Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society Report OF Hardware Committee for The Year Ended December 31, 2017

To the Board of Directors and Members of the Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society: The Hardware Committee is pleased to submit the following report to the calendar year ended December 31, 2017

Our Hardware Collection is housed and maintained in an annex in North Chelmsford, MA. occupying an area about 1,000 square feet for storage, work and research. We collect material related to the Boston & Maine Railroad, its predecessors and successors, and other New England Railroads. The Collection is owned by the Society and managed by the Hardware Committee, made up of volunteers who are interested in railroad history and the preservation of historical materials.

The Hardware Committee members are Frederick Brown, Daniel Hyde, Mal Sockol, James Nigzus and Richard Nichols, *logged in 337 hours for 2017.* Member Carl R. Byron proof reads the Hardware Collections website & inventory list. We scheduled once a month meetings in 2017. The average attendance at our meeting, inclusive of members, was 3 in 2013, 5 in 2014, 3 in 2015. 4 in 2016. 4 in 2017. The work at our meetings consists of registering railroad hardware, organizing our collection and processing and filing new acquisitions. *We have now registered 1935 items.*

In 2017, a total of 129 donations have been received from the following:

B&MRRHS Archives items Transferred to Hardware Collection, Scott Batson, Daniel Beach, David Donovan, Alan G. Dustin, Robert Farrenkopf, Robert Grodzicki, Shirley Hutchinson, Center of Lowell History, Douglas F. Kydd, , Richard Marion, Henry W. Marrec, Donald Morrison, Russel F. Munroe, National Park Service, Richard Nichols, James Nigzus, Stanley Prescott, Lester H. Stevenson Jr., Peter Stylos, James P. Teed, Vincent R. Terrill, Donald B. Valentine, Scott Whitney.

During the year, we have uploaded a variety of photographs of the Hardware Collection to the Society's web site, *bmrrhs.org.* This involved preparing a copy of photographs from each file with the help of the Webmaster, Frederick N. Nowell, who shares responsibility for updating the site with Richard Nichols (Hardware).

Our Committee welcomes new members. We need researchers, catalogers, and organizers. No experience required-just an interest in Railroad History.

Contact the Hardware Committee for details. E-Mail: railroad.nichols@gmail.com

Hardware Committee Chairman Daniel Hyde Hardware Committee Curator Richard Nichols