

City Document—No. 11.

THE
SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS
ON THE
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
OF THE
CITY OF ROXBURY:
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31st, 1848.



ROXBURY:
JOSEPH G. TORREY, CITY PRINTER.

1848.

REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

ROXBURY, FEBRUARY 1, 1848.

*To the Honorable the Mayor and Aldermen,
and Common Council.*

GENTLEMEN :

In conformity with Section 5th of the Ordinance regulating the Fire Department, I herewith lay before you a report of the state and condition of the Engine Houses, Engines and Apparatus, with the number of members belonging to the several Companies, also the number of Reservoirs and their condition, together with the number of Fires and Alarms, from May 1, 1847, to February 1, 1848, with the amount of Loss and Insurance.

Respectfully submitted,

ABRAHAM S. PARKER,
Chief Engineer.

ENGINES, & c.

LOCATION.	By whom Built.	Feet of Suction Hose.	Feet of Leading Hose.	Sundries.	Condition.
Engine No. 1, Dudley, cor. Warren street	L. Button & Co. Waterford, N.Y. 1844	24	625	Hose Carriage, Buckets, Axes & c.	Condition good.
Engine No. 2, Centre street.....	W. C. Hunneman & Co. Roxbury, 1844	25	550	Hose Carriage, Buckets, Axes, Hook and Ladder	Condition good.
Engine No. 3, Centre, near Perkins	W. C. Hunneman & Co. 1838 ..	24	500	H. Car. Buckets, Axes, Hook	Condition good.
Engine No. 4, Centre Jamaica Plain,	W. C. Hunneman & Co. 1847 ..	28	450	H. Car. Buckets, Axes, Hooks, &c.	Condition good.
Engine No. 5, West Roxbury	W. C. Hunneman & Co. 1836 ..	29	300	H. Car. Buckets, Axes, Hook	Condition good.
Engine No. 6, Eustis street.....	W. C. Hunneman, 1829.....	25	550	H. Car. Buckets, Axes, Hook	Condition good.
Engine No. 7, Ruggles street	W. C. Hunneman & Co. 1842 ..	28	650	H. Car. Buckets, Axes, Hook	Condition good.
Engine not in use.....	S. Thayer	25	450	Condition good.
Hook and Ladder, Dudley street	Hooks, Ladders, Axes, Buckets, &c.	Condition good.

RESERVOIRS.

No.	Situation.	Gallons of Water contained.	Condition
1	In the square opposite the Norfolk House	25,000	Good.
2	Warren, near Washington street	30,000	"
3	Corner of Washington and Eustis streets	16,000	"
4	Dudley street—fills from the Brook.....		"
5	Short street	24,000	"
6	Mount Pleasant.....	15,000	"
7	Near Webber's Ropewalk.....	15,000	"
8	Cedar street	15,000	"
9	Sidewalk, opposite No. 2 Engine House	1,300	"
10	Centre street (Jamaica Plain)	15,000	"
11	Centre street, near Green street (Jamaica Plain)..	15,000	"
12	Washington street, near Ruggles street.....	18,000	"
13	Vernon street	18,000	"
14	Dudley, foot of Kenilworth street	18,000	"
15	Dudley, near Warren street.....	18,000	"
16	Dudley, near Greenville street.....	18,000	"

NUMBER OF FIRES AND ALARMS FROM MAY 1, 1847, TO FEBRUARY 1, 1848.

Date.	Owner or Occupant.	Situation.	Loss.	Insurance.	Cause, &c.
1847					
May 11		Boston			Not known.
12		"			Not known.
22	E. T. Hall	Tremont street			Pile of old lumber took fire from sparks from chimney.
23					Woods in West Roxbury.
29		Brookline			Burning of a slaughter house.
June 3	Horn, Sinclair & Co.	East street	\$800 00	\$800 00	Unoccupied house. Incendiary.
6	William Curtis	Dudley street			Carpenter's shop. Put out with buckets. Incendiary.
14	Page & Melvin	Alpine street	1000 00	1000 00	Unoccupied house. Incendiary.
17	Amos Stevens	Dedham Turnpike	100 00	100 00	A small barn. Incendiary.
July 2					False alarm.
8	Mrs. Williams	Dedham Turnpike	300 00	300 00	Barn attached to dwelling. Incendiary.
13		Boston			
17	Enoch Bartlett	Dedham Turnpike	25 00	25 00	Out-buildings. Incendiary.
17	Irish families	Rockingham place			Burning of a chimney.

