

Brooklyn Dead: Narratives of Crime, Poverty, and Death from the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*

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The following passages are transcriptions from death, crime, and other social-interest notices that ran—most often in tiny segments under the banner of “City News & Gossip”—in the *Brooklyn Daily Eagle*, a nineteenth-century newspaper located in Brooklyn, New York, the contents of which are currently available online at <http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/eagle>. I came across them while doing research for another project, a study of murder, crime, poverty, and death among the lower classes in nineteenth-century Brooklyn: piecing together day-to-day reports of murder trials—always narrated anonymously, in voices that are often outraged, often sentimental, often sensational—I kept coming back to the shorter, more restrained and eloquent (and frequently funny) death and crime notices, in which the end of someone’s life is told with a brevity and vividness that turn the story into something akin to a biblical or mythological tale, something that impressed itself on me indelibly, moved me, haunted me.

Part of it is the unrelenting grimness of the following pieces, their incessant featuring of crime, violence, and death, and the picture they draw of a massive, rapidly transforming metropolis full of dangers not only of the moral—drinking, stealing, fighting, killing—but of the physical, the existential, as well. Brooklyn is a live presence in these narratives, a chthonic deity that often claims a human victim for its netherworldly rites: the city is an unremittingly hostile force that comes at its citizens in all sorts of frightening ways, as holes in the ground, stampeding horses, falling masonry, and the ubiquitously deadly dueling elements, twin ravagers of a wooden city by the sea, fire and water. The theme of the dangerous urban environment is nothing new, and one can situate these narratives alongside, say, depictions of the perils of nineteenth-century Paris in Émile Zola’s *L’Assommoir* and *Nana*, or in the poems of Baudelaire; but these short tales have a parable-like quality that arises directly from their compressed form, a stylistic constraint unimaginable in the sprawling realistic and naturalistic novels of the nineteenth century. The narratives capture, at its moment of impact, the myriad eruptions of violence into the everyday, and the effects of this otherworldly—in its power, its suddenness—violence on its victims. Read together, they come to resemble some American mirror version of tragic mythology, like the catalog of the dead in Homer’s *Odyssey*—all who, like the silent actors of the death notices, pray mutely to tell their story, only speaking after drinking the fresh blood of living inquiry: a constellation of victims, whose stories speak with a brutal simplicity.

This simplicity comes through despite the strident moralizing of the *Eagle*’s anonymous writers, and despite a gap in empathy and outlook that yawns between that time and ours like a chasm. As Luc Sante writes in his edition of Félix Fénéon’s lapidary journalistic gems *Novels in Three Lines* (an

influence on this work), “just-the-facts impersonality had not yet been ratified as the official journalistic voice, which meant that pompous rhetoric and uninformed blather was often the norm in newspaper prose”¹: thus many of the following pieces are tediously written, their Victorian positivist pieties conflicting violently with their bloody tabloid sensationalism—an often hyperinflated style perfect for the teeming streets of nineteenth-century Brooklyn and the thriving nation at large. The attitudinizing has its own value as cultural anthropology, a map of the *imago mundi* of precariously employed pieceworkers in the exploding print media industry, given voices but not names and acting as anonymous antennae for the morbid fears and lurid dreams of their middle class readers. It’s as if all the Bartlebys and all the starving Melvilles had broken into print at once, a network of snarky bloggers *avant la lettre*. The poor seem at times less a fact of social life for these writers than as excuses for them to vent anxieties about class, ethnicity, race, disease, and social mobility, those perennial bogeymen of the nineteenth century.

It’s not for nothing that Walt Whitman was the editor of the *Eagle* from March 1846 to January 1848,² as many parts of his lifetime poetic project, *Leaves of Grass*, read as free-versified renditions of the *Eagle*’s tiny articles. Consider this part from Whitman’s prose preface of the original 1855 edition of *Leaves*, in which he elaborates on his vision of the mystic interconnectedness of all facets of a human life, a frequent theme of his panoramic catalogs of people, professions, placenames, and passions:

All that a person does or thinks is of consequence. Not a move can a man or woman make that affects him or her in a day or a month or any part of the direct lifetime or the hour of death but the same affects him or her onward afterward through the indirect lifetime. The indirect is always as great and real as the direct. The spirit receives from the body just as much as it gives to the body. Not one name of word or deed . . . [sic] not of venereal sores or discolorations . . . not the privacy of the onanist . . . not of the putrid veins of gluttons or rumdrinkers . . . not speculation or cunning or betrayal or murder . . . no serpentine poison of those that seduce women . . . not the foolish yielding of women . . . not prostitution . . . not of any depravity of young men . . . not of the attainment of gain by discreditable means . . . not any nastiness of appetite . . . not any harshness of officers to men or judges to prisoners or fathers to sons or sons to fathers or of husbands to wives or bosses to their boys . . . not of greedy looks or malignant wishes . . . nor any of the wiles practised by people upon themselves . . . ever is or ever can

¹ Luc Sante, “Introduction” to Félix Fénéon’s *Novels in Three Lines*, trans. Luc Sante (New York: New York Review of Books, 2007), xxix.

² Thomas L. Brasher, *Whitman as Editor of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle* (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1970), 17. For Whitman’s work as editor *qua* the murder and crime notices, see *ibid.*, 140-54. For Whitman’s look at the subject of death generally, and urban death in particular, see David S. Reynolds, *Walt Whitman’s America: A Cultural Biography* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1995), 238-40.

be stamped on the programme but it is duly realized and returned,
and that returned in further performances . . . and they returned
again.³

Some of these images reappear in the poem proper in the section addressing the night:

The wretched features of ennuyees, the white features of corpses,
the livid faces of drunkards, the sick-gray faces of onanists,
The gashed bodies on battlefields, the insane in their strong-doored
rooms, the sacred idiots,
The newborn emerging from gates and the dying emerging from
gates,
The night pervades them and enfolds them. (Whitman 107)

The long list of hidden ills, social and bodily, reads like the red-light imaginary of the nineteenth century, aglow with various enticements and threats to middle-class respectability and security. Sexually transmitted disease, masturbation, alcoholism, theft, murder: all indelible facets of nineteenth-century Brooklyn, and all breathlessly covered in the *Eagle's* short, vivid notices. Just as Whitman's attitudes toward slavery, states' rights, and American expansion were affected by the Democratic politics of the *Eagle*, so, too, were his social attitudes, his all-embracing view of the dark places of the nineteenth-century city, and his emphasis on poverty, disease, and death as part of the generative and destructive forces of nature, one vast tidal democratic force.⁴

