

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

PRINTED BY ORDER OF

THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSIONS

A. D. 1851--2.

Augusta:

WILLIAM T. JOHNSON, PRINTER TO THE STATE.

1852.

THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE.

No. 41.]

[HOUSE.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE, }
Augusta, March 23, 1852. }

IN obedience to your order passed 22d instant, calling on this department for "a detailed statement of the gun-houses and lots in five councilor districts, and unserviceable ordnance sold, as reported in his last annual statement, and the several purchasers of the same," I herewith transmit copies or abstracts of such reports, orders and accounts, relating to the subject, as I find among the papers of the office.

As those proceedings were had under a resolve of the legislature of August, and of an order in Council of November, 1850, and I entered upon the duties of this office in January, 1851, I am without other knowledge of those transactions than the records afford.

I answer, "whether any, and if any, what gun-houses and ordnance have been since sold, and for how much, and to whom, and the agents employed to sell the same, with a copy of their accounts rendered for such service," in the accompanying papers marked A., B., C., D.

GREENLIEF WHITE, *Adjutant General.*

To the Hon. G. P. SEWALL,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

REPORT.

[COPY.—ORDER IN COUNCIL.]

STATE OF MAINE.

IN COUNCIL, November 23, 1850.

The standing committee on military affairs, to which was referred the subject of gun-houses and military ordnance belonging to the State, and not under the control of any military company, having had the same under consideration

REPORT :

That there are thirty-one gun-houses, and should be sixty-two pieces of artillery, thirty-one tumbrils, fifty to one hundred sets of harness, together with the carriages and equipments of the same, of the value of fifty thousand dollars. Said property is located in the following towns, viz : (county of York,) York, Saco and Limerick ; (county of Oxford,) Paris, Turner, Livermore and Bethel ; (county of Kennebec,) Monmouth, Waterville, Readfield and Clinton ; (county of Waldo,) Frankfort ; (county of Lincoln,) Bath, Topsham, Warren, Boothbay, Bristol and East Thomaston ; (county of Cumberland,) Danville, Freeport, Gray and Westbrook ; (county of Hancock,) Orland ; (county of Washington,) Eastport and Calais ; (county of Somerset,) Norridgewock, Anson and St. Albans ; (county of Franklin,) Farmington and Wilton ; (county of Penobscot,) Garland, Lincoln, Bangor and Brewer.

Your committee have reason to believe, from all the evidence they can obtain, that the gun-houses are very much out of repair,

GUN-HOUSES AND MILITARY ORDNANCE. 3

and thereby, the artillery ordnance remaining in the same is not only exposed to the weather, consequently injuring, but the guns not being under the charge of any one, are used and injured by boys in the village where the same are located ; and in two instances that have come to our knowledge, two brass pieces of the value of from eight to ten hundred dollars, have been unlawfully taken and carried to California.

Under this view of the case, and believing that the property if it remain, where it now is, not under the control of any responsible person, that the same will decrease in value every year, and finally be a total loss to the State, your committee would recommend that the governor and commander-in-chief cause an order to issue, causing the councilor from each district to take charge of said gun-houses and artillery ordnance in their respective districts, and to have the ordnance removed to the State arsenals at Bangor or Portland, as soon as the same can be done, at a fair price, the same to be removed in season for a report from each councilor at the last session of the present council. In the meantime, your committee would recommend to each councilor to examine the gun-houses in his district, and if the same are not in suitable repair, so that the property will be protected from the weather and not liable to damage by being openly exposed, to have the same property stored until he shall have the same removed to the State arsenals, aforesaid. Also, if in his judgment it would be for the interest of the State, to have the gun-houses sold, either at public or private sale, and the proceeds thereof applied towards defraying the expenses of the transportation of the ordnance to the State arsenal.

Which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN BABSON, *Chairman.*

IN COUNCIL, November 23, 1850.

Read and accepted by the council, and by the governor approved.

(Signed by)

ATTEST: JOHN G. SAWYER, *Secretary of State.*

ABSTRACTS.

