

No Name Newsletter

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Next Meeting February 7th at 7pm—Crossett Brook Middle School Cafeteria-Speaker Skip Flanders-Early Duxbury History
- Concession stand at Town Meeting March 7th. Call Mary Welch at 244-7558 to donate time and food.
- Booth at the Home Show March 18th & 19th. Call Don Welch to volunteer time.

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBER?



THE NEWSLETTER NEEDS A NAME

We started to formulate ideas for the newsletter and hit a road block as soon as we started. We have no name.

The idea of using Camel's Hump as part of the logo was discussed, so we started with that. A little research didn't unearth any name from Duxbury's past that could be appropriated for such a purpose. The thesaurus came up with:

Chronicle

Report

Journal

Review

Gazette and Digest.



None of which were at all original or inspiring.

So when the going gets tough—delegate. Put your thinking caps on and bring your ideas to the next meeting. It would be nice to find a name that will convey the history and/or spirit of Duxbury.

This is your newsletter, so let us know what you would like to have included, and to start with what you would like it be named.

NEWLY FORMED HISTORICAL SOCIETY

It was an idea that had been talked about by a few people in Duxbury to start a Historical Society. On an afternoon in October, four people met at Alice DeLong's home. Present were: Stephanie Koonz, Don Welch, Betsy Allen and Eulie Costello. Ideas were discussed and on November 9, 2005 the first meeting of The Duxbury Historical Society was called to order at the Duxbury Church Hall. The group assembled on a cold wintry night, but was greeted by the heat from the wood stove. The excitement was felt in the room with many people anx-

ious to share their stories, photos and other memories of Duxbury. There were 25 people present and it was later decided that this group was to be known as the founding members of the Duxbury Historical Society.

The group invited Martha Nye of the Vermont Historical Society to speak. She offered her advice and answered the group's questions. She suggested the first order of business should be to compose a mission statement. It was decided that the executive committee would meet to write the mission statement and

present it at the next meeting. An election of officers followed: President: Don Welch, Vice President: Steve Grace, Treasurer: Mark Morse, Secretary: Eulie Costello. Trustees: Myra Perry, Malcolm Wilder and Stephanie Koons with honorary trustees to be named at a later date. The meeting was adjourned and the group enjoyed refreshments by the newly elected refreshment committee: Betsy Allen and Mary Welch.

The second meeting was held on December 14th at the Crossett Brook Middle School, with

CONT'D - PAGE 2

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

DUXBURY'S NINE DISTRICT SCHOOLS

hopes to for a possible return to the Duxbury Church Hall when the weather is more suitable.

Don Welch called the meeting to order with a ringing of the bell that was used at the Duxbury Corner School when Anna Lamos was principal. Ken Page, the principal of Crossett Brook Middle School let Don use the bell.

The mission statement was presented and states: "The Duxbury Historical Society's mission is to discover, preserve and disseminate knowledge about the history of Duxbury. The Duxbury Historical Society is dedicated to community enrichment by collecting, preserving, conserving, interpreting and exhibiting materials relating to the town's history". This was approved by the members.

A committee was formed to write the by-laws for the group. They include: Mark Morse, Judy Douglas, Steve Grace and Christian Magnani. Don Welch answered the question by Bob Morse, "How did Scrabble Hill get its name?" Don also shared an amusing story involving Republican Jim Crossett and Democrat Will Hayes. This was a conversation had by the two after Mr. Hayes learned that a newly elected Republican president, Harrison, was to take office in 1889.

A card was circulated for Betsy Allen full of thoughts and well wishes.

The meeting was adjourned and the group enjoyed a photo display and refreshments. It was decided that the next meeting would be Tuesday, February 7th at the Crossett Brook cafeteria.



Some would find it hard to believe that Duxbury had a school for each of its nine districts. Before the wide spread ownership of a motor vehicle your community was quite close to home and your school was within walking distance. The nine districts schools in 1873 were:

District 1—Duxbury Corner.

District 2—Hayden District

District 3—South Duxbury

District 4—Red School

District 5—Durkeeville—
Scrabble Hill

District 6—Dowsville School

District 7—Crossett Hill

District 8—Ward Hill

District 9—North Duxbury

The map on page 3 shows the districts and the locations of each of the schools. The schools closed over the years with the last one being the Duxbury Corner School which closed in 1996 transferring the students to Thatcher Brook and Crossett Brook Schools.

