
S. S. Swift, clay,	30 00
N. O. Coulliard, labor,	10 20
Antoine Mark, clay,	25 00
B. A. Lewis, wharfage on clay,	21 40
Andrew Cole, labor,	6 15
Joseph B. Dyer, labor,	31 63
Owen Collins, clay and gravel, .	585 00
Freeman & Hilliard, nails, . . .	3 50
“ “ drain-pipe,	1 50
W. H. Hammond, labor,	1 25
H. W. Seaver, labor,	47 25
S. S. Smith, labor,	7 50
H. H. Watson, labor,	26 00
Charles Wright, labor,	173 62
W. A. Graham, labor,	7 50
Caleb Fisher, labor,	10 50
Joseph Mathew, labor,	8 50
Joseph Nichols, labor,	7 50
E. & E. R. Cook & Co., carting and wharfage on clay,	16 47
Reuben Freeman, labor,	4 69
David Conwell, spikes and nails,	20 91
“ carting clay,	12 25

Paid John M. Graham, labor, . . .	\$254 20
George Allen, lumber,	292 49
John M. Carnes, labor,	297 00
“ sods,	4 25
Clearing sidewalk of snow,	111 00
Uriah Small, stone,	29 40
	<hr/>
	\$2,373 34

MATERIAL FOR ROADS.

108 tons gravel, at \$1.75,	\$189 00
10 tons gravel, at \$1.10,	11 00
55 tons gravel, at \$1,	55 00
316 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons clay, at \$1.25,	396 00
5 loads oyster-shells, at 90 cents,	4 50
23 loads sods, at 25 cents,	5 75
130 loads sods, at 15 cents,	19 50
126 loads sods, at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents,	15 75
Wharfage on clay,	41 70
	<hr/>
	\$738 20

LABOR ON ROADS.

936 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours' labor, with team, at 50 cents,	\$468 25
391 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours' labor, at 25 cents,	97 82
	<hr/>
	566 07

MATERIAL FOR SIDEWALK.

773 $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds spikes and nails, . . .	\$29 09
10,600 feet plank, at \$24,	254 00
109 feet strips, at \$15,	1 63
164 sticks,	1 31
50 laths,	12
5 cedar posts,	1 35
	<hr/>
	287 50

LABOR ON SIDEWALKS.

180 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours' labor, with team, at 50 cents,	\$90 25	
80 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours' labor, at 30 cents,	24 15	
106 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours' labor, at 25 cents,	26 58	
	<hr/>	\$140 98

LABOR ON CAUSEWAY.

468 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours' labor, with team, at 50 cents,	\$234 25	
198 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours' labor, at 25 cents,	49 63	
Material,	4 68	
	<hr/>	288 56

SEWERS.

Labor and material, building two sewers,	120 03
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BULKHEADS.

Labor and material for repairing bulkhead and fence at the foot of Pleasant Street,	12 49
Labor and material repairing bulkhead on Lathrop's Hill,	15 01

Clearing sidewalks of snow,	\$111 00	
Selling clearing of same,	2 50	
	<hr/>	113 50

Crying sale of old bridge,	1 00
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Commissioners' salary, 1877,	\$45 00	
" " 1878,	45 00	
	<hr/>	90 00

\$2,373 34

By the foregoing Report it will be seen that the deficiency in our account has been caused principally by the extra labor performed on the causeway at East Harbor, a portion of it having sunk and had to be rebuilt.

We would recommend that a division line be established, and a stone bound be placed upon the same, so that each town may know what portion of the road belongs to them to keep in repair, and who will be liable for damages in case of accident.

The road leading from the terminus of the sidewalk to the hills, in the east part of the town, is in great danger from the action of the sea and wind, and unless some immediate action is taken in the matter in a few years the road will be destroyed. We would therefore recommend that there be built the present year a brush hedge, to protect the road from sand, and help secure the bank below it.

SIDEWALKS.

We have written to Messrs. Arey & Co., of Yarmouth Port, the parties who put down the piece of concrete walk last year, and agreed to keep it in repair for five years, that the walk was very much worn, and requested them to repair it. We would recommend an appropriation of \$3,000 for repairs on roads and sidewalks for the ensuing year.

JOHN M. CARNES,
JOHN M. GRAHAM,
Road Commissioners.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1878.

