

Ambition

I have no ambition in this world but one
and that is to be a fire fighter.

The position may, in the eyes of some, appear to be a lowly one
but we who know the work that the fire fighter has to do,
believe that his is a noble calling.

There is an adage which says that, "Nothing can be destroyed except by fire."
We strive to preserve from destruction the wealth of the world
which is the product of the industry of men,
necessary for the comfort of both the rich and the poor.

We are defenders from fires of the art which has beautified the world,
the product of the genius of men and the means of refinement of mankind.
But, above all; our proudest endeavour is to save lives of men - the work of God Himself.

Under the impulse of such thoughts, the nobility of the occupation thrills us
and stimulates us to deeds of daring, even at the supreme sacrifice.

Such considerations may not strike the average mind
but they are sufficient to fill to the limit our ambition in life
and to make us serve the general purpose of human society.

Author: Edward F Croker, Chief of Department, FDNY 1899-1911