

AC 971  
'07

47th ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF

ACUSHNET

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

FEBRUARY 1, 1907.

NEW BEDFORD, MASS. :  
NEW BEDFORD PRINTING COMPANY.

1907

*Presented by the  
Town Clerk  
Acushnet,*

P.

## TOWN OFFICERS

Elected at the Annual Town Meeting held March 5, 1906.

*Town Clerk, Treasurer, and Collector of Taxes.*

ALDEN WHITE.

*Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of the Poor.*

HENRY F. TABER,  
EBEN F. LEONARD,                      MOSES S. DOUGLASS.

*School Committee for Three Years,*

ALBERT S. JENNEY.

*Board of Health for Three Years.*

FREDERIC O. TRIPP.

*Board of Health for One Year,*

HENRY BARTLETT.

*Single Highway Surveyor for One Year.*

JAMES H. COBB.

*Tree Warden for One Year.*

WILLARD B. PECKHAM.

*Trustee of Free Public Library for Three Years.*

EMILY A. BROWNELL.

*Auditor.*

JOSEPH T. BROWNELL.

*Constables.*

SYLVESTER PRATT,                      CHARLES P. COTTLE.  
GEORGE T. PARKER.

*Surveyors of Lumber.*

EDWARD W. ASHLEY,                      CHARLES F. LEONARD,  
EMERY E. CUSHMAN,                      SAMUEL WING,  
HENRY F. TABER.

*Pound Keepers.*

JOSEPH GREENWOOD,                      GEORGE T. PARKER.

*Field Drivers.*

JOSEPH B. SLOCUM,                      JOHN GEGGATT.

*Fence Viewers.*

JOSEPH B. SLOCUM,                      HENRY F. TABER,  
WILLARD B. PECKHAM.

ALDEN WHITE, Collector.

In account with the Town of Acushnet.

DR.

To uncollected taxes of 1904,	\$368.29
“ “ 1905,	1,213.54
Amount of tax bills of 1906:	
State tax,	735.00
State highway tax,	163.22
County tax,	1,059.60
Town tax,	12,535.50
Additional assessment,	10.10
Interest on taxes collected,	72.00
	\$16,157.25

CR.

By amount paid State Treasurer,	\$735.00
Amount paid State Treasurer,	163.22
Amount paid County Treasurer,	1,059.60
Amount paid Town Treasurer,	12,309.92
Discount for prompt tax payment,	718.60
Abatement of taxes by assessors,	15.06
Taxes remitted by assessors,	46.43
Taxes remitted account of soldiers' and widows' exemptions,	47.57
Uncollected taxes of 1905,	222.83
Uncollected taxes of 1906,	839.02
	\$16,157.25

**ALDEN WHITE, Treasurer.**

In account with the Town of Acushnet.

DR.	
Feb. 1, 1906.	
To balance in treasury,	\$258.32
Amounts received from State Treasurer:	
Corporation tax,	466.96
Balance corporation tax,	6.07
National bank tax,	465.47
Income from state school fund,	995.62
Returns of high school tuition,	612.42
Return of state aid,	440.00
For superintendent of schools,	250.00
For inspection of animals,	24.00
For support of sick paupers,	31.93
For burial of indigent soldiers,	70.00
From County treasurer, dog fund,	355.30
Merchants Nat. Bank, temporary loans,	6,350.00
Acushnet H. E. A. for rent of barge,	2.00
Rent of town farm,	88.00
Town of Fairhaven, school desks,	10.00
Edward W. Ashley, auct. license,	2.00
Williams C. Ashley, grass from school lot,	4.00
Overseers of poor, pension of J. Besse,	72.00
Charles L. Spooner, for crushed stone,	6.34
James C. Gammons, for crushed stone,	52.31
James C. Gammons, for stone screenings,	8.10
Thomas E. Braley, for stone screenings,	.50
Thomas Hersom, road dirt and screenings,	33.50
Augustus White, for sand,	1.50
Sale of articles from town farm house,	3.05
Alden White, collector of taxes,	12,309.92
	\$22,919.31

CR.

By amount paid for support of poor and soldiers' relief,	\$765.63
Amount paid for incidental and board of health,	1,761.10
Amount paid for public library,	242.90
"  "  notes and interest,	9,344.48
"  "  state aid,	564.00
"  "  support of schools and high school tuition,	5,616.52
Amount paid for highways,	3,392.75
Balance in town treasury,	1,231.93
	\$22,919.31

**Gift Fund.**

To amount in N. B. Inst. for Savings	
Feb. 1, 1906,	\$696.51
Interest to Oct. 1906,	28.12
	\$724.63

## CEMETERY FUNDS.

Held in trust by the Town of Acushnet.

To principal of Elizabeth Taber fund,	\$205.09	
Interest on hand Oct., 1906,	21.97	
		\$227.06
Paid Allen Russell, Jr., for care of lot in 1905,		5.00
Balance,		\$222.06
To principal of William D. Taber fund,	\$50.00	
Interest on hand Oct., 1906,	5.20	
		\$55.20
To principal of Alfred Morse fund,	\$100.00	
Interest on hand Oct., 1906,	5.00	
		\$105.00
Paid Richard Davis for care of lot in 1906,		3.50
Balance,		\$101.50
To principal of estate of Jacob Taber fund for Joseph Taber cem. lot,	\$100.00	
Interest on hand Oct., 1906,	6.39	
		\$106.39
Paid for care of lot in 1906,		.68
Balance,		\$105.71
To principal of estate of Jacob Taber fund for Ellis Mendall cem. lot,	\$100.00	
Interest on hand Oct., 1906,	4.91	
		\$104.91
To principal John B. Fowler fund,	\$200.00	
Interest on hand Oct., 1906,	9.12	
		\$209.12
Paid for care of lot in 1906,		3.18
Balance, .		\$205.94

To principal of John S. Perry fund for Wing cem. lot,	\$100.00	
Interest to Oct., 1906,	4.04	
		\$104.04
Paid for care of lot. 1906,		\$3.66
Balance,		\$100.38
To principal of fund for care of William Taber lot, L. P.,	\$100.00	
Interest on hand to Oct., 1906,	2.00	
		\$102.00
To principal of fund for care of James Cathell cem. lot,	\$100.00	
Interest on hand to Oct., 1906,	2.00	
		\$102.00
Paid for care of lot in 1906,		1.50
Balance,		\$100.50

## Held in trust by Alden White.

To principal of contributed fund for the permanent care of the Long Plain cemetery,	\$259.50	
To interest to Oct., 1906,	18.05	
		\$277.55
Paid for labor during 1905 and 1906,		\$18.05
Balance,		\$259.50

## TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

I respectfully present to you my report as Town Clerk for the year ending December 31, 1906.

