

*City Document—No. 2.*

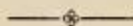
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THE  
THIRTEENTH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
Committee on Accounts  
ON THE  
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES  
OF THE  
CITY OF ROXBURY,  
FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31st, 1859.



ROXBURY:  
PRINTED FOR THE CITY COUNCIL.  
1859.

REPORT  
OF THE  
CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.



ROXBURY, FEBRUARY 14, 1859.

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

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance regulating the Fire Department of this City, I hereby transmit my Annual Report.

It being but two months since I have assumed the duties of Chief Engineer, I am not so well conversant with the operations of the year, as will enable me to speak confidently of all that has transpired. But from a thorough knowledge of the capacity, and the active manner with which the late Chief Engineer performed his duties, and also of the general condition of the Department upon his retirement, the interests of the City I can say were well cared for in his hands.

The Department is now in very good working order. The several companies are all full, and the members prompt when their services are called for. Since the last Annual Report, no addition has been made to the number of engines in the Department. It has been and shall be my endeavor to see that every one of the machines shall have every thing which shall be necessary for immediate service when called for. The Relief Engine, at the Point, I have taken steps to have placed in hands which will render great service in case of any serious fire in the lower part of the City. Our Fire Department is comparatively a small one. We do not however propose to recommend that it be increased by the addition of any more engines; but it is of the utmost importance that the facilities for obtaining water should be increased. There have been repeated instances where two or three engines have been detailed to do the work which one could do were water nearer.

I would therefore urgently recommend that this year three or more Reservoirs be constructed in the most exposed localities. For several years the construction of Reservoirs has been neglected, to the serious damage of our citizens. Let every year a reasonable sum be expended in this direction, until we have interspersed Reservoirs all over the City, from 800 to 1000 feet apart. It will obviate the necessity for any great increase in our Department, and render more efficient what we have.

The accompanying documents show the number of Fire Alarms,—the loss sustained and the insurance, as far as could be ascertained,—names of the Board of Engineers,—members of the Department, with their ages and places of residence,—condition of Houses and Apparatus,—list of Hydrants and Reservoirs, and the general condition of the Department.

The Fire Department have been called out this year 119 times.

Fires in this City, . . . . .	59
False Alarms, . . . . .	35
Out of the City, . . . . .	19
Burning of Grass, . . . . .	4
“ Chimmey, . . . . .	1
Factory Bells, . . . . .	2
Rekindling of Ruins, . . . . .	1
Struck by Lightning, . . . . .	1

Loss by fire, \$51,140; Insurance, \$33,890.

The Department was called out the last year 59 times:—

From actual Fires in this City, . . . . .	27 times.
“ False Alarms, “ . . . . .	22 “
“ out of the City, . . . . .	10 “
	—
	59 “

Loss by fire, \$28,025. Insurance, \$17,100.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES MUNROE,  
*Chief Engineer.*

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN, FEBRUARY 14, 1859.

Referred to the Committee on Accounts, with instructions to cause such parts to be printed in the Annual Report of Receipts and Expenditures of the City as they deem expedient.

Read and sent down for concurrence.

JOSEPH W. TUCKER, *City Clerk.*

IN COMMON COUNCIL, FEB. 21, 1859.

Concurred.

FRANKLIN WILLIAMS, *Clerk.*

ENGINES, HOSE AND HOOK AND LADDER CARRIAGES, &c.

