

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
OVERSEEING OF THE POOR  
DEPARTMENT,  
FOR THE YEAR 1900.

[DOCUMENT 26 — 1901.]



BOSTON, March 14, 1901.

HON. THOMAS N. HART,

*Mayor of the City of Boston:*

SIR, — The Board of Overseers of the Poor herewith present their thirty-seventh annual report of the present series, covering the year from February 1, 1900, to January 31, 1901.

EXPENSES OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Our drafts upon the City Treasury during the year ending January 31, 1901, amounted to .	\$123,426 98
Sundry receipts paid over to City Collector .	14,203 56
	<hr/>
Leaving the net charge to the City for the department for the year . . . . .	<u>\$109,223 37</u>
Amount collected by us for care in City Hospital of State paupers, and those belonging elsewhere than in Boston, and paid over to the Trustees of the City Hospital . . . .	<u>\$36,197 66</u>

STATISTICS OF CASES AIDED.

The number of families assisted by us in the year was 2,707, a decrease of 156 families from the previous year. Of these, 332 families resided in other cities and towns, but had retained their settlement in this city; and we received payment for aid rendered to 176 families residing in Boston, whose legal settlement was elsewhere.

The number of new cases aided during the year was 540, a decrease of 12 from the year previous. The total number of cases dealt with since 1864 is 35,798.

The number of official visits made by our visitors during the year was 19,921.

FAMILIES AIDED DURING THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY  
31, 1901.

- 1,543 having settlements here, aided directly from this office, or by agents in the outlying districts.  
 332 having settlements here, aided in other cities and towns, through the overseers of the poor of those places.  
 262 families, of which the man is unsettled, the wife and children having a settlement here.  
 176 residing here, having settlements in other cities and towns, which refund amount of relief granted.  
 327 unsettled cases aided on account of the State.  
 67 non-settlement cases, temporarily aided.

2,707 families, representing about 8,121 persons.

NUMBER OF FAMILIES AIDED IN EACH MONTH OF THE  
PAST TWO YEARS.

1899. Feb.,	1,643 families.	1900. Feb.,	1,522 families.
March,	1,578 "	March,	1,494 "
April,	1,189 "	April,	1,117 "
May,	1,088 "	May,	1,010 "
June,	1,056 "	June,	991 "
July,	1,049 "	July,	1,002 "
Aug.,	971 "	Aug.,	962 "
Sept.,	1,005 "	Sept.,	957 "
Oct.,	1,001 "	Oct.,	1,028 "
Nov.,	1,059 "	Nov.,	1,053 "
Dec.,	1,287 "	Dec.,	1,329 "
1900. Jan.,	1,492 "	1901. Jan.,	1,513 "

DISTRICTS.	Number of Families aided.	Amount of Aid given	Population by Census of 1900.
East Boston .....	125	\$2,232 52	45,756
Charlestown .....	355	7,302 46	40,652
City Proper .....	705	18,388 19	167,257
South Boston .....	372	8,884 74	67,809
Roxbury .....	619	21,838 17	105,393
Dorchester .....	54	2,645 85	77,483
West Roxbury .....	69	2,872 56	37,263
Brighton .....	60	1,924 41	19,279
Living out of Boston, but aided from this office .....	16	929 63	
Living out of Boston and aided through officers of other cities and towns .....	332	11,947 56	
Totals .....	2,707	\$78,966 09	560,892

To the sum of \$78,966.09, given directly to the poor, should be added the sum of \$2,873.20, paid for burials, the sum of \$5,454.99 paid for support of the Temporary Home, and the further sum of \$8,133.89 paid for support of the Lodge for Wayfarers; making a total of \$95,428.17 actually paid out by the Overseers of the Poor from the tax levy for the direct relief of the poor. We have also disbursed as trustees the further sum of \$26,639.43 to the various pensioners and beneficiaries adjudged worthy and falling within the provisions of the trusts.

THE WORK TEST.

The Board has continued to demand work of all able-bodied male applicants in return for groceries and coal furnished their families.

	1898.	1899.	1900.
Number of men who worked for aid given	562	393	399
Number of days' work actually performed	4,521	2,937	3,128
Number of men receiving work-cards who did not present them for work	113	74	60

THE WAYFARERS' LODGE.

The last annual report contained statistics relating to persons who had been sheltered at the Wayfarers' Lodge within the previous seven months. This year the tables cover the twelve months from February 1, 1900, to February 1,

1901. The belief expressed last year, that the general accuracy of these statistics is not open to serious doubt although based exclusively upon the unverified personal statements of the individuals concerned, is amply vindicated by the results of this year's longer and more careful investigation.

The tables give details in regard to 9,800 individuals. But as the total number of lodgers during the year is found to be 18,537, it is evident that 8,737 of them sought shelter at the Lodge more than once. In numerous instances the same person was housed there on three consecutive nights, while a few appear to have returned after an absence of a month or more.

The statistics showing place of birth strikingly agree with those obtained last year. The American born still constitute more than one-half of the whole number, or 53.02 per cent., as against 54.05 per cent. a year ago. The Irish again head the contingent of foreign-born lodgers, and this time with a slightly increased percentage, namely, 30.83 per cent., as against the former 28.27 per cent. The other nationalities considered retain the relative places held by them in last year's tables.

Neighboring cities and towns continue to furnish the great majority of lodgers. Comparatively few hail from beyond the borders of the Commonwealth. Residents of Boston rarely resort to the Lodge. Some of the strangers are sufficiently honest to admit that they came hither to spend their earnings in having a good time, and that they have accomplished this to their own injury. By far the larger number are drawn to Boston by a more or less vague hope of finding employment, and are honestly in search of work. Yet it cannot be doubted that a goodly proportion of the latter belong to the itinerant class of workers whose natural restlessness, among other causes, does not allow them to bide long in one place. It is a well-known fact that some of the most skilled craftsmen and operatives are of the wandering fraternity, though not to be classed with tramps.

Nearly sixty-seven per cent. of the lodgers were under forty years of age, as against sixty-three per cent. last year. The correspondence between the tables giving age periods for the two years is astonishingly close. The comparative youthfulness of the majority lends additional weight to the belief that the Lodge is mainly a place of shelter for the temporarily embarrassed and unfortunate and not for the vagrant or vicious. Were this not so, it is certain that many more would be found who have already passed the forty-fifth milestone.

The data relative to conjugal conditions conform almost precisely to those of last year. The men who have been or are married form an insignificant minority.

The fact that the lodgers belong to the vigorous and healthy in the community is again confirmed by the statistics regarding physical condition, which show less than two per cent. to have been sick or permanently disabled.

The most notable divergence from the statistics presented in the last annual report occurs in the percentage of lodgers classed as skilled workmen, which is now 29.45 per cent., as against the former 39.18 per cent. It is largely due to a stricter classification of the occupations which cannot be engaged in without special training, none being considered as skilled workers who have not a definite trade. As formerly, the largest single occupation given is that of shoe manufacture in its various forms. Other occupations are represented somewhat in proportion to their numerical strength in the community.

An attempt has been made to gather some information about the wages received by the lodgers, and, in order to render comparisons simple, the weekly or monthly wage, where such was received, has been reduced to its equivalent per day. To avoid too complicated a statement those getting, for instance, \$1.20 a day, have been classed with those getting \$1.25, etc. The figures do not invariably stand for the exact amount the persons concerned may earn in the occupations they claim as their own, or which they have been trained for. Inquiry is made as to the amount of the wage last received; and the last employment may have been of a temporary character — a makeshift until something more desirable should turn up. This explains in part the percentages of both skilled and unskilled men who received less than \$1.00 per day. The table of wages nevertheless contains some highly suggestive facts, and indicates to some extent the relative earning capacity of the two classes of workers in question. Thus the largest group of the unskilled earned but \$1.50 per day, while the largest group among the skilled earned \$2.50 a day, or one dollar more. Again, while but 45.85 per cent. of the skilled got less than \$2.00 per day, this is true of 83.48 per cent. of the unskilled. The percentages of those whose earnings could not be computed are too insignificant to affect the general showing. The wage statistics confirm the correctness of the broad classification made of the industrial relations of the lodgers.

