

FORTY-ONE YEARS A FIREMAN.

Nathan L. Hussey, Second Assistant Chief, Holds a Department Medal for Bravery.

Nathan L. Hussey, second assistant chief of the Boston fire department, has rounded out 41 years of service as a fireman. With the exception of two years he has been on in-town duty, and has worked at nearly every big fire which has occurred since his enlistment.

While on duty he has been injured seriously on a number of occasions. Aug 26, 1871 his hip and shoulder were dislocated by a fall through a scuttle at a fire on Congress st. At a fire on Tremont st, May 24, 1887, his back was severely injured, and he was injured at a fire on Albany st, Sept 15, 1888. On two occasions during the past year he was thrown from his wagon while responding to alarms of fire, once being dragged a distance of 40 feet before his horse was stopped. On May 8, 1901, at a fire in the building, 523-525 Washington st, he was overcome by smoke and had to be carried to the street.

In the department the chief stands high in the estimation of both superiors and subordinates.

Nathan L. Hussey was born in Boston, Dec 3, 1845. After leaving school he learned the mason's trade, to which he added the duties of fireman, on Jan 14, 1872. On that day he was appointed to engine company 3, Harrison av, and his rating was a call substitute. He remained in that capacity until July 1, 1879, when he became a permanent member. After serving faithfully for 12 years his good work won its reward on May 7, 1874, when he was promoted to a lieutenancy, continuing as a member of steamer 3.

He proved such a capable lieutenant that the board of commissioners promoted him to the rank of captain on Feb 1, 1875, and he was sent to engine company 23, Northampton st. He remained in command of that steamer more than 20 years, and during that period made a host of friends in the district, who rejoiced when he was promoted to the grade of district chief in the spring of 1895. The promotion was brought about by the death of District Chief J. Foster Hewins, who had charge of the Dorchester section.

On receiving his appointment as district chief he was sent to the 11th district, Brighton, to take charge. He remained there two years. In the summer of 1897 a shakeup of the district chiefs occurred, and he and Ryan exchanged places.

He has continued in charge of district 5 since, and on the retirement of Chief Webber, March 22, 1901, he was promoted to the position of second assistant chief, which he now holds.

Chief Hussey is a member of the Boston Veterans and a life member of the Firemen's charitable association. His friends in and out of the department wish him continued health and strength.



NATHAN L. HUSSEY,
Second Assistant Chief of the Fire Department.

Chief Hussey's rise has been rapid, and he now holds the third highest position in the gift of the commissioner. His brave acts have been the means of his gaining promotion. For an act of bravery at a fire several years ago he was given a department medal, and his name was placed on the famous roll of merit of the fire department.