July 22	Daniel Perkins.....	Orange street	2150 00	2150 00	A large wooden building occupied for weav-
	A. S. & W. G. Lewis.....	" "	6000 00	6000 00	ing and manufacturing Belting—struck by
	Boston Belting Company	" "	100 00	100 00	lightning. Building owned by Daniel
25	Grammar School House.....	Mount Pleasant	25 00	25 00	Perkins.
25	Lucius Bodge	Belmont street.....	1800 00	1800 00	Out-buildings, set on fire.
25	Charles W. Munroe.....	" "	300 00	300 00	Block of 3 wooden tenements. Incendiary.
26	Irish families	Rockingham place			Unoccupied house; communicated from the
					above.
Aug. 5	Bell & Morris	Dudley street	100 00	100 00	Burning of a chimney.
5	Irish families	Eustis street			Barn; children playing with matches.
5	Not known.....	Washington street	25 00	25 00	Burning of a chimney.
8	Mr. Richardson.....	Warren cor. Montrose avenue	50 00	50 00	Trifling damage; defect in chimney.
17	Mr. Joslyn.....	Centre street	1000 00	1000 00	Barn. Incendiary.
17	Amasa Wiswall	Vernon street	600 00	600 00	Unoccupied house. Incendiary.
17	William Curtis	Dudley cor. Warren street..	200 00	200 00	Unoccupied house. Incendiary.
	Isaac S. Burrell.....	" " " " ..	300 00	300 00	Wheelwright's shop; communicated from
	Mr. Wiswall	" " " " ..	100 00	100 00	the above. This fire and the one on
	Dr. C. M. Winship.....	" " " " ..	400 00	400 00	Vernon street were both burning at the
21	John Griggs.....	Boylston street			same time.
	Isaac Curtis.....				No damage. An alarm was given at 1
27	C. Briggs	Dorchester			o'clock at night; it was discovered next
27	William Warren	Orange street.....	400 00	400 00	morning that Mr. Curtis's house, (unoc-
29	Mr. Harper.....	Warren street	200 00	200 00	cupied) had been fired in one of the closets.
31	Dadley Williams	" "	600 00	600 00	Burning of a pottery.
		Williams place			No damage; a small stable set on fire.
					Barn, occupied by Mr. Harper.
					Incendiary.
					Looking-glass frame manufactory. Incen-
					diary.

Date.	Owner or Occupant.	Situation.	Loss.	Insurance.	Cause, &c.
1847 Sept. 1	Dudley Williams	Williams place	\$700 00	\$700 00	Supposed incendiary. The first fire was supposed to have been thoroughly put out; a watch was kept three hours—had left but ten minutes when the second fire was discovered.
2		Dorchester			Burning of a barn.
8		Ruggles street	800 00	800 00	False alarm.
9	Mr. Stevens.....		1200 00	1200 00	Unfinished house. Incendiary.
9	Dr. N. S. Prentiss	Boston	400 00	400 00	Dwelling house; communicated from the above.
17	John Webber & Son				Dwelling house; from the same
17		Charlestown			Bursting of an engine boiler.
19		Cambridge			False alarm.
Oct. 2		Dorchester			Burning of several buildings.
4		Parker street			Burning of a barn.
5	Heirs of John Parker				Burning of planing mill.
10	Not known.....	Cliff street			Trifling damage; an old building set on fire.
11		Near Day's ropewalk			No damage; defect in chimney.
12		Dorchester			Burning of a hay-stack.
16	Washington School House	Washington street			Burning of a barn.
16		Boston			No damage. Incendiary.
20					False alarm.
21					Burning of dwelling in Suffolk street.
					Burning of a chimney.

Oct. 23	Eliot School House.....	Jamaica Plain.....			No damage ; out-house set fire.
28	Baptist Meeting House.....	Dudley street.....	500 00	500 00	False alarm.
28	Page & Melvin.....	Alpine street.....	4000 00	4000 00	Incendiary ; pulpit destroyed.
30	James White.....	Orange street.....	25 00	25 00	Unoccupied house. Incendiary.
					Dwelling house ; defect in chimney.
					False alarm.
Nov. 4					False alarm.
18					False alarm.
25		Highlands.....			Burning of a chimney.
30	Mr. Bowman.....	Davis street.....	200 00		Distillery ; bursting of a flue.
					Alarm came from Dorchester.
Dec. 9		Quincy.....			Burning of a barn.
10		Point.....			Trifling damage ; resin barrel set on fire.
1848	Thomas Simmons.....				Alarm from Boston.
Jan. 8		Dedham Turnpike.....	100 00	100 00	Unoccupied house. Incendiary.
9	J. R. Bradlee.....	Eliot street, Jamaica Plain..	700 00	700 00	Alarm from Boston.
22		Brookline.....			Dwelling ; supposed incendiary.
26	Stephen M. Weld.....	Quincy.....			Burning of an old building.
28	Hers of Samuel Ward.....				Burning of a barn.
30					
31					
			\$25,230 00	\$24,530 00	

RECAPITULATION.

Number of Engineers	7
Number of Firemen	293
Number of Engines	7
Number of Hose Carriages	8
Number of feet of Suction Hose.....	183
Number of feet of Leading Hose.....	4075
Number of Hook and Ladder Carriages	1
Number of Ladders.....	14
Number of Fire Hooks	10
Number of Crotch Poles	6
Number of Buckets.....	56
Number of Axes	19
Number of Reservoirs	16

Not in use—

Number of Engines	1
Number of Hose Carriages.....	1
Number of feet of Suction Hose.....	25
Number of false alarms	8
Number of alarms from the burning of chimnies.....	5
Alarms out of the City	18
Fires	35
Total number of alarms	66
Fires requiring the aid of Engines	24
Fires extinguished without the aid of Engines	11
Amount of Loss by Fire	\$25,230 00
Amount of Insurance.....	24,530 00

NOTE.—In the Table of “Engines,” should have been stated—

Engine No. 2—250 feet leading hose, indifferent.

Engine No. 3—300 feet leading hose, indifferent. House not in good order.

Engine No. 6—150 feet leading hose, indifferent.

Engine No. 7—150 feet leading hose, indifferent. Condition of House good, with the exception of roof.

Hook and Ladder House not in very good condition.

A portion of the report is necessarily omitted.