The whole inquiry tends to vindicate further the statement made a year ago, that the Wayfarers' Lodge is, generally

speaking, "a place of shelter for men who, on the whole, are fairly deserving, but who, for various reasons, chiefly for lack of employment, are temporarily embarrassed."

*Tables.*

		PLACE OF BIRTH.				Number.	Per cent.
United States	.	.	.	.	.	5,196	53.02
Ireland	.	.	.	.	.	3,021	30.83
England	.	.	.	.	.	604	6.16
Canada and British Provinces	.	.	.	.	.	522	5.32
Scotland	.	.	.	.	.	175	1.79
Other countries	.	.	.	.	.	251	2.56
Unknown	.	.	.	.	.	31	0.32
Total						9,800	

  

		AGES.				Number.	Per cent.
Years.		.	.	.	.		
15-19	.	.	.	.	.	358	3.65
20-24	.	.	.	.	.	1,298	13.24
25-29	.	.	.	.	.	1,522	15.54
30-34	.	.	.	.	.	1,669	17.03
35-39	.	.	.	.	.	1,708	17.43
40-44	.	.	.	.	.	1,179	12.03
45-49	.	.	.	.	.	974	9.95
50-54	.	.	.	.	.	548	5.59
55-59	.	.	.	.	.	289	2.94
60-64	.	.	.	.	.	144	1.47
65-69	.	.	.	.	.	60	0.61
Over	70	.	.	.	.	51	0.52
						9,800	

  

		SOCIAL CONDITION.				Number.	Per cent.
Single	.	.	.	.	.	8,507	86.80
Married	.	.	.	.	.	568	5.80
Widowed	.	.	.	.	.	685	6.99
Divorced	.	.	.	.	.	5	0.05
Unknown	.	.	.	.	.	35	0.36
						9,800	

  

		PHYSICAL CONDITION.				Number.	Per cent.
Able-bodied	.	.	.	.	.	9,607	98.03
Not able-bodied	.	.	.	.	.	140	1.43
Unknown	.	.	.	.	.	53	0.54
						9,800	



OVERSEEING OF THE POOR DEPARTMENT.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.

	Number.	Per cent.
Skilled workmen . . . . .	2,886	29.45
Unskilled " . . . . .	6,836	69.76
Unknown " . . . . .	78	0.79
	<u>9,800</u>	

WAGES PER DAY.

AMOUNT.	SKILLED WORKMEN.		UNSKILLED WORKMEN.	
	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
Less than \$1 00.....	130	4.5	1,473	21.55
1 25.....	485	16.81	1,100	16.09
1 50.....	467	16.18	2,401	35.12
1 75.....	241	8.36	733	10.72
2 00.....	491	17.00	493	7.21
2 50.....	675	23.4	146	2.13
3 00.....	210	7.28	72	1.05
4 00.....	105	3.64	-	-
More than 4 00.....	51	1.77	-	-
For themselves.....	6	0.2	33	0.47
On shares.....	7	0.24	75	1.09
On job.....	15	0.52	240	3.51
For board.....	3	0.1	70	1.02

NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL LODGERS PER MONTH.

February . . . . .	892	September . . . . .	637
March . . . . .	912	October . . . . .	788
April . . . . .	876	November . . . . .	826
May . . . . .	742	December . . . . .	1,088
June . . . . .	485	January . . . . .	1,517
July . . . . .	532		
August . . . . .	505	Total . . . . .	<u>9,800</u>

TOTAL NUMBER OF LODGERS BY MONTHS.

February . . . . .	1,623	September . . . . .	1,032
March . . . . .	1,730	October . . . . .	1,396
April . . . . .	1,405	November . . . . .	1,443
May . . . . .	1,260	December . . . . .	2,129
June . . . . .	1,026	January . . . . .	3,717
July . . . . .	889		
August . . . . .	887	Total . . . . .	<u>18,537</u>

Total number of meals, 37,089.

## THE TEMPORARY HOME FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

By comparing the record cards of the year ending February 1, 1901, with those of the previous year, we find a slight decrease in the admissions of those who are known to have been in prison, and an increase in the more respectable class of women, who, through various misfortunes, have been obliged to seek temporary shelter with us. The women belonging to the vagrant class, addicted to drink, and generally with prison or almshouse records, who come repeatedly to the Home, furnish our hardest problem, but we try never to relax efforts for their help and regeneration. We are happy to report marked improvement in several of these cases. One of these women, who, previous to 1897, had been in prison thirty-three times, has not been arrested since that date. She has been in the Home a fewer number of days during the past two years than in the one year previous to her last sentence to prison. She appears much brighter mentally, looks better physically, and drinks less. The Home has found housework for her at the average of three times a year during the last two years, and her record in these places has been encouraging.

Another woman, who came to the Home forty-one times, between 1890 and 1896, has only sought admission eight times during the years since then. Her record for work has improved, and she is at present in a good situation at domestic service.

Of the four hundred new women and children who have come to us during the year the greater number have come only once, and many only for one night. Among these are the following:

A girl of sixteen ran away from her family in a town in this State and applied at this Home. The matron found that she was in correspondence with a young man, and through co-operation with the Children's Aid Society, finally induced the girl to return to her home, where she was doing well at last reports.

A girl of fifteen applied at the Home, having run away from her people in a distant town. After some days the matron persuaded her to return to her family.

Another young girl from a neighboring town came to Boston to marry a man whom she had never seen, but with whom, through the influence of a friend, she had entered into correspondence. The man had invited the girl to visit him at his lodging, but failing to find him at the address given, she applied for shelter at this Home. The matron persuaded

her to send for the man to call upon her here, and not feeling reassured by his appearance, persuaded the girl to refuse to accompany him to his boarding-house, and finally succeeded in returning her to her relatives.

Another girl, who recently came to the Home, was found a situation, where she gave entire satisfaction, and was kept as long as the family needed help. She returned to the Home to ask for more work, and on the same day a well-to-do sister, who for nine years had vainly tried to find her, applied at the Home to see if by chance the girl's address was known here. She immediately took her sister home with her.

Another young woman came to us with a child three weeks old. She had been vainly trying to place the child in an institution. The woman seemed insane, but, under care and with good food all traces of mental disturbance disappeared. The child is now being boarded in a family, and the mother has work. She has since called at the Home to thank the matrons for their kindness to her.

One woman with six children came here from a neighboring city to find her husband. They were kept here for several days, the husband was found, and is now supporting his family.

A neat looking young woman walked with her husband from Worcester to Boston, having heard that work was easily found in this City. She passed one night at the Home, and the following day both man and wife found work, and have since called here to express gratitude for the assistance given.

A young man of twenty-four brought his wife here to ask shelter for her while he was seeking work. In a few days, having found employment, he returned for his wife, and has since called at the Home to report that they were doing well, and to express his gratitude for help and encouragement given.

A young wife applied here because she felt she could no longer live with her husband, as he starved and beat her. The husband came to find her at the Home. The matron reasoned with them and finally drew up an agreement, which they signed, and by which a certain sum of money was to be set aside for food. The wife has since called to say that she had followed the advice given, and there had been no trouble since her return home.

The Home co-operates with other agencies, both public and private. In many instances these various societies send women to remain in the Home while they seek to provide for them permanently.

The Home has received a legacy of \$200 under the will of Mrs. Elmira P. Balch, and it has been spent in renovating the night nursery, which has received the name of the donor.

