

Annual Reports

OF THE

Town Clerk, Treasurer, Assessors,

Overseers of the Poor,

SELECTMEN,

SCHOOL COMMITTEE,

AND SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS,

OF THE

Town of Middlefield,

For the Year Ending February 1, 1912.

WESTFIELD, MASS.
THE WESTFIELD TIMES CO. PRINT
1912

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Hampshire, ss.

To Thomas H. Fleming, Constable of the Town of Middlefield,

Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Middlefield, qualified to vote in elections and Town affairs, to meet in the town hall in said Middlefield, on Monday, the fourth day of March next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act on the following articles, to wit:

Article 1. To choose a Moderator.

Art. 2. To choose on one ballot a Town Clerk, a Town Treasurer, three Selectmen, two Constables, a Collector of Taxes, an Auditor, three Fence Viewers, and a Tree Warden for a term of one year; one Assessor, one School Committee one cemetery Commissioner and a Trustee of the Public Library for a term of three years; also to vote on the same ballot "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question, "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?" The polls will be opened at thirty minutes past ten o'clock a. m., and may be closed at thirty minutes past two o'clock p. m.

Art. 3. To hear the reports of the Selectmen, Assessors, Overseer of the Poor and School Committee and act hereon.

Art. 4. To choose such Town officers as are not required by law to be elected by ballot.

Art. 5. To determine the manner of repairing highways and bridges, and pass any vote in relation to the same.

Art. 6. To raise and appropriate such a sum of money as may be necessary to defray town expenses for the current year.

Art. 7. To determine the manner of collecting the taxes the dog fund.

Art. 8. To determine the manner of collecting the taxes and fix the compensation for the collection of taxes.

Art. 9. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

And you are directed to serve this warrant by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the post offices in said Middlefield seven days at least before the time for holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and made due return of this warrant with our doings thereon, to the Town Clerk at or before the time for holding said meeting.

Given under our hands at Middlefield this eighth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand, nine hundred and twelve.

GEORGE W. COTTRELL,
THOMAS H. FLEMING,
FRED L. BOYER,

Selectmen of Middlefield.

Town Clerk's Report

BIRTHS 1911

- January 31. George Henry, son of Charles H. and Mary S. Ferris.
February 5. Clifford Lewis, child of Fred L. and Elizabeth T. Boyer.
April 15. ——— Tefts, child of Michael and Rosie Tefts.
September 22. Margaret Elizabeth, daughter of Harold S. and Kathleen M. Cone.
September 23. ——— Sweeney, son of Richard D. and Elizabeth C. Sweeney.

MARRIAGES, 1911.

- March 11. Allan G. Earle of Boonville, N. Y., and Roseltha M. Darling of Middlefield.
October 3. John A. Dixon of Pittsfield and Ethel M. R. Doughty of Pittsfield.
November 2. William H. Johnson of Becket and Emilda E. Houle of Middlefield.
November 19. Ralph Bell of Middlefield and Eila R. Kelly of Middlefield.
December 2. Joseph L. Pelkey of Middlefield and Margaret Selvin of Middlefield.
December 2. Dennis J. Kennedy of Westfield and Carrie B. Pelkey of Middlefield.

DEATHS, 1911.

- April 1. George Selden Bell, 66 yrs., 4 mos., 20 ds.
April 16. George Henry Ferris, 2 mos., 16 ds.
July 1. Alma M. Houle, 20 yrs., 4 mos., 13 ds.
September 23. ——— Sweeney, 1 day.

DOG LICENSES.

June 1:

28 males at \$2.00 each	\$56 00	
2 females at \$5.00 each	10 00	
	<u> </u>	\$66 00
Clerk's fees at 20 cents each		6 00
		<u> </u>
Paid County Treasurer		\$60 00

December 1:

9 males at \$2.00 each	\$18 00	
4 females at \$5.00 each	20 00	
	<u> </u>	\$38
Clerk's fees at 20 cents each		2 60
		<u> </u>
Paid County Treasurer		\$35 40

HENRY S. PEASE,
Town Clerk.

Middlefield, February 1, 1912.

Treasurer's Report

RECEIPTS.

