

lid of the box were engraved the arms of the province, and on its front the Latin quotation: "*Ita cuique eveniat, ut de republica meruit*;" So may it happen to whoever deserves well of the republic." The above mentioned document was signed by Paul Richard as Mayor of New York.

Mayor Richard seems to have had some liking for military pomp and display, as he is carried as a Captain of the New York Militia on the muster-roll returned to Lieutenant-Governor Clarke, on September 12th, 1735, although I do not think that his military ardor ever led him far beyond the peaceful confines of Manhattan, or that he ever acquired any glory in the tented field; his triumphs and contests were of a more pacific character.

When Paul Richard was appointed Mayor of New York, its population was about nine thousand souls, mostly of mingled French, English and Dutch descent, the Dutch element predominating, although the English element was rapidly gaining upon the Dutch. The older people still habitually spoke the Dutch language, but nearly all the younger generation spoke English, attended the English Church and disdained the name of Dutchman.

Merchants, shopkeepers and mechanics made up the mass of the population; there were no great fortunes and very few paupers. Most of the leading merchants of the city were of French or of mingled French and Dutch ancestry. New York, then, as now, was a trading city and intent upon gain. There were no so-called men of leisure; every man, rich or poor, had some regular occupation, although the social lines between the various classes were even more sharply drawn than now. However, in those days, there was something more than a good-sized bank account necessary in order to gain the entree into the best society, and those who offended the social conventionalities were soon relegated to their proper level. Divorces were almost unknown in the province and colony of New York.

The people of New York were moral, sober and industrious.

I am afraid our colonial ancestors paid a great deal more attention to their bodies than their minds, for many of them, although shrewd, sharp traders and good business men, were grossly illiterate. Phonetic spelling was exceedingly fashionable a hundred years ago. The English Church had a school and there was a public school master, and from time to time various peripatetic pedagogues gave the youth of the city an opportunity to learn the