## Births Registered in Acushnet in 1906.

DATE.	NAME OF CHILD.	NAME OF PARENTS.
Jan. 2	Emery Edison Harding	Otis H. and Annie B.
Jan. 11	Lillian Jeanette Braley	Herbert C. and Jennie E.
Jan. 22	Alton Eugene Taber	Harold E. and Roselma E.
Jan. 23	Ida Guilbeault	Alfred and Delia
Feb. 1	Henri A. E. Larriviere	Henri and Annie
Feb. 8	Theodore Atwood Collins	Arthur E. and Cora E.
Feb. 8	Estelle Holden Crapo	Walter E. and Hattie M.
Feb. 9	Charles Freitas	John and Mary
Feb. 28	Allen Tanner Thompson	Hiram F. and Jennie E.
Mar. 20	Manuel Bettencourt	Jose and Mary
April 7	Philip Frederick Fortin	Philip and Marcia
April 15	Alexander Fagundes	Manuel and Maria
April 26	Annie Allen Healy	William V. and Martha A.
May 1	James Packard Bradford	Joel P. and Eliza B.
May 17	Antoinette Duteau	Phileas and Alphonsine
May 21	Charles Wilson Lester Chase	George W. and Mary L.
June 21	Hanard Wallace Horne	Lester W. and Allice M.
June 25	William Herbert Wilkinson	William and Esther M.
June 28	Herbert Macomber Ashley	Herbert W. and Fannie M.
July 4	Edward Gordon Harding	Edgar I. and Lena M.
July 8	James Frederick Hathaway	James H. and Amy M.
July 16	Mary A. Blanche Fontaine	Henri and Laura
July 25	Raymond Augustus White	Walter A. and Annie F.
Aug. 7	Alice Elizabeth Greenwood	Joseph W. and Mabel A.
Aug. 14	Fannie Enos	Antone and Annie
Aug. 18	Harold Hughes	James M. and Mary
Aug. 18	Louise Terry Sullivan	Charles E. and Clara L.
Aug. 30	Mary Lora Cloutier	Cyrille E. and Alvine
Sept. 6	Helén Marie Cecile Plaud	Abel E. and Leonie
Sept. 14	Albert Meunier	Ovila and Octavie
Oct. 2	Delia Rioux	Charles and Eva
Oct. 10	Louis Leo Leger	Philip and Annie
Oct. 20	Berthe Jeanette Paquette	Servule and Auda
Oct. 27	Lenora Elizabeth Lackie	David and Lenora
Oct. 27	Illigetima'e	
Oct. 29	Gertrude Lillian Petty	George G. and Mary E.
Nov. 27	Joseph Lambert	Edmond and Roseline
Nov. 29	— Ellis	Leon C. and Maisie
Dec. 1	Frank Mason Taber	Frank E. and M. Louise
Dec. 6	Bruno Papa	Antonio and Ursella
Dec. 20	Gertrude Mitchell Sherman	William E. and Rachel M.

## Marriages Registered in Acushnet in 1906.

DATE.	NAMES OF GROOM AND BRIDE.	RESIDENCE.
January 14	Joseph Lonzo, Marie Bishop.	Acushnet. Westport.
January 24	James Tebbutt, Rosetta Rogerson.	New Bedford. New Bedford.
March 8	Fred E. Tarr, Jennie S. Brimmer.	Gay Head. Gay Head.
April 22	Benjamin F. Howe, Elizabeth G. Johnson.	Acushnet. Truro
May 28	Elzear Lapalme, Anna Lelievre.	New Bedford. Acushnet.
June 10	Charles E. Gifford, Edyth M. Dunham.	Acushnet. Dorchester.
July 3	Augustus E. Chase, Carrie Dow.	Acushnet. New Bedford.
July 13	Roland S. Bumpus, Lotta A. Hammett.	Acushnet. Acushnet.
Aug. 18	Oscar S. Tinkham, Amy F. Bailey.	Acushnet. Acushnet.
Aug. 20	George Melancon, Laura Sorel.	New Bedford. Acushnet.
Aug. 20	Abram B. Turner, Alice Bailey.	Acushnet. Acushnet.
October 21	Kenneth R. Hammond, Emma M. B. Houston.	New Bedford. Acushnet.
November 18	William F. Houston, Mildred F. Thomas.	Acushnet. Acushnet.
November 27	George S. Crocker, Mary F. Lockengen.	Acushnet. Acushnet.
December 23	John F. Greene, Clara E. Clough.	Providence. Acushnet.
December 26	Hormidas Vincent, Marion Forcier.	Acushnet. Acushnet.

## Deaths Registered in Acushnet in 1906.

DATE	NAME	AGE			CAUSE OF DEATH
		Y.	M.	D.	
Jan. 2	William M. F. Round	60			Gastritis
Jan. 10	Roland W. Surprenant		3	18	Infantile debility
Jan. 28	Lucy Braley	68	10	8	Apoplexy
Feb. 16	Elijah Bates	81		19	Senile debility
Feb. 16	D. Lavinia Severance	73	2	23	Apoplexy
Feb. 18	Andrew A. Cole	55	7	21	Phthisis pulmonalis
Mar. 14	Philius Duteau	1		4	Pneumonia
Mar. 21	Jane P. Drake	59	10		Pneumonia
Mar. 22	Manuel Bettencourt			2	Infantile debility
Mar. 27	Mary D. Powers	80			Old age
Mar. 27	Azilda Dextraze	55	1	20	Heart disease
Apr. 3	Martha J. Hersom	50			Heart disease
Apr. 7	Mary A. Smith	74	10		Cerebral hemorrhage
May 26	Sebastiano Moiglione	48		16	Peritonitis
May 27	William W. Crapo	65	8	14	Parotitis
June 8	Ida Guilbeault		4	16	Cholera infantum.
June 9	Bradford O. Braley	75			Heart failure
June 10	Eliza A. Drake	94	3		Congestion of lungs
June 17	Maria I. Fagundes	76			Cer. apoplexy
July 3	Ardra C. Ashlev	72			Apoplexy
July 5	Sarah Keen	92	6	24	Heart failure
July 24	Manning B. Patterson	86	5	12	Senile debility
Aug. 20	Irene Lambert		10	18	Cholera infantum
Sept. 8	Fannie Enos			24	Heart failure
Sept. 22	Ruhamah H. Cottle	84	6	27	Dysentery
Sept. 25	Eunice T. Chase	76	1	17	Old age
Oct. 27	Illegitimate			$\frac{1}{2}$	Premature birth
Nov. 30	Josegh Lambert			$\frac{2}{2}$	Infantile debility
Nov. 30	— Ellis			$\frac{1}{4}$	Premature birth
Dec. 6	Mary A. Patterson	74			A. bronchitis
Dec. 25	Hannah T. Leach	81	10		Natural causes

ALDEN WHITE,  
*Town Clerk.*

## SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen of the Town of Acushnet submit the following report of the financial affairs of the Town for the year ending Feb. 1, 1907.

