



The William E. Frost School as it appears today.
(Westford Studios)

by Mrs. Charles S. Kennedy
The William E. Frost School, which was built in 1908, was named for this preceptor of the academy. When built, it had only two rooms.

Mrs. Taylor, who had taught in the Center School, taught grades 1 through 3 at the Frost school. Harriet Miller taught grades 4 through 6. Miss Tuttle also taught here.

As was the custom in most primary schools at this time, the pupils at the Frost School were taught to memorize poetry, particularly poems by Henry W. Longfellow. Mrs. Taylor had published a book of poems entitled "Happiness to share" and one of the Frost teachers had her pupils memorize some of these poems as well as those of Longfellow. One day Mrs. Taylor was much amused to hear a young boy get

up to recite. He introduced the poem as "Hiawatha" by Elizabeth Cushing Taylor, and continued right on with his recitation!

Miss Tuttle tells of the children bringing apples to the teachers, and how the pupils would jump over the wall at recess, get an apple and pound it on the stone wall and suck the juice.

The Whitney Fund helps to maintain the playground today.

*A delightful collection of children's poems which is available today in the Children's Room of the J V Fletcher Library.

Material for this paper was gathered from the Westford Town Reports 1840-1920, the Westford Town History, and from personal interviews with the teachers and pupils named herein.