To the Inhabitants of Provincetown:

Your Board hereby submit their Annual Report:

There have been no contagious or epidemical diseases requiring the services of the Board the past year, with the exception of a few cases of diphtheria, which have been promptly attended to; two of the above cases being of a severe nature. The others were of a milder type.

Your Board have been repeatedly called upon, the past season, to attend to the removal of filth that has been allowed to accumulate. In most cases the inhabitants have shown a willingness to comply with the demands of the Board for the removal of the same, only a few cases occurring to the contrary; in such cases the same has been removed by the order of the Board. Your Board would call the attention of the people of the town to the folly of allowing filth of any kind to accumulate about the town, as it may be the means of welcoming contagious and other diseases, which, once allowed to gain a foothold, cannot be easily vanquished. In fact, the people themselves, if so minded, can be their own best board of health, as a little care on their part may be the means of warding off unwelcome diseases. The Board would recommend the adoption of efficient sanitary measures for the prevention of diseases.

They would call the attention of the town to the fact that they have no proper or suitable building for the reception of

patients afflicted with contagious diseases, the pest-house being in a terribly dilapidated condition, not worth repairing. They would further call the attention of the town to the decidedly unfit condition, to live in, of the house occupied by Mr. Henry Harvender, and, while not wishing to do or say anything to the detriment or harm of Mr. Harvender or family, cannot but express their opinion that something should be done in the premises to guard against disease.

Your Board were unfortunate in losing the services of one of their number, Mr. E. W. Holway, who was stricken with paralysis, early in the season, incapacitating him from all labors, the whole duty of attending to the health of the town devolving on the remaining members of the Board.

E. W. HOLWAY.
DAVID S. KELLEY.
BANGS A. LEWIS.

PROVINCETOWN, Dec. 23, 1878.

FINAL REPORT FOR SCHOOL YEAR 1877.

The whole number of scholars belonging to the Primary Departments, three hundred and seventy-four; average attendance, three hundred and twenty-three and eight-tenths; per cent. of attendance, eighty-eight and six-tenths.

Whole number belonging to Intermediate Departments, one hundred and sixty-three; average attendance, one hundred and forty-six and six-tenths; per cent., eighty-nine and nine-tenths.

Whole number in High Intermediate, one hundred and fifty-two; average attendance, one hundred and forty and nine-tenths; per cent., ninety-two and seven-tenths.

Whole number to Grammar School, one hundred and three; average attendance, ninety-two and four-tenths; per cent., eighty-nine and seven-tenths; over fifteen years of age, twenty-five.

Whole number to High School, fifty-four; average attendance, fifty-one and eight-tenths; per cent., ninety-five and eight-tenths; over fifteen years, thirty-five.

Whole number attending "Winter School" for adults, forty-two; average attendance, twenty-nine and forty-five one-hundredths; per cent., seventy; over fifteen years, thirty-five.

Whole number attending school the winter term, eight hundred and eighty-eight; average attendance, seven hundred and seventy-eight and ninety-five one-hundredths; per cent. of attendance, eighty-seven and six-tenths; number over fifteen years of age, one hundred and three.

Balance in treasury Jan. 1, 1878,	.	.	.	\$2,884	17
Paid for teaching,	.	.	.	\$2,325	27
for fires and sweeping,	.	.	.	198	50
				<hr/>	
				2,523	77
				<hr/>	
				\$360	40

HENRY SHORTLE.
ANNA J. HUTCHINSON.
REUBEN SWIFT.
AUG. MITCHELL.
L. N. PAINE.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR 1878.

Henry Shortle,	.	.	.	.	<i>Chairman.</i>
John D. Hilliard,	<i>Secretary.</i>

Committee on High School:

Henry Shortle.	John D. Hilliard.
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Committee on Grammar School:

Augustus Mitchell.	A. L. Putnam.
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Committee on High Intermediate Schools:

Henry Shortle.	Lysander N. Paine.
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Committee on Intermediate Schools:

Augustus Mitchell.	A. L. Putnam.
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Committee on Primary Schools:

Lysander N. Paine.	Henry Shortle.
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PRESENT CORPS OF TEACHERS.

High School:

J. B. Hingeley,	<i>Principal.</i>
Hattie F. Weeks,	<i>Assistant.</i>

Grammar School:

H. A. Freeman,	.	.	.	.	<i>Principal.</i>
Mary E. Emery,	.	.	.	.	<i>Assistant.</i>

High Intermediate Schools:

Rebecca D. Sparks.	Lizzie W. Clark.
Ella A. Small.	

