

ANNUAL REPORTS

SELECTMEN AND TREASURER

# TOWN OF EPSOM

TOGETHER WITH THE

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

**MARCH 1, 1887.**

CONCORD:  
PRINTED BY IRA C. EVAXS, 13 CAPITOL STREET.  
1887.

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## RECEIVED OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

		110,196.93
Support of Mrs. S. Batchelder,	\$46.22	
Eliza A. Cotton,	69.00	
Eliza Hanscomb,	61.00	
Lemuel E. Hanscomb,	144.00	
Hannah Marden,	147.00	
Louisa Randall,	28.85	
Osum Dowst,	64.00	
	<hr/>	\$560.07
		\$10,757.00

## EXPENDITURES.

Mar. 18,	Paid Heirs of C. W. Rand, for sheep killed by dogs,	\$3.00
	J. B. Sanborn, for books and stationery,	7.91
	Edson C. Eastman, for register to record marriages, births and deaths in.	5.50
	G. C. Yeaton, in full for services in the Knights and Huntress cases,	30.00
Apr. 6,	James Baker, for board of Lemuel E. Hanscomb,	48.00
	J. H. Dolbeer, for services as supervisor and auditor,	4.50
15,	George Sanders for interest on the Freewill Baptist Society note,	32.44
	J. E. Griffin, for cutting ice,	2.12
	J. E. Griffin, for sheep killed by dogs,	7.00
	Walter Cofran, for repairing Turnpike in 1885,	2.50

Apr. 15,	Paid J. C. Smith, for painting and setting guide-boards in 1885,	1.25
16.	C. O. Brown, for sheep killed and damaged by dogs,	17.25
17.	Benjamin Towle, for damage to wagon and harness,	5.00
	Alva Yeaton, for sheep killed by dogs,	3.50
21.	W. T. Sanders, for breaking and repairing highway in Dist. No. 21 in 1885 and 1886,	18.16
	Moses G. James, for sheep killed by dogs,	5.00
	David M. Philbrick, for breaking road in Dist. No. 8,	9.37
	David M. Philbrick, for guide-board,	1.50
May 22,	Mary E. Heath, note in full,	290.72
	Joseph Lawrence, Jr., for labor on road and services as supervisor.	15.00
	J. H. Dolbeer, for insurance on town hall,	4.00
	Benjamin Freeze, note in full,	130.66
June 14,	James Baker, for board of Lemuel E. Hanscomb,	66.00
July 2,	Daniel Gr. Chesley, part of school money,	225.00
10,	George H. Rand, for breaking and repairing road,	8.25
Aug. 2,	Sarah A. Bennett, for boarding Hannah Marden,	20.00
12,	Samuel Martin, part of school money,	135.00
	Ira O. Evans, printing town reports,	20.00

Sept. 25	Abby J. Haynes, for board of Eliza A. Cotton,	35.00
	Sarah A. Bennett, for board of Hannah Marden,	25.00
Nov. 2,	Sarah A. Bennett, for board of Hannah Harden,	30.00
12,	Daniel G. Chesley, part of school money,	100.00
27,	S. T. Page, for labor on road in Dist. No. 24,	4.13
	Edwin R. Yeaton, for labor on road in Dist. No. 24.	3.00
	Walter Yeaton, for labor on Turn pike,	15.00
	Anson B. Cass, for breaking road and railing bridge in 1885,	12.17
	Z. Leighton, for one-half cord of wood for J. W. Morrell,	2.00
	Z. Leighton, for repairing Turn pike bridge.	1.00
	George H. Rand, over taxed,	4.10
	Silver & Hall, for safe,	70.00
	Sarah A. Bennett, for boarding Hannah Marden,	27.00
Dec. 10,	James Baker, for board of Lemuel B., and Eliza Hanscomb,	50.00
	T. F. Kelley, for labor on Turn pike,	61.96
25,	James B. Tennant, for bridge plank,	6.90
	William P. Babb, for services as supervisor,	9.00
	William P. Babb, for breaking road in 1885 and 1886,	4.40
	Charles W. Babb, for repairing road in Dist. No. 9,	27.97