Sante, in comparing Feneon's elegant prose epigrams to the versified newspaper poems of Charles Reznikoff, writes of the two texts' testimony to the horrors and human wreckage on the road of technological progress, their elegant witness to the sufferings of the vanished dead. The same could be said of the *Eagle's* best narratives: "[They] give the impression of showing a vast succession of lit windows, a nation's worth of them, through which appalling scenes can be viewed by horrified but impotent readers. Like random photographs found in a trunk, [they] preserve the shadow of a great many people who may not otherwise have left surviving traces of their passage on earth. [They] demonstrate that violence, misery, chicanery, and insanity exist in a continuum that spans human history; they prove that there never was a golden age" (Sante xxxi). A textual cityscape, then, of garishly lit scenes, a city confined—like the poor to their tenements—to the gossip columns on the back pages, away from the respectable front-page news of excursion societies and charitable concerts; but nevertheless still exerting, like its real-life counterpart, a hypnotic pull on the imaginations of the well-off, sheltered citizens moving about outside. Each narrative proves Virgil's adage *facilis descensus Averno* (literally, it's easy to descend to Avernus, the entrance to the Roman underworld, easy to die). The subjects of the following

³ Walt Whitman, "Introduction" to *Leaves of Grass*, in *Walt Whitman: Complete Poetry and Selected Prose*, ed. Justin Kaplan (New York: The Library of America, 1982), 21-22.

⁴ Reynolds, 240, who calls this phenomenon "an ongoing resurrection and a democratic exchange of substances inherent in nature."

narratives make these journeys endlessly, in endlessly different yet repeating patterns. The narrative have been arranged loosely by theme, in an effort to give a sense of the richness of their subject matter, and a more musical or fugal sense, rather than a strict documentary one, of the texts; interspersed throughout are both shorter and longer passages that are somehow emblematic of the project as a whole, or that shed interesting light on the other stories. All accidentals of the originals, including spelling, punctuation, and even, wherever possible, basic typographical layout and design, have been kept intact. Dates have been added, but pages omitted, the *Eagle* being only four pages (except for rare holiday editions), and the crime notices always appearing on the third and fourth pages.

9 June 1855: A Disorderly School.—Two youngsters attending the school in Livingston street, between Sidney place and Clinton st, were taken into custody yesterday by Officer Brokaw, of the First District Police, for making use of unbecoming language, and insulting females in the street. It is complained that the boys attending the school are in the daily habit of insulting girls as they pass by, and indulge in other innocent amusements, such as running down people on the sidewalk, over-running private grounds, yelling, hooting, and other boyish capers, much to the annoyance of the neighborhood. The two arrested were discharged by the captain on promise of better behavior.

17 July 1869: Assault with a Slung-Shot.—Gustavus Hornell, residing at the corner of Myrtle avenue and Raymond street, was assaulted by several young ruffians, near his residence, at about half-past five o'clock yesterday afternoon. Mr. Hornell, who can assign no reason from the brutal treatment to which he was subjected, was severely beaten, and was struck upon his head with a slung-shot. He was conveyed to the City Hospital by Officers Lee and Smith, of the Forry-Fourth Precinct. The ruffianly assailants fled, and have not since been arrested.

22 October 1860: Ruffianism.—Wm. Wallace, John Crawley and James Larkins were brought up before Justice Cornwell this morning to answer the complaint of Rosanna Wyman, a respectable and matronly looking woman, who charged that they forced their way into her apartment on Saturday night and again on yesterday, and then and there kicked up a muss generally, called her foul names and placed her in bodily fear,—so much so that on their second visit she concealed herself under a bed, leaving an old woman with a child in her hands to confront the desperadoes. The answer to this was that they went there by invitation. This was indignantly denied by the complainant, who said that she was no street walker, as they pretended to believe ; in short, they were altogether mistaken in the character of the lady. The Justice administered a severe reprimand, observing that even if it were as surmised by them they had no right to molest her. As no assault had actually been committed, he must discharge them, although their conduct had been very gross.

11 June 1855: Incendiarism.—An attempt was made to set fire to the house of Wm. W.G. Haynes, in 3rd avenue, on Saturday night last. The incendiary broke through the back window, placed a quantity of combustible material in a heap and set it on fire. It was discovered in time to prevent mischief.

8 July 1852: On Wednesday a man named Wm. Long was fined \$5 for exploding fire crackers on the Fourth. He had been firing the crackers in the neighborhood of Mr. Hall's residence where a little girl was lying at the point of death, and refused to move away. The child died the following day.

17 May 1858: A Shooting Affair.—Ann McNichol was arrested on Saturday afternoon, by officer Thinkham, of the 5th precinct, for having, on the night previous, shot a man named William Cringle, one of the crew of a boat belonging to a revenue cutter. Mrs. McNichol lives on board the coal barge Heron, lying at the foot of North 10th st. It appears that on Friday evening a boat came off from

the revenue cutter, lying near the place, with one of the officers, and while waiting for the officer, Cringle commenced joking with the prisoner. The boat soon after left, when she took a gun from the cabin and fired a charge of shot after it, which took effect in Cringle's arm. She says it was all in a joke and she did not intend any harm. She was held for examination.

8 August 1870: Accidentally Shot.—Last evening, about 8 o'clock, a girl named Mary Dunn, aged fourteen years, residing in Fifteenth street, between Tenth and Eleventh avenues, was accidentally shot in the right arm by some unknown man while walking along the street.

12 February 1857: A pistol bullet was shot into a bed room of the house No. 93 Wilson street, in which the occupant and his wife lay. It could hardly have been fired by an assassin, and if it was the result of a reckless use of fire-arms in the street, whoever was guilty of it ought to be severely punished if discovered.

5 November 1857: Fatal Result of an Accident.—Charles Gorzork the young man who was accidentally shot near Greenwood cemetery on Friday by a companion with whom he was out gunning, died at the Hospital yesterday from the injuries then received.

15 May 1858: The Late Fatal Affray.—On a warrant issued by the Coroner, Daniel McDermott and Henry Devlin were arrested yesterday afternoon on a charge of being accessories to the death of Peter Deiher, who was beaten to death by Michael Conway. The inquest was held yesterday afternoon by Coroner Bennett, Coroner Cozine being sick. It appears from the testimony the above named parties urged Conway to beat Deiher, after the latter had shot him, Conway not being aware at the time that he was hurt. McDermott and Devlin were committed for examination.—Conway is better this morning, and it is thought that he may recover. The ball is lodged in the upper part of his head and may not be removed. He was not aware that he had been shot until one of the men told him.

