

1872

Annual Reports of Selectmen, Assessors, and Overseers of Poor, Town Treasurer, and Supervisor of Schools, for the Town of Winthrop, for the Year Ending March 11, 1872

Winthrop (Me.)

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ANNUAL REPORTS
OF
SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS, AND OVERSEERS OF POOR,
TOWN TREASURER,
AND
SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS,
FOR THE
TOWN OF WINTHROP,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 11, 1872.

AUGUSTA :
HOMAN AND BADGER, PRINTERS.
1872.

TOWN OFFICERS.

ELECTED MARCH, 1871.

MODERATOR,
WILLIAM H. PARLIN.

TOWN CLERK,
LUGAN P. MOODY.

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF POOR,
REUBEN E. FULLER,
EDWIN S. BRIGGS,
FRANCIS H. McINTIRE.

TREASURER,
JOHN M. BENJAMIN.

SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS,
A. BRYANT.

COLLECTOR OF TAXES,
ALBERT C. CARR.

A. C. CARR,
C. H. GALE,

CONSTABLES,
GEORGE O. SHEPHERD,
ALFRED JEWELL.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Municipal Officers for the year 1871-72, ask leave to submit the following Report :

TOWN GRANTS.

For Support of Schools,	\$2,167 76	
“ “ Poor and other necessary Town charges,	1,600 00	
Discharge of Indebtedness,	3,000 00	
Making and Repairing Roads,	2,500 00	
	<hr/>	\$9,267 76
State Tax,	5,619 95	
County Tax,	1,657 22	
Overlayings,	773 20	
Dog Tax on 74 dogs,	74 00	
	<hr/>	8,124 37

Total amount of Money Tax, \$17,392 13

Rate per cent., 17 mills; percentage paid for collection, one cent on the dollars; number of polls assessed, 509; amount of real and personal estate, \$927,790 00.

SCHOOLS.

Amount assessed,	\$2,167 76	
Bank Tax for 1869-70,	99 83	
Interest on School Fund,	170 24	
	<hr/>	\$2,437 83

Number of scholars returned, 669. For full report of the condition of the schools, we refer to the report of the Supervisor and School Directors.

TOWN FARM.

The Town Farm remains in charge of Mr. E. D. Hutchins as Superintendent, receiving for services of himself and wife, \$275. Number of persons who have received support at the Alms House the past year, 9, viz: William Nicker, Sylvanus Fairbanks, John McDuffee, Azi Woodcock, Richard M. Frost, Joseph Cummings, George Chandler, Mary Fairbanks, Susan Lambert,—

average number, 5. Four have died within the year, viz; Azi Woodcock, March, 31; Susan Lambert, May 9; Sylvanus Fairbanks, Oct.; John McDuffee, December 10. An unusual amount of labor and care, on account of sickness and death in the family, have devolved upon the Superintendent and his wife, and our hearty commendation is due to them for the faithful manner in which they have performed that service.

TOWN FARM INVENTORY.

Seven cows, value \$245; 2 one-year-old, \$30; 6 tons hay, \$180; 1 shoat, \$10; 20 cords fire wood, \$60; 3 barrels cider, \$18; 20 lbs. cheese, \$3; 2 bbls. soap, \$5; 50 lbs. hams, \$5; 250 lbs. beef, \$20; 325 lbs. salt pork, \$39; 125 bushels potatoes, \$50; 10 lbs. butter, \$3; 50 lbs. lard, \$7.50; 40 lbs. tallow, \$4.50; 1 bbl. flour, \$10; 3 bush. beans, \$9.75; 6 bush. oats, \$4.25; 100 lbs. dried apples, \$12; 1 bush. peas, \$2; farming tools, \$75; farm valued \$3000.

Expenditures,	\$728 97
Income,	714 59
Balance against the farm,	————\$14 38

EXPENSE OF PAUPERS OFF THE FARM.

Four coffins,	\$43 00
Medical attendance on child of Mary Fellows,	30 00
Board of Fellows child,	30 00
Total expense of paupers off the farm,	67 51

STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

We have been required to pay to this Institution \$39, on account of George R. Crocker.

TOWN HALL AND LOT.

The Committee on Town Hall have expended for repairs, &c, as per bill on file, \$216.64, for the past year. Receipts for the same time, \$71.50, leaving a balance against the town of \$145.14—\$54 of this amount was for repairing culvert through the yard.

LAW SUIT.

The action commenced against the town by James Nickles, is still pending.

