

FEARLESS BOSTON FIREMEN

Who Take All Kinds of Chances

A SERIES OF PERSONAL STORIES

CAPT M. J. NOLAN LADDER 3

"In the past 26 years as a fireman, I have had many narrow escapes and have made several rescues; one in particular was about the time I joined the department.

"I had just got my new uniform and was going across Dover-st bridge. I saw a boy about 7 years old fall in the water from the lumber wharf some distance away. I jumped in with my new uniform on and rescued him as he was going down for the last time.

"A close call I had at Clark's Hotel on a March day in 1892. Upon arriving at the scene I was ordered with several others by the late Chief Webber to go into the basement. The only means was by a short ladder.

"We had barely reached the floor below when there was a terrible hot air explosion and we were blown from our feet and rendered unconscious. The fire was raging above us at the time and it looked as though we were doomed. Finally members of our company came to our rescue and brought us safely to the street."

"Another close call was on April 24, 1915, at a fire at L and 1st sts in the old suspender factory. When I arrived at this fire I saw that the build-



CAPT M. J. NOLAN.

ing was doomed. The electric wires were falling all around us. I was struck by a live wire and rendered unconscious for some time.

"I felt the effects of the shock for weeks."

Capt M. J. Nolan was appointed to the department in May, 1890; appointed Lieutenant Feb 6, 1903, and made captain in January, 1907.