



Wilton Union Workhouse site in 2000, courtesy of Peter Higginbottom

Fire at the Union Workhouse

Early on Saturday morning last, a fire was discovered to have broken out in the drying room belonging to the laundry of the Union Workhouse, occasioned by the overheating of the flues attached thereto.

Fortunately, the assistance rendered by the several inmates, under the direction of the master, Mr. Barnes, aided by the porter and baker, by means of which a constant supply of water was maintained, kept the fire so far under that only the roof of the building and some of the inmates' clothes were destroyed by the devouring element.

Great praise is due to the paupers, who worked well on the occasion, otherwise a much larger amount of damage must have been sustained.

Salisbury and Winchester Journal, Saturday, 1 December 1866