

0546

**BOX:**

348

**FOLDER:**

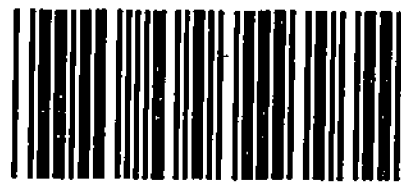
3278

**DESCRIPTION:**

Thomas, Joseph

**DATE:**

03/27/89



3278

POOR QUALITY  
ORIGINAL

0547

Witnesses:

*Bergant Schmitttger*

Counsel,

Filed

Pleas,

*day of March 1889*

*at City*

THE PEOPLE

vs.

*Joseph Thomas*

MURDER IN THE FIRST DEGREE,

(Section 183, Penal Code.)

*JOHN R. NELLOWS,*

*District Attorney.*

**A True Bill.**

*Presented to N.Y. Court of Oyer and  
Terminer for trial March 29, 1889*

*Charles H. Scott, Foreman.*

*April 18 - 1889.*

*Found and convicted*

*Murder 2<sup>nd</sup> degree*

*S.D. Natural Life, P.A.*

*April 22, 1889 J.C.H. 22*

0548

VI.

STATE OF NEW YORK.  
Executive Chamber,  
ALBANY.

*Meek 189*  
*September 14, 1894*

Sir:

Application for Executive clemency having been made on behalf of  
*Joseph Thomas* who was convicted of *murder 2 degree*  
in the county of *New York* and sentenced *April 22, 1889*  
to imprisonment in the *State Prison* for the term of  
*life*

I am directed by the Governor  
respectfully to request that, in pursuance of Section 695 of the  
Code of Criminal Procedure, you will forward to him a concise state-  
ment of the facts of the case, together with your opinion of the  
merits of the application.

It is particularly requested that each letter of inquiry from  
the Executive Chamber should be separately answered.

Very respectfully yours,

*J. S. Williams*  
Private Secretary.

*Hon. John R. Fellows.*  
*N.Y. City*



0549

# STATE OF NEW YORK.

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK, SS.

## AN INQUISITION,

Taken at the ~~house of~~ *Coroners Office*No. 67 *Park Row* Street in the *4<sup>th</sup>* Ward of the City of New York, in the County of New York, this *28<sup>th</sup>* day of *January*.in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and *eighty nine* before*M. J. Messener*

Coroner,

of the City and County aforesaid, on view of the Body of *Ellen Thomas* lying dead at*Eight*

Upon the Oaths and Affirmations of good and lawful men of the State of New York, duly chosen and sworn, or affirmed and charged to inquire, on behalf of said people, how and in what manner the said

*Ellen Thomas*came to her death, do upon their Oaths and Affirmations, say: That the said *Ellen Thomas*

*came to her death by*  
*Pistol shot wound of the head, inflicted*  
*with a pistol in the hands of*  
*Joseph Thomas, at 144 West 30<sup>th</sup> Street*  
*December 22<sup>d</sup> 1888.*

In Witness Whereof, We, the said Jurors, as well as the CORONER, have to this Inquisition set our hands and seals, on the day and place aforesaid.

### JURORS.

*Isaac M. Nittkoki 204 Bowry*  
*Henry Hallman 245 Bowry*  
*Morris Goldstein 206 "*  
*Harry Abrahams 64 "*  
*Sam Greener 66 Bowry*  
*Thomas M. Fine 230 East 58<sup>th</sup>*  
*Emerson Heath 86 Bowry*

*Paul Moller 221 Bowry**M. J. Messener*

CORONER, L. S.



0550

## Coroner's Office.

## TESTIMONY.

Officer Edward Brett - 19<sup>th</sup> Precinct being  
 sworn up: On the evening of Dec 2 -  
 I was at 132 - West 30<sup>th</sup> St & heard a lot  
 children running & howling & asked  
 them what it was. They told me  
 a man had shot his wife at 144 W 30<sup>th</sup> St.  
 I went there & up stairs on the top floor  
 back. I met Sgt Duntlinger & he told  
 me the prisoner was in the station  
 house & hurry up the ambulance  
 I did so & found a woman (Mrs Thomas)  
 in the bedroom lying on the floor  
 along side of the bed unconscious,  
 suffering from a pistol shot of the  
 left temple. The next morning in  
 going down to Court with the prisoner  
 Joseph Thomas, I said to him "Thomas  
 why did you shoot your wife" he  
 replied "I had to protect myself against  
 that man who was in the room.  
 I did not shoot her" I told him he was not  
 married to deceased, & had been living  
 with her for 12 years - I said "How is  
 it you came to have the revolver  
 with you" he said it was an old one  
 he used to carry. Judge Duffy com-  
 mitted him to await the coroners action.  
 Mr. Tillman was in the room at the time -  
 I never saw the prisoner before.  
 Taken before me Edward F. Brett

this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January 1889

W J T Messinger

CORONER.

0551

Coroner's Office.

TESTIMONY.

William Thomas being sworn says:  
 I live at 144 West 30<sup>th</sup> Street - deceased  
 Ellen Thomas was my stepmother  
 & the accused Joseph Thomas is  
 my father. I am 14 years of age  
 I go to school in 42<sup>nd</sup> Street between  
 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. On Saturday night the  
 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 1888. I only  
 saw part of it - I did not see all.  
 I saw my father he came in  
 about half past nine I don't know  
 whether he was sober - I was standing  
 by the ironing board reading a  
 paper - Della my step sister told  
 me mama told you not to hear  
 that paper. My father told me to put  
 it down - I did so & sat on the  
 lounge - about 2 minutes after  
 he called me & told me he wanted to  
 tell me something. He told me to  
 come out in the hall - My step  
 mother wanted to come too - he  
 told her to go in the room again  
 she did not go but stood out there  
 she whispered in my ear to go to  
 Mr. Washington's at 145 West 30<sup>th</sup>  
 & get his valise & two boxes - I went  
 over & got them & brought them over

Taken before me

this

day of

188

CORONER.

0552

3

Coroner's Office.

TESTIMONY.

John - He told me to go out & shut the door. I would not shut the door tight, I left a little crack in the door. I went out & sat on the lounge again. After a while Delia jumped up & said "Papa" Thomas has shot Mama. I ran down stairs. That is all I know. Mr. Tillman was in the room teaching Delia to sit up. ~~He was a friend of Mr. Turner~~ Mr. Tillman lodged in another bedroom - He never came to visit my stepmother as I know Mr. Tillman is also a colored man. I heard a pistol go off - it was when I had sat on the lounge. The pistol was discharged in the bedroom. Papa & my stepmother were in the bedroom - my father came out the door & cocked the pistol & commenced to shoot at Mr. Tillman. - They had no words together. I heard no quarrel.

