

transacted within an eighth of mile of Fort George. The private houses of the better classes were in the same locality on Pearl, Bridge and Stone Streets. Pearl Street, for some portion of its course, was then known as the Water Side. The merchants of the last century lived close to their warehouses and frequently their offices were in the lower stories of their dwelling-houses.

Above Bowling Green, there were practically no residences of the wealthier citizens. The annual imports of New York in the year 1735 were about \$200,000.00 of which there was ten thousand dollars worth of tea, and the number of vessels clearing from the port, between two and three hundred.

Paul Richard lived on the corner of Pearl Street and Broadway. One of the first official acts of Mayor Richard and the Common Council was the passage of a law, on July 8th, 1735, directing "That the Charter and Seal of the City should be placed in the custody of the Clerk of the Common Council; which law, according to the ancient custom, was three times read and approved, and after the ringing of three bells and proclamation made for silence, was published at the City Hall."

At this time the Common Council consisted of the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Recorder, and one Alderman and Assistant Alderman for each of the seven wards of the city. On July 22d, 1735, the Common Council ordered "That a seal be made for the Mayor, to be called the Seal of the Mayoralty; that the said seal be round, something larger than a dollar; the City Arms to be engraved thereon, and that the motto be: City of New York; Seal of the Mayoralty; and that Alderman LeRoux, being a skilful goldsmith, should make said seal." The following ordinance of the Common Council in reference to the police of the town at this time may not be uninteresting: "Whereas; there is now, and of late years hath been necessity of a strong and sufficient force to be kept every night, by reason of great number of people privately coming into the city from all parts, some whereof are suspected to be convict felons from Great Britain: it is hereby ordered that one of the constables of the six wards on the south side of the Fresh Water, in his turn, with eight other able watchmen, shall keep watch every night within the city, from the first of April until Michaelmas Day, from nine in the evening until four in the morning, and from Michaelmas Day until the first of April, from eight in the evening till six in the morning.