

# FEARLESS BOSTON FIREMEN

## Who Take All Kinds of Chances

### A SERIES OF PERSONAL STORIES

#### DISTRICT CHIEF MAURICE HEFFERNAN

One incident stands out in my experience above all others. It was a third alarm from Clark's Hotel, Washington st. This fire was in the early evening of March 30, 1892.

"We were working in the cellar when the much dreaded hot air explosion happened. Were it not for the quick action of L. P. Webber, who was chief of the department at the time, we would have been lost. Chief Webber immediately got three streams to work at the cellar window and drove back the flames. At the same time he sent a rescuing party who found us unconscious and brought up to the street.

"The late Robert G. Fitch, who was the Fire Commissioner, was the first man I recognized as I was lying on the sidewalk after regaining consciousness, he was bending over me and speaking words of cheer.

"At the fire at Brigham's milk sheds, I was blown downstairs when the roof fell (caused by an explosion) and was taken to the Relief Hospital.

March 26, 1911, at a fire in Peabody sq. I found a woman on the third floor



MAURICE HEFFERNAN,  
District Chief.

unconscious, and after much difficulty brought her safely to the street."

District Chief Heffernan joined the Fire Department in 1886. He was born in 1858 in Ireland.