

"TRAMPS" OR "HOBBOES"

Excerpts from Maynard Town Reports:-

- 1871 - Travellers, \$21.44  
1872 - none recorded  
1873 - Isaac Stott, board of tramps, \$19.50  
1874 - Board for 102 tramps, \$68. Pd. to W.R. Hall  
1875 - " " x x x " , 119.33 (Tramps have credit of \$7. for  
1876 - Care of Tramps, \$252.50 sawing wood for schools)  
1877 - " " 859 tramps, \$111.71 --Herring and crackers, \$20.51  
1878 - " " 725 " , 71.05  
1879 - " " 837 " , 75.83 -Herrings, \$11.92-Crackers, \$18.63  
1880 - " " 184 " , 23.87 - Feed \$9.26  
1881 - " " 116 " , \$14.29  
1882 - " " 120 " , 19.34  
1883 - " " " , 23.58  
1884 - " " " , 135.00  
1885 - " " " , 132.00  
1886 - " " 697 " , 97.00 (12½ ¢ per tramp)  
1887 - " " 424 " , 53.00  
1888 - " " 561 " ,  
1889 - " " " , 95.13  
1890 - " " 744 "  
1891 - A building owned by Lorenzo Maynard and rented by Alonzo Knapp for a boarding house was selected as a poorhouse. Mr. Knapp and wife take charge of house, cultivate a portion of the land, harvest the hay crop, put up tramps, etc. for one year for the sum of \$325.  
Cared for 184 tramps.  
Paid Assabet Mfg. Co. rent of poorhouse, including lockup, May 1, 1891 to March 1, 1892 - \$166.63.  
1892 - The Abel G. Haynes farm on Great Road was selected and purchased as a poor farm on the poor removed to the same on May 1, \$4800.00 was appropriated for the purchase. The small barn has been converted into a "tramp house".  
1893 - "1306 tramps lodged for the year" is an item that merits careful consideration.  
1894 - 1775 tramps lodged - we supply wood to the school which is cut  
1895 - 1375 " " \* be believe they should by the tramps.  
1896 - 1441 tramps lodged - each traveller is required to saw 20 sticks of 4 ft. cord wood into "stove lengths" (unless excused for some good reason by the warden) and in return receives a few crackers and the shelter of our tramp lockup"  
1897 - 1449 tramps cared for with as many as 32 in one night. From information received from neighboring towns it was clear that we are being imposed upon.  
1898 - No of tramps lodged and fed 1662 males and 2 females.  
The Board feels that tramps should be locked up elsewhere. The old lockup near the depot was fitted up at a small expense, and on Dec. 11 went into use as a tramp house. Applicants for lodging were required to apply between the hours of 6 and 8 P.M. The effect was marvelous; from a formerly crowded house the average for the last month showed a record of about one tramp a day.  
1899 - The use of the old lockup near the depot was a wise move. Tramps lodged and fed during the year dropped from a record 1664 to only 836 males and 2 females. Care of tramphouse cost \$144.51  
1900 - No of tramps cared for at tramp lockup, 844.  
1901 - " " " " " " " , 742 males  
1902 - " " " " " " " , 1027 males, 1 female

1903 - No. tramps lodged, 998 males, 1 female

1904 - " " " , 519

1905 - " " " before the new law ~~was passed~~, 90 males.  
was enforced,