# REPORT

OF THE

# SELECTMEN OF ACUSHNET,

ON THE

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE TOWN,

FOR THE YEAR 1866-67.

NEW BEDFORD:
E. Anthony & Sons, Printers, 67 Union Street.
1867.

# REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

The Selectmen have examined the account of Jabez Wood, late Collector, and find a balance of uncollected

Taxes in his hand

	andonootou	
Taxes in his hand	\$122.23	5
Also as late Treasurer for the Tow	vn.	
as follows, viz:		
He is charged with the balance of his ac		
count February 28, 1865,	\$1,741.34	
To cash of Mattapoisett,	44.50	
To cash of Fairhaven Bank, dividend,	20.00	
To cash of State Treasurer, To cash of Mattapoisett,	200.00	
To cash of Fairhaven Bank, dividend,	98.00 20.00	
To cash of Freetown,	195.85	
To cash of Estate of Ellis Mendell, decea		
To cash of State School Fund,	68.63	
To cash of State Treasurer,	680.09	
To cash of State Tax,	373.69	
To cash of State,		\$11,186.82
Cr.	000.21	φ11,100.02
1 - Para Maria	<b>#1</b> 000 04	
By amount paid Selectmen's orders for poo	r, \$1,820.24	
By amount paid Selectmen's orders for	1 050 15	
schools,	1,052.15	
By amount paid Selectmen's orders for	544.74	
highways,	344.74	
By amount paid Selectmen's orders for	3,532.91	
incidentals, By amount paid B. White, Treasurer,	4,193.71	
		\$11,186.82
Commissions,	10.01	Ψ11,100.02
The Collector is charged with the		
		DO 110 00
Tax bills for 1866,		\$9,510.96
Cr.		
By cash paid State Treasurer,	\$21.00	
By cash paid County Treasurer,	723.54	
By discount for prompt payment of taxes,	, 300.91	
By reimbursement of subscription money,	731.55	
By paid town Treasurer,	5,390.24 197.16	
By uncollected taxes,	67.56	9,510.96
By commissions,		0,010.00
The Treasurer is charged with the an	nount	
Received of Jabez Wood, late Treasurer,	\$4,193.71	
To cash received for a calf,	15.30	
To cash received of Francis H. Pasel,	6.00	

To cash received of Mattapoisett, To cash received of State, school fund, To cash received of Fairhaven Bank, divided	\$9.75 118.65 nds, 40.00	
To cash received of Cummings,	50.00	
To cash received of Collector,	.5,390.24	
To cash received of Middleborough,	96.76	
To cash received for town maps,	4.00	
To cash received of State, soldiers' aid,	734.66	
To cash received of State, corporation tax,	159.96	
To cash, change,	.50	
To cash for school books,	10.16	\$10,831.69
Cr.		
By paid Selectmen's order for schools, By paid Selectmen's order for support	\$1,885.72	
of paupers,	2,677.70	
By paid Selectmen's order for support		
of highways,	626.33	
By paid Selectmen's order for Incidentals,	2,234.12	
By commission,	18 22	
Balance carried to new account,	3,389.60	\$10,831.69

## SUPPORT OF PAUPERS.

Paid Edward G. Dillingham,	\$4.40
Paid Gideon A. Harding,	20.00
Paid Fairhaven,	300.48
Paid Doctor Webster,	7.50
Paid Freeman Hathaway,	27.60
Paid Betsey Oliver,	8.25
Paid Hannah Horr,	30.00
Paid Nancy C. Terry,	2.39
Paid Henry C. Taber,	4.20
Paid Walter Spooner,	6.00
Paid Simeon Hawes,	3.40
Paid Tisbury,	24.76
Paid S. G. Nye,	28.00
Paid Doctor Webster,	20.00
Paid State Lunatic Hospital,	49.19
Paid C. H. Burgess,	26.00
Paid Mary A. Kimball,	15.30
Paid Samuel Wilde,	. 32.80
Paid Jonathan Taber,	2.00
Paid Dennis Sherman,	12.70
Paid Charles L. Kenyon,	3.67
Paid Elihu Pope,	1.25
Paid George M. Eddy,	3.57
Paid Ruamy Gray,	6.50
Paid William H. Washburn,	55.40
Paid S. T. Patterson,	51.95
Paid Gideon Harding,	. 13.00