HIGHWAYS.

The sum of \$2,500 was, at the last annual meeting, appropriated for building and repairing roads. The Selectmen, by power vested in them, appointed Surveyors in different parts of the town, to whom money was apportioned to repair roads in their several districts. Generally, we believe the money has been well expended. For repairs on the roads during the year, we have expended the sum of \$2,598, leaving a balance, including the unexpended appropriation of last year, of \$451.41, which appears in the treasury. This amount includes the making of 77 rods of new road around the Berry bog, and paying snow bills, old and new, up to the present time.

CURRENT EXPENSES.

J. R. Nelson, Selectman, &c.,	\$90 00
R. E. Fuller, do,	60 00
E. S. Briggs, do,	70 00
J. M. Benjamin, Treasurer,	75 00
L. P. Moody, Clerk,	15 00
E. D. Hutchins, Superintendent Town Farm,	275 00
W. H. Pettingill, damage to horse on road,	46 67
Oxen to work on road,	260 00
H. Woodward, S. S. Committee,	6 00
E. P. Baker, do,	5 00
A. Bryant, do,	50 00
Wm. S. Noyes, for printing reports,	25 00
Cost in Pettingill case,	12 00
J. L. Stanley, abatement of taxes,	5 40
Books, stationery, &c.,	21 55
Office chairs,	4 50
A. C. Carr, Constable fees,	11 50
A. C. Carr, percentage for collecting,	181 81
A. C. Carr, abatement of taxes 1870,	217 03
Support of paupers off the farm,	67 51
Interest on School Fund,	170 24
Coffins for paupers,	43 00
	<hr/> \$1,712 21

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Bills of Town Officers and Farm Superintendent,	\$700 00
Amount of outstanding Bonds,	26,180 00
School Fund Loan,	2,837 24
School money apportioned and not expended,	298 33
Unsettled bills against the town.	50 00
	<hr/> \$30,065 67

RESOURCES.

Amount of uncollected taxes,	\$9,682 62
State Bonds in Treasury,	4,100 00
Due from State,	111 00
Cash in Treasury,	631 27
	<hr/> 14,525 05

Indebtedness of the Town, \$15,540 62

R. E. FULLER, } *Selectmen*
 E. S. BRIGGS, } *of*
 F. H. McINTIRE, } *Winthrop.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF TREASURER.

1871	RECEIPTS.	
March, Cash balance from last account,		\$963 30
“ Received of A. C. Carr, Collector,		10,286 37
“ “ for State Bonds sold,		1,000 00
“ “ for interest on State Bonds,		319 63
“ “ for Oxen sold by Selectmen,		417 47
“ “ of State, School Fund,		99 83
“ “ of S. Holden for rent of Town Hall,		37 10
“ “ Selectmen for sale hearse property,		48 00
		\$13,171 70
	EXPENDITURES.	
Town Bonds paid,		\$4,040 00
Coupons paid,		1,676 10
Highway orders paid,		2,087 81
Support of Poor and Town charges,		2,270 43
School Orders paid.		2,466 09
Cash on hand,		631 27
		\$13,171 70
	LIABILITIES.	
Bonds outstanding March 3, 1871:		
“ due in 1872,		\$5,630 00
“ “ 1873,		5,100 00
“ “ 1874,		6,700 00
“ “ 1875,		4,100 00
“ “ 1876,		300 00
“ “ 1877,		550 00
“ “ 1878,		2,800 00
“ “ 1879,		1,000 00
		\$26,180 00
Due to School Districts,		160 94
“ Highways,		1,064 89
“ Support of Poor, &c.,		519 98
		\$27,925 81
	RESOURCES.	
Uncollected Taxes,		\$9,682 62
State Bonds on hand,		4,100
Due from State,		111 16
Cash in Treasury,		631 27
Balance against the Town,		13,400 76
		\$27,925 81

J. M. BENJAMIN, *Treasurer.*

WINTHROP, March 1, 1872.

SCHOOL REPORTS.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Summer Term—Martha J. Wheeler, Teacher. This school was found at my first visit in an orderly, systematic state. It was very evident that there were elements of hope, prosperity and success. At my last visit I was pleased to find that hope had not been raised in vain. The examination was satisfactory. Miss Wheeler has a good share of the elements of a good teacher; especially has she the faculty of winning the affections of her scholars; this being the case, it is easy for her to govern them. This faculty is indispensable in the qualifications of a teacher of youth.