Intermediate Schools:

Lizzie P. Chapman.	Addie S. Mitchell.
S. Lizzie Starre.	

Primary Schools:

M. Jennie Keefe.	Annie B. Frellick.
Abbie C. Sparks.	Lucinda W. Whorf.
Bessie G. Wiley.	Lois B. Hamlin.
Isalinda Chapman.	

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—In presenting our Annual Report, we are not unmindful of the fact that you have entrusted us with the administration of a chief, if not, indeed, the chief interest which, from year to year, it becomes your duty to provide for,—a subject which has engrossed the attention of the best minds, not only in our State, but in all the States of the Union, as well as the best and purest minds of all civilized lands; a subject occasioning, perhaps, more criticism than any other with which we, as citizens, have to do, yet lying at the foundation of all our prosperity. These are considerations which lead us to approach it with diffidence, and the desire to say that, and only that, which will be for the best interest of all concerned.

It is not the intention of the Committee to trouble you with a long report, aiming, rather, to make it as brief as the interests of the schools will admit. There are, however, a few matters demanding your attention, as well as ours, of which we purpose briefly to speak.

SUPERINTENDENCY.

We should have chosen a Superintendent at the commencement of the year, but did not feel authorized so to do. We therefore sub-divided the Committee, and the special care of the several schools was left with them, as last year.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

We might with propriety copy from last year's report in reference to our school buildings. What we have are good, in good repair, and very comfortable. Last year your attention was called to the fact that extra rooms had to be hired for the accommodation of the High, one Higher Intermediate, and the Young Men's Winter School. The lack of money forbade the continuance of the Winter School, but we are still compelled to rent rooms for two of the schools.

In view of the financial depression, and the reception which the suggestions of your Committee met last year, we should continue the same course without recommending any change, if it were not that some of the schools are overcrowded, to the prejudice of the children's health, and making it impossible for the teachers to render ample justice to each scholar, or accomplish the work prescribed by the Committee and demanded by the town.

With a few exceptions, the schools are full. All the Intermediate Schools have more scholars than one teacher can handle successfully, and it is impossible to do them justice. The same may be said, with even more emphasis, of three of our Primary Schools.

We find in the Grammar School rooms fifteen or twenty more scholars than desks; the classes are so large that the teachers can give but little attention to each scholar. It is true there will be a class sent up from this to the High School at the close of the present school year, but there are perhaps one-third more now waiting to enter the school than will be promoted and sent from it. We should be glad if our difficulty ended here; but it does not. Every desk is now occupied in the High School room; about twenty scholars will leave in the spring, and fifty are waiting to take their places.

What shall we do? Your Committee can see no way out

of the difficulty but to ask you to furnish more room for the accommodation of your children. A house sufficiently large to accommodate the High and Grammar Schools would relieve us from the necessity of hiring rooms which are too small, and otherwise unsuitable, and give us the two very pleasant rooms in the Centre house now used by the Grammar School; one of which would be used by our largest Higher Intermediate School, now occupying a hired room, and the other could be used for the relief of the now overburdened Primary Schools, or for a new Intermediate School.

TRUANCY.

In our last report we urged the attention of our citizens to this great evil (page 11, report of 1877), hoping the parents would exert themselves to rectify, if possible, this great wrong, and we are glad to report a change for the better in some of the districts. In others, there is no perceptible difference, and our Truant Committee have been almost powerless, though they have tried their best to effect a change, and have not failed at any time to do their duty, as they understood it; but the laws heretofore have not been sufficient to enable them to accomplish much, if anything, in a legal way. This evil has been so painfully felt throughout the State, and the statutes of the Commonwealth have been found so insufficient to meet it, that the Legislature of 1878 passed an Act obliging each town to adopt a code of by-laws for the suppression of truancy, under penalty of losing their apportionment of the annual income of the school fund. In harmony with this Act we submit the following form of by-laws for your consideration:—

BY-LAWS.

ART. 1. The town of Provincetown hereby avails itself of the several provisions of the statutes of this Common-

wealth, now in force, relating to habitual truants and absentees from school, and in pursuance of authority conferred thereby, adopts the following by-laws : —

ART. 2. All children between the ages of seven and fifteen years, residing in said town, and who may be found wandering about in the streets or public places of said town, having no lawful occupation or business, not attending school, and growing up in ignorance, shall be committed to any institution which has been provided by this Commonwealth, or may hereafter be provided by the State, or the county of Barnstable, or the town of Provincetown, for confinement, instruction, and discipline.