Location.	No. of Men.	Suction Hose.	Leading Hose.	Sandries.	Condition.
No. 1, Dudley, corner of Warren Street . . . . .	40	Feet. 28	Feet. 950	1 Hose Carriage, 2 Buckets, 2 Axes . . . . .	Good.
No. 2, Centre Street . . . . .	40	28	850	1 Hose Carriage, 5 Buckets, 2 Axes, set Hub Runners . . . . .	Good.
No. 3, East Street . . . . .	40	24	250	1 Hose Carriage, 4 Buckets, 2 Axes, . . . . .	Good.
No. 6, Eustis Street . . . . .	40	36†	950	1 Hose Carriage, 5 Buckets, 2 Axes . . . . .	Good.
No. 7, Ruggles Street . . . . .	40	26	800	1 Hose Carriage, 6 Buckets, 2 Axes . . . . .	Good.
Hook and Ladder, Dudley Street . . . . .	20			13 Ladders, 4 Fire Hooks, 4 Crotch-poles, 4 Axes, 3 Rakes, 6 Forks, 16 Buckets, Guy Ropes, Hatchets, Saws, Augers, &c., 1 set Hub Runners . . . . .	Good.
Hydrant Company, near Railroad Crossing, Washington Street . . . . .	12		850	2 Hose Carriages, 2 Buckets, 2 Axes, . . . . .	Good.
Total . . . . .	192	142	4,650*		

NOTE.—Engine House, No. 1. In good condition.

Engine House, No. 2. The condition of the house is good.

Engine House, No. 6. The condition of the house is good.

Engine House, No. 7. The condition of the house is good.

Hook and Ladder House, No. 1. In good condition and every way convenient.

Hydrant House, No. 1. Badly situated, being damp, &c.

150 feet of Hose at Bowman's distillery, Davis Street, for the use of the Department in case of fire.

1 Copper Goose Neck at Water Works, Dale Street.

\* 550 feet of the above Hose is ordinary.

† Two joints Copper Suction.

## RESERVOIRS, AND OTHER SOURCES OF OBTAINING WATER.

No.	Location.	No. of Gallons.	Condition.
1	Eliot Square	25,000	Good.
2	Warren, near Washington Street	30,000	Good.
3	Corner of Washington and Eustis Streets	16,000	Good.
4	Dudley Street	24,000	Bad.
5	Short Street	25,000	Good.
6	Chestnut Street, Mount Pleasant	15,000	Good.
7	Corner of Fellows and Hunneman Streets	15,000	Good.
8	Cedar Street	15,000	Good.
9	Sidewalk, opposite No. 2 Engine-house	1,500	Good.
10	Corner of Washington and Ruggles Streets	18,000	Good.
11	Corner of Vernon and Auburn Streets	18,000	Good.
12	Corner of Dudley and Kenilworth Streets	18,000	Good.
13	Dudley, near Warren Street	18,000	Good.
14	Corner of Dudley and Greenville Streets	18,000	Good.
15	Eaton, near Yeoman Street	18,000	Good.
16	Centre Street	18,000	Good.
17	Porter Street	18,000	Good.
18	Elm Street, Mount Pleasant	18,000	Good.
19	Walnut Street	18,000	Good.
20	Pearl Street	18,000	Good.
21	Eustis, corner of East Street	18,000	Good.
22	Copeland Square	18,000	Good.
23	Well, corner of East and Davis Streets		Not Good.
24	Well, corner of Davis and Eustis Streets		Good.
25	Regent, near St. James Street	15,000	Good.
26	Corner of Ruggles and Cabot Streets	17,000	Good.
27	Adams, near Eustis Street	17,000	Good.
28	Davis Street	16,500	Good.
29	Oak Street	18,000	Good.
30	Norfolk Street	16,000	Good.
31	Corner of Greenville and Winthrop Streets	19,500	Good.
32	Smith Street, near Parker Street	18,500	Good.
33	Corner of Warren and Waverly Streets	28,000	Good.
34	Corner of Parker and Alleghany Streets	26,000	Good.
35	East Street, opposite Norfolk Avenue	26,000	Good.
	Well in G. A. Simmons's yard, Highland Street		Good.
	Well in Samuel Guild's yard, near Bartlett Street		Good.
	Well in Patent Leather Works yard, Water Street		Good.

