

# FEARLESS BOSTON FIREMEN

## Who Take All Kinds of Chances

A SERIES OF PERSONAL STORIES.

### CAPT PHILIP A. GRANT, ENGINE NO. 7

"During a series of 23 years in the department I have had several thrilling experiences. One of my closest calls was at a fire in the Dickerson Box Factory on Green st, box 23, Feb 10, 1904. I was lieutenant of Engine No. 27 at the time.

"The company was working on the top floor, when suddenly a hanging floor gave away, separating three of us, hose-men Locke, Hefrow and myself, from the rest of the crew and imprisoning us against a blind brick wall.

"After recovering from the shock, we groped our way on our hands and knees until we found an opening to safety, and, believe me, it was with gratitude that we reached our comrades, who started to search for us, and got our lungs replenished with the good, fresh air.

"My most unpleasant experience was during the epidemic of cellar fires in the North End during 1907. I was captain of Engine 8. We responded one night in November to box No. 13 for a fire in the cellar of a cheese factory on Richmond st. It was quite stubborn and hard to get at owing to smoke, gas and heat.

"Hosemen Gately, Moore and myself



CAPT PHILIP A. GRANT.

were in the cellar with hose lines, kneeling in water, with monstrous rats swimming about us, our hands touching them at times, but they being too stupefied by the smoke to do us injury.

"As a result of this fire, the three of us were overcome and were taken in an ambulance to the Relief Hospital.