BROOKLYN CITY.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL.

Annual Message of the Mayor—The Financial Condition, Growth and Prosperity of the City.

The Board of Aldermen of the city of Brooklyn met yesterday afternoon in their chambers at the City Hall, his Honor Mayor Kalbfleisch in the chair, and the representatives of twenty-two wards, comprising the entire Board, being present. The Mayor immediately after the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting proceeded to read his annual message. After alluding in feeling terms to the memory of the late ex-Mayor Hall the message continues:—

The city is still steadily progressing in wealth, population and commercial importance. Its onward career during the year now expired was arrested by no great misfortune and unmarked by any unusual incident. No exceptionally disastrous conflagration has spread its lurid glare over our dwellings. No sanguinary tragedy has stood out in prominence upon our criminal records. No serious disturbance of the public peace has spread alarm among our homes. No fatal pestilence has slain its victims within our borders. A collision between our crowded ferryboats has occurred, but by the mercy of Providence its results were only sufficiently mortal to warn us of the folly of longer delaying to perfect our plans for effecting a permanent and safe means of transit across the river, by reminding us that every day that elapses ere we erect a bridge we are exposed to the contingency of a calamity which might shroud hundreds of our homes and thousands of our citizens in mourning. I therefore heartily approve the recent action of your honorable body in assuming, under due restrictions, a proportion of the investment in the stock of the Bridge Company, commensurate with the benefit which the city will derive from the execution of this great work.

The number of buildings which have been erected and that are now in process of erection within our limits during the past year greatly exceeds that of any former one. The following statistics have been kindly furnished me by the Inspector of Police, showing the number of buildings completed during the year 1868:—

Wards.	Dwellings. Brownstone Fronts	Dwellings. Brick	Dwellings. Frame	Churches. Sch's. M'ls. Stone	Churches. Sch's. M'ls. Brick	Churches. Sch's. M'ls. Frame	Store Houses. Brick	Store Houses. Brick	Store Houses. Frame	Store Houses. Brick	Store Houses. Frame	Miscellaneous	Total
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	5
3	17	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	3	25
4	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	7
5	—	17	10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	31
6	44	20	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	1	70
7	88	51	196	2	1	1	—	4	—	1	—	13	357
8	2	14	121	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	142
9	32	18	88	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	133
10	69	176	61	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	315
11	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	14
12	—	35	38	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	7	1	81
13	7	28	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	3	91
14	—	21	28	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	54
15	—	8	124	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	4	138
16	—	18	78	—	—	—	—	1	6	—	3	1	105
17	—	56	263	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	48	347
18	—	9	172	—	1	1	—	6	1	1	—	9	204
19	20	88	59	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	—	9	184
20	86	54	12	—	—	1	—	—	5	1	—	15	174
21	16	28	551	—	—	3	—	—	1	2	—	11	622
22	65	71	168	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	205
Total	378	775	1,815	3	7	9	1	41	24	7	10	140	3307

Many of these are public buildings and of a character superior to those built in former times. Our favorable location for healthfulness, the establishing of public parks and other places of resort and the favorably known character of its people will doubtless continue to make Brooklyn one of the most desirable places to reside in.

The rapid increase of various kinds of manufacturing establishments in our midst is a matter for congratulation, showing that our locality is well adapted for such purposes, which bring capital into our city and afford profitable employment to its population.

We may well look with pride upon the steadily increasing commerce of our port, the vast amount of shipping, loading and discharging cargoes of various kinds at our wharves. Considering the number and extent of the warehouses in South Brooklyn and the Atlantic basins, all teaming with business, the Erie basin and the amount of dock room which will soon be furnished to commerce by its proprietors, and the certainty that the whole of Gowanus Bay will at no distant period be one vast line of docks all thrown open to commerce, we are entitled to believe that Brooklyn will in the future rank among the foremost of commercial cities, not only of this continent but of the world.

There is now in the treasury to the credit of the city of the moneys raised for general purposes over $200,000, and no item of account has been overdrawn during the past year. This is a gratifying fact and argues well for the prudence and economy of the administration of our municipal government during that time.

The money raised for Fire Department purposes, though double that of the former year, has been all expended. The law of last year placing this matter in the hands of a commission seems to me to have been a very doubtful improvement, as far, at least, as the expending of money is concerned, and unless the strict letter of the law is hereafter complied with and the money raised distributed *pro rata* among the different companies I am convinced that it will occasion great dissatisfaction among the members of the Fire Department as well as in the community at large.

All the public schools have been well attended during the past year. Notwithstanding that several large and convenient new school buildings have been occupied, the influx of pupils more than keeps pace with the addition to the school accommodation.