[COPY.—J. WILSHIRE.]

STATE OF MAINE *to* JOHN WILSHIRE,

Dr.

1850.		
Dec. 27.	To travel to sell gun-house and lot at Frankfort, To 6 days time to sell gun-house and get guns transported from Frankfort to Bangor,	\$10 00 18 00
	Paid for transportation of the same,	12 00
	Paid for delivering deed to Keeler,	6 00
Dec. 17.	4 days to sell gun-house at Norridgewock,	12 00
	Travel from St. Albans to Norridgewock and back,	6 00
Dec. 21.	4 days to sell gun-house at N. Anson,	12 00
	Travel to N. Anson and back,	6 00
	Travel and time to sell gun-house at Hartland and get guns transported to Bangor,	9 00
	Travel and one day's time to Waterville to get guns transported to Portland,	7 00
	3 days' time to get guns transported from Harmony to Bangor,	9 00
	Travel 30 miles,	3 00
	Paid for 2 deeds,	1 00
	1 day at Portland to the keeper of Arsenal,	3 00
	Paid for transporting guns from N. Anson to W.,	15 00
	Pd. for transporting guns from Norridgewock to W.,	5 00
	Paid for transporting same from Harmony to Ban- gor,	36 00
	Paid for transporting same from Hartland to Ban- gor,	25 00
	Paid for transporting guns from Waterville to Portland,	20 00
		215 00
	Cash paid Act. Quartermaster General,	45 00
		\$260 00

GUN-HOUSES AND MILITARY ORDNANCE. 5

JOHN WILSHIRE to STATE OF MAINE, *Dr.*

1850.		
Decem'r.	To cash received for gun-house, N. Anson,	\$55 00
	For same at Norridgewock,	50 00
	" Hartland,	40 00
	" Frankfort,	115 00
		\$260 00

Aug. 13, 1851.—Settled with Act. Quartermaster General.

(Signed by) JOHN WILSHIRE.

[COPY.—B. WIGGIN.]

AUGUSTA, April 25, 1851.

GEN. GREENLIEF WHITE :

SIR—In accordance with the authority vested in me by yourself, under act of the last legislature, I have attended to the duties relating to the gun and gun-houses in the counties of Penobscot and Piscataquis district, and also in Belfast, and

R E P O R T :

The gun-houses were situated in Lincoln, Brewer, and Garland.

The gun-house in Lincoln I sold to Joseph Shaw for twenty-five dollars. It was old and much broken up and was worth no more ; the guns, &c., were hauled by Joseph Whittier to Bangor, fifty miles, for twelve dollars, and are now in the arsenal at Bangor.

The Brewer house is in good order, and as a company were about to be organized, I thought best to await that event ; the guns &c., are well cared for.

The gun-house in Garland was in good order, but I could not get over fifty dollars for the same, which I concluded to accept, and

have sent to L. D. Hayes, representative in the last legislature, the deed of the same, to be issued when the price is paid. The guns &c., that were here stored have been moved to Hartland, which was some time since.

The Belfast gun-house has not been sold, it would bring about fifty dollars; the lot is not owned by the State. The guns &c., were by my direction placed on the wharf for the purpose of being removed to the arsenal at Bangor, when H. W. Cunningham seized the same, and he should be held responsible for the same.

My bill accompanies this report.

(Signed by)

BENJ. WIGGIN.

STATE OF MAINE to BENJAMIN WIGGIN,

Dr.

To travel to Lincoln, 50 miles,	\$10 00
Time, 3 days,	9 00
Paid for hauling guns,	12 00
Travel to Garland, &c., 30 miles,	6 00
Time employed, correspondence, &c.,	6 00
Paid for assistance selling,	5 00
Travel to Belfast, 30 miles,	6 00
Time, 3 days,	9 00
Time, gun-house in Brewer,	3 00
	<hr/>
	66 00
Cr. by cash—gun-house in Lincoln,	26 00
	<hr/>
	\$40 00

GUN-HOUSES AND MILITARY ORDNANCE. 7

[COPY.—E. L. OSGOOD.]

