

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

No. 370

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE, in favor of Wilton Academy.

Resolved: That there be appropriated for the use of the
2 trustees of Wilton Academy the sum of seven thousand and
3 five hundred dollars for the purpose of repairing and re-
4 modeling the present school building and for installing a
5 heating plant.

STATEMENT OF FACTS.

Wilton Academy was incorporated in 1866. The first term opened September 10th, 1867, and the school has been in active operation ever since. The building secured when the school was first started was an old meeting house which had ceased to be used for church purposes. This building was remodeled so that it could be used for school purposes at an expense of about eight thousand dollars. Of this sum five thousand was raised with a very little outside help by the citizens of the town. This left a debt of about three thousand dollars. In about two years an appropriation of five thousand dollars was secured by the State and the debt was cancelled and further improvements on the building were made.

The school was a success from the first and drew its students from a large extent of territory. In 1890 the school had grown in numbers and its work had so extended that further improvement and enlargement of the building became necessary. About three thousand five hundred dollars was expended. This money was raised by subscription, very largely among the citizens of the town. (At this time a two-story addition was made upon the rear of the original building only the lower story being furnished).

In 1903 additional room was needed for the science department and about thirteen hundred dollars was raised entirely among the citizens of the town. With this money the second story of the first addition to the building was finished and its basement fitted with suitable sanitary closets.

It will be seen that of the fifteen thousand dollars expended about ten thousand dollars has been raised by the citizens of the town.

Wilton Academy has always drawn its students from an extended territory. During the last fifteen years they have come from every town in Franklin county and from fourteen towns out of the county. The average attendance for the last ten

years has been about eighty-five. Last year there were in attendance about one hundred and sixteen pupils with an average for the year of one hundred and two. The Academy has always taken rank among the first of the State as a college preparatory school.

Wilton Academy has not now nor has it ever had a dollar of endowment. Its expenses have always been met by money from its small tuition fee and from its small appropriation received each year from the State and town.

The Academy is situated in a rural section and many of its students came from towns which do not maintain standard high schools. A large part of the building is now badly out of repair. It is desired to repair it and to so remodel a part of it that the school, in addition to its present work, may meet the increasing demands made upon it.

The proposed improvements will call for an expenditure of at least fifteen thousand dollars.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Augusta, March 2, 1909.

Reported by Mr. BRADFORD from Committee on Education and ordered printed under joint rules.

E. M. THOMPSON, *Clerk*.