The following statement of totals of city bonds issued is made, from which it is shown that most of them are for departments over which the Common Council has no control:—

City Hall loan	$85,000
Washington Park loan	121,000
Current expenses since 1851	150,000
Water loan	55,000
Debts of Williamsburg loan	150,000
Mount Prospect square loan	90,000
Local improvements, 1859	100,000
Local improvements, 1861	212,000
Water loan	7,407,000
Williamsburg local improvement loan	38,000
Third street improvement loan	302,000
Atlantic avenue improvement loan	65,000
Atlantic avenue extension loan	12,000
Soldiers' aid fund	552,000
National Guard and Volunteer Firemen's loan	27,000
National Guard	32,000
Prospect Park	5,040,000
Bushwick avenue	222,000
South Seventh street	321,500
Fourth avenue	462,000
Gowanus Canal	234,000
Wallabout Bay improvement	748,000
Bedford avenue	60,000
Union street	72,000
Williamsburg street liabilities	92,000
Sewerage bonds	1,000,000
Assessments fund bonds	750,000
Total	$18,559,250

The interest required to be raised on these $18,559,000 of bonds amounts to a much greater sum of money than was required to pay all the expenses of our municipal government only ten years ago. The message then reviews in detail the indebtedness of the city, and calls upon the Board to remonstrate against the passage of all laws providing for the further increase of these bonds for merely local purposes.

On the subject of special commissions the Mayor continues:—

Your honorable body has already directed the preparation of a bill by the Corporation Counsel for the creation of a Board of Public Works, and you have also taken into consideration various suggested amendments of the charter. These measures are good so far as they go; but in my judgment the time has come for a more radical treatment of the evils that have resulted from an excessive multiplication of local authorities and a division of responsibility to an extent which seems to have led some at least of these functionaries to imagine that they owe the taxpayers no account of the manner in which their functions are discharged. As an *ex officio* member of some of these bodies, since my induction into the office of Mayor, I have seen enough of their management to convince me that vast amounts of money might be saved if some restraint were placed upon the manner of the expenditure. The reports submitted to you from the various commissions upon local improvements show, in my judgment, in several cases, a most reckless expenditure of money. Salaries have been paid for services only nominally rendered; in other cases payments have been made far in excess of the value of the services, and when, if ever, the time comes for the districts locally benefited to repay to the city the amounts it has advanced on the requisitions of these commissions, the property owners, if able to pay, will feel that they have been greatly misled by those who were instrumental in procuring the passage of such laws.

The Mayor recommends that representatives of the press be admitted to the meetings of the Park Commissioners, that the public may be more fully advised of their proceedings through the press, such a measure being well calculated to inspire a more satisfactory feeling of confidence on the part of the people with regard to the vast expenditure of money involved in the Park improvements. He further urges that Flatbush be included in the assessment district for Prospect Park improvement. Before concluding the Mayor remarks:—

The time is drawing near, if it has not already arrived, when the propriety should be considered of extending the arrear of the city over such parts of the adjacent county towns as require to participate in our city improvements. A movement has been commenced in East New York for the annexation of that locality to our city. Wherever, in the immediate vicinity of our present city limits, a thickly settled neighborhood is built up, requiring paved and lighted streets, gas, water, sewerage and the other features of city life, it seems natural and proper that the city line should be extended so as to embrace lands which are no longer agricultural, but are occupied and used wholly with a view to residence and business purposes. The city is entitled to call upon those who directly enjoy the benefits of our local improvements to share with us also the expenses of supporting our city government.

On motion of the Alderman of the Sixteenth ward, four copies of the message were ordered to be printed in the English and 500 copies in the German language.

The Board then went into an election for officers, with the following result:—

President—Jacob L. Bergen.*
Corporation Counsel—William C. DeWitt.
Keeper of the City Hall—Patrick Tormey* (elected for three years); Assistant Keeper, Thomas McGuire.*
Messenger—Andrew McDonald.*
Engineer of the City Hall—Timothy Ward.*
Inspectors of Pavements—Eastern District, Michael Dowd; Western District, Philip Clare.*
Sealers of Weights and Measures—James Fagan, James Doyle, John G. Bawman, Peter Callan.
Keeper of Docks, Fourteenth Ward—Patrick Clark.
Clerk of the Market—Patrick Ward.
Pound Masters—Michael Hanly, Henry Voudsell, Thomas McDonald.

A communication was received from the Mayor disapproving the resolution awarding the contract to Frank Swift for repairing and rebuilding the dock at the foot of North Second street. The veto is based on the facts that the amount voted for the repairs in question ($16,500) is six times greater than the original cost of the pier, and the dock does not yield more than $200 per annum to the city.

The Board then adjourned until Monday next.

