

**AUDITOR'S**  
**FIFTY-FIRST**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES**  
**OF THE**  
**CITY OF BOSTON,**  
**AND THE**  
**COUNTY OF SUFFOLK,**  
**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR**  
**1862-63.**

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1862, MAY 1, (BOTH INCLUDED,) APRIL 30, 1863.

CITY DOCUMENT, No. 78.

**BOSTON:**  
**J. E. FARWELL AND COMPANY, PRINTERS TO THE CITY,**  
**NO. 27 CONGRESS STREET.**  
**1863.**

# CITY EXPENDITURES.

## ENGINE AND HOOK AND LADDER HOUSES.

*Repairs on the various Houses, including cost of altering and fitting up the Bridge Estate in Court Street for the accommodation of Steam Engine No. 4, which was formerly located under the old City Hall, viz :*

Mason's Work and Stock,	\$ 2,455 17	
Carpenters' Work and Stock,	1,888 53	
Painting and Glazing,	633 99	
Plans and Estimates for alterations, &c.,	170 00	
Repairing Paving in front of Houses,	139 04	
Slating and Repairing Roofs,	130 30	
Plumbing and Copper Work,	106 58	
Gas Pipe and Fixtures,	98 20	
Warming and Ventilating Apparatus,	94 40	
Plastering,	71 12	
Iron Work and Iron Collars for Stable Stalls in Steam Engine Houses, and Repairing Stalls in Stables	10 50	
Teaming,	8 50	
Hardware,	2 88	
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	5,809 21	

*Amounts carried forward,*      \$5,809 21      \$672,990 79

*Amounts brought forward,*      \$5,809 21      \$672,990 79

*Deduct estimated cost of fitting up that part of the Bridge Estate which is appropriated for a store for rent, and which is a fair charge to the appropriation for Public Buildings, viz :*

*One third of \$2,647 97, which is the whole cost, viz :*

882 66

4,926 55

*Amount paid by Treasurer per item No. 18 of his account,*

\$3,311 24

*Add transfer by Auditor from Public Buildings,*

1,615 31

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\$4,926 55

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## FIRE DEPARTMENT.

*Expenses of this Department, exclusive of the Fire Alarm Department, Engine and Hook and Ladder and Hose Carriage Houses; also exclusive of the Salaries of the Chief Engineer, and the Clerk of the Board of Engineers, which are charged under the head of Salaries.*

*The rates of pay of the officers and members, and much other information on the business of the Department, will be found in the Appendix, under the head of FIRE DEPARTMENT.*

Annual compensation to the Nine Assistant Engineers, and to the Officers, and Members of the various Engine, Hook and Ladder, and Hose Companies, \$51,538 88

New Steam Fire Engines.\*

Cost of No. 7, being of the first class, \$3,073 56

No. 10 of the second class, 2,850 00

5,923 56

*Amounts carried forward,* \$57,462 44 \$682,731 66

\* No. 7 is located on Purchase Street. No. 10 is located on River Street, foot of Mount Vernon Street.

<i>Amounts brought forward,</i>	\$57,462 44	\$682,731 66
Paid for 4,426½ feet new Leading and Suction Hose,	4,408 63	
Repairs of Engines, Hose Carriages, Hook and Ladder Carriages, Fuel Wagons, and other apparatus, exclusive of the Hose belonging to the Department,	4,399 93	
Grain, Hay, Meal, Straw, &c., for the Horses,	3,298 73	
Cost of connecting the Cochituate Water Pipes with thirty-one Reservoirs,	2,757 54	
Incidental Expenses of the Committee on the Fire Department, including the expense to New York and to Manchester, N. H., on official business,	1,600 95	
Fuel for the Steam Engines,	1,572 68	
Fuel for the Engine Houses,	922 24	
Hire of Horses to draw the Engines and Hooks and Ladders to and from fires,	1,201 42	
New Hose, Pipes, Caps, and Badges,	1,015 02	
Harnesses,	976 81	
Repairs on the Leading and Suction Hose, Caps, Badges and other work in that branch,	828 47	