A Christmas gift of \$5.00, from Mr. Edward E. Bennett, has been spent in buying picture books for the nursery, and in providing a magazine and weekly paper for the women.

The committee gratefully acknowledge the receipt of twenty bushels of apples from the "Boston Post," donations of brown bread, pies and cakes at Christmas and Thanksgiving from the Cobb, Bates & Yerxa Company, and the gift of the "New Century Magazine" sent to them since September of last year by Miss Lydia Cross, M.D., on behalf of the Theosophical Society; also various anonymous gifts of clothing, books, and toys received during the year.

*Record of Women Admitted to the Home in 1900.*

	400 new cases, or women who had not been in Home previous to 1900.		368 old cases, or women who had been in Home previous to 1900.					Totals.
	Came once only.	Came more than once.	Came in 1899, 1900.	Came in 1898, 1899, 1900.	Came in 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900.	Came in 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900.	Came occasionally in previous years.	
Known to have been in prison and almshouse.....	2	1	10	8	9	15	31	76
Known to have been in prison only.....	4	1	12	8	2	14	23	64
Known to have been in almshouse only.....	85	20	26	10	6	4	49	200
Not known to have been in prison or almshouse.....	247	40	38	11	7	5	80	428
Totals.....	338	62	86	37	24	38	183	768

95 places secured at domestic service by Industrial Aid Society.

128 places secured at domestic service by the Home.

563 women admitted once only, or 563 times.

205 women admitted 607 times.

*Record of Children Admitted to the Home in 1900.*

670 children admitted 706 times.  
 Of whom 284 came with mothers.  
 " " 21 were lost children.  
 " " 7 were foundlings.  
 " " 161 came in various ways.  
 " " 144 were sent by the State.  
 " " 53 by Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

*Record of Outside Relief.*

1,455 meals given to 577 women (160 of whom had been inmates) and 63 children.  
 8 of these women had over 25 meals each.  
 16 " " " " from 10 to 25 meals each.  
 1,431 " " " " " 1 to 10 " "

EXPENSES OF DEPARTMENT.

We are happy to record the fact that the amount of our drafts upon the City Treasury are less by \$5,954.69 than last year, and the net cost of our department to the City was \$3,588.28 less. The amount of aid given was \$6,708.69 less than last year.

We collected and turned over to the trustees of the City Hospital for the care of State and town paupers in that institution \$36,197.66.

NUMBER AND SALARIES OF EMPLOYEES.

		Salaries, Feb. 1, 1900.	Jan. 31, 1901.
In office,	14	\$22,200 00	\$22,370 00
" building,	2	2,600 00	2,600 00
" outlying districts,	4	1,100 00	1,100 00
" storehouse,	3	2,674 00	2,804 00
" Temporary Home,	5	2,220 00	2,220 00
" Lodge for Wayfarers,	3	3,688 00	3,288 00

REGISTRATION OF CASES.

Early in the year we adopted a new system of registering the families aided by us. What is known as the card system is now used. Practically the same system of cards is now in use in all departments of the City which have to do with caring for the poor, the mentally diseased and the criminals. Pretty nearly the same questions are asked by all the departments, although different lines of inquiry are necessarily

followed out by each, concerning the persons coming under its scope. All these inquiries and the answers to them are now tabulated on cards of similar size and general design; all vital statistics, questions involving ancestors, etc., being framed on the same general lines. In this way information regarding cases dealt with by more than one department is much more easily collated, and what is known as the Institutions Registration Department acts as a general clearing-house for all City departments registering with it.

This last named department is now furnished by us each week with the number of individuals aided by us during the week in the two institutions under our charge, the Wayfarers' Lodge and the Temporary Home for Women and Children, as well as in the homes of the poor.

The new cards are somewhat more searching in their inquiries, and deal more closely than heretofore with the physical condition of the applicants and the members of the families helped and their ancestors. It is hoped that in time the facts thus gathered will be of great value in the study of the causes which lie behind the poverty of our City. They certainly tend to throw a good deal of light upon the present conditions of pauperism.

#### THE NATHANIEL FREDERIC THAYER FUND.

Miss Caroline Coddington Thayer died in Boston, February 15, 1891. By her will, after making certain bequests, she left all the rest and residue of her estate to her sisters for life, with remainder over to the City of Boston for charitable purposes. The following is an extract from her will:

"I give the income of all my property, saving what I have previously mentioned, to my two sisters, Mrs. Susan I. Balch and Mrs. R. Anne Nichols, for them to have and use during their lives; at the death of the last of them I give it all, real and personal, to the City of Boston to be invested and held and the income given to Protestant widows and single women without restrictions of color, such being the desire of my sister Eliza M. Thayer (now deceased), as well as myself."

In a codicil she says, "I desire the property given by me to the City of Boston to be invested in a fund to be formed for the benefit and use of Protestant widows and single women, without distinction of color, 'preference always to be given to those who have seen better days;' this fund to be called the Nathaniel Frederic Thayer Fund, the interest of which I desire to be annually appropriated to the uses above designated."

Both of Miss Thayer's sisters having died, the Overseers of the Poor came into possession of money, securities and real estate amounting to \$23,346.50. The votes of the Board accepting the gift and establishing the fund are as follows:

*Voted*, That the legacy of Caroline C. Thayer be accepted, and that the Treasurer of this Board, Richard C. Humphreys, be and hereby is authorized to receive the amount thereof, from the executor of the will of Caroline C. Thayer, and receipt for the same on behalf of this Board.

*Voted*, That the amount of the legacy be invested in a fund to be called the Nathaniel Frederic Thayer Fund, and that the income be paid as provided in the will.

By the will of her sister, Susan T. Balch, a bequest of the sum of \$390.77 was given to be held on the same trusts as those established by Miss Thayer, and that amount has been added to the Nathaniel Frederic Thayer Fund.

#### WEST ROXBURY DISTRICT.

Owing to the resignation of Mr. Elliott it became necessary to appoint a new agent in this district. The Board was so fortunate as to secure the services of Dr. Arthur P. Perry, a long time resident in the district, and a man who has had much valuable experience in charity work.

#### DEATH OF MICHAEL A. KERRIGAN.

Our Board was called upon, early in the autumn, to mourn the loss of one of its most valued members, Mr. M. A. Kerrigan. His illness had been a long one, but we had expected his recovery. He passed away on the tenth day of October, 1900. Mr. Kerrigan was highly esteemed by all his associates on the Board. He was a man of fine character, and devoted to the interests of the poor. His term of service was not long, but he had served upon important committees, and had demonstrated his capacity for the best service.

A special meeting was held, and resolutions were passed expressing the sympathy of the Board for his widow and the regard in which Mr. Kerrigan was held by his fellow members. The Board also voted to attend the funeral in a body. A copy of the action of the Board will be found in the Appendix.

## RESIGNATION OF MISS ROGERS.

The withdrawal of Miss Annette P. Rogers from our work is deeply deplored. A member of the Board for nearly ten years, she brought to it keenest interest, great experience and unusual ability; and she gave to it most painstaking labor and a great deal of valuable time. She was indefatigable in her efforts in behalf of the Temporary Home, of which she had especial care for many years as chairman of the committee which had it in charge. It is due largely to Miss Rogers' skill and patience and intelligent grasp of details that the work of the Board has been kept in the front rank of achievement during the last decade. She was fully alive to the progress of modern thought and to the latest developments of both scientific and practical charity.

Owing to her prolonged absence in Europe and the state of her health she felt obliged to send us a letter of resignation in October. It was accepted with sincere regret.

## DEATH OF MISS MURTAGH.

Miss Helen F. Murtagh, for many years order clerk in our office, died in January after a lingering illness. Her place was filled by the promotion of Mr. Edward F. Kenney from the storehouse.