## Poor Account.

David A. Rogers, board of L. Hunniwell,	\$62.50
Mrs. M. Linnehan, " " "	58.83
Mrs. A. Turner, " " "	36.00
Mass. school for feeble minded, for Fred Besse,	20.53
City of New Bedford, for M. Freeman,	4.50
" " " " " J. Green,	1.50
W. F. Douglass, for A. Cole,	3.22
Burial of A. Cole,	15.00
M. P. Gammons, for Mr. and Mrs. Patterson,	163.00
Mass. State Hospital, Mary Surette,	23.43
W. F. Douglass, M. Freeman,	70.50
Dr. J. P. Bradford, medical attendance Mrs. Patterson,	19.00
James Campbell, opening grave,	3.00
Michael Frank, for Joseph Besse,	136.60
City of New Bedford, D. Green,	7.44
Sylvester Pratt, case of Mrs. Patterson,	4.00
J. H. Paige, moving goods of Mrs. Hunniwell,	1.00
Surprise Clothing Co., clothing, Joseph Besse,	5.98
Town of Rochester, care of Besse children,	15.88
" " " med. attendance, Mrs. Besse,	46.50
W. C. Vaughan, burial of M. B. Patterson,	15.00
City of Brockton, fuel, E. Braley,	9.72
M. S. Douglass and E. F. Leonard, case of E. Braley,	6.00
Dr. J. F. Weeks, med. attendance, L. Hunniwell,	3.00
Brown pharmacy, medicine, L. Hunniwell,	1.50
	— \$733.63

## Soldier's Relief.

Eli W. Pierce,	\$32.00	\$32.00
		\$765.63

## Incidental Account.

N. B. Printing Co., 450 reports,	\$44.00
Thomas E. Braley, administering oaths,	.50
Henry A. Jackson, by vote of town,	12.00
A. P. R. Gilmore, teller, three elections,	6.00
W. C. Ashley, school committee, salary 1905,	50.00
E. E. Cushman, " " " "	50.00
T. J. Robinson, " " " "	50.00
Perry, Jenney & Potter, bridge counsel,	400.00
John W. Paul, treasurer's bond,	24.00
E. W. Ashley, teller, two elections,	4.00
N. B. Printing Co., 100 notices,	3.25
E. W. Ashley, posting fire warden notices,	2.00
City of New Bedford, one-half expense boundary stones,	14.25
H. M. Dolbear, assessors' books,	3.85
E. Anthony & Sons, advertising,	6.60
A. E. Coffin, printing,	2.00
A. O. Parker, shelves, town house,	4.58
E. White, teller, two elections,	4.00
J. T. Brownell, auditor,	3.00
G. A. Ashley, fighting fire,	1.40
E. W. Ashley, fighting fire,	3.60
A. P. R. Gilmore, moth inspector,	37.83
J. O. Douglass, auctioneer,	5.00
W. P. Morton, repairs town farm,	3.07
J. E. Borden, 6 galvanized pails for fire warden,	1.60
S. Pratt, case of G. Collins,	5.23
G. N. Alden, insurance town farm buildings,	11.00
V. A. Hammett, repairs town farm,	7.46
N. B. Printing Co., tax bills and lists of voters,	9.50
S. Pratt, decorating soldiers' graves,	6.00
Perry, Jenney & Potter, reward case,	25.00
S. Pratt, services as constable,	20.00
N. B. Printing Co., lists of poll tax payers,	4.75
W. G. Taber, fire warden,	5.00
Wood, Brightman Co., pump repairs,	7.15
G. J. Parker, wood for town house,	3.50
A. C. Shattuck, expressage,	4.60
Alden White, recording elections,	5.00
H. F. Taber, state aid examinations,	4.00

F. O. Tripp, cattle inspector,	50.00
M. P. Morton, repairs at town house,	2.25
W. C. Vaughan, death returns,	1.75
Dr. F. H. Robinson, 4 birth returns,	1.00
W. C. Sherman, work on state roller,	2.25
J. H. Cobb, repairs on engine house,	14.75
Alden White, stamped envelopes, stamps, etc.,	9.58
Dr. J. F. Weeks, 14 birth returns,	3.50
James H. Cobb, special repair orders,	29.50
M. S. Douglass, services as selectman, assessor and overseer of poor,	70.00
M. S. Douglass, services as moderator,	5.00
M. S. Douglass, expense corporation and bank taxes,	5.00
M. S. Douglass, rendering oaths, etc.,	5.00
Eben F. Leonard, services as selectman, assessor and overseer of poor,	70.00
H. F. Taber, services as selectman, assessor and overseer of poor,	115.00
H. F. Taber, stamped envelopes, stamps, etc.,	7.35
Sylvester Pratt, truancy cases,	7.50
Albert S. Jenney, services as school committee,	25.00
Wm. C. Ashley, services as school committee,	25.00
E. E. Cushman, services as school committee,	25.00
Sylvester Pratt, truancy cases,	6.00
Alva R. Peckham, fighting fire,	1.00
Willard B. Peckham, services as tree warden.	2.50
Samuel Corey, teller,	2.00
Alden White, recording births, marriages and deaths,	35.25
Alden White, commission as treasurer,	106.66
Alden White, commission as collector,	212.94
	<u>\$1,695.50</u>

## Board of Health.

Hiram Wheaton & Sons, 1 qt. alcohol,	\$ .75
E. W. Ashley, fumigating,	4.00
Dr. L. W. Horne, for Board of Health,	4.00
E. W. Ashley, fumigating,	4.00
E. W. Ashley, services, Board of Health,	10.00
E. W. Ashley, investigating, complaints,	4.00
E. W. Ashley, investigating per order state board,	5.00

E. W. Ashley, postage, telephone, etc.,	1.00	
E. W. Ashley, fumigating,	3.00	
E. W. Ashley, fumigating,	3.00	
E. W. Ashley, fumigating,	4.00	
A. E. Coffin, printing,	2.50	
E. E. Cushman, services Board of Health,	20.35	
		<u>\$65.60</u>
		\$1,761.10

#### Free Public Library.

W. H. Moore, magazines,	\$15.90	
Sophonra Veazie, librarian,	25.00	
Elsie Collins, librarian,	50.32	
H. S. Hutchinson, books,	35.13	
C. F. Wing, book case,	15.50	
J. Q. Adams Co., 1 Webster's Dictionary,	16.00	
G. J. Parker, lumber,	.90	
Dewolf, Fisk & Co., books,	40.35	
R. W. Taber, books,	4.80	
Warren P. Tobey, 1000 printed cards,	4.00	
Balch Bros., books,	32.00	
Acushnet Saw Mill Co.,	3.00	
		<u>\$242.90</u>

