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Bernard M. Roarke was born in Ireland December 19, 1843, the son of Patrick Roarke and Mary Malone. He has resided in Albany and Troy nearly all of his life. He attended the Brothers' Academy and the public schools. He first worked for Stevens & Rising, the Cannon Place Merchants, and later was in the employ of the Hudson River Railroad Company under Mr. Toucey, now the superintendent of the Central-Hudson. He worked also on the old Rensselaer & Saratoga Road, and afterward learned the trade of a brick-layer. He remained steadily at his trade until 1876 when he was appointed a detective on the police force. He did police duty until 1883, winning the highest encomiums from his superiors for his faithfulness. In 1883 he was chosen to represent the Eighth Ward in the Common Council, and so ably did he serve his constituents that he was reëlected in 1885 and in 1887. He declined a renomination last year. May 10, 1886, Alderman Roarke was appointed a custom-house officer and he served three years. He is at present in the retail liquor trade at the corner of Washington and Fourth Streets. He was married January 6, 1886, to Miss Catherine Halpin, and has two pretty and bright children. Bernard Roarke is one of the most popular men in Troy. He has innumerable friends who are as devoted to him as he is to them.