Paid David Chase,	\$ .33
Paid David Mendall,	.40
Paid C. H. Wilde,	5.10
Paid Betsey Oliver,	9.75
Paid Baylies & Cannon,	32.00
Paid Mrs. Davis, Ruth Cook,	26.00
Paid C. E. Clark,	25.92
Paid C. H. Burgess,	26.00
Paid State Lunatic Hospital,	45.36
Paid Lund & Brother,	6.50
Paid Rufus W. White,	8.00
Paid Benjamin Ricketson,	4.50
Paid Luther Reynolds,	.50
Paid Thomas P. Terry,	5.00
Paid Ruamy Gray,	6.50
Paid J. D. Weeks,	26.00
Paid Elihu Pope,	.75
Paid Baylies & Cannon,	14.50
Paid Walter Spooner,	28.35
Paid Pardon Taber, Jr.,	36.25
Paid Philip A. Bradford,	5.60
Paid W. S. Wilde & Brother,	20.00
Paid Augustus White,	15.00
Paid C. E. Clark,	4.42
Paid Gideon A. Harding,	11.00
Paid Hannah Horr,	30.00
Paid John R. Davis,	24.63
Paid George S. Wilbor,	1.85
Paid Samuel T. Patterson,	88.32
Paid Thomas Hersom,	4.50
Paid Freeman Hathaway,	6.87
Paid Betsey Oliver,	9.75
Paid James Hammett,	33.78
Paid Pardon Devoll,	2.00
Paid Daniel V. Smith,	55.00
Paid Mrs. Ansel Ellis,	2.80
Paid State Lunatic Hospital,	43.51
Paid C. M. Wilde,	46.87
Paid C. H. Burgess,	26.00
Paid Caroline F. Gammons,	2.49
Paid William H. Cook,	5.00
Paid Walter Spooner,	14.40 16.50
Paid Ruamy Gray,	
Paid S. T. Patterson,	55.51 7.00
Paid William N. Davis,	4.10
Paid David Chase,	4.10
Paid Lucy Chapman,	23.00
Paid Gideon A. Harding,	7.45
Paid S. B. Hamlin,	8.00
Paid Warren Drury,	0.00

		288.19
Paid New Bedford,		10.00
Paid Lucy Chapman,		30.00
Paid Job M. Terry,		35.46
Paid Taunton,		9.45
Paid Betsey Oliver,		18 26
Paid C. E. Clark,	Carlo Parker	37.21
Paid S. T. Patterson,		18.21
Paid P. M. Lund,		4.18
Paid Joseph S. Spooner,		26.00
Paid C. H. Burgess,		9.84
Paid Pardon Taber, Jr.,		20.00
Paid William S. Wilde,		44.96
Paid State Lunatic Hospital,		7.73
Paid Charles Kyson,		8.00
Paid Gideon A. Harding,		18.10
Paid James Sherman,		67.75
Paid James D. Weeks,		23.23
Paid Sandwich,		6.50
Paid Ruamy Gray,		2.50
Paid Allen Russell,		9.87
Paid Walter Spooner,		2.80
Paid J. H. Burgess,		1.25
Paid Joseph S. Spooner,		1.37
Paid S. B. Hamlin,		98.62
Paid Fairhaven,		6.00
Paid Joseph Maxum,		9.49
Paid William A. Spooner,		11.24
Paid Charles M. Wilde,		29.00 23.75
Paid Baylies & Cannon,		6.75
Paid Shaw & Brother,		16.00
Paid J. R. Smith,		5.46
Paid Augustus White,		7.25
Paid C. E. Clark,		55.56
Paid Asa Crane,		11.22
Paid Jones Robinson,		60.40
Paid Nancy C. Terry,		14.18
Paid J. R. Davis,		
Paid C. M. Wilde,		\$2,689.64
SUPPORT OF SO	CHOOLS.	W-1
2011 0111 02		\$85.80
. T Heavell	No. 4,	5.25
Paid Sarah J. Haswell,	., 3,	45.50
Paid David Chase, Jr.,	" 8,	115.50
Paid Sarah E. Grinnell,	" 1,	17.50
Paid Roby W. Keen,	٠,	92.00
Paid L. T. Jenney,	-,	06 06
Paid Lucy A. Lawrence,	, 0,	00 75
Paid A. A. C. Hervey, Paid Clark E. Morse,	" 5,	
Paid Clair II. III		