#### Notes and Interest.

Melrose Savings Bank, 1 note,	\$1,000.00	
Jose, Parker & Co., 1 note,	1,000.00	
Jose, Parker & Co., 1 note,	500.00	
Merchants National Bank, 4 notes,	6,350.00	
		<u>\$8,850.00</u>
Merchants National Bank, interest,	151.48	
Com. of Mass., interest,	90.00	
Jose, Parker & Co., interest,	190.00	
Melrose Savings Bank, interest,	63.00	
		<u>494.48</u>
		\$9,344.48

#### State Aid.

Sylvester Pratt,	\$48.00
Edward C. Tew,	48.00
Daniel V. Smith,	48.00
Isaac V. Braley,	48.00
Nathan C. Bumpus,	24.00
Samuel J. Russell,	16.00
Ruth A. Haskell,	36.00
Elizabeth Potter,	48.00
Chloe J. Dillingham,	48.00
Lois E. Chace,	48.00
Henrietta Baker,	48.00
Leander A. Williston,	60.00
Henry W. Kenyon,	28.00
A. Maria G. Hathaway,	16.00
	<u>\$564.00</u>

Orders given by the Selectmen on bills approved  
by the School Committee, \$5,616.52

#### Appropriations for 1906.

School and supt.'s salary,	\$3,650.00
Poor,	800.00
Incidentals,	2,200.00
Highways and bridges,	3,000.00
Library,	250.00
Notes and interest,	2,500.00
Moderator,	5.00
Henry A. Jackson,	12.00
	<u>\$12,417.00</u>

#### Valuation of Town May 1, 1906.

Personal property,	\$108,880.00
Buildings,	289,000.00
Land,	263,040.00
Total,	<u>\$660,920.00</u>

Rate of taxation,	\$21.00
Number of polls assessed,	307
Number of horses assessed,	334
Number of cows assessed,	431
Number of neat cattle assessed,	85
Number of swine assessed,	75
Number of dwellings assessed,	313
Number of acres of land,	10,994
Number of fowls assessed,	9,325
Value of fowls,	\$3,705.00

The Town Owns Property as Follows:

School houses and lots,	\$8,100.00
Town house and lot,	1,000.00
Town farm,	1,600.00
Crusher plant,	500.00
Library books,	400.00
Safes, etc.,	200.00
Gravel lots,	200.00
	<hr/>
	\$12,000.00

Present Town Debt.

Note held by Melrose Savings Bank, due Oct. 15, 1907, at $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ ,	\$800.00
Note held by Jose, Parker & Co., due Oct. 15, 1907, at $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ ,	1,000.00
Note held by Commonwealth of Massachusetts, due Oct. 15, 1909, at $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ ,	1,000.00
Note held by Commonwealth of Massachusetts, due Oct. 15, 1910, at $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ ,	1,000.00
Note held by Jose, Parker & Co., due Sept. 1, 1907, at $4\%$ ,	500.00
Note held by Jose, Parker & Co., due Sept. 1, 1908, at $4\%$ ,	500.00

Note held by Jose, Parker & Co., due Sept. 1, 1909, at $4\%$ ,	500.00
Note held by Jose, Parker & Co., due Sept. 1, 1910, at $4\%$ ,	500.00
Note held by Jose, Parker & Co., due Sept. 1, 1911, at $4\%$ ,	500.00
Note held by Jose, Parker & Co., due Sept. 1, 1912, at $4\%$ ,	500.00
	<hr/>
	\$6,800.00

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY F. TABER,  
MOSES S. DOUGLASS,  
EBEN F. LEONARD,

*Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of Poor.*

LIST OF JURORS AS PREPARED BY  
THE SELECTMEN.

Abiel P. R. Gilmore, farmer.  
Frank T. Howland, farmer.  
Emery E. Cushman, poultry.  
Frederic O. Tripp, farmer.  
Thomas E. Braley, retired.  
James H. Hathaway, farmer.  
Charles E. Beales, manufacturer.  
Moise Berard, grocer.  
Everett C. Morse, lumber.  
Alden White, farmer.  
Alva R. Peckham, farmer.  
Edward T. Lawton, poultry.  
Clement N. Swift, artist.

Orders given by the Selectmen on bills approved  
by the Highway Surveyor.

Bills of 1905.

Approved by George S. Crocker.

Richard Davis,	\$9.47	
James C. Gammons,	8.25	
George S. Crocker,	16.00	
George W. Norton,	1.50	
Jeremiah E. Borden,	3.00	
		\$38.22

Bills of 1906.

Approved by James H. Cobb.

James H. Cobb, for labor and teaming,	\$2,017.73	
Babbitt & Wood,	48.71	
Wm. F. Nye,	14.00	
W. A. Robinson,	13.18	
City Coal Co.,	57.97	
Denison Bros. Co.,	55.18	
George W. Norton,	6.50	
		2,213.27

Incidentals.

Benj. F. White,	\$54.65	
W. F. Stowell,	50.28	
James B. Hamlin,	17.49	
J. E. Borden,	20.46	
A. Rounseville, Jr.,	69.12	
Fitzmeyer & Flynn,	8.00	
N. B. Printing Co.,	4.00	
Good Roads Machine Co.,	21.70	
Buffalo Steam Roller Co.,	3.00	
		248.70

Stone Account.

Lewis F. Harding,	27,610 lbs.	\$5.52
George T. Parker,	43,780	8.75
C. A. Hemmann,	50,230	10.05
Eugene White,	37,930	7.95
M. J. Fagundi,	1,183,000	236.60
W. E. Crapo,	115,640	23.13
Mrs. C. D. Gilmore,	211,560	42.31
Joseph Sylvia,	482,000	96.39
Henry A. Jackson,	146,730	29.34
Jas. H. Hathaway,	267,110	53.40
E. W. Morse,	10,650	2.13
Geo. W. Norton,	47,940	9.59
George Enos,	185,960	37.19
Fred Buckley,	47,130	9.43
Ludger Chartier,	315,410	63.08
Everett Hawes,	129,130	25.82
J. T. Brownell,	340,800	68.16
Wm. E. Collins,	23,080	4.61
Antonia Maglione,	33,500	6.70
Job A. E. Chase,	59,390	11.88
W. E. Jenkins,	44,040	8.81
John W. Heys,	56,680	11.33
Fred H. Robinson,	63,750	12.75
Wm. G. Taber,	170,350	34.07
A. M. Fournier,	12,220	2.44
T. B. Geggatt,	22,310	4.46
Augustus White,	292,630	58.72
Elizabeth Hammann,	9,620	1.92
John M. Vincent,	26,900	5.38

891.91

Stone Bill of 1905.