ART. 3. Two or more truant officers shall be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to inquire into all violations of the truant laws, and of the law relating to compulsory education, and to do all the acts required of them by the laws of the Commonwealth.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of every truant officer, previous to making any complaint under these laws, to notify the truant or absentee from school, also his parent or guardian, of the offence committed, and of the penalty therefor; and if the truant officer can obtain satisfactory pledges for the restraint and reformation of the child, he may, at his discretion, forbear to prosecute, so long as such pledges are faithfully kept.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the School Committee, the teachers of the public schools, and the citizens generally, to aid the truant officers, as far as possible, in the discharge of their duties.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the truant officers to keep a full record of all their official acts, and make an annual report thereof to the School Committee, who shall publish the same with their own report.

ART. 7. Nothing in these by-laws shall be so construed as to alter or impair the obligation and duty of teachers to

enforce punctuality and regularity of attendance, and to preserve good order and discipline.

HIGH SCHOOL.

This school has moved steadily forward during the year, and nothing has occurred to disturb its onward march; therefore, with faithful and conscientious teachers, and a band of industrious and devoted scholars, a good work has been accomplished. Many of the scholars show signs of marked ability. It is gratifying to know that the extreme end of the Cape, so far from being indifferent to the interests of education, — as it is very natural for our friends who are more favorably located to suppose, — has a High School unequalled by any in the county, and excelled by only a few in the State.

The system of monthly written examinations has been introduced into the school, and though attended with much extra work to the teachers, has proved a success, in calling for a constant review of the subject-matter passed over, and in giving an opportunity to correct any errors the pupil may have fallen into during the month. Thus, too, by comparing the standing of the scholar, according to the daily recitation, with the standing according to the written work, the true standing can be more accurately arrived at.

The whole number of scholars in this school during the spring term was seventy; fall term, sixty; and sixty-four the present term.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

The Grammar School has been under the same instructors and management as last year. The school for the past year has been larger than ever before; every desk has been filled, and fifteen or twenty scholars are seated on settees without desks. The order of the school is now, and has been during the year, very good. The large number of scholars necessitated strict and careful discipline, which has been promotive of very satisfactory results. Considering circumstances, the

progress of the scholars has been good indeed. Two teachers are now doing the work which requires three or four to do successfully. The number of scholars in school during the spring term, one hundred and thirty-seven; fall term, whole number, one hundred and sixteen; and the number belonging to the school Jan. 1, 1879, one hundred and thirty-three.

HIGH INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS.

These schools continue to do an excellent work, under the same faithful teachers as last year; everything has moved on pleasantly, so far as the immediate work of the schools has been concerned. The effects of truancy are seriously felt in these, as well as other schools. The surroundings of the school located in the centre of the town, are perhaps too familiar to the most of our citizens to need any comment at this time, as their attention was forcibly called to this school and its accommodations last year. Yet, notwithstanding the difficulties in the way, the school is doing a grand work.

Whole number of scholars: spring term, one hundred and fifty-one; fall term, one hundred and forty-five; and there are one hundred and thirty-eight the present term.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS.

The work in this grade of schools for the past year has been as good as the large number of scholars would possibly admit. The whole number of scholars in these schools during the spring term was one hundred and ninety-one; fall term, one hundred and eighty-two; and the present term, one hundred and eighty-three; average number, sixty-two; or twelve more than is allowed by law. The rate of advancement of the scholars in most cases has been good.

A great evil in these, as well as other schools, has been tardiness and truancy. Many of the boys are absent during the summer term, and when returning cannot be classed; having lost the intervening work, they make it more difficult for both

teacher and pupil to accomplish perfect work. The attention of parents is respectfully called to these facts, as, with their co-operation, we are satisfied these irregularities may, in a measure, be corrected.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

There are seven Primary Schools, and we are very fortunate in having an excellent corps of teachers in charge of them. We think it can truthfully be said that they are doing a better work now than ever before. It is wonderful, in some of these schools, to see the readiness of very small children in writing and in reading writing. At the close of the fall term Miss Mary E. Ryder, one of our most faithful and successful teachers, resigned her position as teacher of the Centre Primary School, and Miss Isalinda Chapman was chosen to fill the vacancy.