My mother asked my papa how it was he never gave her money to pay the rent - My papa drank up when my mother was shot. Mr. Tillman was in the front room teaching Delia.

Taken before me

William Thomas

this 28 day of January 1889

J. M. Messinger

CORONER.



0553

Coroner's Office.

TESTIMONY.

Vandelia Brewer being sworn says: I live at 145 West 30th Street - Joseph Thomas, ~~was~~ is my stepfather & Ellen Thomas my mother - at the time of the occurrence I lived at 144 2d St. On December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1888, I was sitting in the front room when my stepfather came in he said Good Evening to all - this was about 1/2 past nine in the evening - he called Willie out in the hall - my mother went out with him too he said sorry mother you go back in the room - I'll tell you after. She said I want to hear it now then he whispered something in Willie's ear. Then he whispered in my mother's ear. After Willie had gone he took my mother into the bedroom & was talking to her. Willie came back. He took something into the bedroom & came out again - His father told him to shut the door - He left the door on a little crack. Willie came out & sat on the lounge, a few minutes after I heard my mother say "stop" - then I heard no more until a long time - then I heard the pistol shot & saw the flash. I was sitting by Mr. Billman trying

Taken before me

this

day of

188

CORONER.

0554

Coroner's Office.

TESTIMONY.

to play on the Guitar, when I heard the pistol go off. I dropped the Guitar. said "he has shot Mamma" then Willie opened the door & ran out, My stepfather came in the room where I was & I ran over by the bunk - My stepfather shot Mr. Dillman & I asked him not to shoot me - He said he was not going to shoot me, ~~He said~~ My stepfather fired only at my mother I think, I don't know how many at Mr. Dillman.

Vandelia Brewer

Taken before me

this 28 day of

January 1889

CORONER.

0555

Coroner's Office.

TESTIMONY.

Mrs Julia Smith Lempewoods  
 reside at 144 West 38th I knew  
 deceased about 2 years -  
 As far as I knew deceased  
 she was a hard working re-  
 spectable woman -  
 reside at the same house in  
 which the shooting occurred.  
 I heard the shooting about 1/2 past  
 9 on December 26 1888, Saturday  
 Evening - When I heard one shot in  
 the bedroom - I told my Cousin  
 Ella Jones his shot someone -  
 I ran to the window & holloa  
 Murder - I also heard 3 shots in  
 the front room - Ella Jones  
 opened the window & shouted  
 Murder - The Thomas's occupied  
 3 rooms - There is a door between  
 our apartments. I ran to my door  
 but could not open it - I got the  
 door open & <sup>my</sup> Mr Thomas coming  
 out of his room at the landing of  
 the stairs - I said to him "What  
 in the world is all that shooting  
 doing in there - He replied it is  
 that man in there shooting at  
 me - Mr Thomas then went down

Taken before me

this

day of

188

CORONER.



0556

Coroner's Office.

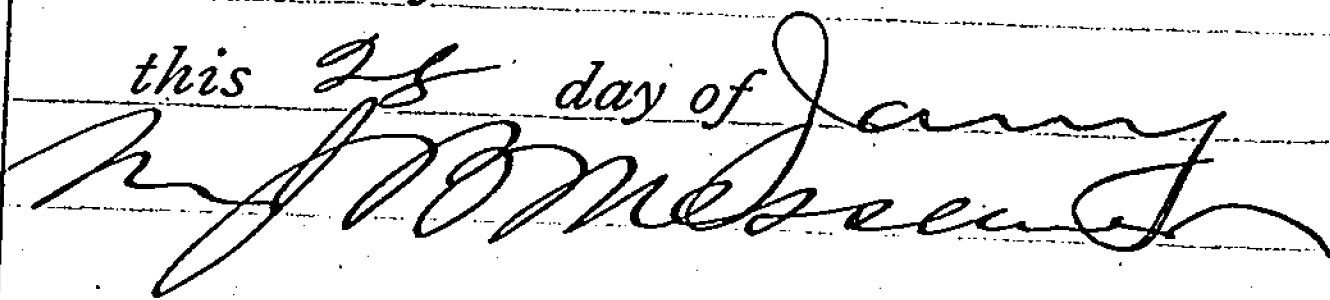
TESTIMONY.

stairs - I met Mr Tillman who was  
wounded; ~~saying~~ He said Mrs Smith  
Mr. Thomas has shot Mrs Thomas  
you had better come in & see to it  
I went in & opened the bedroom  
door, she (Mrs Thomas) was lying  
on the floor between the bed & the  
trunks. She was unconscious when  
I saw her - I did not think Mr Thomas  
would do it - He accused me of  
taking Mrs Thomas out to meet  
men - I never did it - I never  
saw Mr Tillman there but twice  
J. H. Smith  
mark

Taken before me

this 28 day of January

1889



CORONER.

0557

Coroner's Office.

TESTIMONY.

William Tillman being sworn says:  
 I live at 244 West 47<sup>th</sup> Street. I was  
 a member of the Manhattan Athletic  
 Club. I have known deceased  
 Ellen Thomas about 1 month prior  
 to her death. Deceased used to visit  
 a family I visited (Mrs Evans) at  
 259<sup>th</sup> 41<sup>st</sup> St. ~~She~~<sup>She is</sup> a widow  
 with small children. Deceased asked  
 me to call down & visit her -  
 I visited her twice or 3 times a  
 week - I generally called in  
 the evening. I made no long  
 calls - I never saw her husband  
 when I called except once. It  
 was in the evening about 8 P.M. &  
 stayed until 10 P.M.  
 I instructed Delia in playing  
 Kutar - On December 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 the day of the shooting - Deceased  
 myself & 2 children were present.  
 I called about 1/2 past 7 in the  
 evening. The prisoner came about  
 9 P.M. Deceased did not ob-  
 ject to my presence -  
~~Deceased~~<sup>The prisoner</sup> came in & said good  
 evening to all & called his little  
 boy out in the hall & said he

Taken before me

this

day of

188

CORONER.

0558

Coroner's Office.