*Re-elected. The new Board stands politically fifteen democrats and seven republicans.

KINGS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

This Board met yesterday afternoon, and organized for the current year by the re-election of William J. Osborn, of the Sixth ward, as President of the Board by a vote of 17 ayes to 10 noes, the republican vote being for General Philip S. Crooke.

A report was submitted announcing the completion of the Newtown creek bridge, at a total expense of $13,750.

A resolution was passed appropriating the sum of $6,097 towards the payment of this work, such being the proportion of Kings county; the remainder, one-half of the total cost, is to be paid by Queens county. Thomas Martin, democrat, Eleventh ward, was appointed janitor of the County Court House, vice Edward McClure, a one-armed veteran, removed. John Clancy and Michael Finn were re-elected engineers of the Raymond street jail. William Cady was chosen to the office of keeper of the dead house, and John Smith as interpreter of the courts.

The following standing committees of the Board of Supervisors were appointed for the year 1869:—

On Accounts—Messrs. Schenck, Howell and Little.
On Accounts of Superintendents of the Poor—Messrs. Shevlin, Whitehill and Woodhead.
On Accounts of County Treasurer—Messrs. Hall, Hutchings and Little.
On Accounts of Storekeeper—Messrs. Cassidy, Murphy and Woodhead.
On Court House—Messrs. Foran, Hall and Ryder.
On Penitentiary—Messrs. Foran, Howell and Cropsey.
On Jail—Messrs. Smith, Shevlin and Nelson.
On Almshouse—Whitehill, Wilkeyson, Cassidy.
On Lunatic Asylum—Howell, Hutchings, Foran.
On Hospital and Nursery—Walsh, Stilwell, Smith.
On United States Deposit Fund—Buck, Droll, Wills.
On Equalization of Assessment Rolls—Cassidy, Walsh, Droll, Ryder, Tobey.
On General Taxes—Hall, Rollmeyer, Johnson.
Special and Local Taxes—Stilwell, Buck, Wills.
On Law and Applications to the Legislature—Rollmeyer, Cross, Crooke.
On Salaries—Droll, Buck, Woodhead.
On Jurors—Nelson, Droll, Shevelin, Rollmeyer, Crooke.
On Military Affairs—Murphy, Cross, Cropsey.

The Board then adjourned to meet on Wednesday, January 13.

BROOKLYN INTELLIGENCE.

EARLY CLOSING.—The hardware dealers and plumbers of the Eastern district have come to the conclusion to close their places at eight P. M. every evening from the present date until the 1st of April next, with the exception of Saturdays.

THE MORTALITY.—There were 111 death certificates filed at the Bureau of Vital Statistics during the past week, being a decrease of 41 in number compared with the week preceding. Of the deceased there were 27 men, 21 women, 34 boys and 29 girls.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS.—This body met yesterday and organized for the year 1869, electing the following named officers:—President, John Dougherty; Secretary, Dominick H. Roche; Clerks, Charles W. Cheshire, Robert Jourdan and Philip Dougherty.

SUICIDE.—Yesterday morning Thomas P. Walters, seventy-four years of age, who was most respectably connected, was found dead, suspended by the neck from a beam in the cellar of his late residence in Hewson place, near Flatbush avenue. Coroner Jones held an inquest on the body of the deceased during the day, when a verdict of suicide was found; but the Coroner declined to give the name of the unfortunate man.

FIRE IN PRINCE STREET.—Shortly after midnight of Sunday a fire broke out in the oilcloth factory in Prince street, near Tillary, and the structure was consumed in a short space of time. The building, which was frame and three stories in height, has not been occupied for several months past, and as there was no fire used on the premises the conflagration was doubtless of incendiary origin. It was owned by Mr. White, of No. 25 Mercer street, New York, who sustains a loss of $4,000 in its destruction.

THE FOG ON THE EAST RIVER—FERRYBOAT COLLISION.—The dense fog which hung over the East river yesterday afternoon and evening caused a partial suspension of travel on the different ferry lines and consequently much annoyance to travellers. But fortunately there was but one collision, so far as known, and that was not of a serious character. At about six o'clock last evening the ferryboats Martha and Southside—the former plying between Greenpoint and Twenty-third street, New York, and the latter between Greenpoint and Tenth street—collided and each sustained slight damage, but none of the passengers were injured and the boats continued their trips.

NEWS IN BRIEF.—The ladies of the congregation of St. Mary's (Star of Sea) opened their fair last evening in the fine hall of the new parochial school, Court street, near Nelson. The fair is well worthy of a visit and will remain open during the entire week.

Police Sergeant Croft's residence, No. 111 Jay street, was entered by a sneak thief on Sunday morning and robbed of a coat valued at forty dollars.