The whole number of scholars in these schools during the spring term was three hundred and twenty-three; fall term, three hundred and sixty-six; and three hundred and sixty-five the present term. The average attendance has been very good, and, considering the youthfulness of the scholars, remarkable, amounting on an average to ninety-five per cent.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

School-House Repairs.

S. D. Nickerson, stock and labor, Western and Conant Street school-house fences,	\$16 90
J. & L. N. Paine, sundry items,	26 40
Alexander Hamlin, mason, labor and material, . .	13 75
George Allen, fence lumber and lime,	24 14
Dyer & Smith, painting and glazing,	5 66
Alfred Small, labor and material, Eastern house,	8 40
Francis Joseph, painting,	2 45
George C. Hill, repairing fence,	4 75

Whitewashing fences by Paul Dyer, . . .	\$3 00
by Henry Harvender, 3 00	
by George C. Hill, 2 00	
	<hr/>
	\$8 00
J. A. West, glazing and repairs, . . .	5 02
	<hr/>
	\$115 47
Approved by committee of 1877, . . .	35 00
	<hr/>
Total school-house repairs, . . .	\$150 47
Appropriation, . . .	\$150 00
Deficiency, . . .	47
	<hr/>
	\$150 47

SCHOOL INCIDENTALS.

Spring and Fall Term.

M. W. Tewksbury, teachers and pupils' records, . . .	\$7 36
J. H. Barnard, examination papers, . . .	17 00
J. H. Dearborn, census of school children, . . .	18 00
William Sprague, cleaning privies, . . .	10 00
Mrs. O. B. Conant, cleaning Eastern school-rooms and outbuildings, . . .	17 00
Mrs. George C. Hill, cleaning Johnson Street school-room and outbuildings, . . .	6 50
Ellen Harvender, cleaning Centre school-rooms, . . .	15 00
Samuel Taylor, cleaning Western school-rooms, . . .	15 00
F. B. Gross, paper and printing, . . .	3 50
Sparrow & Snow, stove repairs, . . .	17 40
Hiram Holmes, stove repairs, . . .	4 82
W. H. H. Weston, stove repairs, . . .	1 92
A. L. Putnam & Co., text-books and supplies, . . .	44 56
George H. Holmes, High School apparatus, . . .	4 00
Freeman & Hilliard, supplies, . . .	19 96
J. M. Crocker, High School apparatus, . . .	13 56

J. A. West, school furniture and repairing Eastern school-house, . . .	\$28 12
Winter school, . . .	2 81
Centre school-house, . . .	23 54
High School, . . .	23 78
Western school-house, . . .	12 60
Conant Street school-house, . . .	12 00
	<hr/>
	\$102 85
A. W. Mitchell & Co., key tags, . . .	1 50
A. L. Putnam & Co., books supplied to pupils, . . .	115 53
	<hr/>
Amount of incidental expenses, . . .	\$435 46

Rents.

Winter term, 1877 and 1878, . . .	\$180 50
Spring term, vestry of Orthodox church for High School, 13 weeks, at \$225 for 38 weeks (\$5.79 per week), . . .	\$75 25
Estate Jeremiah Stone, room for High Intermediate 13 weeks, at \$4, . . .	52 00
	<hr/>
	127 25
Fall term, vestry of Orthodox church for High School, 12 weeks, at \$200 for 38 weeks (\$5.26 per week), . . .	\$63 12
Estate Jeremiah Stone, room for High Intermediate, 12 weeks, at \$4, . . .	48 00
	<hr/>
	111 12
Total rents, . . .	\$418 87
	<hr/>
Total incidental expenses and rent, . . .	\$854 33
	<hr/>
Appropriation, . . .	\$500 00
Deficiency, . . .	354 33
	<hr/>
	\$854 33

Whitewashing fences by Paul Dyer,	\$3 00	
by Henry Harvender,	3 00	
by George C. Hill,	2 00	
		<hr/> \$8 00
J. A. West, glazing and repairs,		5 02
		<hr/> \$115 47
Approved by committee of 1877,		35 00
		<hr/> \$150 47
Total school-house repairs,		\$150 47
Appropriation,	\$150 00	
Deficiency,		47
		<hr/> \$150 47

SCHOOL INCIDENTALS.

Spring and Fall Term.

