

**BOX  
013  
FOLDER  
119**

**Courts: Children's Court**

**1912**



**MEMORANDUM FOR THE MAYOR:**

From Justice Wilkin of the Children's Court, Brooklyn, concerning letter you sent to him from a Mrs. Kotschenreuter, who asked to have a stepchild who had been committed to an institution released and sent back home.

Justice Wilkin says that this boy was arrested about a year ago charged with stealing coal. An investigation of the case by the Justices' special officer showed that the boy kept bad company and was regarded as a general nuisance in the neighborhood where he lived. As his mother was dead and it appeared that the boy's father was not giving him proper care Justice Wilkin thought he had better be sent to the Catholic Protectory.

Two months later this boy's sister, a child of ten years, was brought to court on the ground that she was without proper guardianship, as the father was living with a woman to whom he was not married, and the child herself residing with an older sister who was also living in adultery.

Justice Wilkin says that he has asked for a report as to the present status of this case, and if he finds that the Kotschenreuters have a proper home in which the children can be taken care of he will recommend their discharge.



102 COURT STREET

JUSTICES' CHAMBERS

CHILDREN'S COURT, ~~SECOND DIVISION~~

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

NEW YORK, March 29, 1912. 190

Hon. William J. Gaynor,

Mayor of The City of New York.

My Dear Friend,

Replying to your favor of the 27th inst, in relation to the letter received from Mrs. Kotschenreuter, I would beg to say, that on January 21, 1911, John Hoynes, special officer connected with the Coal Exchange, arraigned before me one Martin Kotschenreuter, aged fourteen years, charged with stealing coal from a wagon on Knickerbocker Avenue and Harrison Place, this Borough. I paroled the boy in the care of his father until January 27, 1911, and tried the matter on that day, finding him guilty. I had an investigation made, and I send you herewith copy of the investigation report filed with me. In accordance therewith, I committed the boy to the New York Catholic Protectory on that day, and as the man had another child to support and was only earning seventeen dollars a week, I thought I could possibly put it over without making an order for him to support the child.

On March 24, 1911, Paul Erbrecht, an officer of the Brooklyn Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, brought Mary Kotschenreuter, aged ten years, to court, charging that she was without proper guardianship, in that her mother was dead and her father, it was alleged, was living in adultery with a woman named Rose Gerber; that the little child was living with her sister, Barbara, aged sixteen years, who, herself, was living in adultery with one Jacob Laubengeiger, at No. 375 Central Avenue. I adjourned the case over until March 28th, and after hearing all the testimony in the case, I found the child to be without proper guardianship and committed her to the Orphan Home under the care of the Sisters of St. Dominic. I then had another examination and investigation by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, copy of which I send herewith. As the man then had no one to take care of but himself, I put him under an order to pay two dollars per week for the two children.

The law in relation to parents contributing toward the support of their children who are in public institutions is enforced by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and the reason for the passage of the law was, not so much to reimburse the city for the expense of caring for the children, as it was to hold the parents' interest in the children by making him pay a regular contribution toward the support at specified regular intervals. In this way the parent is prevented from forgetting all about the child, and just such applications as are now made for a discharge are invited. It appears now that the man is married again, but it does not appear whether he has married the Gerber woman, with whom it had been said he was living. On this matter, I have placed the case in the hands of Mrs. Mary Gibbons, the



102 COURT STREET

JUSTICES' CHAMBERS  
CHILDREN'S COURT, ~~SECOND DIVISION~~  
BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

NEW YORK, \_\_\_\_\_ 190\_\_

(2)

probation officer for Catholic children assigned to the court, and if the home is such as to make it in any way possible for either the little girl or the little boy to be returned there, you can rest assured I will be, as you say, more than glad to recommend the discharge, and the re-establishment of as good a home as poor people ordinarily have.

Thanking you for calling my attention to the case, and hoping that my action herein has met your approval, I beg to remain,  
Very truly yours,

*Robert J. McKim*  
Justice.