Paid Mary R. Hinckley,	No.	3,	\$125.00
Paid Ansel C. White,	"	3.	6.90
Paid Sophia W. Horton,	"	6,	125.00
Paid Mary J. Wing,	"	9,	125.50
Paid H. C. Wing,	"	9,	12.67
Paid Benjamin Braley,	"	9,	4.88
Paid Clara Parker,	"	3,	40.00
Paid Sarah E. Grinnell,	"	2,	60.00
Paid Sarah J. Haswell,	"	4,	66.00
Paid A. W. Tinkham,	66	9,	45.00
Paid Mary R. Hinckley,		8,	55.00
Paid H. K. Sears,	46	7,	. 60.00
Paid Myra S. Rounseville,		1,	58.50
Paid Georgiana W. Horton,		6,	60.00
Paid Clara Parker,	"	3,	24.00
Paid Sarah E. Grinnell,	"	2,	30.00
Paid Mary R. Hinckley,	"	8,	38.50
Paid Sarah J. Haswell,	"	4,	45.50
Paid William Brownell,	"	7,	20.00
	46	2,	13.25
Paid George P. Morse,	"	4,	44.00
Paid Sarah J. Haswell,	66	9,	36.00
Paid A. W. Tinkham,	"	7,	20.40
Paid H. K. Sears,	"	5,	100.00
Paid Ann H. Snow,	"	7,	90.00
Paid H. K. Sears,		8,	40.34
Paid Fairhaven,	66	8,	59.25
Paid Charles L. Russell,		-,	
			\$1,885.72

## FOR THE REPAIRS OF HIGHWAYS.

Under the direction of WILLIAM A. SPOONER. Paid John E. Almy, for plough, Paid B. D. Hathaway, picks, Paid William A. Spooner, \$9.50 5.60 71.75 72.00 Paid H. C. Wing, Paid William Hall, 10.50 14.00 Paid Joseph Taber, 4.50 Paid George Whitney, Paid George Whitney,
Paid William Jenney,
Paid Frederic Wing,
Paid Albert Braley,
Paid Savory Braley,
Paid Jones Robinson,
Paid Benjamin Braley, 4.50 21.00 1.50 25.50 2.20 7.50 5.00 Paid Martin Gammons, Paid Seth C. Bradford, 1.20 Paid Levi Wing, Paid Samuel Wing, Paid George L. Hathaway, .75

.15 2.00

	\$ .23
Paid James Davis,	.90
Paid George Lewis,	.90
Paid William Taber,	2.25
Paid William A. Spooner,	.75
Paid Joseph C. Omey,	.75
Paid William B. Omey,	.75
Paid John Hammett,	.75
Paid John Hammel	.60
Paid Augustus Ellis,	.45
Paid Martin B. Gammons,	.45
Paid Doctor Burnham,	.60
Paid Manning Patterson,	.60
Doid Mason Tabel,	.75
Daid Albert Allen,	1.05
n . 1 William Jenney,	.60
Daid William Browner,	.00
Paid Lewis Simons,	MORSE.

# Under the direction of EDWARD MORSE. \$2.25

Unaer	\$2.20
	14.25
Paid Omey, Paid Godfrey C. Macomber,	18.00
Paid Godffey C. Hammett,	5.25
Paid Gounes Hammett, Paid James Hammett, T. Jennings,	5.25
Paid Luthan T. Jennings,	.75
	4.50
Paid J. W. Lottle, Paid Nathan T. Cottle,	3.75
Paid Nathan 1. Paid Jeremiah Hammett, Paid Jeremiah Hammett, Paid C. M. Wilde for C. Taber, Paid C. M. White,	18.00
	17.00
a ' 1 Anglistus '	30.00
	10.50
Deid George 1.	4.50
	9.00
	7.50
	26.00
D : 1 Doter Michian	58.75
	2.87
- in Transport Morso,	2.75
Paid Edward Morse, Paid Edward Morse,	7.00
	4.00
Paid Walter A. Davis, Paid Walter T. Jennings,	3.00
	1.50
Paid William Davis,	1.50
	11.50
Paid Augustus White,	3.00
Paid Augustus Paid George P. Morse, Paid George P. Merrihew,	6.00
	3.00
Paid Joshua Morse,	38.63
	2.35
	1.50
Paid Edward Moise,	1.20
Paid George Wheldon,	
Paid Jeremiah Hammos,	
Paid Peter Morse, Paid Joshua Morse, Paid Lewis G. Spooner, Paid Edward Morse, Paid Edward Morse, Paid George Wheldon, Paid Jeremiah Hammett,	38.6 2.5 1.