TESTIMONY.

wanted to tell him something Mrs Thomas went out too. Then the little boy went away - in a little while he was back again & when he came in he brought a valise & two hat boxes, then he took them in the bedroom - Mr Thomas told Willie to go out & shut the door - he left it a little ajar, Mr & Mrs Thomas began to talk in the bedroom - I could not understand it - The little girl & I & Willie were in the sitting room - I was teaching her to play on the guitar. In about an hour, I saw the flash of a pistol in the bedroom - I saw it through the crack of the door - the little girl said "Papa has shot Mama" Then I got up to try to get out of the way but Mr Thomas came right out & began shooting at me - He shot me three times - in my shoulder, back and arm - I fell when he shot me the 3<sup>d</sup> time - Thomas never named me <sup>not</sup> to come to his house, either directly or indirectly - I taught Delia about once or twice a week for about a couple of weeks Thomas had no reason to suspect

Taken before me

this

day of

188

CORONER.



0559

Coroner's Office.

TESTIMONY.

me of intimacy with his wife. I  
was not intimate with Ellen  
Thomas deceased.

William Pellman

Taken before me

this 28 day of January 1889

W. J. Meserve

CORONER.

0560

Coroner's Office.

TESTIMONY.

Ella Jones being sworn says: I live  
at 215 West 4th Street. I knew Decatur  
years - I don't know anything of her  
character - I never heard any  
quarrel - I was present on December  
22<sup>d</sup> 1888 - I heard one shot go off  
in the bedroom - I heard 3 more  
shots - I went to the window &  
shouted murder - I heard 4 shots  
altogether.

Ella Jones

Taken before me

this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January 1889

W. J. Messenger

CORONER.

0561

Wzph

Born in 70<sup>th</sup> & Lane - prop of  
Bristol - McQuinn 1920 - for  
Hous. from 400<sup>th</sup>  
Moving to 7<sup>30</sup>

Plotted - found it on site of  
Sept 1920 ago -

When I got home was coal and  
much - spoke pleasant - called my boy  
and sent him to Mrs. Wadger - Hat Box  
me & wife returned to the land - Tillman  
the little girl & I saw - Look out on  
65 - you heard me repeatedly tell you  
Tillman &c



0562

I have - Archer not given out

but not all night & short  
Sullivan -

0563

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

THE PEOPLE, &c.

vs.

Joseph Thomas

BRIEF OF FACTS.

For the District Attorney.

Dated March 1889  
Edward Dwyer

Deputy Assistant.

0564

From New York Hospital.

New York, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 1889

To Coroner Levy?

Sir:

Please hold an Inquest on the body of

Name: Ellen Thomas (col'd) Residence: 144 West 30<sup>th</sup> St.  
 Age: 35 years months days Admitted Satur + day, Dec  
 Nativity: Ind Father W.S. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1889, at 10.20 o'clock P. M.  
 Mother W.S. By Ambulance A  
 Life in U. S., Life in City. From Residence B  
 Civil Bond. Married Occup.: none Examined by Dr. W.E. Wilson  
 Suffering from symptoms of \_\_\_\_\_ C

Said Injuries said to have been received Was unconscious when admitted D  
and no particulars could be ascertained from her as to the  
cause of shooting. It is said that patient was shot by her  
husband in a fit of jealousy about a child of patient by a E  
former marriage.

Death took place Sund + day, Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 1888 at 12.15 o'clock P. M.  
 The Autopsy revealed a bullet in the right lateral F  
ventricle, same having traversed the base  
of brain causing extensive hemorrhage  
 Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_ G

W. E. Wilson M. D.  
 HOUSE SURGEON PHYSICIAN.

- Ad. f. State the day of the week.  
 Ad. A. State whether by Ambulance or Friends.  
 Ad. B. State whether from a Precinct or a Residence and give the name.  
 Ad. C. State whether from Natural Causes or from Shock (conscious or unconscious) due to Injuries, and if so, give name, place, date, number, character, and Extent of Injuries, always stating where indicated whether right or left.  
 Ad. D. State when, where, how, by what means or persons received, also whether Accidental, Suicidal, or Homicidal; in falls, the distance, location and place; in Burns and Scalds the circumstances attending the same; in runaway cases, the line of Street Car, Railroad or Conveyance; in Weapons, the character of the same, &c., &c., always giving such information as will lead to an accurate knowledge of the case and facilitate judicial inquiry and justice.  
 Ad. E. State name, date, place, character and results of any operation or amputation performed.  
 Ad. F. Give a short résumé of the Autopsy with the Pathological Diagnosis and the Cause of Death at the End.  
 Ad. G. State here any important facts not embodied in the above statements.



0565

## TESTIMONY.

W<sup>m</sup> A. Conway M. D., being duly sworn, says:  
 I have made a post mortem examination of the body of  
~~Ellen~~ Ellen Thomas now lying dead at  
 144 W. 30<sup>th</sup> St and from such an examination  
 and history of the case, as per testimony, I am of opinion the cause of  
 death is Pistol Shot Wound of the Head causing  
 Laceration of the Brain & Fracture at Base of  
 Skull

W<sup>m</sup> A. Conway, M. D.  
 An autopsy made on the body of Ellen Thomas  
 showed a pistol shot wound on left side of  
 head about midway between eye and ear and on the  
 upper margin of <sup>upper</sup> cheek bone.

On opening the skull the pistol ball was found  
 to have penetrated the floor of the skull and to  
 have imbedded itself in the substance of the brain  
 rupturing blood vessels and causing extensive  
 hemorrhage.

All the other organs of the body were normal  
 except the heart which was slightly fatty  
 and a trifle enlarged and the liver which was also  
 enlarged and fatty.

In my opinion the cause of death was Hemorrhage  
 of Brain, Laceration of Brain, Fracture of Skull caused  
 by a pistol shot wound of head.

W<sup>m</sup> A. Conway, M. D.

Sworn to before me,

*[Signature]* this day of December 1888

CORONER.



0566

MEMORANDA.

AGE	PLACE OF NATIVITY	WHERE FOUND	Date When Reported
35 Years - Months - Days	U. S.	New York Hospital 144 W. 30th St.	Dec. 24/05

Shot in head with pistol  
by husband Joseph Thomas  
at ad. 144 W. 30th St. at  
9:45 P. M. Dec. 22/05  
found as Highway 1200 ft. Dec. 23/05  
Wm. C. Clemen shot at  
same time.

Mr. R. B. M.  
J. E. M.

SP. 923

41th. St. N. Y.

1888

AN INQUISTION

On the VIEW of the BODY of

Ellen Thomas

whereby it is found that she came to  
her death by

Pistol shot

Wound of head.  
Homicide

Temper taken on the day

of Mr. R. B. M. 1888 by  
JOHN R. NECEANT CORONER.

