

campaign of unusual excitement, were special tests of the reliability of the Force, and it gives us particular pleasure to testify to their compliance with our strict instructions to abstain from all participation in the stirring political scenes enacted around them. Most of the offenses for which punishment had to be inflicted, consist of neglecting to properly patrol, and, more especially among the new men on the Force, sleeping on post. Being satisfied that both arose largely from the plan in which the Force was worked, and which divided it into a day and night Force, exacting 13 continuous hours of duty from the former, and 11 continuous hours of duty from the latter during the 24 hours, we arranged for and put into operation on the 6th of December, 1885, the system prevailing in New York and several other large and progressive cities. This system does away with the unjust distinction between night and day men, removing at the same time the unseemly pressure often brought by citizens to have a favorite transferred from the harder night to the easier day service. It exacts of each man exactly the same kind of duty as is required of his fellow officer, and, as anticipated, has worked so far with gratifying success.

Further details of its working will be found in the Marshal's Report. Its inauguration furnished, in our opinion, a fit opportunity for allowing the men when off duty to go without their uniforms, and we accordingly amended our General Regulation on that subject so as to read as follows :

“All officers and men of the Police Force shall devote their entire time to their duties as such, and are prohibited from engaging in any other business. Under the new system of working the Force they will be allowed, when relieved from active and reserve duty, to appear in plain dress, but this will not exempt them from being specially called on by an officer of superior grade, or from performing those duties which are expected of the Force at all times. They are, therefore, required to always have badges with them, to be exhibited when necessary.”