

This Town Report is dated
from 4/1/1859 to 3/1/1860

1860

R E P O R T .

In this, the first Report, we do not expect to arrive at perfection. It will fall short of giving entire satisfaction, and may of meeting the demands of a majority of the people, but by our failings, our successors may approximate nearer what is required.

We have endeavored to perform the various duties left to our care, as though for our individual interest. The sheds have been removed, and a wall erected in their stead; the bridges have been repaired, and the back taxes have been collected. The poor have been cared for, and though we always have them with us, this year we have more than in preceding years, and though some have been removed from our care by death and otherwise, their places have been more than supplied by new recipients. We have aided during the time, twenty-one different persons, and sixteen are now receiving help from the town, nine of which are in our Poor House, two in Brattleboro, Vt., one in Taunton, and the remainder, endeavoring with a little assistance, to live by themselves. Our expenses in this department are less than during the previous year, and we think \$1100 enough for the coming year's expenses.

With the last year's appropriation for highways, our roads may be kept in as good condition as at present. To make them equal to the roads in towns having a clayey soil, and none of our loose sand to deal with, would require a great sum. We advise to raise \$650 for surveyor's purposes, and \$1000 in anticipation of building the new road lately laid out by the County Commissionera, and specified to be built on or before the 10th of July next.

As we are to have a Report of the School Department, let it suffice to say that we think the usual amount of \$2000 as sufficient, and we advise to raise the same.

Based upon our Estate Bill, we assessed a tax which has been collected, with the exception of about \$40, and a part of this was assessed upon individuals who have paid a tax in other towns. By paying taxes at an earlier day than in former times, a part of the difficulties which have always attended the collecting of taxes, has been removed. Many taxes are assessed upon transient citizens, who are here at the first of May, through the summer, and take their departure early in the winter to parts unknown. These taxes are usually Poll taxes. But in case they have families, they are for school books also, in which case they not only avoid paying a tax, but leave a bill for school books for the town to pay. Money

is lost in this way every year. A part of our citizens are dependent upon what they earn from day to day for a livelihood. With this class, the summer is the best time to pay a tax, as they usually have constant employment during the warm season, and receive ready cash as soon as the work is performed. The cash system is fast taking the place of the credit system in most all business transactions, and should in the payment of taxes. A tax is due from the time it is made, and ought so to be considered; not because a few months are allowed for their collection that the town has no demand previous to that day.

We would call your attention to the present method of drawing money from the treasury, requiring that all orders, from whatever department, shall be signed by the Selectmen to give them validity. It is in our opinion an unnecessary arrangement. It does seem right that the employers should draw the orders for those they employ. The Surveyors, School Committee, &c., should draw the orders in their respective departments, being the persons who shall best know what is right. By the present method they do virtually give the order. The Selectmen have no authority to say to the Surveyor or School Committee—"You shall not draw this money;" besides it would be a piece of impertinence to say to either, "We know better than you what your hands deserve." They take their power from a higher source; hence the Selectmen can only write another order, when one from the original party would have been sufficient, which is doubling the amount of writing, to say nothing of the inconvenience to those in favor of whom the orders are drawn, who not unfrequently earn, and dearly too, the amount of the order, seeking the necessary signatures. A Report is required. Grant it. Let each of the Officers report on or before the 1st day of March, a list of orders drawn, instead of a list of bills, for the Selectmen's approval. A Report can be drawn quite as accurate and with much less trouble.

We would also call your attention to our burying ground, one of the oldest in the country. While the inhabitants of other towns are expending large sums to adorn their old burying grounds, and larger sums upon more modern grounds, our old yard is fast becoming a forest of briars and wild cherry trees, and the stones which mark the last resting places of our ancestors, are dilapidated and defaced, and the inscriptions upon them becoming erased by the hand of time.

The following tables contain a list of all bills which have been paid from the treasury since the settlement with the Treasurer by the Finance Committee, on the 1st day of April, 1859, to the 1st day of March, 1860:—

ORDERS IN HIGHWAY, DISTRICT NO. 1.