Pai	d Jacob Wagoner,	\$ .4	0
	d Calvin Ashley,	2.2	
	d Leonard Keen,	2.00	
Pai	d Chester Thornton,	1.20	)
Paid	d Clark Morse,	.80	)
Paid	d Walter R. Spooner,	.80	)
Paid	d Walter Spooner,	1.00	
	l Alfred Morse,	1.00	
Paid	l Francis Pittsley,	1.00	
	l Erastus Pierce,	.80	
	d Wilson Pierce,	.80	
Paid	l Albert Morse,	.80	
Paid	l Phineas and James Peckham,	1.80	
Paid	I James Burt, Joseph Burt, and William		
	avis,	3,80	
Paid	Hendrick Gifford & Son,	3.00	
Paid	Freeman Landers,	1.50	
Paid	Bradford Braley,	1.40	
Paid	William Freeman,	1.40	
Paid	George P. Morse,	2.50	
Paid	Isaac Perkins,	1.60	\$626.38
	INCIDENTAL.		
	INCIDENTAL.		
Paid	Deborah Spooner, State aid,	\$8.00	
66	Joseph N. Seavers, State aid,	12.00	
66	Martin B. Gammons, note,	85.00	
"	S. Hutchinson, books,	7.83	
66	E. Anthony & Sons, printing,	21.00	
"	George P. Morse, School Committee,	12.00	
66	Joseph N. Seavers, State aid,	48.00	
66	S. Hutchinson,	12.53	
"	Joseph N. Seavers, State aid,	24.00	
"	Philip A. Bradford, services,	9.00	
"	C. E. Clark,	3.50	
66	E. Anthony & Sons, printing,	8.25	
- "	Savory C. Braley, note,	100.00	
"	William Clark, painting guide boards,	1.50	
"	Susan Chofes, note,	200.00	
66	Richard W. Hathaway, note,	172.78	
66	S. Hutchinson,	14.32	
"	George T. Russell,	22.37	
	George P. Morse, School Committee,	12.00	
"	Frederic W. Wing, School Committee,	20.00	
66	Richard Davis, School Committee,		
46	C. E. Clark,	63.45	
"	Pardon Taber, Jr.,	55.00	
"	Walter Spooner,	55.00	
"	State Aid,	371.00	
"	Benjamin White,	22.03	
"	Interest on Town Debt,	809.07	\$2,234.12

## RECAPITULATION.

Expended.		
Paid for the support of Paupers,	\$2,677.70	
" for the support of Schools,	1,885.72	
" for the support of Highways,	626.33	
" for Incidentals,	2,234.12	
" discount for prompt payment of	taxes, 300.91	
Amount due school discricts,	695.44	
Interest due on town debt,	241.63	
Town debt,	10,706.00 \$19,367.85	
Receipts.		
Appropriation for Schools,	\$1,500.00	
Appropriation for Paupers,	1,500.00	
Appropriation for Highways,	600.00	
Appropriation for Reimbursements,	731.55	
Overlay on Taxes,	477.56	
School Books on hand,	43.00	
Pagained from State School Fund,	118.65	
Due from State for State aid to soldier	s, 505.00	
Dividends from Fairhaven Bank,	40.00	
Cash received for School Books sold,	10.16	
Cash received from the State,	894.62	
Cash received for Town Maps,	4.00	
Cash received J. F. Cummings,	50.00	
Cash received of Middleborough,	98.76	
Cash received for a Calf,	15.30	
Cash received from Mattapoisett,	9.75	
Due for uncollected Taxes,	197.16	
Cash of Jabez Wood, late Treasurer,	4,193.71	
Five Shares Fairhaven Bank Stock,	400.00	
Cash of Francis H. Pasel,	6.00 \$11.395.25	-
Balance against the Town,	\$7,972.63	
	· · 1 bla good condition	

The Guide-Boards in the Town are in tolerable good condition, except the one near Tripp's Mills, which is gone.

At the annual town meeting of March, 1866, the town directed the Selectmen to make enquiries respecting the purchase of an Alms-House for the town. The Selectmen have not found one that they believe the town would purchase.

Respectfully submitted.

CYRUS E. CLARK, Selectmen WALTER SPOONER, PARDON TABER, Jr., Acushnet.

Examined and approved.

JONES ROBINSON, RICHARD DAVIS, Auditors.

# REPORT

OF THE

# SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Town of Acushnet,

FOR THE YEAR 1866-67.

NEW BEDFORD:
E. Anthony & Sons, Printers, 67 Union Street.
1867.

# REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

In conformity with the requisition of the laws of Massachusetts, the School Committee of the town of Acushnet would respectfully submit the following Annual Report for 1866-67. The Committee organized by the choice of F. W. Wing, Chairman, and George P. Morse, Secretary.