Rent of rooms in rear of Niles' Block, which were fitted up for Stables and Sleeping Rooms, for Steam Engine No. 4,	775 00	
Expense of collecting apparatus after fires; and carting machines to and from workshops for repairs; and other		
<i>Amounts carried forward,</i>	<u>\$ 81,219 86</u>	<u>\$ 682,731 66</u>
<i>Amounts brought forward,</i>	\$ 81,219 86	\$ 682,731 66
miscellaneous expenses of the Department not charged elsewhere,	702 59	
Gas and Gas Fixtures for Engine Houses,	632 11	
Shoeing Horses and Medicine and attendance on Sick Horses,	629 84	
Furniture, Utensils, Bedding, &c., for Engine Houses,	623 17	
Washing Bedding,	350 63	
Difference of exchange of Steam Engine Horses,	550 00	
Filling and Cleaning Reservoirs,	460 25	
Ladders and Crotch Poles. — Purchase of new and repairs of old,	424 38	
Warming Apparatus for Engine Houses,	414 31	
Water for the various Engine Houses,	397 00	
Stable Furniture, Hardware, Tools, and Utensils, for the Stables and Engines,	293 16	
Neatsfoot Oil and Leather Preservative for Engine Hose; and Sperm Oil for the Engines,	292 91	
New Bell and fixtures for the old Franklin School-house,	201 35	
Cotton Waste for cleaning Steam Engines,	196 35	
Printing and Stationery for the Department,	194 52	
Fluid and Wicking for Torches,	167 33	
Repairing Reservoirs,	167 96	
Soap and Sponge,	148 37	
Reservoir Covers. — New ones furnished by and credited to		
<i>Amounts carried forward,</i>	<u>\$ 88,056 09</u>	<u>\$ 682,731 66</u>

<i>Amounts brought forward,</i>	\$ 88,056 09	\$ 682,731 66
the Internal Health Department,	120 00	
New Ropes for Hose Carriages,	70 78	
New Lanterns and repairing old ones,	68 43	
Signs for Hydrants in Streets, Varnish, and Rotten Stone, and sundry small items,	65 50	
	62 47	
Cost of two of Edwards' Patent Exhausters for Engines No. 4 and 10,	60 00	
Carriage Hire for the Committee on the Fire Department,	39 00	
Damages. — Payment for injury caused by the Department,	36 25	
Ringling Alarm Bells at East Boston one year,	25 00	
Examining Buildings and removing dangerous Walls,	22 00	
Tallow, Oil, and Grease for the Engines,	19 05	
Cost of one second-hand Fuel Wagon for Engine No. 2,	13 50	
Cost of supplying Engines with water to extinguish a fire on board a ship lying in Boston Harbor,	10 00	
Salt for Horses,	6 75	
Refreshments furnished to members of the Department at large fires, and to a member of Engine Company No. 4 while the house was repairing,	9 68	
<i>Total for Fire Department, exclusive of Fire Alarm Telegraph,</i>		88,684 50
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>		\$ 771,416 16

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$ 771,416 16
<i>Amount paid by Treasurer per item No. 19 of his account,</i>	\$ 88,412 60
<i>Amount not yet called for,</i>	271 90
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	\$ 88,684 50
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## FIRE ALARMS.

*Expense of carrying on the Telegraphic System of Fire Alarms.*

Salary of Superintendent,	\$ 1,200 00	
Salary of Assistants,	3,788 00	
Drugs and Chemicals,	551 28	
New Wire, and express expenses on same,	245 67	
One new Striking Machine, and fixtures complete,	222 00	
Zinc Castings, 1,036 pounds,	108 78	
Hardware, Office Machinery, and Tools, for repairing,	104 36	
Ten Signal Box Cases,	78 75	
Iron Brackets, and other Iron Work,	78 16	
Water used as Motive Power,	65 00	
Washing the Clothing and Bedding,	34 65	
One Gong,	31 75	
Tin Signs to denote the location of keys to Signal Boxes,	31 50	
Painting, and Glazing Skylights, and other damages occasioned by the Telegraphic Wires,	37 33	
Omnibus fares, and small cash disbursements of persons connected with the Fire Alarm Department,	28 17	
Repairing Striking Machine at the Lincoln School House, and new hammer for same,	25 62	
One new Signal Box,	24 00	
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<i>Amounts carried forward,</i>	\$ 6,655 02	\$ 771,416 16

<i>Amounts brought forward,</i>	\$ 6,655 02	\$ 771,416 16
Two Bell Machines with covers,	23 17	
Printing and Stationery for Office,	22 36	
Freight, Expresses, and Carting,	18 87	
Plumbing,	16 84	
Furniture, &c., for Office,	10 42	
Cleaning and repairing Metres,	8 50	
Painting Signal Boxes,	8 50	
Fluid and Oil,	4 80	
Glass Cups for Batteries,	4 00	
Gas Fixtures for Office,	2 68	
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6,775 16

*Per item No. 20 of Treasurer's account.*

HOSE AND HOOK AND LADDER  
HOUSE ON THE CORNER OF  
WAREHAM AND MALDEN STS.

