

THE  
EIGHTEENTH  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
FINANCES  
OF THE  
TOWN OF DORCHESTER,  
FOR THE  
Year ending February 1, 1856.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

*Chief Engineer*—SYLVESTER H. HEBARD.

*Assistant Engineers*—ALFRED CLAPP, ROBERT WHITE,  
GEORGE L. FISHER, WILLIAM G. SWAN and EBEN'R BIRD.

REPORT OF CHIEF ENGINEER.

*To the Selectmen of Dorchester.*

GENTLEMEN,—This Seventh Annual Report of the condition of the Fire Department is respectfully submitted.

There are now six Engine Companies in commission, viz.—

FOUNTAIN Co. No. 1.—George S. Esty, *Foreman*; Henry Crane, *Ass't Foreman*; Gustavus E. Haynes, *Clerk*; Henry Crane, *Steward*.

PROTECTOR Co. No. 2.—Samuel F. White, *Foreman*; Thomas Marshall, *1st Ass't Foreman*; N. Dennett, *2d Ass't Foreman*; G. H. Clark, *Clerk*; B. C. Bird, *Steward*.

TORRENT Co. No. 3.—Seth D. Durell, *Foreman*; Henry Forbes, *Ass't Foreman*; George Bridgham, *Clerk*; David Ripley, *Steward*.

ALERT Co. No. 4.—Joseph W. Sloan, *Foreman*; Isaac Williams, *Ass't Foreman*; Isaac W. Hart, *Clerk*; Enoch Fenno, *Steward*.

INDEPENDENCE Co. No. 5.—Andrew Collins, *Foreman*; G. A. Spear, *Ass't Foreman*; J. H. Hill, *Clerk*; Isaac H. Fisk, *Steward*.

TIGER Co. No. 6.—James H. Upham, *Foreman*; Andrew Sumner, *Ass't Foreman*; Daniel W. Baker, *Clerk*; Ralph Ware, *Steward*.

During the past year the department has been called out 44 times by as many alarms of fire, and each company is also required to meet as often as once in each month to examine the apparatus in their charge, and for drill and business purposes. Of the alarms, 13 have been caused by fires in this town, at 10 of which fires, the engines were used; 23 alarms were caused by fires out of this town, at 7 of which fires the engines were used; 8 of the alarms were false.

Subjoined is a table of alarms and fires during the year.

*A Table of the Fires and Alarms from Feb. 1, 1855, to Feb. 1, 1856.*

1855.	O'CLOCK.	LOCATION, ETC.	OWNER OR OCCUPANT.	LOSS.	INSURANCE.	CAUSES, ETC.
Feb'y 2	8½ P.M.	Barn, at the Upper Mills.	Elijah Bird.	\$200		Incendiary.
" 8	7 "	Office, at Lower Mills.	Mr. Safford.			Accidental.
" 11	7½ "	Store House, Upper Mills.	Tileston & Hollingsworth	2,000		"
March 29	12 Noon.	Cabinet Shop, Milton.				Unknown.
" 30	8 P.M.	Brush, near Prov. R. R., Dedham.				Sparks fm. Loc.
April 3	2½ "	Fire in Quincy.				Unknown.
" 7	11½ "	Drug Mill, Commercial Street.	Andrew Glover.	2,500	\$1,800	"
" 24	9 "	Brush, in Milton.				"
May 15	8½ A.M.	Oakum-picking Factory, Roxbury.				Accidental.
" 19	8 P.M.	False Alarm.				Unknown.
June 2	7½ A.M.	Rope Walk, South Boston.	I. Burton.			Accidental.
" 6	4 "	Soap Factory, Roxbury.	Morrell & Co.			"
" 18	1 P.M.	False Alarm.				"
" 24	11½ "	Barn, at Lower Mills.	Bussey Estate.	250	100	Incendiary.
July 4	9 A.M.	House, in Quincy.				Unknown.
" "	1 P.M.	House, in Willow Court.	Benjamin Baker.	250		Fire Crackers.
" "	5 "	Rekindling of fire in Willow Court.				Rekind'g ruins.
" 20	7 "	Mechanic's Shop, at Lower Mills.	R. Hutchinson.			Accidental.
Aug. 17	3 "	Barn, in Milton.	Mr. Forbes.			Unknown.
" 19	8 "	Brush, on Milton Hill, Milton.				"
" 24	2½ "	False Alarm from Roxbury.				"
Sept. 5	10 "	Barn, in West Roxbury.	Mr. Williams.			Incendiary.

1855.	O'CLOCK.	LOCATION, ETC.	OWNER OR OCCUPANT.	LOSS.	INSURANCE.	CAUSES, ETC.
Sept. 6	8½ P.M.	Morocco-dresser's Store-h., Milton.	Mr. Sumner.			Unknown.
" 7	6 A.M.	Alarm from Quincy.				"
" 8	1 P.M.	False Alarm.				"
" 9	12 M.	Fire in South Boston.				"
" 13	12½ A.M.	House and Barn, at Lower Mills.	Mr. Stacy.	4,000	2,100	Incendiary.
" 25	2 P.M.	Fire in Milton.				Unknown.
Oct. 6	1½ "	School House, in Milton.				"
" 8	8 "	Laundry, in Roxbury.				Accidental.
" 10	6½ "	Barn, on Norfolk Street.	Samuel J. Capen.	1,200		Incendiary.
" 12	11½ "	Barn, in Quincy.				Unknown.
Nov. 1	6 "	False Alarm from Milton.				"
" 7	6 "	Barn, on Washington Street.	Wells Estate.			Incendiary.
" 17	3½ "	Barn, on Washington Street.	Wells Estate.	2,700	1,300	Incendiary.
" 27	10½ "	Fire in Cambridgeport.				Unknown.
Dec. 1	11 "	Fire in Brookline.				"
" 3	1 "	False Alarm.				"
" 6	4 "	Fire in Quincy.				"
" 12	4 "	Brush, on Adams Street.	P. Barnes, Esq.			"
" 22	12½ "	Bake House, in Milton.				Accidental.
1856.						
Jan. 9	7 A.M.	False Alarm from Roxbury.				"
" 18	7 P.M.	House, on Washington Street.	Nightengail Estate.	3,000		Accidental.
" 28	7 "	Whitney's Wharf, Milton.				"
				\$16,100	\$5,300	

