

DRIVER THROWN FROM HIS SEAT

Dooley of Engine 19 Severely Hurt.

Assistant Engineer Johnson Stops the Runaway Horses.

Crawls Over the Boiler to the Seat.

Driver Joseph Dooley of fire engine 19 had a narrow escape from death while responding to an alarm from box 539 last night. The box was rung in for a chimney fire on Clifford st, off Canterbury, at 7 48, and engine 19 was one of the pieces of apparatus to respond. Leaving the quarters in Mattapan, Dooley turned his horses through Canterbury st, which is somewhat uneven and rough in places.

At the corner of Ashland st the engine struck a deep rut, and Dooley was thrown clear out of his seat and over the side of the engine. By good fortune he landed clear of the heavy machine. The engineer, who was on the rear end, was also knocked off, but landed on his feet. Dooley landed on his head and shoulders.

The horses, frightened by the jolt of the engine, and not feeling the restraining hand of the driver on the reins, increased their speed as they tore down the street. Dooley was helped to his feet by some bystanders, and followed the runaway engine as fast as he could. The engineer recovered quickly from his shock and also started after the engine.

About 200 yards from where Dooley was thrown a wagon of the Boston suburban parcel company was backed up to the sidewalk. Before the horse attached to it could get out of the way the runaways were upon him and threw him down. People crowded away from the curb, and flattened themselves against the houses and fences until the engine had passed.

Assistant engineer John H. Johnson of engine 28 heard the thundering of engine 19 coming toward him, and the warning shouts of the people after it. He saw that the driver was out of his seat, and that the horses were running away. He jumped on the rear end of the engine as it passed him, and, clinging to the hot pipes, climbed over the boiler to the driver's seat. It was a risky job and death faced him in many ways as he crawled slowly over the boiler of the runaway engine, but he had a clear head, and nerve, and courage bred in the dangerous work of a fireman, and he reached the seat in safety.



ASST ENGINEER JOHN H. JOHNSON,

Grasping the reins, he pulled in the horses, put down the brake, and slowed up the speed of the engine. The horses, once they felt the rein, were soon under control. Driver Dooley was limping along after his engine, and when he reached it insisted on taking his place on the seat. He was clearly suffering severely, but wanted to drive his engine back to quarters. Acting District Chief Madison, in whose district box 539 is located, was at a still-alarm fire, so District Chief Taber of Dorchester took charge and ordered Dooley down from the driver's seat, sending him back to his house on the tender, while another member of the company was delegated to drive the horses home.

Besides being badly shaken up Dooley was bruised about the head and body, and will probably be obliged to lay off for some days. The fire was put out in a few minutes.

Asst Engineer Johnson has an enviable record for heroic work. He is 23 years of age, and has been a member of the department since March, 1900. While attached to ladder 12 he was commended by the late Fire Commissioner Russell for bravery at a fire on Columbus av. In October, 1905, he performed an act something similar to that of last night, for which he was commended in general orders by Commissioner Wells.

On that occasion he was riding on the tender of engine 28, which was responding to an alarm from box 529, when driver John J. Lynch of ladder 10 was thrown from his seat. Johnson jumped from the tender and on to the ladder truck. He crawled over the long ladders until he reached the empty driver's seat, seized the reins, and stopped the horses, which were running away.