## RESIGNATION OF MR. RICHARDS.

In January of this year Mr. Henry L. Richards, who for twenty years had been one of our most valued visitors, was obliged through the infirmities incident to his advancing years to resign his position. During his long term of faithful service Mr. Richards had endeared himself to those with whom he was brought in contact by his sturdy character, his earnest endeavor to do his duty as he found it, and his keen interest in the welfare of those whom he served. The poor always found him patient with their infirmities, alive to their needs, and a firm friend. His remarkable vigor enabled him to continue in active service till past his eighty-fifth year.

## DISTRICT PHYSICIANS.

The City Council made a special appropriation of \$1,500 to our department with the request that it be used to pay the salaries of physicians in South Boston, East Boston and Charlestown. This was unasked and unexpected by us. The Board has always had the control of its own appropria-



tions and did not feel that there was any necessity for making any radical changes in existing arrangements for the care of the sick poor. The money was not used.

The policy of the Board has been for many years to do away, as far as possible, with salaried physicians for the sick poor, preferring to supplement private charity whenever necessary rather than to encourage this most invidious and dangerous form of pauperism. Nearly the whole of the City is admirably cared for by that noble charity, the Boston Dispensary with its large corps of physicians. Where the Boston Dispensary has no visiting physicians the Board has made ample provision for the immediate care of the sick poor in all instances. In addition, the individual overseers and the visitors in their respective districts can always call upon physicians to treat emergency cases.

#### THE PROBLEM OF WIFE DESERTION.

For many years we have remarked upon the deplorably large number of deserted wives whom with their families the City is helping in their homes. We sometimes wonder if the laws of this State in the matter of compelling support by the husband and in punishing him for neglecting to support his family are sufficiently stringent. With the view of ascertaining facts which might throw light upon this problem of desertion we have, during the past summer, made thorough inquiries into the cases of wife desertion actually under our care. Some of the results of our investigation are submitted.

Our statistics relate to 153 families. In each instance the wife was at some time deserted by the husband. In a few cases periodical desertions appear to have taken place.

In general it may be inferred from the data of occupation that these families belong to the same social grade, from which most of our dependents are recruited. Of the 146 men whose occupation is given, 54 or 36.98 per cent. may be classed as unskilled workmen, which is, perhaps, a lower percentage than might have been expected. The somewhat nomadic tendency of a number is indicated by the birthplaces of the children, which show the families to have moved from place to place with considerable frequency.

In 108 cases, or 70.58 per cent., both husband and wife were of the same nationality, namely :

Irish . . . . .	48	Negroes . . . . .	6
British Provinces . . . . .	16	English . . . . .	4
Americans . . . . .	12	Portuguese . . . . .	4
Hebrew . . . . .	8	Other . . . . .	10

In forty-five cases, or 29.41 per cent., husband or wife were not of the same nationality; in twenty-five instances one of the contracting parties was Irish, and in thirteen one was American.

It is, of course, difficult to read the exact meaning of these statistics of nationality. We notice the relative absence in these columns of some nationalities largely represented in Boston.

With regard to age, our statistics offer some suggestive facts. In 36 out of 141 instances, in which the age of the husband is known, it is found to be under that of the wife. On the other hand, only in very few cases does the age of the husband greatly exceed that of the wife. With reference to the age at which matrimony was begun we have no indication except the age of the oldest child; but this may be safe enough for the purpose in hand. Our computation, so far as the women are concerned (the men may here be left out of consideration) results as follows:

Number.	Age at marriage.	Number.	Age at marriage.
2	14	16	26
3	15	5	27
5	16	4	28
9	17	1	29
7	18	4	30
15	19	4	31
10	20	0	32
14	21	0	33
14	22	3	34
6	23	1	35
4	24	3	36
13	25		

Thus of the 143 women concerned (for 10 cases no figures are given) 79, or more than one-half, were married at the age of 22 years or earlier; and 41, or 28.67 per cent., at 19 years of age or under. Comparatively few appear to have entered matrimony after the 26th year.

In 81 cases desertion took place before the wife had attained the 35th year, and in a majority of the same cases before she was 30 years old, as will be seen below:

*Age Periods of Women at the Time of Desertion.*

	AGES.								
	15-19.	20-24.	25-29.	30-34.	35-39.	40-43.	45-49.	50-54.	55-59.
Number of women . . . . .	1	10	40	30	28	33	6	3	2

In 5 of the 153 families there were no children; the remaining 148 show a total of 507 children, or an average of less than 4 per family. In 58 families there were 4 or more children, 14 had 6 or more, and only 1 had as many as 10. With a few exceptions the children were of tender age at the time of desertion. How far a desire to escape the burden of supporting a large family was an active motive for desertion cannot be definitely determined. On this point the statistics do not permit any valid inference.

#### TRUST FUNDS.

The total amount of the trust funds in our charge as a corporation is now \$750,985.16.

The number of beneficiaries now aided from the Pemberton, the Boylston Relief, the David Sears Charity, the Moses Hunt, and the Goodnow Funds is 250; 14 less than on February 1, 1900. During the year 21 have died, 2 have withdrawn, 1 gone to the almshouse, 3 transferred to our pauper relief pension fund, and in 8 cases we have stopped the pensions which we had been giving. Twenty-one new names have been added.

We have paid during the year from the Boylston Education Fund \$6,327.97.

For the details of the various funds held by us, showing receipts and expenditures since February 1, 1900, see statement submitted herewith. Extracts from the wills establishing these trusts will be found at the end of this report.

#### FINANCIAL STATISTICS.

The reports of the secretary and treasurer submitted herewith show receipts and expenditures during the last twelve months in detail. The books and accounts were audited by an expert accountant, whose certificate is hereto annexed.\* A schedule of the personal property in our hands February 1, 1901, is also annexed.

Respectfully submitted,

In behalf of the Overseers of the Poor,

WILLIAM P. FOWLER,

Chairman.

WILLIAM P. FOWLER, Esq.,  
Chairman, Overseers of the Poor.

\* BOSTON, March 11, 1901.

SIR, — This is to certify that I have made a careful examination of the books and accounts of the Overseers of the Poor, and those relating to the Trust Funds, for the year ending January 31, 1901, and find them clear and correct. All receipts of money were deposited in banks, all payments vouched, and cash balances on January 31, 1901, shown to be on hand.

Faithfully,

GEO. T. STODDARD,

Auditor.

## FINANCIAL REPORT.

Statement of receipts and expenditures for the year ending  
January 31, 1901:

## RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand February 1, 1900,	\$7,904 34	
Drafts on City Treasurer, and requisition for Temporary Home and Wayfarers' Lodge,	123,426 93	
Cash from cities and towns . . .	5,220 94	
Cash from occupants of Charity Building, for heating . . . . .	1,009 44	
Cash from Commonwealth, for relief . . . . .	5,611 90	
Cash from State and other sources, for burials . . . . .	1,792 81	
Aid returned by paupers . . . . .	53 84	
Cash for board of children in Temporary Home . . . . .	151 43	
Receipts on account of aid in City Hospital:		
Cities and towns, \$9,252 65		
State of Massa- chusetts . . . . .	26,898 57	
	<hr/>	36,151 22
Received from State of Massa- chusetts, for account of Car- ney Hospital cases . . . . .	2,043 59	
Receipts from sale of old barrels, etc., by the Supply Depart- ment . . . . .	338 10	
Interest on deposits . . . . .	156 64	
Bequest to City Temporary Home from Elmira P. Balch,	200 00	
	<hr/>	<u>\$184,061 18</u>

EXPENDITURES.