Winter Term—Louise Eaton, Teacher. The appearance of the school at its opening was pleasing and encouraging. Order was good, the teacher was energetic, the scholars were cheerful, and thrift seemed to be written on every feature of the school. It would have been difficult to suggest a change in the arrangement and conduct of the school that would have been an improvement. But even such a basis does not always prevent elements arising in a school to mar its peace and prosperity. It did not here. The teacher undertook to govern her school herself; but she was a female and young, and there have been boys in the world who have thought it rather beneath their dignity to be governed by girls. Whether there are any such boys in the world now, and especially whether there were any such in this school or not, I do not undertake now to say. Sufficient to say, some friction arose between the teacher and certain scholars, and they left school. I was called upon by the agent to visit the school and see how matters stood. I did so. And after learning the facts in the case, so far as practicable, from parents, teacher and scholars, I adjudged the teacher not guilty, and bade her carry through her school. It was but another of those cases where issue is taken with a school prematurely, without proper investigation. It is not well thus to do. Such verdicts are not valid in other things, why should they be thought to be in this? Should it be thought strange if the teacher was not perfect in all her ways? Let us have perfection in parents and children before we look for it in teachers. The examination of the school was creditable. The reading was worthy of special notice. Better is seldom found in our common schools.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Summer Term—Irene J. Sampson, Teacher. This school was characterized by the elements of the pleasing. In its machinery there seemed to be nothing wanting; it moved without a jar. The tap of the bell was the signal for duty or recreation. There was system in every thing; in its government there was nothing loose. The scholars understood just what the teacher required of them, so that if they erred, it was a transgression. The school looked well at the first visit, and the examination was warrantable of fair success.

Winter Term—J. Frank Stevens, Teacher. Mr. Stevens kept the school in No. 5, last winter, and did well. He is thorough in his teaching, wide awake, and energetic. There was every evidence at the opening of this school that he would sustain his reputation. Government was good, and the exercises systematic. His object is not to run over a great amount of ground, to skim over the surface, but to dig deep, get down to the principle. Unfortunately he was taken sick the last week of the school, and his brother, Eugene Stevens, finished the school for him. Of course, under such circumstances, the school could not be seen in the examination as it really was. And yet, there was evidence of improvement. Especially noticeable were the exercises in Physiology and Drawing. It is good to know that these branches are now taught in many schools, and they ought to be taught in all.

DISTRICT No. 3.

Summer Term—Sarah M. Phillips, Teacher. Miss Phillips came to this school with a good reputation as a teacher. Her qualifications and experience were such as to lay a good foundation for hope that her efforts in this school would be crowned with success. And it is warrantable to say just here, that a school moulded entirely and completely by her, would be a model school. In government and discipline, she is mild but firm; in teaching she is not superficial, but thorough. A thing learned from her is learned; it needs not to be re-learned. Her efforts in this school were well laid, well presented, diligent and untiring to have a good school, and she met with fair success. The exercises of examination were marked by a thoroughness that was very gratifying.

Winter Term—Isaac N. Wadsworth, A. B., Teacher. If scholarship and experience are the sure precursors of success in school-keeping, then it is enough to say that I. N. Wadsworth kept this school. But though this might be regarded as a rule, still it is a well known maxim, "there is no rule without exceptions." But in spite of the exceptions, Mr. Wadsworth's school must be reckoned under the rule and not the exceptions. Mr. Wadsworth's theory in regard to the government of schools does not agree in all respects with my own. But though I may like mine better, nevertheless I am ready to say that with Mr. Wadsworth at the head of his theory, a good school is sure. The difference in theory

I refer to is alone in regard to communications. I think communications without direct permission should be strictly forbidden. Mr. Wardsworth thinks otherwise. With all the rest of the good things about this school, had there been no whispering, in the opinion of one at least, it would have been better. Mr. Wadsworth is a very excellent teacher, as his examinations showed, and also an excellent disciplinarian in keeping with his theory.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Winter Term—Nellie Page, Teacher. Miss Page takes hold of a school as though she knew how to keep it, and meant to do it. She is a good scholar, and has vivacity enough to keep the machinery of a school from rusting while she is running it; she has a keen taste for order and system. She likes to have a school on a line that she herself has marked out, and if any are disposed to swerve from that line, they will be sure to raise an issue with her. I admire her spirit, though I found it proper in my judgment, to take issue with her myself in regard to a point of discipline. A scholar was disobedient, persistently so, and the teacher called upon me to settle the matter, and would be satisfied with nothing short of expelling the scholar from school. I differed from her, received from the scholar a confession of his wrong, with a promise of good behavior in future and let him go on. The school closed up prosperously; the examinations gave evidence of good improvement.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Summer Term—Emily F. Williams, Teacher. This school was found at my first visit in a very satisfactory state. It was orderly and quiet. There was an interest manifested too, on the part of both teacher and scholars, which was indicative of a mutual adaptation, and which gave promise of a profitable session; and this promise was not disappointed. The scholars showed how much they had enjoyed their school by the grief manifested at the close. Miss Williams has a heart herself, and so she gets hold of the hearts of her scholars. Such a faculty is not the only qualification of a teacher, but it is an important one. Miss Williams labored earnestly for the improvement of her school, and examination day proved that her labors had not been in vain.