Balance on hand	February 1, 1911	\$198 11
Feb. 23.	Received from Town of Worthington, tuition	23 50
Mar. 1.	Received from Town of Becket, Bancroft School	489 06
Apr. 26	Received from E. H. Alderman, oil stove	6 00
May 23.	Received from T. H. Fleming, borrowed money	500 00
Sept. 1.	Received from State Treasurer, rebate inspecting animals	8 88
Oct. 11.	Received from T. H. Fleming, borrowed money	700 00
Nov. 15.	Received from State Treasurer, corporation tax	37 61
Nov. 15.	Received from State Treasurer, National Bank tax	5 58
Nov. 15.	Received from State Treasurer, rebate State Aid	144 00
Nov. 15	Received from State Treasurer, tuition of children	171 00
Nov. 21.	Received from Town of Chester, rebate Superintendent's salary	222 50
Nov. 24.	Received from State Treasurer, rebate High School tuition	225 00
1912.		
Jan. 3.	Received from State Treasurer, rebate for State road	403 74
Jan. 8.	Received from County Treasurer, dog fund	72 50
Jan. 25.	Received from State Treasurer, Mass. school fund	1,584 47
Feb. 1.	Received from Hampden Savings Bank, interest on cemetery lot funds	54 94
Feb. 1.	Received from T. H. Fleming, rent Bancroft hall	3 00

Feb. 1.	Received from G. W. Cottrell, rent Town hall	17 90
Feb. 1.	Received from T. H. Fleming, Collector of Taxes of 1910	530 23
Feb. 1.	Received from T. H. Fleming, Collector of Taxes of 1911	3,046 88
		<u>\$8,444 06</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Feb. 28.	Paid E. A. Allen, inquest fees	\$5 00
Mar. 30	Paid T. H. Fleming, note and interest	525 80
Sept. 29.	Paid County tax	269 55
Nov. 15.	Paid State tax	275 00
Jan. 31.	Paid T. H. Fleming, two notes and interest	1,228 00
Jan. 31.	Paid Selectmen's orders	2,276 51
Jan. 31.	Paid School Committee's orders	3,844 21
Feb. 1.	Cash on hand to balance	13 99
		<u>\$8,444 06</u>

ASSETS.

Cash balance	\$13 99
Due on taxes	530 02
Due from Town of Becket for Bancroft school, estimated	300 00
Due from Hampden Savings Bank, interest on fund, estimated	500 00
Due from State Treasurer, rebate State aid	144 00
Due from State Treasurer, rebate for State road	150 00
	<u>\$1,638 02</u>

HENRY S. PEASE,
Treasurer.

Middlefield, February 1, 1912.

I hereby certify that I have examined the accounts of the Treasurer for the year ending Feb. 1, 1912, and find them correct.

F. A. COTTRELL,

Auditor.

Assessors' Report

Value of assessed real estate	\$157,295 00
Value of assessed Personal estate	\$56,138 00
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Total valuation of Town	\$213,433 00
Number of residents assessed on property	72
Number of non-residents assessed on property	81
Number of persons assessed for poll tax only	28
Whole number of persons assessed	181
Whole number of male polls assessed	81
Tax assessed on real estate	\$2,516 72
Tax assessed on personal estate	898 19
Tax assessed on 81 polls	162 00
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	\$3,576 91
Tax rate per thousand	\$16 00
Number of horses assessed	107
Number of cows assessed	203
Number of sheep assessed	228
Number of neat cattle other than cows assessed	159
Number of swine assessed	54
Number of dwelling houses assessed	107
Number of acres of land assessed	14,165
Number of fowls assessed	928
Taxes abated:	
Letitia Sternagle, widow's exemption	\$8 00
Dennis Galavin, soldier's exemption	5 62
John Mayett, soldier's exemption	18 00
Lewis E. Day, soldier's exemption	2 00
James W. Smith, annual abatement	3 04
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Total taxes abated	\$36 66

HENRY STERNAGLE,
WILLIS B. GRAVES,
GEO. W. COTTRELL

Assessors of Middlefield.

Overseers of Poor Report

There has been no expense for the support of poor during the year.

GEORGE W. COTTRELL,
THOMAS H. FLEMING,
FRED L. BOYER,

Overseers of the Poor of Middlefield.

Selectmen's Report

WORK ON HIGHWAYS.