M. W. Tewksbury, teachers and pupils' records,	\$7 36
J. H. Barnard, examination papers,	17 00
J. H. Dearborn, census of school children,	18 00
William Sprague, cleaning privies,	10 00
Mrs. O. B. Conant, cleaning Eastern school-rooms and outbuildings,	17 00
Mrs. George C. Hill, cleaning Johnson Street school-room and outbuildings,	6 50
Ellen Harvender, cleaning Centre school-rooms,	15 00
Samuel Taylor, cleaning Western school-rooms,	15 00
F. B. Gross, paper and printing,	3 50
Sparrow & Snow, stove repairs,	17 40
Hiram Holmes, stove repairs,	4 82
W. H. H. Weston, stove repairs,	1 92
A. L. Putnam & Co., text-books and supplies,	44 56
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Winter school,	2 81
Centre school-house,	23 54
High School,	23 78
Western school-house,	12 60
Conant Street school-house,	12 00
	<hr/> \$102 85
A. W. Mitchell & Co., key tags,	1 50
A. L. Putnam & Co., books supplied to pupils,	115 53
	<hr/> \$435 46
Amount of incidental expenses,	\$435 46

Rents.

Winter term, 1877 and 1878,	\$180 50
Spring term, vestry of Orthodox church for High School, 13 weeks, at \$225 for 38 weeks (\$5.79 per week),	\$75 25
Estate Jeremiah Stone, room for High Intermediate 13 weeks, at \$4,	52 00
	<hr/> 127 25
Fall term, vestry of Orthodox church for High School, 12 weeks, at \$200 for 38 weeks (\$5.26 per week),	\$63 12
Estate Jeremiah Stone, room for High Intermediate, 12 weeks, at \$4,	48 00
	<hr/> 111 12
Total rents,	\$418 87
	<hr/> \$854 33
Total incidental expenses and rent,	\$854 33
Appropriation,	\$500 00
Deficiency,	354 33
	<hr/> \$854 33

TEACHERS' SALARIES.

Spring Term.

	Number of Weeks.	Salary per Year of 38 Weeks.	Salary per Week.	Amount for the Term.
J. B. Hingeley, Principal High Sch'l,	13	\$1,000 00	\$26 32	\$342 16
S. A. Hamlin, Assistant "	11	—	11 25	15 75
H. F. Weeks, "	11	400 00	10 53	122 15
Horace A. Freeman, Prin. Gram.,	13	810 00	21 32	277 16
Mary E. Emery, Assistant "	13	360 00	9 47	123 11
Ella A. Small, High Intermediate,	13	337 00	8 87	115 31
Lizzie W. Clark, "	13	337 00	8 87	115 31
Rebecca D. Sparks, "	13	337 00	8 87	115 31
S. Lizzie Starr, Intermediate,	13	270 00	7 10	92 30
Addie S. Mitchell, "	13	270 00	7 10	92 30
Lizzie P. Chapman, "	13	270 00	7 10	92 30
M. Jennie Keefe, Primary,	13	247 00	6 50	84 50
Abbie C. Sparks, "	13	247 00	6 50	84 50
Annie B. Frellick, "	13	247 00	6 50	84 50
Mary E. Ryder, "	13	247 00	6 50	84 50
Lois B. Hamlin, "	13	247 00	6 50	84 50
Lucinda W. Whorf, "	13	247 00	6 50	84 50
Bessie G. Wiley, "	13	247 00	6 50	84 50
Total yearly salaries,		\$5,120 00		
Total salaries for the Spring Term,				\$2,094 66

Fall Term.

J. B. Hingeley, Principal High Sch'l,	12	\$1,000 00	\$26 32	\$315 78
H. F. Weeks, Assistant "	12	400 00	10 53	126 36
Horace A. Freeman, Prin. Gram.,	12	810 00	21 32	255 84
Mary E. Emery, Assistant "	12	360 00	9 47	113 64
Ella A. Small, High Intermediate,	12	337 00	8 87	106 44
Lizzie W. Clark, "	12	337 00	8 87	106 44
Rebecca D. Sparks, "	12	337 00	8 87	106 44
S. Lizzie Starr, Intermediate,	12	270 00	7 10	85 20
Addie S. Mitchell, "	12	270 00	7 10	85 20
Lizzie P. Chapman, "	12	270 00	7 10	85 20
M. Jennie Keefe, Primary,	12	247 00	6 50	78 00
Abbie C. Sparks, "	12	247 00	6 50	78 00
Annie B. Frellick, "	12	247 00	6 50	78 00
Mary E. Ryder, "	12	247 00	6 50	78 00
Lois B. Hamlin, "	12	247 00	6 50	78 00
Lucinda W. Whorf, "	12	247 00	6 50	78 00
Bessie G. Wiley, "	12	247 00	6 50	78 00
Total yearly salaries,		\$6,120 00		
Total salaries for the Fall Term,				\$1,932 54

JANITORS' SALARIES.