Amount of money ra Public Schools, Amount received from		r the support of	\$1,500.00 118.65
			\$1,618.65
Districts.	No. of Children.	Apportionment	
No. 1,	20	\$165.48	
No. 2,	25	173.45	
No. 3,	32	184.58	
No. 4,	23	170.27	
No. 5,	23	. 170.27	
No. 6,	28	178.21	
No. 7,	31	182.99	
No. 8,	44	203.69	
No. 9,	26	175.03	\$1,603.97
Paid amount overdra	wn last year, .		14.37
			\$1,618.34

#### DISTRICT No. 1.

Summer Term—Taught by Myra S. Rounseville. Length of school 3½ months; wages of teacher \$18 per month; whole number of scholars 18, average attendance 14.

Winter Term—Taught by Myra S. Rounseville. School yet in session. Wages of teacher \$23 per month; whole number of scholars 22, average attendance 16. Angenette B. Ashley and Eugenia R. Ashley were neither absent nor tardy during the year.

### DISTRICT No. 2.

Summer Term—Taught by Sarah E. Grinnell. Length of school 33 months; wages of teacher \$24 per month; whole number of scholars 22, average attendance 14.

Winter Term—Taught 13 months by Sarah E. Grinnell at \$24 per month; the remainder of the term is being taught by Clara P. Parker at \$20 per month; whole number of scholars 24, average attendance 18.

## DISTRICT No. 3.

Summer Term—Taught by Clara P. Parker. Length of school 4 months; wages of teacher \$16 per month; whole number of scholars 33, average attendance 24.

Winter Term—Taught by Georgianna Horton. School yet in session. Wages of teacher \$25 per month; whole number of scholars 33, average attendance 25.

### DISTRICT No. 4.

Summer Term—Taught by Sarah J. Haswell. Length of school 5 months; wages of teacher \$22 per month; whole number of scholars 24, average attendance 20.

Fall Term—Taught by Sarah J. Haswell. Length of school 13 months; wages of teacher \$26 per month; whole number of scholars 23, average attendance 21.

## DISTRICT No. 5.

Summer Term—Taught by Ann H. Snow. Length of school 4 months; wages of teacher \$25 per month; whole number of scholars 26, average attendance 19.

Winter Term—Taught by Ann H. Snow. Length of school 23 months; wages of teacher \$25 per month; whole number of scholars 25, average attendance 22.

### DISTRICT No. 6.

Summer Term—Taught by Georgianna Horton. Length of school 3 months; wages of teacher \$20 per month; whole number of scholars 27, average attendance 18.

Winter Term—Taught by Sophia W. Horton. School yet in session. Wages of teacher \$30 per month; whole number of scholars 38, average attendance 32.

#### DISTRICT No. 7.

Summer Term—Taught by Hannah Sears. Length of school 3 7-20 months; wages of teacher \$24 per month; whole number of scholars 31, average attendance 26.

Winter Term—Taught by Hannah Sears. Length of school 3 months; wages of teacher \$30 per month; whole number of scholars 41, average attendance 32.

#### DISTRICT No. 8.

Summer Term—Taught by Mary R. Hinckley. Length of school  $4\frac{1}{5}$  months; wages of teacher \$22 per month; whole number of scholars 24, average attendance  $19\frac{1}{2}$ .

Winter Term—Taught by Charles L. Russell. Length of school 2 months; wages of teacher \$30 per month; whole number of scholars 26, average attendance 19.

#### DISTRICT No. 9.

Summer Term—Taught by Adelaide Tinkham. Length of school  $4\frac{1}{2}$  months; wages of teacher \$18 per month; whole number of scholars 27, average attendance  $17\frac{1}{2}$ .

Winter Term—Taught by Mary J. Wing. School yet in session. Wages of teacher \$26 per month; whole number of scholars 21, average attendance 18.

The Committee feel gratified in being able to speak in terms of commendation of the condition of the schools during the year. We have been fortunate in obtaining competent and faithful teachers, and, as a corresponding result, a commendable progress has been made in the studies pursued.

We would earnestly urge that the town should raise a larger amount for the support of the schools during the ensuing year, than was raised last year.

If we wish to employ efficient teachers, we must pay them a liberal compensation for their services. We cannot ex-

pect to employ a good teacher for sixteen dollars per month, when she has to pay at the rate of four dollars per week for her board. We sincerely hope that the town will vote to raise two thousand dollars, if not more, for the support of schools during the coming year.