Amount paid for burials . . . . .	\$2,873 20
Amount paid cities and towns for relief of Boston poor . . . . .	11,947 56
Amount paid expenses Temporary Home . . . . .	5,454 99
Amount paid expenses Lodge for Wayfarers . . . . .	8,133 89
Amount paid pensions and grants at office . . . . .	20,288 79
Amount cash paid for relief of persons having no settlement, . . . . .	1,632 45
Amount paid for fuel, 1,065½ tons coal and 25 cords and 5½ feet of wood . . . . .	6,701 67
Amount paid for groceries and expense of delivery . . . . .	33,688 57
Amount paid salaries of treasurer and secretary . . . . .	4,500 00
Amount paid salaries of book-keeper and clerks . . . . .	5,332 00
Amount paid salaries of visitors and agents . . . . .	13,403 88
Amount paid office expenses . . . . .	1,080 77
Amount paid transportation . . . . .	566 81
Amount paid Charity Building expenses . . . . .	\$4,963 45
Extra for painting, . . . . .	605 75
Extra for repairs on boilers and boiler house . . . . .	573 80
Paid from Balch bequest for painting, whitewashing, etc., done in "Balch room" . . . . .	6,143 00
Amount paid medical attend- ance and medicine . . . . .	175 85
Cash paid City Hospital . . . . .	734 07
Cash paid City Collector . . . . .	36,197 66
Cash paid Carney Hospital, as received from Commonwealth, . . . . .	14,203 56
Cash balance, January 31, 1901, including \$24.15 belonging to Balch bequest . . . . .	2,043 59
	8,958 87

\$184,061 18

## PAYMENTS TO THE CITY COLLECTOR DURING THE YEAR.

Receipts from occupants of Charity Building for heating during the year . . . . .	\$1,009 44
Receipts from cities and towns . . . . .	5,249 14
Receipts from the State for burials . . . . .	1,600 40
Receipts from the State for relief of sick and wife-settlement cases . . . . .	2,021 06
Receipts from the State for temporary aid . . . . .	3,590 84
Receipts for sundry burials . . . . .	189.41
Receipts from paupers, aid refunded by them, . . . . .	53 84
Receipts for account Temporary Home, board of women and children . . . . .	151 43
Receipts from sale of barrels by Supply Department . . . . .	338 00
	<hr/>
	<u>\$14,203 56</u>

## EXPENDITURES ON ACCOUNT OF LODGE FOR WAYFARERS.

Salaries . . . . .	\$3,600 55
Groceries and provisions . . . . .	2,914 55
Furnishing goods and furniture . . . . .	275 95
Fuel, 85 tons of coal . . . . .	407 75
Gas and electric lighting . . . . .	151 35
Repairs . . . . .	208 95
Whitewashing . . . . .	82 00
Stationery and printing . . . . .	137 09
Water-rates . . . . .	47 50
Sundries . . . . .	9 50
Disinfectants . . . . .	\$87 85
Washing sheets and bedding . . . . .	210 85
	<hr/>
	298 70
	<hr/>
	<u>\$8,133 89</u>

## EXPENDITURES ON ACCOUNT OF CHARITY BUILDING.

Fuel, 300 tons coal and $\frac{1}{2}$ cord wood . . . . .	\$1,369 25
Engineer's salary . . . . .	1,601 00
Janitor's salary . . . . .	996 84
Disinfectants . . . . .	32 40
Gas \$58.86, and electric lighting \$205.93 . . . . .	264 79
Water-rates . . . . .	14 00
	<hr/>
<i>Carried forward</i> . . . . .	\$4,278 28

OVERSEEING OF THE POOR DEPARTMENT.

21

<i>Brought forward</i>		
Furnishings . . . . .		\$4,278 28
Extra labor in building . . . . .		30 09
Boiler-house repairs . . . . .		30 00
General repairs . . . . .		257 30
Painting . . . . .		183 53
Repairing roof . . . . .		605 75
Cleaning . . . . .		316 50
Cleaning yard . . . . .		439 05
		2 50
		<hr/>
Deduct estimated cost of heating the Temporary Home, included in the above . . . . .	\$1,397 57	\$6,143 00
Also amount received from occu- pants . . . . .	1,009 44	
	<hr/>	2,407 01
Net cost . . . . .		<hr/> <u>\$3,735 99</u>

EXPENDITURES FOR CITY TEMPORARY HOME.

Groceries, provisions, etc. . . . .		\$1,226 32
Salaries . . . . .		2,220 00
Extra help . . . . .		44 00
Fuel, 15 tons coal, 2 cords wood . . . . .		105 75
Gas and electric lighting . . . . .		119 17
Water-rates . . . . .		31 90
Medical attendance and medicine . . . . .	\$38 10	
Confinement cases . . . . .	670 00	
	<hr/>	708 10
Furniture and household goods . . . . .		159 20
Repairs . . . . .		347 51
Painting . . . . .		208 00
Sundries . . . . .		76 98
Plastering, block-work etc., in day nursery . . . . .		154 91
Stationery . . . . .		32 85
Cleaning range and windows . . . . .		20 30
Estimated cost of heating, included in Charity Building expenditures . . . . .		1,397 57
		<hr/>
Deduct receipts for board . . . . .		\$6,852 56
		244 41
Net cost . . . . .		<hr/> <u>\$6,608 15</u>

TRUST FUNDS IN THE HANDS OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

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*Pemberton Fund.*—This fund comprises bequests and gifts made to the City of Boston from 1760 to the present time from "A. B.," Daniel Oliver, Margaret Blackader, Alice Quick, Anne Wheelwright, Mary Ireland, Benjamin Pemberton, Martha Stevens, Mrs. H. Driscoll, William Breed, Samuel Eliot, John Coffin Jones, Mary Belknap, "A Citizen of Boston" Anonymous, Miss Dr. Harriot K. Hunt, George Higginson, Walter E. Hawes, and William B. Spooner. The most important, however, of the bequests was from Benjamin Pemberton, Esq., whose will was proved June 25, 1782, and for that reason his name has been given to the fund. The income of this fund is to be expended, at the discretion of the Overseers in semi-annual payments to the poor of the City.

*Boylston Relief and Education Funds.*—These funds were from a bequest by John Boylston, who died in London, England. His will was proved June 12, 1795. One portion of the bequest is ordered to be paid to "poor and decayed householders of the town of Boston, not under fifty years of age, persons of good character, and reduced by the acts of Providence, not by indolence, extravagance, or other vice." The other portion to be applied to the "nurture and instruction of poor orphans and deserted children of the town of Boston until fourteen years of age."

*Mason Funds.*—A bequest from Jonathan Mason, by will dated July 15, 1798, interest to be paid annually "to the standing chaplain of the almshouse and workhouse, or by whatever other name called;" interest to be added until one is appointed. The interest is now paid semi-annually towards the salary of the chaplain of the House of Industry.

*Dexter Fund.*—A bequest from Samuel Dexter, by will dated May 7, 1811, "for supplying with firewood or coal such poor persons, objects of charity, as are not supported in the almshouse, though sometimes relieved by the Overseers of the Poor."



*Jeffries Fund.* — A bequest by David Jeffries, former Town Treasurer. Will dated January, 1786: "Income to be applied to the purchase of tea, coffee, chocolate, and sugar, for the refreshment of those persons, who, in the providence of God are or shall be reduced and obliged to take shelter in the almshouse, after having lived respectably; the Overseers of the Poor to be judges as to the persons, but always giving the preference to the pious poor."

*Lucy Bullman Charity.* — Consists of an estate on Cambridge and Joy streets, in this City, which came into the possession of the City of Boston, in accordance with the will of Lucy Bullman, proved at Probate Court, Suffolk County, January 9, 1832, in which it is provided that, upon the death of certain persons therein named, said estate is given to the City of Boston, upon the condition that the estate should never be sold, but the income used for the benefit of the poor. By a vote of the City Council, approved by the Mayor, January 4, 1872, this estate was placed in charge of the Overseers of the Poor.

