

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
FOR THE  
YEAR 1898-99



BOSTON  
MUNICIPAL PRINTING OFFICE  
1899

HEADQUARTERS FIRE DEPARTMENT,  
BRISTOL STREET, BOSTON, February 8, 1899.

HIS HONOR JOSIAH QUINCY, *Mayor* :

SIR,—While, by the good fortune which has favored this department during recent years, we are again able to show a fair result of last year's work, I regret to point to the dangers referred to in my last report as in no degree lessened, and can only hope that by continued vigilance and promptness, we may, at least, postpone that conflagration at all times threatening through the presence of fire-traps and tinder-boxes in many parts of the territory supposed to be protected by this department.

The salt-water service from Atlantic avenue through Congress street, Post Office square and Central street, to Central Wharf has been perfected, with hydrants, electrical connections, etc., complete, to be used by the two fire-boats when needed to prevent conflagrations, if possible, in the district covered, but not for ordinary fire duty, and if it is deemed advisable to extend such service which, on trial, has proved eminently successful in throwing some 3,000 gallons per minute to the height of a ten (10) story building, I would recommend that a 16-inch pipe be laid from Central Wharf through Atlantic avenue, India and Franklin to Congress street, from Congress street through Atlantic avenue, Summer, Bedford, Chauncy, Summer, Hawley and Milk streets to Congress street to cover a thickly-congested territory to which, at any time, we may be called to fight a conflagration.

The new house for Engine 30 on Centre street, West Roxbury, John A. Fox, architect, was occupied on June 1, to the satisfaction of all concerned, and on November 8, the company for Combination 6 was organized and established in new quarters at Grove Hall, Dorchester, Perkins & Betton, architects, much to the relief of a long-expectant neighborhood.



The second fire-boat, Engine 31, after many trials, is now in service, and owing to her small draft of some four feet is able to protect the shallow portions of our water front beyond the reach of the deeper boat.

I would strongly urge that our wires of the Fire-alarm branch be placed under ground from Dover street bridge to Tremont street, up Tremont to Roxbury, from Roxbury to Washington, down Washington to Eustis, from Eustis to Harrison avenue, down Harrison avenue to Northampton, through Northampton to Albany, down Albany to the point of starting. And also in Charlestown from Warren bridge through City square to Park street, through Park to Henley, through Henley to Chelsea, through Chelsea street to Chelsea bridge, inasmuch as the storms of the past year have clearly demonstrated the advantage of such action, both for economy and for the efficiency of this very important branch of the department.

But little new construction work has been done by this branch in the past year, owing to the fact that nearly the whole of the underground work called for in the district for 1898, as prescribed by the Commissioner of Wires, was completed during the season of 1897, bounded as follows: Beginning at Charles river, by Cambridge, Joy, Beacon and Charles streets, Park square, Columbus avenue, Ferdinand street, Castle square, Tremont and Berkeley streets back to the river.

This completes the underground district as originally prescribed by act of the Legislature, passed in 1894.

The electrical service established in connection with the salt-water pipe-line system consists of a circuit contained in a five conductor cable, drawn through ducts that were laid in the same trench as the water-pipes and at the same time; the circuit thus constructed is connected with a break key enclosed at each post hydrant, also with a device by which telegraphic instruments can be placed in circuit at any time; so, by making use of the first the prescribed signal code can be transmitted to the fire-boat station by any one, and, by the other, messages of any character may be sent by men trained for the purpose.

The circuit is also extended to the fire-alarm headquarters by which communication is established between headquarters, the boat-station and any hydrant that may be connected at the time.

Two thousand, five hundred and sixty feet of cable, containing 27,800 feet of conductors, were used in this construction.

Much extra work was caused by the two heavy storms of the year; that of January 31 was especially disastrous to the overhead service, as the wires, poles and fixtures erected for their support were broken, torn down, and otherwise demoralized to a greater extent than ever occurred on any previous occasion since the fire-alarm system was established.

The damage resulting from the November storm was much less in extent, but a great amount of emergency work was made necessary by it before the circuits were restored to their normal condition. *= See last page. =*

The whole fire-alarm system has continued to show its excellence through alarm-boxes and transmitters, the former never failing to properly send in the alarms, while the latter, in sending them out, has struck 7,300,000 blows without serious mistakes in directing the engines and other apparatus.

Referring to my report of last year, I would again recommend that an additional ladder company be placed in the territory adjacent to Engines 38-39, on Congress street, to provide necessary ladder service for the many large buildings in that neighborhood.

Several of the outlying districts have received increased protection through additional horses and chemicals in the companies at present protecting them, and I cannot see the necessity of providing new companies for such districts, although I well know that every new hamlet prefers to depend on the protection of the Fire Department, rather than on that of insurance companies, and after pitching their wooden camps expect the city to provide adjacent engines and other fire apparatus.

Of the officers and men throughout the department, I can speak only in terms of praise for the vigilance and zeal shown on all occasions, as well as for their interest in



maintaining a high standard of discipline and conduct as firemen and citizens.

#### ORGANIZATION.

Commissioner, HENRY S. RUSSELL; term expires May, 1901.

Secretary, BENJAMIN F. UNDERHILL, JR.

Chief of Department, LEWIS P. WEBBER.

Assistant Chief, WILLIAM T. CHESWELL.

Second Assistant Chief and Chief of District No. 6, JOHN A. MULLEN.

