

BROWN S. FLANDERS DIES IN BROOKLINE

Fire Department Veteran Served Nearly 50 Years

Head of Fire Alarm Branch From 1880 Until Retired in 1911

Brown S. Flanders, veteran of the Boston Fire Department and superintendent of the fire alarm branch from 1880 to 1911, died Saturday evening at his home, 82 Thorndike st, Brookline.

He had been in poor health for about a year, but was able to be out and around until a week ago. He was invited to burn the mortgage for the Boston Lodge of Elks, of which he was the oldest past exalted ruler, a week ago yesterday, but was unable to attend the exercises.



BROWN S. FLANDERS

Prior to being made superintendent of the fire alarm branch he served as engineman, aid to the chief and master mechanic in the Fire Department.

With other firemen he was called upon to assist the civil authorities during the draft riot in Cooper st, in the North End, in 1864, and often said that his experiences on that occasion were the most exciting during his career as a fireman. He helped to fight the Boston fire of 1872.

Mr Flanders was born in Hopkinton, N H, Sept 30, 1833. After leaving school he went to Concord and later to Manchester, N H, and learned the machinist's trade in the plant of the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company. Experience gained there fitted him for the work of master mechanic in the Boston Fire Department later on.

He joined Engine 1 of the Manchester Fire Department in 1852, and the following year became foreman of Engine 6. In March, 1860, he was elected to the Board of Engineers, holding that office two years.

Coming to Boston in 1862 Mr Flanders joined the Boston Fire Department, being assigned to Engine 8 in 1863. He was made assistant engineman in July of the following year, and later engineman.

On the reorganization of the department Mr Flanders was made aid to the chief, also inspector and master mechanic. He was chosen superintendent of the fire alarm Jan 2, 1880, and fitted out new quarters in Bristol st. The fire alarm branch was formerly located in the belfry of City Hall.

During his service in the Boston Department Mr Flanders invented numerous time-saving devices, including one which automatically released the doors of the horse stalls. He invented a telephonic device for use in fire alarm boxes.

He was severely injured several times while fighting fires, and on one occasion was blown through the side of a building. He was retired from the fire alarm superintendency Jan 15, 1911.

Mr Flanders was a member of the Firemen's Charitable Association, Veteran Firemen's Association, Massachusetts Mechanics Charitable Association, Zetland Lodge, A. F. & A. M., and for many years a member of Boston Lodge of Elks.

He was married twice. His second wife, who survives, was Emma R. Abbott of Rumford, Me. He also leaves two daughters, Mrs Leslie F. Keene of Melrose and Mrs Frederick T. Wort of