Dec.	25,	Paid Lucian Heath, for repairing road in Dist. No. 10,	11.25
	29,	Samuel Martin, part of school money,	150.00
		Albion Lock, for fence posts,	4.50
		Albion Lock, for labor on road,	7.25
		Merrimack county tax.	771.45
		State tax,	800.00
		William T. Sanders, J. B., and W. Sanborn's highway tax,	8.66
Jan.	20.	Daniel G. Chesley, part of school money,	222.00
	29,	Z. Leighton, for one-half cord of wood for J. W. Morrell,	2.00
		C. H. Hall, for labor on road in Dist. No. 11,	3.90
		Joseph Lawrence, Jr., for labor on road and services as supervisor,	17.60
		C. S. Heath, for supplies for Osum Dowst,	52.00
		Silver & Hall, for supplies for Louisa Randall,	28.85
		Silver & Hall, for supplies for Mrs. S. Batchelder,	42.47
		William L. Poster, for legal advice in road case,	16.00
		M. P. Smith, for returning births and deaths,	5.75
		M. P. Smith, for medical attend ance for Hannah Marden,	30.00
		M. P. Smith, for medical attend ance for Mrs. O. Dowst,	12.00
		M. P. Smith, for medical attend ance for Mrs. S. Batchelder,	3.75
Jan.	29,	Abby J. Haynes, for board of Eliza A. Cotton,	34.00

Jan. 29,	Paid James Baker, for board of Eliza Hanscomb,	26.00
	C. P. Morse, for burial fixtures for Lemuel E. Hanscomb,	15.00
	Sarah A. Bennett, for board of Hannah Marden in full to Feb. 1st, 1887,	15.00
Feb. 23,	Robert C. Brown, part of school money,	122.00
	Mary A. Evans, indorsed on note,	1,000.00
	Susan A. Philbrick, note in full,	579.68
24.	D. B. Moses, heirs of, note in full,	589.53
	J. S. Drake, for labor on road in Dist. No. 4,	.50
	Horace Carpenter, for labor on road in Dist. No. 4,	2.10
	Nathan G. Marden, for labor on road in Dist. No. 4,	1.25
	J. M. Griffin, for labor on road in Dist. No. 1,	.37
25.	Stephen F. Brown, for public watering place,	3.00
	J. B. Sanborn, for check lists and warrants,	.60
	Free Baptist Society, interest on note,	32.44
	George Sanders, for breaking road in Dist. No. 15,	10.24
26.	William Goss, for public watering place,	3.00
	James H. Tripp, tax abatements on tax list for 1886,	7.56
	James H. Tripp, tax list abatements paid in other towns,	4.80
	David M. Philbrick, for breaking road in Dist. No. 8,	21.05

Feb. 26, Paid David M. Philbrick, for labor on North-East road,	6.50
Albion Locke, for breaking road in Dist. No. 7,	5.50
J. H. Dolbeer, for services as supervisor,	3.00
H. S. Knowles, for powder, fuse and spikes,	.84
H. S. Knowles, for dinners for selectmen and supervisors,	28.75
George H. Rand, for labor on high way and breaking road in Disk. No. 5,	13.63
Charles W. Babb, for breaking road in Dist. No. 9,	11.82
Cyrus Marden, for breaking road and labor on highway in Dist. No. 4, for 1885 and '86,	17.70
The town School Board school money in full,	62.74
Samuel Quimby, for twelve feet of wood for J. W. Morrell,	6.00
Lucian Heath, for breaking road in Dist. No. 10,	4.37
Russ & Martin, for 288 feet of bridge plank,	3.45
Ella F. Chesley, for services as Supt. school committee for the year 1885,	32.00
George E. Warren, for recording marriages, births and deaths, and for stationery,	6.37
George E. Warren, for services as town clerk,	15.00
George E. Warren, for extra work at fall election,	5.00

Feb. 26, Paid Frank P. Bicker, for abatements on 1885 tax list,	17.73
James H. Tripp, for rebatements on school houses,	1,587.57
James H. Tripp, in part payment for services as collector of taxes in the year 1886.	55.00
28, Jackson C. Philbrick, for services as selectman,	54.00
William Fowler, for services as selectman,	46.00
Samuel R. Yeaton, for services as selectman,	43.00
Joseph Lawrence, indorsement on note,	100.00
Albert Pickard, note in full,	326.40
Warren Tripp, for services as treasurer,	30.00
George P. C'ass, for damage to wagon in 1885,	5.00
Mary A. Evans, note in full,	911.55
Daniel G. Chesley, for bridge plank and breaking out road,	18.57
Daniel G. Chesley, for auditing accounts,	1.50
Mary A. Heath, note and interest in full,	<u>268.26</u>
Total expenditures,	19,952.06
Remaining in hands of collector for 1885, F. P. Ricker,	126.29
Remaining in hands of collector for 1886, J. H. Tripp,	42.34
Remaining in hands of treasurer for 1886,	<u>636.31</u>

\$10,757.00

JACKSON C. PHILBRICK, ) Selectmen  
WILLIAM FOWLER, ) of  
SAMUEL R. YEATON, ) Epsom.