## HYDRANTS, FROM MT. WARREN, COCHITUATE &amp; JAMAICA POND PIPES.

No.	Location.	Source.	Condition.
1	St. James Street	Mt. W.	Good.
2	Alpine Street	"	Good.
3	Near St. James Street	"	Good.
4	Dale Street	"	Good.
5	Tremont Street, corner of Franklin Place	Cochit.	Good.
6	Tremont Street, corner of Sudbury Street	"	Good.
7	Tremont Street, corner of Ruggles Street	"	Good.
8	Tremont Street, opposite Carpet Works	"	Good.
9	Sidewalk, Texas Avenue,	"	Good.
10	Washington Street, corner of Phillips Place	"	Good.
11	Washington Street, opposite Isaac Davis's	"	Good.
12	Ruggles Street, opposite the late Catholic Church	J. Pond.	Good.
13	Vernon Street, corner of Belmont Place	"	Good.
14	Vernon Street, corner of Washington Street	"	Good.
15	Davis Street, corner of Webber Street	"	Good.
16	East Street, opposite Stubb's shop	"	Good.
17	East Street, corner of Davis Street	"	Good.
18	Swett Street, near Curtis & Blake's Mill,	"	Good.

FIRES AND ALARMS FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1858, TO FEBRUARY 1, 1859.

Date.	Owner or occupant.	Situation.	Loss.	Insurance.	Causes, &c.
1858.					
Feb. 1					
" 5	Mr. Melnire . . . . .	Dorchester			False alarm.
" 19		Shawmut Avenue			Dwelling-house.
" 20	C. F. Bradford . . . . .	Bartlett Street	\$25 00		Burning of grass. Set by boys.
" 22	Roger Drury . . . . .	Norfolk Avenue	100 00		Dwelling-house.
" 26	A. D. Williams . . . . .	Cor. of East and Davis Sts.	490 00	\$80 00	Barn. Set by boys.
" 26		Tremont Street			Barn. Incendiary.
" 27		Kendall Street			Dwelling-house. Boston.
March 11		Dudley Street	400 00	800 00	False alarm. Boston.
" 13	White, Smith & Fitzmaurice	Water Street	700 00	200 00	Engine-house, No. 1, & Hook & Ladder. Incend.
" 17					Two stables and one dwelling-house.
" 21	City of Roxbury . . . . .	Smith Street	25 00	25 00	False alarm.
" 21	Mr. Barns . . . . .	Washington Street	15 00		School-house. Incendiary. A young man run over by the engine.
" 26	Heirs of Isaac Davis . . . . .	Francis Street	250 00	250 00	Barn. Incendiary.
" 30		Washington Street			Barn. Incendiary.
" 30					Hay. Set by boys.
" 30	Robert Gardner . . . . .	Tremont Street	50 00		False alarm.
April 1		Dorchester			Barn. Incendiary.
" 2	Elijah Lewis . . . . .	East Street	35 00	50 00	False alarm.
" 5		Shawmut Avenue			Building. Incendiary.
" 5	Lubec heirs . . . . .	Walnut Street	700 00		False alarm. West Roxbury.
" 6	Munroe heirs . . . . .	Munroe Place	150 00	300 00	False alarm. Grass.
" 9				150 00	Wooden building. Incendiary.
" 11		Shawmut Avenue			Barn. False alarm.
" 20	James Hunkins . . . . .	High Street	60 00	60 00	Burning of grass.
" 22					House. Defect in chimney.
" 30					False alarm.
" 30					False alarm.

