

THE POLICE BUSINESS OF CHICAGO.

Annual Report of the Police Commissioners.

EXPENSE OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Below, we present a summary of the First Annual Report of the Police Commissioners. It will be found interesting as giving an accurate and detailed statement of the police business of Chicago under the new regime; its expenses; the business of the Police Court; what it has accomplished the past year and the prospects for the new year, providing the Supreme Court decision, yet to be given, continues the Commissioners in office. The facts presented are worthy of perusal and consideration, and furnish abundant food for reflection and digestion.

We first give the more important portions of the Commissioners' report as subjoined, and following it the General Superintendent's report to the Commissioners:

Presented to the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Chicago in Common Council assembled:

The Police Commissioners for the City of Chicago, in pursuance of the requirements of the twenty-ninth section of the act entitled "an act to establish a Board of Police in and for the City of Chicago, and to prescribe their powers and duties," approved Feb. 21st, 1861, present herewith their first annual report.

By the provisions of the act under which the Board was created, the first Commissioners of Police for the city of Chicago, were to be nominated by the Governor of the State, and by, and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appointed. The first Commissioners are to hold their offices respectively, two, four, and six years, and until their successors are elected; their salary is to be such as shall be determined by the Common Council of the city of Chicago. Their powers and duties are prescribed by the act creating the Commissioners.

The undersigned were, on the 23d day of February, 1861, appointed the first Commissioners of Police for the city of Chicago, and subsequent to that time accepted of the office to which they were appointed.

It was not the intention of the Police Commissioners to interfere with the police organization of the city during the term of office of the administration then in power, which would expire on the first Monday in May, A. D. 1861. On the morning of the twenty-sixth day of March, 1861, the undersigned were informed that the then Mayor had discharged all but one of the policemen then in the employ of the city, and this Board was immediately by this act compelled to assume and enter upon the discharge of their duties. The first regular meeting of the Board was held on that day. At this meeting the terms of office for the Commissioners were determined by lot, in pursuance of the requirements of section two of the act in question, and the Board was organized by the appointment of A. C. Coventry as President, and William Wayman as Treasurer. From that day the police of the city of Chicago have been under the charge of this Board.

On the organization of the Board, Mr. Jacob Rehm was appointed Deputy Superintendent and Acting Superintendent. He continued to perform the duties of General Superintendent until May 1st, 1861, when Mr. Cyrus P. Bradley was appointed General Superintendent. Mr. Rehm continued to act as Deputy Superintendent until October 15th, 1861, when he resigned: and we desire here to state that the resignation of Mr. Rehm was accepted by this Board with extreme reluctance, and that in the opinion of the undersigned, much of the efficiency of the force under their charge is due to the able manner in which he performed the duties of his office.

Here follows a copy of the ordinance passed at the late Constitutional Convention relative to the election of city officers, in regard to which, the Report says:

At the late election, a majority of the voters of the city of Chicago voted "For the City of Chicago electing its own Officers." Grave questions having risen as to the power of the Constitutional Convention to enact the ordinance in question, the undersigned submitted the question to their legal advisers for advice and direction. The opinions of these gentlemen, in whom this Board has the greatest confidence, will be found in the pamphlet herewith submitted [see Supplement.] The undersigned have been at all times, and still are willing and desirous to render every aid in their power to a speedy and final decision by the Supreme Court of the State, of the question raised. Until such decision is rendered, the undersigned, in accordance with the advice of eminent counsel, will continue to discharge the duties of their office.

The undersigned desire to return thanks to the Mayor and Comptroller for the aid they have rendered to the Board during the past year.

The General Superintendent is well known to all the members of your honorable body. He has attended to the duties of his office faithfully and ably. To the officers and men under his charge we desire also to bear testimony. Each and all of them are deserving of special notice.

Yours respectfully,
 A. C. COVENTRY,
 WM. WAYMAN,
 FREDERICK TUTTLE.

From the report of the General Superintendent of Police we gather many interesting facts. The total arrests for the last quarter have been 1987 and the amount of fines assessed, \$8,274, being 145 less arrests and \$430 less fines than the previous quarter. The total arrests for the year have been 8,782 and the total amount of fines assessed, \$32,182.

EXPENSE.