The estimated loss of property in Dorchester the past year by fire has been \$16,100; on which property there was insurance, as near as ascertained, of \$5,300.

The different Engine-houses, Engines, and apparatus of the department, are in good order, and well taken care of.

The expenses of the department the past year have somewhat exceeded the appropriation made therefor by the town, owing to the necessity of purchasing more leading and suction hose than was anticipated, and also the necessity of painting and varnishing the engines and hose-carriages for the gratification of the companies, and the credit of the town, on the occasion of the celebration of the 4th of July last.

The department is in efficient organization, and that feeling of friendly regard between the different companies, that augurs well for the safety of the property of the citizens from fire, is remarkably perceptible.

The amount of expenditures under the direction of the Board of Engineers, for repairs of engines, houses, new hose, repairing hose, &c., the past year, has been \$1,730.70. Total expenditures on account of the department the past year, have been \$2,439.36.

Respectfully yours, &c.

SYLVESTER H. HEBARD.

*Dorchester, February 1, 1856.*

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Paid S. H. Hebard, as chief engineer	85 00
Robert White, assistant	15 00
Jos. C. Robinson, "	15 00
George L. Fisher, "	15 00
Alfred Clapp, "	15 00
Fountain Engine Company	100 00
Torrent	100 00
Independence	100 00
Tiger	100 00
Alert	66 66
Protector	75 00
Paid D. Ripley, steward No. 3	50 00
Ralph Ware, " No. 6	50 00
E. A. Smith, " No. 1	50 00
B. C. Bird, " No. 2	50 00
Enoch Fenno, " No. 4	56 25
Henry Hart, " No. 5	25 00
Isaac H. Fish, " No. 5	25 00
Hunneman & Co., hose for engines	480 69
Shelton & Cheever, repairs of engines	324 05
Enoch Fenno, refreshments, repairs and horse	26 41
Thos. R. Cooper, painting and rep'g engines	86 50
A. & J. H. Upham, lamps, oil, &c.	22 31
J. N. Berry, repairs of engine	10 75
Charles Tileston, lamps, oil, &c.	8 67
Wm. Withington, oil and refreshments	26 21
I. Field & Co., hose rope and refreshments	12 44
Henry Clark, Jr. & Co., refreshments	18 03
D. Brown & Son, oil, wicking, &c.	8 41
Edward Preston, coal	26 12
Stacy Express, oil, carting, &c.	12 30
H. Crane, bell and hanging	15 00
J. W. Sloan, repairs for engines	33 75
Wm. Tucker, painting and repairs	12 00
S. H. Hebard, bill of printing	2 25
Thomas Russell, refreshments	12 00
James Hersey, repairs	4 87
C. W. Washburn, repairs	3 00
Wm. Hall & Co., keys	7 20
Theodore Hersey, repairs, &c.	2 87
J. C. Robinson, repairs, &c.	18 75
William G. Swan, repairs	3 00
L. G. Hersey, oil, wicking, &c.	7 87
Joseph Pillsbury, horse hire	2 00
A. Cushman, painting	6 00
Robert White, repairs	2 00
H. L. Fowle, leather	2 50
B. F. Brown, repairs	5 00
J. C. Hewins, oil and repairs	7 50
John A. Tucker, repairs	4 86
J. Delano, repairs	7 00
George Ford, repairs	2 00
W. S. Halery, repairs	3 50
C. M. Gay, refreshments	8 00
Paid Otis Shepard & Co., refreshments	3 65
Stephen Gulliver, setting glass	50
Jacob Burgess, setting glass	1 00
E. A. Smith, repairs	2 00
David Ripley, labor and horse hire	5 87
B. C. Bird, horse hire, refreshments and oil	7 40
H. Crane, repairs	27 75
Fiske & Crane, horse hire	21 00
A. D. Swan, repairs and refreshments	9 41
T. M. Marshall, repairs	3 00
W. Pope & Co., lumber and carting	7 97
John Stacy, express	5 63
J. T. Murphy, oil and repairs	11 86
George Ford, repairs	3 00
Thomas Bowe, express	1 25
L. G. Hersey, oil, wicking, &c.	1 64
S. Percival, setting glass	80
Samuel Tileston, setting glass	50
E. J. Baker, for rent of land	10 00
Henry Clark, rent of land for engine house	12 00
J. C. Talbot, wicking and refreshments	2 60
C. J. Sumner, repairing engine, shovel, &c.	2 90
William Withington, oil, refreshments, &c.	8 30
Charles Tucker, repairing engine	12 15
R. Gleason, refreshments	13 02
I. Field & Co., refreshments, &c.	21 94
Charles F. Preston, coal and housing	13 50
	\$2,439 36
<b>Cr.</b>	
By Appropriation	2,200 00
Expended over	239 36
	\$2,439 36