22 October 1860: Stabbing Affray.—About 12 o'clock on Saturday night, two men, named Michael Phinester and John Bears, got into a fight in Graham avenue, in the course of which they were both seriously injured—Bears, it is feared, fatally, he having received a stab in the forehead with a knife. Phinester was arrested by officer Lattenvile of the 6th precinct, and locked up to await an examination.

12 October 1857: Stabing [sic] Affray.—An altercation took place yesterday afternoon in the cow stables at the foot of North Fifth street, E. D. between two men named Patrick Blake and William Murphy, during which Blake drew a knife and stabbed Murphy in the side, making a wound which it is feared, will prove fatal. Blake was arrested by the Fifth District Police.

8 July 1863: Brutal Fellows.—Officer Riggs, of the 41st, last evening found two men named Charles Giddings and Joseph Smith fighting in Adams street. The offence was aggravated by the fact that they were fighting in a canine manner,

with their teeth. Justice Perry, this morning, fined them \$10 each.

17 May 1855: Assault with a Pitchfork.—This morning a young man named Con. McColland was brought before Justice Curtis on the charge of assaulting Mr. Joseph Edwards with a pitchfork. It appears he came into Mr. Edwards' yard, in De Bevois street, with a waggon and commenced loading it with manure without leave of the owner. On being remonstrated with he stabbed Edwards in the leg with a pitchfork. He was committed to jail for a hearing.

8 July 1865: Threatening to Shoot his Wife.—The hot weather has greatly excited the German mind down about Hamilton avenue. John Rip, greatly excited last evening, threatened, while drunk, to kill his wife with a pistol at their residence in Bush street, near Hamilton avenue. He beat her, as a preliminary, over the head, and, in fear of her life, she called in Officer Temple, of the 43d precinct police, who, after a severe tussle, succeeded in arresting him. He was brought before Justice Walsh, and fined \$10 for being drunk and disorderly. At the expiration of this term, he will be placed under \$300 bonds to keep the peace towards all wives, his own in particular. Margaret Rip has papers of separation from her John, but he won't keep away, and all she wants is that he should "never come home not no more forever." Rip still persists that he will "fix" her. Exactly what that means, only those who have been fixed can comprehend. John is now minus his fire-arms, and for the time in safe keeping.

4 January 1862: Beat his own Flesh and Blood.—In Justice Boerum's Court, this morning, Patrick Ryan was fined \$10 for giving his wife "particular fits." Pat wanted "sat," and charged Elizabeth Gilleear, his wife's daughter by a previous husband, with assaulting him. It appearing, however, that she merely interfered for the protection of her mother, naturally enough, the charge was dismissed.

11 June 1855: A Brutal Husband.—Peter McCanner was arrested by Assistant Captain Stewart, last evening, for assaulting his wife in a brutal manner. Not satisfied with knocking her down and kicking her when prostrate, he pitched her out of a two story window, whereby she sustained injuries of an alarming character. She was attended to by Dr. Robbins and the husband was locked up to await the result of the injuries.

2 October 1855: Saocking [*sic*] Occurrence.—A Woman Killed and a Man Seriously Injured.—A melancholy accident occurred in Portland avenue near Park avenue yesterday which involves the death of a woman and serious injuries to her husband. The occupants of the premises consists of the family of Mr. John Lewis, a Daguerrotypist, doing business in Chatham st., New York. Mr. Lewis has for some time past been confined to his house in consequence of fever and ague. At times he became delirious and unmanageable, and yesterday morning, being overtaken by one of these spells he imagined that his speedy exit thro' the third story window was necessary in order to save himself from some imaginary assassin.

His wife who is a small and delicate woman while he is a large-framed, strong man, attempted to hold him back, but her strength being unequal to the task, she

was dragged out of the window with her husband, around whom she clasped her arms and held on with unequalled tenacity and resolution. Both were precipitated into the rear yard below, a distance of some twenty feet. Some of the neighbors saw the frightful spectacle, but were unable to reach the room in time to avert the melancholy result. The woman struck her head against one of the door steps, and fractured her skull to such an extent that she died almost immediately thereafter. The husband was seriously injured. He was taken to the City Hospital, where he now lies in a precarious condition.

22 October 1860: Relented.—On Saturday night Mrs. Bridget Brennan, of Battle Row, made complaint at the 5th Precinct Station House against her husband, Patrick, who, she said, had appointed a day for her funeral, and as trying to get her ready for it, or, in other words, he had frequently threatened to kill her, and on Saturday night he commenced the operation by striking her on the head with a spruce beer bottle, making a very ugly incision in her skull. Officer Mitchell was sent to Battle Row to take charge of Patrick, who was this morning introduced to Justice Colahan, but his wife, who is of a most forgiving disposition, refused to appear against him, and he was discharged.

17 May 1855: The Dangers of Kissing.—Richard Saltenstail was this morning fined \$10 by Justice Smith for attempting to kiss a young married lady in the street. He pleaded near sightedness in extenuation, having mistaken her for another woman, but it was no go.

12 November 1857: A Woman Found Dead—Suspicion of Foul Play.—Coroner Snell held an inquest last evening, in Greenpoint, upon the body of an unknown woman, found lying dead on the edge of Bushwick creek, near the Maspeth road, on Thursday afternoon. In one of her pockets were found some powders, which upon examination proved to be arsenic. The only witnesses were two colored men, who first discovered the body while out gunning, and gave information to the Coroner. The Jury returned a verdict of death from cause unknown. Shortly after Constable Own Dennin came in and stated that there was a “shindy” at Maspeth the night before Thanksgiving, and the participants were a drunken and noisy set. The neighbors suspect that deceased had attended the dance, and after leaving had been foully dealt with. The body will remain in possession of the undertaker, Mr. Stillwagon, at Greenpoint, until Monday morning, for identification. Deceased appeared to be about 30 years of age, thick set, ordinary height, dark hair. She had on a black dress, new gaiters, and black open-work hat.

15 October 1860: Missing.—A girl named Ellen Lynch, aged ten years, whose parents reside at No. 4 West Warren street, left home on Wednesday morning, October 3d, for school, but was met by another girl who persuaded her to go with her to New York on an errand, and when they returned, it being late, she stayed all night at her friend’s house, whose name is Lawson, and lives in Vine street. She left there on Thursday morning, and has not been heard from since.