*Cost of this Building, now erecting on a City  
Lot on the South Bay Lands, containing  
3,722 feet; estimated value, \$ 3,722.*

Masonry.—Payments to Contractors on  
account, \$ 500 00

Carpentry.—Payments to Con-  
tractors on account, 500 00

Earth Filling, 302 60

Plans, Specifications, &c., 150 00

Amount held by the Treasurer as

*Amounts carried forward, \$ 1,452 60 \$ 856,039 03*

BRIDGE ESTATE. At the junc-  
tion of Court Street and  
Tremont Row.

Proportion of cost of altering  
this Building for a Steam  
Engine House and Store,  
the balance of said cost,  
(\$2,647 97,) being charged  
to Engine Houses, 882 66

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

George W. Bird, *Chief En-  
gineer, one year, \$ 1,500 00*

George H. Allen,  
*Secretary to Board  
of Engineers, 800 00*

2,300 00

*The Salaries of Assistant En-  
gineers, at \$ 250 per annum  
each, are charged to the ap-  
propriation for the Fire De-  
partment.*

CITY INCOME.

FIRE ALARMS.

Received from the Superintendent for pro-  
ceeds of one Watch Clock sold, \$ 58 12  
For old materials sold, 62 95

121 07

*Per item No. 90 of Treasurer's account.*

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

From Chief Engineer for sale of two old  
Engines, \$ 865 00  
From Auditor, 24 28

889 28

*Per item No. 89 of Treasurer's account.*

## HOSE HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON ST.

Unexpended balance from last year's appropriation on this account,

72 72

*Per item No. 125 of Treasurer's account.*

## APPENDIX.

### *Hydrants.*

During the year twenty-two new hydrants have been established, as follows: eleven in the city proper, six in South Boston, five in East Boston.

Total number of hydrants established up to January 1, 1863:

In Boston proper . . . . .	949
South Boston . . . . .	307
East Boston . . . . .	184
Brookline . . . . .	3
Roxbury . . . . .	12
Charlestown . . . . .	11
Chelsea . . . . .	7
Total . . . . .	<hr/> 1,473

Sixty-three hydrants have been taken out and replaced by new or repaired ones. Sixty-eight hydrant boxes have been renewed the past year. The hydrants are all in good working order, and have been kept free from frost, although it was reported at the fire that occurred in Pearl Street on the night of December 23, 1862, that the delay was on account of the hydrants being frozen; such was not the fact, as I was informed

by the engineers. During the extreme cold weather, two men are put upon each fire district, whose duty it is to make a daily examination of each hydrant, and I am well satisfied that the duty is faithfully performed.

### *Fire Reservoirs.*

The following list of Reservoirs have been connected with the main pipes during the year:

Boston proper — In Washington Street 4, in Court Square, Summer, Channing, Union, and Brattle Streets one each; total 9.

South Boston — Broadway 6; Dorchester Avenue 2; A, D, and E Streets, Old Road and Second Streets one each; total 13.

East Boston — Chelsea, Sumner, Webster, Saratoga, Trenton, Monmouth, and Cottage Streets one each, Meridian Street 2; total 9.

The stock and labor for the above work, amounting to \$2,757 54, was charged to the Fire Department.



**FIRE POLICE.** — Previous to the year 1860 special officers, distinct from the regular force, were appointed to do Police duty at fires. Since that date the regular Police have performed that service. Under the present regulations a certain number of officers at each Police Station are regularly detailed to do Fire Police duty on their respective stations.

Officers who are on duty on two or three certain beats at opposite extremes of their Station, whether by day or night, are under instructions to repair at the earliest possible moment, to any fire occurring on the Station; and others, if necessary, are sent from the Station House as soon as practicable. The regulations require the officers on adjoining beats to cover the beats left vacant by officers at the fire, so that none of the territory is left unprotected.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT.

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All the Engines, Hose Carriages, Hook and Ladder Carriages, Fuel Wagons, and other property connected with this Department, belong to the City, and are under the control of the Chief Engineer and a Standing Committee of the Board of Aldermen.

The Department consists of a Chief Engineer, nine Assistant Engineers, a Secretary to the Board of Engineers, and twenty-two companies, viz : —

Ten Steam Fire Engine Companies,  
Eight Horse Hose Companies,  
One Hand Hose Company, and  
Three Hook and Ladder Companies.

