

HELPED SAVE OLD SOUTH CHURCH.

George N. Jones is Oldest Fire Fighter in Portsmouth, N H, Department.

PORTSMOUTH, N H. March 29—The oldest firemen in the Portsmouth fire department in point of service is George N. Jones, engineer of Kearsarge engine



ENGINEER GEORGE N. JONES

3, at the central fire station, who has seen over 35 years of continuous service, and is one of the best-known firemen in the state.

He was born in this city March 31, 1819, and his career as a fireman commenced Jan 1, 1866, when he was made a member of Granite State hand engine 3, with which he continued until the following year, when he was transferred to Dearborn steam engine 1, the first steamer owned by the city, as assistant foreman.

He remained a member of this company until June 20, 1870, when he was appointed assistant engineman on Kearsarge 3, and in 1875 was made engineer, a position he has held since.

Six years ago, when it was decided to have several permanent men at the central fire station, engineer Jones was selected as one of the men.

On Nov 10, 1872, Mr Jones went to Poston with the Kearsarge engine, and it was largely through the efforts of this engine that the Old South church was saved, the Boston firemen bestowing upon the Portsmouth company the title of "Haymakers."

During his long period of service Mr Jones has never been injured, except once, in July, 1893, by the explosion of a chemical fire lighter, on which he was experimenting, his hand being badly burned.

He has a wife, four daughters and two sons, the oldest son, Fred N. Jones, being lieutenant of the company his father has so long been attached to.

Mr Jones is a member of the Portsmouth firemen's relief association, the state relief association, St Andrew's lodge 56, A. F. and A. M.; Washington chapter, R. A. M.; De Witt Clinton commandery, Knights Templars, Osgood lodge 48, I. O. O. F., and is extremely popular with the members of the fire department.