

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

Inspection of the Quarantine Grounds and Hospital by Mayor Hodges.

[Reported for the Baltimore Sun.]

Mayor Hodges spent the greater part of Sunday at the new quarantine grounds, Little Hawkins Point, to acquaint himself with the needs of that department of the city government. He was accompanied in his visit by Dr. J. A. Steuart, commissioner of health; Dr. J. F. McShane, assistant commissioner of health; Mr. Wm. Reed, of the firm of Morton, Reed & Co., and Col. Wm. H. Love, secretary to the mayor. The party was met at the foot of South street by Dr. Sydney O. Heiskell, quarantine officer, with the new steam tug Hygeia, in which the mayor and his friends were conveyed to the quarantine grounds. On the way down the tug steamed into Curtis's bay, and gave the mayor an opportunity of inspecting the improvements made there by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, including the mammoth pier recently erected.

At the Quarantine Hospital the party was joined by Mr. Wm. B. Chairs, one of the most extensive truck farmers and fruit growers in Anne Arundel county, whose fine farm is located near the quarantine grounds. The mayor inspected the new sea wall which is being built in front of the city property. About two-thirds of this wall have already been erected at an outlay of about \$12,500. It is desired to secure an appropriation to complete the work as far as it is deemed necessary to build a wall, and then to riprap the balance of the ground; also to grade and terrace the bank in front of the quarantine buildings, all of which it is estimated will cost from \$15,000 to \$20,000. The mayor expressed himself as highly pleased with the comfortable appearance of the hospital, and especially with the elegant arrangements made for lighting and ventilating the building. The mayor remarked during his conversation in regard to the expense of supporting such a department that it was surprising how much the people are willing to be taxed for the care of the afflicted. The entire cost of the improvements made at these new grounds aggregate from \$25,000 to \$30,000. The tract of land on which the buildings are erected was purchased by the city about twenty-eight years ago. When Dr. Heiskell removed from the old Quarantine or Marine Hospital, as it used to be called, to the new station, last June a year, the grounds were almost a perfect wilderness. Great improvements have since been made, and everything now has an inviting appearance. Dr. Heiskell has other improvements which he designs to make if continued in the position of quarantine officer. What is known as the anchorage ground at the new station, located alongside the channel, has a depth of about twenty feet of water. This, Dr. Heiskell thinks, should be dredged so as to make a depth of 25 feet of water. There are at present two quarantine stations at this port, both in charge of Dr. Heiskell—the new quarantine at Little Hawkins Point and the old Marine Hospital, located near Fort McHenry. Only patients taken from vessels are cared for at the new grounds. The old hospital will be used as a pest hospital for patients coming from the city who are suffering with contagious diseases, such as small-pox, &c. There are accommodations there for about three to four hundred patients. At the new grounds about 40 or 50 can be accommodated. There are no patients at present at either place.

After the inspection the mayor and his friends were entertained at dinner by Dr. Heiskell, the elegantly served bill of fare including second-crop strawberries, which had been raised in the open air upon the farm of Mr. Chairs.

APPOINTMENT OF BAILIFFS.

City Collector Higgins has made the following appointments of tax bailiffs to fill vacancies caused by removals in his office: Henry D. Weaver, third ward, vice Joseph B. Bishop; Joseph J. Peters, of the fifth ward, vice Robert W. Hays; Charles M. Hope, of the fifteenth ward, vice Michael Stanton, and George Vogelgesang, of the seventeenth ward, vice Thomas F. Curran. All of the newly-appointed bailiffs were sworn in by Mayor Hodges, who remarked to each, after administering the usual oath, that he hoped they would discharge the duties of the office to which they had been appointed satisfactorily to the chief of the department and with fidelity to the interests of the people. There is still a vacancy in the department caused by the resignation of John M. Travers, a tax bailiff, elected chief clerk of the second branch city council. It is said that other removals in the city collector's office are yet to follow. The decapitation has caused considerable comment in the City Hall as well as among politicians generally.

IMPORTANT TO TAXPAYERS.

Mr. Higgins, city collector, gives notice to persons who are in arrears for taxes on real estate for the years 1884, and for repaving with Belgian blocks East and West Baltimore street, Madison avenue, Eutaw and Lexington streets, that all of such bills have been placed in the hands of the city surveyor, with instructions to proceed immediately to plat the property on which such taxes are due, preparatory to advertising it for sale. The order will be strictly enforced, and all those who wish to avoid additional expense will see the propriety of making prompt payment.

PERMITS FOR NEW BUILDINGS.

Among the permits issued Saturday by the Appeal Tax Court were the following: Reinle Bros., to erect a four-story brick warehouse, 96 by 43 feet, on the southwest corner of Warner and Stockholm streets; to the Northern Central Railway Company, a permit to erect a one-story brick office and stable on the northwest corner of Madison and North streets, and to Robert Garrett & Sons, to enlarge the back building of No. 99 (north side of) Fayette street, between Liberty and Sharp streets.