

FEARLESS BOSTON FIREMEN

Who Take All Kinds of Chances

A SERIES OF PERSONAL STORIES.

CAPT JOHN N. LALLY ENGINE 3

"I have been on the firing line for almost 29 years, fighting fire in Boston, have been seriously injured on several occasions, have fallen through space and narrowly escaped being buried by falling walls and floors. I have assisted people in escaping from buildings on fire, etc, but of all the thrilling acts in which I have taken a part the following appeals to me strongly:

"While captain of Engine 24 I received a telephone call requesting that one man be sent to a building on Walnut av, as there was a slight chimney fire there. I immediately responded with the apparatus and upon my arrival found the building on fire from cellar to roof and two invalids confined on the upper floors, whom we rescued. Had I sent one man, as requested, those helpless people would have been suffocated.

"Being on a day off at the time of the Salem conflagration, I went down there and found the fire raging on the south side of the Hopkins & Hodgkins shoe factories and only a chemical stream to check it.

"Seeing that if more powerful streams were not quickly obtained those factories would be destroyed, which would mean the loss of employment to hundreds of working people and a heavy loss on property, I set out to get such a force and was fortunate in bringing three companies to the scene, whose



CAPT JOHN N. LALLY.

combined efforts saved the factories and several other buildings. I also saved another building from being unnecessarily blown up by dynamite at that point. This I consider a thriller for a day off.

"My efforts in Salem and the judgment used in the Walnut-av case will always afford me great pleasure, for it is good to remember that we have done some good for humanity's sake."

Capt Lally joined the department June 24, 1887, and served as private on Co 1, Ladder 8, Engines 22, 3 and 12. He was promoted lieutenant in August, 1896, and captain in February, 1903. He has served as captain on Engines 45, 21, 8, 15 and 24 and is at present on Engine 3.