Orders have been given as follows:

Henry S. Pease	\$34 00
Ely Brothers, bridge plank	38 10
James W. Cone	83 00
Walter A. Smith	32 37
Lyman L. Twining	34 13
Geo. E. Millott	65 96
W. T. Ryan	49 81
Wesley A. Olds	17 57
Fred L. Boyer	186 64
Robert Smart	8 25
E. H. Alderman	43 05
Geo. W. Cottrell	108 55
Geo. E. Holmes	11 36
Wesley J. Chipman	15 50
Henry Sternagle	26 64
W. Sweeney	1 50
J. T. Bryan	61 49
Victor Hoskeer	2 85
A. D. Pease	23 48
Carl S. Holmes	5 04
C. J. Churchill	31 95

Total expense for ordinary repairs of highways
and bridges \$881 24

Special Work on highway leading from center to John T.
Bryans

Orders have been given as follows

John Cody	\$46.68
D. T. Bolster	41.56
Geo. E. Millott	69.78
Fred S. Boyer	116.48
Jesse Pilkey	7.00

R. D. Sweeney	64.88
Geo. T. Dyer	39.91
Wm. H. Farnham	47.68
W. Sweeney	40.90
Irving Waldron	1.75
Arthur Minon	7.00
Fred Hill	7.00
G. F. Pease, cement	15.00
Geo. Hackebiel, drills and sharpening	12.64
T. H. Fleming, dynamite and hammers	28.00
P. B. McCormick, Dynamite and caps	9.63
Henry Godbeer, 2 bound stones	3.00
Geo. W. Cottrell, freight on same	1.26
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	\$560.75
Town Appropriation for their work	\$2.00
State Appropriation for their work	6.00
This work was left unfinished on account of bad weather	

SPECIAL WORK ON BRIDGES

Paid Canton Bridge Co., steel for 2 bridges	\$84.52
Freight on same	7.93
Cartage from R. R. station	8.75
Drawing plank, stone and labor	18 70
15 lbs spikes	.60
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Total	\$120.50

TOWN OFFICERS

Geo. S. Bill, services as auditor (2 years)	\$4.00
Henry S. Pease, services as treasurer	25.00
Henry Sternagle, services as assessor (2 years)	27.25
E. H. Alderman, services as school committee	5.00
Geo. W. Cottrell, services as selectman	23.00
Geo. W. Cottrell, services as assessor	19 60
Henry S. Pease, services as town clerk	31.45
Henry S. Pease, services as school committee	5.00
Willis B. Graves, services as assessor	14.50
Thomas H. Fleming, services as selectman	5.00

Fred L. Boyer, services as selectman	5.00
W. J. Chipman, services as school committee	12.00
T. H. Fleming, services as constable, posting warrants,	7.50
T. H. Fleming, collecting taxes, (1911)	40.00
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	\$224.30

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

H. S. Pease, postage and telephone bill,		\$5.35
Election officers for year,		10.00
Westfield Times Co., printing reports and ballots,		39.00
Geo. E. Cook, inspecting animals and provisions,		32.00
H. M. Dolbease, assessors blanks,		1.95
Rob't W. Lyman, transfer real estate,		3.30
John T. Bryan, driving hearse,		3.00
Johnson's Bookstore, books for library,		55.13
Kate W. Smith, care of library		20.00
Henry R. Johnson, taxbooks,		1.06
G. B. Smith, tuning piano,		2.00
G. W. Cottrell, cash paid for watching fires		4.00
H. S. Pease, wood for Town hall,	\$2.25	
H. S. Pease, mowing cemetery	5.00	
H. S. Pease, care of Church lot	15.00	
H. S. Pease, care of Mack lot	4.00	
H. S. Pease, care of Root lot	4.00	
H. S. Pease, care of Pease lot	4.00	
		<hr/>
		\$34.25
C. J. Churchill, watching fire		9.50
G. W. Cottrell, watching fire	\$7.50	
G. W. Cottrell, administering oaths	4.25	
G. W. Cottrell, cash and postage	5.80	
		<hr/>
		\$17.55
A. L. Cook, bill of sundries		4.07
T. H. Fleming, services as fire warden	\$3.00	
T. H. Fleming, express and telephone bill	.92	
T. H. Fleming, tax bills	1.40	
T. H. Fleming, abatement	36.66	
T. H. Fleming, discount on taxes	61.58	
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		\$103.56
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Total		\$345.72

STATE AID.

