

Police Department of the City of New York,

Bureau of Elections,

300 Mulberry Street,

New York, January 5th, 1897

Hon. Ashbel P. Fitch,

Comptroller, City of New York (through, Board of Police)

Sir:--

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of a copy of a report on certain polling places, made pursuant to your instructions and transmitted (at my request) to this office for further investigation.

Herewith you have the result of such investigation in tabulated form, showing in each case the remarks of the precinct commander and the action of the Bureau. Where the Comptroller's inspector mentions vacant stores or other places apparently available, but which were not originally reported to this office by precinct commanders, they have been required to make a special report in writing, copy of which is also enclosed. This tabulated statement shows that 79 election districts were visited by the Comptroller's inspector, and that in 46 districts he reported that there were "no stores available"; of the remainder, precinct commanders reported that no suitable rooms could be obtained in 17 districts. In 16 districts the stores recommended were rejected by the Bureau of Elections on account of insufficient space, and one for the reason that liquor was sold in the building. In a number of cases where the Comptroller's inspector failed to find any place suitable for a polling place, the precinct reports, filed at the time, show that small places were available, but were deemed by the Bureau unsuitable in view of a probable increase in the registration for a presidential election; in a majority of cases this opinion was subsequently confirmed.

It is noted that the Comptroller's inspection report is dated October 27th, 1896, being 47 days before the meeting of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, at which it was produced and quoted from by the Comptroller in support of his assertion that a larger number of steel polling houses had been erected at the last Election than were called for in the public interests. Had the Comptroller's report been referred, soon after its date, to this office for such information as could have been furnished, all the facts (instead of an ex parte statement) would have been before the Board of Estimate for their intelligent consideration.

Respectfully,

(signed) T. F. RODENBOUGH,

Chief of Bureau of Elections.

Respectfully furnished for information of

Hon. William F. Strong

Mem. Board of Est. and App.

127/14 2/6/14
Chicago, Ill., 12/11, 1896.

✓
Mayor Strong, Esq.,
New York City,
N. Y.

Dear Sir: -

If you will consider the following, you will oblige the writer forever. - This is a petition to aid me in finding out my brother.

My brother is Max Feldmann, was born in November 1874 in Karlsruhe, Baden, (Germany). He is medium sized; blond, - and has a plain, honest appearance. -

He came to America in the Spring of 1892, and worked in New York City till I last heard of him in the summer of 1893.

Now, I am very anxious to find out his whereabouts, and not knowing how to commence, I took the liberty to

127/14
216/14
address you.

If it is not in your power to help me, do me the favor to write me where to direct my steps. - Anything you can do to help me will be greatly appreciated.

I remain, Sir,

Your devoted servant,

Sophie Feldmann.

Room 709

100 Washy St

Chicago Ill

2/26/14 12/14

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 16, 1896.

Dear Sir:—

I am in receipt of a letter signed by your Secretary, informing me that the matter I applied for regarding my brother has been referred to the Police Department;— accept my sincerest thanks.

I forgot to state in my former letter that my brother (Max Feldmann) was employed in the "Hoffman House," Madison Square, in the summer of 1893.

Thankfully yours,

Sophie Feldmann.

Room 709-100 Washington St.

Police Department of the City of New York.

Bureau of Information

300 Mulberry street

New York January 4th, 1897

Peter Conlin

Chief of Police

Sir:-

The person referred to in the annexed letter, Max Feldman/a waiter left the employ of the proprietor of the "Hoffman House" and obtained a situation at the "Claremont Hotel" in this City where he remained until about one year ago since which time no information has been obtained regarding him.

I would suggest that the writer be advised to advertise for the desired information At the office of the "International Newspaper Advertising Agency", 119 Dearborn St. Chicago Ills. advertisements will be received for insertion in any newspaper published.

Respectfully

Patrick Byrne

Sergeant Commanding C. O. Sqd.

Copy.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Jan. 11th, 1896.

Hon. William L. Strong

Mayor New York City.

Dear Sir:-

By direction of the Board of Police and in further reply to your communication of the 18th ult. I return herewith letter from Sophie Feldman and copy of report thereon.

Very respectfully

John J. Ryan
Chief Clerk.

POLICE DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF CHIEF OF POLICE
300 MULBERRY STREET.

New York, January 19th 1897.

Theodore Roosevelt, Esq.,

President, Board of Police Commissioners.

Sir:-

I have the honor to submit herewith for your information figures taken from the records of this department which show a comparison of the work done by the police force in the periods from November 1st 1893 to May 31st 1895, and from June 1st 1895 to December 31st 1896, both inclusive. These figures speak for themselves and, with the exception of a few cases, need no explanation.

I desire to call your attention to the work of this department relative to the enforcement of the Excise Law from June 1st 1895 to December 31st 1896. In my experience of twenty nine years service in this department I have never seen such effective measures taken by the police to enforce the Excise Law. It is true that in the nineteen months from November 1st 1893 to May 31st 1895 there were more arrests made for violation of Excise Law than there were made in the period from June 1st 1895 to December 31st 1896 but, it is a fact that has not yet passed without the memory of our citizens that during the latter period this law was enforced more thoroughly and more impartially than it had ever before been enforced in the history of the department. Licensed places which for years prior to the advent of the present police administration had, in one way or another, been enabled to do business on Sunday and during other prohibited hours were forced to close, and, from the time this crusade was begun up to the time that the Liquor Tax Law was passed, were compelled to remain closed on Sunday and during prohibited hours, and to respect the provisions

of the Excise Law in a manner that they had never been caused to do before. The results of police activity in this respect were apparent to the most casual observer, and were clearly shown in the diminished number of cases of drunkenness that were up before the City Magistrates on Monday mornings during this period. As far as the present Excise Law is concerned the police force are just as active and as energetic as they were in the period of this administration prior to the enactment of this law. Drinking on Sunday and during the hours from 1 to 5 A.M. is prohibited in all places that do not or cannot qualify as hotels under the Liquor Tax Law. A large number of arrests have been made in places that are called hotels under this law, for non-compliance with certain of the provisions of the law relative to what is required to make them hotels, and everything possible is being done to strictly, impartially and thoroughly enforce the law as it stands.

There is no such thing now in the city as public gambling of any kind. From the beginning of this administration to the present day the police have been very active in suppressing gambling. For the purpose of evading the law as to gambling several persons who in the past ran gambling houses more or less openly have organized clubs, and have had such clubs incorporated. Even these places are subjected to the strictest police supervision; visits are made to them at irregular hours of the day and night by officers of this department, and where there exists a reasonable suspicion that, in spite of these efforts of the police, gambling is carried on in such places, policemen in uniform are stationed before the doors, with instructions to notify persons entering, that such places are reputed gambling houses.

Pool rooms are things of the past. In isolated cases persons have attempted to run a pool room of the "snap" order, but just as soon as these are brought to the notice of the police they are

suppressed and the persons responsible for keeping or maintaining them are arrested.

An incessant warfare is kept up on the petty vice of policy, and it is suppressed and kept down to such an extent that it is now practically confined to the curb stone, and, to out of the way places, where in secret, policy writers meet their patrons, and take their plays without giving them any tangible evidence of their play in the way of slips etc.

What has been said about the suppression of gambling houses is equally true of houses of prostitution and of assignation; any business of this kind that is done now is done only with persons who are very well known to the proprietors of the places. A number of such places that have been in existence for years and have gone on unmolested have been broken up under this administration; one instance of several that I might give is the premises No. 39 Grove Street, a fashionable resort of this kind which for upward of thirty years carried on their business without molestation from the police, and which was suppressed very soon after this present administration took charge of the police department.

The complaints made to the Corporation Attorney for violation of corporation ordinances during the nineteen months from June 1st 1895 to December 31st 1896 have fallen off nearly thirty thousand (30000) as compared with those made in the nineteen months prior to June 1st 1895; this indicates a very much improved condition as to the violations in question, and this improvement is apparent to any person who in his walks through the streets of our city will take the trouble to make any observations in this regard. There has been a falling off of complaints to the Corporation Attorney for these violations because the patrolmen now compel the removal of incumbrances without waiting and making a complaint.

Since the present Board of Police was appointed there have

been two general elections and one special election held in this city, and I point with pride to the record of this department as made with respect to each one of these elections. The means adopted for the prevention of colonization have been so effective that in this respect the elections referred to were the purest that have taken place in this city for many years.