Superintendent of Fire-alarms, BROWN S. FLANDERS.

Assistant Superintendent of Fire-alarms, CYRUS A. GEORGE.

Consulting Electrician, HENRY F. COTTLE.

Superintendent of Repair-shop, HENRY M. HAWKINS.

Assistant Superintendent of Repair-shop, EUGENE M. BYINGTON.

Hydraulic Engineer, GREELY S. CURTIS.

Veterinary Surgeon, GEORGE W. STIMPSON.

Medical Examiner, RUFUS W. SPRAGUE.

Purchasing Officer, CHARLES A. STRAW.

Storekeeper, GEORGE R. KNIGHT.

Foreman of Hose and Harness Shop, PATRICK B. HANNON.

#### CLERKS.

Wm. E. Delano, M. J. Lafferty, Geo. F. Murphy, James P. Maloney, D. J. Quinn.

#### District Chiefs.

John F. Ryan,	Headquarters,	Ladder-house	2.
C. H. W. Pope,	"	"	9.
Joseph M. Garrity,	"	"	8.
Peter F. McDonough,	"	Engine-house	4.
Nathan L. Hussey,	"	"	26.
Patrick E. Keyes,	"	"	3.
John Grady,	"	Ladder-house	12.
Edward H. Sawyer,	"	"	4.
Williston A. Gaylord,	"	Engine-house	18.
George F. Griffin,	"	"	41.
Lewis P. Abbott,	"	"	28.

#### FORCE AND PAY-ROLL.

Commissioner	\$5,000 per annum. (less 7½ per cent.)
Secretary	2,400 "
Chief of Department	3,500 "
First Assistant Chief	2,400 "
Second "	2,200 "

Superintendent of Fire-alarms	\$3,200 per annum.	
Assistant Superintendent of Fire-alarms	2,000 "	
Consulting Electrician	800 "	
Superintendent of Repair-shop	2,000 "	(less 7½ per cent.)
Assistant Superintendent of Repair-shop	1,600 "	" "
Hydraulic Engineer	1,400 "	" "
Veterinary Surgeon	2,000 "	" "
Medical Examiner	600 "	" "
Purchasing Officer	1,600 "	" "
Foreman of Hose and Harness-shop	1,400 "	" "
Storekeeper	1,400 "	" "
1 Clerk	1,000 "	" "
2 Clerks	1,100 "	" "
1 Clerk	1,200 "	" "
1 "	1,500 "	" "
11 District Chiefs	2,000 "	" "
54 Captains	1,600 "	" "
63 Lieutenants	1,400 "	" "
43 Engineers	1,300 "	" "
43 Assistant Engineers	1,200 "	" "
2 "	900 "	" "
441 Permanent men.		
308 at	1,200 "	
51 at	1,100 "	
42 at	1,000 "	
40 at	900 "	
88 Call men.		
1 at	325 "	
20 at	250 "	
67 at	200 "	
1 Driver for Chief of Department	1.95 per day.	
2 Drivers for Assistant Chiefs	1.75 "	
11 Drivers for District Chiefs	1.75 "	
2 Watchmen	1,000 per annum.	
2 Hostlers, average	1.98 per day.	

#### FIRE-ALARM FORCE.

6 Operators	\$1,600 per annum.
2 Assistant Operators	1,200 "
1 Foreman of Construction	1,800 "
1 Dynamo man	2.75 per day.
17 Repairers, average	2.93 "

#### REPAIR-SHOP EMPLOYEES.

1 Engineer	\$3.00 per day.	(less 5 per cent.)
1 Assistant Engineer	900 per annum.	(less 7½ per cent.)
1 Painter	3.75 per day.	" "
1 Painter	2.50 "	(less 5 per cent.)
2 Wheelwrights	3.25 "	(less 7½ per cent.)
4 Machinists	3.25 "	" "
2 "	3.00 "	(less 5 per cent.)
2 Blacksmiths	3.50 "	(less 7½ per cent.)
1 Blacksmith	3.25 "	" "
1 "	2.50 "	(less 5 per cent.)
2 Blacksmith's helpers	2.50 "	" "
4 Laborers, average	2.05 "	" "

833 Total force.

## FIRE DISTRICTS.

The city is divided into twelve fire districts, as follows:

*District 1.*

All that part of Boston known as East Boston.

*District 2.*

All that part of Boston formerly known as Charlestown.

*District 3.*

The territory bounded on the north and east by the water front, on the south by Summer street, and on the west by Washington and Charlestown streets.

*District 4.*

The territory bounded on the north by the Charles river, on the east by Charlestown and Washington streets, on the south by Winter, Park and Beacon streets, and on the west by the Charles river and Berkeley street.

*District 5.*

The territory bounded on the north by Beacon, Park, Winter and Summer streets, on the east by Fort Point channel, on the south and west by Broadway, Way, Motte, Castle and Ferdinand streets, Columbus avenue and Berkeley street.

*District 6.*

All that part of Boston known as South Boston, and running south as far as Dorset and Locust streets.

*District 7.*

The territory bounded on the north by Berkeley street, Columbus avenue, Ferdinand, Castle, Motte and Way streets and Broadway, on the east by Fort Point channel and South bay, on the south by Massachusetts avenue, and on the west by the Charles river.