Duxbury did not have a high school and it was quite common until the late 1940's that students would complete their educational experience in the eight grade. Most children fortunate enough to be able to attend high school would travel to nearby Waterbury with their tuition paid by the town. Some attended high school in other towns but they all had to use their own resources to get there. North Duxbury students would be able to hop the train from Ridley Station near the Camel's Hump turn for their commute if they had the 17 cents for the train fare. Those less fortunate would find another way or walk.

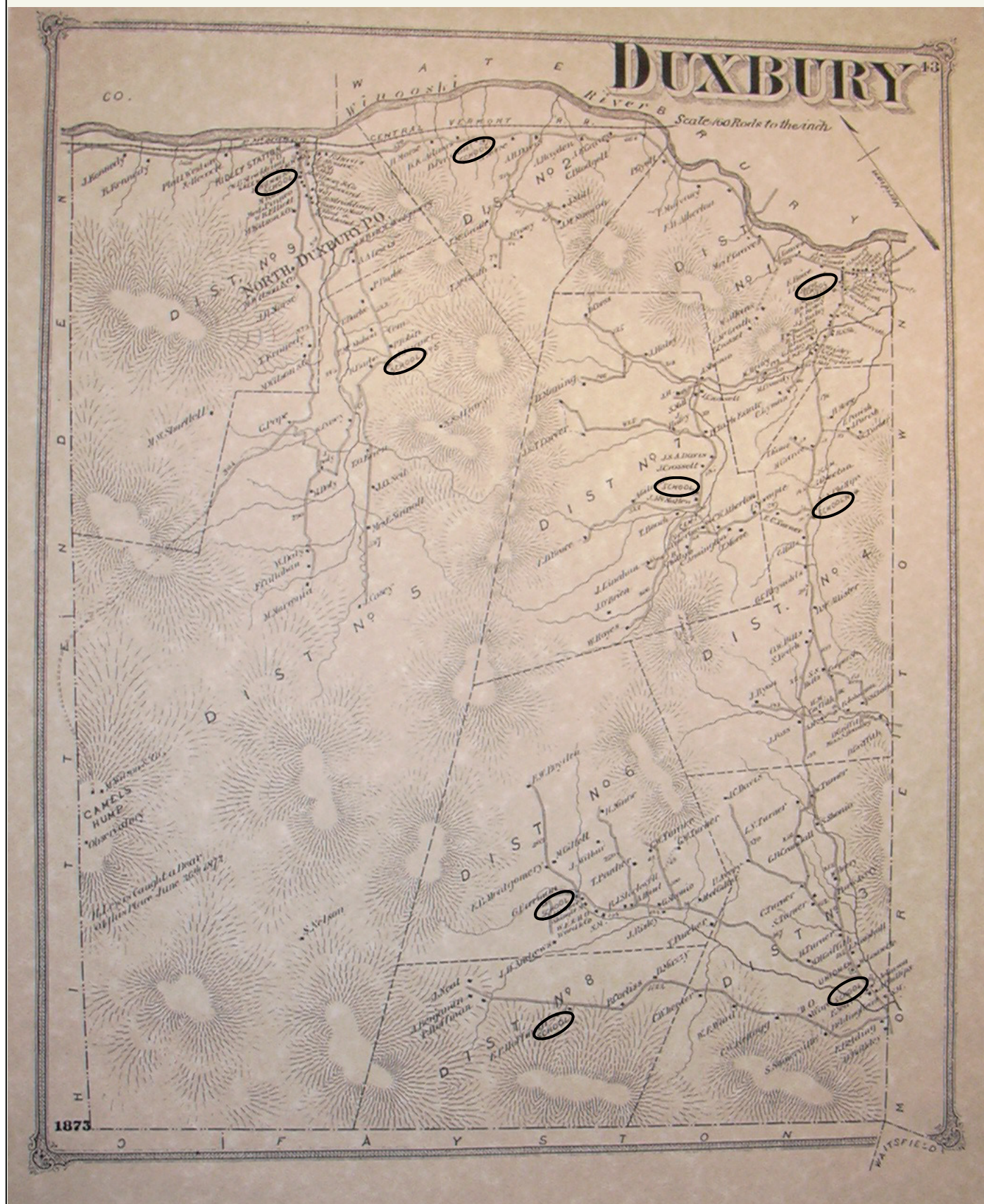
The Ward Hill School appears to be the first of the schools listed on the 1873 map to close. As early as 1895 it appears to have been deleted from the town report.

