

The Mayor's paternal grandmother was Celitie Van der Wallen, a sturdy Dutchwoman. On June 26th, 1726, when the future Mayor was twenty-nine years old, he married Elizabeth Garland, a daughter of Thomas and Rachel Garland, of London. I do not find any particular mention of him prior to the year 1734, when Governor Cosby wrote to the Board of Trade, recommending that Paul Richard be appointed Councillor in place of Rip Van Dam. On August 28th, 1735, in the address of the Lords of Trade to Queen Caroline, he is also recommended as Councillor in place of Van Dam, and in a letter from the Lords of Trade to Governor Cosby, dated April 7th, 1736, the removal of Van Dam and Alexander is mentioned and the appointment of Richard.

On October 7th, 1736, President Clarke wrote to Secretary Pople, farther desiring the instant removal of Alexander and Van Dam and the appointment of Paul Richard and John Moore in their stead. For years there had been a fierce contest between the two very evenly divided political parties of the province: the aristocratic or court party and the democratic or people's party.

Paul Richard was one of the most prominent representatives of the court party and Van Dam of the people's party. Shortly before Governor Cosby's death, which took place on March 7th, 1736, he suspended Van Dam as a member of the Council. After the death of Cosby, both President Clarke and Van Dam claimed the supreme authority, each appointing persons of his own party to the subordinate positions of the government, and at one time it seemed as if an armed conflict was inevitable, but fortunately the brigantine Endeavor soon arrived from England, bringing a despatch which confirmed the authority of Clarke. On July 7th, 1735, Governor Cosby appointed Paul Richard, Mayor, Clerk of the Market and Water Bailiff of the City of New York, and he served as such until September 29th, 1739, a little over four years.

In 1735, there were about eighteen hundred houses in the city: Vesey Street was practically its northern limit on the west side, and west of Broadway there was no street running north and south except a small portion of the present Church Street.

On the east side of Broadway, a street which had no name, and which followed pretty closely the line of Nassau Street, was called the road which leads by the piewoman's to the Commons. A powder-house had been built on the Commons a few years previously, and a building known as the House of Correction, Work