*District 8.*

The territory bounded on the north by the Charles river and Massachusetts avenue, on the east by Washington street, on the south by Atherton and Mozart streets, Chestnut avenue, Sheridan and Centre streets, Hyde square, Perkins, Catalpa and Castleton streets, across Jamaica way to the Brookline line, and on the west by the Brookline line, Beacon and Deerfield streets.

*District 9.*

The territory bounded on the north by Massachusetts avenue, South bay, Dorset and Locust streets, on the east by Dorchester bay, on the south by Freeport, Hancock, Bowdoin, and Quincy streets, Columbia road, and on the west by Seaver street, Columbus avenue and Washington street.

*District 10.*

That part of Dorchester bounded on the north by Seaver street, Columbia road, Quincy, Bowdoin, Hancock, and Freeport streets, on the east by Dorchester bay, on the south by the Neponset river and the Hyde Park line, and on the west by Harvard street and Blue Hill avenue.

*District 11.*

All that part of Boston known as Brighton, and extending east as far as Deerfield and Beacon streets.

*District 12.*

All that part of Boston known as West Roxbury, bounded on the north by a line from the Brookline line across Jamaica way to Castleton street, through Castleton, Catalpa and Perkins streets, Hyde square, Centre and Sheridan streets, Chestnut avenue, Mozart and Atherton streets, Columbus avenue and Seaver street, on the east by Blue Hill avenue and Harvard street, on the south by the Hyde Park and Dedham lines, and on the west by the Newton and Brookline lines.

In all cases where streets are designated as boundaries, the centre of the street will be the dividing line.



## ASSIGNMENT OF DISTRICTS.

Each district is placed under the charge of a District Chief, as follows:

District.	Chief in Command.	COMPANIES IN DISTRICTS.				
		Engines.	Chemical Engines.	Hook and Ladders.	Combination Companies.	Water Towers.
1.....	John F. Ryan.....	5, 9, 11, 40	7	* 2	4	
2.....	C. H. W. Pope.....	27, 32, 36	9	* 9	5, 7	
3.....	Joseph M. Garrity...	8, 25, 31, 44		* 8, 14		
4.....	Peter F. McDonough,	* 4, 6, 10	1, 11	1		1
5.....	Nathan L. Hussey...	7, * 26, 35	2	17		
6.....	John A. Mullen.....	* 1, 2, 15, 38, 39, 43	8	5	2, 3	
7.....	Patrick E. Keyes...	* 3, 22, 33	4	3, 13, 15		2
8.....	John Grady.....	13, 14, 37	3, 12	* 12		
9.....	Edward H. Sawyer...	12, 21, 23, 24	10	* 4	6	
10.....	Williston A. Gaylord,	16, 17, * 18, 19, 20		6, 7	1	
11.....	George F. Griffin....	29, 34, * 41	6	11		
12.....	Lewis P. Abbott.....	* 28, 30, 42, 45	5	10, 16		

\* Headquarters of District Chief.

The following property is in charge of the Fire Commissioner:

## Houses.

Location.	No. of feet in lot.	Occupied by.
Dorchester street.....	5,098	Engine 1.
Corner of O and Fourth streets.....	4,000	Engine 2.
Bristol street and Harrison avenue...	4,000	Engine 3 and Ladder 3.
Bulfinch street.....	6,098	Engine 4, Chemical 1 and Tower 1.
Marion street, East Boston.....	1,647	Engine 5.
Leverett street.....	2,269	Engine 6.
East street.....	1,899	Engine 7.
Salem street.....	2,568	Engine 8.
Paris street, East Boston.....	4,720	Engine 9 and Ladder 2.

## Houses. — Continued.

Location.	No. of feet in lot.	Occupied by.
River street.....	1,886	Engine 10.
Saratoga and Byron streets, East Boston.....	10,000	Engine 11 and Combination 4.
Dudley street.....	7,320	Engine 12.
Cabot street.....	4,832	Engine 13.
Centre street.....	5,713	Engine 14.
Dorchester avenue.....	2,843	Engine 15.
River street, Dorchester District.....	12,736	Engine 16 and Ladder 6.
Meeting House Hill, Dorchester Dist.	9,450	Engine 17 and Ladder-house 7 on this lot.
Harvard street, Dorchester District..	10,225	Engine 18.
Norfolk street, ".....	7,083	Engine 19.
Walnut street, ".....	9,000	Engine 20.
Columbia road, ".....	9,355	Engine 21.
Dartmouth street.....	4,463	Engine 22.
Northampton street.....	3,445	Engine 23.
Corner Warren and Quincy streets...	4,186	Engine 24.
Fort Hill square.....	4,175	Engine 25, Ladder 8 and Ladder 14.
Mason street.....	5,623	Engine 26 and Engine 35.
Elm street, Charlestown District.....	2,600	Engine 27.
Centre street, West Roxbury District,	10,377	Engine 28 and Ladder 10.
Chestnut Hill ave., Brighton District,	14,358	Engine 29 and Ladder 11.
Centre street, West Roxbury District,	12,351	Engine 30.
Bunker Hill st., Charlestown District,	8,188	Engine 32.
Corner Boylston and Hereford sts....	5,646	Engine 33 and Ladder 15.
Western avenue, Brighton.....	4,637	Engine 34.
Monument st., Charlestown District..	5,068	Engine 36 and Combination 5.
Cor. Longwood and Brookline aves..	5,400	Engine 37 and Chemical 3.
Congress street.....	4,000	Engine 38 and Engine 39.
Sumner street, East Boston.....	4,010	Engine 40.
Harvard avenue, near Cambridge st., Brighton District.....	6,112	Engine 41 and Chemical 6.
Washington street, between Atherton and Beethoven.....	3,848	Engine 42 and Chemical 5.
Andrew square.....	5,133	Engine 43 and Combination 3.
Poplar, cor. Washington street, West Roxbury.....	14,729	Engine 45 and Ladder 16.
Church street.....	3,412	Chemical Engine 2.
Shawmut avenue.....	889	Chemical Engine 4.

