

Appointments and promotions to fill the said vacancies were made as shown in statements herewith appended, Nos. 27 and 28, which give the changes by years, grades, etc., in detail, also the number of officers reappointed whose terms of commission expired in 1898 and 1899.

ROLL OF HONOR AND SPECIAL COMMENDATION.

Detective Thomas P. O'Donnell was placed upon the Roll of Honor, and a medal issued to him by the Board for signal bravery, tact and detective ability in the apprehension of Peter James, a murderer, who escaped from prison in New York State, and eluded capture until he reached Baltimore several months thereafter.

The Board publicly commended, on the occasion of its annual inspections of the force, (May 14, 1898, and May 19, 1899,) the officers whose names appear in Statement No. 35, for meritorious services performed by them in their efforts to secure, at perilous risk to themselves, the safety of others found in situations of danger, and in the arrest and conviction of criminals, etc., etc.

It is not practicable in this report to describe the circumstances of the cases wherein the Board found sufficient merit on the part of the officers to especially commend them, nor the nature of their exceptionally good work; therefore the names only of the men are given, but many of them received the praise of the Board and others outside the department for high character of service in several instances.

It has been demonstrated in this department, that recognition of meritorious work by public commendation is promotive of increased efficiency in the service.

DISCIPLINE.

It is also true that strict discipline is a necessary and important feature of police management. Statements, in detail, are with this submitted, Nos. 29 and 30, by which it will be