Mr. and Mrs. John Smith while riding along Broadway in a sleigh on Sunday last were upset and were seriously injured about the head and body. The accident was occasioned by the horse taking fright.

Three inquests have been held by the Coroner of the Western district since January 1, whose united ages at the time of their decease was 238 years.

Over 700,000 warrants were signed yesterday at the Mayor's office on account of expenditures for the new year.

SALUTING THE NEW YEAR.—A party consisting of four young men were engaged in making New Year's calls in the quiet village of New Utrecht and vicinity on Friday evening last, and despite the unfavorable condition of the weather, managed to keep their spirits up to a pretty high pitch. In the course of their perigrinations they paid their respects to the household of Mr. James Brown, of New Utrecht, where, not being received as they deemed in accordance with the usages of the day they celebrated, they withdrew in high dudgeon. The quartet, which consisted of Martin Bennett, Cyril and Forrest Wardell and William Van Horn, had not taken their departure from the house of their host manny minutes ere the family of the latter were startled by the explosion of a gun and the whistling of a charge of buckshot through the window of the apartment in which they were seated. One of the missiles passed in close proximity to the head of a Miss Brown, and the excitement occasioned at such a dastardly act was, as might be imagined, really intense. Suspicion having rested upon the above named men as being the perpetrators of the outrage, warrants were procured for their arrest by Mr. Brown, on the charge of felonious assault, and they were taken into custody yesterday and held for examination.

SAD SHOOTING ACCIDENT.—Coroner Jones held an inquest yesterday upon the body of a boy named Clarence Darling, eleven years of age, who resided with his parents, at the corner of Aun street and Broadway, Eastern district, and came to his death under circumstances of a peculiarly painful nature. It appears that the deceased, in conjunction with a younger brother, had some time previous to Christmas, out of their united savings, contrived to purchase a pistol, with which they agreeably surprised their father on Christmas morning by presenting him with the weapon. They had heard their father, whose duties detained him from home until a late hour each night, remark that he had been assaulted upon certain occasions while out at night, and conceived the idea that the presentation of a pistol to him would be a useful article for him to carry under the circumstances. That which the boys had intended as a source of pleasure to to their father proved ultimately, however, the cause of sorrow and death. On New Year's Day Mr. Darling, while in conversation with a friend at his house, referred to the circumstance of the gift which he had received, and, in doing so, sent Clarence (the deceased) up stairs to get the pistol. Shortly afterwards the report of firearms was heard by the inmates of the house, and the poor boy was found standing by the banisters, bleeding from the hand. It was found on closer examination that the ball from the weapon, which latter was accidentally discharged, passed through the right hand and entered just above the stomach, causing internal hemorrhage and terminating in the death of the poor boy, which occurred on Saturday afternoon. A verdict in accordance with the facts above stated was rendered.

NEW JERSEY INTELLIGENCE.

Jersey City.

FALL FROM A SCAFFOLD.—A man named Herman Fireman fell from the second story of the new building at the corner of Grove street and Pavonia avenue, yesterday, and was seriously injured.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE ERIE RAILROAD.—Yesterday afternoon a number of young boys were engaged at the Long Dock in picking the scattered pieces of coal around the tracks, when one of them, a youth about ten years old, stooped under the wheels of an empty coal car attached to a locomotive, when he was caught between them and crushed to a jelly, the engine having suddenly started. Coroner Warren will hold an inquest.

A BOY KILLED ON THE ERIE RAILROAD.—Yesterday afternoon a boy named James Good, eleven years old, was trying to jump on the platform of an Erie train at North Fourth street, when he slipped off and was run over by the cars. His leg was horribly mashed, but though severely crushed in several parts of the body he lingered for one hour after the occurrence. His parents reside in North Fifth street. An inquest will be held by Coroner Warren to-day.

Hudson City.

MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE.—During the month of December, 1868, there were 36 arrests made by the police of Hudson City, as follows:—Violation of city ordinance, 6; drunk and disorderly, 8; drunkenness, 10; vagrancy, 4; theft, 6; wife desertion, 1; wife beating, 1; committed to jail, 5; fined, 10; discharged, 15; admitted to bail, 6. Number of lodgers admitted—Males, 95; females, 10. Total, 105.

Bergen City.