Lewis E. Day, 12 months	\$72 00	
Dennis Galavin, 12 months	72 00	
Total	<u> </u>	\$144 00

SUMMARY.

Highways and bridges	\$881 24	
Special repairs on bridges	120 50	
Special repairs on highways	560 75	
Incidental expenses	345 72	
Town officers	224 30	
State aid	144 00	
Total Selectmen's orders	<u> </u>	\$2,276 51

GEORGE W. COTTRELL,
THOMAS H. FLEMING,
FRED L. BOYER.

Selectmen of Middlefield.

I hereby certify that I have examined the account of the
Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor and find them correct.

FRANK A. COTTRELL,

Auditor.

LIST OF JURORS PREPARED BY THE SELECTMEN
JULY 1, 1911.

George E. Cook,
Colden J. Churchill,
John Cody,

Cooley W. Graves,
Gorge E. Holmes,
Edwin S. McElwain,
Henry S. Pease.

JURORS DRAWN IN 1911.

Wesley A. Olds,

Walter A. Smith.

JURORS DRAWN IN 1910.

Peter F. Boyer,

Fred L. Boyer,

Arthur D. Pease.

JURORS DRAWN IN 1909.

John T. Bryan,

Frank A. Cottrell,

Frank Chipman.

REPORT OF THE

School Committee

The following report of the resources and expenditures for the year ending February 1, 1912, is respectfully submitted.

RESOURCES.

Balance February 1, 1911	\$307 53
Town appropriation	1,200 00
Town appropriation, for supervision	125 00
Received from Town of Chester, rebate for supervision	222 50
Received from Town of Worthington, for tuition	23 50
Received from State, tuition State wards	171 00
Received from State, rebate High school, tuition	225 00
Received from State, school fund	1,584 47
	\$3,859 00

EXPENDITURES.

Teachers' salaries	\$2,442 50
Supervision	285 65
Town of Peru, tuition Barnes' district	8 00
Town of Chester, High school tuition	15 00
City of Springfield, High school tuition	110 00
City of Worcester, High school tuition	30 00
Books	134 07
Supplies	62 75
Repairs	61 32
Fuel	112 50
School furniture	23 75
Victor Hoskeer, conveying children	35 10
Henry Sternagle, conveying children	18 00
Lyman Twining, conveying children	1 00

Care and cleaning rooms	76 00
Flags and poles	6 20
Door mats	4 50
Miss Babb, supervisor of music	175 00
Miss Patch, supervisor of drawing	175 00
Postage and telephone, Superintendent's office	12 38
Incidental expenses, Superintendent's office	9 15
E. H. Alderman, taking school census	5 00
H. S. Pease, care books and supplies	5 00
C. T. Bagnall, school order blanks	1 57
School Arts books, two years' subscriptions	19 50
W. J. Chipman, cash paid, counsel fees	4 00
Incidental expenses	6 02
Express and freight	5 31
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	\$3,844 21
Balance	14 79
	<hr/>
	\$3,859 00

W. J. CHIPMAN,
E. H. ALDERMAN,
H. S. PEASE,

School Committee of Middlefield.

REPORT OF THE Superintendent of Schools

To the School Committee of Middlefield:—

I hereby submit for your consideration, and the consideration of the citizens of the town, the twenty-second annual report of the Superintendent of Schools.

SCHOOL LEGISLATION.

The last session of the General Court was extremely fruitful of new school legislation, more than thirty acts regarding school matters having been added to the statutes. Some of these more directly interesting us are:—An Act Relative to the Display of the United States Flag on Schoolhouses.

This act requires that "The school committee . . . shall provide for each schoolhouse . . . a United States flag . . . not less than four feet in length, and suitable apparatus whereby the flag shall be displayed on the schoolhouse building or grounds, every school day when the weather permits, and on the inside of the schoolhouse on other school days." It also would inflict a penalty of "a fine of not more than five dollars for each five days" of failure to observe the law.

It will be the part of wisdom to make the proper provisions without delay, if any of the schoolhouses are not equipped with flags and poles as the law requires.

An Act Relative to Age and Schooling Certificates of Minors:

Under this act it is required that certificates to minors who wish to go to work shall not be granted unless "the minor therein named is able to read at sight and to write legibly simple sentences in the English language, as is required for admission to the fourth grade of the public schools," nor unless the minor "is in sufficiently sound

health and physically able to perform the work which the minor intends to do."