Houses. — *Concluded.*

Location.	No. of feet in lot.	Occupied by.
Chelsea street, East Boston.....	1,846	Chemical Engine 7.
B street.....	1,804	Chemical Engine 8.
Eustis street.....	1,754	Chemical Engine 10.
North Grove street.....	3,918	Chemical Engine 11.
Friend street.....	1,676	Ladder 1.
Dudley street.....	3,923	Ladder 4.
Fourth street.....	2,469	Ladder 5.
Main street, Charlestown.....	4,290	Ladder 9 and Chemical 9.
Tremont street.....	4,350	Ladder 12 and Chemical 12.
Washington, near Dover street.....	1,607	Ladder 13.
Harrison avenue.....	2,134	Ladder 17.
Dorchester avenue, Ashmont.....	4,875	Combination 1.
Fourth street.....	3,101	Combination 2.
Washington street, Dorchester.....	6,874	Combination 6.
Winthrop street.....	3,000	Combination 7.

Fuel-house, Dorchester street, 1,610 feet of land  
 Fuel-house, Salem street, 417 feet of land.  
 Fuel-house, Main street, Charlestown, 2,430 feet of land.  
 Headquarters building and repair-shop, corner of Albany and Bristol streets, 23,663 feet.

Water Tower No. 2 and Wrecking Wagon are in Headquarters building.

Old house of Engine 30, on Mt. Vernon street, West Roxbury, 16,275 feet of land.

## Engine Companies.

No.	Location.	Built by.	Put in Service.	Diameter of Cylinder.	Diameter of Pump.	Stroke.	Second size.
1	Dorchester, near Fourth, S. B.	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co.	April 1, 1890	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	9	1	Second size.
2	Fourth, cor. O. South Boston.	Manchester Loco. Works.	Nov., 22, 1890	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	1	Third
3	Harrison ave., cor. Bristol	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co.	Nov., 22, 1890	9	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	First
4	Bullfinch st., .....	American Fire Eng. Co.	Feb. 22, 1893	9	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
5	Marion st., East Boston.....	Amoskeag Mfg. Co.	Nov., 1897	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	Second
6	Leverett st., .....	Silaby Mfg. Co., .....	April, 1890	9	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
7	East st., .....	American Fire Eng. Co., .....	June, 1895	9	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	First
8	Salem st., .....	Manchester Loco. Works.	March 30, 1896	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
9	Paris st., East Boston.....	Hunnehan & Co., .....	Oct. 14, 1872	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	Second
10	Mount Vernon, cor. River st.,	Manchester Loco. Works.	March 1, 1882	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
11	Saratoga, cor. Byron st., E. B.,	Amoskeag Mfg. Co., .....	April 9, 1873	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
12	Dudley st., .....	Manchester Loco. Works.	March 27, 1882	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
13	Cabot st., .....	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co., .....	April 1, 1890	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	5	2	"
14	Centre st., .....	Amoskeag Mfg. Co., .....	Sept. 17, 1870	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	"
15	Dorchester ave. and Broadway,	American Fire Eng. Co., .....	Feb., 1893	9	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	First
16	Tropic st., .....	Silaby Mfg. Co., .....	April 8, 1899	9	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	Second
17	Montezuma Hill, Dor.	Manchester Loco. Works.	May, 1899	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
18	Harvard st., Dorchester.....	Manchester Loco. Works.	Nov., 1891	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	Third
19	Norfolk st., .....	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co., .....	Dec. 5, 1890	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
20	Walnut st., Dorchester.....	Manchester Loco. Works.	Nov., 1890	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
21	Columbia road, Dorchester...	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co., .....	Dec. 10, 1893	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
22	Dartmouth st., .....	Silaby Mfg. Co., .....	Aug. 7, 1882	7	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	Second
23	Northampton st., .....	Silaby Mfg. Co., .....	Sept. 12, 1890	7	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	"
24	Warren, cor. Quincy st., .....	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co., .....	Feb. 24, 1888	7	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2	Third