THE LATE BURGLARIES—FURTHER ARRESTS.—Three colored men, named Charles Wesley Allen, Wm. Johnson and Wm. Henry Thomas, who were arrested in New York by officers Quinn and McGlynn, of the Eighth precinct, on suspicion of being concerned in the late burglaries, were taken to Bergen and committed for trial by Recorder Mathews. It appears that Johnson sent Allen to pawn some of the stolen clothes, and the latter was so covetous that he desired to pocket the proceeds. To this the others objected, so Allen gave information of his accomplices to the police, hoping to be accepted as a witness and thus be free from jeopardy. This little arrangement miscarried, however, and the whole squad were sent to Hudson county jail to keep company with a fourth confederate, named McKnight, who was arrested on the morning of the robbery at Mr. McKay's house.

THE HOBOKEN MURDER.

Continuation of the Coroner's Inquest.

The inquest on the body of John Passehl, who was murdered in Grand street a week ago, was continued at seven o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Henry Breier was re-called and sworn. He further deposed:—On the morning of the murder I did not see any weapon in the hands of Emil or Gustave Hausmann; I cannot say what persons were quarrelling that morning; at the time of the fight Gustave and Emil Hausmann left the room, but I cannot say why.

The next witness was John Goade, who merely corroborated the evidence of the preceding witnesses.

Anton Windorf was then called. He swore as follows:—I live in the house of Henry Riegleman, and was in bed at the time of the disturbance; Fritz Gloede got out of bed and left the room; I arose also to see what was the matter; I did not see deceased on that morning.

August Schreyer was the next witness, who said:—I live in the house next to that in which the fight occurred; I heard the disturbance and looked out of the window; I saw a man falling on the balcony of the stairs leading to the yard; I don't know how long he remained there; three men carried him away.

Jacob Schmidt was then sworn and declared:—I live in the rear of the house where the quarrel took place; on that morning I heard a female voice exclaim that a man was stabbed; I saw the deceased running out of the house; he was stopped by some building and he then returned, when a man wearing a blue shirt struck him in the breast and deceased fell on his face; the man then kicked him in the head, and I then heard him running up stairs. (Gustave Hausmann was here asked to speak, and witness then exclaimed:—I identify Gustave Hausmann as the one who said "I'll kill you.") I then saw the deceased attempting to rise, but he was unable; I identify Fritz Gloede as the man who went to lift up the deceased; I cannot say with what weapon the deceased was struck; I saw Mary Gerold in the yard at the time.

Anna Hausmann was then sworn. She deposed:—I am the wife of Emil Hausmann; on the morning of the murder I heard Emil say to Louis Hausmann, "They are beating the dog;" my husband and his father then went down stairs; I went out of the room and saw that my husband and my brother-in-law had been terribly beaten; my mother-in-law held a lamp in her hand, which Emil wanted to take; his mother blew it out, whereupon he said, "You would rather see me killed than let me see who it was that struck me;" he then came into the room, had his wounds dressed and went to bed; he did not go down stairs again; the prisoners had no weapons with them; Gustave Hausmann did not go down stairs at any time. (Witness afterwards said that Gustave was fighting with the boarders down stairs.)

The next witness was Louisa Mattis, who deposed—I live in Hudson City; I was in the house of my son on the morning of the disturbance; when the dog yelped in the hallway Emil Hausmann went down stairs; I then went out and stood upon the stairs, when I saw three men with clubs fighting. (Witness then corroborated the testimony of the preceding witness.) Gustave returned to the room, and seemed to be crazy; Emil went down stairs a second time and returned in a moment; I did not know deceased.

Mary Gerold was recalled, and she declared:—I identify Gustave Hausmann as the person who struck deceased; Gustave cried out, "You must die;" the deceased exclaimed, "Dear brother, let me alone; I don't want to fight;" I do not know what weapon was used; when deceased fell he was struck again on the head and breast; Fritz Gloede was also in the yard.

Louis Mattis, on being sworn, deposed:—I was in the house of my son-in-law on that morning; I heard a quarrel below stairs, whereupon I went to the yard and saw Fritz Gloede standing there; Emil was then up stairs; neither Emil nor Gustave came down stairs a second time; I did not see deceased; I cannot identify the man who was standing in the yard with Fritz Gloede.

Hereupon the inquest was adjourned till this afternoon.

FATAL AFFRAY IN TRENTON, N. J.

Desperate Fight Between Negroes—A Child Killed—Arrest of the Principals.