17 July 1869: Alleged Attempted Rape upon a Child Three Years of Age.—Thomas Bolton, a bar-keeper, twenty-three years of age, was arrested by Officer

Ryan, of the Forty-Eighth Precinct, last evening, and committed for examination before Justice Delmar, on a charge of attempted rape, preferred by John Kiernan, liquor-dealer, at the corner of Third avenue and Sixteenth street, who alleges that the accused, who is employed by him, committed the alleged attempt upon his little daughter, a child only three years of age, at his saloon yesterday afternoon. The mother of the child alleges that, at the time in question, she entered the saloon, and found the accused, with the little girl upon his lap, and with his person indecently exposed. The alleged attempt is of such a disgusting and brutal nature that it is hoped that the parents of the child will not shrink from their duty to themselves and to the public, but will firmly prosecute the case, in order that, if the guilt of the accused be established, he may be brought to condign punishment.

17 May 1858: Probable Infanticide.—At an early hour on Saturday the body of a male infant was discovered in a privy in the yard of house No. 394 Fulton avenue. The discovery was made by a man named James Farrell, one of the tenants, who immediately informed officer Casler of the circumstance, and he, upon inquiry among the neighbors, had his suspicions directed to one Ann Sullivan, who had been until recently a domestic in the family of Mr. Faber, who resides on the premises. After considerable trouble he succeeded in tracing her to another house in the neighborhood, where at a late hour on Saturday night she was arrested. He notified Coroner Cozine, and the inquest upon the body was held at the Fourth Precinct Station House yesterday afternoon at two o'clock. The jury rendered a verdict "That the said infant was found dead in a privy on the premises No. 394 Fulton avenue, where we believe it was deposited by the woman calling herself Ann Sullivan, and whom we believe to be the mother of said infant." The prisoner being examined under the statute, answered :—"My name is Ann Sullivan ; I am about twenty-two or twenty-three years of age ; I was born in Ireland ; my occupation is doing housework ; I reside now with Mr. Riley, 398 Fulton avenue. To this charge I have nothing to say but that I know nothing about that child." She was thereupon committed on the charge.

8 June 1855: Supposed Infanticide.—The body of a male infant, about two weeks old, was found in a sink in the rear of a house in Dean street, near Smith, yesterday. Assistant Captain Stiger had it taken up and conveyed to the Dead House: where an inquest will be held this morning.

4 January 1862: Waifs and Strays.—Some boys out larking in the woods at Crow Hill (so called from the absence of crows) yesterday afternoon, discovered the body of a new-born babe among the bushes and notified the police, who brought the body to the 9th precinct station house. Last night the body of a male child, apparently one day old, cased up in a cigar box, was discovered in the same vicinity and brought in by officer Lyons. We could not learn if any Coroner or how many sat upon the bodies, or whether one or more of them had a fight about the spoils.

3 January 1862: Inquest.—Ex-Coroner Horton held an inquest yesterday upon the body of a child two months old, placed at nurse in the family of Jacob Weber, No. 200 Atlantic street, who died rather suddenly of marasmus. The ex-coroner

has so long luxuriated upon the sweets of office that he still continues to “hold on,” albeit the voice of the people has decided against him.

8 July 1852: Melancholy Accident.—Yesterday evening, a child of two and a half years of age, was left by its mother at the door of her dwelling, near the end of Columbia street, on Red Hook Point, while she went a short distance from the house. She had not been absent but a few minutes—but during that time the child tumbled into a pail of soap suds—and on the return of the mother she found it immersed and entirely lifeless. An inquest will be held on the body. The name of the child is Mary Tandy.

17 May 1858: Fatal Accident.—About ten o’clock on Saturday morning, a child two years of age named Thomas Reilly, fell from the third story window of the house, 288 South 3d street, to the ground, and died in a few hours after. Coroner Snell held an inquest, when a verdict of accidental death was rendered.

2 October 1855: A Child Burnt to Death.—Last night an infant, three years of age, the son of John W. Brooks, residing at No. 410 Hudson avenue, was so seriously burned that it died of the effects at an early hour this morning. It was taken to bed by the servant, who stood the lamp in the entry, close to the door. Some time after, the child becoming thirsty, got up, and as it passed the candle the flame caught its night dress and soon enveloped it in flames. Mrs. Munson a neighbor, ran up stairs, and wrapping her dress around the child, smothered the flames, but unfortunately, the assistance had come too late to be of any avail for the child, lingering in intense agony [sic] through the night, expired at 8 o’clock this morning.

8 August 1870: Burned to Death.—Catherine O’Neil, a child eighteen months old, set her clothing on fire while playing at her parents’ residence, No. 37 Hall street, on Saturday night, and was burned to death before the flames could be smothered.

16 July 1870:

BURNED TO DEATH.

Two Fatal Cases of Burning—An Infant Victim—Another Kerosene Explosion.

Miss Margaret Harkins, who, with her mother, was shockingly burned by the explosion of a kerosene lamp, at their residence, No. 41 Stanton street died from the effects of her injuries yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Harkins now lies in a dangerous condition, and will probably die. On Thursday evening, the supply of kerosene oil in the lamp used by Mrs. Harkins and her daughter having almost given out, they undertook to fill it while lighted, the daughter holding the lamp and the mother pouring the oil. The gas generated by the heat ignited, and an explosion was the result, the burning oil being scattered over them, setting fire to their clothing and burning them in a terrible manner.

This occurred notwithstanding all the warnings that have been published with regard to the use (or rather abuse) of kerosene oil, and the long list of victims

burned to death ; and doubtless it will not be long ere other similar casualties are reported. People seem slow to learn by the experience of others.

AN INFANT VICTIM TO FIRE

An inquest was held by Coroner Jones, yesterday afternoon, on the body of Charlotte A. Taylor, aged ten months, who died from the effect of burns, caused by the bed clothes on which she was lying being set on fire at No. 17 Garrison street. The testimony showed that Mrs. Taylor, having occasion to go to a grocery store, left her infant in a crib, and two other children, aged three and five years, playing in the room. Soon afterward, Mrs. Percival, residing in the other apartments in the same house, heard the infant scream, and on going to Mrs. Taylor's room, found the bed clothes in the crib and the infant's clothes in fire, and the little sufferer writhing in agony in the flames. Mrs. Percival extinguished the flames as quickly as possible. The child lingered until yesterday, when death relieved it. Inquiry revealed the fact that the other children had got a box of matches from the mantelpiece and in playing with them had set the bed clothes on fire. They had not presence of mind sufficient to extinguish the flames, or were too frightened to do so. A verdict of death from accidental burns was rendered.

12 February 1857: Shocking Death.—A German woman named Catherine Keinler, residing corner of Graham avenue and DeBevoise street, E. D., was burned to death yesterday. She was sitting by the stove about 10 o'clock A. M., her clothes caught fire ; she lost her presence of mind and ran screaming into the street, enveloped in flames. Some of the neighbors went to her assistance, and tore the burning clothes off her, and took her back to the house, and sent for medical aid. She was so badly burned about the body, that after lingering in great agony until half past one o'clock, when death put an end to her sufferings [*sic*]. Coroner Shell held an inquest on the body last evening, when a verdict in accordance was rendered.