E. L. OSGOOD to STATE OF MAINE,

Dr.

April, 1851.	
To amount arising from sale of gun-houses in York, Limerick, Saco, Bethel, Paris and Turner,	\$365 00
Cash of G. White, Act Quartermaster General, this day,	121 88
	<hr/>
	\$486 88
	<hr/>
<i>Amount claimed by E. L. Osgood, as follows :</i>	
For cash paid out for transportation of guns and other property belonging to the State, from above houses to the State Arsenal at Portland,	\$117 88
For 36 days personal services in the above, \$3,	108 00
For travel from Fryeburg to above places, which includes all expenses,	107 00
For travel to Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and Livermore, including expenses,	47 00
For 10 days in the above,	30 00
For travel to Portland three different times, including expenses,	30 00
For 9 days' time in going to and from Portland,	27 00
For travel to Paris to search records, including expenses,	8 00
For 3 days as above,	12 00
	<hr/>
	\$486 88

April 25, 1851.—Settled as above.

(Signed)

E. L. OSGOOD.

[COPY.—L. VALENTINE.]

GEN. GREENLIEF WHITE, *Acting Q. M. General* :

SIR—I was authorized by Alfred Redington, under date of Dec. 5, 1850, then acting Q. M. general, to dispose of the several gun-houses in the county of Cumberland, and to transfer the State property contained in them, to the arsenal at Portland, or to that at Bangor. In obedience to that direction, I have attended to said business, and now make my report to you.

I found on examination four gun-houses in the county, viz : in Gray, Westbrook, Danville, and Freeport.

At Gray I found two brass six pounders, and in excellent condition, as also were all the harnesses and other fixtures belonging to the same. These I transferred to the arsenal at Portland, and subsequently sold the gun-house to Moses Plummer, Esq., for fifty dollars, this being the newest and most valuable one in the county. The lot when it ceased to be used by the State for a gun-house, reverted back to its former proprietors.

At Westbrook I found the gun-house vacant, but upon enquiring of Capt. Geo. T. Hedge, keeper of the arsenal at Portland, he informed me that he had caused the ordnance of the State to be transferred from Westbrook to the arsenal by order of Gen. Redington ; that said pieces were brass six pounders and in prime order. They were shown me, and I found such to be the fact. The gun-house there was small and a very old one, and the lot was of little value ; they were sold at auction. The lot was purchased by Mr. Joel H. Murray for seven dollars, and the building by Rufus Morrill for twenty-nine dollars.

At Danville the artillery pieces were two brass four pounders, which, with the fixtures, were in fair condition ; these I transferred to the arsenal, and upon a subsequent visit, sold the gun-house to Mr. F. B. Cobb, of Danville, for the sum of thirty-five dollars. The lot was deeded to the State by Mr. Edward Little, for a nominal sum, as long as used for a gun-house, which of course reverted back to the heirs of said Little.

GUN-HOUSES AND MILITARY ORDNANCE. 9

At Freeport I could not find the key to the gun-house ; and on the next morning after my arrival I entered by force, where I found it had been entered during the night, (by several persons I should judge,) and the two brass three pounders taken from the carriages, carried away and secreted ; nothing else was missing. The carriage fixtures, &c., I had removed to Portland, all of which were in decent order. The gun-house was old and poor, having been built more than half a century ago ; the lot was also of little value, being some distance from the village. These I had sold at a subsequent date at auction. The gun-house was sold to Mr. Charles Andrews for thirty-seven dollars and twenty-five cents, and the lot to Mr. David Dennison for seven dollars.

I have arranged with persons there to inform me if any information is gained of the missing pieces, and I doubt not they will yet be secured.

I have searched thoroughly the records in the register's office at Portland, but can find no record of the lot of thirty acres situated in Freeport, deeded to Maine by Massachusetts.

The gun-house and lot in Portland had already been disposed of by Capt. Hedge, as he informed me, by direction of Gen. Redington, and the proceeds of sale passed over to him.