Hayden District School, Duxbury, Vermont: Back F. Ledoux, T. Healy, C. Gray, R. Preston Front: M. Ledoux, N. Gribbons, B. Ledoux, E. Graves. Around 1901



The next school to be closed was the District 2-Hayden School about 1917. It was located on River Road near Debbie Spooner's current home. There is a rose bush that remains on the property that once held the school.

District Four School located in Dowsville was the next school to succumb to consolidation about 1923. Ruth Phillips was a teacher there for several years around 1915 and received a tidy sum of \$320 for 32 weeks of teaching and board in 1916. That fell a little short of the \$377 that Mattie Holt received for her 32 weeks of teaching in District 1- Duxbury Corner. The Dowsville budget of 1916 was half of the Corner School, but it isn't surprising when you have large purchases like 36 school seats for \$101.90 and 12 cords of wood for \$30.00.



Each of the nine districts in Duxbury had their own school.—Map dated 1873

CONT'D FROM PAGE 2

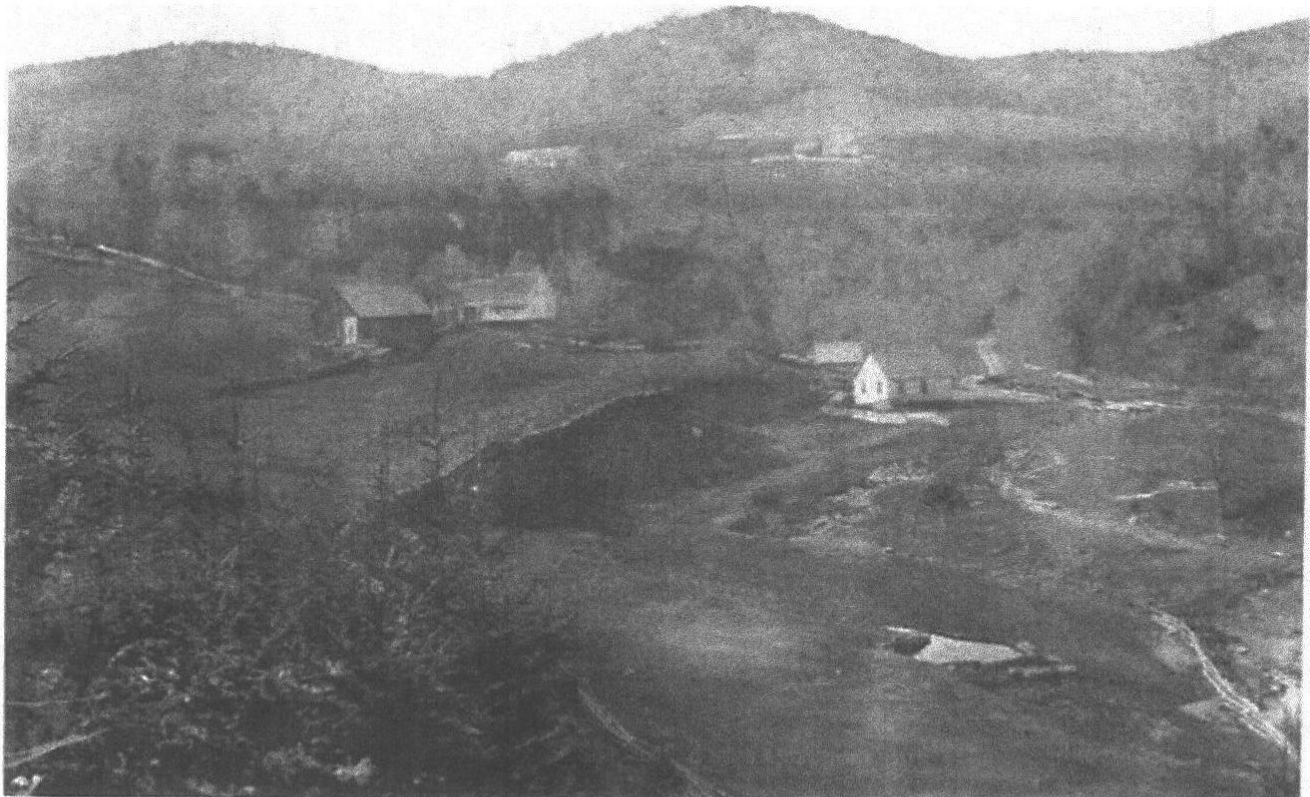


Photo courtesy of Malcolm Wilder

THE DOWSVILLE SCHOOL

DATE UNKNOWN, THE WHITE BUILDING IN THE LOWER RIGHT ACROSS FROM VIGILANTE'S ROAD WHICH IS VISABLE IN THE BACKGROUND

I wasn't able to find a lot of information on the District 5 school located on Scrabble Hill. The consensus of several residents is that in later years the school had another location than what is shown on the 1873 map. The last listing of the school in the town report was in 1932.

Another ten years passed before the student body was shifted again with the closing of the South Duxbury - District 3 school in 1942. It was later sold for about \$1,000.



SOUTH DUXBURY SCHOOL 1910

Some historical society members will remember the remaining schools and their teachers. In the 1946-1947 school year Crossett Hill school had Mariana Towne and Ruth Phillips guided the students at the Red School. Daisy Young supervised the students of North Duxbury and Duxbury corner had triple supervision provided by Pearl Williams, Marion Biggs and Dorothy Merchant..

The following year was the last year that the North Duxbury School was open. That closure was followed by the Crossett Hill and Red School closures in 1950 leaving Duxbury with the Corner School as the last school house.