## FIRES AND ALARMS—CONTINUED.

Date.	Owner or occupant.	Situation.	Loss.	Insurance.	Causes, &c.
1858.					
May 1	A. R. Mathes & Co. . . . .	Pine Island . . . . .	\$150 00	150 00	Pitch-boiling shed. Boiling over of a resin kettle.
" 2		Federal Street . . . . .			Alarm from Boston.
" 5	Hewes estate . . . . .	Washington Street . . . . .			Out-house. Set.
" 11					N. Y. Central Railroad Depot. Boston.
" 13					Alarm from West Roxbury.
" 15					False alarm.
" 15					False alarm.
June 1	A. Cook . . . . .	Dudley Street . . . . .	20 00	25 00	Shed. Incendiary.
" 2	N. Ward . . . . .	Parker Street . . . . .	400 00	275 00	Barn. Incendiary.
" 9					False alarm.
" 12		Milk Street . . . . .	5 00		Alarm from Boston.
" 13	Mr. Briggs . . . . .				Shed.
" 14					False alarm.
" 17					False alarm.
" 20		Centre Street . . . . .			Shed. Accidental.
July 1		Tremont Place . . . . .			Shed. Set by boys.
" 1					False alarm.
" 5					False alarm.
" 5	G. Spare . . . . .	Auburn Street . . . . .	300 00	300 00	Dwelling-house. Fire crackers.
" 8	E. Brunley . . . . .	Washington Street . . . . .	5,000 00	4,000 00	
" 8	Brigden & Sohler . . . . .	Corner of Hunneman St. . . . .	5,000 00	4,000 00	Stables and dwelling-houses. Two horses burnt.
" 8	J. McElroy . . . . .		1,500 00		
" 8	J. Mulrey . . . . .		2,500 00	1,000 00	
" 8	Madden . . . . .		500 00		
" 8	Downey . . . . .		300 00		
" 8	Hunneman & Co. . . . .		300 00	300 00	
" 8	Simpson . . . . .		1,000 00	1,000 00	
" 8	Baker . . . . .		300 00		
" 8	Pierce & Co. . . . .		150 00	150 00	

## FIRES AND ALARMS—CONTINUED.

Date.	Owner or occupant.	Situation.	Loss.	Insurance.	Causes, &c.
1858.					
July 11	Titcomb & Clapp . . . . .	Pearl Street . . . . .			House. Struck by lightning.
" 12					False alarm.
" 15					False alarm.
" 22	Mr. Conovan . . . . .	Mechanic Street . . . . .			House. Struck by lightning.
" 27	Mr. Corbett . . . . .	Milldam . . . . .	\$10 00		Dwelling-house. Sparks from chimney.
" 28		Davis Street . . . . .			Cabinet shop.
" 29	Mr. Mackintosh . . . . .	Factory Street . . . . .	50 00		Boiler-house. Hot ashes.
Aug. 2	Dr. Wiley . . . . .	Elm Street . . . . .	1,800 00	2,500 00	Dwelling-house.
" 17					False alarm.
" 17	B. E. Copeland . . . . .	Mount Warren Place . . . . .	50 00		Hay stack. Incendiary.
" 21					False alarm.
" 27					False alarm.
" 29					False alarm.
" 30	W. H. Brownell . . . . .	Eliot Square . . . . .			False alarm from West Roxbury.
Sept. 1		Fellows Street . . . . .			Store under Norfolk House.
" 1		Tremont Street . . . . .			Barrel of shavings.
" 3					Hay stack.
" 4		Milldam . . . . .	350 00		Alarm from Milton.
" 10	J. Nickerson . . . . .	Fellows Street . . . . .			Barn. Struck by lightning.
" 10	A. Parker . . . . .	Brush Hill Turnpike . . . . .	800 00	400 00	Ropewalk. Incendiary.
" 16					Alarm from Brookline.
" 17	Samuel Wild . . . . .	On the Point . . . . .	650 00	400 00	Barn. Incendiary.
" 19					False alarm.
" 23		Mechanic Street . . . . .			Barn. Incendiary.
" 23	N. Ward . . . . .	Ward Street . . . . .	450 00	250 00	Hay stack.
" 25					Sched. Incendiary.
" 26	Nahum Ward . . . . .	Ward Street . . . . .			Barn. Incendiary.
" 28	Nahum Ward . . . . .	Washington Street . . . . .	850 00	500 00	Alarm from Tremont Street.
Oct. 3		Milldam . . . . .			Slaughter-house. Incendiary.
					Barn. Incendiary.
					Out-house. Incendiary.



