

POLICE DEPARTMENT.



OFFICE OF THE MARSHAL.

BALTIMORE, JAN. 1, 1886.

To the Honorable,

The Board of Police Commissioners

for Baltimore City.

GENTLEMEN :—

I have the honor to present to you my report of the work done by the Police Force during the years 1884 and 1885. I have great pleasure in being able to say that the Force has maintained its high character for efficiency, so fairly earned and so universally accorded it by the citizens of Baltimore. In all the varied duties it has been called upon to perform it has given general satisfaction.

As the main point to be considered in working a Police Force is the attainment of the highest possible degree of efficiency, commensurate with the powers of physical endurance and the health and comfort of its members, it has been thought proper to change the system of hours of active duty for the purpose of effecting these desirable results. Under the system heretofore in operation those known as "Day-Policemen," were required to perform thirteen hours of continuous active duty, and those known as "Night-Policemen" were on continuous duty for eleven hours. This assignment to duty operated during the entire year with the exception of ten or twelve weeks in midwinter. It made no provision for a Reserve-Force, therefore, making it necessary, in all cases of fire or riot,