Spring Term

	Building.	No. of Weeks.	Price per Week.	Amount.
Oliver B. Conant, fires and sweeping,	Eastern,	13	\$2 11	\$27 43
Geo. C. Hill, fires and sweeping,	Johnson Street,	13	80	10 40
Henry Harvender, fires only,	Centre & Stone,	8½	3 00	25 50
Mrs. Joseph Ellis, sweeping only,	Centre & Stone,	13	1 50	19 50
Chas. A. Beatty, fires and sweeping,	Western and Conant streets,	13	3 02	39 26
Chas. C. Atkins, fires and sweeping,	High School,	13	1 25	16 25
Total Janitors' salaries for Spring Term,				\$138 34

Fall Term.

Paul Dyer, fires and sweeping,	Eastern,	12	\$2 00	\$24 00
Geo. C. Hill, fires and sweeping,	Johnson Street,	12	80	9 60
Henry Harvender, fires only,	Centre & Stone,	7	3 00	21 00
Mrs. Joseph Ellis, sweeping only,	Centre & Stone,	12	1 50	18 00
Chas. A. Beatty, fires and sweeping,	Western and Conant streets,	12	3 02	36 24
Chas. C. Atkins, fires and sweeping,	High School,	12	1 25	15 00
Total Janitors' salaries for Fall Term,				\$123 84

RECAPITULATION.

Balance in the town treasury at the last annual meeting,	\$2,884 30
Amount bills approved and disbursed to close of winter term of 1877 and 1878 by the committee of 1877,	2,534 50
Balance to new year,	\$349 80

Town appropriation for 1878 and until the close of the winter term of 1878 and 1879, . . .	\$6,500 00
Massachusetts school fund,	239 71
	<hr/>
	\$7,089 51

*Disbursements.**Salaries.—Spring Term.*

Teachers,	\$2,094 66
Janitors,	138 34
	<hr/>
	\$2,233 00

Salaries.—Fall Term.

Teachers,	\$1,932 54
Janitors,	123 84
	<hr/>
	2,056 38

Fuel.

Freeman & Hilliard, coal from January to May,	\$50 23
J. C. Bumps, charcoal,	13 10
Freight by rail,	4 37
Teaming and commission,	4 00
W. H. Collins, & Co., 55 tons coal, at \$4.50,	247 50
	<hr/>
	319 20
	<hr/>
	4,608 58

Jan. 1, 1879, balance in hands Treasurer, \$2,480 93

At the close of the present term of 13
weeks there will be due, to be de-
ducted from the above balance,—

Salaries of teachers,	\$2,093 59
Salaries of janitors,	154 34
Wood and charcoal,	20 00
	<hr/>
	2,267 93

Balance to new school year, \$213 00

TOWN SCHOOL-BOOK ACCOUNT.

Dr.

Jan. 1, 1878, books on hand, and case,	\$304 23
Balance due town,	31 06
	<hr/>
	\$335 29

Cr.

Jan. 1, 1879, books on hand, and case,	\$299 83
Balance due town,	35 46
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	\$335 29

RECOMMENDATIONS.

For salaries of teachers, janitors, and for fuel there will be required the sum of	\$7,000 00
For rent of rooms for the High School and one High Intermediate School,	425 00
For incidental expenses,	500 00
For school-house repairs,	175 00
	<hr/>
	\$8,100 00

If it is the desire of the town to have a winter school for boys we would ask that a special appropriation be made for this purpose, including the rent of a room for its accommodation.

We would also respectfully ask of the town to authorize the School Committee to appoint a superintendent of schools. In conclusion, we recommend the erection of a building suitable for the accommodation of the High and Grammar Schools.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY SHORTLE,
L. N. PAINE,
AUGUSTUS MITCHELL,
A. L. PUTNAM,
J. D. HILLIARD,

School Committee.

PROVINCETOWN, Dec. 31, 1878.