102 COURT STREET

JUSTICES' CHAMBERS

CHILDREN'S COURT, ~~SECOND DIVISION~~

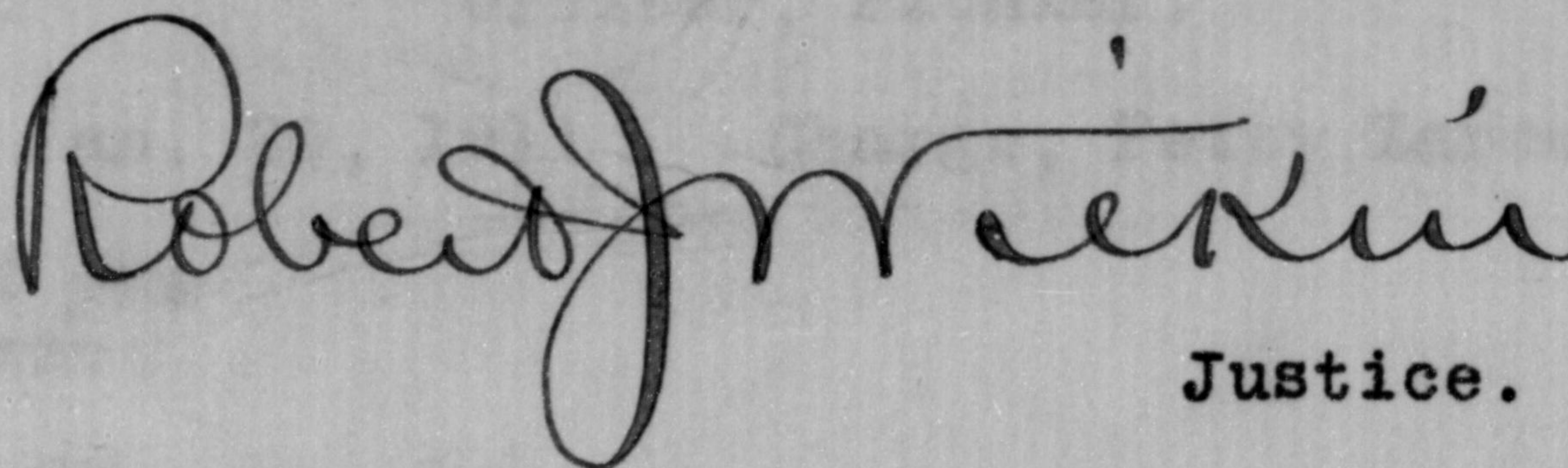
BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

NEW YORK, \_\_\_\_\_ 190\_\_

(2)

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Thanking you for calling my attention to the case, and hoping that my action herein has met your approval, I beg to remain,  
Very truly yours,



Justice.



REPORT OF THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF  
CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.  
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THE PEOPLE

vs

BERNARD KUTSCHENREIDER.

Brooklyn, N.Y., Feb. 2, 1911.

Case No. 87,349.

Officer, Pichler.

Date of arrest, Jan. 20, 1911      Charge, Petty Larceny

Age of child, 14 yrs

Religion, Catholic

Father, Andrew

Mither, dead

Other children: Anna 21; Barbara 18; May 12.

Residence, 96 Morgan Ave.

AN INVESTIGATION BY THE SOCIETY SHOWS THAT

Neighbors interviewed give this boy a poor reputation; he associates with bad company, keeps late hours and is a general nuisance in the neighborhood. The mother died three months ago, since which time a housekeeper has been in charge of the home. The father is said to be a brutal man, uses vile and indecent language and it is no wonder that the boy is going wrong. The home of four rooms was found comfortably furnished and clean; the housekeeper of course spoke well of the man and the boy. Father is employed in a brewery and earns \$17. per week.



REPORT OF THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION  
OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

THE PEOPLE

VS

MARY KUTSCHENREITER.

Brooklyn, March 28, 1911.

Case No. 88,208

Officer Erbrecht.

Date of Arrest, March 23, 1911.

Charge, Improper Guardianship.

Age of child, 12 years

Religion, Catholic

Father, Andrew

Mother, Elizabeth

Other children: Anna, 21; Barbara, 16; Bernard 14, Mary 10

Residence, 375 Central Avenue.

AN INVESTIGATION BY THE SOCIETY SHOWS THAT:

Jan. 20, 1911, Bernard Kutschenreiter was arrested, charged with petty larceny; on Feb. 2nd, he was committed to the Catholic Protectory.

The mother of this girl died about three months ago, and her father, an excessive drinker, is now living in adultery with a Mrs. Rose Gerber. For a time the child lived with her father, but then later lived with her sister Barbara, 16 years old, who has taken up with a young man. They resided at 426 Flushing Avenue for about one month and from neighbors there it was learned that very bad language was used in the rooms and there were many visitors.



Court of Special Sessions of The City of New York

JUSTICES' CHAMBERS

CHILDREN'S COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF KINGS

102 COURT STREET

BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN

NEW YORK, March 30, 1912.