The District Police have interpreted the law to require all minors intending to work to have certificates, and have issued blank forms in accordance with their interpretation, (1) for those between fourteen and sixteen years of age, (2) for those over sixteen years of age who can read and write, (3) for illiterates.

An Act to Promote the Permanency of Superintendency Unions.

The section of the public statutes relative to the formation of unions for the employment of superintendents of schools in small towns is amended to read, "Such union shall not be dissolved except by a vote of a majority of the towns constituting the union and the consent of the board of education to such dissolution."

The present statute requirements is that all towns shall employ superintendents of schools, and when districts are established they should not be broken up for the interest or whim of a single town as has sometimes been the case.

An Act Relative to the Tenure of Office for Superintendents of School Unions.

The election of a superintendent in towns like ours is directed to be as follows:

"The joint committee shall annually, in April, meet at a day and place agreed upon by the chairman of the committees of the several towns comprising the union, and shall organize by the choice of a chairman and secretary. They shall employ a superintendent of schools, determine the relative amount of service to be performed by him in each town, fix his salary, apportion the amount thereof to be paid by the several towns and certify it to each town treasurer. Such superintendents of schools shall be employed for a term of three years, and his salary shall not be reduced during such term. Failure of a superintendent during his term of office to receive a certificate upon the expiration of a prior certificate shall thereby vacate his office. He may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the joint committee, and with the consent of the board of education to such dismissal, whereupon his salary shall cease."

As far as this district is concerned judging from my own experiences in it, there was no special need of the modifications contained in this section of the statutes as amended; but in many of the superintendency districts there is a con-

stant shifting of superintendents, and more often than otherwise the desire to change superintendents is but little related to the superintendent's ability to fill the position.

An Act to Define the Duties and Powers of Superintendents of Schools.

The superintendent of schools shall, under the direction of the school committee, have the care and supervision of the public schools, and shall be the executive officer of the school committee. He shall assist the school committee in keeping its records and accounts and in making such reports as are required by law.

The superintendent of schools shall recommend teachers to the school committee and shall also recommend text books and courses of study to the school committee.

Up to the passage of this act there was no legal statement of the powers or duties of the superintendent except that he was to issue age and schooling certificates and was to determine whether or not pupils were excusable for non-attendance at school.

As far as this district is concerned, again, there was little need of a clearer definition of the superintendent's powers and duties. In Middlefield, for instance, I have never felt that the committee were trying to handicap me in any way, or were jealous lest I usurp their authority. There has been no authority on either side so far as I know. We have worked together all of us to the limit of our ability in whole-hearted co-operation, and there has been no need that the powers and duties of either party should be defined.

But, on general principles, the keeping of school accounts and the making of reports, the selection and election of teachers, the choosing of text books, and the preparation of courses of study are matters which no man can properly direct with the edge of his mind while he devotes the major part of his energy and intellect to some entirely different pursuit, and in more than one town and city in the Commonwealth the schools have suffered because the school committee have insisted on doing what in the very nature of the case they were not qualified to do.

THE TEACHERS.

At the close of the school year in June Miss Helen Tyrell, who had served the town efficiently for three years,

resigned her position in the primary school at Bancroft, to accept a position in North Adams, and Miss Tracy of the grammar school at Bancroft, accepted a position in Lee, her home town.

There seemed to be no prospect of more than twenty pupils in all grades of this school in the fall, so it was decided to unite the two rooms and place an experienced teacher in charge. On this supposition Miss Halfpenny was transferred from the Factory Village school, where she had been more than usually successful for the past two years.

The uncertainty of predicting school population was shown when the school opened in the fall with a membership of twenty-eight. There are at present thirty-four pupils in the school, more than there have been in both rooms for several years. This is too large a number of pupils for one teacher to care for in a school of all eight grades, and it will probably be necessary to go back to the former arrangement.

The place made vacant by the transfer of Miss Halfpenny to Factory Village was filled by the election of Miss Anna Lenter of Chester. She is a graduate of Chester high school and North Adams normal school.

In the middle of November a school was opened in the North district and Miss Anna Kervick, a graduate of Springfield high school and Westfield normal school, was placed in charge.