923

0567

shot in head with pistol  
by husband Joseph Thomas  
at res. 144 W. 30<sup>th</sup> St at  
9:45 P. M. Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> 1888  
said as ~~W. J. Gilman~~ 12:20 P. M. Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 1888  
W. J. Gilman shot at  
same time.

AGE	PLACE OF NATIVITY	WHERE FOUND	Date When Reported
36 Years - Months - Days	U. S.	Madison Square	Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>

144 W. 30<sup>th</sup> St

MEMORANDA

M. S. B. M.  
J. R. M.

No. 923

John Doe.

1888

# AN INQUISTION

On the VIEW of the BODY of

Ellen Thomas

whereby it is found that she came to

her death by Pistol Shot

Wound of Head.  
Homicide

Inquest taken on the day

of M. S. B. M. before  
JOHN R. NUGENT, CORONER.

923

0568

## Coroner's Office,

CITY AND COUNTY  
OF NEW YORK, } ss.

Joseph Thomas being duly examined before the undersigned, according to law, on the annexed charge, and being informed that he was at liberty to answer or not, all or any questions put to him, states as follows, viz.:

Question—What is your name?

Answer—

Question—How old are you?

Answer—

Question—Where were you born?

Answer—

Question—Where do you live?

Answer—

Question—What is your occupation?

Answer—

Question—Have you anything to say, and if so, what, relative to the charge here preferred against you?

I have nothing to say  
owing to the absence of my  
counsel  
Joseph Thomas  
mark  
Joseph Thomas.

Taken before me, this 28th day of Jan 1889  
H. B. Messinger  
CORONER.



0569

MEMORANDUM.

AGE.	PLACE OF NATIVITY.	WHERE FOUND.	DATE, When Reported.
35 Years. — Months. — Days.	U.S.	New York Hospital 10 144 Street 30 <sup>th</sup> St	Dec 24 <sup>th</sup>

HOMICIDE

AN INQUISITION

On the view of the BODY of

Allen Thomas

whereby it is found that he came to  
his death by the hands of

Joseph Thomas

Original taken on the 28<sup>th</sup> day

of December 1889

Wm. J. Mason  
Colonel

Committed  
Guilty  
Discharged

Date of death Dec 24/89





TORN PAGE

0570

HOMICIDE

AN INQUISITION

On the VIEW of the BODY of

Ellen Thomas

whereby it is found that he came to  
her Death by the hands of

Joseph Thomas

Inquest taken on the 28th day  
of January 1889

before  
M. B. Meserve  
Coroner.



Committed  
Bailed  
Discharged

Date of death Dec 23/88

MEMORANDUM.

AGE.	PLACE OF NATIVITY.	WHERE FOUND.	DATE When Reported.
35 Years. — Months — Days.	A.O.	New York	Dec 24/88

144 West 30th St



0571

Form No. 1.

**THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.**  
INCORPORATED  
21,000 OFFICES IN AMERICA. CABLE SERVICE TO ALL THE WORLD.

This Company TRANSMITS and DELIVERS messages only on conditions limiting its liability, which have been assented to by the sender of the following message. Errors can be guarded against only by repeating a message back to the sending station for comparison, and the Company will not hold itself liable for errors or delays in transmission or delivery of Unrepeated Messages, beyond the amount of tolls paid therefor in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.  
This is an UNREPEATED MESSAGE, and is delivered by request of the sender, under the conditions named above.

THOS. WICKERT, President and General Manager.

NUMBER

SENT BY

RECEIVED BY

CHECK

RECEIVED at the WESTERN UNION BUILDING, 195 Broadway, N. Y. Nov 14 1894

Dated August 14 1894

To Henry W. Winger  
Acty. Dist. Attorneys Office  
N.Y.

Joseph Thomas Colored Life man  
died September sixteenth ninety four.  
J. Jackson

0572

Back - Look - nothing -  
James - clearing the door -  
"I'd be my name. What time is it?"  
Emmett -  
Dorothy -  
Lorilee -  
Lorilee -

0573

Reasonable doubt - 341

Wm Thomas - wpts on

Van der Boven - wpts on

William Zellman -

The police officers - Brett. Schmidtberg

Girls - Children in Crown's office

- Mrs. Julia Smith -

Zellman in the Crown's office -

Character - Portob. - Sending the  
boy out -

Fuss Evans - I had to protect myself  
against that man.

Brett  
Schmidtberg  
Girls -



0574

## Police Department of the City of New York,

Precinct No. \_\_\_\_\_

New York, Dec. 22. 1888

Vandelia Brewer, aged 12 yrs. residing 144 W. 30<sup>th</sup> St.  
 deposes and says. My Papa came home about 9.30 P.M.  
 I was sitting by the stove. My brother was sitting on the  
 lounge, Mr. Tobin was sitting on a chair near the stove  
 by me picking a ~~sugar~~ quiver. He was waiting for a  
 Mr. Turner that lodges with us. ~~My~~ My Mother was  
 working in the same room. My Stepfather said to Willie  
 my brother, come here I want to speak to you, and went  
 out into the hall with Willie and my Mama went too.  
 My Stepfather whispered something to Willie, and told  
 him to go across the street to Mrs. Washington, and  
 tell her to send him his valise and 2 hat boxes.  
 Then he said to Mama, come in to the Bedroom, I want  
 to speak to you, and both went into the Bedroom.  
 There was no light in there. Both sat on the side of  
 the bed; my mama commenced to tell him, (my papa)  
 how mean he was to her, and my mama came into  
 the room where I was, to see if the iron were hot and  
 went back again. I said to her after a while, that the  
 iron were hot, and she said all right, I will be in  
 there. She went to come and but he held her back.  
 She said Let me alone, some minutes after I heard  
 something go off. I saw a blaze go right up, and  
 I said to Willie, he has shot Mama, and then  
 Willie ran out. My Papa then came in, and pointed  
 a pistol at Mr. Tobin. I think the pistol went off twice

0575

Police Department of the City of New York,

Precinct No. ....

New York, ..... 188

Mr. Tolin fell from the chair in which he was sitting to the floor and said "I am dead". I called "Papa Thomas have you shot Mama?" He did not say a word and I ran behind a trunk and then he opened the door and went out.

Haroldia Brewer

0576

Edward F. Brett. On our way down in the Seventh Avenue horse car I said to him, "Thomas, how did you shoot your wife?" He says "I did not shoot her, I had to protect myself against that man that was in the room." I asked him where he got the pistol from and he ~~said~~ told me it was an old one that he used to carry, that he had over in the house, and he went on to say that this woman was not his wife, that he had been living with her for eleven or twelve years, as near as I can get it, and this woman who lived in the front he did not care a great deal about and another woman that came and visited there were pretty bad company for her and he did not like the company she was keeping there. That was about all the conversation <sup>he</sup> ~~she~~ had with me.