Engine Companies. — *Continued.*

No.	Location.	Built by.	Put in Service.	Diameter of Cylinder.	Diameter of Pump.	Stroke.	First size. Extra first size. Second " " Third " " Second size. " " " "
25	Fort Hill sq.	Manchester Loco. Works.	Nov., 1893	7½	4½	8	First size.
26	Mason st.	La France Fire Eng. Co.	June, 1896	8½	4½	8	Extra first size.
27	Elm st., Charlestown.	Manchester Loco. Works.	1, 1872	7½	4½	8	Second " "
28	Chesnut Hill ave., Brighton.	Silby Mfg. Co.	April 23, 1886	7½	Rotary.	8	" "
29	Centre st., West Roxbury.	Hunnean & Co.	Jan., 1874	7½	4½	8	" "
30	Centre st., West Roxbury.	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co.	Oct., 1891	7	4½	7	" "
31	India Wharf (Fireboat).	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co.	July 3, 1889	10	10	10	2 sets of pumps 4,700 gallons.*
32	Bunker Hill st., Charlestown.	Manchester Loco. Works.	March 28, 1884	6½	4½	8	Second size.
33	Boylston st.	Silby Mfg. Co.	Feb., 20, 1888	.....	Rotary.	8	" "
34	Western ave., Brighton.	Amoskeag Mfg. Co.	Dec., 1869	7½	4½	8	" "
35	Mason st.	Manchester Loco. Works.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
36	Monument st., Charlestown.	Self-propeller	Jan., 1898	9½	5½	8	Double extra first size.
37	Longwood ave.	Manchester Loco. Works.	Dec., 1890	6½	4	8	Third size.
38	Congress st., South Boston	Manchester Loco. Works.	March, 1896	6½	4½	8	Second " "
39	Congress st., South Boston	Self-propeller	June, 1897	9½	5½	8	Double extra first size.
40	Summer st., East Boston	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co.	April 1, 1890	9	5½	8	First size.
41	Harvard ave., Boston	Silby Mfg. Co.	Aug., 1893	.....	Rotary.	7	Third " "
42	Egleston sq., West Roxbury	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co.	Feb., 1893	7	4½	7	" "
43	Andrews st., South Boston	Silby Mfg. Co.	Feb., 1893	.....	Rotary.	7	" "
44	(Out of service) for repairs (Fire-boat)	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co.	March 3, 1893	7	4½	7	" "
45	Washington, cor. Poplar st., West Roxbury	American Fire Eng. Co.	Aug., 1895	12½ H. P. 18 L. P.	10	10	2 sets of pumps 6,520 gallons.*
		American Fire Eng. Co.	Jan., 1895	7	4½	7	Third size.

\*At 225 revolutions per minute.

## In Reserve.

No.	Location.	Built by.	Put in Service.	Diameter of Cylinder.	Diameter of Pump.	Stroke.	First size. Extra first size. Second " " Third " " Second size. " "
A	Old 8	Freeman & Juckett	April 20, 1869	7½	4½	8	Second size.
B	Old 10	Amoskeag Mfg. Co.	Feb., 1870	7½	4½	8	" "
C	Old 17 (Crane hook)	Manchester Loco. Works.	Dec., 1879	6½	4½	8	" "
D	Old 4 (Straight frame)	Manchester Loco. Works.	May, 1886	7½	4½	8	" "
E	Old 25	Amoskeag Mfg. Co.	Nov., 1887	7½	4½	8	" "
F	Old 37	Silby Mfg. Co.	Nov., 1884	7½	4½	8	" "
G	Old 35	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co.	Nov., 1890	.....	Rotary.	8	First " "
H	Old 37	Manchester Loco. Works.	July, 1897	7½	4½	8	Second " "
I	Old 35	Clapp & Jones Mfg. Co.	Aug., 1890	9	5½	8	First " "
J	Old 35	Amoskeag Mfg. Co.	Sept., 1872	7½	4½	8	Second " "

Also five hose wagons.

## Chemical Companies.

Number.	Location.	Builders.	Put in Service.	Capacity.
1.	Bulfinch st.	Charles T. Holloway	Nov. 9, 1895	100
2.	Church st.	Balcock Manufacturing Co.	April 25, 1874	100
3.	Longwood ave.	"	July 27, 1874	100
4.	Shawmut ave.	Rebuilt by Hinman in 1886	Used as a spare engine and put in service Dec. 20, 1895	100
5.	Egleston sq.	Altered by Hinman	Sept. 21, 1876	170
6.	Harvard ave., near Cambridge st., Brighton.	"	May 1, 1876	160
7.	Chelsea st., East Boston	"	Sept. 27, 1886	100
8.	B st., South Boston	"	Oct. 27, 1887	160
9.	Main st., Charlestown.	"	July 17, 1889	100



Chemical Companies. — *Concluded.*

Number.	Location.	Builders.	Put in Service.	Capacity.
10.....	Eustis st.....	Altered by Hinman .....	Sept. 13, 1889	<i>Gals.</i> 100
11.....	North Grove st.....	Babcock Manufacturing Co.....	{ As Chemical 1, Oct. 4, 1890 }	100
12.....	Tremont st.....	Charles T. Holloway.....	Sept., 1896	89

## In Reserve.

Old Chemical 2.....	Charles T. Holloway.....	.....	100
Spare .....	Babcock Manufacturing Co.....	.....	100

## Ladder Companies.

Number.	Location.	Builders.	Put in Service.	Number of Ladders.
1.....	Warren sq.....	Hunnehan & Co.....	December 20, 1869	12
2.....	Paris st., East Boston.....	Abbott-Downing Co.....	April 20, 1891	12
3.....	Edison st., cor. Bristol st.....	" .....	June 2, 1886	14
4.....	Dudley st., Highland District.....	" .....	April 25, 1884	15
5.....	Fourth st., near Dorchester.....	Hunnehan & Co.....	March 3, 1870	17
6.....	Temple st., Dorchester.....	" .....	August 18, 1873	17
7.....	Meeting House Hill.....	C. T. Holloway & Co.....	July 28, 1898	10

## Ladder Trucks. — In Reserve.

Description.	Builders.
Relief C, formerly old No. 2.	
" B, old 8.....	
Old Ladder 11.....	Fire Department Repair-shop.
" " 4.....	Hunnehan & Co.
" " 8.....	La France Fire-engine Co., Elmira, N. Y. ....
	Abbott & Downing.....
	Extension.