*The David Sears Charity.* — Is a fund contributed by the late Hon. David Sears for the relief of the poor, the income only to be expended "in aid and for the support of citizens or families who may have seen better days, and for charity in all its forms, in such a manner as may best tend to alleviate the sufferings of human life and render the condition of the poor more comfortable."

*Pierce Fuel Fund.* — The legacy of Caleb Pierce to the City of Charlestown, accepted by the City Council of that city, May, 1861: "Income to be expended in the purchase of fuel, to be distributed to those indigent widows whose husbands, before their decease, had resided in Charlestown at least one year, and the said widows still continuing to reside in Charlestown at the time of receiving said bounty. Income payable annually to the Trustees of the Charlestown Poor Fund."

*Holton Protestant Poor Fund.* — A bequest by James Holton to the inhabitants of the town of Brighton: "Income to be annually expended forever in purchasing and distributing provisions among poor and indigent Protestant families in said town of Brighton, on Thanksgiving or other holidays, or just previous to such holidays, to the end that such poor Protestant families may have the means, in some degree, of enjoying such holidays in common with their fellow-citizens; and I specially direct that in such periodical distributions unmarried Protestant females who are poor or needy shall receive a liberal share of provisions, and also other articles

of comfort, such as such distributors shall deem to be the most conducive to the comfort and happiness of that lone class of citizens."

*Holton Protestant Pauper Fund.* — A bequest by James Holton to the inhabitants of the town of Brighton: "Income to be annually expended, in whole or in part, as necessity or circumstances may require, by the Selectmen of said town, in providing good and plentiful meals on Thanksgiving day or other holidays, to the Protestant paupers of said Brighton." If the whole of said income shall not be required to be so expended, then the surplus shall be added to the principal, and if such principal shall ever become thus augmented to three thousand dollars or more, then the surplus interest or income, over what shall be necessary for furnishing said festive meals on said holidays, may be expended by said Selectmen for the comfort of the Protestant paupers of said Brighton in such manner as said Selectmen shall judge best and most conducive to the comfort and happiness of such paupers.

*Stoughton Poor Fund.* — A bequest of Lieut.-Gov. William Stoughton, who died July 7, 1701. By his will he gave £50 to the relief of the poor of Dorchester, to be improved by the care of the Selectmen, the income to be distributed to the most needy inhabitants.

*Goodnow Fund.* — A bequest of Elisha Goodnow (to be paid over upon the decease of his wife) to the City of Boston and its assigns, "to be invested and the income applied forever to and for the relief, assistance and support of the poor, sick and infirm in said City, not supported by the said City in its almshouse, in such manner as the said City, or the government or officers thereof, may deem most judicious, but without reference to the religious faith or belief of those who may apply for or need the assistance of this fund." Five thousand dollars, received April 29, 1885.

*Rachel T. Stevens Fund.* — A bequest of Rachel T. Stevens, the net income to be paid (after the death of a person named in the will) "for the support and maintenance of poor, worthy Protestant single women of Boston, who have arrived at the age of 50 years (not including widows), paying to each of such women during her life the sum of one hundred dollars in semi-annual payments. Upon the marriage of any beneficiary under this will no further payment of money is to be made to her, nor is any further payment of income to be made to any beneficiary who becomes unworthy of help under this trust."

*Moses Hunt Fund for the Destitute.* — "The income to be devoted to the relief and welfare of Protestant destitute

residents of that part of said Boston which was Charlestown." Ten thousand dollars, received March 7, 1889, has been invested in a City of Boston note.

*Nathaniel Frederic Thayer Fund.* — "Income to be annually appropriated for the benefit and use of Protestant widows and single women, without distinction of color, preference always to be given to those who have seen better days."

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR, 1900-1901.

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[One-third of the Board is appointed annually by the Mayor, subject to the approval of the Board of Aldermen.]

*Terms expire April 30, 1901.*

WILLIAM P. FOWLER, *Chairman*, EDITH P. WOLCOTT,  
THOMAS SPROULES, HENRY L. PLUMMER.

*Terms expire April 30, 1902.*

ANNIE E. QUINN, FREDERIC H. NAZRO,  
LOUISE S. O'BRIEN, PATRICK J. GREENE.

*Terms expire April 30, 1903.*

FREDERICK W. STUART, JAMES H. CONLEY,  
J. HOMER PIERCE, MARTHA W. FOLSOM.

RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS, *Treasurer*.  
BENJAMIN PETTEE, *Secretary*.

The Board meets on the first Wednesday of every month, at its office in Charity Building.

The Overseers of the Poor are likewise incorporated as a Board of Trustees of John Boylston's and other charitable funds, left for the assistance of persons of good character and advanced age, "who have been reduced by misfortune to indigence and want."

## COMMITTEES.

*Investigation and Relief.*

Messrs. Fowler and Sproules, Mrs. Wolcott, Dr. Stuart,  
Miss O'Brien, Mr. Pierce, and Dr. Plummer.

*Finance and Accounts.*

Messrs. Pierce, Plummer, and Conley.

*Employments and Settlements.*

Mrs. Quinn, Mr. Conley, and Mrs. Folsom.

*Supplies.*

Messrs. Sproules, Fowler, and Nazro.

*Temporary Home.*

Mrs. Wolcott, Mr. Sproules, and Miss O'Brien.

*Lodge for Wayfarers and the Woodyard.*

Messrs. Fowler, Nazro, and Greene.

*Building.*

Mr. Sproules, Dr. Stuart, and Mrs. Folsom.

*Real Estate.*

Mr. Pierce, Mrs. Quinn, and Mr. Conley.

*Medical.*

Dr. Plummer, Dr. Stuart, and Mrs. Folsom.

*Burials.*

Dr. Stuart, Mrs. Quinn, and Mr. Greene.

*Boylston Education Fund Beneficiaries.*

Mrs. Wolcott, Mr. Pierce, and Miss O'Brien.

*Holton Funds.*

Dr. Plummer and Mr. Nazro.

*Widows with Children.*

Miss O'Brien, Mrs. Wolcott, and Mr. Conley.

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR WERE FIRST CHOSEN IN  
BOSTON IN 1691.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD FROM ITS REORGANIZATION  
IN 1864.

- \* Allen, Ira, 1868 to 1875 (died August 29).
- \* Amory, Thomas C., 1864 to April, 1883.
- \* Atkins, Ebenezer, 1864 to December 31, 1867 (died).  
Ayer, James B., April, 1890, to May, 1893.
- \* Bailey, Joseph T., November, 1866, to 1871.
- \* Bigelow, Alanson, 1875 to April, 1881.
- \* Blasland, Thomas, 1866 to 1873 (died September 5).
- \* Buckley, Joseph, 1864 to 1875.  
Burnham, Daniel S., from April, 1885, to May, 1891.  
Campbell, B. F., October, 1882, to July, 1888.
- \* Campbell, Isaac T., 1873 to June, 1899 (died).
- \* Caton, Asa H., December, 1890, to 1893.  
Coleman, Charles, 1893 to May, 1896.
- Conley, James H., May, 1900, to date.
- \* Crane, P. M., 1870 to 1882 (died August 13).
- \* Cruft, Samuel B., 1871 to 1877.  
Cunningham, Henry V., 1893 to April, 1898.
- \* Curry, M. C., 1883 to May, 1896,
- \* Curtis, George, 1876 to September, 1878.  
Davis, James G., 1880 to 1886.
- \* Day, Frederick W., May, 1898, to January, 1899.  
Dore, John P., 1879 to May, 1891.  
Downey, Thos., jr., 1887 to April, 1890, and May, 1891,  
to January, 1895.
- \* Fabyan, George, 1869 to 1874 (died May 25).  
Fisher, Andrew P., from April, 1889, to May, 1893.
- Folsom, Martha W., November, 1900, to date.
- Fowler, William P., from April, 1889, to date.
- \* Friedman, Solomon, 1886 to December, 1890.  
Gargan, Thomas J., 1874 to 1875.
- \* Gorman, William, 1877 to 1880 (died January).  
Greene, Patrick J., October, 1900, to date.
- \* Griffin, Martin, 1864 to 1869.
- \* Hale, George S., 1865 to 1871.