0577

Oliver Tims

He came in the door very abruptly, appeared to be very much excited and said "Sergeant, I have shot and I have killed my wife. I have shot another man whom I found in bed with her."

The prisoner was standing near the railing when Tillman came in. I asked Tillman if that was the man that shot him. He said he was.

The prisoner further added that his wife drove him to it, she was acting improperly with men and he could not stand it any longer and he had warned her.



0578

Max F. Schmittberger.

I asked Thomas why he had shot his wife and he replied that he found that man ~~in bed~~ on top of his wife in bed, were the exact words he used, and he shot them both. I then asked him before Tillman who was then sitting in a chair and was being disrobed by the doorman so as to ascertain the condition of his wound - I questioned Tillman before Thomas, if Thomas was the man who had shot him and he said yes. Then Thomas spoke up and said, "I shot you in self defense. You shot at me first."

0579

## Police Department of the City of New York,

Precinct No. \_\_\_\_\_

New York, Dec. 22 1888

Julia Smith, aged 29 yrs. residing 144 W. 30<sup>th</sup> St.  
deposes and says: About 10 P.M. I heard 4 shots,  
in the room, occupied by Mrs. Thomas. I live on the  
same floor, front. I yelled Murder and ran into  
the hall; where I met Joseph Thomas on the first step  
going down. I said, who is that shooting in there?  
and he said, that man, pointing into the room, was  
shooting at me. Then John came running out of  
the room, showing his hand, I saw blood on his wrist.  
John <sup>said</sup> Mr. Thomas has shot Mrs. Thomas, and I had  
better get in and see to it. I went into the room,  
and saw blood on a quilt. I went into the room  
behind and saw Mrs. Thomas lying on the floor.

Julia Smith

0580

## Police Department of the City of New York,

Precinct No. \_\_\_\_\_

New York, Dec. 22 1888

Willie Thomas, aged 14 yrs. residing 144 W 30<sup>th</sup> St.  
apartments + says. My Papa came home and called out  
into the hall. he whispered to me, Go over to Mrs.  
Washington + get my valises + two boxes. I got them  
and brought them into the little Bedroom - where papa  
and mamma were. Mr. Tobin was there, showing  
my sister Velia how to play the guitar. Papa told me  
to shut the Bedroom door. I sat upon the lounge.  
I then heard something go off, and Velia said  
Papa has shot Mamma. I then ran out, some of the  
powder smoke had got in my mouth.

Willie Thomas

0581

General Pardon.

The People

vs.

Joseph Thomas

Charge:

Homicide,  
in having on the 22<sup>d</sup> of December,  
1888, at No. 144 West 30th Street in-  
flicted a pistol wound upon  
Ellen Thomas, his wife, which said  
wound on the 28<sup>th</sup> of December,  
1888, caused the death of said  
Ellen Thomas.

Julia Smith, 144 West 30th Street  
Widow, Landlady. On the 22<sup>d</sup>  
of December, 1888, I occupied in  
the top floor of said premises the  
rooms in front of the room oc-  
cupied by the defendant and  
his wife. A little after half past  
nine o'clock in the evening I  
heard four pistol shots in the de-  
fendant's rooms, one of them  
was fired in the bedroom which  
adjoins my rooms, the other



0582

three were fired off in the room  
fronting the yard. Ella Jones,  
my cousin, was at the time  
with me. When the fourth shot  
had been fired off, I told my  
cousin to run to the win-  
dow and halloo "Murder!" At  
the same time I went into the  
hall, and there I saw the de-  
fendant just come out of his  
room. I asked him, who had  
done the shooting in his room.  
He replied that that man in  
there (meaning his room)  
had shot at him. Thereupon I  
retired to my room for a mo-  
ment, and on returning to the  
hall, I saw <sup>Wm.</sup> Tillman come out  
of the defendant's room, blood  
was dripping from his left  
arm. He said, that the defend-  
ant had shot his wife, and you  
better come in and see to it. I  
went in. The deceased was lying  
in the bedroom on the floor bet-  
ween the bed and the trunk.  
He was unconscious. Her head  
was covered with blood. While

I was in, a police officer and  
 afterwards the Sergeant came  
 in. The said premises are an  
 old fashioned private tenement  
 house, three stories high. The de-  
 ceased was a hard working, sober  
 woman who by their own  
 work had largely to support  
 their whole family, the defend-  
 ant included. I saw the deceased  
 buried at Cypress Hill Cemetery.

Paulina Brewer, 145 West 30th  
 Street, I am a daughter of the de-  
 ceased. I am twelve years old.  
 but I know the nature of our  
 oath. I attend Grammar School  
 No. 48. On the 22<sup>d</sup> of December 1887  
 at about half past nine o'clock in  
 the evening, there were in <sup>our</sup> ~~my~~  
~~rooms~~ at No. 144 West 30th Street  
 my mother and the defendant  
 were in the bedroom, while I  
 my brother and Mr. Tillman  
 were in the room facing the  
 yard. ~~My~~ The defendant came  
 home at half past eight o'clock.  
 He called my brother to the door  
 and whispered something in

0584

his car. My mother, who had been waiting until then, went to the said door and said that she wanted to hear what the defendant had to say to my brother. He replied, that she should go <sup>into</sup> the bedroom, that he would tell her after awhile. She said, that she wanted to hear ~~it~~ right then. Thereupon he said, that he had sent my brother across the street to No. 145 West 30th Street, to Mrs. Washington to get some hat boxes and a valise. My brother, ~~and~~ departed, and the defendant and my mother went into the bedroom. A few minutes afterwards my brother came back with the said articles and brought them into the bedroom. When my brother came out, the defendant told him to close the door. I told him not to shut it so tightly. I knew that the defendant always carried a pistol with him, and I had always been afraid that he might once do some harm

to my mother. They had sometimes words with each other, because he did not want to contribute anything to the support of the family, not even pay the rent for the ~~three~~ rooms we occupied. One of them was a hall room, which was let to a gentleman named George Turner. Hearing my said request, my brother pulled the said door open for about six inches. I could not see my mother and the defendant in the bedroom. I heard them converse with each other but, except the remark: "You know, you pay no rent, made by my mother, I could not understand what they said to each other. The defendant and mother must have been in the bedroom for about an hour when I heard a pistol shot in there, I dropped the guitar, which I held in my hands, and remarked: What is that? and after a few moments: I said: "He shot Maria!" At the time I did not know that he had ac-



