

FEARLESS BOSTON FIREMEN

Who Take All Kinds of Chances

A SERIES OF PERSONAL STORIES.

CAPT CHARLES C. SPRINGER ENGINE 14

"To go to a fire and yet even to this day remember nothing about it is an experience of mine. The blaze was in the house of Prof Sargent in Brookline. The time was a few years ago. As my comrades tell me, I fell through the first floor to the basement below and struck on the back of my head, which rendered me unconscious.

"They rescued me and I was sent back to quarters and put to bed. Next morning I tried to rise as usual, but found I could not move a muscle. Not knowing what the trouble was, I asked one of the boys and he told me I had met with a very severe accident and came near being killed.

"This was all news to me then, and I have no recollection to this day of being at that fire. Dr Percy, who attended me, informs me that I never will, as the spot I struck on my head caused what is known in the medical profession as syncope.

"Another narrow escape I had was at the Allen & Fox Express Company fire on Centre st, Jamaica Plain, July, 1910. I was on the roof of the building when it suddenly gave way and I was precipitated to the floor below, landing on my back, unconscious



CAPT CHARLES C. SPRINGER.

"Other members of the company came to my rescue and got me out by way of a window to a shed and then to the street. Had I remained where I fell a few minutes longer I would have gone up in smoke with the other excess baggage."

Capt C. C. Springer joined the department as call man in 1882; permanent member, 1886; Lieutenant, April 5, 1899; captain, 1909.