Each Engine Company has one Engineer, one Fireman, one Driver, and eight Hosemen; and the apparatus is drawn by two or more horses.

The Engineer, the Fireman, and the Driver are all the time on duty in or about the Engine Houses; and the horses are at all times ready for immediate service.

One of the Hosemen designated by the Board of Engineers is recognized as *Foreman of the Hose*.

The Engineer has the whole charge of the Engine and its appurtenances, and is responsible for the care, good order, and well working of the Engine; and is accountable for the proper performance of all the duties required of the Fireman and Driver.

The Fireman, besides his duties as such, is also to discharge the duty of Steward of the Company.

The Driver has charge of the Stable and Horses, and all that

belongs to that branch of the service, and is to assist the Fireman in the discharge of his duties as Steward.

The *Foreman of the Hose* is to perform the duties of placing the Engine at fires, taking command of the Hosemen, and also to act as Clerk of the Company.

All the Hose Carriages drawn by horses, are constructed to carry *eight hundred feet* of two and one half inch hose. Nine men, including the driver, are employed for each Hose Carriage, the driver being in constant attendance in the capacity of Steward and Clerk of the Company.

#### PAY OF THE DEPARTMENT.

That of the Chief Engineer is \$ 1,500 per annum.

That of the Assistant Engineers is \$ 350 each per annum.

Engineers of Steam Engines receive \$ 70 00 per month.

Firemen, 50 00

Drivers of Apparatus, 50 00

Foremen of Hose, 175 00 per year.

Hosemen, 150 00

Foremen of Hook & Ladder Companies, 175 00

Assistant Foremen, Clerks, Stewards, Axemen, and Rakemen, \$ 125 per annum; Members, \$ 125 per annum, —all payable quarterly, with the exception of those who are constantly employed on Steam Engines, who receive their salaries monthly.

The Hand Hose Company is located at Washington Village, South Boston, and its members are required to do duty only in that section, except in cases of large fires. It is composed of eight members. and their compensation is as follows:—

Foreman, . . . . . \$ 50 per year.

Steward, . . . . . 50

Hoseman, . . . . . 30

#### FIRE ALARMS.

All the Apparatus connected with this Department is under the care and control of the Superintendent of Fire Alarms and a Joint Standing Committee of the City Council.

A constant watch is kept at the Office in Court Square, night and day, by the operators. Each operator serves two alternate terms of three hours each, as principal, and the same as assistant operator; so that twelve hours' service at the office out of every twenty-four is required from each operator. No operator is permitted to sleep during his watch, unless expressly relieved by some one else, and by consent of the Superintendent.

Each operator is accountable to the Superintendent for any omissions or mistakes that may occur at the Central Office during his hours of duty.

An accurate account is kept of the time of giving each alarm, and of the District and Station from which it originates, and all other necessary information.

The City is divided into seven Alarm Districts. Each District is subdivided into Stations, at each of which is a Signal Box. There are now fifty-three Signal Boxes or Stations, the number in a District varying from six to twelve.

Alarms are transmitted to the Office from the signal Stations or Boxes, by turning a crank in the Box. Alarms are usually given in less than a minute from the time the crank is turned in any Box. The Police Officers and one other person only, resident near each Box, have keys to the same.

#### THE MERIDIAN BELLS.

Forty-two Bells, at their various locations on Churches, School Houses, Engine Houses, and Police Stations, are struck from the Fire Alarm Office *precisely* at noon every day. Care is taken to secure the utmost accuracy in the time, for which purpose a first-rate chronometer and a transit instrument of the best quality are used, and observations of the Sun are made as often as is necessary.

### CITY PROPERTY

**FLATS.** — About 8,940 feet of flats on the west side of Charles Street, at the foot of Mount Vernon Street, part of which is occupied by the Engine House for Engine Company No. 4.

**CITY BUILDING,** corner of Court Square and Williams Court, covering about 2,035 feet of land.

*This Building is occupied by the Second Police Station; the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department; the Magnetic Telegraph Fire Apparatus and attendants; Superintendent of Lamps; City Physician; and is also used as a Ward Room for the Citizens of Ward Four, on Election Days.*

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

*The following property is in charge of the Chief of Police, and kept for use in his department.*

STATION HOUSES, viz : —

- No. 1. In Old Hancock School Building, Hanover Street.
- No. 2. In City Building, Court Square.
- No. 3. New Brick House, Joy Street, Lot 4234 ft. Whole cost of House and Land \$31,671 42.
- No. 4. In hired rooms in Boylston Square, rear of Boylston Market.