8.....	Fort Hill sq.....	Fire Department Repair-shop.....	August 23, 1898	12
9.....	Main st., Charlestown.....	Leverich & Co., N. Y.....	October 6, 1872	16
10.....	Centre st., Jamaica Plain.....	Hunnehan & Co.....	December 21, 1870	12
11.....	Chestnut Hill ave., Brighton.....	" .....	April 13, 1872	4
12.....	Remont st., Highland District.....	Ryan Bros.....	July 2, 1886	15
13.....	Washington st., near Dover.....	La France Fire-Engine Co., Elmira, N. Y.....	March 12, 1890	Hayes Extension
14.....	Fort Hill sq.....	Fire Extinguisher Manufacturing Co., Chicago.....	January 30, 1893	Extension
15.....	Boylston st.....	" .....	April 28, 1888	Extension
16.....	Roslindale.....	Repair-shop .....	September, 1888	15
17.....	Harrison ave.....	Preston Co., Chicago.....	April 29, 1891	Extension 87 feet

## Combination Companies.

Number.	Location.	Built by.	Chemical and Hose ..	Put in Service.	Capacity. Gals.
1.....	Dorchester ave., Ashmont.....	Charles T. Holloway.....	Chemical and Hose ..	March, 1892	70
2.....	Fourth st., South Boston.....	" " " " " " " " " "	" " " " " " " " " "	May, 1893	70
3.....	Andrew sq., South Boston.....	Fire Extinguisher Mfg. Co.	" " Ladder.	January, 1898	70
4.....	Saratoga, cor. Byron st., E. B.	Charles T. Holloway.....	" " " "	January, 1898	70
5.....	Monument st., Charlestown..	" " " " " " " " " "	" " " "	January, 1898	70
6.....	Washington st., Dorchester ..	Fire Extinguisher Mfg. Co.	" " " "	Nov. 8, 1898	70
7.....	Winthrop st., Charlestown ...	" " " " " " " " " "	" " Hose..	April 20, 1898	70

## Water Towers.

Number.	Location.	Builders.	Put in Service.
1.....	Bulfinch st.....	Kansas City Fire Department Supply Co....	May 17, 1890
2.....	Bristol st.....	" " " "	Dec. 18, 1893

## NEW APPARATUS PURCHASED DURING THE YEAR.

2 combination chemical and ladder trucks.  
 4 pairs 35-gallon chemical tanks.  
 1 combination steel Babcock chemical and hose-wagon.  
 2 large sized hose-wagons.

## HOSE.

Amount of hose purchased and condemned during the year :

Purchased.	Condemned.
Leading cotton, 6,000 feet.	7,750 feet.
" rubber, 2,000 "	1,050 "
Chemical, 2,000 "	400 "
Suction, 128 "	104 "
Totals, 10,128 "	9,304 "

Amount of hose in use and in storehouse, February 1, 1899 :

In use.	In storehouse.
Leading cotton, 76,750 feet	11,600 feet.
" rubber, 8,800 "	3,200 "
Chemical, 8,400 "	500 "
Suction, 936 "	244 "
Totals, 94,886 "	15,544 "

## HORSES.

Purchased during the year	61
Sold or exchanged	31
Died	8
Killed for cause	11
Number in the department	335



MONTHS. 1888-89.	ALARMS RECEIVED.					Loss.		INSURANCE.		ALARMS.		BUILDINGS.					Wharves, Vessels, Coal and Wood piles, Electric cars, Boulevards.							
	From Whom.					Buildings.	Contents.	Buildings.	Contents.	Telegraph.	Still.	Extended to others.	No damage.	Slight damage.	Considerable damage.	Totally destroyed.								
	Fire patrol.	Members.	Police.	Citizens.	Automatic.													Unknown.	Total.					
February	6	10	22	120	9	1	168	\$37,029	\$36,300	\$701,633	\$283,576	59	3	7	60	122	5	23	34	87	7	4	....	8
March	5	5	15	130	14	1	171	30,662	36,235	888,732	315,720	75	3	10	83	115	2	19	41	68	9	1	....	22
April	...	...	...	...	...	...	159	156,368	233,185	1,156,000	759,888	70	2	7	80	107	4	24	49	57	10	1	1	14
May	...	...	...	...	...	...	141	17,279	62,770	1,040,928	665,575	67	1	9	64	98	2	15	48	34	9	1	2	14
June	9	7	23	103	1	...	203	16,227	10,229	843,980	185,025	98	2	1	102	138	4	7	66	71	8	2	9	49
July	17	12	30	178	6	2	245	55,613	298,175	470,315	441,450	98	3	10	134	144	7	11	53	98	6	5	...	70
August	1	8	14	87	13	1	126	20,792	47,265	406,085	182,650	67	3	5	51	89	5	16	39	57	5	2	...	7
September	...	...	...	...	...	...	130	30,191	134,211	392,720	440,050	65	4	51	89	2	11	43	42	8	1	1	13	13
October	2	5	12	98	2	2	121	11,709	13,215	477,335	101,800	59	4	9	49	85	1	7	29	49	7	2	...	15
November	5	3	11	112	9	2	142	22,686	55,066	139,050	70	2	6	64	112	4	9	56	53	9	2	1	8	8
December	2	10	17	122	9	1	191	24,027	65,081	1,118,172	436,266	93	2	2	94	162	3	14	68	82	16	2	3	5
January	3	5	16	160	8	1	183	19,462	70,664	2,517,050	647,625	91	1	10	91	147	19	38	89	9	1	...	16	16
Total	31	28	221	1,315	91	11	3,980	\$440,044	\$1,001,217	\$10,680,306	\$4,538,865	912	26	80	862	1,469	39	175	594	797	103	24	10	541