The first Duxbury Corner school house is currently the Wimble residence several doors down from the corner schoolhouse that we all know. That school closed around 1914 and the students were transferred to the building on the corner. It was used as the Duxbury Town hall and a hotel before it was renovated to a school house after it was damaged by fire.



Photo courtesy of Rebecca Green

**DUXBURY CORNER SCHOOL BUILDING
PRIOR TO BE USED AS A SCHOOL**

**THE DISTRIBUTION OF PUPILS FOR
THE 1946-1947 SCHOOL YEAR WERE:**



Duxbury Corner Grammar

18

Duxbury Corner Primary

20

Red School

18

Crossett Hill

10

North Duxbury

16

DISTRICT 4-THE RED SCHOOL



The school around 1920 with the common two door configuration. Boys on one side and girls on the other.

This 1933 photo resembles the way it looks today as the Benoit residence

Lester Hill's horse and sleigh are in the foreground with his robe covered milk cans in the back on the way to the creamery.



WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE?

One of the things that became apparent early on in collecting the information for the school article was that there was so much more information to collect. Every person I talked to had another idea or source for more historical treasure. In the interest of generating a newsletter before the next meeting I

decided to go with what I had, but don't let it stop there. If you have information or photos to share on the schools of Duxbury please contact Maureen Harvey 244-8912 and the information can be added to the information here to be kept in the Historical Society's collection. A quick scan of your photo will

provide information and enjoyment that can easily be shared amongst the members.

What would you like for your next newsletter topic? Come to the next meeting with your ideas.

DISTRICT 4-THE RED SCHOOL



Photo courtesy of Vaun Phillips

The students of the Red School about 1937

Back Row—L to R—Richard Merchant, Donald Merchant, Dalton Sherman, Florilla Eastman, Betsy Eastman, Bob Eastman and teacher Ruth Phillips

Front Row—L to R—Betty Harvey, Phyllis Eastman, Bob Harvey, Pint Sherman, Henrietta Sherman, Marion Eastman, Barbara Sherman, Mae Eastman and Billy Harvey



Photo courtesy of Katherine Sherman

DISTRICT 3 SOUTH DUXBURY SCHOOL

Back Row—L to R—John Lavanaway, Teacher— Mrs. Johnson, Greta (Sherman) Berno, and Ken Griffith Sr.

4th Row—L to R—Betty Howard Sherman, Lee _____, Ken Backus

3rd Row—L to R—Doris (Sherman) West, Ester Backus, _____,

2nd Row—L to R—Henrietta (Sherman) West, Marie Webster, Lou Backus & Lydia Hoffman

1st Row—Five unknown boys

Do you know any of the unidentified students?

