

# HEROES' WORK.

## Firemen Enveloped in Flames Win Out.



THE FIRE AS SEEN FROM THE CORNER OF MILK AND DEVONSHIRE STS.

### Thrilling Sight at a Blaze in the Building on Devonshire and Arch Sts—Three Alarms Were Sounded—Loss About \$50,000—Hoseman Enos Again Injured by Falling Glass.

The bravery of the Boston firemen was never more apparent than at the fire in the building, 181 and 185 Devonshire st, and 42 and 46 Arch st last night. A fire was on which involved a loss of perhaps \$50,000, and which was so threatening that two additional alarms were deemed necessary by Chief Cheswell.

There was a thrilling sight on the Arch-st side of the building, almost immediately after the first fire apparatus had got into action. The flames had swept along inside the two upper floors and suddenly burst forth from the windows. They rushed in sheets half way across the street, and mounted to and through the roof, brilliantly illuminating the entire vicinity. To battle with the blaze ladders were raised to the upper stories, so that the streams could be carried up and effectively used.

A ladder, one of the first, was thrown up against the side of the structure well down toward the Franklin-st end. It reached to the roof and as it was placed against the building the flames apparently embraced its top and ignited the light wood. But scarcely had it touched the building when a fireman ran to its top through the flames and hammered the iron dogs to secure it from slipping into the roof and a window frame. This completed in the most unconcerned manner he slid down and his place was taken by hosemen who rapidly carried a line to a point directly opposite the blazing windows and within a dozen feet of them.

Glass fell in all directions and showered upon those on the lower rungs, while the flames increased in volume. Coolly and calmly a single fireman on the topmost rung fastened the hose-line to a crosspiece and patiently waited for the water to come. The flames were so close several times as apparently to envelop him, and all eyes were anxiously fixed upon him as he held himself at arm's length from the ladder, protecting his face with his helmet, his form outlined to view in the most dramatic and thrilling situation.

As the water began to flow he closed in and, with his face to the nozzle, directed the increasing stream at the nearest window. For several minutes he seemed alone battling with the terrific blaze about him. Then two big horseless engine streams came to his aid, being directed from the curbstone on the opposite side of the street, the tremendous force and volume carrying them in a solid column into the topmost windows, with the effect of soon driving the flames back within the walls.

Thus was the blaze fought. Streams from ladders on Devonshire st and from hose carried up the stairways from that side steadily forced the flames to the Arch-st side, from which they were met with a deluge of water from the street and ladders, and finally driven into smaller compass. The fire was cornered and drowned out with the quantity of water thrown upon it from every point.

The fire started on the fourth floor of the five-story brick building, owned by J. Montgomery Sears, and occupied on the ground floor by the Smith premier typewriter company, and Seth W. Fuller, manufacturers of electrical supplies.

The fire it is thought originated on the fourth floor, occupied by H. C. Whitcomb, electrotyper, and extended to the roof.

Patrolman Fitzgerald of station 2 dis-

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covered the blaze and rang the alarm from box 41 at the corner of Milk and Washington sts, about 8 o'clock.

It became apparent within a few minutes after the first alarm that an extremely dangerous fire was at hand, and that the best efforts of the department would be taxed to prevent the spread of the flames. A second and third alarm were quickly sounded.

The worst of the fire was confined to the two top stories, and the fight was to keep it from eating through to the adjoining buildings, from which point it would have destroyed hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of property.

Although several of the hosemen who stood high on the big extension ladders were beaten back time and again by the flames, they kept at their work despite the dangers until they finally conquered.

The salvage corps, under the direction of Supt Abbott of the protective department, saved much of the valuable contents of the Fuller and Smith stores, although the loss to both firms will probably be very heavy.

The third floor was occupied by the Forbes lithograph company and they will experience a heavy loss from water.

A score of fire engines and hook and ladder companies, reinforced by the towers and big horseless engines, were engaged in fighting the fire.

Reserves from all the downtown police stations were called out, five sergeants and 25 patrolmen being sent to the scene by Deputy Hanscom to preserve order and keep the big crowd out of the way of the firemen.

Hoseman Enos of engine 26, who had just recovered from injuries received at a fire, was badly cut in the hand by glass.

## Henderson, Ky, Has \$152,000 Fire.

HENDERSON, Ky, April 9—Fire today destroyed the tobacco factory of the Gallaher company, two new residences and the grocery of Charles Kriel. The Gallaher company's loss is estimated at \$140,000; other losses \$12,000.