2 January 1862: Another Fluid Business.—An incident, which might have resulted in a "serious accident," occurred in South Brooklyn yesterday. While Miss Hattie Torrey, No. 66 Second Place, was receiving her friends, a fluid lamp, attached to the coffee urn, exploded and took fire. Miss T. immediately seized the urn and endeavored to subdue the flames. A lady friend, with great presence of mind, procured water from a fountain near at hand, and with it succeeded in extinguishing the fire. Although the lady was quite severely burned and her dress utterly ruined, she did not "give it up so," but continued to dispense the hospitalities of the occasion until the close of the day.

15 July 1869: There are 275 widows in Poughkeepsie.

21 May 1858: Mrs. Brown.—Ann Brown, "a lone widdy," addicted to gin toddy, was sent up for a term of ten days by Justice Cornwell.

9 June 1855: Dead Drunk.—Mary O'Connor was brought to the fifth district station house in an insensible condition last night caused by drinking too much

bad liquor. She was taken before Aid. Baker this morning and sentenced to the Penitentiary for 90 days.

22 October 1860: Inebriates.—“Four and twenty bummers all in a row.” Having received their allotted terms, the unfortunate victims of intemperance were conveyed in the elegant prison vehicle commonly called “Black Moll,” to the Penitentiary. There is always experienced great difficulty in persuading this class of suitors that they have exceeded the bounds of a modest hilarity. “Only one glass of beer and a little gin,” is quite sufficient to overcome the strongest constitution! John Hart, who had not tasted liquor since April last, was so overcome by drowsiness that he went to bed on the sidewalk last night, and the officer fearing he might take cold, assisted him to the Station House. Patrick McClusky had a touch of the ould complaint, the gout in his feet, which produced an unsteadiness of gait that the officer mistook for intoxication. He begged hard to be liberated in time to vote for his Honor! Patrick deemed this a clincher, but he went up along with the rest notwithstanding.

12 October 1857: An Unlucky Operation.—A man who was fearful the Brooklyn Savings Bank would “bust up” drew out two hundred dollars on Saturday. He told all the friends he met of his success—drank several times on account of his good luck, got tight and had his pocket picket of all the money he had before he got home. The bank would have taken better care of his money.

17 May 1858: Accident.—About 8 o’clock last evening a man, name unknown, who was partially intoxicated, fell from the top of a stage, at the foot of South Seventh street, and struck against a Railroad car that was passing at the time. He was severely injured about the body. Dr O. J. Smith was called upon to dress his injuries, after which officer Griffith, of the 5th precinct, conveyed him in a carriage to his residence, No. 9 Mulberry [*sic*] street, N. Y.

19 May 1858: Runaway Accident.—Mr. Peter Plunkett was severely injured yesterday afternoon by being thrown from his wagon in 3d avenue. He accidentally drove into an excavation for the sewer, causing his horse to take fright and run away, and throwing him out. He was taken to the 8th precinct station house, where his wounds were dressed and officer Morrell recovered his horse and wagon.

8 June 1855: Child Run Over.—A child was run over by a market wagon driven by Jacob Meetes, on the corner of Hicks and Atlantic sts., this morning. It is supposed to be badly injured. Officer Brokaw, of the 1st district police, arrested the driver, who was locked up to await the result of inquiry.

10 December 1852: A Wicked Brute.—A boy employed in Philips’ grocery store, in Myrtle avenue, corner of Adams street, had his upper lip bitten off yesterday by a horse ; which he happened to approach without being aware of his mischievous propensities. Medical aid was procured and the cut dressed. He is now doing well.

13 July 1869: Kicked by a Horse.—Patrick Downey, a laborer 29 years of age,

employed in excavating a cellar near Leo avenue, E. D., was seriously injured yesterday afternoon by being kicked on the right knee by his horse, the force of which split the knee pan. Officer McKenzie had him conveyed to the City Hospital immediately.

16 July 1869: Death From Lockjaw Superinduced by Injuries.—Julia Van Nott, three years of age, who sustained severe laceration of one of her arms by being run over a week ago, died from lock jaw, at the residence of her parents, No. 237 East Baltic street yesterday. An inquest will be held by Coroner Jones this evening.

2 October 1855: Accident.—Yesterday afternoon, as a German by the name of John Spade was engaged in loading a furniture cart in Schols street, near Leonard, the horses took fright and ran away, entangling him in the reins, and dragging him some distance along the street. He sustained severe injuries, two of his ribs being broken, and his body severely bruised. He was taken to his residence in Division avenue.

15 July 1869: The Fatal Car Accident.—Inquest and Discharge of the Driver.—An inquest was held by Coroner Jones and a Jury, at a late hour yesterday afternoon, in relation to the death of the little girl Catherine Gaynor, who was run over and instantly killed by car No. 19, of the Hamilton line, at about one o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, in Hamilton avenue, near Hicks street. The evidence showed that the child was playing in the street and ran against the edge of the car, falling under one of the hind wheels. A verdict of death from accidental injuries was rendered, and the driver, John Copley, was discharged from custody, and fully exonerated from blame.

11 June 1855: Seriously Injured.—A labored employed at the Atlantic Dock was crushed this morning by the falling of a hogshead of sugar. He was conveyed to the Hospital by several of his companions.

15 July 1869: Accident.—A lighterman named Richard Tompkins, residing at No. 10 Warren street, Brooklyn, was severely injured at six o'clock yesterday evening, by being crushed between a hogshead of sugar and the string piece of Pier No. 33 East River, N. Y. He was sent to Bellevue Hospital.

22 October 1860: Sewer Accident.—A man whose name could not be ascertained, was this morning seriously injured by the falling of a heavy stone upon him while working in a sewer in high [*sic*] street, between Pearl and Adams streets. This sewer is dangerous, not only to the employees but to the passers by, owing to its not being properly shored up or having any safeguard of any description—not even a light in the night time. It needs being looked after for the safety of life and limb.

8 July 1875: Patrick Quinn, residing at No. 19 Bay avenue, between Schenck and Barbey streets, was buried in the well in which he was at work yesterday afternoon, and suffocated. The well was in the rear of his premises, and he had neglected while working in it to brace the sides. The noise of the falling earth and

stones attracted the attention of his family, but before they could summon assistance to extricate him he was dead.

