

FIRE MATTERS.

An Order From the Fire Commissioners—Dress and Salaries of the Members of the Boston Fire Department.

The Board of Fire Commissioners has determined to uniform the firemen, and has issued a general order containing the details of the dress in which they are to be clad. The uniform sack coat for the chief engineer is to be double-breasted, of dark blue cloth, cut to button close to the neck, with rolling collar, and to have eight medium sized department buttons of white metal on each breast, grouped in pairs. The assistant engineers, company officers, enginemen, hosemen and ladder-men are to have the same kind of coat, the only difference being as to the number of the buttons. The pantaloons and vest are to be of the same material as the coat; also the overcoat, which is to reach two inches below the knee. We are to have no more "red-shirted heroes," but the chief and assistants are to wear shirts of white linen or muslin, with narrow rolling or standing collar. The company officers, enginemen, hosemen and ladder-men are to have double-breasted blue flannel shirts. The fire-cap for the chief engineer is to be of the present style, entirely white, with sixteen combs; for assistant engineers, with the exception that there will be but twelve combs, and the initials of the wearer's name on the front; for officers of engine companies, a black leather cap of the present style, with name of company, insignia of office, etc. A fatigue cap is also provided. That for the chief is to be of dark blue cloth, same as the uniform coat of the United States navy pattern. The assistants and other officers and members are to wear the same kind of a cap, the only difference being as to the insignia of office to be worn upon the cap.

The following are the insignia of office: For chief engineer, a six-pointed gilt star, measuring one and a quarter inches in diameter, to be worn upon the front corners of the collar of the uniform coat; for assistant engineers, the same as the chief engineer, except that it be in silver instead of gilt, one inch in diameter; for foremen, a five-pointed silver star, measuring one inch in diameter; for assistant foremen, two five-pointed silver stars joined, measuring three-fourths of an inch (each) in diameter. The order describes in detail all articles of wearing apparel, even to the kind of cravat to be worn. The chief is to have a small black necktie of black silk, and company officers and members a black silk cravat to pass once around the neck, and tie with a double bow and flat knot in front, the ends to extend not more than three inches from the knot.

In special order No. 4, the Commissioners fix the pay of the officers and members of the Fire Department, except that part of it located in West Roxbury and Brighton, at the following rates, to take effect on and after May 1: Chief Engineer, \$4300 per annum; Superintendent of Fire Alarms, \$2500; Assistant Engineers, \$1600. Permanent Force—Foremen, at the rate of \$1250; Assistant Foremen, \$1100; Enginemen, \$1200; Assistant Enginemen, \$1100; Hosemen, \$1000; Ladder-men, \$1000; Chemical Enginemen, \$1100 per annum. Fire-boat—Captain, at the rate of \$1368 75; Mite, \$1186 25; Engineman, \$1368 75; Assistant Engineman, \$1186 25; Steward, \$1000; Stoker, \$1000; Deck Hands, \$1000 per annum. Call Force—Permanent foremen, at the rate of \$1000 per annum; call, at the rate of \$300 per annum; hosemen, at the rate of \$225 per annum; ladder-men, at the rate of \$225 per annum; drivers, at the rate of \$1000 per annum. The officers and members of the former department still in the force will receive their former pay up to the first of May; but all new members, recently appointed, will be paid at the above rates according to the agreement made at the date of appointment. The pay of the force in West Roxbury and Brighton will be announced, hereafter.