It has been very much to the advantage of the town that so many of our good teachers have continued in their schools for more than a year of service. One of the causes of the differences in the efficiency of the best city school and the average rural school is that the city school keeps, year after year, a competent teacher whenever it finds one, while the country school gives her up as soon as she proves her worth.

The question of wages often seems an impassible barrier to the retention of a good teacher; but quite a sum is paid for the maintenance of a school at any rate, whether it is good or bad. Many of the items of expenditure remain the same in either case. The comparative difference in cost between an assured success and an experiment is small by the side of the difference in the results obtained.

Our schools are having an unusually profitable and satisfactory year.

THE NORTH SCHOOL

If this school is to be permanently continued, the school house needs to be made more nearly weather proof than it is at present and proper outbuilding accommodations provided.

If, under the existing statutes, action should be taken by the towns of Middlefield and Peru to form a union school district, the pupils now attending this school could receive as good instruction as they do now, and at less cost to the town than under the present arrangement.

REPAIRS.

During the past four or five years the town of Becket, in this district, has entered upon the policy of fitting up its school houses by putting cellars under them, heating by means of furnaces, and improving the sanitary accommodations. All the school houses in the town except one have been overhauled to the improvement of school conditions for the children and with the approval of the residents of the various communities.

If Middlefield were to begin the same policy, I imagine it would be a popular thing to do as well as a profitable one.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The public schools and the public library have much in common as the basis of their work.

The State Library Association has seen fit to ask me to serve as a member of its Visiting Advisory Board and have suggested that I be of aid, if possible, to the small libraries of this neighborhood. I take this opportunity to say that I shall be glad to confer with the trustees or any one connected with the Middlefield public library at any time, if there is a possibility of my being of the least service.

DRAWING AND SINGING.

Let me call attention to the reports of the special teachers of drawing and singing which follow:

As was to be expected there is a steady gain in the character of the work done in these two branches as the subjects become more definitely established as part of the school work.

Since the opening of the North school the special teachers have visited this school and the Smith Hollow and Glendale schools only once in four weeks. These schools are on the extreme edges of the town and are difficult to get to. With the beginning of the spring time I think we shall be able to arrange the schedules of these teachers so that all of the schools can be visited once in two weeks as heretofore.

In closing I wish to thank the committee for their substantial evidences of appreciation, and for sympathetic cooperation in working for the good of the children.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. SANDERSON

Report of the Supervisor of Drawing

The exhibition which was placed in the Town Hall at Chester in June, 1911, and parts of which were exhibited in Middlefield and Becket last fall, give a definite idea of what has been accomplished during the past year. The occasion was made interesting by the presence of Mr. William Orr, a representative of the State Board of Education, who delivered a very profitable address on "The Need of Supervisors in Our Schools," and the large attendance, in spite of a heavy shower, bespoke the interest of the community. Mr. Orr came in place of Mr. Frederic Burnham, the State Supervisor of Art Education, whose death came suddenly a few weeks before his intended visit. The progress of the work in these towns has been aided in a large measure by the influence of Mr. Burnham whose helpful friendship, criticism, and words of encouragement have been of greatest value.

Because the aim of the teaching of drawing in the public schools is to develop the thinking power of the children and an appreciation of the beautiful and good in art, the lines of work will generally remain unchanged from year to year and may be briefly outlined as follows:

1. Drawing, (Delineation), Painting.
2. Drafting.
3. Construction, Color and Design.

Outlining the work for the different grades and schools, however, is a complex process because the needs of each school are so different that of equal importance, with what to give to further these aims is what not to give. After all the greater part of the success of the work depends upon the attitude of the teachers and the parents of the community. It is the Supervisor's business to make the plans, the teachers to see that they are carried out and the parents to support the teacher. The teacher is to take good care of the supplies, have materials at hand for the lessons, and above all to keep in sympathy with the work of the Supervisor,

and I am glad to say that with one or two exceptions the teachers have given me their hearty support. As to the Supervisor as Mr. Bailey has so ably expressed it, her chief business is service. She should be familiar with good technique and know at once the difference between a correct and incorrect drawing, a good and bad design and be able to tell why. Her judgments should be based on principles not personal whims. The aim is always to secure the best, suggestions are ever in order, and she should not enforce her own particular methods unless she is confident through experience that they are wiser than the teacher's nor should she wish to be known as the Stupefyer of Drawing as one child unconsciously put it but rather as one to whom her teachers may come at all times for advice and help and go away satisfied. The purpose of the work is not to make artists out of the children for they always will continue to be born and not made. It is perhaps to preserve this gift to a select few in our community, but I repeat again, it is to know what is beautiful and true in art, in the decorations of our homes, in our dress, and to cultivate a taste for these things.