0586

trally shot my mother, but I  
feared it. I ran to the bedroom  
door, but at once receded again,  
because the defendant came  
out ~~again~~, having a pistol in  
his hands with which he fired  
three shots in rapid succession  
at Mr. Gillman. I did not  
hear any words pass between  
Mr. Gillman and the defend-  
ant before the shooting. I  
was frightened, and cried out:  
Don't shoot me! He replied:  
I will not shoot you, whereupon  
he opened the door and walked  
out. Mr. Gillman fell to the  
floor. I thought he was dead,  
but he recovered, and I helped  
him from the floor. I went into  
the bedroom, and found my  
mother lying ~~down~~ on the floor  
between the bed and the trunk.  
A pillow had fallen upon her.  
She was unconscious. Mr. Gill-  
man had come to our house  
at about half past seven o'clock  
to teach me guitar playing.  
He had been at our house before

0587

to see our lodger, Mr. Turner. I never saw Mr. Fillman and my mother in the bedroom together.

William Thomas, 145 West 32 Street. I am the 14 years old son of the defendant. I go to Grammer School No. 26. I know the nature of an oath. On the 22<sup>d</sup> of December 1888, my father <sup>came</sup> home at about half eight o'clock. He called me to the door and told me to go over to Mr. Washington and get his hat box and valise. I went, but before I left, my mother came to the door, I did not hear what she said to my father. ~~After~~ <sup>Two</sup> minutes later I came back and left the hat box and the valise in the bedroom. My father and my mother were at the time sitting on the bed and were talking with each other. I did not understand what they said. My father told me to go out and shut the door. I do not remember that

0588

my sister asked me not to shut the door so tightly. My impression is that I left the door about six inches standing ajar <sup>at</sup> of my own motion. At about half past nine o'clock I heard a shot in the bedroom, and I ran down into the street, because I was afraid of my father. I waited at the ~~front door~~ <sup>opposite the house</sup> for about two minutes & when I saw my father come out of the house, I ran over to Mr. Herbert's employment office. When I was about running out of the room, my father came out of the bedroom cocking the pistol which he had in his hand. While I ran down stairs I heard some more shots but I did not see the shots fired off. Before my father called me to the door, he had been in the room for a few minutes. He stood by the iron board. I know that my father had always carried a pistol about him. I often heard my mother have words with my father about

his failure to support his family.  
 Mr. Gillman came to us to visit  
 Mr. Turner, our lodger.

The witness corroborates all  
 the other statements of his sister  
 Delia.

Ida Jones, 245 West 14th  
 Street, Nurse girl, employed by  
 Mrs. Gilbert Clark. On the 22<sup>d</sup>  
 of December, 1888, at about half  
 past nine o'clock in the evening  
 while was in the room of my  
 cousin, Mrs. Smith, at No. 144  
 West 30th Street, I heard four  
 pistol shots in the rooms ad-  
 joining Mrs. Smith's rooms  
 in the rear. My cousin asked  
 me to go to the window and  
 "holler 'Murder!'" I did, as she  
 told me. I did not see the de-  
 fendunt, nor Mr. Gillman.

Edward J. Brett, patrolman,  
 19th precinct. On the 22<sup>d</sup> of De-  
 cember, 1888, between 9.30 and 10 o'clock  
 in the evening, while being on duty  
 in front of 134 West 30th Street



0590

I was informed by a lot of children that a man had shot his wife in No. 144 West 30th Street. I hurried to the said premises and on the top floor in the rear I found Sergeant Schmittbecker in the room of the defendant. The deceased was lying in the bed room <sup>on the floor</sup> ~~on the floor~~ <sup>on the floor</sup> side the bed, bleeding from a pistol shot wound in the head. About ten minutes later an ambulance came, and the deceased was removed to the N. Y. Hospital. Sergeant Schmittbecker informed me that the defendant was at the Station House, which is nearly opposite, <sup>No.</sup> 144. Next morning, on the way to the Police Court the defendant said to me that he had not shot his wife, but had to protect <sup>him</sup> ~~myself~~ against this man Tillman, and that the revolver, which was at the Station House, and ~~was~~ with which belonged to him, was an old one, which he used to carry. He added that he had lived for twelve years with the deceased.

dent that he had not been married to her. The reputation of the deceased in the neighborhood was that of a hard working swarmer. The house No. 1444 West 30th is a decent private tenement house.

William Tillman, 244 West 47th Street, Captain of the Manhattan Athletic Club. I made the acquaintance of the deceased in the latter part of November 1888, at the house of Mrs. Mary Evans, of No. 259 West 41st Street, whom I had known for the last two years previous thereto. The deceased heard me play the guitar there, and she asked me to call at her house to teach her little girl guitar playing. I called upon her for the first time in the beginning of December, 1888. The second time I called at her house was on the 10th of December 1888. I have been there altogether six times. With the exception of my first call, I gave the deceased

0592

little daughter lessons in guitar playing every time I was at her house. On the 22<sup>d</sup> of December, 1888, I called at about seven o'clock, but the little girl was busy for her mother when I came. I had to wait until about eight o'clock, before I could commence to give my lesson to her. The deceased was ironing at the time. The defendant came home at about half past eight o'clock. He said: good evening! to us all. A few minutes afterwards he called his little boy William to the door, saying, that he had something to say to him. The deceased went out too. I did not hear the conversation the three had with each other. The defendant and the deceased came in again and went into the bedroom where they remained for about an hour. They talked together, but I did not understand what they said. William came back after about five minutes and brought two

0593

hat boxes and a valise into the bed room. I heard the defendant tell him to shut the bedroom door. The boy, however, left it about six inches wide open. I was all the time teaching the little girl guitar playing, until I heard a pistol shot in the bedroom. I saw the flash of the shot through the opening of the door. Immediately after this shot the defendant came out of the bedroom with the revolver in his hand and fired three shots at me, each of which did take effect in my body, one in the left shoulder, one in the left arm, and the third in the left back side. I was confined in the N. Y. Hospital for three weeks and one day. When I received the third shot, I fell to the floor. Some body assisted me in getting up again, and I went over to the Patient's House, assisted by Dr. August Schmidthberger. The defendant was there already. I had



0594

not been intimate with ~~the~~  
deceased. The defendant had  
no cause or justification for  
shooting at me. When he shot at me,  
he was standing at the <sup>hall</sup> door, and  
I had risen to leave the room,  
but he prevented from going out.