The pay of the regular force has been \$3,332 less than the appropriation for that purpose, the pay and salaries amounting to \$41,368, while if the force had been full, the amount would have been \$43,700. The other expenses of the Department have been \$12,199.60, making the total expenditure \$53,567.39. Of the \$128,199.60, \$49,54 was paid to special policemen for guarding prisoners at Camp Douglas; \$881 to special force for elections, State Fair, etc.; \$2,519.31 for repairs upon station houses; \$894.75 for furniture and bedding; \$1,237.84 for gas, water and fuel; \$601.43 for stationery; \$1,463.88 for Mayor's police and the balance of the amount for incidental expenses. There are left unexpended \$13,629.95 to apply on the fiscal year of 1862.

STRENGTH OF FORCE.

The present force consists of a general Superintendent of Police, three Captains, six Sergeants, fifty-nine patrolmen and one constable specially appointed. The report very strongly and upon well grounded reasons urges an increase of the force at least one half. The report, however, shows most satisfactory results, considering the size of the force, and augurs well for the coming year.

INCIDENTS.

During the year there have been arrested 2,744 males and 2,038 females, of whom 3,809 were married, 206 single, and 1,767 unknown. Of the whole number, 1,836 were discharged in the Police Court, 255 discharged upon payment of costs, 308 held to bail upon criminal charges, 19 sent to County Agent, 23 to the Home of the Friendless, 68 to the Reform School, 6,238 fined in Police Court, 4 married in the Police Court, 1 sent to Detroit, 2 committed suicide in the station-houses, 23 escaped from station-houses, 3 escaped from Bridewell, 1 sent to Magdalene Asylum, and to City Hospital.

NATIONALITIES.

The nationalities of the prisoners were as follows:

Americans.....	1423	Africans.....	407
Bohemians.....	4	Canadians.....	61
English.....	287	French.....	93
German.....	847	Hollanders.....	11
Irish.....	3532	Italians.....	30
Jews.....	6	Norwegians.....	36
Prussians.....	4	Polanders.....	4
Scotch.....	140	Swedes.....	24
Welch.....	16	Unknown.....

OCCUPATIONS.

The occupations of those arrested will be found below, and form a curious collection for the moralist:

Agents 8; auctioneers 1; artists 4; actors 1; architects 4; bartenders 47; bookkeepers 14; blacksmiths 79; butchers 108; boatmen 35; barbers 16; bakers 21; boiler makers 10; baggage-men 1; bankers 2; brewers 8; basket makers 2; bridge tenders 3; bill posters 3; button makers 2; carpenters 173; coopers 27; clerks 83; chairmakers 1; confectioners 7; cigar makers 20; cabinet makers 4; constables 1; caulkers 6; cooks 82; copper smiths 4; collectors 7; carriage makers 13; chambermaids 6; draymen 35; druggists 7; doctors 6; drovers 2; drummers 1; dentists 2; engineers 13; expressmen 29; editors 2; farmers 42; firemen 2; gas fitters 13; grocers 24; gardeners 2; gamblers 2; grain merchants 3; hotel keepers 7; house movers 3; hackmen 182; housekeepers 352; harness makers 15; horse dealers 3; junk dealers 1; lawyers 9; liquor merchants 8; livery stable keepers 6; laborers 1829; lock smiths 1; lumbermen 6; lithographers 1; lamp lighters 3; moulders 22; masons 51; milliners 2; machinists 42; milkmen 1; merchants 54; millers 8; music teachers 3; miners 1; musicians 52; newsboys 36; nail makers 2; ostlers 10; porters 6; pawnbrokers 1; plumbers 5; photographers 1; packers 2; piano-makers 1; painters 46; printers 83; prostizotes 77; peddlers 75; paper-hangers 5; plasterers 9; pin setters in ball alleys 4; paper carriers 2; railroad employees 82; runners 12; rope makers 1; roofers 3; saloon keepers 181; ship-carpenters 10; shoemakers 50; soldiers 455; sailors 586; servants 191; sempstresses 15; stone cutters 26; students 9; sailmakers 2; school teachers 1; soapmakers 5; showmen 5; scavengers 2; saw filers 1; stage drivers 1; shingle makers 1; silver platers 1; tailors 64; tanners 1; telegraph operators 7; tin smiths 7; teamsters 83; tinners 5; upholsters 4; vinegar manufacturers 2; wagon makers 6; washerwomen 66; wood-sawyers 4; watch makers 6; waiters 3; white-washers 67; wheelwrights 2; whip makers 1; trawmakers 3; weavers 1; unknown 2,696; total 8,732.