Lewis F. Harding,	3,250 lbs.,	.65
		<del>582.56</del>
		\$3,392.75

## SINGLE HIGHWAY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

James H. Cobb, 96 $\frac{3}{4}$ days at 2.50,	\$241.88	
Roland H. Cobb, 83 $\frac{1}{4}$ days at 1.50,	124.87	
Wm. C. Sherman, 76 $\frac{1}{4}$ days at 2.25,	171.56	
Valmore A. Hammett, 63 $\frac{3}{4}$ days at 1.50,	95.63	
Bertha M. Cobb, 42 days a 1.25,	52.50	
Geo. A. Macomber, 16 days a 1.50,	24.00	
Charles Morse, 62 days at 1.50,	93.00	
Arthur Morse, 56 days at 1.50,	84.00	
James R. Geggatt, 69 days at 1.50,	103.50	
Charles P. Cole, 34 $\frac{1}{4}$ days at 1.50,	48.38	
Wm. A. Durfee, 21 days at 1.50,	31.50	
Geo. T. Fisher, 41 days at 2.25,	92.25	
A. Sherman, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ days at 1.50,	5.63	
Fred Morse, 31 days at 1.50,	46.50	
John Camelia, 10 days at 1.50,	15.00	
Clinton Hersey, 9 days at 1.50,	13.50	
John W. Heys, 12 days at 1.50,	18.00	
James H. Cobb, paint, hardware and sundries,	11.03	
		<hr/>
		\$1,272.73

## Teaming.

Geo. P. Morse, 24 $\frac{1}{4}$ days at 4.00,	\$97.00
Wm. B. Peckham, 28 days at 4.00,	112.00
Geo. S. Crocker, 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ days at 4.00,	98.00
Chas. D. Bennett, 9 days at 4.00,	36.00
Luger Chartier, 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ days at 4.00,	34.00
Edward W. Morse, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ days at 4.00,	75.00
Geo. W. Norton, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ days at 4.00,	41.00
Chas. P. Cottle, 12 days at 4.00,	48.00
M. J. Fagundes, 8 days at 4.00,	32.00
Augustus E. Chase, 10 days at 4.00,	40.00
Wm. J. Pittsley, 26 days at 4.00,	104.00
Geo. T. Parker, $\frac{3}{4}$ day at 4.00,	3.00

Jas. H. Cobb, one horse team 6 days at 1.50,	9.00	
Geo. T. Parker, one horse team 4 days at 1.50,	6.00	
Geo. T. Parker, two horse team 4 days at 2.50,	10.00	
		<hr/>
		\$745.00
		<hr/>
		\$2,017.73
Amount expended on Slocum street,	\$133.10	
Amount expended on Gammons road,	183.00	

## AUDITOR'S REPORT.

ACUSHNET, MASS., Feb. 14, 1907.

I hereby certify that I have examined the accounts of the Tax Collector, Treasurer, Highway Surveyor, Schools, and all Trust Fund accounts held for the benefit of the town or property of the town, for the financial year ending Feb. 1, 1907, and find them correct.

JOSEPH T. BROWNELL,  
*Auditor.*

## REPORT OF INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

FOR THE YEAR 1906.

Received notice from the Cattle Bureau of the State Board of Agriculture to begin inspection the first of October, to be completed Nov. 15.

I have examined 143 barns, 648 cattle, 274 swine, and 5 goats. Killed one horse with glanders and one cow with tuberculosis. Had two barns thoroughly cleansed and several properly cleaned.

Found animals in better condition than in the two previous years.

FRED O. TRIPP,  
*Inspector of Animals.*

**DOGS.**

Number of dogs licensed in town of Acushnet in 1906, 184;  
161 males, 23 females.

ALDEN WHITE,  
*Town Clerk,*

**REPORT OF MOTH INSPECTOR, 1906.**

I received instructions from a state inspector, who came to Acushnet on 14th of March. I visited every orchard in town and found no gypsey moths, but the browntail moth was discovered in over 50 places.

Notices of inspection have been sent to all property owners of the town, but owing to the inclemency of the weather, no inspection has been made up to Feb. 1st.

Respectfully submitted,

A. P. R. GILMORE.

**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH**

FOR YEAR ENDING JAN. 1, 1907.

Deaths in Acushnet during 1906,	27
Deaths from other towns, burials in Acushnet,	1
Total burials in Acushnet,	9
Burials in other cemeteries,	21
Removal permits,	1

**CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.**

Scarlet fever,	1
Diphtheria,	1
Typhoid,	1
Measles,	3

One nuisance abated by the agent. Vaccination is called to the attention of the parents, as it is required by the state laws. The past year the board of health has recorded 35 proofs of vaccination. Four slaughter house licenses were granted for 1907.

Respectfully submitted,

FRED O. TRIPP,  
EMERY E. CUSHMAN,  
HENRY BARTLETT,  
*Board of Health.*

ACUSHNET, MASS., Feb. 1, 1907.

During the fall of 1906 a sum of money was kindly placed at my disposal for the purpose of re-surfacing and placing in good condition the highway in town known as "Fairhaven road," and the sum of \$1,015 was used under the direction of the highway surveyor in repairing about one-half its length. As the remainder of the road needs attention, I recommend that it be repaired before the crusher is removed from its present location. The moving of crusher and plant would cost about \$100.00.

Respectfully,

JAMES B. HAMLIN,  
*Agent.*

### ACUSHNET FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The trustees of the Acushnet Library respectfully submit to the town their annual report.

The continued plea for more commodious and convenient quarters for our books has not, as yet, met with any response. In the past twelve months a new "Elastic" bookcase has been purchased, and several new shelves have been added, for the accommodation of many books that were lying upon settees.

Every year new books are bought, and some volumes presented to the town, but as the room used for our books is not elastic, and the present space is well utilized, it becomes evident that in the near future a more satisfactory building, or room, will be a *necessity*. The library is more popular every year, and the reading table proves attractive to many, and is especially useful to the pupils in our schools.

Besides the best fiction, the trustees have provided histories, biographies, poetry, scientific works, books of reference, a large modern dictionary, and an encyclopedia, to meet the demands of the public.

For statistics, please see the reports of librarians.

EMILY A. BROWNELL,

*Secretary.*

Trustees—Capt. Geo. J. Parker, chairman; Mrs. Annie A. Swift, treasurer; Emily A. Brownell, secretary.

#### Financial Report.

DR.	
Appropriation by town,	\$250.00
Balance from last year,	2.46
	<u>\$252.46</u>

CR.