### TEACHERS.

If any person should be master of his work, it is the teacher of a public school, for he has so many things to divide his attention. Let us consider for a moment his

Suppose his school to consist of 30 or 40 scholars of various ages, dispositions and habits; that he is expected to hear from ten to twelve classes, and in as many different branches, every three hours, and that during the hours of recitation perfect order must prevail, and you will have some idea of the nature of his arduous duties.

If the duties of the teacher are so arduous, should we not be careful to secure the services of such as have either proved themselves to be competent by experience, or of such as we have reason to believe from personal acquaintance, or the best of reference, will prove competent?

Those who are intending to follow teaching as a profession should make a thorough preparation for their vocation.

If a teacher has prepared himself for his work, by a thorough moral, intellectual and physical course of training, he will be respected by his pupils and the community in general, and will be eagerly sought for and liberally compensated as an instructor of the youth of our land.

We cannot give a better idea of a faithful and efficient teacher, than by quoting a few lines from Holland's fine poem, descriptive of the "Village School Mistress:"

"Behold her at the door, while round her press
The little throng, with greeting and caress,
And follow slow, or pressing on before,
Seek their low desks across the sanded floor,
And there await, with sweetly reverent face,
And there await, with sweetly reverent face,
The Word's best teachings, and the prayer for grace.
How sweet the words of Jesus on her tongue!
How rich the flow of David's sacred song!
Thus with a prayer begins the weary day;

And, when the sultry hours have passed away, Those childish voices, mingling with her own, In grateful song rise softly to the Throne. Thus day by day, oppressed with tender care, Thus day by day, renewing strength with prayer, She strengthens slowly, through each passing hour, Her Nation's greatness, and her Country's power."

#### GOVERNMENT.

When a teacher can govern himself, he can generally govern those under his charge. Good order, in the school room, is indispensable.

Parents can assist the teacher very much in governing a school, by giving him their hearty co-operation and support. Children, well governed at home, will seldom cause the teacher any trouble in school. The teacher should require implicit obedience to his commands. The rod should seldom be used and only as a last resort. Speak kindly but firmly in giving your commands. Be as particular in making rules as you are in requiring obedience to them.

#### READING.

One great fault that the Committee have noticed, is, the manner which usually prevails in teaching children to read. Good reading is the most important branch of education, and should be considered a great accomplishment. This branch of knowledge should be taught chiefly by imitationtherefore every teacher should strive to become a good reader. The sentiment of the writer must be fully understood, as well as the elementary rules given in regard to emphasis, cadence, and the various inflections of the voice. The teacher should not permit a single sentence to be passed over till each scholar in the class is able to read it correctly. Reading in concert is a good exercise, if taught properly. The best method of teaching children to read in concert, is, for the scholars to dispense with the book, and to repeat the lesson after the teacher, imitating him carefully in regard to pauses, emphasis, &c. Teachers should be careful not to allow scholars to read in books that are too difficult for them to understand. Children are generally anxious to have new books, and to read in "a higher class," and we

frequently find scholars reading in the Fourth Reader of a series, who are hardly qualified to read in the Third Reader of the same series. We hope to see a great improvement in reading, in our schools during the ensuing year.

#### SCHOOL HOUSES.

Another subject to which we wish to call your attention, is that of the school houses, and hope it will receive from you that consideration which its importance demands.

It seems to have been overlooked that the school house as well as our dwellings ought to possess attractions for our children; and consequently while many have built new and expensive dwellings, or remodelled the old ones, and embellished them with things that make home pleasant and delightful, the school house has been allowed to remain nearly as it was when occupied by a former generation.

Make your school houses spacious, comfortable and convenient,-beautify them as you would your dwellings, if you wish to make favorable impressions upon your children with regard to the value you attach to the institution of the public schools. Many teachers are very culpable and negligent in regard to taking proper care of the school houses. Teachers should see that they are not unnecessarily injured, that the furniture of the school rooms is not defaced, and besides looking carefully after these things, they should see that the windows and doors are closed at night or when the school is not in session: these precautions are sometimes disregarded. In conclusion, we would say-make your school houses pleasant and attractive-have them occupied by living, working teachers-surround and guard them by such influences as shall urge and encourage the young to make the wisest use of their advantages,-and your children will be qualified for the duties of life, and fitted for the most worthy positions in society.

Respectfully submitted,

F. W. WING, GEORGE P. MORSE, RICHARD DAVIS, School Committee of Acushnet.