JOSHUA DELANO, *Surveyor.*

Charles Robbins,	\$0 75
Spencer Brewster,	3 75
Frederic Bagwell,	10 50
Henry Churchill,	10 49
Henry Cobb,	7 50
Philander Cobb,	6 25
Benjamin Dunham,	8 13
Joshua Delano,	10 61
Benjamin Delano,	15 62
Chester Fuller,	9 94
David Fitz Gerald,	37
Edward Gray,	5 00
Alexander Holmes,	11 37
Edwin Powers,	6 25
Charles Robbins,	12 63
Sullivan Shaw,	3 12
William D. Winsor,	11 88
Elbridge G. Winsor,	62
Benjamin Dunham,	50
Frederic Bagnell,	1 00
Henry T. Lucas,	37
George Stetson,	50
Ephraim Fuller,	63
Wm. R. Thomas,	50
Total,	\$141 28
Appropriation,	\$140 00

ORDERS IN HIGHWAY, DISTRICT NO. 2.

EDWARD WILLIS, *Surveyor.*

Samuel Bryant,	\$ 00
Edward Chandler,	2 00
Timothy French,	22 00
Dennis Haney,	7 75
Thomas Russell,	4 00
George Stetson,	2 00
William Stetson,	4 00
Edward Willis,	31 75
Edward Willis,	23 50
Alden S. White,	1 50
Nathaniel Waterman,	20 00
Total,	\$119 65
Appropriation,	\$120 00

ORDERS IN HIGHWAY, DISTRICT NO. 3.

BENJAMIN SAMPSON, *Surveyor*.

George Adams,	\$2 50
Uriah Bartlett,	4 25
Ira Chandler,	4 14
Francis Drew,	6 37
Job W. Drew,	1 80
Nathaniel Faunce,	18 20
James Foster,	10 50
Leavitt T. Robbins,	6 81
Benjamin Sampson,	31 00
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Total,	\$85 60
Appropriation,	\$90 00

ORDERS IN HIGHWAY, DISTRICT NO. 4.

ROBERT McLAUTHLEN, *Surveyor*.

John Bearce,	\$4 18
Edward Chandler,	4 12
John D. Chandler,	2 00
Algenon Chandler,	5 25
Ira Holmes,	4 25
John F. Hall,	10 43
Robert W. Holmes,	2 12
Allyn Holmes,	2 00
Ephraim Holmes,	1 50
Alvin Lucas,	1 62
Elisha McLauthlen,	5 00
Robert B. McLauthlen,	17 03
Ezra Mitchell,	1 06
Esaias Peterson,	1 62
Oliver Sampson,	7 05
James Thompson,	3 62
James Thompson, Jr.,	2 62
Elijah C. Witherell,	3 12
Charles Washburn,	1 50
Charles Robbins,	7 16
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Total,	\$87 25
Appropriation,	\$75 00

ORDERS IN HIGHWAY, DISTRICT NO. 5.

JOSEPH E. REED, *Surveyor*.

Peleg Bryant,	\$2 00
Oliver H. Bryant,	2 00
George B. Bryant,	2 25
William B. Bryant,	2 00
Prince Churchill,	1 50
James W. Holmes,	1 00
John Johnson,	4 00
Thomas J. Johnson,	4 00
Peter W. McLauthlin,	4 00
Joseph E. Reed,	5 00
Francis O. Simmons,	3 50
Nathaniel Waterman,	6 50
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Total,	\$37 75
Appropriation,	\$45 00

ORDERS IN HIGHWAY, DISTRICT NO. 6.

GAUIS HOLMES, *Surveyor*.

Ira Cook,	\$3 45
Kilborn Faunce,	8 37
Charles C. Faunce,	9 50
George Faunce,	4 32
Gaius Holmes,	6 25
Alexander Holmes,	3 00
Joseph O'Brien,	1 25
James Pratt,	1 62
Stephen Sampson,	5 12
William F. Soule,	7 37
Nathaniel Washburn,	11 01
Eliczer E. Waterman,	1 00
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Total,	\$62 26
Appropriation,	\$50 00

ORDERS IN HIGHWAY, DISTRICT NO. 7.

ELIEZER FAUNCE, *Surveyor*.

Sylvanus Bryant, Jr.,	\$2 50
James H. Cushman,	2 88
George Cushman,	8 51
Joseph T. Cushman,	1 25

Henry Churchill,	5 19
Thomas Churchill,	2 69
Otis Churchill,	5 19
Henry T. Cook,	63
Martin Faunce,	3 82
Eliezer Faunce,	10 38
John F. Holmes,	91
Ezra Perkins,	1 52
Lemuel Pratt,	1 41
Elisha Stetson,	5 01
Seth Tupper,	2 16
Harvey C. Pratt,	37
Total,	\$54 45
Appropriation,	\$55 00

ORDERS IN HIGHWAY, DISTRICT NO. 8.