## FIRES AND ALARMS—CONTINUED.

Date.	Owner or occupant.	Situation.	Loss.	Insurance.	Causes, &c.
1858.					
Oct. 4		Coventry Street . . . . .			Alarm from South Boston.
" 4					Stable. Incendiary.
" 6					Alarm from Boston.
" 9	T. F. Kelley . . . . .	Washington Street . . . . .	100 00	1,800 00	Plumber's shop. Incendiary.
" 14					False alarm.
" 19					Alarm from Dorchester.
" 19	Stanton & Rumrill . . . . .	Walnut Street . . . . .	2,200 00	1,400 00	Carpenter's shop. Incendiary.
" 20	Haskell, Morris & Mayall	Cabot Street . . . . .	300 00	300 00	Shed of Rubber Works. Accidental.
" 20					False alarm.
" 25	Loss of Church . . . . .	Cabot Street . . . . .	8,000 00	4,000 00	Catholic Church, and dwelling-houses. Incend.
" 25	J. Houghton . . . . .		3,000 00	2,600 00	
" 25	J. Seaver . . . . .		300 00	300 00	
" 25	Dillaway and others . . . . .		400 00	350 00	
" 26	T. Simmonds . . . . .	Roxbury Point . . . . .	50 00	50 00	Shop. Accidental.
" 30	Foley . . . . .	Ruggles Street . . . . .	50 00		Barn. Incendiary.
Nov. 1	Mr. Mitchell . . . . .	Mechanic Street . . . . .	50 00	50 00	Barn. Incendiary.
" 1	S. Hunneman . . . . .	Williams Place . . . . .	250 00	250 00	Barn. Incendiary.
" 1					False alarm.
" 3					False alarm.
" 12	Mr. Moses . . . . .	Cabot Street . . . . .	100 00	200 00	Barn. Incendiary.
" 15					False alarm.
" 15	J. Winsor . . . . .	East Street . . . . .	2,300 00	1,100 00	Stable and Box Factory.
" 15	A. D. Williams . . . . .		500 00		Stable. Incendiary.
" 19	Mr. Cusick . . . . .	Parker Street . . . . .	75 00		Barn. Incendiary.
" 20					Alarm from May's Woods.
" 20	C. Conant . . . . .	Shawmut Avenue . . . . .	500 00	275 00	Barn. Incendiary.
" 21					Alarm from West Roxbury.
" 22					Alarm from Brookline.
" 22					Alarm from West Roxbury.

## FIRES AND ALARMS—CONTINUED.

Date.	Owner or occupant.	Situation.	Loss.	Insurance.	Causes, &c.
1858.					
Nov. 27	N. Ward . . . . .	Ward Street . . . . .	250 00		Barn. False alarm.
Dec. 4	Charles Davis . . . . .	Webber Street . . . . .	25 00	25 00	Barn. Incendiary.
" 5	Charles Munroe . . . . .	Vernon Street . . . . .	5 00	5 00	Dwelling-house. Defect in chimney. False alarm.
" 7					
" 8					
" 12					
" 12	N. Ward . . . . .	Parker Street . . . . .	450 00	450 00	Barn. Incendiary. False alarm.
" 12	" . . . . .	" . . . . .			
" 13	Samuel Dudley . . . . .	Washington Street . . . . .	1,000 00	850 00	Alarm from Dorchester. False alarm.
" 13					
" 14					
" 14	Mr. Oliver . . . . .	Dale Street . . . . .	500 00	500 00	False alarm. False alarm. Keg Factory. Alarm from Boston. False alarm.
" 17					
" 17					
" 21					
1859.					
Jan. 6					Alarm from Brookline.
" 12					False alarm.
" 15					False alarm.
" 29	Mr. Merrill . . . . .	Washington Street . . . . .	6,000 00	3,200 00	Stable. Incendiary.