Yesterday morning the vicinity of the City Hall and the Mayor's office, Trenton, was crowded by an irrepressible and boisterous concourse of the colored population, attracted thither by the fact that one of their dusky brethren was about being charged with the murder of a child and four others of the fraternity with assault and battery. At eight o'clock the Mayor took his seat and ordered the accused to be brought before him. In a few minutes five muscular, repulsive looking darkies were escorted to the office by the police. William Smyth, accused by a colored woman named Anna Rice, with the murder of her child, was called up. He seemed quite composed and listened intently to the testimony of his accuser, who deposed that on New Year's night William Smyth broke in the door of complainant's brother and commenced slapping him in the face, when she took her child in her arms and hurried to the residence of her colored friend, Mr. Thompson. After remaining there a short time, Smyth, it is alleged, forcibly entered Thompson's house, and while complainant was endeavoring to escape with her child the accused struck her on the back, causing the child to fall from her arms down a stone stoop, followed by the mother, who fell upon the child. The mother was not dangerously injured, but the child received such bruises that convulsions ensued and it died on Sunday morning about five o'clock. Elizabeth Anderson, another colored witness, corroborated the previous testimony, adding that the accused also assaulted another woman in the same house at the same time, throwing another child from her arms. Dr. Bodine deposed that he made a post mortem examination on Sunday afternoon; found no indication of injury on the external surface of the body; the organs in the thoracic and abdominal cavities were sound; found the brain and covering much injected with blood; on the top of the brain there was evidence of inflammation; such a condition of the brain might give rise to convulsions and terminate fatally. The Mayor then asked Smyth what he had to say, at the same time admonishing him to address, making any observations that might be given in evidence against him. Smyth, in reply, said that he had been drinking with several companions on New Year's night, when one of the party suggested that they all should go over to Goosetown, a short distance from the city. They left Guyersville and repaired to the above mentioned place, entered Thompson's house, when the latter struck one of Smyth's comrades. Smyth was about returning the compliment but for the interference of the others, who led him away. He says he was drunk at the time and saw no woman or child at all. The Mayor committed the prisoner without bail to await the action of the Grand Jury. Bosley James, Caleb Coward, George Johnston and Augustus Freeman were next charged with having committed an assault and battery on a colored brother named Edward Thompson on New Years' night. The complainant had a severe cut over the left eye, inflicted by one of the accused during the *melee* in which the child got killed. Coward gave bail; the rest were committed in default of bail to await the action of the Grand Jury.

FASHIONABLE WEDDING A LA MILITAIRE.—The wedding of General Winger Swayne and Miss Ellen Harris, of Louisville, recently, was a fine affair. The bridesmaids were Miss Eugenia Harris, Miss Donnison, daughter of the ex-Governor of Ohio, Miss Swayne, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Kelly, of Columbus, Ohio; while General Swayne's staff consisted of his former contrabands in arms, Colonel Charles Wharton, Colonel Fredenberg, Colonel Brewer and Mr. Swayne, Chief Justice Swayne, of Alabama, father of the bridegroom, was present. The newly married, and hence happy couple, are to reside at Columbus, Ohio.

RECORD OF CRIME.

The Alarming Frequency of Murders—The Necessity for the Appointment of a "Murder Detective."

[From the Philadelphia Press, Jan. 4.]

The necessity for a murder detective has been heretofore referred to in these columns. The developments in the Twitchell case have been so startling that we are induced to recur to the subject again. A brutal murder has occurred, and policeman arrives, but he does not understand his business, and not until a citizen drives him to the performance of his duty does he take the murderer in custody. The prisoner is lodged at the station house, but the lieutenant does not see him until the next morning. Now here is the absence of the head of one department.

A citizen goes to the Central station and outdistancing the telegraph gives notice of the murder. Mr. Warnock, who is not a detective, but merely a night watchman and receiving the pay of an ordinary policeman, instantly visits the scene of murder, and, considering he does not receive the pay of a detective, he acquits himself in a very satisfactory manner. The chief of the detective force does not reach the scene of murder until ten o'clock the next morning, and here is the head of another department.

Policemen are left in the house during the fatal night, and consider, no doubt, that as women are therein it would be indelicate for them to be in the same room with them, so they permit one of the principal witnesses for the Commonwealth, one of the supposed murderers, and the father of the other supposed murderer, to pass the night in a room by themselves, fire and gas being at hand to destroy anything they might please to do. The father of the prisoner is permitted to take his departure, unmolested, at any moment he pleases, and selects the hour of five A. M. to leave.

Now, while we do not attribute any improper actions to this father, nevertheless cases may arise where another party allowed the run of a house under such circumstances might commit great harm.

The most extraordinary movement is the surrender by the Coroner of the bloody premises to the prisoner's representatives, and when the Commonwealth's officers desire to visit them they must obtain the leave of the prisoner so to do.

The next extraordinary movement of law officers is the furnishing to the prisoner a policeman to guard the premises, he being paid by the prisoner to do so. This same policeman practises a deception upon his brother officer and hastens into court to make believe that the latter told a deliberate lie.