Drawing is above all else, a culture study, and I am here to impart to your children living away from the acknowledged artistic centers what I know of the best in art, and something of the fundamental principles of Representation and Design, or in other words the A, B, C of my subject. Perhaps the substance of my ideas may be best expressed in this manner—We may all learn the elements of beauty and express them in a more or less degree by our manner of living and our surroundings. The views which I have just advanced are not original with me but are those of men qualified to set the standard. In closing I would like to thank all those who have helped to make the work a success.

Respectfully submitted,

H. PAULINE PATCH.

REPORT OF THE

Supervisor of Music

The aim of public school music this year has not been to emphasize song singing and musical expression, any more than sight reading and technical training, in fact, neither is complete without the other. Sight reading opens a way to the knowledge of music, and the music readers offer suggestions and illustrations in melody, harmony, rhythm and expression.

The children have been examined individually or given an opportunity to sing the scale and some familiar song, in order to prove they are able to sing accurately in regard to tune and time. The following list shows the problems that a music teacher encounters.

1. Monotones—One whose speaking and singing voice is pitched on a single tone or key.
2. Tone. Deaf—Incorrect pitch, tendency to flat, inability to place the proper tone with the syllable, (that is to sing "Me, Re, Do," up the scale instead of down).
3. Adenoids.
4. Nasal quality.
5. Chronic throat trouble.
6. Transitory period—range limited.
7. New Scholar—One moved here during the year.
8. Beginner—Pupil of the first grade or one not having music before this year.
9. Rhythmic sense weak—Poor time.
10. Imperiment of speech—Bad enunciation.

The songs selected are singable and pleasing, with proper range and illustrative of some theoretical point. In many cases works of great composers are taken in a simplified form. Rote singing is a good example of imitation, and helps to develop a musical taste. For the artistic rendition of a song, attention must be given to proper enuncia-

tion, for if the words are not heard distinctly, the song loses its beauty. It is especially interesting to have a variety of songs as follows:

September—Harvest songs.
 October—Fall songs.
 November—Thanksgiving music.
 December—Christmas carols.
 January—Snow, skating and Jack Frost songs.
 February—Valentine and George Washington songs.
 March—Lullabies—Songs about the Wind.
 April—Pussy Willow and Spring songs.
 May—Flower songs, Memorial music.
 June—Standard songs—Old Folks at Home, etc.

In most of the schools the song list, or repertoire, has more songs this year at this time, than last year. In the rural schools where there are no new music readers, the children have put their songs into a notebook, or made a special cover for those copied on music paper.

The theory and expression terms are based on the glossary found in the back of the music readers. Examinations are given orally and written to cover this work, and find out the knowledge of the individual. The average of the student is much higher this year, and a great improvement is noticed in regard to the facility and ease with which they express their ideas. Special attention has been given to melody writing, sometimes original words are set to their own tune—bass clef, and transposition in both clefs. All sharp and flat scales, with their tonic chords are also written.

The slip singing is still continued. If their new songs are written in a certain key, slips are sung in the same key. In order to be able to read at sight, one must know the fundamental principles as expressed by staff notation. Special emphasis is given to the scale drill.

Last year at the close of the winter terms in Chester, the children of the grammar school gave a musicale in the town hall to which the parents were invited. Unison, two-part and three-part songs were rendered. Also solos, duets, trios, quartettes, and a sextette. Public exhibitions arouse an interest for the children to do their best, and help to gain confidence. In the schools where there is any instrument, we frequently have little concerts.

The success of this year has been due to the hearty co-operation of the school committee, the superintendent, the teachers, parents and others who have tried to promote the cause of music, for which I am very grateful.

Respectfully submitted,

FLOENCE M. BABB.

STATISTICS.

Itemized Report of the Schools of Middlefield for the Year Ending June, 1911.