Hon. William J. Gaynor,

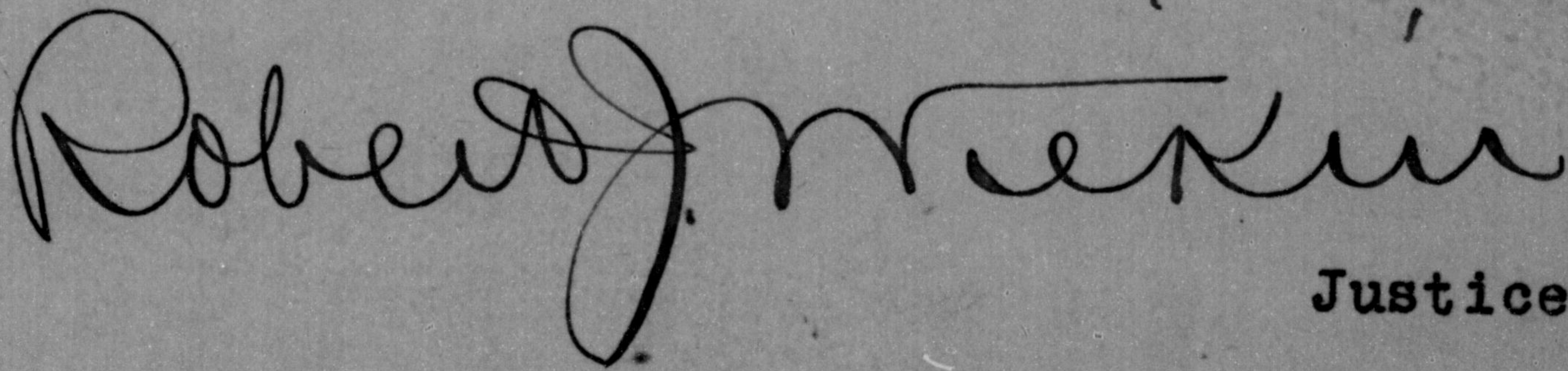
Mayor of the City of New York.

My Dear Friend,

I beg herewith to enclose you copy of a report received this morning from the Probation Officer, Mrs. J. D. Peppard, detailed to this Court, of an investigation which she made last night in the matter of Kutschenreiter. Mrs. Gibbons, the Catholic Probation Officer, was busy on other cases, but I will refer the matter to her and perhaps church influences may effect a reformation in the conditions we desire. I return herewith the letter you sent me from Mrs. Kutschenreiter.

Trusting this will meet with your approval, and awaiting the pleasure of your suggestion about any matter, I beg to remain,

Sincerely yours,



Justice.



March 29, 1912.

In re KUTSCHENREITER:

Mrs. Marie Mahnken, who wrote the letter to Mayor Gaynor concerning this matter, showed me her wedding certificate. She and Kutschenreiter were married August 12, 1911, at the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Maurer Street and Graham Avenue, by the Rev. A. J. Beyer. Her maiden name was Marie Thornworth. She was a widow with three children when she married Mr. Kutschenreiter; had been a neighbor of his for some time. He discharged Mrs. Germer from his employ as housekeeper when he married. Mrs. Germer's husband was sentenced to a term of six months in the workhouse on a charge of non-support. It was while he was away that Mrs. Germer became housekeeper for Kutschenreiter. Mrs. Germer had several of her own children with her.

I saw Mrs. Germer. She said she had her husband released before he had served the full term. She claims that Mr. Kutschenreiter's first wife is still alive and living in Austria. She has written letters to her for Mr. K. about some property that he owns in Austria. Further states that Mr. K. eloped to America with his wife's maid. They were several children of this issue. This woman tired of and quit him. Had an illegitimate child, Annie. The woman has since died. Her name was Elizabeth Evens. Mary, Barbara and Andrew were her children by Mr. K. Annie's father is unknown.

The present Mrs. K. appears to be a very respectable woman and is interested in Mr. K's children, as well as her own.

Charles, William and Gertrude are Mrs. Marie Mahn-



ken Kutschenreiter's children by a former marriage.

Andrew 16, in the Catholic Protectory, and Mary 13, in an institution at Melville, L.I., and Barbara are Mr. K's children by the wife's maid with whom he eloped to America. Annie is an illegitimate child. It is rumored that Annie and Barbara do not amount to much.

(Mrs.) J. D. Peppard.

Probation Officer.



Mar. 23/1912.