TOWN REPORT

Report of School Directors
For Year Ending February 10, 1916

DISTRICT NO. ONE

Mattie Holt, teaching and board 32 weeks	\$377 00
Mattie Holt, janitor work	2 00
George Donovan, building fires and and janitor work	10 00
Mrs. J. P. Hart, rent for Mrs. Boyce, help moving	32 25
Mrs. J. P. Davis, rent for old school house	15 93
Mrs. Henry Gabree, labor	2 50
Mrs. Frank Broadwell, washing windows	90
J. W. Gabree, labor on old school house	8 32
C. C. Graves, insurance	15 00
B. F. Hart, labor	5 45
V. L. Perkins, shades, desk chairs, wall paper	26 85
George Howland, 12 cords wood	30 00
E. E. Foss, labor	10 50
G. S. Blodgett Co., freight and expenses on heater	23 41
Philip Shonio, labor, expenses and freight on heater	9 83
J. E. Crossett, wood	3 00
John Dillon, grading school yard	3 30
Smith & Somerville, glass	60
Arlotta Boyce, wood	4 50
Henry Gabree cleaning closet,	1 00
E. E. Foss, freight on desk and seats,	10 76
J. L. Hammett Co., 36 school seats	101 90
Fred Lagase, labor	14 00
Frank Towne, watching fires	2 00
E. W. Huntley, going to Burlington and expenses	5 84
J. R. Dillon, moving Mrs. Boyce and cleaning closet	1 50

Total amount, \$718 34
Total amount expended for schools \$4,095 02

DISTRICT NO. TWO

Edith Kennedy, teaching and board 10 weeks	\$100 00
Daisy Haseltine " " " 16 "	192 00
Ruby Kellett, teaching and board 10 weeks	\$85 00
Horace Baldwin, building fires and janitor work	8 00
W. R. Elliott, 6 cords wood	9 00
E. J. Morse, drawing wood and other labor	5 50
H. P. Kennedy, labor	9 00
Minnie Baldwin, cleaning school house	2 25
Wallace Baldwin, cleaning closet	1 00
M. C. O'Brien, 2 5-7 cords wood	6 11
Hattie Morse, cleaning school room	2 00
Edgar Morse, cleaning closet	2 00
Cecil Goodheart, building fires and janitor work	4 00

Total amount \$425 86

DISTRICT NO. THREE

Anna Hanley, teaching and board 14 weeks	\$168 00
Martha Hutchins, janitor work	8 00
Martha Hutchins, cleaning closet and school house	4 50
Gladys Palmer, teaching and board 12 weeks	120 00
William Louizell, building fires	6 00
L. A. Babcock, work on fence	4 37
Joe Cota, " "	6 25
Ward Lumber Co., clapboards	8 00
A. M. Snow, 5 cords wood	\$10 00

Total amount \$335 12

DISTRICT NO. FOUR

Ruth Phillips, teaching and board 32 weeks	\$320 00
Nettie Farmer, cleaning school house	5 00
Albert Farmer, building fires and janitor work	8 90
J. E. Crossett, wood	8 00
Smith & Somerville, glass and lock	1 00

Total amount \$342 90

DISTRICT NO. FIVE

Anna Brewin, teaching and board, 32 weeks	\$320 00
Maria O'Neil, cleaning school house	6 00
" " closet	1 00
Hazel Conley janitor work	8 00
Ezra Conant, building fires	6 00
Eddie Conley, 3 cord 4 foot wood	13 50

Total amount, \$354 50

DISTRICT NO. SIX

Gladys Palmer, teaching and board 20 weeks	\$200 00
Marie Tomasi, " " " 12 "	120 00
A. M. Snow, 7 cords wood	14 00
Ward Lumber Co., clapboards	4 27
Mrs. Homer Freeman, building fires	4 00
Mrs. Homer Freeman, cleaning school house	5 50

Total amount \$347 77

DISTRICT NO. SEVEN

Nellie Woodruff, teaching and board 27 weeks	324 00
Nellie Woodruff, janitor work,	2 00
Ernest Clifton, cleaning school house	4 00
J. C. McMullen, building fires	6 00
C. E. Dunister, labor	11 75
Smith & Somerville, stove and grate	23 00
J. E. Crossett, wood, lumber and supplies	14 87
Maud Phillips, janitor work	2 00
Maud McMullen, mopping school room	75
V. L. Perkins, 8 window shades	2 40
E. W. Huntley, 15 cedar posts,	3 00
Nellie Woodruff, washing windows	1 00

Total amount, \$394 77

DISTRICT NO. NINE

Lena McGee, teaching and board 33 weeks	\$330 00
Arthur Martin, building fires and janitor work	12 00
H. P. Kennedy, labor	11 65
Minnie Baldwin, cleaning school room	6 00
Wallace Baldwin, cleaning school closet	1 00
Eddie Conley, 3 cords 4 ft. wood	15 00
V. L. Perkins, 8 shades	2 80

Total amount \$378 45

Tuition Paid for Higher Instruction.

