

# HE FIGHTS FIRES SCIENTIFICALLY.

## District Chief Patrick E. Keyes Has Been in the Department Nearly 28 Years.

District Chief Patrick E. Keyes, who is command of the East Boston section of the department, has seen nearly 28 years of service. His success in battling with fires is attested by his record and his rapid rise. Throughout the entire department he is popular and the men like him because he is outspoken.

For many years, he was in command of the 7th district, which embraces the greater part of the South End. In this district are the lumber wharves, which have been the scenes of some very bad fires, and, besides, there are numerous tenement houses in which a fire in the dead of night is dreaded by the firemen. But in Chief Keyes every resident and business man in the district put their trust, knowing that in their hour of need he could be depended upon. He has met with several very painful accidents, but never has been seriously hurt, though he has been in many tight places. At a fire in an Arch-st building, Aug 26, 1896, he was badly bruised, but he did not allow his injuries to interfere with the performance of his duties.

In the various associations connected with the department he is a very active worker, and in 1900 was president of the mutual relief association.

Since his transfer to the East Boston section the district has not been visited by a serious fire. The chief treats fire-fighting as a science and a fire has never been known to get away from him.

Patrick E. Keyes was born in Boston, March 19, 1850. Before joining the fire department he was employed as a painter. On April 5, 1875, he was appointed a permanent member of the department and was assigned to engine company 25, Fort Hill sq. From there he was transferred to engine company 4, Buifinch st, on Dec 14, 1875. April 14, 1882, he received a transfer to engine company 23, where he served with credit until his good work won its reward when he was selected for promotion to captain, skipping the grade of lieutenant.

He assumed his duties as a captain

March 17, 1884, and was assigned to engine company 6, Leverett st, where he served three years, when once more his good work won recognition and he was promoted to district chief and placed in



CHIEF PATRICK E. KEYES  
Of District 1, East Boston

charge of the 7th district, where he remained for more than 14 years.

In July, 1901, he was shifted to district 1, East Boston.

District Chief Keyes lives in the Noddle Island section.