Mar. F. Schmittleberger Pri-  
soner, 19 precinct. I was at-  
tracted by a crowd standing  
at the house No 144 West 8th  
Street, on the 22<sup>d</sup> of December  
1888, at about half past nine  
o'clock in the evening. Upstairs  
on the top floor I found the  
deceased lying on the floor of  
a small bedroom. She was un-  
conscious. The prisoner had  
in the meanwhile surrendered him-  
self at the Station House, where  
known to me. In being asked  
by me, the defendant said, that  
he shot his wife, because he  
found Tillman on top of his  
wife's bed, and in the same  
breath he said that Tillman  
shot at him first and that he shot at  
him in self defense.

0595

Police Department of the City of New York,

Precinct No. 19

New York, March 25 1889

Edmund Grosse

Dear Sir

Sergeant Max A Schmittberger informs me that the matter about which you wish to see me is <sup>in</sup> relations to the statement made to me by Joseph Thomas the colored man who shot his wife at 144 West 30<sup>th</sup> St some time ago. (immediately after the shooting) Thomas rushed into the Station House, which is almost directly opposite the residence of Thomas. He appeared to be much excited and holding up a Revolver exclaimed "I have just shot and killed my wife and a man whom I found having criminal intercourse with her. I found them both in bed. I first shot my wife and then the man. I could not help it, she drove me to it. I believe, <sup>they</sup> <sup>both</sup> are dead. I meant to kill them and I now give myself up." This was all he said at the time he afterwards made various contradictory statements (one).

0596

Court of General Sessions of the Peace

OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

against

*Joseph Thomas*

The Grand Jury of the City and County of New York, by this indictment,  
accuse *Joseph Thomas*

of the CRIME OF Murder in the First Degree, committed as follows:

The said *Joseph Thomas*,

late of the City of New York, in the County of New York aforesaid, on the ~~fourth~~ *second*  
day of *December*, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and  
eighty-~~eight~~, at the City and County aforesaid, with force and arms, in and upon one  
*Ellen Thomas*, in the peace of the said People then and there being,  
wilfully, feloniously, and of ~~his~~ malice aforethought, did make an assault, and the said  
*Joseph Thomas*, a certain pistol then and there charged and  
loaded with gunpowder and one leaden bullet, which said pistol the said *Joseph*  
*Thomas* in ~~his~~ right hand then and there had and held,  
to, at, against, and upon the said *Ellen Thomas*  
then and there feloniously, wilfully, and of ~~his~~ malice aforethought, did shoot off and  
discharge, and the said *Joseph Thomas*,  
with the leaden bullet aforesaid, out of the pistol aforesaid, then and there by force of the  
gunpowder aforesaid, shot off, sent forth and discharged, as aforesaid, ~~then~~ the said  
*Ellen Thomas*, in and upon the ~~head~~ of ~~her~~  
the said *Ellen Thomas*, then and there feloniously, wilfully, and of  
~~his~~ malice aforethought, did strike, penetrate and wound, giving to ~~her~~  
the said *Ellen Thomas*, then and there, with the leaden bullet  
aforesaid, so as aforesaid discharged, sent forth and shot out of the pistol aforesaid, by the

0597

said Joseph Thomas in and upon the head of  
the said Ellen Thomas, one mortal wound of the breadth of  
one inch, and of the depth of six inches, of which said mortal wound she the  
said Ellen Thomas —, at the City and County aforesaid,  
from the said twenty-second day of December, in the  
year aforesaid, until the twenty-third day of December, in the same year  
aforesaid, did languish, and languishing did live, on which said twenty-third  
day of December, in the year aforesaid, the said Ellen  
Thomas, at the City and County aforesaid, of the said mortal wound did die.

And so the Grand Jury aforesaid do say: That the said Joseph  
Thomas, son.

the said Ellen Thomas in the manner and form, and by  
the means aforesaid, wilfully, feloniously, and of his malice aforethought, did kill  
and murder, against the form of the Statute in such case made and provided, and against  
the peace of the People of the State of New York and their dignity.

SECOND COUNT—

And the Grand Jury aforesaid. by this indictment, further accuse  
the said Joseph Thomas

of the same CRIME OF Murder in the First Degree, committed as follows:

The said Joseph Thomas.

late of the City and County aforesaid, afterwards, to wit: on the said twenty-second  
day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and  
eighty-eight, at the City and County aforesaid, with force and arms, in and upon the  
said Ellen Thomas, in the peace of the said People then and there  
being, wilfully, feloniously, and with a deliberate and premeditated design to effect  
the death of the said Ellen Thomas, did make an assault, and the said



0598

*Joseph Thomas* a certain pistol then and there charged and loaded with gunpowder and one leaden bullet, which said pistol the said *Joseph Thomas* in *his* right hand then and there had and held to, at, against, and upon the said *Allen Thomas*, then and there feloniously, wilfully, and with a deliberate and premeditated design to effect the death of the said *Allen Thomas*, did shoot off and discharge. and the said *Joseph Thomas*, with the leaden bullet aforesaid, out of the pistol aforesaid, then and there by force of the gunpowder aforesaid, shot off, sent forth, and discharged, as aforesaid, *then* the said *Allen Thomas* in and upon the *head* of *her* the said *Allen Thomas* then and there feloniously, wilfully, and with a deliberate and premeditated design to effect the death of the said *Allen Thomas*, did strike, penetrate, and wound, giving to *her* the said *Allen Thomas* then and there, with the leaden bullet aforesaid, so as aforesaid discharged, sent forth, and shot out of the pistol aforesaid, by the said *Joseph Thomas* in and upon the *head* of the said *Allen Thomas*, one mortal wound of the breadth of one inch, and of the depth of six inches, of which said mortal wound *she* the said *Allen Thomas*, at the City and County aforesaid, from the said *twenty second* day of *December*, in the year aforesaid, until the *twenty third* day of *December*, in the same year aforesaid, did languish, and languishing did live, on which said *twenty third* day of *December*, in the year aforesaid, the said *Allen Thomas*, at the City and County aforesaid, of the said mortal wound did die.

And so the Grand Jury aforesaid do say: That the said

*Joseph Thomas*, *her*.

the said *Allen Thomas*, in the manner and form, and by the means aforesaid, wilfully, feloniously, and with a deliberate and premeditated design to effect the death of the said *Allen Thomas*, did kill, and murder, against the form of the Statute in such made and provided, and against the peace of the People of the State of New York and their dignity.

JOHN R. FELLOWS,

District Attorney.