Town Waterbury,	\$208 33
Bel lows Free Academy, book rental	24 00
Lyndon Institute,	24 00

\$256 33

D. E. Phillips, transportation	55 00
Norman Frost, salary	220 44

Miscellaneous

Milton Bradley, paper	\$10 50
H. C. Whitehill, printing school reports	13 50
E. E. Foss, services clerk work making out report	25 00
A. M. Goodwin, fire extinguishers	13 33
Smith & Somerville, supplies	8 55
G. W. Howland, truant officer	11 00
Town Waterbury, our share union expenses	5 00
E. E. Foss, freight, postage, express and labor	56 97
H. P. Kennedy, school director	2 25
G. C. Graves, insurance	14 00
E. E. Foss, taking school census	6 36
Educational Supply Co., blackboard	9 34
H. J. Shanley, ink and pens	5 49
Ginn & Co., books	13 54
Silver, Burdett & Co., books	12 24
American Book Co., books	10 80
E. E. Babb Co., books, chart and stand	15 47
J. L. Hammett Co., school busy work	6 16
Demeritt Co., lumber	1 76
E. W. Huntley, school statistics returned	6 55
E. W. Huntley one day to Montpelier and expenses	3 35
E. W. Huntley, one day to Burlington and expenses	4 75

\$255 91

Homer Kennedy, 1 dozen brooms	3 85
H. P. Kennedy, labor, postage, cartage, telephoning	5 78

Total amount, \$265 54

This is to certify that this is an itemized and classified statement of expenditures for twelve months ending the last day of January, 1916.

We recommend that the town raise 70 cents on a dollar of the grand list for school purposes.

Due E. W. Huntley, treasurer \$482 00

L. A. MORSE, } School Directors
H. P. KENNEDY, }
P. SHONIO, } Town of Duxbury

WHAT THE WATERBURY RECORD HAD TO SAY ABOUT DUXBURY

March 22, 1945

Nellie W. Ravlin, Reporter

Pfc. Winchester Peake of Camp Myles Standish, Mass and Miss Alice Clarke of Bristol, Conn, spent Friday and Saturday with his mother, Mrs. Bertha Eastman.

Robert Morse, a student at Randolph Agricultural School, spent the weekend with his grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Morse, This week he is helping his uncle, Fred Batchelder, of Plainfield, in sugaring. Robert has enlisted in the Navy.

The Duxbury Home Demonstration Group met with Mrs. Jane Barney Thursday with an attendance of 21 members, four guests and one child. A delicious dinner was served by Mrs. Barney and her co-hostesses, Mrs. Mary Irish, Mrs. Etta Walker and Mrs. Marion Guild. The business meeting conducted by the President, Mrs. Marion Davis, opened with the Homemakers' Creed, Flag Salute and roll call. Mrs. Leah Tatro acted as Secretary and Mrs. Nellie Ravlin as Treasurer in the absence of the regular officers. It was voted to make contributions of \$3.00 to the Vermont Crippled Children's Association and \$15.00 to the American Red Cross. The meeting was turned over to Miss Anne Hamel, RN, Waterbury District Nurse, who gave the second in her series of lessons in "Home Care of the Sick". She taught the reading and care of clinical thermometers, the taking of temperatures, pulse and respiration. She instructed concerning the giving of medicines and giving an enema. This was a very helpful talk and demonstration.

The Manning family has moved from Mrs. India Donovan's tenement to Johnson.

Mrs. Milford Durett of Portland, Me., was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dunn Thursday.

Mrs. Frederick McGrath and five children who have been living in Portland, Me., are guest of Mrs. Howard Sherman.

Mr. & Mrs. Burton Morse and daughter Florence, who have been living in Old Or-

chard Beach, Me. for the past two years while he was employed in a shipyard, have returned to their home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Danyew and son Stanton, Mrs. Ida Kelty and Mrs. Minnie Morse were in Morrisville Wednesday evening to see Gardner Page who is quite ill.