20 May 1858: Fatal Accident.—About 8 1-2 o'clock yesterday morning three laborers named Jeremiah Mahon, John Carrigan, and John Smith, employed in laying water pipes, in Jay street, were buried in the excavation, by the carrying in of the earth on either side. They were promptly rescued from their perilous position by their fellow laborers, but the weight of earth and paving stones that fell upon them injured them very badly. They were conveyed to the Hospital where Mahon died about two hours after, of internal injuries. Carrigan had his hip fractured, and Smith had his shoulder dislocated.

5 November 1857: Fatal Accident.—This morning as a man named Cox was painting the house of Dr. John Flannery, 469 Pearl street, he fell from his ladder on to the sidewalk, dashing out his brains and killing him instantly. He was immediately taken into the house by officers Knight & Mott of the 6th ward. Mr. Cox is about 35 years old and leaves a wife and family.

5 November 1857: Leg Broken.—Edward Lynch had his leg broken at the ankle yesterday while engaged in loading flagstones at the Clinton avenue Dock. He was conveyed to the Hospital by officer Casler of the 4th precinct. His family lives in Green avenue.

16 July 1870: Dreadful Machinery Accident.—Henry Reyser, a young German aged eighteen years, employed by Robert Schultz, butcher, in Union avenue, near Green street, Greenpoint, yesterday had his left arm fearfully mangled by being caught in a steam sausage machine to which he was attending in the performance of his duties. Drs. Morrissey and Van Geyser were summoned, and after dressing the injured limb, the man was conveyed to the Bellevue Hospital for treatment.

19 May 1858: Accident.—A boy employed in Brockway's printing office, 181 Fulton street, had three of his fingers cut off in a card press yesterday through carelessness.

5 August 1859: Accident on an Excursion.—A boy named Abraham Mapes, met with a serious accident on board of an excursion boat going to David's Island. He got between the tiller and staunches, by which means one of his legs was broken. His parents reside in Sands street, near Gold, where he was taken on his return.

10 December 1852: Died from his Injuries.—A seaman, named John Ingraham, a resident of this city, who met with an accident on the 3d inst., by falling down the hold of the steamboat Bay State, lying in the North River, died from the effects of his injuries on Wednesday, at the Brooklyn City Hospital. A post mortem examination was made, and the result proved that he died of concussion of the brain.

10 July 1860: Found Drowned.—The body of a drowned man was found about

8 o'clock last evening at the foot of Bridge street. It had been in the water some time and was much decomposed. Deceased was apparently about 30 years of age, of medium height and stout built ; had sandy hair and red whiskers. He was dressed in a brown cloth coat, black vest and pants, white shirt and red neck tie.

10 July 1860: Drowned while Fishing.—A son of Mr. Martin Bryan, plumber, of 165 Atlantic street, aged 12 years, was drowned yesterday afternoon by accidentally falling into the river at the South Ferry. He was in company with two other lads about his own age, fishing on the dock, and fell as he was leaning [sic] over the edge of the pier, into the water and was drowned before assistance could reach him. The body was recovered shortly after, and Coroner Horton held an inquest, when a verdict of accidental death by drowning was rendered.

22 October 1860: Found Drowned.—Coroner Bennett held an inquest yesterday at Fort Hamilton on the body of an unknown man found on the beach. He was dressed in a thick black overcoat, black satin vest, brown pants and calf-skin boots. His hair and whiskers were grey ; age about 60 years. There being no marks of violence on the body, the jury rendered the usual verdict.

8 July 1865: Recovered.—The body of the young woman named Klein, who was employed on one of the Roosevelt street Ferry boats to clean the cabins, and who was drowned about a week since, by falling overboard as the boat was entering the slip, was recovered yesterday and interred in the Cypress Hills Cemetery by her family.

22 May 1858: Drowned Woman Picked Up.—Yesterday afternoon, some boys picked up the body of a woman at Bay Ridge. She was of medium size, with grey hair, and was apparently about 50 years old. She had on a calico dress, dark shawl with red border, and gaiters. Further information can be obtained of Coroner Bennett, at Bay Ridge.

10 December 1852: Man Overboard.—On Wednesday night, a passenger on one of the South Ferry boats, while intoxicated, fell overboard into the slip, and after shouting hastily for help, was rescued by Messrs Van Houtten and De Angelis, of the Revenue Department. This is the fifth person that Mr. De Angelis has been instrumental in saving from drowning this year.

8 August 1870: A Suicide Foiled.—Yesterday forenoon, while Mr. B. Biglin was coaching the "Friendship" boat club in a six-oared gig, on East River [sic], he rescued from drowning a woman who had jumped overboard from the Williamsburgh ferry boat Suffolk County. The danger of the feat was enhanced by the desperate resolution of the unhappy creature to drown in spite of all assistance.

8 July 1852: Attempt to Commit Suicide.—A man named Edward Frick attempted to commit suicide yesterday by jumping into the creek at the old Gowanus bridge. He was rescued by persons who witnessed the act, and taken to the third district station house by officer Carey, where he is detained until the state of his mind is ascertained. He states that he resided corner of Dean and

Powers streets, is a brick maker by trade, and was led to attempt self-destruction from grief for the loss of his wife who died recently.

24 December 1869: Attempted Suicide.—Mary McGuire, a young woman who has several times attempted suicide, and who was discharged from the City Hospital a few days since, was found in a feeble condition in Myrtle avenue, yesterday afternoon, by Officer Velsor, of the Forty-ninth Precinct. In her possession was a paper of sugar of lead, none of which appeared to have been taken. The determined suicide, whose incentive is unknown, was taken to the Hospital at Flatbush.

15 October 1860: Almost a Suicide.—A paragraph in a recent Eagle set forth that a Mrs. King, of 16th street, had taken laudanum with a desire to put an end to her troubles, under circumstances which it is unnecessary here to repeat. A daughter of the lady named called at this office this morning with the request that the latter part of the paragraph might be corrected. The inciting cause of the rash act she ascribes to the brutal conduct on the part of her husband.

22 May 1858: Suicide.—The body of a young man named T. Frank James, was found on Coney Island Point on the 3d inst., with a dirk wound in his breast. He had been missing for three days. Circumstances went to show that he had committed suicide, and a verdict to that effect was rendered by the Coroner's Jury.

8 July 1845: At Williamsburgh, yesterday morning, between 4 and 5 o'clock, a German named John Ban, or Bane, who boarded at a low porter house on the corner of Fifth and North Second sts. kept by John McGrath, cut his throat with a razor. Rum and a woman are the alleged cause of the rash act. It is supposed that the wound will not prove fatal. He has been taken to the hospital.