Winter Term—Emily F. Williams, Teacher. Generally considered, it would be sufficient description of this school to say it was kept by the same teacher who kept the summer term. The fact certainly shows that both scholars and parents were pleased with their summer school. It sometimes happens, however, that people get their anticipations raised a little too high by first efforts, so high that succeeding efforts fail to meet them. But I am glad to be able to say that I think it was not so in this case. I think Miss Williams sustained in this term the reputa-

tion gained in the former term. The school looked well at the beginning and it had a good ending.

DISTRICT No. 7.

Summer Term—Alice T. Bearce, Teacher. This was Miss Bearce's first effort at teaching, but she took hold of the work like a veteran. She stood up straight and moved to her task as though she had a perfect understanding of it, and loved it. Nature has a great deal to do in the qualifications of a teacher, and she has done not a little for Miss Bearce. There was perfect order in the school, and every thing about it indicated thrift and prosperity. The examination exercises were a proof of good success.

Winter Term—May Norcross, Teacher. It is not necessary for me, who am even an amateur in an understanding of the constitution of a teacher, to be long in a school with Miss Norcross, to learn that in attempting to teach she has not mistaken her calling. Her manners among youth are easy and winsome. She governs by the leading string. Her scholars do her bidding because they love to. All in this school was orderly, quiet, cheerful and thrifty. All promised well at the beginning, and the ending showed that the promise was well sustained. In all the exercises of examination, there was scarcely a failure.

DISTRICT No. 8.

Summer Term—May Norcross, Teacher. This school is so small every way, there is hardly enough to get a report out of. There were but six scholars in school, ranging from thirteen to four years of age. But Miss Norcross said she employed all her time with them, and she has so happy a faculty of instructing children, she could not fail to get a good deal into their minds that was never there before.

DISTRICT No. 9.

Summer Term—Lucinda A. Knight, Teacher. It would certainly be exceeding the bounds of propriety and reasonableness, to wish to see a school more orderly, quiet, and bear more general appearances of being in that state, and pursuing that course, to ensure a fair degree of prosperity and success, than this. The teacher was affable and kind in her bearing toward her scholars, and this bearing was reciprocated. They all seemed happy, and the school gave good evidence of being profitable.

Winter Term—Nellie Turner, Teacher. I think the district have no reason to feel that they were unfortunate in their teacher. Undoubtedly they do not. Miss Turner has not a great amount of the physical, not so far as talk is concerned, but she has a good share of the mental, and what she lacks in quantity, physically, she makes up in quality. Life and animation predominate. Never saw scholars have more confidence in their teacher, and more delight in her will, than these. It was easy

for her to get on the right side of her scholars, and with this faculty, other things not wanting, a profitable school may be expected. Miss Turner strived to do well, and I think she succeeded.

DISTRICT No. 10.

Summer Term—Abbie E. Wheeler, Teacher. This was the beginning of Miss Wheeler's efforts at teaching; and she is quite young even to begin to teach. But then some people are older at the same age than others—Miss Wheeler is one of those. See her in a school-room as scholar, and you would call her a girl; see her in a school-room as teacher, and you would not hesitate to call her a woman. She kept a school satisfactory to Supervisor and district. Her influence among children is good. Her success warrants her trying again.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In taking a general glance over our school year now closing, it is with intermingled feelings of satisfaction and regret. In regard to the character of the schools of the year as a whole, taking everything that bears upon the matter into consideration, I feel that I ought to waive every predisposition to the contrary, and say I am satisfied. My most sanguine expectations and hopes have been more than exceeded. A corps of teachers have had charge of our schools, of whom we have reason to feel proud. There has not been a drone among them. They have acted the part of men and women in their noble work. It is quite difficult to say who among them has done the best. Of course I do not speak of perfection. There is yet chance for improvement. But a great step in advance has been taken over the previous years. This I say without reflecting in general on the teachers of last year. There ought to be advancement. It is what we are striving for. Without it our labors would be in vain. We ought to have better teachers, better systems of teaching, better teaching, better success, in a word, better schools, every succeeding year. In this respect, comparing this year with the last as a whole, we have not failed. There has been more system and thoroughness. The general machinery of the schools has moved on more harmoniously and smoothly. There has been less jar and friction. The government of the schools of this year has been generally satisfactory. This I have striven particularly to secure, feeling that there was a special demand for it.