At present all the precincts of the city with the exception of 1st-2nd-5th-7th-8th-10th-12th and 33rd are supplied with patrol wagon service, and with one or two exceptions these have been supplied since May 1895. As the record shows, there have been since June 1st 1895, thirty thousand and seventy six (30076) patrol wagon calls attended to as against one thousand four hundred and ^{three} forty_^ (1445) in the nineteen months prior to that time; this service is in many ways of great value, particularly in moving prisoners to and from court, conveying prisoners from the scene of arrest to the station houses, transporting numbers of men quickly to fires, accidents etc.

On December 12th 1895 after some weeks of preparation a bicycle squad was organized. At first it was confined to that portion of the city comprised in the 24th and 26th precincts where there are daily and nightly large gatherings of bicycle people; at once its usefulness became apparent and the service was spread until at present it extends to the following precincts, viz: 12th-13th-14th-16th-18th-19th-23rd-24th-25th-26th-28th-29th and 37th precincts. Since its inauguration 1318 arrests have been made by members of this squad, and fines were imposed upon the persons arrested to the extent of \$4812. Many accidents were averted, a large number of disabled persons assisted and traffic of all kinds, especially "scorching" on bicycles has been regulated on the thoroughfares over which bicycles posts extend.

The record shows that from November 31st 1893 to May 31st 1895 there were 5545 complaints made against members of the force for various offenses and breaches of discipline, and from January 1st

1895 to December 31st 1896 there were 5480 complaints made; the number of days fine imposed as a result of these complaints was 10975 in the latter period as compared with 6698 in the former. For a variety of reasons the discipline of the force has greatly improved for the period from June 1895 to the present as compared with a similar period prior thereto; one of the principal reasons for this improvement is the division of the city into six inspection districts where before there were but three, which change I recommended in a communication to your Board under date of February 18th 1896, and which went into operation on March 25th 1896. This has given the inspectors of these districts and their respective staffs more time to carry on the work of supervision and inspection than they could possibly have under the old system; as a result of this the patrol work of the force is vastly improved. Comparatively few complaints are made now against members of the force for absence from post, and go where one may at any hour of the day or night patrolmen are, with few exceptions, found patrolling their posts; this is brought about to a great extent by the increased supervision made possible, as I said before, by the addition of three inspection districts, by the activity of the so-called "shoo-fly" roundsmen attached to my office, by the knowledge on the part of the sergeants and roundsmen that they must patrol as required by the rules, and last but by no means least, by the justice and impartiality of punishment meted out to offenders by the present Board of Police. The record shows that in every case of breach of discipline the punishment is made to fit the offense, and the man understand that "pulls" will not work in wiping out or decreasing fines that they have justly deserved.

A number of cases that have occurred in which patrolmen have been called upon to use their pistols showed pretty clearly that their skill in handling ^{this} weapons might be very much improved, and, with this end in view, your Board in the latter part of the year

1895 provided for the organization of a school for pistol practice; this school was opened on December 30th 1895; from that time up to the present in the regular course of practice 5841 men attended the armory and fired off 87615 shots; in addition to that a number of members of the force, in their own time, and without interfering with the regular work of the school, attended the armory and fired off about 40000 shots making a total of about 130000 shots fired by members of this department. Since the school was opened the officer in charge reports an average gain of ten per cent for each man in his second trial over the first. Within a few days teams have been made up composed of men who responded to the test of making 65 points out of a possible 75. There is no doubt of this work being of incalculable value to the force. The school is located in the 8th Regiment Armory, and all the work pertaining to it is done by five members of the force who are assigned to such duty; bullets are made and cartridges loaded and primed by them and thus the expense of this school is reduced to a minimum.

I would also state that since the present Board of Police has been in charge of this department the Detective Bureau which has been very aptly described as the "right arm of the service" has been thoroughly reorganized, with the result that its efficiency has been greatly increased; new and young blood has, so to speak, been infused into this service, and the results of the consequent increased energy, industry and activity of the Detective Bureau Squad are felt in all quarters of the city, particularly at railroad depots, ferries, elevated railroad stations, in street cars and wherever large crowds of people assemble.

Increased protection to property has also resulted from the fact that the number of detectives in precincts has been increased from two to four; two of these are on duty from 8 A.M. to 10 P.M. and the other two from 10 P.M. to 8 A.M. I am making preparations to inaugurate a night squad of detectives for the Detective

Bureau, and trust that everything will be in readiness to start this squad on its work within a few weeks.

In the summer of 1895 several large strikes occurred which taxed the resources of the force to its very utmost; these strikes were participated in by numbers of persons who, on account of their short time in this country could not thoroughly understand our institutions, and who were thus the more readily liable to be led into acts of disorder and violence by unprincipled demagogues who always bob up, on such occasions; notwithstanding this there were practically no acts of violence committed, and all persons concerned received from the police due and proper protection.

During the past nineteen months we have seen at various places in this city larger assemblages of people than have come together at one time in this city or perhaps any other city in the world; the police handled them all intelligently, properly and without an accident; among such cases might be mentioned the Bryan meeting and the Mc.Kinley meeting at Madison Square Garden, the Business Men's Parade on the eve of the last election that took upwards of 12 hours to pass, and which was participated in by hundreds of thousands, including those who took part in the parade and those who witnessed it; the large naval parade that took place last fall in our harbor and its adjacent waters; the monstrous cycle parades of the past few months; the visit of Li Hung Chang, which of itself kept the police force on the jump for a whole week, during which time they were called upon ~~the~~ to handle, in different parts of the city, and often several times in one day, very large crowds of people in some of the busiest and most crowded thoroughfares, and many other similar affairs too numerous to mention here.

The efficiency of the river patrol service has been very much increased by the doing away with the old-time and practically useless row-boats and the substitution for them of the modern swift and useful naphtha launches, in which the large river front of our city is patrolled at the present.

In the year 1896 Twelve hundred and ninety five (1295) patrolmen were appointed, as many as during the five years from 1890 to 1894 inclusive, and nearly three times as many as before were appointed in any one year.

A very great incentive to good work on the part of the force is the fact that your Board has been quick to recognize merit and fitness in making promotions in the service. During the year 122 promotions have been made a number which is larger than ever before made in any one year, and about five times as many as during the average year. During the period from June 1st 1895 to December 31st 1896 181 promotions have been made as against 36 in the period from November 1st 1893 to May 31st 1895.

For the first time in many years the ranks of the department are now full. During the year there have been forty nine cases in which the Board has given Honorable Mention, with or without the Certificate and Medal of Honor, to patrolmen who have shown especially meritorious conduct in arresting dangerous criminals, or in saving life from fires, from drowning or from runaways. Never before have any such number of honorable mentions been made by the Board. At the same time the number of dismissals have been greater during this year than in any previous year in the history of the department, ninety two men having been dismissed for drunkenness, neglect of duty etc. a number more than double as great as in any previous year even in the year following the revelations of the Lexow Committee. The Board has striven at the same time to impress unworthy members of the force that they will be more severely dealt with, and the worthy members feel that they will receive ample and very generous recognition. In the same way while the total number of complaints against members of the force has decreased the total amount of fines assessed on the members of the force by the Board has increased, which shows the improvement in discipline.

The number of arrests, especially for felonies, has increased while the number of felonies reported where no arrests followed has decreased, which shows in a particularly satisfactory manner the increase in the efficiency of the force.

Never before in the history of the department have there been, relative to the whole population, fewer crimes than during the present year, and never has more successful war been waged against criminals, especially of the vile type, than during the year 1896.

A very important change in the police procedure relative to foundlings has, in accordance with a recommendation which I made to your Board, early in 1896, taken place since the present police administration took charge. For years it was the custom that when a foundling was discovered and brought to the notice of the police it was brought to the station house of the precinct in which it was discovered; from there it was taken to Central Office where it remained in the custody of the matron, usually until the following day, when it was brought to the office of the Department of Charities on 11th Street and thence conveyed to Bellevue Hospital or some other institution under the management of the city charities department. The mortality in these cases has always been comparatively great, and there is no doubt but a great deal of it can be ascribed to the procedure above referred to. The exposure of the infant for a greater or less period of time before discovery, the added exposure on the journey to the police station, thence to Central Office, and the long journey and unnecessary delay in getting the child to some place where it could receive proper nourishment and skilled medical attendance almost invariably caused the death of the foundling. Your Board has adopted a rule which requires that as soon as a foundling is brought to the notice of the police it must at once be taken by the most direct route to one of the city hospitals where it may, without any unnecessary delay, receive the nourishment and treatment that it requires. This rule has been in force now nearly a

year, and there is no doubt of its resulting in a decrease of the death rate so far as foundlings are concerned.