Frank Lewis returned to his work at the Derby & Ball plant Monday after a week's illness.

Cpl. Leeward Peterson of San Antonio, Tex., who has been spending a furlough at his home in Barre was a recent supper guest of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Holt.

Bert Cameron who has been employed on a logging job in Calais has finished work there and is at home sugaring.

Mrs. Lizzie Chesley of Waitsfield called on Miss Helen Haseltine recently.

Max Irish, taking boot training at Sampson, N.Y. is recovering from an illness with scarlet fever.

Mrs. Lyman Kelly of Lincoln, Me. is a guest of Mrs. Frank Corriveau. Kelly and Corriveau are on the same ship in the Pacific.

Ernest Smith, who lives with his daughter, Mrs. Raymond Irish, was taken very ill while visiting in Cabot last week and was brought home in an ambulance Sunday.

Fred Abare was employed in Hinesburg on a plumbing job last week.

Friends will be sorry to hear that Mrs. Dustin Cooley of Windsor, the former Helen Canerdy of this place, has recently undergone a serious operation.

Mrs. Lester Hills has received word that her grandson, Milton Griffin, a marine in the Pacific, has been wounded by shrapnel from his left shoulder to the hip, also one eye. Milton is the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Griffin of St. Albans. Mrs. Griffin will be remembered as Madine Harvey, formerly of Duxbury.

Mrs. Howard Harvey and two children of Hartford, Conn., were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Hills over the weekend. They

brought Mr. Harvey here to spend some time with his mother. It will be remembered that he had one leg fractured last winter when he was struck by and automobile. The leg is still in a cast.

Charles Kennedy attended the basketball game in Burlington Saturday evening and is spending a few days at Mallett's Bay at the home of Ernest Smith.

Lester Hills is replacing Gurden Merchant as Fire Warden in Duxbury. He and Homer Kennedy, Assistant Fire Warden attended a meeting on fire prevention in Montpelier Monday.

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Patterson and three children on Windsor, Conn. are spending a week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chaplin.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Kennedy attended the reunion of the 1943 Legislature in Montpelier last week.

Miss Dorothy Harvey who teaches in Fayston is at home for a three weeks' vacation.

Mrs. Leonard Pratt and three children of Waterbury and Mrs. Dorothy Demo of Waterbury Center were guests at the home of Fred Abare Friday. Henry Hough and family of Waterbury were supper guests Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Eastman were in Boston last week on a business trip and visited Mr. and Mrs. Frank Church of Hartford, Conn. and Mr. and Mrs. Al Fontaine of Windsor, Conn. over the weekend returning home Monday.

Frank Dunn resumed work for the Demeritt Company Monday after several weeks of illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Grow and Mrs. Lucien Bowin were guests of Mr. Bowin's parents in Morristown Sunday.

Miss Ethel Child of Montpelier called on Miss Helen Haseltine Sunday.

D U X B U R Y H I S T O R I C A L S O C I E T Y
C O N T A C T I N F O R M A T I O N

President: Don Welch
Vice President: Steve Grace
Treasurer: Mark Morse
Secretary: Eulie Costello

Phone: 802-244-7558
Phone: 802-244-5941
Phone: 802-244-7080
Phone: 802-244-1742

E-mail: vtmaplemary@adelphia.net
E-mail: sgrace1022@adelphia.net
E-mail: None
E-mail: costie@madriver.com

General Questions

Don Welch, President
136 Hayes Road
Duxbury, VT 05676

Membership

Mark Morse, Treasurer
804 Vermont Route 100
South Duxbury, VT 05660

Newsletter

Kelly Welch
5631 Vermont Route 100
Duxbury, VT 05676
802-244-5627
Email: kwelch@adelphia.net

Newsletter

Maureen Harvey
1293 River Road
Duxbury, VT 05676
802-244-8912
Email: mharvey@harveygear.com

If you have any comments or contributions for the newsletter we would love to hear from you.

DON'T FORGET THE NEXT MEETING FEB 7TH AT 7PM
CROSSETT BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

D U X B U R Y H I S T O R I C A L
S O C I E T Y N E W S L E T T E R
1 2 9 3 R I V E R R O A D
D U X B U R Y , V T 0 5 6 7 6