(Signed by)

L. VALENTINE.

The following is the account of Sales.

Gun-house at Gray, - - - - -		\$59 00
“ Danville, - - - - -		35 00
“ Freeport, - - - - -	37 25	
“ lot at Freeport, - - - - -	7 00	
	44 25	
Gun-house at Westbrook, - - - - -	29 00	
“ lot at Westbrook, - - - - -	7 00	
	36 00	
		\$165 25

I have charged the State as follows :

To amount paid out for transportation, &c., as per voucher, not including my expenses, - - - -	\$26 25
To postage, - - - -	40
To 17 days' service, at \$3, - - - -	51 00
To travel 185 miles, - - - -	37 00
To cash to balance, paid over this day to Greenlief White, Adjutant General, - - - -	50 60
	<hr/> \$165 25

[COPY.—J. HARRIMAN.]

The following is the true account of money received by JOAB HARRIMAN.

For gun-houses, viz :	
From Sons of Temperance in Clinton, - -	\$140 00
“ Mr. Lambard, Readfield, - - -	54 00
“ Mr. Comston, Monmouth, - - -	50 00
“ Tufton Simpson, Waterville, - - -	22 00
	<hr/> \$266 00
I have paid out for transportation of said property to Portland, freight, truckage, auctioneers, &c., as per receipt which is herewith submitted, sixty-eight dollars ninety-seven cents,	\$68 97
My time and traveling expenses, ninety-eight dollars,	98 00
	<hr/> 166 97
Leaving the balance due the State from me, ninety-nine dollars and three cents,	99 03
	<hr/> \$266 00

GUN-HOUSES AND MILITARY ORDNANCE. 11

*ABSTRACT of Reports of Councilors under Order in Council of
November 23, 1850.*

<i>From JOAB HARRIMAN, Councilor for Kennebec and Franklin.</i>	
Gun-house in Monmouth, sold for - - - -	\$50 00
Contents removed to Portland, except one cannon left in charge of responsible men.	
Gun-house at Readfield, sold for - - - -	54 00
Contents removed to Portland.	
Gun-house at Waterville, sold for - - - -	22 00
Guns had been stolen and carried to California—contents of gun-house a complete loss to the State.	
Gun-house in Clinton, sold for - - - -	
Contents removed to Portland.	
<i>By B. WIGGIN, Councilor for Penobscot District.</i>	
Gun-house in Lincoln, sold for - - - -	25 00
Guns removed to Portland.	
Gun-house in Brewer, not sold. "Guns cared for."	
Gun-house at Garland, sold for - - - -	50 00
Guns removed to Portland.	
Gun-house at Belfast, sold for - - - -	59 00
Guns placed on the wharf to send to Bangor, and seized by H. W. Cunningham, and safe.	
<i>By JOHN WILSHIRE, Councilor for Somerset District.</i>	
North Anson gun-house, sold for - - - -	55 00
Norridgewock gun-house, sold for - - - -	50 00
Hartland gun-house, sold for - - - -	40 00
Frankfort gun-house, sold for - - - -	115 00
<p>The further description of this property is derived from the annexed account, from which it appears that guns were transported from Harmony, Hartland and Frankfort to Bangor, and from North Anson and Norridgewock to Portland.</p>	
<i>By E. L. OSGOOD, from Oxford District.</i>	
Gun-houses sold in York, Limerick, Saco, Bethel, Paris and Turner, sold for - - - -	365 00
Guns, &c., removed to Arsenal at Portland.	

ABSTRACT of Reports of Councilors, (Continued.)

<i>By L. VALENTINE, from Cumberland District.</i>	
Gray gun-house, sold to Moses Plummer, for - -	50 00
Guns, harnesses and fixtures, removed to Portland.	
Westbrook gun-house, sold to Rufus Morrill, for -	29 00
lot to J. H. Murray, for -	7 00
Guns, &c., had been previously removed to Portland, by order of Adjutant General Redington.	
Danville gun-house, sold to P. B. Cobb, for - -	35 00
Guns removed to Arsenal at Portland.	
Freeport gun-house, sold to Charles Andrews, for -	35 00
land to David Denison, - -	7 00
Guns were not to be found—remaining property transferred to Arsenal at Portland.	
Gun-house at Portland, and lot, were previously sold by order of Adjutant General Redington.	

