

SAY NURSES KILLED HIM.

ANOTHER CASE OF ALLEGED BRUTALITY AT BELLEVUE BROUGHT TO LIGHT.

The investigations preparatory to filing a civil suit for damages against the city have brought to light another alleged case of fatal ill treatment at Bellevue Hospital. In this instance it is charged that Joseph Libecajt, a Bohemian cigarmaker, who lived with his wife and four children at No. 513 East Seventieth-st., was the victim of the brutality of the nurses on the night of June 15 last. Early in June last Libecajt became ill, and on June 14 his wife sent for the family physician, who diagnosed Libecajt's case as acute pneumonia. On the night of June 15 the sick man became delirious and struggled so furiously that his wife was obliged to call on her neighbors for assistance, and later a policeman was called, who, when he saw the condition of Libecajt, rapped for help and sent for the Presbyterian Hospital ambulance.

It took three policemen and the ambulance attendants to overpower Libecajt and put him in a straitjacket. Dr. L. Williams, who was with the ambulance, diagnosed the case as insanity only, and on arrival at the Presbyterian Hospital a transfer was made out and the ambulance driven rapidly to Bellevue.

At Bellevue Libecajt was taken to Ward No. 88 in the insane pavilion. It is said that there were present the policemen who had removed Libecajt from his home, Dr. Williams, of the Presbyterian Hospital; the driver of the ambulance and nearly a dozen nurses of Bellevue Hospital. The Bellevue nurses are alleged to have choked Libecajt until his tongue protruded from his mouth and he was black in the face in order to subdue him, although already

from the Presbyterian Hospital straitjacket to one belonging to Bellevue. It is said that Libecajt tried to resent the treatment he was receiving, and that thereupon the Bellevue nurses "rushed" him and knocked him down and beat him. It is alleged that when the nurses finally desisted Libecajt lay lifeless on the floor, and one of the nurses gave him a hypodermic injection and told the ambulance people that they need not wait any longer. The next day it was announced that Libecajt was dead.

Frank Bejlsky, an undertaker, of No. 228 East Seventy-third-st., declares that when the body was turned over to him the neck was broken and the skull was fractured. The family of the dead man say that there was not a mark on his body when he was taken from his home.

It is said that Policeman Murphy, one of those who accompanied Libecajt to Bellevue, asked what kind of a report he was to make, and was told, "For God's sake, let the matter drop. There's no use making trouble."

Mrs. Libecajt's lawyer says that he has three witnesses who were present and will swear to the circumstances and identify those responsible.