Dear Sir

I am the wife of Mr.  
Kotschenreuther after his first  
wife died he had no one to  
look after his children. And they  
were taken away from him.  
And now that he has come  
one to care for his home and  
children we though we would  
like to have them home he is  
a man that makes only nine  
dollars a week and they want  
him to pay 2 dollars a week  
before he can have them home.  
And how can a man that  
makes only nine dollars live.



On seven they had him to  
court and he lost 2 days and  
he thought every thing would  
be all right and that he would  
have his children home and I  
though I would write to you  
and ask if you would please  
help us. in case you will find  
the paper that they send to  
us.

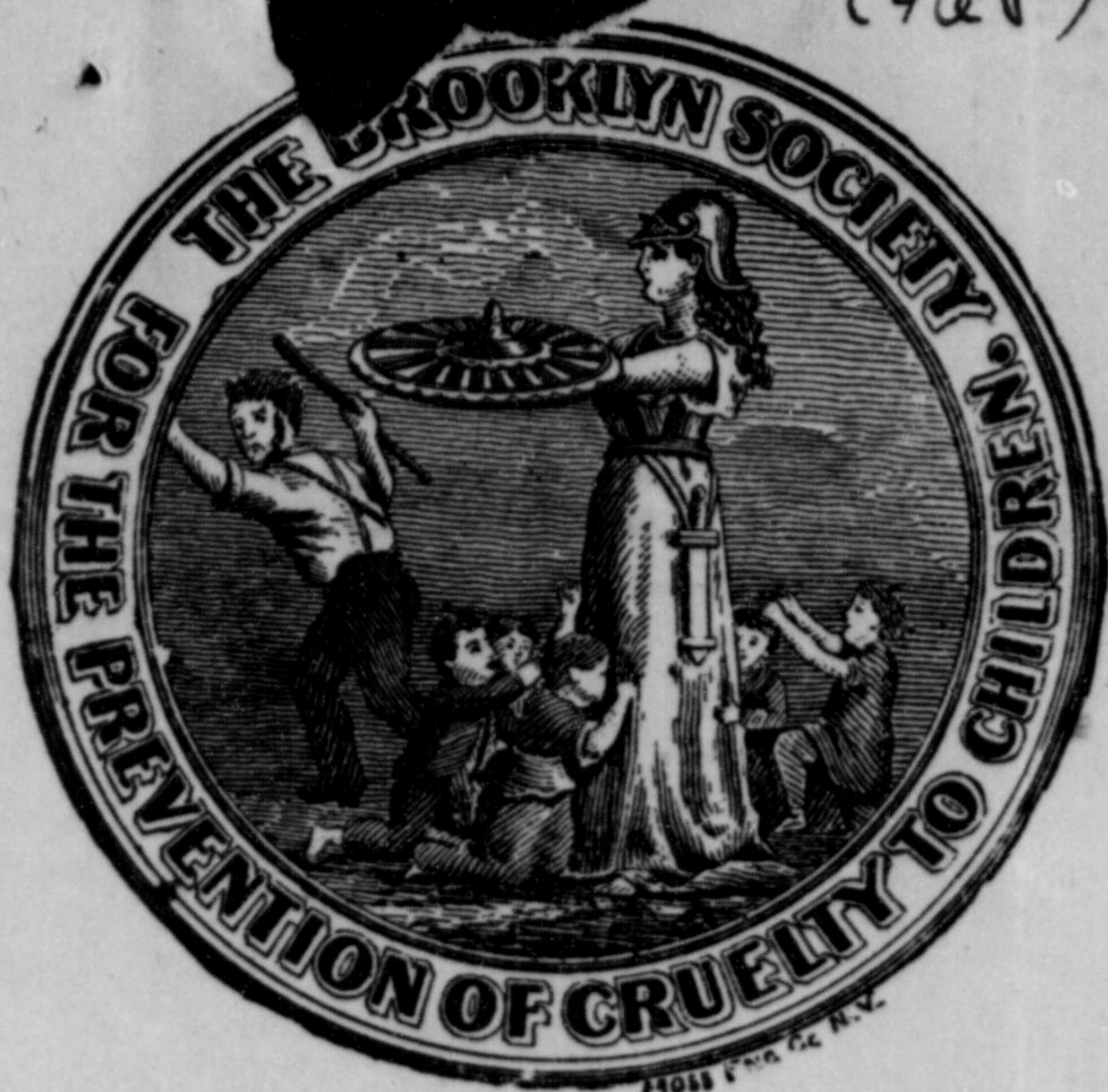
Yours Truly,

Mrs Kotschenreuther  
21. Bogart St.