A.

COPIES of Reports and Accounts furnished and sold since my annual statement.

<i>From JOHN BABSON, for Lincoln.</i>	
Gun-houses in Bath, Boothbay, Bristol, Warren and Rockland, sold for - - - - -	\$290 00
Property transferred to Arsenal at Portland.	
<i>From H. PARTRIDGE, for Hancock and Washington.</i>	
Gun-house at Castine, sold by order of Adjutant General Thompson.	
Gun-house at Machias, not sold.	
Gun-house and land at Eastport, sold for - - -	425 00
And subsequently, on the 20th September, 1851, gun-house at Calais, sold for - - - - -	250 00
As appears by Note signed by B. Young, Edgar Whidden and G. M. Chase.	

GUN-HOUSES AND MILITARY ORDNANCE. 13

B.

JOHN BABSON *in account with the* STATE OF MAINE, *Dr.*

For amount received from sale of gun-houses in Bath, Boothbay, Bristol, Warren and Rockland,	\$290 00
<i>Contra—Cr.</i>	
By cash paid out for the transportation of guns and other property belonging to the State, from the above houses to the State Arsenal at Portland, - - - -	\$76 00
By travel from Wiscasset to above places sundry times, including all expenses, - - - -	75 00
By 39 days' personal services in the above, at \$3, -	117 00
By travel to Portland, including expenses, - - -	10 00
By 4 days' time, going to and returning from Portland,	12 00
	\$290 00

C.

[COPY.]

STATE OF MAINE *to* HENRY PARTRIDGE, *Dr.*

1851.		
April 25.	To services as agent to sell the gun-houses, land, &c., in the counties of Hancock, Washington and Aroostook, under the direction of Adjutant General White:	
	To travel and expenses, - - - -	\$125 00
	To note in favor of Treasurer of State against J. Pike, - - - -	325 00
		\$450 00
<i>Cr.</i>		
April 25.	To cash and note against John Pike and others, Balance due me, - - - -	\$425 00 25 00
		\$450 00

Received pay of G. White, Acting Qr. M. General.

(Signed)

H. PARTRIDGE.

STATE OF MAINE to HENRY PARTRIDGE,

Dr.

1851.		
Sept. 20.	For services selling the gun-house at Calais, and travel to Augusta, - - - - -	\$125 00

Received payment of, A. Qr. M. General.

(Signed)

HENRY PARTRIDGE.

D.

By a resolve of August, 1850, authorizing the sale of such property contained in the Arsenals as the interest of the State demanded, after a personal examination thereof I directed that eight brass cannon, being unfit for service, be shipped to Boston, and there sold at auction; this was done, and they were sold for the sum of \$648 70, from which deducting the expense of the sale and of transportation, \$35 79, there is left as net proceeds to the credit of the State, \$602 91. I found in the Arsenal at Bangor a lot of old tin ware, &c., of little value, which I ordered sold at auction; this was done by M. Saunders, jr., keeper of the Arsenal, for \$193 12—the expenses of this sale was 19 81; leaving \$173 31 to the credit of the State.

There was a lot of harnesses, wheels, saddles, old iron, which was sold by the keeper of the Arsenal, at private sale, for \$608 36, which is credited to the State without deduction.

There has been received by George T. Hedge, keeper of the Arsenal at Portland, for sales of unserviceable ordnance since I entered upon the duties of the office, the sum of \$1,700. Should a detailed account of the articles sold, for which this sum was received, be desired, it will be furnished.

STATE OF MAINE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 25, 1852.

ORDERED, That 500 copies of the foregoing communication, be printed for the use of the Legislature.

EDMUND W. FLAGG, *Clerk.*