SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

BALTIMORE, *January 1, 1890.*

To the Board of Police Commissioners:

GENTLEMEN:—I herewith present my annual report as Coroner of the Fourth District of Baltimore city, from January 1, 1889 to December 31, 1889, inclusive, showing that I have held twenty-nine (29) inquests, and made one hundred and seventy-two (172) investigations, in many of the latter I have required an autopsy to be made by the post mortem physician to develop the cause of death, and have thus obviated the necessity of holding citizens for jury duty, and consuming their valuable time without remuneration. I desire to express to the police force my gratitude for their efficient and courteous aid rendered me in the discharge of my duties.

I would again call attention to the necessity of a Public Morgue, and express my surprise that nothing has been done in that direction. Strangers and our own citizens, dying suddenly within our limits, are frequently not discovered until after decomposition has set in, and these are hurried to Potter's field, and frequently all traces of the bodies lost.

Very respectfully,

P. V. BENSON, M. D.,

Coroner.

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