*Causes of Fires and Alarms from February 1, 1898, to  
February 1, 1899.*

Alarms, accidental, automatic	73
" false	26
" out-of-city	10
Ashes, hot, in wooden receptacle	27
Back draft	2
Boiling over of fat or tar	33
Bonfires, grass, rubbish, etc.	179
Careless use of lamps, candles, etc.	35
" " pipes and cigars in smoking	47
Chimneys, soot burning	95
" defective	17
" overheated	4
" collapse of	1
Clothes too near stove	11
Collapse of buildings	1
Defective flue	11
" stove-pipe	3
" grate or fire-place	8
" furnace	2
" sprinkler	3
Electric motor igniting car	17
" wires	65
Explosion and ignition of chemicals	9
Fireworks	37
Friction	1
Fumigating	4
Gas, explosion of	9
" ignition of leaky pipes	9
" jet setting fire	59
Ignition of dust in blower	4
Incendiary	26
" supposed	18
Lamp, explosion	67
" upsetting and breaking	104
Light mistaken for fire	15
Lightning	2
Matches and rats	30
" children	78
" careless use of	107
Monkey throwing sawdust in lamp	1
Naphtha, careless use of, and ignition	24
Oil stove " " explosion	72
Gas stove " " " "	3
Plastering, drying	6
Overheated boiler or steam-pipe	16

Overheated oven . . . . .	5
“ stove or furnace . . . . .	55
Railroad whistle blowing for flag raising . . . . .	1
Rekindling of ruins of previous fire . . . . .	2
Plumber's stove upsetting . . . . .	9
Slacking of lime . . . . .	5
Smoky chimneys . . . . .	34
“ stove or furnace . . . . .	53
Sparks from another fire . . . . .	1
“ “ furnace or stove . . . . .	12
“ “ chimney . . . . .	27
“ “ forge . . . . .	10
“ “ a gun . . . . .	1
“ “ engine or locomotive . . . . .	25
Spontaneous combustion . . . . .	39
Steam escaping . . . . .	13
Street fight . . . . .	2
Testing-box . . . . .	1
Test-alarm . . . . .	1
Team striking and breaking box . . . . .	1
Unknown . . . . .	274
Use of kerosene to light fire . . . . .	4
Water-pipes, thawing out . . . . .	33
“ “ busting of . . . . .	1
Total . . . . .	1,980
Total number of actual fires . . . . .	1,699
Confined to one building . . . . .	1,409
Extended to others . . . . .	39
Wharves, vessels, grass, etc. . . . .	241
Out of the city . . . . .	10

## BUILDINGS.

Slightly damaged . . . . .	797
Considerably damaged . . . . .	103
Totally destroyed . . . . .	24
Not damaged . . . . .	564

## EXTINGUISHED BY

Extinguishers . . . . .	425
Buckets of water . . . . .	253
Chemical engines . . . . .	282
Hydrant stream . . . . .	141
Steamers . . . . .	294
Miscellaneous, brooms, stamping out and smothering . . . . .	58
Citizens . . . . .	236
Total . . . . .	1,689

The following Fire-alarm boxes are private property: 115, 119, 149, 152, 161, 163, 164, 165, 212, 227, 228, 244, 271, 279, 281, 283, 299, 358, 422, 442, 443, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 495, 511, 533, 617, 619, 623, 624, 626, 629, 638, 711, 714, 715, 716, 718, 722, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 731, 732, 733, 735, 737, 738, 739, 741, 742, 744, 745, 746, 766, 767, 769, 773, 778, 779, 789, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 797, 799, 816, 828, 838, 842, 864, 865, 919, 927, 967, 971, 974.

## ALARM BELLS.

The Fire-alarm Telegraph is connected with the following bells:

Adams School-house, Sumner street, East Boston, steel, 2,995 lbs., owned by city.  
 Bunker Hill School-house, Charlestown, composition, 2,009 lbs., owned by city.  
~~Chapman School-house, Eutaw street, East Boston, steel, 3,109 lbs., owned by city. Cut out Sept 16, 1899.~~  
 City Hall, Charlestown, composition, 3,600 lbs., owned by city.  
 Engine-house No. 16, Temple street, Dorchester, composition, 4,149 lbs., owned by city.  
 Engine-house No. 17, Meeting House Hill, Dorchester, composition, 4,000 lbs., owned by city.  
~~Engine-house No. 18, Harvard street, Dorchester, composition, 3,184 lbs., owned by city. Cut out June 29, 1899.~~  
 Engine-house No. 19, Mattapan, Dorchester, composition, 2,927 lbs., owned by city.  
 Engine-house No. 20, Walnut street, Dorchester, composition, 3,061 lbs., owned by city.  
~~Engine-house No. 21, Boston street, Dorchester, composition, 3,026 lbs., owned by city. Cut out March 15, 1899.~~  
 Engine-house No. 28, West Roxbury, composition, 4,000 lbs., owned by city.  
 Engine-house No. 29, Brighton, steel, 1,535 lbs., owned by city.  
 Engine-house, Mt. Vernon street, West Roxbury, steel, 1,000 lbs., owned by city.  
 Engine-house No. 34, Brighton, composition, 1,501 lbs., owned by city.  
 Engine-house No. 40, Orleans street, East Boston, composition, 817 lbs., owned by city.  
 Engine-house No. 41, Allston, composition, 900 lbs., owned by city.