Paid librarians,	\$75.00	
Subscriptions to magazines,	15.80	
Bookcase,	15.50	
Lumber,	.90	
Cards,	4.00	
Books,	128.70	
Book stack,	3.00	
	<u>242.90</u>	
Balance,		\$9.56

#### Librarians' Reports.

Report of the librarian of the Acushnet Free Public Library for the year ending Feb. 1, 1907:

Books taken out from Feb. 1, 1906, to Feb. 1, 1907,	4,103
Average per week,	79
Attendance at reading table,	338
Books bought by town, Feb. 1, 1906, to Feb. 1, 1907,	132
Books bought by library,	4
Books given,	11
Total number of books added,	<u>147</u>
Cash on hand Feb. 1, 1906,	\$1.37
Fines, Feb. 1, 1906, to Feb. 1, 1907,	11.34
A friend,	1.00
Perry Hill branch,	.26
	<u>\$13.97</u>

#### EXPENSES.

Books,	\$3.45
Books repaired,	2.35
Magazines,	1.80
H. Parker,	.80
A. C. Shattuck,	.55
Freight,	.50
Express,	.25
Paper,	.40

Oil,	.14	
Stamps,	.12	
Postals,	.06	
Ink,	.10	
Box cover,	.10	
		10.62
Cash on hand Feb. 1, 1907,		\$3.35

The following have donated one or more books during the past year:

A friend, Mr. Theron G. Parker, Miss Snow, of New Bedford, and Mrs. Clement Swift. There have also been several donations of old magazines.

In addition to the periodicals subscribed to by the town, we have on the reading table, "The Young Crusader," given by Mrs. Franklyn Howland, and "The Outlook" and "Our Dumb Animals," given by Mrs. Clement Swift.

A fine dictionary and atlas have been bought with the proceeds of the two entertainments given by the Proscenium Club of New Bedford.

The interest in the library constantly increases, as is shown by the fact that over a thousand more books have been taken out this year than were last.

Respectfully submitted,

ELSIE COLLINS,

*Librarian.*

#### LONG PLAIN BRANCH.

Report of Long Plain branch, Feb. 6, 1907:

Number of books taken out during the year,	581
Fines,	\$1.33

SOPHRONIA W. VEAZIE,

*Librarian.*

# BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

1907

## MEMBERS

WILLIAMS C. ASHLEY,

Term expires 1907

EMERY E. CUSHMAN,

Term expires 1908

ALBERT S. JENNEY,

Term expires 1909

WILLIAMS C. ASHLEY, Chairman,

FRANK M. MARSH, A. M.  
Superintendent and Secretary.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 1907.

## Receipts.

Appropriation,	\$3,500.00
Received from state (school fund),	995.62
"    "    (acct. superintendent),	250.00
"    county (dog tax),	355.30
Net available receipts,	<u>\$5,100.92</u>

## Expenditures.

Teachers' salaries,	\$2,886.50
Superintendent,	325.00
Janitors,	418.76
Conveyance,	743.50
Fuel,	226.50
Repairs,	128.82
Books and supplies,	287.00
Miscellaneous,	45.35
	<u>\$5,061.43</u>
Balance,	\$39.49

## High School.

## Tuition Account with State.

## RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand Feb. 1, 1906,	\$654.69
Received from state for school year 1905-1906,	612.42
	<u>\$1,267.11</u>

## EXPENDITURES.

Paid Town of Fairhaven,	\$300.00
"    City of New Bedford,	255.09
	<u>555.09</u>
Balance,	\$712.02

(To meet tuition bills falling due before state money is received).

## PAYMENTS, 1906-1907.

## Teachers.

Vashti M. Crosby, Marie S. Howard, Alice Lilley, Bethia S. Keith, Margaret J. Marshall, Bertha S. Brown, Minerva M. Sparrow, Elsie M. Hoyle, Edna L. Baldwin, Leola G. Watson, Carolyn P. Brightman, Ethel L. Sargent	\$2,886.50
---	------------

## Janitors.

Robinson Robinson,	\$288.00
Albert S. Crandon,	57.00
R. A. Pittsley,	5.00
Maud Sherman,	4.88
Elsie Jenney,	2.88
Harold Bennett,	13.50
Mrs. Anne Pittsley,	10.00
Lottie F. Pittsley,	3.75
Jane B. Bradley,	3.75
Emerson Ashley,	7.50
Amelia Cleveland,	2.00
George H. Ellis,	3.75
Leroy E. Ellis,	2.75
Ellen A. Cole,	5.00
William W. Macomber,	9.00
	<u>\$418.76</u>

## Conveyance.

L. A. Tripp,	\$447.50
D. S. Mason,	266.00
Alidia J. Norton,	30.00
	<u>\$743.50</u>

## Fuel.

Alden Rounseville,	\$16.00
F. T. Akin & Co.,	210.60
	<u>\$226.50</u>

## Repairs.

H. B. Howland,	\$5.00
H. H. Hathaway,	3.25
G. W. Bennett,	1.25

Bryant & Co.,	4.50
G. W. Lawrence,	60.39
G. A. Cobb,	26.30
DeWolf & Vincent,	2.35
Chas. S. Paisler,	7.00
Henry W. Chase,	4.00
Albert S. Jenney,	8.78
F. E. Ashley,	2.00
John Geggatt, Jr.,	4.00
	<hr/>
	\$128.82

**Books and Supplies.**

E. E. Babb & Co.,	\$127.79
G. and C. Merriam Co.,	3.40
Houghton, Mifflin Co.,	8.50
Bliss & Nye,	1.88
J. L. Hammett Co.,	128.68
C. F. Cushing,	1.25
Ginn & Co.,	15.50
	<hr/>
	\$287.00

**Miscellaneous.**

William C. Ashley,	16.00
E. G. Spooner,	3.00
Hatch & Co.,	1.35
Thomas Hersom Co.,	4.50
New Bedford Printing Co.,	5.00
Bliss & Nye,	3.50
Edward W. Ashley,	12.00
	<hr/>
	\$45.35

**PRESENT CORPUS OF TEACHERS.**

Name	School	Education
Vashti M. Crosby, <i>Prin.</i>	Acushnet	Castine Normal
Minerva M. Sparrow	Acushnet	Mt. Holyoke College
Bertha S. Brown,	Acushnet	Fitchburg Normal
Marie S. Howard,	Acushnet	New Bedford High
Bethia S. Keith, <i>Prin.</i>	Long Plain	Bridgewater Normal
Ethel L. Sargent	Long Plain	Salem Normal
Edna L. Baldwin	Perry Hill	Salem Normal