The feelings of regret I have spoken of, grow out of the fact that in some of our districts quite a part of the school money is lost for want of better finished and better arranged school-rooms. The teacher who kept the winter term of school at East Winthrop, said that he was conscious that quite a proportion of his wages was lost every day, for want of a well arranged, convenient school-room. This matter ought to be looked

after. Men generally see to it that their investments are made in the most-profitable way. Surely they ought to see to it that every dollar invested in schools realizes its equivalent. If there is any room that should be well furnished, well arranged and inviting, it should be the school-room. It is the place where our youth spend a great part of the days of their minority, that time when the mind is being fashioned by everything that comes before the eye.

“Just as the twig is bent, the tree’s inclined.” Nothing is lost that is invested in schools, in educating the young. The father had better put a thousand dollars into a boy’s head, than to hoard it up for him after his decease. Education is the bulwark of the nation. With it we stand, without it we fall. And it is good to know that this fact is as well understood and regarded as it is. And there is a chance for a step in advance. May that step be taken. May the watchword of all in this matter be ONWARD.

Winthrop, March 1, 1872.

A. BRYANT.

Supervisor of Winthrop.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DIRECTORS OF SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 4,
WINTHROP.

The School Directors of District No. 4, submit to the town the following abstract of their Annual Report to the District for the school year 1871-72.

The whole number of scholars in the District between the ages of 4 and 21 years, is 345.

The largest number in attendance at school, was during the winter term. Whole number 221; average attendance, 193. Fall term, whole number 217; average, 187.

The High School, was not in operation during the summer term; and the attendance upon the other three schools, was whole number, 177; average, 151.

Whole amount of money apportioned to the District,	\$1207.36
Amount expended,	1216.76

Items of expenditure and exact figures will be presented to the District at the annual District meeting.

PRIMARY SCHOOL.

There were three terms, each of ten weeks, for this school, during the year. The attendance for the three terms, was, whole number 68; average 57. This school for the past year, and for several previous years, was under the management of Miss Martha E. Jackson; and she has proved herself a good teacher, both in the government and instruction of this school. The attendance was regular and punctual; and at our several visits there was always a quiet and orderly bearing of the scholars, without any appearance of restraint from the teacher, which gave us the impression that they were all comfortable and happy, in spite of their crowded and miserable school room.

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.

Miss Juliet M. Stanley, a teacher of culture and large experience, was in charge of this school for the three terms, of ten weeks each, during the year. The whole number of scholars in attendance, was 48; average, 41. Miss S., evidently labored hard to make her school a complete success; and the most of her scholars did make very good proficiency in their studies. There were a few of the larger boys who did not seem to manifest the least interest in trying to learn anything; and some of them were also disposed to be more or less disorderly in their behavior. A few of such pupils in a school do great injury to the conduct and general appearance of the whole school.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

This school, also, had three terms, of ten weeks each, whole number in attendance 61; average, 55.

Miss Helen M. Moody has taught this school, for the last six years, with uniform success. Commencing the past year upon the high vantage ground of previous good discipline and thorough instruction, large expectations were entertained of this school; and they have been fully realized. The attendance was unexceptionable; the management and personal conduct, excellent; and the amount of work done and improvement made, greater than in any previous year.

The credit for these results belongs largely to the teacher, who is well fitted for her work; and devotes herself to it with a steadiness and zeal which ensure success.

Inspection, classification, methods of management and instruction, are all useful, but without a wise and earnest teacher, no school will ever be a complete success; and with such a teacher, whatever else may be wanting, no school will be a failure.

HIGH SCHOOL.