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

Cash received of A. G. Noyes, treasurer for 1885,	1454.67
Borrowed money,	390.66
Received of state treasurer.	1,334.38
county, for board of paupers,	560.07
town of Chichester, for school house,	32.53
town of Pittsfield, for school house,	75.00
Dist. No. 2, school money,	24.06
S. P. Huntress,	150.00
F. P. Ricker, collector for 1885,	262.45
F. P. Ricker, interest on taxes,	4.12
J. H. Tripp, collector for 1886,	7,281.32
J. H. Tripp, interest on taxes,	<u>10.50</u>
	\$10,579.71
Paid 116 orders of selectmen,	<u>9,943.40</u>
Remaining in hands of treasurer,	\$636.31

WARREN TRIPP, Town Treasurer—1886.

Having examined the accounts of the selectmen and treasurer of the town of Epsom for the year ending March 1, 1887, we hereby certify that we found them correctly cast and supported by proper vouchers, and below is shown the financial standing of the town:

Indebtedness of the town by note March 1, 1887,	13,680.80
Due F. P. Ricker, for collecting taxes,	58.77
Due J. H. Tripp, for collecting taxes,	<u>2.34</u>
Total indebtedness,	\$3,741.91

## ASSETS.

Remaining on P. P. Ricker's list of 1885,	1126.29	
Remaining on J. H. Tripp's list of 1886,	42.34	
Remaining in the treasury,	636.31	
	<hr/>	1804.94
Actual indebtedness of town,		2,936.97
Reduction of debt the past year,		3,577.23

JOHN H. DOLBEER, }  
 DANIEL G. CHESLEY, }

*Auditors*

Epsom, Mar. 1, 1887.

# REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD,

In compliance with the law, the School Board respectfully submits the following report:

## GENERAL STATEMENT.

1. Different pupils registered and number of each sex.—The whole number of pupils attending school during the year, including those who attended the Pineground school, is 179 ; number of boys, 98 ; number of girls, 81.

2. Money appropriated.—The amount of money raised by the town for school purposes was \$700; amount of literary fund, \$122.88; railroad tax appropriated for schools, \$169.80 ; amount unexpended last year, received from prudential committees, \$24.06. Total amount, \$1,016.74.

3. Amount of money expended for schools is \$998.66.

4. Number of children between the ages of 5 and 15 years by selectmen's enumeration in April, 1886, is,—boys, 75 ; girls, 73.

## GENERAL REMARKS.

With much reluctance and many misgivings we accepted our office, thinking in common with many others that under the new school law a conflict of opinions respecting the management of our schools would arise making our duties difficult to perform satisfactorily to the town, But we have found our labors much more pleasant than we anticipated, the patrons of our schools having co-operated generally with us in our efforts to have good schools. Section 6 of the new school law says : " The said school board of each town shall provide schools within the limits of said town at such places and times as in their judgment shall best subserve the interests of education, and as shall give all the scholars of the town as nearly equal advantages as may be practicable."

Under this Jaw we deemed it expedient to unite the Marden school with the Gossville, and Epsom's part of the Dowborough school with the North Road school.

By the statute we do not understand that all of our schools must be of the same length, as scholars that attend a small school might have better advantages than those that attend a large one the same length of time, both teachers having equal abilities. Furthermore, some of our scholars that attend our larger schools have a long distance to go to school, and often find it impracticable to be present some stormy days, while it is otherwise with scholars whose homes are a comparatively short distance from our smaller schools.

Considering these facts we have made, with the money at our command, the general length of our schools twenty weeks, plus a small fraction by employing for our smaller schools teachers that were willing to instruct for small pay, the patrons of these schools generously furnishing the fuel used without expense to the town, and in some instances a portion or the whole of the teacher's board.

Arrangements were made with the school board of Chichester for our scholars in District No. 11, as formerly known, to attend the Pineground school, by paying for each scholar a sum equal to the average amount expended for other scholars in Epsom.

The methods adopted by our teachers in the government and instruction of their pupils have generally commended themselves to the school board as wise and judicious. Those teachers have succeeded best in government who have united firmness with mildness. In our earlier school days the idea prevailed with many teachers that in order to govern well they must be armed with a ferule, or rawhide, or heavy stick, and it was an unusual thing for a day of our winter schools to pass without some scholars receiving an application of some one of the above-mentioned instruments of torture.

Teachers were then sustained for inflicting corporal punishments for even slight offences. But it has been found that appeals to the higher attributes of youth—their manhood, reputation, self-respect, regard for the right—are often more salutary, and, in the end, more effectual in restraining them from wrong-doing. But

suppose a teacher thinks it necessary to resort to severe measures and punishes a wrong-doer : should the parents at once take the scholar out of school ? In our humble opinion the cases are rare that, this should be done. On the contrary he should be continued in school with instructions to cheerfully observe the rules of school, fully assured that if he does this the remainder of the terra will be pleasant and profitable to him.