Engine-house No. 45, Roslindale, composition, 1,059 lbs., owned by city.  
 Lewis School-house, Dale street, Boston Highlands, composition, 3,104 lbs., owned by city.  
 Maverick-street Church, East Boston, composition, 2,000 lbs.  
 Princeton-street School-house, East Boston, composition, 2,470 lbs., owned by city.  
 Saratoga-street M. E. Church, East Boston, steel, 1,968 lbs., owned by city.  
 Warren School-house, Charlestown, composition, 3,000 lbs., owned by city.  
 Winthrop School-house, Charlestown, composition, 3,000 lbs., owned by city.

Bells owned by the city, which have been disconnected from service, are located as follows:

*Sold to John Martin June 1, 1899*  
~~Fire-alarm repair-shop, bell formerly used on house of Chemical Engine 5; one composition, 400 lbs., formerly used on house of Chemical Engine No. 4; one composition, 400 lbs., formerly used on house of Chemical Engine No. 6, and two small bells from other locations.~~

Engine-house No. 1, Dorchester street, South Boston, composition, 2,911 lbs.

Engine-house No. 2, composition, 800 lbs.

Faneuil Hall, steel, 5,816 lbs., owned by city, taken down and stored by Public Buildings Department. *Sold for back Aug. 1899*

~~George-street School-house, Boston Highlands, composition, 4,160 lbs. Sold to Newburyport, April, 1899.~~

Hook-and-Ladder House No. 4, Dudley street, Boston Highlands, composition, 3,509 lbs.

Lawrence School-house, B street, South Boston, steel, 3,400 lbs.

Lincoln School-house, Broadway, South Boston, composition, 3,110 lbs.

~~Quincy School-house, Tyler street, composition, 2,941 lbs.~~

Smith-street School-house, Highlands, composition, 4,083 lbs.

Ticknor School-house, Dorchester street, Washington Village, steel, 2,995 lbs.

Trinity Church, Trenton street, East Boston, composition, 1,760 lbs. Formerly used on Castle-street Church.

Van Nostrand's Brewery, Charlestown, composition, 818 lbs. Formerly used on Boylston School-house.

Wells School-house, Blossom street, composition, 1,675 lbs.

## PUBLIC CLOCKS.

The following public clocks, thirty<sup>eight</sup>~~nine~~ in number, are taken care of by the Fire Department:

## City Proper.

Arlington-street Church.  
 Charles-street Church.  
 Christ Church, Salem street, owned by city.  
 Commercial Wharf.  
 Odd Fellows Hall, Tremont street, owned by city.  
 Old South Church, owned by city.  
 Old State House, owned by city.  
 Park-street Church.  
 Suffolk County Jail, owned by city.  
 St. Stephen's Church, Clark street, owned by city.  
 Shawmut-Avenue Church.  
 Tremont M. E. Church, owned by city.  
 Young Men's Christian Union, owned by city.

## South Boston.

~~Bigelow School-house, owned by city.~~ *Building to be torn down Jan. 1900*  
 Gaston School-house, owned by city.  
 Lincoln School-house, owned by city.  
 Phillips Church, owned by city.  
 St. Augustine Church, Dorchester street, owned by city.  
 Ticknor School-house, Washington Village, owned by city.

## East Boston.

Central-square Church.  
 London-street Church, owned by city.  
 Lyceum Hall, owned by city.  
 Trinity Church, owned by city.  
 Orient Heights Church, owned by city.

## Boston Highlands.

Winthrop-street Church, owned by city.  
 West End stables, Tremont street, owned by city.

## Dorchester.

Baker Memorial (Upham's Corner), owned by city.  
 Neponset Church.

Tileston School (Mattapan), owned by city.  
Unitarian Church (Milton Lower Mills).

*Charlestown.*

Bunker Hill Church.  
City Hall, owned by city.  
Harvard Hill Church.  
High School-house, owned by city.  
Unitarian Church.

*West Roxbury.*

Dr. Strong's Church.  
Unitarian Church.  
Congregational Church (Roslindale), owned by city.

*Brighton.*

Bennett School-house, owned by city.

Your obedient servant,

HENRY S. RUSSELL,  
Commissioner.

Wire run during the year.	546,760 feet.
Old wire taken down.	264,000 "
Underground cables laid.	12,041 "
Total length conductors in same.	208,475 "
Total length <sup>cable</sup> <del>conductors</del> now underground, including Salt water,	124,726,5 "
Total length conductors,	3,764,263,9 "
Feet of duct built,	2,230 "
Total duct built by this dept.	7,141 "
Marine cable laid at draws of Congress St., Chelsea and Malden <sup>bridge</sup> .	954 "
Conductors in same	6,288 "
Silent alarm sent in 28 houses.	