8 July 1852: Burial of the Dead.—The undersigned, General Furnishing Undertaker, keeps constantly on hand everything necessary for the burial of the dead.

Having been in business more than twenty-five years, in New York and Brooklyn, he feels competent to discharge all the duties of his profession. He invites the attention of those persons upon whom demands are made for the burial of their dead, when expenditures for sickness have consumed all, or nearly all their means, and it is not in their power to provide for the respectable interment of those near and dear to them. He assures such that they shall be furnished with all things necessary on the most favorable terms, and at a large discount on the usual charges, thereby relieving, in a measure, the burden they feel, when it is necessary to provide for the interment of a relative or friend.

S. N. BURRILL, Montague place, corner of Court street. Brooklin, October 10th 1851.

13 January 1855: Sudden Death.—John Moriarty, a native of England, died suddenly yesterday at his boarding house, No. 3, Woodhull street, supposed from apoplexy. He was about 21 years of age.

8 August 1870: Sudden Death.—James Cassidy died suddenly at his residence, No. 108 Park avenue, at an early hour this morning. Coroner Jones has been notified and will hold an inquest.

8 August 1870: Sudden Death of a Naval Engineer.—William Nash, aged forty-five years, an Engineer in the United States Navy, died suddenly, at his residence No. 61 Fort Greene place, on Saturday night. An inquest subsequently held by Coroner Jones, showed that death resulted from aneurism of the aorta. The deceased was widely known as a man of high social standing, and esteemed by a large circle of friends. He leaves a wife and a promising son eight years of age.

14 July 1869: Death and Destitution.—Patrick O'Neil, a widower, died in the basement of No. 185 Prospect street at twelve o'clock last night, leaving two little children, unprotected and in needy circumstances. The matter came to the notice of Officer Dunn, of the Forty second Precinct, this morning, who found the children, alone and friendless, with the corpse, and upon information being conveyed to the late employers of the deceased, proprietors of a white lead factory in Bridge street, they charitably made provisions for the interment of the body. The orphan waifs are temporarily cared for by the Forty-second Precinct police.

8 August 1870: Death from Exhaustion.—Mrs. Rosanna Cornell, sixty-two years of age, died suddenly at her residence, No. 112 Atlantic street, on Saturday afternoon. A subsequent inquest by Coroner Jones showed that death was caused by general debility and the prostrating effect of the prevailing hot weather.

8 July 1845: Sudden Death.—Last evening about 9 o'clock, a gentleman residing at No. 164 Atlantic street became prostrated in consequence of an effection of the heart, and suddenly expired. The name of deceased is Morris Haase. He was a thorough classical scholar, a graduate of one of the German Universities. He had just received the appointment of Professor of Languages in one of the Hartford Colleges. He was about 35 years of age.

2 January 1862: Fell Down Dead.—John Sullivan fell down dead on the night of the 31st ult. in an oyster saloon in Hamilton avenue. Cause, congestion of the brain. An inquest was held, and a verdict in accordance with the facts was rendered.

2 October 1855: The Uncertainty of Life.—Some weeks since Mr. L. N. Dellicker, a resident of Baltic street near Court, took his wife to Danbury, Connecticut, her original home, on account of illness. He visited Danbury last week and returned at 3 o'clock yesterday, leaving her with the impression that she was in a favorable way for recovery. At 11 o'clock last night a messenger from Danbury knocked at his door. Putting his head out of the window he asked the cause and was informed of his wife's death. He came down stairs and stating that he felt unwell requested the young man to ask a neighbor, to come over immediately, and continued that he would prepare himself and they would start for Danbury early in the morning. The young man soon returned with the

gentleman when they found Mr. Dellicker lying across a chair dead. He was subject to disease of the heart and the excitement produced by the unexpected news of his wife's death proved fatal to him. He leaves three children. His remains will be taken to Danbury this afternoon to be interred with his wife at that place.

17 July 1869: A MAN KILLED BY LIGHTNING at Greenwood Cemetery. His name was James Hanley, and he was employed as a laborer at the Cemetery. Last evening he and some four or five of his fellow workmen were returning home after the day's labors, on Capitol Hill. The deceased had on his shoulders his shovel and pick, and while coming along stopped to light his pipe. His companions who all boarded in the same house with him went on their way, but after supper finding that the deceased had not returned they went back to the cemetery, and were horrified at finding him lying across the walk a lifeless corpse. One of his legs was completely shattered and from appearance it became evident that the lightning attracted by the iron shovel and pick, had struck him on the shoulder, and from thence passing down his body had shattered his leg and buried itself in the earth. There was no mark of agony or suffering on the face showing that death must have been instantaneous.

8 July 1865: Sun Stroke.—A man named Robert King, living at the corner of First and Grand streets, E D, while in Montgomery street, New York, yesterday, was prostrated by the effects of the sun. He was conveyed to his home, after restoratives had been applied, enabling him to be moved. His case is not supposed to be fatal.

8 July 1865: Effects of the Sun.—Yesterday afternoon the sun poured down a fiercer heat than at any time this season. From its effects an old man of 72 years named Philip Wesley, was prostrated about 2 o'clock in Little street. Officer Kinney of the 42 Precinct found him soon after bleeding profusely from a cut upon the head which he had received as he fell. He was taken to the City Hospital where his wound was dressed. It was ugly but not dangerous.

Yesterday noon an unknown man was prostrated in Cumberland street by the heat. He was taken in an insensible condition to the City Hospital.

8 July 1852: Sudden Attack.—This morning Officer Friel, of the Fourth district police, found a man who gave his name as Wm. Harris, laboring under a violent attack of sickness on Fort Green. He was convulsed with cramps and seemed to be attacked with cholera morbus. He was taken to the Station House and thence conveyed to the City Hospital. He is a single man, without any family, and says he is a resident of New York.

16 July 1870: Cramps and Vomiting.—Thomas Hickey, residing at No. 214 Pearl street, was seized with cramps and vomiting while crossing from New York, on a Fulton ferry-boat. He was conveyed to his residence in a seriously prostrated position, by Officer Buck of the Second Precinct. Cramps and vomiting savor of cholera, and the green fruit season being at hand caution in diet should be observed.

17 May 1855: A Pestilential Neighborhood.—Complaint is made of the area of sunken land, filled with stagnant pools of water, bounded by Smith, Huntingdon, Church and Court streets, and the attention of proper authorities is called to the matter so as to prevent a recurrence of the pestilence which carried off from 18 to 20 human beings in that vicinity last summer. The owner of the ground, we understand, resides in New Jersey. Will it be attended to?

12 June 1855: It is said that the smallpox is killing of the Fawego Indians by wholesale. When taken with the disease, they immediately get into the water and lie there, till death comes. Under this treatment over 200 have died in less than two weeks.