It is a difficult matter to give satisfaction to all in some schools. To find fault is the easiest of all things. It would be well if some parents had to take the place of the teacher that they might learn to appreciate the difficulties of his position. Do they often find it difficult to control one child ? Let them remember that their teacher may have twenty or thirty children, some of whom are full of fun and mischief. Surely the teacher needs to be sustained by your sympathies, which, more than anything else, nerve the arm and cheer the heart. He should feel that he has the gratitude of parents for his efforts in behalf of their children.

Tardiness and irregular attendance are great evils in our schools, seriously impeding their progress. The school board would there fore urge upon parents the importance of having their children attend every day of the term, if possible, and to be present at the appointed hour.

Another evil is a multiplicity of different text-books of the same grade. To illustrate : there are in one school four or five menial arithmetics by as many different authors, which necessarily creates much confusion and trouble and loss of time, This evil should be remedied at an early day.

Still another evil is a mania to study the "higher branches." Besides Greenleaf's National Arithmetic and the higher algebras, we find in our schools double entry book-keeping, geometry, and philosophy. These branches occupy far too much of the teacher's attention. The common school is the place to make good readers, good spellers, good writers, and if these higher branches must be taught, let us have a public high school, as many have advocated for a long time, where they might with propriety be studied.

Our schools are doing a good work, yet far less than they are capable of accomplishing with more money and more fostering

care. Instead of two terms each year, having a total length of only twenty weeks, we think there should be three terms of at least eight or nine weeks each. An additional appropriation of two or three hundred dollars would give this amount of schooling. Let it be our effort to make our schools more effectual for good and a source of legitimate boasting and pride.

D. GILMAN CHESLEY,  
SAMUEL MARTIN,  
ROBERT C. BROWN,

*School Board of Epsom.*

TABULAR STATEMENT.

	No. of Term.
	No. of Weeks.
	Pupils belonging to the Sch'l.
	Average Daily Attendance.
	Heading.
	Spelling.
	Penmanship.
	Arithmetic.
	Geography,
	Grammar.
	Physiology.
	Composition.
	Algebra.
	History.
	Book-Keeping.
	Drawing.
	Visits by Parents and others.
	Number of Different Pupils Registered during the Year_

[To view the tabular statement, please see the original image.Ed]

## ROLL OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE,

Including the names of all pupils who have been present every half day of a term without being tardy, as reported by the teachers of the different schools.

### CENTRE.

*First Term*—Hattie L. Batchelder, Bertha T. Cotterell, Millie Billiard, Myrtie E. Batchelder.

### GOSSVILLE.

*First Term*—Alfred D. Yeaton, Minot R. Yeaton.

*Second Term*—Nettie B. Douglas, Edgar E. Doe.

### MOUNTAIN.

*First Term*—Morris L. Hartford, Ida C. Hartford.

*Second Term*—Ida C. Hartford, Morris L. Hartford, Corridan Hartford, George H. Holland, Kidder H. Libbey.

### SHORTFALLS.

*Second Term*—Myrtie A. Burnham.

### NEW ORCHARD.

*First Term*—Belle A. Page, W. Frank Lewis, John C. Yeaton.

*Second Term*—Viola A. Giles, Belle A. Page, Helen E. P. Yeaton, Herbert S. Stanley, John C. Yeaton.

*Third Term*—Helen E. P. Yeaton, Charles S. Bickford, Ernest E. Lewis, John C. Yeaton.

### NORTHROAD.

*First Term*—Boyd Wilson Brown, Ralph R. Milliard, Ora L. Hilliard, Lillian C. Hilliard, Emma M. Kelley, Ernestine L. Heath.

FOWLER.

*First Term*—Georgia A. Fowler, Alice M. Fowler, Ida M. Fowler, Florence L. Fowler.

*Second Term*—Georgia A. Fowler, Alice M. Fowler, Ida M. Fowler, Florence L. Fowler, George H. Lovejoy.

*Third Term*—Annie L. Fowler, Georgia A. Fowler, Alice M. Fowler, Ida M. Fowler, Florence L. Fowler, Bert B. Lovejoy, George H. Lovejoy.

NEWRYE.

*First Term*—Erhel G. Brown, Lewis C. Cass, Geo. H. Haynes, Ralph E. Towle.

*Second Term*—Alice M. Wells, Grade L. Woodman, Lewis C. Cass.