**Tabulated Statement—Grades, Teachers, Salaries, Attendance, Etc.**  
SCHOOL YEAR. September, 1905—June, 1906.

SCHOOLS	Grades.	TEACHERS	Salary per month.	Whole No. enrolled.	Average membership.	Average daily attendance.	Per cent. attendance.	Total days absence.	Cases of tardiness.	Dismissals.
Acushnet	5-8	Vashti M. Crosby	50.00	25	22	21	.95	213.	9	7
Acushnet	3-4	Alice Lilley	40.00	29	24	22	.92	343.	14	6
Acushnet	1-2	Margaret J. Marshall	40.00	44	40	37	.92	561.	22	10
Acushnet	5-9	Marie S. Howard	40.00	42	37	35	.95	335.	8	0
Acushnet	1-4	Bethia S. Keith	48.00	26	22	20	.90	345.	83	45
Long Plain	1-8	Carolyn P. Brightman	36.00	33	23	20	.87	440.	55	26
Perry Hill	1-5	Minerva M. Sparrow	36.00	21	21	18	.89	232.	29	11
TOTALS, 1906			290.00	220	189	173	.91	2469	220	105
TOTALS, 1905			272.00	229	190	177	.92	2614	337	126
TOTALS, 1904			288.00	219	187	164	.88	3565	714	333
TOTALS, 1903			290.00	218	172	152	.86	3444	407	.....

## ROLL OF HONOR.

Pupils neither absent nor tardy for the year 1905-1906:

Valetta Bumpus  
Adrien Lariviere  
Jarrey Riendeau  
J. Susan Culhane

William Burt  
Roland Lariviere  
George Ellis

The following have been neither absent nor tardy for one or two terms, as indicated by stars:

Helen Mahoney\*\*  
Henry Chase\*\*  
Alton Tripp\*\*  
Gardner Taber\*\*  
Mary Pettey\*\*  
Beatrice Gifford\*\*  
Henry Bousquet\*\*  
Merton Morse\*\*  
Harold Tripp\*\*  
Henry Saucier\*\*  
Carrol Parris\*\*  
Elsie Jenney\*\*  
James S. Morton\*\*  
Willis Mason\*\*  
Charles Ashley\*\*  
Reuben Mason\*\*  
Sadie Beals\*  
Fred Morse\*  
Alice Taber\*  
Mary Sylvia\*  
Dorothy Hathaway\*  
Mary Mahoney\*  
Harry Tripp\*  
Ruth Rogers\*  
Bessie Taber\*  
Louis Bousquet\*  
Mason Taber\*  
William Camelia\*

Augustus Beals\*  
Henry Ward\*  
John Frates\*  
Alfred Guilbeault\*  
Stefano Maglione\*  
Edna Corey\*  
Esther Taber\*  
Mary Westgate\*  
Thomas Lackie\*  
George Plant\*  
Mildred Jenney\*  
Abbie B. Cleveland\*  
Edna E. Weeks\*  
Alida L. Taber\*  
Amy F. Taber\*  
Ellsworth C. Pittsley\*  
Harold Ashley\*  
George Loxton\*  
Elmer Sherman\*  
Katie I. Butts\*  
Willard R. Butts\*  
Lizzie Hemmam\*  
Lawrence Mason\*  
Leona H. Pittsley\*  
Albert S. Crandon\*  
Marjory White\*  
Joseph Josepha\*  
Frank Sylvia\*

Tabulated Statement—Grades, Teachers, Salaries, Attendance, Etc.

FALL TERM, 1906.

SCHOOLS	Grades.	TEACHERS	Salary per month.	Whole No. enrolled.	Average membership.	Average daily attendance.	Per cent. attendance.	Total days absence.	Cases of tardiness.	Dismissals.
Acushnet .....	5-8	Vashti M. Crosby.....	60.00	24	23	22	96.	74	1	3
Acushnet .....	3-4	Minerva M. Sparrow....	40.00	30	28	26	93.	143	1	5
Acushnet .....	1-2	Bertha S. Brown.....	40.00	38	34	32	93.	178	25	7
Acushnet .....	5-9	Marie S. Howard.....	40.00	39	35	33	96.	112	5	0
Long Plain .....	1-4	Bethia S. Keith.....	50.00	26	24	21	92.	338	26	19
Long Plain .....	1-8	Ethel L. Sargent.....	40.00	29	28	26	91.	119	16	6
Perry Hill .....	1-5	Edna Baldwin.....	36.00	25	22	20	92.	135	35	15
Totals, Fall, 1906 ..	.....	.....	306.00	211	194	180	93.	1099	109	57

CALENDAR, 1907—1908.

1907.

Monday, Dec. 29	. . . . .	All schools re-open
Friday, Feb. 22	. . . . .	Washington's Birthday
Friday, March 29	. . . . .	All schools close. Spring vacation
Monday, April 8	. . . . .	Schools re-open
Friday, April 19	. . . . .	Patriots' Day
Thursday, May 30	. . . . .	Memorial Day
Friday, June 14	. . . . .	All schools close. Summer vacation
Tuesday, Sept. 3	. . . . .	All schools re-open
Thursday, Nov. 28 and 29	. . . . .	Thanksgiving holidays
Friday, Dec. 20	. . . . .	All schools close. Christmas vacation

1908.

Monday, Dec. 29	. . . . .	All schools re-open
Friday, March 27	. . . . .	All schools close. Spring vacation

February 14, 1907.

Voted to accept the report of the Superintendent as the report of the School Committee.

*Secretary of the School Committee.*

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

*To the School Committee of Acushnet:—*

In accordance with custom and the requirements of your board, I herewith present my sixth annual report which briefly outlines the work and conditions in the school department for the past year.

In general, I am able to report to your committee and through you to the citizens of the town that the Acushnet schools are continuing along the lines of improvement and advancement which have been commented upon in previous reports. The organization of the schools remains the same: namely, a primary and grammar school in the Long Plain building, an eight grade school at Perry Hill, and four schools at Parting Ways with two grades in a room, except in the grammar room, where there are three grades. In all these schools there has been an attempt to keep the work up to the standard of the previous year, and in some cases it has been possible to make improvements. This has been true especially in the eighth and ninth grades, where an effort has been made to better prepare the pupils for the succeeding high school work. To do this, it has been necessary to retain the grammar school teachers, which was possible only by a slight increase in salary.

