

# HAS SEEN 30 YEARS OF SERVICE.

## District Chief Lewis P. Abbott of West Roxbury a Scientific Fire-Fighter.

District Chief Lewis P. Abbott, who is in charge of the 12th district, which comprises West Roxbury, Roslindale



DISTRICT CHIEF LEWIS P. ABBOTT.

Who is in Command of the West Roxbury District

and Jamaica Plain, has seen nearly 70 years of service and is a fire-fighter of ability. He fights fires scientifically, and possesses a natural ability for planning an attack on flames. He is al-

ways self possessed and ever ready to undertake the most perilous task.

Lewis P. Abbott was born in Bangor, Dec 23, 1838. He came to Boston at the age of 19. His trade was carpentering and he followed it until the civil war broke out, when he enlisted in May, 1861, in the detached service of the quartermaster's department as wagon master. At the close of the war he moved to Washington, where he remained several years.

His career as a fireman began in April, 1873, when he was appointed call ladderman and assigned to ladder 3, Harrison av. He resigned from the company after a year, but returned to the department in 1875, being appointed captain of engine company 2. He was that company's first commander. He remained at that post for nearly a year, when he was shifted to ladder 3. He was promoted to the grade of district chief on Oct 2, 1882, and was placed in charge of the 6th district, South Boston. The commissioners believed him too capable a man to live in a suburban district, so they transferred him to district 3, Fort Hill sq, on Aug 3, 1885. For more than eight years he remained in charge of the district and was on duty at every one of the big fires which occurred there during his time.

In 1894, when it became apparent to the board of commissioners that the cutting districts were too large, two new districts were created and some of the other districts were decreased in size. Chief Abbott was shifted from district 3 to the new 12th district at the time, and has remained there since. There is much running in his district, but there are seldom any large fires to trouble him.

The chief makes his headquarters in the house of engine 28, Center st, and the following pieces of apparatus are under his charge: Engine companies 28, 30, 32 and 45; ladder companies 10 and 16; chemical 5 and combination ladder 9.

The chief is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Knights of Honor.