It is most extraordinary how a conviction occurred in this case, with so much of the machinery of the law against the Commonwealth. Again college after college emptied their professors in the court room, the Jefferson faculty for the first time recognizing the Philadelphia University, which appeared to be the centre of perversion of medical evidence. When Anton Probst sat in the dock policemen brought in hammers and axes as the tools with which he committed the murder. When George S. Twitchell, Jr., sat in the dock eminent professors of surgery brought in pokers of all kinds and sizes to show that Twitchell did not commit the murder. So earnest and excited did one of these young surgeons become that at one time we thought he would ask permission of the Court to take a live subject and batter his head to corroborate the theory of a skull readily bending a poker. Surgeons are said to be void of feeling; but so wedded to their profession were some of these gentlemen that a practical demonstration would have been made, no doubt, had not the doctors of the law known the prisoner would have had to place the subject in the same position Mrs. Hill was in when she received her wounds. This would all have been good for the doctors, no doubt, but very bad for the prisoner had he offered his practical knowledge against mere theory.

The Commonwealth asked John F. Starr, of Camden, N. J., to give some information he possessed, but the officer bearing the request says Mr. Starr told him "he thought it a piece of exquisite impertinence in the District Attorney of Philadelphia to ask him any question, as he did not recognize the authority of the Pennsylvania court to command him." On the other hand, Gloucester county voluntarily sent forth its citizens in behalf of the prisoner. Volunteers from Philadelphia were found by the prisoner to do any little work required, but the Commonwealth had to resort to subpœna and attachment. Kid gloved young gentlemen endeavored to make the purlieus of the dock respectable by their presence, and the prisoner was the most wonderful compound of frigid humanity that ever occupied the place. Probst laughed once during his trial, and that was when a brazen woman gave in her testimony. Twitchell had a laugh and smile every moment for his young friends, but the moment a woman approached him to shake hands his face became as solemn looking as an undertaker's. He smoked his cigar after his meals with all the coolness of a philosopher, and on one occasion while sitting in the dock smoking before the opening of the court, turned to an officer and said:—"This looks cool, don't it?"

Carriages were provided for the conveyance of the prisoner to court, and in some instances a single officer brought him up in a passenger car. The Sheriff finally, awakened to a sense of his responsibility, brought the van into requisition, taking the precaution to guard it with the officers directly responsible to him.

The prisoner's counsel were peculiarly faithful to him, and nothing more than was done could possibly have been exerted in his behalf. Everything that human ingenuity could devise was brought into practical use, and a book of hypotheses might be written on the defence.

A striking feature of this case is the evidence of two of the servant girls, who seemed to be of the intelligence office breed and lived not long at any one place. If statements of other girls who have heard one, at least, of these women talk of the Hills and Twitchells could have been given by the Commonwealth a strange contradiction would have been the result. So long as our citizens employ servants at intelligence places they take all the risks of their swearing. In this case they swear for the prisoner and directly against she who paid them and associated with them at nights. In the next case they may reverse their style of swearing.

When the law shall compel intelligence offices to keep a record of the residences of servant girls both prosecution and defence may be benefited. As it is now the name and residence of the employer is taken, but the employe is a blank to the intelligence agent after he gets her a place. A record of her residence might be advantageous in testing both her veracity and honesty, but no such record is kept.

As Mrs. Twitchell said, the day after her arrest, that she apprehended great fears of her husband's committing suicide, perhaps the officials of the County Prison had better look after a very fine knife which the prisoner sported in court.

In conclusion, we may suggest to Chief Detective Enen that he be on the alert in murder cases and not be shirked out of the execution of his duties because a woman figures in it. Detectives do not fancy giving time to murder cases when other things pay better, and in all administrations within our knowledge they have been stirred to energy, as a general thing, and not stepped forth willingly to unravel a murder case. The prompt appointment of an officer whose duty shall be the investigation of murder cases will undoubtedly meet the approbation of the community, as, besides being the thing most required, it will break up the jealousies which for many years have existed between lieutenants and their men towards the detective branch.

Heavy Highway Robbery in Norfolk, Va.—Ten Thousand Dollars Stolen from an Express Agent—The Suspected Parties.

[From the Norfolk Virginian, Jan. 1.]