Another very important thing that was accomplished was the abolition of the police station lodging houses, which I recommended to your Board in a communication dated January 20th 1896. Too much cannot be said in praise of this act; it wiped out a standing menace to the health of the people of this metropolis; it did away with one of the most effective agents imaginable in the spread of disease and filth and put an end to an institution that was of no good whatever to the persons it was intended to benefit viz:- the deserving but unfortunate poor who would not accept the hospitality of such places on account of the filth and dirt of the persons who habitually resorted to them.

At the very outset of this administration the territory now comprising the 38th Precinct was, by law, added to this city, and, at the shortest possible notice, this department had to assume the responsibility for the policing of this very extensive and comparatively thickly settled area; and this to, at a time, when the ranks of the force were very much depleted and the force itself well nigh bordering on a state of demoralization. The task was a herculean one and the more so as it had to be done instantaneously. Temporary shelter was secured for the men and horses, and from the time this department took charge up to the present there has been a continued progress in the work, until now the precinct is in as good a condition as it can well be; within two weeks the mounted force there was increased by the transfer of nine (9) horses from the 32nd Precinct and the foot patrol was increased by the transfer there of eighteen (18) additional men.

Another change made under this administration which is worthy of notice, and which, in my estimation, greatly increased the efficiency of the force was the abolition of the 17th and 37th Precincts- The Broadway and steamboat squads respectively-, and

the placing of the responsibility for the policing of the territory that was formerly policed by these squads upon the several precincts along the line. In two communications which I sent to your Board upon the subject I called attention to some of the advantages to be derived from this change. It saved the expense of maintaining two station houses, gave to the department the services of 2 extra captains, 8 sergeants, 10 roundsmen, resulted in a more thorough supervision of the men along the line of Broadway and the river front, and was in a general way productive of a greater degree of efficiency and in increased protection to life and property along these very busy thoroughfares.

All of which is respectfully submitted.


Chief of Police.

322/14

700 Post St. - S. F. Cal.

VP

Dec. 26 1896.

To the Mayor - New York -

Dear Sir: In-

formation is wanted in regard
to a Miss Jansberger, who
entered a convent in New York
some years ago. The convent I
am told is on 7th St. The
name of the lady in the religious
life I have not been able
to learn. This inquiry is
made in the interest of two
little children whose mother
died about a week ago &
who left them in the greatest

distress. Miss Jansberger is their father's sister. The father of these little ones died some time ago and their mother married again - married a Mr. Bussinger. One child has the result of this union. Mr. Bussinger is afflicted with a disease of the brain but is willing to make the struggle for his own little one. Mrs. Bussinger's mother - grandmother of the children is living but is only earning a small amount as a domestic. The children will probably have to go to an orphan asylum or some other public institution. Before taking a step in this direction I deemed it best to try to inform their aunt of their distress & to make an appeal to her to make arrangements to have the children near her if not possible to have them with her so she would take more interest than any one else in their training.

The case is a peculiarly sad one and came under my notice only through the children being in my school. They are very good children and are being cared for temporarily by two of the teachers of the school who have taken them to their

homes for the holidays.

If you will kindly assist me
in finding their aunt - I shall feel
very grateful to you and if impossible
for you to find any trace of her - may
I ask you to let me know.

Most respectfully yours,
Gertrude Cabaton,

Principal Peabody P. School.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Jan. 20th, 1897.

Hon. William L. Strong

Mayor New York City.

Dear Sir:-

By direction of the Board of Police and in further reply to your favor enclosing letter from Miss C. A. Cahalin asking information regarding address of one Miss Jamsberger, I return herewith letter and state that inquiry has been made and no information could be obtained as to her whereabouts. The writer has been so informed.

Very respectfully

John J. Ryan
Chief Clerk.

Missing

254/104

V

Rochester, Dec. 24th / 89 6

To the Honorable Mayor of
New York

Dear Sir,

I appeal to you
for information regarding my
mother Mrs. Philomene Vincent
formerly residing at # 158
West Houston St. but I have
been informed that she
has removed to # 145
Boulevard corner Grace St.
Jersey City Heights. New Jersey.
in care of Mrs. Gerard.
I have written to the ^{latter} ad-
dress several times but have

not as yet received an answer. I have written to several friends of my mother's but can not get a satisfactory answer. I fear that she is dead, and the fact is being kept from me by my half sister. Hoping you will relieve my mind by an early and satisfactory answer I am obbigingly

Mrs. Louisa Trombley
13 Hibbard Place
Rochester, N. Y.

253/14

V

South Fork Cambria Co
Penna

To the Hon Mayor of New York
City

Dear Sir Would you
pleas inform me of the
Whereabouts of party or parties
living in the city by the name
of Bertha Tostock when
last heard from they were
living on Forsyth St new
York City her maiden name was
Nixdorf her husband works
either on the telephone or telegram
line pleas make it known to
your officers & advise her
Father & Brother

William Nixdorf
South Fork Cambria
County Penna
box 116

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Jan. 20th, 1897.

Hon. William L. Strong.

Mayor New York

Dear Sir:-

By direction of the Board of Police and in further reply to your favor of the 28th ult. enclosing letters from William Nixdorf, South Fork, Pa. seeking address of Bertha Vortocheck, and Mrs. Louisa Trombly N.Y. seeking present address of Mrs. Philomene Vincent, I return herewith letters and would state that inquiry has been made and we are unable to obtain information as to the whereabouts of the parties inquired for. The writers of the letters have been so informed.

Very respectfully

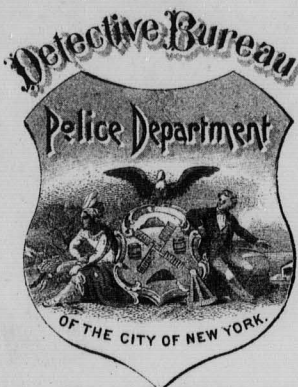
John J. Ketchum
Chief Clerk.

HAMILTON

It seems strange that there is nothing further about the murder of your husband in the papers. Have you found no clue, I will give you a little information about the affair. He was hit in Nakely's Saloon in presence of two Bartenders^{and} several other persons he was floored by a powerful man with a blow behind the ear which made blood pour from his mouth and nose then he was hastily carried to the hallway where they tried to revive him but failed and after an hour or over send for an ambulance. why didn't they take him upstairs and put him

in a bed. the two Bartenders
were eyewitnesse as ^{well} as others
the man that struck fatal blow
is a coward and a power ful man-
^{but} struck him behind his back.
this is gospel truth and if you
keep this ~~from~~ newspapers and you
will find the man who killed
your husband which you can
guess. who did it, he entered
Saloon where he was killed
sober and did not even have
time to get adrunke you need
not bother with looking anywhere
else outside of Wokleys for the
guilty party he reached Saloon at 10
instead of 10:30 and when blood was washed
from him -

Justice



300 MULBERRY ST.

New York, December 4, 1896.

Peter Conlin, Esq.,
Chief of police,

Dear Sir :

In reference to the enclosed communication, herewith attached, which was forwarded to Commissioner Roosevelt by His Honor, Mayor William R. Strong, in reference to one Almyr W. Cooper, who was found in an unconscious condition at 42nd street and 6th Ave., on November 5th last, I herewith submit the following :

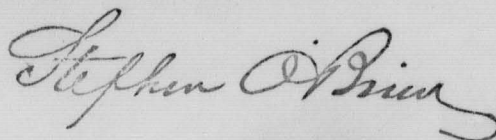
On November 19th, Detectives Henry P. Foye and Frank S. Price were detailed on the above matter, and from their report made to me, herewith enclosed, in regard to all the surroundings and statements made to them by various persons in relation thereto, we have been unable to learn anything up to the present time to verify that part of the said communication, wherein it is claimed that the said Cooper came to his death through violence at the hands of some person or persons unknown in the saloon of one James Wakeley, 736 Sixth Ave., on the night of November 5, 1896.

On the contrary, from what we can learn from the police officer, whose attention was first called to the case, from Ambulance Surgeon George T. Creevey and Dr. Charles M. Burney, attending Surgeon of the Roosevelt Hospital, there was nothing to indicate that the deceased had come to his death through violence, no marks being found on his head or

Peter Conlin, No. 2.

body to show that he had been struck with any blunt or other instrument. Moreover, from the time Cooper was first discovered in an injured condition on November 5th last, until November 9th, when he died at Roosevelt Hospital he was in a state of coma, sometimes delirious, and consequently during this period at no time in a condition to give any reliable information as to how he came by his injuries.