- \* Hull, Liverus, 1874 to April, 1883.
- Humphreys, Richard C., May, 1890, to September, 1898.
- \* Kerrigan, Michael A., April, 1898, to October, 1900 (died).
- Lamb, John, 1891 to May, 1897.
- \* Lawrence, William R., 1864 to November, 1865.
- \* Lincoln, F. W., May, 1867, to April, 1878.
- \* Little, James L., November, 1865, to November, 1876.
- \* Lothrop, Loring, 1864 to April, 1870.
- Logue, Charles, May, 1896, to January, 1898.
- Madden, Daniel A., 1883, to April, 1889.
- Mullen, Matthew J., July, 1897, to May, 1900.
- \* McLean, Charles R., 1868 to 1871.
- Nazro, Frederic H., March, 1900, to date.
- \* Newmarch, S., 1864 to 1865.
- Newell, Otis K., from July, 1888, to May, 1891.
- O'Brien, John, 1871 to 1874.
- O'Brien, Louise S., April, 1898, to date.
- \* Parker, Augustus, November, 1878, to April, 1880.
- Parker, Charles F., June, 1895, to May, 1898.
- \* Parker, F. E., 1864 to 1875.
- \* Pickering, H. W., 1875 to April, 1884.
- Pierce, J. Homer, from October, 1898, to date.
- Plummer, Henry L., January, 1899, to date.
- Prescott, Washington L., 1875 to December, 1878.
- Quinn, Annie E., May, 1899, to date.
- Richards, Henry L., 1877 to August, 1878.
- \* Richards, Joel, 1864 to 1866.
- \* Ring, Thomas F., November, 1878, to April, 1887.
- Rogers, Annette P., 1891 to October, 1900.
- \* Sawin, Samuel D., April, 1884, to July, 1890 (died).
- Scott, John A., April, 1881, to April, 1884.
- \* Spooner, William B., 1864 to 1868.
- Sproules, Thomas, 1883 to date.
- \* Stackpole, Stephen A., 1880 to April, 1883.
- Stuart, Frederick W., December, 1896, to date.
- Sullivan, Daniel F., 1893 to June, 1895.
- Sweetser, John, December, 1878, to April, 1879.
- Temple, Thomas F., 1870 to April, 1890.
- Thorndike, Rachel E. S., May, 1896, to April, 1899.
- Turner, John, September, 1890, to May, 1893, and January, 1895, to November, 1896.
- \* Warren, John W., 1864 to April, 1866.
- Welch, William J., April, 1884, to April, 1889.
- Willcutt, Levi L., 1878 to April, 1885.

- \* Winthrop, Robert C., 1864, to May, 1867.
- Wolcott, Edith P., 1893, to date.

*Chairmen.*

- \* Winthrop, Robert C., July, 1864, to May, 1867.
- \* Lincoln, F. W., June, 1867, to April, 1878.
- Temple, Thomas F., April, 1878, to December 31, 1878,  
and from April, 1881, to April, 1890.
- \* Amory, Thomas C., January, 1879, to April, 1881.
- Newell, Otis K., April, 1890, to May, 1891.
- Fowler, William P., May, 1891, to date.

*Treasurers.*

- \* Warren, John W., July, 1864, to January, 1865.
- \* Norcross, Otis, January, 1865, to January, 1876.
- \* Higginson, George, 1876 to 1878.
- \* Lincoln, F. W., April, 1878, to September, 13, 1898 (died).
- Humphreys, Richard C., November, 1898, to date.

*Secretaries.*

- \* Pratt, John, July, 1864, to November, 1874 (died).
- Pettee, Benjamin, November, 1874, to date.

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\* Dead.



OCCUPANTS OF CHARITY BUILDING.

*Basement Rooms.*

City Physician . . . . .	Nos. 3 and 4
Homœopathic Dispensary . . . . .	No. 5
Federation of Jewish Charities . . . . .	Nos. 11 and 13

*First-story Rooms.*

Overseers of the Poor . . . . .	Nos. 15 to 20
State Aid Paymaster . . . . .	" 21 to 24
Industrial Aid Society . . . . .	" 25 to 28

*Second-story Rooms.*

Associated Charities . . . . .	Nos. 30 and 31
Boston Ladies' Sewing Circle . . . . .	" 35 and 37
Boston Provident Association . . . . .	Nos. 32, 33, 38 and 40
Society of St. Vincent de Paul . . . . .	No. 36
German Aid Society . . . . .	" 39

*Third-story Rooms.*

Hall for general meetings . . . . .	No. 41
Boston Children's Aid Society . . . . .	" 43
Co-operative Society . . . . .	" 48
Ward 6 Conference, Associated Charities . . . . .	" 49
Ward 8 Conference, Associated Charities . . . . .	" 50
Ward 7 Conference, Associated Charities . . . . .	" 51

In addition to the above, the Boston Police Relief Association holds its annual meeting here, and the Massachusetts Infant Asylum has desk-room in No. 41.

## SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY IN CHARGE OF THE BOARD.

Charity Building. — The four rooms, occupied by the Board and its officers, have furniture needed for their use, desks, cases, chairs, etc.

City Temporary Home is supplied with furniture necessary to provide temporary accommodations for homeless women and children.

The Lodge for Wayfarers, for men, has furniture suitable for its use. At the Lodge, and at the wharf hired for the storage of wood, there are at the present time about two hundred and sixty cords of wood; also one wagon.

In a storehouse in the yard of Charity Building are the following groceries for delivery to the poor; also store fixtures:

<p>18½ bbls. sugar.            11 chests tea.            22 boxes soap.            1½ bbls. Indian meal.            2½ bbls. rice.            2 bbls. salt pork.            73 bbls. flour.            34 packages paper bags.            219 baskets.            490 lbs. paper.            6 scales.            4 scoops.            2 desks.            34½ bushels beans.            10½ bbls. oatmeal.            1,020 lbs. salt fish.            257 cans condensed milk.</p>	<p>146 ½-lb. boxes cocoa.            90 bushels potatoes.            3 bushels peas.            67 lbs. cotton twine.            50 lbs. jute twine.            1,125 tags.            8 dry measures.            8 tunnels.            5 chairs.            1 truck.            2 hatchets.            1 meat-saw.            4 butcher-knives.            1 meat-hook.            2 shovels.            1 pail.</p>
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TRUST FUND.—Cash Accounts, February 1, 1900, to January 31, 1901.

