

DEATH OF CHARLES DEVLIN.

CAREER OF THE CONTRACTOR AND THE BONDSMAN OF WILLIAM M. TWEED.

Charles Devlin, one of the best-known contractors in the City, and who in 1871 was one of the bondsmen of William M. Tweed, died at his residence, No. 311 East Fifty-seventh-street, of pneumonia, yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Mr. Devlin was born in Ireland in 1805, and came to this country when about 27 years of age. He found employment as a journeyman baker in Frankfort-street, and afterward in the same street operated a large bakery of his own. Ten or fifteen years later he obtained contracts on the Hudson River Railroad and built several sections of track. This occupied him about two years, and he then began his career as a contractor for City works in New-York, in which business he was engaged during nearly all his subsequent life. Several contracts which he had were for work in the Park, but the greater part of them were for grading, paving, and otherwise improving streets. He accumulated a large fortune, and it is believed that at the height of his business prosperity he was the largest contractor then engaged on public works. Besides being on the bond of Tweed, he was on that of Genet, circumstances which brought him into considerable public notice at the time. He indorsed notes for many of his friends, and from this and similar causes lost heavily. Finally, about two years ago, he went through bankruptcy. A suit of his involving a large sum is now pending against the City, having been frequently in court during the past five years and more. At present it is before a Referee.

Mr. Devlin was concerned in politics but little, so far as holding or seeking office went. About 12 years ago he ran for Alderman against Robert McGinnis, and Fernando Wood, while Mayor, made him Street Commissioner. He leaves a widow and five children—three daughters and two sons. His son John B. is also a contractor, and Joseph A. is interested in contracts. One daughter, Mrs. Mary Tully, is a widow; another, Isabella, is the wife of Henry A. Brann, a lawyer, and the third, Fanny A., the wife of William F. Croft, a real estate operator and builder. It is believed that Mr. Devlin leaves a very large estate, consisting chiefly of real property. He owns about 75 City lots, on some of which are houses. The funeral is appointed for tomorrow morning, at 10 o'clock, from the house, with the burial in the family vault at Calvary Cemetery.