Yours very respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stephen Quinn".

Captain,
Detective Bureau.



300 MULBERRY ST.

New York, December 4, 1896.

Stephen O'Brien, Esq.,

Captain, Detective Bureau.

Dear Sir :

In compliance with your orders in reference to the death of Almyr W. Cooper, I herewith submit the following report :

As per your instructions in reference to the anonymous communication handed to me on the 19th inst., I have thoroughly investigated the facts in the case so far as could be learned from the persons who had been connected with this matter from the time the said Cooper was found in the saloon of James Wakeley, 736 Sixth Ave. on the 5th of November, up to the present time, with the following result :

I learned that Dr. Edward Gardner was the last person known to be in the company of the said Almyr W. Cooper, previous to his visiting Wakeley's saloon, and called on him at his office No. 75 Fifth Ave. He states that he and Mr. Cooper occupied the same office at the above address, and at about 9 P.M. on the 5th of November last, they left the office together and walked up Broadway. They stopped in Bangs' saloon, No. 1303 Broadway and had two drinks of whiskey each. After remaining a short time they left the saloon and continued up Broadway as far as 34th street, where they parted, Dr. Gardner being anxious to catch a train on the Long Island Railroad, which left Long Island City at 10 P.M., took a 34th street crosstown car going east. It was then about

Stephen O'Brien, No. 2.

9:30 P.M. As we could learn nothing further from Dr. Gardner, we then visited Wakeley's saloon, and interviewed Edward Robinson and Peter J. Connelly, the bartenders, who were on duty on the night of November 5th, when Cooper entered the saloon.

Robinson states that Mr. Cooper came into the saloon at about 10:30 P.M., walked up to the bar and addressing Robinson, asked for some whiskey. A glass and bottle were placed on the bar by Robinson, Cooper poured out some liquor into his glass and drank it, gave in payment a twenty-five cent silver piece and received in return from Robinson, ten cents change. There was no other customer in the store at the time. Mr. Cooper leaned against the bar and seemed to be meditating, for about five minutes. Robinson walked to the other end of the bar, picked up a newspaper and commenced to read. About a minute afterwards he saw Cooper fall towards the floor. Robinson went around the end of the bar and tried to lift Mr. Cooper up. At this moment the proprietor, James Wakeley, entered from the street, and seeing Cooper lying on the floor, helped Robinson lift him to his feet. They then discovered that he was bleeding from the nose and mouth. Cooper seemed unconscious and when spoken to, failed to reply. While engaged in so doing, a number of persons came into the store, whereupon Robinson and the proprietor, Mr. Wakeley, carried Mr. Cooper into a hallway leading into the saloon, from the 42nd street side of the building. Here Robinson removed Mr. Cooper's coat and folding it up placed it under his head. He then took a bottle of ammonia from behind the bar and tried to revive him, but was unable to do so. Wakeley then went out for a police officer and returned with Patrolman David J. McAuliffe of the 23rd Precinct. Robinson then returned to the bar, a number of customers having in the meantime

Stephen O'Brien, No. 3.

come into the saloon.

Connelly, the other bartender, states that he was in the saloon, on the night of November 5th, and saw Mr. Cooper enter the place about 10:30 P.M. and approach the bar. Connelly was engaged at the time in placing mineral waters in the ice box. He saw him take a drink and remain standing at the bar for about five minutes. While engaged at the ice box he heard a fall and turning around looked over the bar and saw Cooper lying on the floor close to the bar. He saw Robinson go from behind the bar and assist in lifting Cooper and also saw Mr. Wakeley enter the saloon and help Robinson take Cooper to the hallway adjoining the bar room. He knows nothing further about this matter, only that at the time Cooper entered the saloon and until he fell, he saw no other person in the saloon except the bartender Robinson. He stated further that he had known Cooper as a customer in Wakeley's saloon for about a year or so previous to his death and had often waited on him, on some occasions serving him with as many as five and six bottles of Bass' Ale, which Cooper drank alone.

James Wakeley, the proprietor, states that at about 10:35 P.M. on the night of November 5th, he entered his saloon on the N.E. corner of 42nd street and 6th Ave. and saw the man Cooper lying on the floor in front of the bar. Robinson, one of his bartenders, was trying to raise him to his feet. He went to the assistance of Robinson, and upon raising the said Cooper, noticed that blood was flowing from his nose and mouth. He spoke to Cooper and received no reply. While endeavoring to lift the said Cooper, some customers came into the bar room, and he decided to take Cooper to the hallway adjoining the saloon. After

Stephen O'Brien, No. 4.

so doing, he went out into the street and on the corner outside of his saloon, found Patrolman David J. McAuliffe of the 23rd Precinct, and told him there was a man in his hallway, who was either drunk or had hurt himself by falling on the floor in his saloon. He accompanied the officer to the hallway, where the officer spoke to Cooper, and tried to obtain from him his name. The officer received no reply, and observing that Cooper was bleeding from the nose and mouth, left to call for an ambulance. Wakeley staid with Mr. Cooper until the officer returned and remained until the ambulance arrived and took Mr. Cooper to the hospital. Mr. Wakeley stated further, that he had known Mr. Cooper for the past two or three years as a customer. Cooper called sometimes two or three times a day. Mr. Wakeley believes that Cooper's injuries were received by striking his head on the brass foot rail while falling.

Patrolman David J. McAuliffe of the 23rd Precinct, states that he was standing on the N.E. corner of 42nd street and 6th Ave., about 10:30 P.M. on the night of November 5th, when James Wakeley notified him that there was a man in the hallway of his saloon who had fallen down and who should be taken to the hospital. He proceeded to the hallway of the saloon with Mr. Wakeley, and found Mr. Cooper lying down with his coat rolled up under his head. He was bleeding from the nose and mouth. He spoke to him but could get no reply. He then left Mr. Cooper in Mr. Wakeley's care, and went to the up-town station of the Elevated Railroad, at 42nd St., and called for an ambulance. The officer then returned to the hallway and remained there until the ambulance arrived. Ambulance Surgeon Creevey stated to him, after examining Mr. Cooper, that he was suffering from Alcoholic coma. The officer assisted in placing Mr. Cooper in the ambulance, and then went to the 23rd Precinct

Stephen O'Brien, No. 5.

Station house and made his report in regard to the same. The officer states further that for at least five minutes previous to Mr. Wakeley calling him in the hallway, he was standing on the corner of 42nd street and 6th Ave. outside of Wakeley's saloon, and is certain if there had been any disturbance whatever in the saloon he would have heard it.

Dr. George T. Creevy, Ambulance Surgen at the Roosevelt Hospital, states that at about 10:50 P.M. on the night of November 5th last, a call came for an ambulance at 42nd street and 6th Ave., and he was sent as Ambulance Surgeon together with an ambulance to respond to the call. Upon arriving there, he found a man lying in the hallway of Wakeley's saloon, who afterwards proved to be Mr. Almyr W. Cooper, bleeding from the nose and mouth. Upon examining him he diagnosed the case as one of alcoholic coma. Assisted by Officer McAuliffe, he had him placed in the ambulance and taken to the Roosevelt Hospital, arriving there at about 11:20. Upon a further examination at the Hospital, Dr. Creevy found him suffering from a fracture of the left jaw. Cooper was then placed in the Operating Ward, where the House Surgeon took charge of him.

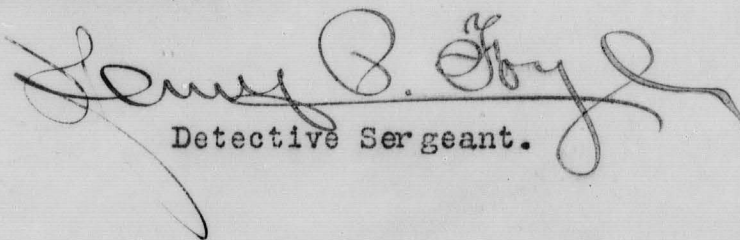
Dr. Charles M. Burney, attending Surgeon at the Roosevelt Hospital, states that on November 6th, he examined Mr. Cooper and found him in an unconscious state, suffering from a fracture of the left jaw and probably from a fracture of the left side of skull, but in order to verify the latter, decided to await further developments. Upon a further examination made on the 7th of November, he found that Mr. Cooper was suffering from a fracture of the left side of skull in addition to the fracture of the left side of jaw, as before mentioned, but could find no bruises on his head or body, to show that he had been struck by any instrument. Mr.