Unfortunately this question of scarcity of successful teachers and the consequent demand for better salary has been the worst problem for Acushnet, as in all other towns, during the past few years. The school department met with a serious set back when two successful teachers at the Parting Ways school, where they had been receiving \$380.00, were called to positions paying \$600.00 or \$625.00. The principal of this building having also been called to a better position, made it necessary for your committee either to raise the salary or allow this

school to lose much of what it had gained in the past year or two and start over again with three out of four of the teaching force new and with little experience. It goes without saying that the wisdom of your decision has been thoroughly demonstrated in the continued success of this school. Miss Sparrow, who declined re-election to the Perry Hill school, was transferred to the fifth and sixth grades; and Miss Brown, a graduate of the Fitchburg Normal School, was obtained for the third and fourth grades. It was with some difficulty that a satisfactory teacher was obtained for the Perry Hill school in September, and after a few weeks of successful teaching there, Miss Hoyle received an unsolicited appointment to a position in New York state paying a larger salary. After a substitute had had charge of the school for a week or two, Miss Baldwin of the Salem Normal School, though without experience, was appointed to this school. After one or two experienced teachers had been appointed to the primary position at Long Plain and later declined the appointments, we were fortunate at last in securing Miss Sargent from the Salem Normal School. I make mention of these facts merely to illustrate the condition which is prevalent not only throughout Massachusetts and New England, but throughout the country. This seems strange to most people, but there are many causes which have been constantly working toward the reduction of the supply of good teachers. During the past ten or fifteen years many occupations other than that of teaching have opened up to the young women who are seeking a livelihood, such as stenography, typewriting, bookkeeping, business, etc., etc.—positions paying better salaries and having less responsibility and criticism. Another cause for the relative decrease of teachers is the unattractiveness of the calling and the increased difficulty of securing board at reasonable prices. Relatively fewer and fewer teachers are replenishing the ranks. Another and perhaps more important factor is the large immigration of foreign population in the last decade, which has brought a mass of

uneducated, and, at the same time, has brought absolutely no teachers. The policy of the country has been that these immigrants must at least learn to read and write to become safe citizens. In fact, it has appeared necessary as a safeguard to the republic that at least the children of the immigrants receive some education, and hence the compulsory school laws. It has followed naturally that old buildings have been overcrowded and new buildings and new teachers demanded faster than they could be supplied. Your board, I am sure, realize that the public schools cost a large amount of money, and those who are familiar with the school conditions realize that the schools are bound to cost more if we attempt to have as good schools as the people demand. During the past year, as in the year before, every effort has been made to keep the running expenses of the schools in all its departments down to the least possible figure. By doing only urgent repairs and providing very few text books, and assisted by a larger amount from the state school fund and a larger amount from the county fund, we have been able to keep within the appropriation.

It seems to me that your committee deserves no little praise for the patience, perseverance and dignified manner in which the troubles and annoyances of the past year and more have been met. The grounds and facts of this so-called Bisbee school case were thoroughly explained in the last annual report, and I think are clearly understood by the open-minded citizens of the town. It was unfortunate in the beginning that the purpose and function of the school board was not thoroughly understood by all. Cases similar to this have arisen in other places, but, in most instances, the committee either were not sure that they were right in their policy or else were not sure of their ground, or both, and, on account of one or both of these reasons, have yielded, thus acting contrary to their best judgment. It remained for the school committee of Acushnet, in this case, which was so clearly correct as to policy, to demonstrate that school committees are appointed by the

citizens of the town to run the schools according to their best judgment. Much time and expense, both to the town and private individuals, might have been avoided if it could have been understood in the beginning that the public schools could not be under the direction of two or three *different* authorities, but it seemed necessary that this case should go to the highest courts of the commonwealth for a ruling upon the laws relating to the functions of school committees, though the law read as plainly as most people could wish. For the benefit of those who have not read the decision of the supreme court it may not be out of place to state briefly that the court rules, as of necessity it must rule, that laws of the commonwealth call upon towns to elect certain officers who, while elected by the town, must act under the laws of the commonwealth; and in so far as the laws of the commonwealth prescribe their duties and powers, the school committees must conduct their affairs within these prescribed limits. The same principle holds true in the case of any town wishing to adopt by-laws of its own. They cannot be adopted and cannot be valid if they are contrary to and subvert the laws of the commonwealth. Those who frame the school laws in the general court had the wisdom to see that school committees would be useless and powerless for good if they were appointed to conduct the school affairs of a town, and, after formulating their policies and making their plans for the year, should suddenly after a few months be directed by the votes of a small section of the town, or a minority or even a majority of the voters of the town, to put aside all their plans, contracts and policies, and thus cause confusion and conflict. The state of Massachusetts, perhaps more than any other state, has taken upon itself the policy of educating all the boys and girls; it has taken upon itself a large part of the burden of expense, especially favoring the smaller towns, so that Acushnet has received, one way and another during the past year from the funds of the state, nearly \$2,000.00. The state will refund to the town of Acushnet nearly \$1,200.00

high school tuition money for the current school year. It is not unreasonable that the state should early have made provision that the affairs of the schools should be superintended by a board which should act under the laws and authority of the commonwealth and not be subject to a variety of authorities who might direct one thing one month and another thing another month.

Perhaps no set of officers are more sensitive to the wishes and desires of the public than are school boards, and it would be very rare indeed for a school committee to act contrary to the well defined, well grounded and unprejudiced desires of the majority of the citizens. It is usually a thankless task to hold the office or attempt to perform the duties of a school committee man. It has become the case in many towns that capable men have become unwilling to sacrifice themselves to the annoyances and troubles to which they are subjected. Most men are persuaded to act upon school boards on account of a genuine interest in the welfare of the schools. It is hoped that the town of Acushnet will not become one of those towns which does not recognize the need of having the best possible men upon its school board. The school system is without question a very large factor in the life of any community. The lives of many children are at stake; suitable and safe accommodations are necessary; capable and honest teachers are essential; it is necessary that pupils have healthy and happy surroundings; that they be imbued with respect and loyalty to their teachers; it is necessary that parents and teachers respect each other and supplement each other's efforts. Education is not only a thing of the school, but is equally, if not more, a duty and function which has been placed upon the home. The school officials of the town must of necessity, if school affairs are to be productive of the highest good, be honored and respected by pupils, teachers, parents and citizens. The kind of results which the people of Acushnet desire can only be obtained when pupils, parents, teachers, school officials, and tax payers, all work har-

moniously together, with one great object in view, and that great object *the children*.

In closing this report I am glad to say that, in spite of some drawbacks on account of severe weather and sickness, and apparently unavoidable breaks in the work of some schools, the schools of Acushnet are progressing with reasonable efficiency. The weak places will be strengthened when opportunity is afforded. It should be a matter of considerable satisfaction to the town to know that fifteen pupils are enrolled in high schools. It should also be a matter for appreciation and congratulation that such excellent high school opportunities are afforded to all the pupils of Acushnet, absolutely free of expense. The boys and girls in the upper grammar grades are already seeing the opportunities which lie before them, and from present indications, more and more will the boys and girls of the town avail themselves of the opportunities offered in the various departments of the high school.

I wish here to publicly express my appreciation of the continuous and loyal support of the members of your board in considering and carrying out policies and plans which we have felt to be of benefit to the department.

Very respectfully,

FRANK MONROE MARSH.

February 15, 1907.