Yesterday (Thursday) morning our city was thrown into a state of considerable excitement by the announcement that Mr. Edward H. King, agent of the Virginia Express Company in this city, while on his way to the depot of the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad, at four o'clock in the morning, had been knocked down and robbed of a large sum of money—stated to be between $10,000 and $11,000. Mr. King states that he had the money in an account book in his breast pocket, and while walking swiftly to the depot, and just in the act of passing the mouth of King's lane, he was assaulted by two men, one of whom struck him a severe blow on the back of the head, knocking him senseless. While in this condition he was robbed of the money, and his assailants, whom he could not recognize, made their escape. As soon as he recovered sufficiently he gave the alarm, and was assisted by one of the police to the National Hotel. By this time the robbers had disappeared, leaving no trace of their whereabouts. Mr. King was afterwards taken to his room, on the corner of Maine street and Pepper's lane, where his injuries were attended to by Dr. Murray, who described them as a contused wound on the back of the head, slightly breaking the skin, but not fracturing the skull, and symptoms of blows in the pit of the stomach, as from kicks. When taken to his room he was slightly delirious, but under medical treatment he soon revived and was able to give the above particulars. The money was drawn from the Exchange National Bank the day previous on a check drawn by H. V. Tompkins in favor of Edward H. King, agent of the Virginia Express Company. He took it to his office, and yesterday morning was on his way to the depot to transmit it to its destination when the robbery was committed.

It will be remembered that Mr. King was assaulted some weeks since near the corner of Cumberland and Charlotte streets by two men, one white and the other black, about ten o'clock at night, on his return from the depot. At that time he was successful in defending himself, and drove off his assailants. He was constantly armed, and says that if he had had the slightest warning he would have prevented the robbery.

So much for one side of this rather strange affair; now for the other. During the day suspicions became aroused that the matter was not as clear as it should be, and at the instance of parties that, to the best of their belief, the perpetrators of the robbery were none other than King and some of his friends, warrants were issued, and, upon the strength of them, Thomas Potts, an employé in the same office; Henry Townsend, a youth of bad reputation in the city; and an intimate acquaintance of Potts, Maud Delarue, a woman of ill fame, with whom King is known to have been cohabiting, were arrested and lodged in jail to await further examination as accessories to the robbery—their bail being fixed at $5,000 each, which at a late hour they had not succeeded in giving. A warrant was also issued for the arrest of King as a principal in the robbery; but owing to his condition he was not removed from his room, and two policemen now keep watch over him to see that he is forthcoming when wanted. Search warrants were issued for the search of several suspected houses, but with what result we have not learned, except that in the trunk of Maud Delarue was found notes to the amount of $100, but whether they were a portion of the money stolen we are unable to state.

It is not improper to state that Mr. King is of a highly respectable family and connection in the city of Richmond, upon whom this imputation will fall with crushing effect.

Since writing the above we have seen a despatch from the officers of the company, in Richmond, directed to the chief of police of this city, telling the officers to take immediate steps in the matter. The above news will astonish the senders of the despatch, who can have no idea what active steps have been taken.

The Attempted Murder of a Congressman in Mississippi.

[From the Vicksburg Republican, Dec. 27.]

Hon. George C. McKee, member of Congress elect from this Congressional district, left this city on Monday last to hold the Register's Bankrupt Court at Natchez on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday evening, when the packet steamer Robert E. Lee landed at Natchez General McKee, having finished his official business, came on board of her to return to this city. Having seated himself near the stove in the cabin he was attacked by a gang of armed ruffians, one of whom struck him a blow with an iron poker, breaking his collar bone. He drew his pistol and shot one of the assailants in the hip, wounding him only slightly. Several shots were fired at him by the party, but without effect. Such was the coolness and determination exhibited by General McKee that the whole party were finally routed and driven off the boat. It is said that the person who was wounded is no other than the notorious Hewett, who, only a short time since, was tried and sentenced to the penitentiary by a military commission in this city for tarring and feathering the teacher of a colored school near Natchez, and who was released by Judge Hill on habeas corpus, since which time he and his comrade, McIlvaine, have received the most nauseating plaudits of the rebel press. We learn also, by a private despatch, that Hewett was afterward arrested by the military authorities, and is now a prisoner in the fort and that General McKee is out of danger.

Alleged Heavy Defalcation in Virginia—Arrest of the Suspected Party—Bail Required in $10,000.

[From the Richmond Enquirer, Jan. 4.]

It has been suspected for several months past that Rawly W. Hobson, late deputy collector of internal revenue in the Danville district, was a defaulter to the government for a large amount of money, but these suspicions had not assumed a definite form until a few days since. On Thursday last District Attorney Beach was put in possession of sufficient facts to enable him to make application to United States Commissioner Chahoon for a warrant for Hobson's arrest. The warrant was issued at eight o'clock on Thursday night last, and charges that while deputy collector of the Danville district he converted to his own use and failed to pay over to the government the sum of $26,000 in currency.

The warrant was sent to Danville on Friday and placed in the hands of the deputy marshal of the district, John W. McKinney, who executed it on Saturday morning by arresting Hobson. He was brought to this city on the Danville train and taken before Commissioner Chahoon at his private residence, between eight and nine o'clock on Saturday night. The circumstances of the case were heard and the Commissioner decided to release