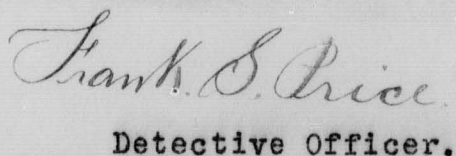
Stephen O'Brien, No. 6.

Cooper continued in a state of Coma, until his death on November 9th.

We also made inquiry of the hack men who were present at the hack stand at 42nd street and 6th Ave., on the night of November 5th last and from persons doing business in the neighborhood and have been unable to find any person who saw a disturbance in Wakeley's saloon on the night in question -- November 5th. From the statements made by the above named persons, we have no reason to believe up to the present time, that the said Almyr W. Cooper received his injuries by being assaulted or through violence of any kind, while in Wakeley's saloon.

Yours very respectfully,


Detective Sergeant.


Detective Officer.

An Inquest into the cause of the death of Almyr H. Cooper.
was held at the Coroners' Court, on the 24th day of November 1896.
before Theodore K. Tuttle CORONER,
and a jury duly chosen and sworn and charged to inquire how and in what manner the said
Almyr H. Cooper. came to his death.

VERDICT OF THE JURY.

"That the said Almyr H. Cooper
came to his death on the 9th day of November 1896, at
Roosevelt Hospital, by
Fracture of base of skull, with laceration of
brain, caused on the 5th day of November
1896, in a manner unknown to the Jury."

Autopsy performed by Dr. Albert J. Heston
Coroners' Physician

A true Copy of the Verdict of the Jury
Edw. F. Reynolds

Coroners' Office,
New York, Dec. 16th 1896.

Clerk of the
Board of Coroners

Roosevelt

Nov. 12, 1896

Jan 4

Jan. 15th 1897.

Respectfully forwarded
to Presdt. Roosevelt.

Peter Bonini
Chief of Police

Referred
to Mayor
Morgan

T. R.

B

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor's Office,

City Hall,

New York.

Dear Sir:-

In obedience to your suggestion, I send you herewith statements from the Chief, Acting Inspectors and certain of the Captains in reference to the methods of obtaining evidence against disorderly houses, to enable you to judge the accuracy of the statements of Comptroller Fitch that these methds are improper~~and~~ unnecessary, and of Ex-Commissioner Erhardt, that they were unknown in his time.

I requested from the Chief a specific report

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Hon. W. L. S.

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as to whether the methods pursued in getting evidence against disorderly houses from December 31, 1875 to May 20, 1879 (the time of Col. Erhardt's service as Commissioner) and since then up to ~~the time of~~ May 6th. 1895, when the present Board took office, were the same as the methods which have been used since. In response he submitted statements from most of the officers whose long service in the Department enabled them to testify. The answers in all cases were substantially the same, namely that the methods used in obtaining evidence against disorderly houses were precisely the same now that they were during Col. Erhardt's term of service, and indeed during all the time of which the present officers of the Department have any knowledge. I quote from some of the

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

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reports, condensing them.

Acting-Inspector , Walter Thompson

says:-

"The methods used in obtaining evidence against disorderly houses from December 31, 1875 to May 20, 1879..... were precisely the same as those used during the past year."

Capt. Young of the 6th. Prec. says:

"Since I came into the Department, thirty years ago, I have never known evidence against disorderly houses to be procured in any other manner than is being done at the present time; and in fact there is no other way in which it can be done, as the Magistrates require the most positive evidence to be procured before they will grant a

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
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New York,*

Hon. W. L. S.

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a warrant for any place of the kind; and officers of the Department assigned to this, or any other duty, are the only ones that can be depended upon. I have referred the question to the following names Sergeants:-

Richard Mangan 26 years service,
George P. Osborne 26 Years service,
Patrick Leonard 24 years service.

And they all concur in the above statement."

Inspector Moses W. Cortright reports to the Chief, "In former years, and during the period of time specified, evidence against disorderly houses was procured in very much the same manner as it has been for the past year, and since you have been at the head of this De-

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Hon. W. L. S.

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partment as Acting Chief and Chief of Police. In fact I know of no other way of getting evidence against such places that would be acceptable to the Police Magistrates, and upon which conviction could be had in the Courts."

Acting-Inspector O'Keefe reports:

"From Dec. 31, 1875 to May 20, 1879 (while Mr. Erhardt was Commissioner) it was a very easy matter to get evidence against disorderly houses, for they were numerous during that period (the other Captains say the same thing verbally, phrasing it "that they were run wide open" during that period referred to) . . . Since you became Acting Chief and Chief of the department, it is very difficult to get evidence against them for the reason that they do not openly do business."

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

HONL. W.L.S.

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Captain Pickett writes:- "From Dec. 31, 1875 to May 20, 1879, evidence against disorderly houses was obtained precisely in the same manner as it is obtained now. . . . There is no other practicable manner in which to obtain evidence against, and to effectively suppress, such places.

He also reports that the requirement of the present City Magistrates that the statement of police officers in these cases must be corroborated, and that more than one visit to these places must be made before a warrant is issued, greatly increases the difficulty of obtaining evidence.

Acting-Inspector Nicholas brooks writes:- "Since my appointment as captain on June 30th. 1887 , and up to the present time, so far as I know, the evidence necessary in such cases, has

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Hon. W. L. S.

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been procured in the same manner, with this exception, that during the past few years the magistrates in the Police Courts have refused to issue warrants upon the evidence of any officer, unless it was corroborated by another officer, thereby necessitating a second visit, thus incurring double^{the} expense of former years.

Acting-Inspector John McCullough writes:) "Since July 20th. 1883, the date of my appointment as captain, I have resorted to the same methods as at present employed in procuring the necessary evidence against disorderly houses, as no warrant can be procured from any Police Justice without having produced such evidence. . . . Furthermore, the present magistrates will not issue a warrant on the unsupported evidence of a single Patrolman,

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

HON. W. L. S.

but require a second patrolman to procure the same evidence on another occasion so that one will corroborate the other."

During the three years particularly specified neither Acting-Inspectors McCullough and Brooks, nor Chief Conlin, were engaged in the work in reference to disorderly houses.

Chief Conlin reports:- "From the time I became Inspector of Police, August 9th. 1887, up to the time I was designated as Acting Chief and Chief of Police, the same methods of procuring evidence against disorderly houses were used as from that time, May 27, 1895, up to the present.....I know of no other practicable or effective means by which evidence can be obtained to suppress disorderly houses; and to prohibit the Department

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York.*

HON. W. L. S.

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from getting evidence against such places in this manner is, in fact, to license them to run in violation of law."

It appears from the testimony that during the period when Col. Erhardt was Commissioner there was little serious effort made to enforce the law against disorderly houses; and evidence was so easily obtained that it was necessary to spend hardly any money. Since 1881, however, about which time public indignation grew so that the Police had to make some effort to enforce the law, there have been every year various sums of money expended for the purpose of procuring evidence, precisely as has been the case during our term of service, and with the full approval of the Finance Department. Comptroller Fitch has approved transfers for this purpose again and again; his predecessor,

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

HON. W. L. S.

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Comptroller Meyers, also approved ^{them} ~~it~~ after making careful inquiry into the necessities of the case. Comptroller Fitch's present attitude toward these expenses is quite incompatible with the theory that he has honestly done his duty in the past.

There is much in the work of any Police department which is disagreeable and repulsive, exactly as there is much in the work of a surgeon who has to deal with certain hideous diseases that is disagreeable and repulsive. In each case, however, it is the disease, and not the use of the lancet to extirpate it, that is the proper cause of repulsion. For a morning paper to publish with indecent minuteness the details of some of the surgical operations which have been performed in the hospitals over night, would be infamous, because these operations, though necessary, are

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Hon. W. L. S.

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not dwelt upon by wholesome minds, except as a matter of professional interest. Comptroller Fitch's conduct is precisely parallel to such a proceeding on the part of a newspaper. The present Police Board has spread upon its record, more fully than any ~~other~~ previous Board, exactly what it has done, because it welcomes investigation by any proper authority. It fully understands that occasionally an individual who is acting in bad faith, and who desires merely to do what is in his power for the perpetuation or revival of dishonest government, will strive to turn to improper account this openness of the Board in making plain the uses of what is practically a secret service fund.