\* An Engine House and Ward Room in this building.

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- No. 5. New Brick House on East Dedham Street. Lot 3372 feet. Whole cost of House and Land \$ 15,024 11.
- No. 6. Brick House, Broadway, South Boston. This building also accommodates Engine Company No. 2.
- No. 7. New Brick House on Meridian Street, East Boston. Lot contains 3755 feet.
- No. 8. Brick House on Commercial Street, Ward I., covering 1070 feet of land, fitted up in 1855. This is the Harbor Police Office. A house for Engine No. 8 is connected with this house.

FIRE DEPARTMENT. — *See Appendix, page 338.*

STEAM FIRE ENGINES. — Ten, located as follows, viz : six in City proper, two at East and two at South Boston.

HORSE HOSE CARRIAGES. — Eight, located as follows, viz : six in City proper, one each in East and South Boston.

HAND HOSE CARRIAGES. — One at Washington Village.

HORSES. — Thirty-four.

FUEL WAGONS. — Two in Engine House, East Street, and one on Paris Street, East Boston ; one in Engine House No. 1 ; one in Engine House No. 2, at South Boston.

FIRE HOOKS. — Nine.

FIRE LADDERS. — Eighty-eight, of different sizes.

HOSE. — About Eighteen Thousand feet of leading and suction.

STEAM FIRE ENGINE HOUSES. — Ten, located as follows, viz : Broadway, near Dorchester Street ; Fourth, near *K Street* ; Washington, near Dover Street ; Court Square ; Marion Street, E.B. ; Wall Street ; Purchase Street ; North Bennet Street ; Paris Street, E. B. ; Foot of Mount Vernon Street.

**HOSE CARRIAGE HOUSES.** — Nine, viz : Salem Street ; Hudson Street ; Fruit Street ; Northampton Street ; Shawmut Avenue ; Chelsea Street, E. B. ; Warren Street ; B Street ; Washington Village.

**HOOK AND LADDER HOUSES.** — Three, viz : City Stables on Harrison Avenue ; Friend Street ; Paris Street, E. B.

**SPARE APPARATUS.** — Two Steam Fire Engines ; one Hook and Ladder Carriage ; three Hand Engines ; about Eight Hundred feet of three-inch leather Hose. There is one Hose Carriage with Four Hundred feet of Hose, located on the Mill Dam. This hose is only used by the residents of that location.

**RESERVOIRS.** — One hundred and thirty-two, of which thirteen are located at East Boston ; nineteen at South Boston ; and the balance in the different wards of the City. They contain from 300 to 400 hogsheads each, and are mostly supplied by rain water from the roofs of buildings.

**THE ENGINES, HOSE, CAPS, AXES, LADDERS,** and all the other Apparatus used by the Fire Department, are owned by the City, and are under the care and control of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department.

**HYDRANTS.** — For supplying water in case of fire. 949 in the City proper ; 307 at South Boston ; 184 at East Boston. Total, 1,440, — an increase of 22 over last year. The Hydrants are located at an average distance of 250 feet from each other.

#### TELEGRAPHIC FIRE ALARMS.

*The following property is in charge of the Superintendent.*

**MAGNETIC FIRE ALARM APPARATUS,** in the City Building, the whole cost of which was over \$ 25,000.

**WORKING LINES OF WIRE,** about sixty miles.

**SIGNAL BOXES,** in use, fifty-three.

**STRIKING MACHINES,** twenty-eight, five of which are not in use.

**ENGINE HOUSE ALARM GONGS,** twelve.

**ENGINE HOUSE SIGNAL GONGS,** seventeen.

**CLOCKS.** — One Electric Watch Clock. One Repeating Clock for striking signals ; one do. for tapping-box signals.

**MAGNETO-ELECTRIC MACHINE,** for striking bells, one.

**RELAY MAGNETS.** — Eleven.

**OFFICE FURNITURE.** — One Switch-Board, one large Galvanometer, for Alarm Battery, five small do. for Signal Batteries ; 4,000 feet new Iron Wire ; 600 Insulators ; 50 Iron Brackets ; lot of old Machinery and old Iron, useless except for repairing other machinery, or to sell as old material ; Office Furniture, Bedsteads, Bedding, and sundry other articles, as per Schedule on file in the Auditor's Office.