OLIVER EVERSON, *Surveyor*.

Alden S. Bradford,	\$2 50
Stephen Bradford,	2 50
Jason Bradford,	2 50
Martin Cook,	5 25
Edwin Cook,	2 80
Oliver Everson,	9 25
James O. Everson,	1 75
Ezra Fuller,	5 60
Thomas Lanman,	3 25
George Morse,	3 00
Noah Prince,	3 00
Daniel King,	2 75
Samuel Ring,	4 78
Henry Sturtevant,	1 81
Total,	\$50 74
Appropriation,	\$50 00

ORDERS IN HIGHWAY, DISTRICT NO. 9.

JOHN F. HOLMES, *Surveyor*.

Asa Cook,	\$7 50
Henry T. Cook,	3 13
Martin Faunce,	3 12
John F. Holmes,	3 13

Josiah Holmes,	6 25
Lemuel Pratt,	1 87
Total,	\$25 00
Appropriation,	\$25 00

ORDERS IN GENERAL HIGHWAY ACCOUNT.

Nathaniel Waterman,	\$1 50
Oliver Everson,	62
James O. Everson,	62
James H. Bryant,	68
Edward Gray,	50
Edwin Powers,	50
John S. Chandler,	93
George H. Bonney,	1 12
Thomas Lanman,	69
Richard E. Holmes,	3 75
Hiram Tribble,	1 00
Elisha Stetson,	37
Nathaniel Faunce,	88
Spencer Brewster,	50
Stephen Sampson,	1 25
Ira Cook,	2 00
Thomas C. Holmes,	3 12
Benjamin Dunham,	50
Patrick O'Rourke,	50
H. L. Churchill,	50
Henry T. Cook,	87
Azel Sampson,	50
Chester Fuller,	50
Henry Churchill,	50
Bartlett O'Brien,	37
John O'Brien,	74
John O'Brien, Jr.,	37
Asa Cook,	1 25
Thomas Callahan,	37
John Johnson,	63
Thomas J. Johnson,	1 50
George Sampson,	75
Edward D. Chandler,	87
Augustus Simmons,	87
Joshua Delano,	1 75

Charles T. Robbins,	50
Samuel Ring,	87
Daniel Ring,	37
David Chandler,	87
Joseph Reed,	1 50
Algenon Chandler,	87
Edwin Cook,	75
Alden S. Bradford,	37
James Cole,	37
Thomas E. Cole,	37
Alexander Holmes,	1 50
Sullivan Shaw,	75
Benjamin Delano,	75
Wilson Griffith,	37
James Pierce,	75
Lemuel Pratt,	38
Joseph T. Cushman,	68
Total,	\$45 39

ORDERS IN SCHOOL ACCOUNT.

E. W. Dickerson,	\$180 00
Mary T. Brewster,	83 00
Mary E. Cobb,	85 00
Nathaniel Waterman,	8 03
Catharine D. Russell,	90 00
Henry Cobb,	16 00
Lewis Ripley,	12 00
Ira Holmes,	2 00
Mary S. Cushman,	85 50
Cynthia D. Brewster,	110 00
Luzia R. Robbins,	111 00
Lydia B. Ring,	99 00
Josiah Holmes,	11 37
Uriah Bartlett,	4 85
James Foster,	11 06
Nathan Chandler,	6 00
E. W. Dickerson,	100 00
Total,	\$1019 81

ORDERS IN POOR ACCOUNT.

Expenses out of Town.

Mrs. Edwin Doten,	\$10 25
Seth J. Winsor,	58 00
W. H. Rockwell, Brattleboro', Vt.,	269 72
Geo. S. C. Choate, Taunton,	199 04
Total,	\$537 01

Expenses in the Poor House.

Mrs. C. Pickett,	\$83 00
Henry K. Keith & Co.,	164 12
Nathaniel Waterman,	8 00
Uriah Bartlett,	6 40
Asa W. Hewett,	2 07
Nathan Chandler,	2 00
Wiswall S. Stetson,	5 60
Nathaniel T. Willis,	10 00
Paul L. Nichols,	7 00
James H. Stetson,	1 55
Oliver Sampson,	6 00
William H. Myrick,	5 43
George Stetson,	11 80
Asa Cook,	8 00
George T. Adams,	35 36
John F. Holmes,	10 00
H. L. Collamore,	15 32
Total,	\$381 65

Expenses out of the House.