The question is simply whether it is or is not desired to enforce the laws against disorderly houses precisely as we

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

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enforce them against gambling houses and the like. It is the same question which ^{was raised by} Comptroller Fitch and his allies when the present Board, for the first time in the City's history proceeded honestly to enforce the excise laws. The Police merely get such evidence as they are required to get by the City Magistrates before warrants are issued. The failure to procure such evidence absolutely forbids the hope of a conviction. The Comptroller is indignant at what he calls "provocation to commit crime".

This plea is mere nonsense, and could with equal propriety be used against any detective work. In getting evidence against disorderly houses the officers do precisely what they do in getting evidence against gambling houses. Thus on May 2, last Acting-Captain Brennan reports that one of his patrolmen having purchases various slips of a certain form from a gambling house

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Hon. W. L. S.

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went before Magistrate Kudlich and Asst. District Attorney, Battle with the slips and stated the facts to them, whereupon they ordered him to buy again, which he did. In other words he was ordered by the Magistrate and District Attorney to do exactly what the Comptroller says should not be done, but what as a matter of fact the Magistrate and District Attorney knows must be done, if there is any honest purpose to enforce the law.

Over two hundred convictions of disorderly housekeepers have been obtained by the police during the past year, and every one of them on evidence of the character to which the Comptroller objects; and in no case did the presiding Judge for a moment object to such evidence or hint any disapproval of the methods of obtaining it. In short the present methods are not only en-

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Hon. W. L. S.

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tirely proper, but they are the only methods by which it is possible to enforce obedience to the law, and the only methods which honest officials can employ if they honestly desire to see the law executed. A failure on the part of the Police to resort to them would inevitably result in plunging the City into a state of open depravity and vice. Within a very short period the most hardened advocate of licentiousness would admit the necessity of a return to these same methods of obtaining evidence to suppress immorality; but in the interval damage would have been done that it would take many years to undo.

When the present Board took office it found that the present methods of obtaining evidence were used against all disorderly houses, gambling houses and the like which the police

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York*

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were in earnest in their endeavor to suppress. After full investigation we found that it was impossible to execute the law against places of this kind save by getting evidence in this manner, and that the District Attorney's office and the magistrates and the Judges of the higher Courts without an exception required such evidence. The Chief and his subordinates, who were responsible for the execution of the laws stated, what we found to be true, that they could not execute them at all unless they obtained evidence against offenders of this class of offenders, the most insidiously hurtful of all classes, precisely as they obtained it against other criminals. To stop them would have implied on our part a naked refusal to do our duty, and would have ^{been} fraught with incalculable harm to the City. What we did was perfectly

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Hon. W. L. S.

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simple. We told the officers to continue to use the methods which were above found effective in restraining law breakers; but with this difference, that whereas formerly law breakers who had money or political influence had been protected, under us all were to be treated alike. In consequence gamblers, disorderly house -keepers and law breaking liquor sellers have all been made to feel that they must obey the law, and that they do not now as they formerly did constitute a privileged class, the members of which, if they paid for protection could ply their illegal trades at will. We issued but two additional directions. One was that no officer should perform any immoral act. The other was that when a disorderly house was raided the men and women found therein should be treated alike, no discrimination being made because of sex.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

HON. W. L. S.

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The Comptroller has rendered all the service in his power to the depraved and disorderly classes; but the Board of Police will most certainly continue to execute the law in the future as they have executed it in the past without making any exception in favor of those criminals the viciousness of whose criminality is rendered even more dangerous by the comparative secrecy of the conditions under which it is carried out.

Yours truly

Theodore Roosevelt

President,

which it is celebrated.

more dangerous by the comparative

eliminate the violence of whose

it in the past without making any

machine to execute the law in the

orderly classes; but the Board of

tendered all the service in his

Home Department

Police

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Police Department,

Board of Police Commissioners,

of the City of New York,

Theodore Roosevelt,
President.
Avery D. Andrews,
Treasurer.
Frederick D. Grant,
Andrew D. Parker.

300 Mulberry Street,

New York, Jan. 18, 1897.

Hon. W. L. Strong,

Mayor's Office,

City Hall, New York.

Dear Sir:-

The enclosed report explains itself, and I trust you
will find it satisfactory.

Yours very truly,

Theodore Roosevelt

Police Department,

Board of Police Commissioners:

Theodore Roosevelt,
President.

Every D. Andrews,
Treasurer.

Frederick D. Grant,

Andrew D. Parker.

of the City of New York.

300 Mulberry Street,

New York,

Jan. 20, 1897.

Dear Mr. Hedges:-

Will you see that the Mayor's Message goes to
the writer of the enclosed?

Was the information I sent you what you wanted
about the Police Department?

Sincerely yours,

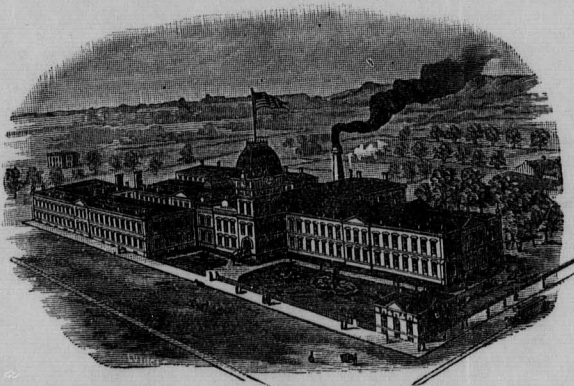
Theodore Roosevelt

Hon. Job Hedges,

Mayor's Office,

New York.

THE E. O. ESHELBY TOBACCO CO.



FACTORIES:
SIXTH ST. & WASHINGTON AVE.,
NEWPORT, KY.
TELEPHONE 4253.

CINCINNATI OFFICE:
NO. 159 PLUM STREET.
TELEPHONE 775.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 18, 1897.

HON. THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
New York City.

My Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your esteemed favor of the 14", and beg to express my appreciation of your kindness in furnishing me with the information. I shall endeavor to make the best use of it possible, and would be pleased to have the Mayor's Message sent me when issued.

Again thanking you for your kindness, I beg to remain,

Very respectfully yours,

(A.M.W.)

E. O. Eshelby

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York, Jan'y. 22nd, 1897.*

Copy.

Thomas Meserve, Esq.,
Delena, Columba Co., Ore.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your favor of Sept. 10th, addressed to Hon. William L. Strong, Mayor, I am directed by the Board of Police to forward you copy of report of Sergeant Byrne, commanding Central Office Squad, relative to "Bayer Detective Agency", 234 Broadway, as follows:

"There is a concern called the "Bayer Detective Agency" at 234 Broadway, this city, carried on by one Etienne Bayer.

"We have never received any complaint against aforesaid agency. They, of course, can employ any person to do work for them, but cannot confer any legal power or authority on them."

Very respectfully,

Chief Clerk.

Copy .

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,* Jany. 22nd, 1897.

Madam Catala,
40 Rue Chauvelot, Malakoff,
France.

Dear Madam:

In reply to your favor of Sept. 12th, 1896, addressed to Hon. William L. Strong, mayor, I am directed by the Board of Police to forward you copy of report of Sergeant Byrne, of the Bureau of Information, relative to one Charles Felix Alfred Dupont Rock, as follows:

"Charles Felix Alfred Dupont Rock dies at 347 East 104th street, this city, August 22nd, 1894, and was buried in the city cemetery, certificate #29092.

"He was living at the above address under the name of Alfred Felix Dupont. The Coroner's records show he was thirty nine years of age, cook, born in France, father's name Alfred, mother's Marie, cause ~~of~~ death - Exhaustion Septicaemia from carbuncle of neck; operation was performed.

Respectfully,

Chief Clerk.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,* Jany. 22nd, 1897.

Hon. William L. Strong,
Mayor, City.

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to directions contained in your letter of the 10th of September, 1896, relative to communication from Thomas Meserve, Delena, Ore., and Madam Catala, Malakoff, France, concerning the whereabouts of Charles Felix Alfred Dupont Rock, I enclose copies of communications this day sent to the above.

Very respectfully,

Wm J. Ryan
Chief Clerk.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Jany. 23rd, 1897.

(Copy).

William Nixdorf, Esq.,

South Fork, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your favor of blank date, relative to one Bertha Vortochek, I am directed by the Board of Police to transmit you copy of report of Sergeant Byrne, of the Bureau of Information, as follows:

"Inquiries at the offices of the various Telegraph and Telephone Companies in this city failed to find any trace of a lineman named "Votochek. The name does not appear in the Directory of this city, and no knowledge has been obtained of his present whereabouts.

Any further comments or suggestions you may have to make will be thankfully received.