This school has never had an independent existence, but has been sent, for one or two terms in each year, to "Towle Academy," to be instructed with, or as a part of that school. Experience has shown that this

plan does not work well. It gives us all the confusion of a mixed school instead of that regular classification which is so essential to a good school.

The whole number of scholars composing the High School the past year was 42; average attendance, 35. There were two terms of ten weeks each. Mr. Albert Woodside, A. B., was Principal, and Miss Luella F. Beal, Assistant.

At our several visits during the fall term, this school appeared very well; and at the examination at the close of the term, we were satisfied that the scholars, with a few exceptions, had made good proficiency in their several studies. The deportment was not quite satisfactory, but it was not a disorderly school.

The winter term did not appear to so good advantage, in most respects, as the fall term had done. There was a larger number of scholars who were inattentive to their duties; some who were disorderly in their conduct, and many who did not seem to appreciate their privileges, as scholars of their age and attainments might reasonably be expected to do.

Mr. Woodside came to us highly recommended for scholarly attainments, good character and successful experience in teaching. His ideas of teaching were that scholars should not be helped too much; that they should master a lesson by themselves; that they should learn intellectual independence, instead of being constantly prompted, held up, and lifted over every rough spot. This plan undoubtedly works well with scholars who have will, energy and strength; but with weaklings, it will be sure to be unpopular. They will go home and whimper that they cannot learn anything under such a plan. We think Mr. W. failed, at least, in earnest effort for the good discipline and general success of the school.

Miss Beal had proved herself an able and faithful teacher in connection with this school previous to the last year; and we are glad to be able to report that she discharged the duties of assistant, during the past year, to our entire satisfaction.

We are of the opinion that the High School scholars, the past year, had about as good advantages as the district can afford to provide for them; and that those who were well disposed and willing to work, made good progress in their educational course; and that upon the whole the school had about the average prosperity which has attended it from its establishment.

The "cards" which have been used in these schools for several years, were continued the past year; and the teachers were instructed to fill them out with care from their daily records, so that parents and guardians should have each week a faithful report of the attendance, rank and deportment of their scholars. The Directors desire to urge parents to

make a careful examination of these "weekly reports," and inquire into and take measures to correct the evils which they show. For example, if a scholar is frequently tardy or absent during the week, these cards show the exact number of such delinquences, and the parent should see to it that these do not appear again. Also if the scholar is not attentive to his studies, or does not behave well, the card informs his parents of the fact; and they should use their influence and authority to have the scholar do better the next week.

Punctual attendance every half day, excellent deportment and perfect recitations every day during the week, entitle the scholar to a "merit" for that week. For several years past, the Directors have at the close of each school year, conferred upon such scholars as have obtained a "merit" for at least half of the weeks of the school year, a School Diploma, or certificate of the number of "merits" obtained during the year, signed by the Directors and the teacher of the school to which such scholars belonged.

Eight years ago, when this plan was first adopted, there were but *ten* scholars in the district who obtained the coveted honor. At the recent examinations, at the close of the year just passed, *one hundred* scholars were thus rewarded, several of whom had obtained a merit for every week of the year.

If we have not been able to report our schools as having been altogether satisfactory during the past year, we think the above fact alone is evidence that they are making progress, for which we should all be thankful, and encouraged to persevere in earnest efforts that the rising generation may become an educated and virtuous people.

A. P. SNOW,	}	<i>Directors of</i>
E. P. BAKER,		
C. A. WING,		
		<i>S. Dist. No. 4</i>
		<i>in Winthrop.</i>

ABSTRACT OF TOWN WARRANT.

Meeting to be held at Town Hall, March 11, 1872, at half past nine o'clock, A. M.

- ART. 1. To choose a Moderator.
- ART. 2. To choose all necessary Town Officers.
- ART. 3. To grant a sum of money for the support of Schools.
- ART. 4. To grant a sum of money for the support of Poor, &c.
- ART. 5. To grant a sum of money for making and repairing highways.
- ART. 6. To grant a sum of money to discharge indebtedness.
- ART. 7. To see if the town will vote to tax dogs.
- ART. 8. To see if the town will vote to set off land from school District No. 4, to school District No. 6.
- ART. 9. To see if the town will vote to instruct constables to enforce the law against coasting.
- ART. 10. To see if the town will vote to assist Mrs. Friend to support Insane Son.
- ART. 11. To see if the town will discontinue road near Samuel B. Shaw's.
- ART. 12. To see if the town will abolish school districts.
- ART. 13. To choose and instruct committees.
- ART. 14. To allow accounts against the town.