

NAME PLACED ON MERIT ROLL

Hoseman Thomas H. Downey Honored.

Is Rewarded for Conspicuous Bravery at North End Fire.

Record of Act to Appear In General Orders.

Fire Commissioner Parker late yesterday afternoon wrote a letter to hoseman Thomas H. Downey of engine company 8, Salem st, whose heroism at the fire in the house 19 Morton st, early Monday morning last, was reported officially to headquarters. The fire commissioner not only praised Downey for his display of heroism, but informed him that his name had been added to the fire department roll of merit and that a record of his bravery would appear in general orders.



HOSEMAN THOMAS H. DOWNEY,

Fireman on Engine 8, Whose Name Has Been Placed on Department Merit Roll.

Having his name placed upon the roll of merit is the greatest honor any fireman can receive. It is almost six years since a member of the department has had his name placed on the roll of merit, and Downey is the second member of his family to be so honored. His brother, James E. Downey, now at engine 40, East Boston, formerly at engine 6, Leverett st, West End, had his name placed on the roll of merit about 10 years ago for saving lives at the West End.

Hearing of the good work of Thomas H. Downey, Fire Commissioner Parker felt that the department should take fitting recognition of his work; so, after he had informed Sec Underhill to make a record of Downey's bravery in the next general order and add his name to the roll of merit, he wrote him the following letter:

"Thomas H. Downey, Engine 8:
"Sir—The spirit and courage which you displayed in rescuing a man from the building 19 Morton st on July 19, under adverse conditions and at a great personal risk, deserves the recognition of the department, and it is with much pleasure that I inform you that your name has been placed on the roll of merit of the department for conspicuous bravery in the line of duty, and that a record of the same will appear in general orders. Very respectfully,
"Samuel D. Parker,
"Fire Commissioner."

Downey joined the department Jan 7, 1898, and was assigned to engine 10, River st, West End, where he was on duty until Aug 30, 1901, when he was shifted to engine 8. Downey is considered one of the ablest firemen on duty in town today.