Very respectfully,

Wm. J. Ryan

Chief Clerk.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York, Jan'y. 23rd, 1897.*

Mrs. Louisa Trombley,
Rochester, N. Y.

Dear Madam:-

In reply to your communication of blank date, relative to the present address of one Mrs. Philomene Vincent, I am directed by the Board of Police to transmit herewith report of Sergeant Byrne, of the Bureau of Information, as follows:

"Inquiry shows that Mrs. Philomene Vincent is not known to any of the residents of 158 West Houston street, this city, and according to the records of the "Nicholas Estate", has never been a tenant of that address."

Any further comments or suggestions will be thankfully received.

Very respectfully,

John J. Kane
Chief Clerk.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York, Jany. 23rd, 1897.*

Hon. William L. Strong,
Mayor.

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to directions contained in your communication of December 28th, 1896, enclosing letter from William Nixdorf relative to the whereabouts of one Bertha Vorotcheck, and letter from Mrs. Louisa Trombley seeking present address of Mrs. Philopene Vincent, I enclose you herewith copies of letters this day mailed the above two parties.

Very respectfully,

John J. Ryan

Chief Clerk.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York, Jan. 23rd, 1897.*

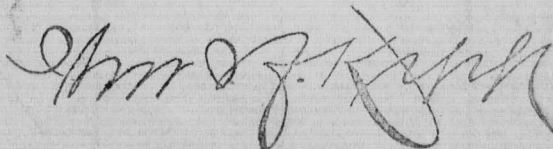
Frank Wilson, Esq.,
317 Walnut Street,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your communication of December 24th, to Hon.
William L. Strong, Mayor, I am directed by the Board of Police to forward
you copy of report of Sergeant Byrne, of the Bureau of Information,
relative to one William Wilson, as follows:

"Diligent inquiry has been made, but the only information that
has been obtained is to the effect that the William Wilson referred to,
formerly an employee of the firm of A. T. Steward & Co., has been dead
about ten years. The circular of the Health Department, herewith attached
will show the writer how to ascertain if said person dies in the City of
New York."

Very respectfully,



Chief Clerk.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

Jany. 23rd, 1897.

Hon. William L: Strong,
Mayor.

Dear Sir:-

Pursuant to directions contained in your communication of
December 24th, 1896, I enclose copy of letter this day mailed Frank Wilson
Esq., Cincinnati, O.

Very respectfully,

John J. Ryan
Chief Clerk.

Police Department,

Board of Police Commissioners,

of the City of New York,

Theodore Roosevelt,
President.

Every D. Andrews,
Treasurer.

Frederick D. Grant,

Andrew D. Parker.

300 Mulberry Street,

New York, January 25, 1897

My dear Mr Mayor:

Upon receiving recently from the Comptroller the official statement of the appropriations of this Department for the year 1897, I was very much surprised to find that the item for Contingent Expenses, amounting to \$11,000., is stated as follows:

Contingent Expenses of Central Department and Station-Houses, including meals furnished to prisoners and destitute lodgers, directories, ice, rent of telephones, expenses of Detectives, Patrolmen and others, Surgeons' supplies, execution of criminal process, investigation and trial of charges against Police Officers, apprehension and arrest of criminals, and expense of erecting reviewing stands and furnishing music for the annual parade of the Police Department,.....\$11,000.

whereas, in the provisional estimate and in the final estimate, as agreed upon in the presence of Commissioners Grant, Parker and myself during the last days of December, the item is stated as follows:

Contingent and incidental expenses of Central Department and Station-houses, including expenses of Detectives, Patrolmen and others, execution of criminal process, investigation and trial of charges against police officers, apprehension and arrest of criminals, bills paid by order of the courts, etc.,.....\$11,000

It is wholly unnecessary, I am sure, for me to review at this time the controversy over this fund in past years. It is sufficient to say briefly that the amount expended for several years past under the present Board and its predecessors has been from \$25,000. to \$30,000. The annual appropriation each year has been \$11,000., necessitating numerous transfers and consequently many serious delays and great inconvenience in the work of this Department .

From the appropriation has been paid for many years, many items which are in no proper sense contingencies, but supplies and fixed charges, such as meals furnished to prisoners and destitute lodgers, ice, rent of telephones (the amount of this item being fixed by contract), Surgeons' supplies, music for annual parade, etc. At my suggestion, and with your approval, these items were placed this year in the current supply account, and an appropriation was made therefor by the unanimous vote of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment in the provisional estimate, and was retained in the final estimate up to at least the day of the final consideration of the appropriation, at which time three members of the present Board were present. This was on the 14th day of December, 1896.

After a full discussion, no objection was raised by any member of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and I was, therefore, very greatly surprised to learn that subsequently the

entire arrangement for the year 1897 had been changed and the exact language of the appropriation of former years adhered to. The \$11,000. will, in all probability, be sufficient for the actual contingencies of the Department for the year 1897, but it is not and never has been, during recent years, sufficient to cover actual contingencies and nearly \$20,000 of other items which are properly supplies and fixed charges.

The change is so remarkable, after an entirely different course had been unanimously agreed upon, that I am constrained to believe that it is possible a clerical error has been committed, or at least that the Board acted without a full consideration of all the facts in the case. In any event, I deem it my duty to submit this information to you for such action as you may see fit.

Yours very sincerely,

A. D. Hudson
Deane

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor, City of New York.

Brainerd Robinson

Jan 25

5

3

552

2 EAST 64TH STREET,
NEW YORK.January 15th 1897

Dear Sir.

We are much annoyed at this corner especially upon Sundays and Holidays by large numbers of pea-nut and fruit vendors taking possession of this street and particularly the corners occupied by Mr Knickerbocker and myself. These vendors are not only troublesome because they now on way to return the corner the policemen or watchman's back is turned but the sidewalk and streets are almost covered with pea nut shells and other fruit parings besides candy papers etc

I am aware that licences
are granted giving certain privi-
leges but I earnestly request
that the restrictions be made
so as to prevent the nuisance
incurred to which myself and
neighbours are exposed. It is but
proper that I should state for
your information that 64th St. is
the entrance to the Nevogenic and
for this reason the concentration
of candy and fruit vendors is
very much larger at this corner
than elsewhere.

I am advised that this nuisance
which is very annoying and disagree-
able can be best reached through
your office and this is my reason
and apology for calling your at-
tention to the matter with the hope

that we may obtain relief -

I am, dear Sir,

Very Truly

Edward J. Bernard

The Hon. W. L. Strong

City Hall

New York

Police Department of the City of New York.

Precinct No. 25

New York Jan. 25th, 1897.

Nicholas Brooks

Acting Inspector

Sir:-

In compliance with your orders relative to an investigation and report on the annexed communication to the Hon. William L. Strong signed Edward J. Berwind, 2 East 64th street complaining about push cart venders locating in front of his residence and thereby becoming a nuisance, I would state that I had a personal interview with Mr. Berwind and explained to him that owing to recent amendments made to the ordinance regulating push carts venders their privileges had been greatly ~~amended~~ extended. The location of Mr. Berwind's residence is the S. E. Corner of 64th street and 5th Avenue and directly opposite to the entrance to the Menagerie at the Central Park and in fine weather is quite a through fare caused by the number of visitors going to and from the Park consequently the location is considered a very desirable one for said venders to facilitate their business. I assured Mr. Berwind that I would take every possible means to relieve him of this nuisance and to that end I have sent officers there daily in plain cloths to arrest any venders they might find locating there with push carts and some 8 or 9 arrests have been made therefor.

Those of the venders who have been in the habit of congregating t here now begin to realize that it is dangerous to do so and the location for a short time past has been avoided by them. I will continue to pursue this course until the nuisance complained of is entirely obliterated Mr. Berwind informed me that he had no fault to find with the Police whatever with regard to their efforts in the matter and that the annexed communication was not written with that view or purpose. The idea was to invoke the aid of his Honor the Mayor in having the ordinance amended in some way so as to prevent said venders from being a nuisance and annoyance in transacting their business in certain localities

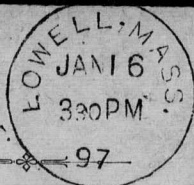
Respectfully

John H. Grant

Captain 25th Precinct.

Copy.

POSTAL CARD - ONE CENT.



United States America.

THIS SIDE IS FOR THE ADDRESS ONLY.