Case No.

208  
(468)



THE BROOKLYN SOCIETY  
FOR THE  
PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN

H. CLAY PRESTON, Secy.-Supt.

105 SCHERMERHORN STREET

Brooklyn-New York

Mar. 15-1902

Mr.

Andrew Kutschenreiter,

21 Bogart St.

Dear

Sir:

You are informed that Justice *Robt J. Wilkin* of the Court  
of Special Sessions, Second Division *171 Atlantic Ave* by Order dated the *28* day of *Mar.*  
190*2*, has directed that you shall pay toward the support of your child in the  
**ST. DOMINICK'S HOME**, the sum of \$ *2-*  
per *week* beginning on the *4th* day of *Apr.*, 190*2*.

This money you are to pay at this office, which is open daily from 8 A. M. until  
10 P. M. (Sundays and holidays included), and you will receive a receipt therefor.

A failure to make these payments on your part will be reported to the Court for  
such action as it may deem proper to take.

You owe at the present time, \$

*9.4-*

Respectfully,

*H. Clay Preston*

Secy.-Supt.

*[Signature]*



CLERK'S OFFICE  
CHILDREN'S COURT  
FOR THE COUNTY OF NEW YORK  
66 THIRD AVENUE  
NEW YORK

DENNIS A. LAMBERT  
CLERK  
ELMER L. CLARK  
DEPUTY CLERK

August 22, 1912.

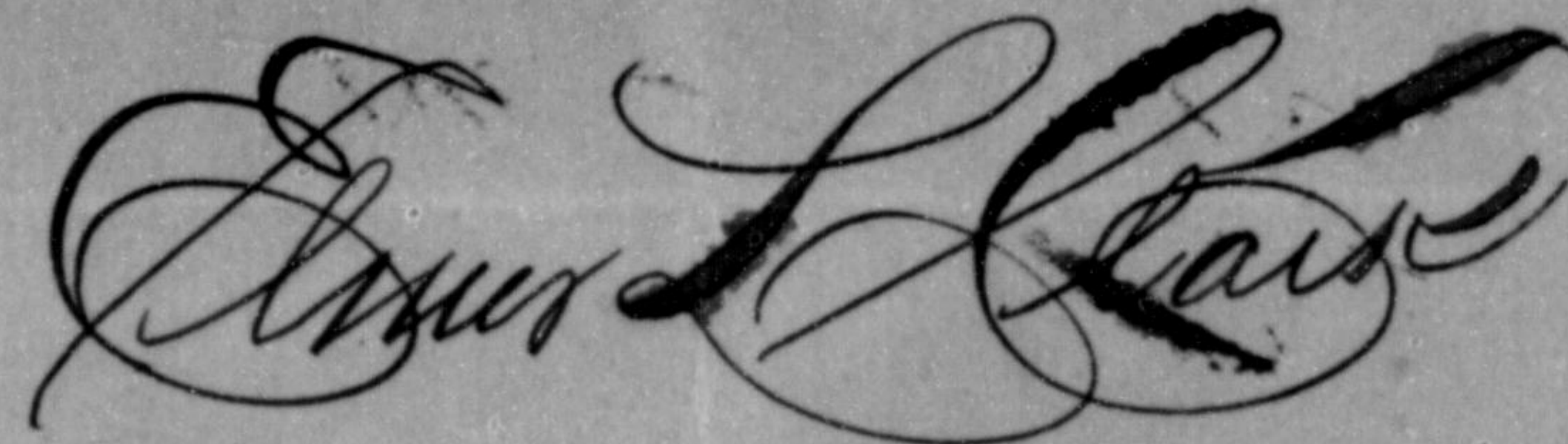
James Matthews, Esq.,

Executive Secretary, Office of the Mayor,  
City of New York.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed find communication forwarded to the Children's Court for attention. We are sending to Mrs. Goldsborough under separate cover our annual report for the year 1911.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elmer L. Clark".



August 20 - 1912.

The Mayor's Office,  
New York,  
Sec'y. of Division I

Dear Sir:

I have in preparation for publication a Bibliography of Medical Inspection (1909-1912) and want material for the section on inspection and medical care connected with Children's Court work. If you can give me Reports re. your New York work, the courtesy will be cordially appreciated.

With sincere thanks,

Very truly yours,

(Mrs.) S. D. Goldsborough.

1022 - 8th Street, N.W.,

Washington D.C.