0599

**BOX:**

348

**FOLDER:**

3278

**DESCRIPTION:**

Thompson, James

**DATE:**

03/06/89



3278

0600

Witnesses:

Counsel,

Filed

Pleads,

day of March 1889

THE PEOPLE

vs.

P

James Thompson

*W. H. McLean*

Grand Larceny, Second Degree  
(From the Person.)  
[Sections 528, 528/5, 529 - Penal Code].

JOHN R. FELLOWS,

District Attorney.

A True Bill.

*Charles S. Scott* Foreman.

*March 6, 1889*

*Wm. G. Bradley*  
*S. P. Dwyer* *John H. Jones*

0601

Police Court—

District.

Affidavit—Larceny.

City and County }  
of New York, } ss.:

Charles E. Talbot,  
of No. 75 Henry St. Brooklyn 206 Broadway Street, aged 29 years,  
occupation Broker-Keeper being duly sworn  
deposes and says, that on the 13 day of February 1889 at the City of New  
York, in the County of New York, was feloniously taken, stolen and carried away from the possession  
of deponent, in the day time, the following property, viz:

One silver watch with  
guard attached valued at  
Ten Dollars.

the property of

Deponent

and that this deponent  
has a probable cause to suspect, and does suspect, that the said property was feloniously taken, stolen,  
and carried away by James Thompson

(now being for the reasons following,  
to wit: of said date as deponent  
was walking on Park Row having  
the said watch in the left pocket  
of the vest then worn by him as  
a portion of his bodily clothing,  
he felt a tug at said watch and  
missed the same. The defendant  
was standing near him at the  
time. Deponent seized hold  
of defendant and found the  
said watch in defendant's pos-  
session.

Charles E. Talbot

Sworn to before me, this  
13 day  
of February 1889

Police Justice.



0602

Sec. 108—200.

CITY AND COUNTY } ss.  
OF NEW YORK, }

District Police Court.

*James Thompson* being duly examined before the under-  
signed according to law, on the annexed charge; and being informed that it is his right to  
make a statement in relation to the charge against him; that the statement is designed to  
enable him if he see fit to answer the charge and explain the facts alleged against him  
that he is at liberty to waive making a statement, and that his waiver cannot be used  
against him on the trial.

Question. What is your name?

Answer.

Question. How old are you?

Answer.

Question. Where were you born?

Answer.

Question. Where do you live, and how long have you resided there?

Answer.

Question. What is your business or profession?

Answer.

Question. Give any explanation you may think proper of the circumstances appearing in the  
testimony against you, and state any facts which you think will tend to your  
exculpation?

Answer.

*I am not guilty.*  
*I have nothing to say.*  
*James Thompson*

Taken before me this

day of *January* 188*9*

*John W. Thompson*  
Police Justice.

0603

*It appearing to me by the within depositions and statements that the crime therein mentioned has been committed, and that there is sufficient cause to believe the within named*.....

*Defendant*  
*guilty thereof, I order that he be held to answer the same and he be admitted to bail in the sum of*  
*Three* Hundred Dollars,.....*and be committed to the Warden and Keeper of*  
*the City Prison, of the City of New York, until he give such bail.*

*Dated* *July 15* 188*9* *J. Murphy* Police Justice.

*I have admitted the above-named*.....  
*to bail to answer by the undertaking hereto annexed.*

*Dated*.....188.....*Police Justice.*

*There being no sufficient cause to believe the within named*.....  
*guilty of the offence within mentioned, I order h to be discharged.*

*Dated*.....188.....*Police Justice.*

0604

Police Court---

26<sup>th</sup>  
District.

THE PEOPLE, &c.,  
ON THE COMPLAINT OF

*Charles E. Salvo*  
206<sup>th</sup> Bway  
*James Thompson*

*Offered as security  
from person*

BAILED,

No. 1, by .....

Residence ..... Street

No. 2, by .....

Residence ..... Street

No. 3, by .....

Residence ..... Street

No. 4, by .....

Residence ..... Street

2 .....  
3 .....  
4 .....

Dated *Feb 13* 1889

*Gord* Magistrate.

*McLaughlin* Officer.

*4* Precinct.

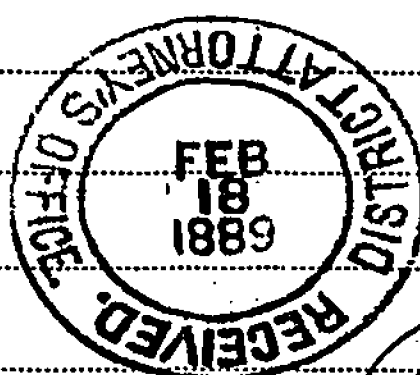
Witnesses .....

No. .... Street.

No. .... Street.

No. .... Street.

\$ *300* to answer



*John*  
*W. H. Norton*

0605

Court of General Sessions of the Peace

OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

against

James Thompson

The Grand Jury of the City and County of New York, by this indictment, accuse

James Thompson  
of the CRIME OF GRAND LARCENY in the second degree, committed as follows:

The said

James Thompson  
late of the City of New York, in the County of New York aforesaid, on the fifteenth  
day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and  
eighty-nine, in the day - time of the said day, at the City and County  
aforesaid, with force and arms,

one watch of the value  
of nine dollars, and one  
guard of the value of one  
dollar

of the goods, chattels and personal property of one  
on the person of the said

Charles E. Talbott  
then and there being found, from the person of the said  
Charles E. Talbott  
then and there feloniously did steal, take and carry away, against the form of the statute in such  
case made and provided, and against the peace of the People of the State of New York and their  
dignity.



0606

SECOND COUNT—

AND THE GRAND JURY AFORESAID, by this indictment, further accuse the said

*James Thompson*  
of the CRIME OF RECEIVING STOLEN GOODS, committed as follows:

The said

*James Thompson*  
late of the City and County aforesaid, afterwards to wit: on the day and in the year aforesaid,  
at the City and County aforesaid, with force and arms,

*one watch of the value  
of nine dollars, and one  
guard chain of the value of one  
dollar*

of the goods, chattels and personal property of one

*Charles E. Talbott*  
by a certain person or persons to the Grand Jury aforesaid unknown, then lately before feloniously  
stolen, taken and carried away from the said

*Charles E. Talbott*  
unlawfully and unjustly, did feloniously receive and have; the said

*James Thompson*  
then and there well knowing the said goods, chattels and personal property to have been feloniously  
stolen, taken and carried away, against the form of the statute in such case made and provided,  
and against the peace of the People of the State of New York and their dignity.

JOHN R. FELLOWS,  
District Attorney.