

ENGINE HOUSE No. 20.—This house is located on Walnut street, midway between the two adjacent villages of Neponset and Port Norfolk. The material is brick, with granite trimmings, and the construction is of the Italian order of architecture. The main building is 50 by 30 feet on the ground plan, but by adding the lateral projection of the towers an apparent width of 43 feet front and 53 feet length is obtained. The towers finish 9 feet square on the inside, the lower part of the bell tower giving space for a circular stairway to the second floor. In the hose tower the same interior dimensions are maintained, which gives abundant room for the manipulation of the hose. The hose trough is located on the first floor, and extends partly into the inclosure of the tower. The hose operations are therefore to be carried on at the front part of the building, not toward the rear as is usual. The engine room measures 32 by 27 feet, and the stable in the rear 15 by 27 feet. Three stalls and a harness closet are provided in the stable, and two large closets in the engine room. The heating apparatus is on the first floor, and a cistern of 5,000 gallons capacity is constructed upon piling beneath. This story is sheathed up five feet, and finished with plastering above. The second floor is divided into a parlor, 22 by 27; chamber, 13 by 20; bath room, 6 by 13; and hay-loft, 12 by 27. Both this and the Mattapan house have one wide entrance door at the front centre, with smaller doors at the side, giving passage through the towers. The bell tower stands at the right of the main entrance, and rises to a height of 53 feet; the hose tower at the left is 64 feet high, and is surmounted by a flag-staff. The roof of the main building is pitched, but the towers have conical roofs, finished with bracketed cornices, finials and balustrade. Over the front door, and combined with it in forming a central architectural feature, is a large double, circular-headed window, with pilasters on each side, in the panels of which are representations of trumpets, suggestive of the purpose of the building. Contractor, E. A. Perkins, carpenter.