	PEMBERTON FUND.		BOYLSTON EDUCATION FUND.		BOYLSTON RELIEF FUND.		MASON FUND.		DEXTER FUND.		JEFFRIES FUND.		LUCY BULLMAN CHARITY.		THE DAVID SEARS CHARITY.		PIERCE FUEL FUND.		HOLTON PROTESTANT PAUPER FUND.		HOLTON PROTESTANT POOR FUND.		STOUGHTON POOR FUND.		GOODNOW FUND.		RACHEL T. STEVENS FUND.		MOSES HUNT FUND FOR THE DESTITUTE.		NATHANIEL FREDERIC THAYER FUND.		TOTAL.			
	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.	Receipts.	Payments.		
Cash, January 31, 1900.....	\$2,595 28		\$3,393 73		\$527 17		\$102 50		\$134 74		\$25 96		\$447 14		\$1,469 65		\$45 91		\$259 92		\$0 75		\$33 88		\$132 87		\$53 44		\$32 54				\$9,190 40			
RECEIPTS.																																				
Bank Dividends, including Tax Refunded by the State.....	1,445 22		3 95		221 78																													1,670 95		
Interest on City Notes.....	4,477 50		6,810 00		1,087 50		43 50		209 75		288 75		952 50		10,570 00		90 00		187 50		75 00		138 00		307 50		120 00		\$437 50				25,795 00			
On Account of Stock in Liquidating Banks.....	230 00		360 00																															590 00		
Interest on United States Bonds.....																																		328 50		
Interest on Bonds.....																																			\$200 00	200 00
Interest on Deposits.....	33 32		71 33		8 46		5 20		4 12		3 13		23 34		82 02		1 37		7 85		1 14		2 57		4 99		78		30		38 95		288 87			
Rents.....													1,660 00		1,625 04												187 50						3,472 54			
Dividends on Fifty Associates' Stock.....															2,280 00																			2,280 00		
City of Boston Notes Paid.....	10,500 00		3,500 00		1,500 00								1,000 00		4,500 00																			24,500 00		
From Executor and Sale of Real Estate.....																																		17,607 55	17,607 55	
Premium on Exchange of 4 per cent. U. S. Bonds for 2 per cent. Bonds.....							734 00																											734 00		
PAYMENTS.																																				
City of Boston Notes Bought.....		\$11,000 00		\$4,000 00		\$1,500 00							\$1,000 00		\$5,000 00																			\$18,000 00	\$44,000 00	
Expense of exchanging U. S. Bonds.....																																			2 00	
Pensions.....		5,730 00				1,200 00									10,785 00																				18,240 00	
Board of Thirty-six Boys and Girls.....				6,327 97																															6,327 97	
Grants.....													1,600 00																						1,600 00	
Repairs.....													29 55																						29 55	
Paid for Turkeys for Brighton Poor.....																																			96 04	
Paid Beneficiary.....																																			226 72	
Paid Treasurer of Charlestown Poor Fund.....																																			91 37	
Paid Tax on Real Estate in Somerville.....																																			43 28	
Paid for Repairs on Longwood Estate.....																																			454 71	
Coal.....													57 33																						57 33	
Cash, January 31, 1901.....		2,551 32		3,811 04		644 91		1,211 70		291 28		\$317 84		1,453 43		4,287 00		45 91		435 37		75		\$174 45		245 36		91 72		80 26				15,488 84		
Cash overdrawn.....																																			153 50	
Total.....	\$19,281 32	\$19,281 32	\$14,139 01	\$14,139 01	\$3,344 91	\$3,344 91	\$1,213 70	\$1,213 70	\$348 61	\$348 61	\$317 84	\$317 84	\$4,082 98	\$4,082 98	\$20,526 71	\$20,526 71	\$137 28	\$137 28	\$2,455 27	\$2,455 27	\$1,576 89	\$1,576 89	\$174 45	\$174 45	\$445 36	\$445 36	\$361 72	\$361 72	\$437 80	\$437 80	\$18,000 00	\$18,000 00	\$86,657 81	\$86,657 81		

**Statement of Trust Funds in the hands of the Overseers of the Poor, Richard C. Humphreys, Treasurer, January 31, 1901.**

INVESTMENTS.	Pemberton or General Fund.	Boylston Education Fund.	Boylston Relief Fund.	Mason Fund.	Dexter Fund.	Jeffries Fund.	Lucy Bullman Charity.	David Sears Charity.	Pierce Fuel Fund.	Holton Protestant Pauper Fund.	Holton Protestant Poor Fund.	Stoughton Poor Fund.	Goodnow Fund.	Rachel T. Stevens Fund.	Moses Hunt Fund for the Destitute.	Nathaniel Frederic Thayer Fund.	Total.
United States two per cent. Treasury Bonds.....				6 \$7,300 00													\$7,300 00
Mass. Water Loan three and one-half per cent. Gold Bonds, ..																	
City of Boston Currency Notes.....	33 \$111,500 00	45 \$145,500 00	21 \$27,250 00	2 1,100 00	9 \$5,350 00	11 \$7,000 00	30 \$23,750 00	41 \$258,000 00	1 \$1,500 00	6 \$4,250 00	1 \$1,500 00	6 \$3,050 00	8 \$7,750 00	8 \$3,000 00	3 \$11,000 00	1 18,000 00	\$5,000 00
City of Sioux Falls five per cent. Bonds.....																	5,000 00
Fifty Associates' Corporation Stock.....																	629,500 00
Real Estate.....								19 22,800 00									500 00
Columbian National Bank Stock.....								*43,566 32									22,800 00
New England " " ".....	50 5,000 00	180 00												2,200 00			45,766 32
State " " ".....	60 6,000 00																180 00
Tremont " " ".....	1,150 00	300 00															5,000 00
Union " " ".....	32 3,200 00		28 2,800 00														6,000 00
Washington " " ".....	60 6,000 00																1,450 00
Investments.....																	6,000 00
Cash.....	\$132,850 00	\$145,980 00	\$30,050 00	\$8,400 00	\$5,350 00	\$7,000 00	\$23,750 00	\$324,366 32	\$1,500 00	\$4,250 00	\$1,500 00	\$3,050 00	\$7,750 00	\$5,200 00	\$11,000 00	\$23,500 00	\$735,496 32
Cash Overdrawn.....	2,551 32	3,811 04	644 91	1,211 70	291 28	317 84	1,453 43	4,287 00	45 91	435 37	75	174 45	245 36	91 72	80 26		
Total.....	\$135,401 32	\$149,791 04	\$30,694 91	\$9,611 70	\$5,641 28	\$7,317 84	\$25,203 43	\$328,653 32	\$1,545 91	\$4,685 37	\$1,500 75	\$3,224 45	\$7,995 36	\$5,291 72	\$11,080 26	\$23,346 50	153 50
Total, January 31, 1900.....																	\$750,985 16
Increase.....																	725,226 72
																	\$25,758 44

\* Assessors Valuation for 1900, \$109,400.

BOSTON, January 31, 1901.  
 RICHARD C. HUMPHREYS, Treasurer.

## APPENDIX.

Official action of the Board of Overseers of the Poor at a special meeting, held October 12, 1900, with regard to the death of Mr. Michael A. Kerrigan.

The members present spoke of Mr. Kerrigan's sterling character, and the faithful and efficient service he had performed as a member of the Board, and it was

*Voted*, That a committee of three be appointed, of which the Chairman shall be one, to draw up resolutions with regard to the death of Mr. Kerrigan, to be presented to the Board at its next meeting.

Mr. Sproules and Dr. Stuart were appointed on the committee.

*Voted*, That the Board attend the funeral in a body.

*Voted*, That the Chairman have full power to arrange for the closing of the office.

At a meeting of the Board held November 7, the special committee presented the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That by the death of Mr. Michael A. Kerrigan, the Board of Overseers of the Poor has lost one of its most valued members, a man who has earnestly labored in behalf of the poor for many years, whose work on our Board has been characterized by punctuality in attendance, willingness in service, and faithful performance of all duties assigned to him.

*Resolved*, That while we deplore the loss of his services to the Board and to the poor in whose welfare he was so deeply interested, we also keenly regret the death of one whose kind nature and friendly disposition made him a personal friend of all with whom he was brought in contact, whether he labored with them or for them.

*Resolved*, That we gladly pay this tribute of respect to the sterling qualities of mind and heart which went to make up Mr. Kerrigan's character, and we tender our deepest sympathy to his widow in her great sorrow.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of the Board, and a copy be sent by the Secretary to the widow of the deceased.

On motion of Mrs. Wolcott the resolutions were adopted by a rising vote.

MEMORANDUM

Subject: [Illegible]

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