15 October 1860: Breach of an Ordinance.—Ellen Dooley was fined \$5 on 5 days, being the proprietress of an unpermitted hog, contrary to the statute.

2 January 1862: Who Lost, Who Found?—Owner wanted for a tub of butter found in Carroll street by the 3d Precinct police Tuesday evening.

8 June 1855: Stealing Meat.—John Johnson (a colored individual) was arrested this morning about 2 o'clock by officer Smith of the 6th district police on suspicion of stealing a ham of pork, he having one in his possession when taken into custody. He was committed for examination.

12 October 1857: Pocket Picked in Church.—A lady named Mrs. Mallen had her pocket picked in the Catholic church corner of York and Jay streets yesterday, while attending divine worship.

21 May 1858: Beginning Early.—A girl only 13 years old, named Sarah Fanandies, was brought before Justice Cornwell this morning, for having stolen a piece of ribbon from the store of Mrs. Corderey, 317 Fulton street, last evening. Sarah, though young in years, has all the effrontery of an old offender, and as she apparently had no one to take charge of her, the Justice sent her to the House of Refuge.

3 January 1862: The Coroner's First Subject.—Dr. Norris' first exercise of the official function happened to be a colored woman, old Ann Brown, aged four score years and five, who died of debility natural to the decay of nature.

3 January 1862: Frozen to Death.—The body of a colored woman was found on the old New Lotts road in front of Hudson Van Sinderen's house, yesterday morning, cold and stiff in death. She appeared to be about thirty-five years of age, and her clothing was nothing but rags. It is supposed that the poor creature was overcome by the cold and falling down from exhaustion was unable to rise again and was frozen to death. She was found but a short distance from the house. An inquest was held by Coroner Hegeman and the remains were interred in the public burying ground.

12 February 1857: Coroner's Inquest—Correction.—The name of the lad mentioned yesterday as having died under circumstances of a peculiar character,

at the corner of Luquer and Columbia streets, was Thomas Callaghan, and not Garland, as stated. Coroner Redding held an inquest, and it was found that he died of congestion of the brain, caused by drinking too much gin. The report that he was poisoned, as rumored, is of course, untrue.

3 January 1862: Wanted to Make Calls.—James Mulligan and John Regan broke through the side of the 9th precinct station house on the afternoon of the 1st instant and made good their escape.

5 August 1859: Escaped from Jail.—A woman, named Alice Cain, who had been committed to jail on the charge of grand larceny, made her escape on Tuesday last. Some confederate supplied her with men's clothes, with which she walked out, and was gone before her flight was expected.

12 June 1855: Enlisting Men for the Crimea.—This morning Captain Vandervere and some of the men of the 3d district police, arrested Antonio Rosenberg, George Spitson and O. Weiss, on the complaint of George Nevins, who charges them with enlisting men for the British army in the Crimea under the pretense of furnishing them work on a railroad in Nova Scotia. They were taken to New York and committed for a hearing by the United States Marshal.

6 June 1860: Seven of the beautiful Swans placed in the Central Park some days since were found dead yesterday. It is supposed that they were poisoned, whether accidentally or not, does not appear. We can hardly conceive that a human being would be so base as to do such a thing.

9 June 1855: A Grave Idea.—The Hudson (N.Y.) *Gazette* says that at a marble yard, near its office, they are preparing grave stones with daguerreotypes of the deceased set in the marble.

12 January 1879: Reflections on the Hanging of Benjamin Hunter.—Seldom has the verdict of a jury been approved by the public with greater unanimity than that which consigned Benjamin Hunter to the gallows. Seldom has society, which is not composed principally of the unfeeling, although it is the fashion of a sentimental school of writers so to represent it, felt less sympathy for a wretch condemned to execution, or breathed a deeper sigh of relief that for once villainy has not been successful and that the cruel and deliberate murder of a fellow creature has been avenged by human law. We doubt if the most sanguine of philanthropists, the most maudlin of evangelists, or even the strongest opponent of capital punishment wishes Benjamin Hunter back into the world to-day. Yet this unusual unanimity of public sentiment does not palliate the official blundering by which his execution was made a spectacle offensive to the public sense of decency and to Christian civilization. There is no apology for such accidents when ample time is afforded for preparation. That a man should have to be held up by three or four Sheriff's assistants, in order to be hanged, because the rope is too long, is a piece of work for which the Sheriff ought to be held responsible to the people in the courts of law.

Nor is it a solitary case. Hanging which, when properly done, is probably one

of the easiest of deaths, is rendered one of the most horrible, when, instead of sensation being destroyed by the instantaneous breaking of the neck, an ineffectual drop or jerk upward of the body subjects the quivering wretch to the convulsive struggles of gradual strangulation. We do not propose to enlarge upon a matter which the press has such frequent cause to refer to, but we argue from it that if hanging cannot be done properly in this country, it should not be done at all. Some other mode of inflicting the death penalty should be substituted, in which bungling would be impossible.

12 August 1867: Manning—On Sunday, August 11th, after a brief, but painful illness, Frederick George, only son of William and the late Aurelia Adeline Manning, aged 15 years and 9 months.

The friends and relatives of the family are invited to attend his funeral at 234 Atlantic street, between Court and Clinton, Tuesday next, at 2 o'clock, without further notice.

The deceased was a youth of much promise, and was endeared by his generous qualities of mind and heart to all who knew him. The happy death of his excellent mother, on the 20th of March last, was blessed to the sanctification of her son, and like her, he gave the most comforting evidence that for him it was gain to die ; and though by this sad affliction, loving friends and the stricken father and only sister weep afresh, they are cheered in their anguish by the blessed consolation that these sainted ones in Heaven await them, where sorrow and suffering can never come.

20 May 1858: Death of Daniel Wright.—The subject of this brief notice was known to many of our old citizens, although of late years he has receded from public view. When he was in the prime of life, Brooklyn was in its infancy ; and what is now the third city of the Union, was then a mere village. He was a financial agent, and his career as such deserves to be held up to the people of the present day, that his memory may “shine like a good deed in a naughty world.” He was the business agent of Rev. Evan M. Johnson, and large amounts of cash passed regularly through his hands. Of the hundreds of thousands which he received, not one cent ever failed to be accounted for at the proper time and in the proper place. Even in the age to which Mr. Wright belonged and at the time in which he flourished, such remarkable probity and punctuality was not universally prevalent, but now when frauds and defalcations are every day occurrences, such an example of rectitude should be held up to admiration. The memory of such a man becomes a valuable legacy to the community in which he lives.