TEACHERS	SCHOOLS	Grades	Enrollment.	Boys.	Girls.	Average Membership.	Average Attendance.	Per cent of Attendance.	Number of Tardy Ma.ks.	Pro rata of Tardiness.
Helen M. Tyrrell	Bancroft	1—3	15	6	9	12.3	11.2	91	8	.6
Magdalen Tracy	Bancroft	4—8	10	5	5	9.4	8.6	91.4	47	5.
Frances M. Bugbee	Center	1—8	31	14	17	22.	18.3	83.1	44	2.
Anne Halfpenny	Factory Village	1—8	25	13	12	15.4	15.3	99.3	32	2.5
Emma J. Smith	Glendale	1—8	7	4	3	6.4	6.2	96.8	4	.6
Emily Kingsley	Pease	1—8	13	10	3	10.9	9.9	90.9	56	5.1
Phebe I. Hamilton	Smith Hollow	1—8	14	6	8	10.5	9.7	92.3	21	2.
H. Pauline Patch		Drawing								
Florence M. Babb		Singing								
			115	58	57	86.9	79.2	91.1	212	2.4

MEMBERSHIP FOR SEPTEMBER, 1911.

SCHOOLS.	1st Grade.	2d Grade.	3d Grade.	4th Grade.	5th Grade.	6th Grade.	7th Grade.	8th Grade.	Total.
Bancroft	7	5	5	2	2	3	2	2	28
Center	4	3	4	2	5	3	—	2	23
Factory Village	3	4	3	3	—	2	2	3	20
Glendale	—	—	—	1	3	1	1	—	6
North	2	1	—	2	1	1	—	2	9
Pease	2	1	—	—	3	4	2	—	12
Smith Hollow	4	2	—	2	3	1	1	1	14
Total	22	16	12	12	17	15	8	10	112

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR TEN YEARS.

Years.	Enrollment.	Average Membership.	Average Attendance.	Per cent of Attendance.	No. of Tardy Marks.	Pro Rata of Tardiness.	Cost per Pupil.	School Tax on \$1,000.00.	Total Cost to Town
1901-1902	134	99.3	90.3	91.					
1902-1903	117	94.5	85.	90.9					
1903-1904	116	100.4	89.7	90.2					
1904-1905	137	100.6	91.3	90.7	252	2.5	\$ 7.84	\$5.30	\$961.39
1905-1906	148	108.9	100.6	92.4	542	5.	7.46	4.33	813.45
1906-1907	131	95.7	86.6	90.4	182	1.8	8.93	4.48	835.28
1907-1908	128	90.3	84.3	93.3	466	5.1	9.47	4.52	855.40
1908-1909	120	97.5	89.2	91.6	454	4.6	17.61	8.55	1,613.34
1909-1910	117	91.2	82.4	90.3	381	4.1	12.13	5.92	1,107.11
1910-1911	115	86.9	79.2	91.1	212	2.4	14.88	6.56	1,294.84

ROLL OF HONOR.

Pupils Neither Absent Nor Tardy During the Year:

Bancroft:

Grade two—Margaret Martin.

Factory Village:

Grade one—Floyd Boyer.

Grade five—Hazel Boyer, five years.

Glendale:

Grade three—Frances Wright, three years.

Grade five—Toivo Kallio, three years.

Grade seven—Orrine Kallio, three years.

Smith Hollow:

Grade four—Esther Tinker, three years.

SCHOOLS HAVING NO TARDY MARKS.

For Six Months.

Bancroft, Grades 1-3—Helen M. Tyrell, teacher.

Glendale—Emma J. Smith, teacher.

Smith Hollow—Phebe I. Hamilton, teacher.

For One Month.

Bancroft, Grades 4-8—Magdalen Tracy, teacher.

Center—Frances M. Bugbee, teacher.

Factory Village—Anne Halfpenny, teacher.

SCHOOL CALENDER.

Spring Term, eleven weeks.

Begins Monday, April 8, 1912.

Ends Friday, June 21.

Fall Term, seventeen weeks.

Begins Monday, August 26

Ends Friday, December 20.

Vacation—one week.

Winter Term—Eight Weeks.

Begins Monday, December 30

Ends Friday, February 21, 1913.

Vacation—six weeks.

Spring Term—Eleven Weeks.

Begins Monday, April 7

Ends Friday June 20