Paul L. Nichols,	\$10 00
H. L. Collamore,	32 08
George T. Adams,	3 67
H. K. Keith & Co.,	46 85
Henry N. Jones,	25 50
Charles C. Faunce,	10 00
John F. Holmes,	5 00
Henry Cushman,	36 62
Noah Prince,	4 25
Total,	\$173 97
Total,	\$1092 63

ORDERS IN MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT.

Walter H. Faunce,	\$35 00
George Faunce,	28 50
John Gray,	42 50
Charles Everson,	18 75
William F. Soule,	10 00
Samuel E. Cushman,	25 00
Nathan Brooks,	22 00
Edward Gray,	25 00
Alexander B. Foster,	8 00
Walter H. Faunce,	187 00
Stephen Holmes, 2d,	17 00

Crows' Heads.

George H. Bagnall,	1 80
Daniel W. Fuller,	2 00
Samuel Fuller,	2 20
Henry P. Churchill,	1 20
Charles F. Washburn,	80
Chester H. Fuller,	6 20
Charles Robbins,	60
John Fuller,	20
Osborn R. Joyce,	1 80
Frederic Delano,	1 40
William H. Brazier,	2 50
Edward Willis,	21 32
Benjamin Sampson,	40
H. K. Keith & Co.,	177 15
John Morissey,	32 00
Edward D. Chandler,	30 03
John A. Chandler,	5 83
Joshua Delano,	9 00

Burying Ground Wall.

Joseph T. Cushman,	3 50
Richard E. Holmes,	3 50
C. R. & C. Mitchell & Co.,	14 33
Elisha T. Cushman,	5 71
Kilborn Faunce,	8 16
Charles C. Faunce,	9 58
Nathaniel Faunce,	6 75
Walter H. Faunce,	9 12
Ezra Perkins,	1 50
George Cushman,	5 00
Nathan Chandler,	2 25
Charles Fuller,	2 00
Caleb Bates,	75

Oliver Sampson,	23 88
Ira Holmes,	14 12
Nathaniel Waterman,	5 25
Robert B. McLauthlin,	7 72
Elisha McLauthlin,	1 00
James H. Thompson,	1 00
John F. Hall,	4 60
Joseph Stetson,	1 50
Henry Cobb,	1 90
Selectmen of Duxbury,	17 17
Abatement of School Taxes,	27 84
Abatement of Taxes,	38 71
Uncollected Taxes,	3 42
Treasurer's Fees,	112 15
County Tax,	1237 63
State Tax,	438 00
H. K. Keith,	2 25

Total, \$2732 25

In examining the account of the Liquor Agent—Dea. James Foster—for the past ten months, we find:—
The estimated value of liquor received from

former Agent,	\$20 00
Cash from same,	12 80
Amount of sales,	99 81
	-----\$132 61

Amount Purchases,	\$74 19
Value of Liquor on hand,	21 00
Salary for ten months,	29 17
Cash on Hand,	8 25
	-----\$132 61

The prospective bills for the coming month are about \$1200, which will leave but \$917.92 in the Treasury, a thousand dollars less than was left last year, and insufficient for contingencies.

We propose therefore, for your consideration to raise for contingencies, an additional sum of \$250 00

For Schools,	2000 00
Poor,	1100 00
Highways,	650 00
New Roads,	1000 00

Total, \$5000 00

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD GRAY, } Selectmen
SAMUEL E. CUSHMAN, } of

DR.

Town of Kingston, in account with the Treasurer.

CR.

Highway District No. 1,	\$141 28	April 1, 1859,	
" " 2,	119 65	By Cash in Treasury,	\$1961 87
" " 3,	78 76	Uncollected Taxes,	12 95
" " 4,	87 25	Cash from Town House Committee,	9 75
" " 5,	37 75	Assessment of Town Tax,	3500 00
" " 6,	62 26	" County "	1237 53
" " 7,	54 45	" State "	138 00
" " 8,	50 74	Overlayings,	157 66
" " 9,	25 90	School Books,	175 70
General Highway,	45 39	Cash from the former Treasurer,	40 00
Poor,	1092 63	" " Stoughton,	31 53
Schools,	1012 81	" " Duxbury,	2 50
Miscellaneous,	2732 25	" " Stone posts,	2 32
	---\$5547 92	" " Dog Fund,	26 50
Cash in the Treasury	2117 92	State School Fund,	65 73
	\$7665 14		---\$7665 14