Mayor

City of New York

N. Y.



2/392/114

160 Hampshire St.,
Lowell, Mass. (D)

To the Mayor of the City of New York, Jan. 17, '97

Dear Sir:- Will you please see if you
can find any person in New York by the
name of Walter W. Parker. He left Lowell
about ten or twelve years ago. It was after-
ward said that he went to your city and
bought a tobacco store. Thanking you
before hand for your trouble, I am,

Yours respectfully,

P. Hildreth Parker.

Police Department of the City of New York.
Bureau of Information.

New York January 28th, 1897.

Peter Conlin

Chief of Police.

Sir:-

The directories of this City have been examined from 1884 to date and the name of Watts W. Parker could not be found in any of them. Inquiry among the tobacco dealers of this city failed to find anyone who had a knowledge of such a person and no information whatever has been obtained that would tend to show said person has ever been a resident of this City.

Respectfully

Patrick Byrne

Sergeant Commanding C. O. Squade.

Posner Bros.,
Manufacturers of Separate Skirts,

And Novelties in Bicycle Suits,

3 & 5 Wooster Street.

(2)

To His Honor the Mayor of New York City
New York January 7 1897
Honorable Sir:

If you honor will
pardon my presumption for so intruding upon the time
of so high an official as your Honor is, I would put
before your notice a grievance which is so great that
it is hardly possible for us to tolerate it any longer
and in view of the same I was compelled to address
your honor.

I am a resident of #1625 Madison Ave
about 1/4 of the block I reside in this an open lot
with no fence of any kind around it, the result
the boys of the street are continually in this lot causing
very greatly much annoyance. The lot is at the
corner of 71st St & Madison Ave North East Corner.

We live in a flat and living on the ground
floor our windows face into the lot. another very sad
feature of this lot is that the sidewalk is in so
bad a condition that it is a dangerous place to walk
in the evening. Here and there lies a stone which takes
the place of a sidewalk.

Trusting that you honor will look into our
appeal that we may once more look forward to peace
I remain respectfully — Julius Cohen 1625 Madison Ave

Vacant lot
Misanee

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,* February 2, 1897.

Mr. Julius Cohen,

1625 Madison avenue:

Sir:

I am directed by the Board of Police to say with reference to yours of the 7th ult., addressed to His Honor, the Mayor, and referred to this Department, complaining of alleged nuisance, that Captain Moynihan, of the 28th precinct, reports concerning the matter as follows:

"I detailed Patrolman David N. Wilbur, of my command, to make an investigation, and he reports to me that he called on Mr. Cohen and ascertained from him and other people in the neighborhood that Mr. Cohen lived in 1625 Madison avenue two weeks, and the lot he complains of is on the northeast corner of 108th street and Madison avenue, about fifty feet front on Madison avenue and about 150 feet on 108th street. Two-thirds of the entire lot is fenced in with a fifteen-foot sheet iron fence, leaving a small space for wagons to enter. The lot inside the fence is very clean and in good condition. The rear of the lot is fenced in except where the building adjoins the lot. Mr. Cohen can see in the lot by looking over the fence in the rear. Mr. Cohen also states that the property belongs to the Countess Castellane, and she should be compelled to fix it, especially the sidewalk, as he states there is a single row of flagging around the premises, but Mr. Cohen wants an eight-foot sidewalk laid there. Officer Wilbur called his attention to the large and expensive fence, and he said it should extend all around the lot on the rear and sides, as well as on the front; he also states the boys have not committed any nuisance as yet, but he was sure they would in the course of time, and he wrote the letter to His Honor, the Mayor, to prevent it. I also made a personal investigation myself among the residents in the neighborhood, and they felt surprised that Mr. Cohen or any one in the neighborhood should have made a complaint, as they stated to me the neighborhood was quiet and peaceable, and that they had no cause for complaint, and were thoroughly satisfied with the police

2 J. O.--Feb. 2/97.

protection which they receive. I will give this matter further personal attention and will use every means in my power to prevent any nuisance committed in that lot or vicinity."

Please inform the Board of Police if you have any further comments or suggestions to make in this matter.

Very respectfully,

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*

February 2, 1897.

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor:

Sir:

I am directed by the Board of Police to enclose herewith copy of report sent to Julius Cohen, 1625 Madison avenue, in reply to his complaint of nuisance, sent to this Department in yours of the 9th inst.

Very respectfully,

Wm J. Ryan
Chief Clerk.

4/17/14

Toronto Friday
January
the
22
1897

Dear Sir

I write you these few lines
to see if you could find
a friend of mine how ~~went~~
is living in New York
she went back from
Toronto to New York about
six or seven years ago
with her family her
name was Mrs Samuel
Limpson she has a grown
up family by her first
husband by the name
of Weedle you would
oblige me by putting this
ad in the paper if it

is know trouble
she had a son worked
on the red star line
that is all I know
as I would like to hear
from her By you
and Oblige

I remain
Sincerely
Yours

Miss Maggie C. Kinley
256 Manning Avenue
Toronto
Canada

Answer soon
and Oblige.

Police department of the City of New York.

Bureau of Information.

New York Feby. 4th, 1897.

Peter Conlin

Chief of Police.

Sir:-

Inquiry shows that the person referred to in the annexed letter Mrs. Samuel Simpson, is now a resident of Lafayette N. J. Her son, August Weedle, is in the employ of the Lehigh Valley Railway Co. and resides with his mother at that place.

Respectfully

Patrick Byrne

Sergeant Comdg. C. O. Sqd.

416/14

Béziers le 13 janvier 1892.

Bien L Burrows ~~RE~~ H.

Monsieur le maire.

Veuillez être assez bon de demander des renseignements sur

Monsieur Pierre L'Orthues
disparu depuis l'année 1879.
mois de mai le 16 ou le 17,
habitant dans l'Amérique du
Nord à New-York.
établi cafetier d'après ce que l'on
ma dit le plus grand café dans
New-York.

En vous remerciant d'avance
Monsieur le maire, j'espère que
vous ne me refuserez pas ce petit
renseignement, je vous en serai bien
reconnaissant.

Voici mon adresse
Monsieur Joseph Arthur
Rue St Ephrodise 24
à Béziers.

Hérault.

Priez assez bon Monsieur le
Maire de faire réponse
le plutôt possible avec son
adresse,

Je vous salue.

Votre respectueux serviteur,
Joseph Arthur.

Police Department of the City of New York.

Bureau of Information.

New York Feby. 6th, 1897.

Peter Conlin

Chief of Police.

Sir:-

A careful investigation in conformity with the statements contained in the annexed letter, failed to find any trace whatever, of the person referred to, Pierre L. Arthus.

This would lead to the conclusion that he has never been a resident of this City and that the writer is in error, regarding the name of city, in which said person was in business.

respectfully

Patrick Byrne

Sergeant Commanding C. O. Squad.

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York,*
Feby. 8th, 1897.

Hon. William L. Strong

Mayor New York City.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to your favor of the 1st. inst., enclosing letter from Leopold Weil, complaining of snow and ice not removed from sidewalk N. W. Corner of 70th street and 8th Avenue, I would respectfully state that that violation of the Corporation Ordinance was reported by the 24th Precinct as follows: Dec. 18th, 19th, 22nd, 30th, 31st 1896 and Jan'y. 2nd, 1897 and copies sent to the Corporation Attorney and the Commissioner of Public Works as required by law, further than this this Department has nothing to do in the matter.

Very respectfully

Wm. J. Ketch
Chief Clerk.

Police Department,

Board of Police Commissioners,

of the City of New York,

Theodore Roosevelt,
President.
Avery D. Andrews,
Treasurer.
Frederick D. Grant,
Andrew D. Parker.

300 Mulberry Street,

New York,

Febr. 9, 1897

E

My dear Mr Mayor:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of note from Mr Hedges, stating that many of your friends had testified to you very warmly in regard to the good character of Sergeant Thomas McCormack, against whom charges have been made. The case has not come before me for consideration, but you may be assured that in accordance with your request I will give the case the most careful and just consideration.

Believe me

Yours very truly,

A. D. Andrews

Hon. William L. Strong,

Mayor, City of New York.

Feb. 9

Freel. Grant

*Police Department,
of the City of New York,
300 Mulberry Street,
New York.*

*Frederick D. Grant,
Commissioner.*

February 9th, 1897.

J. E. Hedges, Esq.,

Secretary to His Honor The Mayor,

New York City.

My dear Mr. Hedges:

I have just received your letter of February the 8th, in reference to Sergeant Thomas McCormack, and in reply, hasten to say that the minutes of his case have not come to me yet, but I will give them careful consideration when they do. *come.*

Very truly yours,

Frederick D. Grant