

FEARLESS BOSTON FIREMEN

Who Take All Kinds of Chances

A SERIES OF PERSONAL STORIES.

CAPT C. H. LEARY, ENGINE NO. 11

"In the past 40 years I have had a varied experience in rescuing people and also have had many narrow escapes myself. The most pathetic scene I ever saw was at a fire on Garden-st.

"We reported to box 13 on a Thanksgiving Day. We took our line through the second floor of a building in North sq. then out on a shed in the rear of the building that was burning. After playing our stream some time we succeeded in extinguishing the fire.

"I then went into the building and in groping around I noticed a closet, and upon opening the door found a dead man closely hugging a baby about 4 months old. Capt Quigley took the baby from the man's arms and sent it to the street, where a doctor pronounced it dead.

"The man had tried to find his way out. Becoming confused he went into the closet, closed the door and both were suffocated.

"A fire that gave me the thrill of my life was in a box factory on Border st, East Boston. I was captain of Engine 11 at the time and was ordered to take my line to the roof and play down the sky-lights. The fire was a raging hell below and in a few minutes it burst up through the sky-lights and roof.

"I had to drop the line and make for safety. It was impossible to get to the ladder I came up on, on account



CAPT C. H. LEARY.

of the flames that flared between. I was about to jump to the street when members of Ladder 17 raised a ladder and I descended safely.

"If I had jumped I would certainly have been killed. It seemed my only chance and I would have taken it in another minute."

Capt C. H. Leary was appointed a call member of the department July 7, 1874; a permanent member Sept 3, 1884; lieutenant, May 28, 1889; captain, Feb 10, 1893.

BODY BROUGHT TO CHATHAM

Col Waldo Emerson Ayer Died March 9 After Operation at Military Hospital at Fort Schafter, Hawaiian Islands

CHATHAM, April 20—The body of Col Waldo Emerson Ayer arrived here today from Honolulu for interment in the People's Cemetery. Col Ayer died after an operation at the military hospital at Fort Schafter, Hawaiian Islands on March 9. He was 55 years of age. The remains were accompanied by his family, also Col Buck of Boston, Col Penn of Sacketts Harbor, N Y, and Adjt Gen Abbott of Rhode Island, who were comrades of Col Ayer in the Philippines, and Mr and Mrs Evelett Yeaw, of Orange, N J.

Col Ayer was born in Lawrence. He entered West Point in 1880, graduating in 1884. He went to the Philippines in 1909, remaining there almost continuously until his death. He is survived by a wife, the daughter of the late Fardon Armington of Providence, whose widow resides here; also two daughters, one of whom is attending school in Berkeley, Calif.