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WILLIAM HOLMES was born in this city December 20, 1848. His parents were William Holmes and Ellen Rainey. Mr. Holmes attended the Fourth Ward public school. He learned the trade of machinery molder at Starbuck's works and was engaged at his trade for nine years. In 1873 he went into the retail liquor business. In 1876 he was appointed on the detective force and remained in police service five years and nine months. Resigning from the force he associated himself with John F. Ahern in the retail liquor trade at No. 6 Third Street. Their present place of business is No. 12 Third Street. Mr. Holmes was president of the Liquor Dealers' Association for one year and vice-president for three years. He is now vice-president of the State organization. He is a member of the Pilsner Democratic Club, and has served as vice-president. For six years he was a member of the Board of School Commissioners. He is now a Fire Commissioner and president of the Board. For one term he was captain of the Ranken Steamer Company and for three years he was treasurer of the company. He is a member of the Exempt Firemen's Association. In 1875 he was a delegate to the Democratic State Convention at Syracuse. At present he represents the Fourth Ward in the Democratic General Committee. Mr. Holmes is also a member of the Y. M. C. L. A. He is married, his wife's maiden name being Miss Annie Smith. He has seven children.

Alford