

GIPSIES OF LONDON.

An Entertaining Sketch of the Nomads of Old England.

HABITS AND CHARACTERISTICS.

The Right Side of a Queer Class Exposed to the Public.

THEY'RE WANDERERS BUT NOT IDLERS

(WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.)

LONDON, Oct. 31.—To me there is something inexpressibly pathetic in the unvarying good humor and kind-heartedness of English gypsies when their hard and bitter, though self-chosen mode of life is considered.

Crafty, weary, hard, unworthy vagabond though you deem him, as he confronts you and mankind in this battle for life and those he loves, he truly has another side, a cheery, good and manly one, too, that without one iota of the prompting to which all modern society stands indebted, often glows with kindness, generosity, helpfulness, good cheer and a spirit of positive loveliness.

An ugly word is never heard in a gipsy camp or band. A selfish act is never seen. The eternal good of a mean woman, the brutal obscenity of a bad man, the hateful jealousies of neighbors, the contemptible rivalries of pretended friends, each and all are as unknown as poison in the pure air of heaven they breathe in tent or upon the road.

There are undoubtedly hundreds of localities which may be termed gipsy ground in London and its far-reaching suburbs. I have visited nearly three score of these places within the past few years. In some instances they are in the most densely and formerly populated sections of the metropolis. Acquaintance and confidence soon brought me to many of these almost unknown gipsy and coster communities in the very heart of London.

A Great Resort of the Class.

Two of them are very interesting and historic. You were wandering about London on Holborn way and should come to ancient Furnival's Inn, you might note that its decrepit back hangs over the entrance to a narrow lane. This is Leather Lane. Scarcely wide enough beneath the back windows of Furnival's Inn to permit the entrance of a donkey and cart, it gradually widens towards Theobald's Row, and to the east and west is itself entered by almost numberless alleys and courts. No casual frequenter of the city would notice it, but the locality is one of the densest in London in point of population. Among the thousands of lowly humans living here, are fully 600 costermongers, and in the winter time half as many gipsies. The great resort of all these folk is the "Leather Bottle," a public house within the shadowy precinct.

There are many odd places and studies here. The former has rather pride themselves on their utter recklessness in the matter of gambling, carousing and drinking. While they live in entire harmony with their Romany friends and possess a certain respect for their winter companions which permits of no trifling, they seem to see that from the coster standpoint of ethics the tawny folk are not considered fairly progressive. They are too quiet. They attend closely to work and minimize the ill effects of poverty in London.

Most of the gipsies in this locality live from a half dozen to a score in a room. They possess the scantiest array of household utensils. Their native ability to make the most of little enables them to patch up a few seats and they sleep comfortably and cheerily packed together like herrings. Some of their abodes are wretched beyond description to one who is getting on as well as they work hard and long, being first at the great markets and last to leave the streets. Handbarrows are used by most of these. The mother, father and the grown sons and daughters all share in the severe work of pushing the barrow or cart. Many will cover 20 and 30 miles a day in their rounds.

All Do Something to Live.

The little ones left at home work on baskets, color leaves and wild grasses of which they have brought in a supply of material from their summer wanderings, and which are sold to the lowly for mantle ornaments, or whistle out skirts and other trinkets. All do something and earn something. If there is a loss in one day's trade, they work the harder the next. All thus keep from starvation, which is more than many who are not heathens can do in London; and some even get through the hard, wet, foggy, sleety, bone-wringing winter with their lives and a few shillings to the good.

It was in one of these innermost recesses that some of my gipsy friends had their habitation, and it is certain that a more curious dwelling place and disposition of home belongings were ever seen. About half way from Furnival's Inn to Theobald's Row, a narrow, dingy court, above which a strip of sky could barely be seen, wriggled 100 feet or more to the east. To the right and left the ramshackle yet stout old houses seemed pitching at each other threateningly. From the noisome pavement to the strip of sky it seemed as though hundreds of humans were existing in a state of existence on trembling balconies and tottering window-sills. The density of half fed life behind these raven like beings clinging to the outer walls must have been terrible.

The Dark Court Narrowed at the end

coming to a sudden stop against a black dead wall, which rose 30 or 40 feet above the pavement as if to shut out the desperate poverty of Leather Lane from some better inclosure. Here at the end of the court against the dead wall my gipsy friends had practically encamped by a system of more than partial suspension. Some 25 feet from the ground a mass of patched bits of sail cloth and blankets bared the only roof. Ingeniously braced bits of wood—botoms and jetsam from the markets and the Thames—made three intervening stories, or floors, between the flapping roof and the pavement of the court. The walls were open to the weather and Leather Lane way save where raggs and other sieve-like blankets and sail cloth answered the place of curtaining.

How the Donkey Is Housed.

These stories or floors were about six feet square, except the lower or pavement story which was as long as the process of the gipsies could make it against the border of the stifling court. An aperture had been made in the dead wall, which, with a few bricks and a little mud mortar, provided a capital chimney piece. The draught was perfect. There was a good deal of dirt, too, about this extraordinary facade. The cart was "whorled," that is, turned bottom-side upwards for a table. A shelf-like piece of timber had been fastened against one side wall for a lounging bunk and the bench. A ladder ran from this along the wall to the second story, where cooking utensils and food were kept.

But the most curious of all was the nightly disposition of "donkey," what was left over from the day's hawking and the gipsy family itself. Immediately on arrival, the donkey was hauled up by rope and tacked into a little cage which consisted of the third story under the sail cloth roof. Such vegetables as were left from the family did not were stored on a shelf alongside the donkey; and on retiring for the night the family, comprising 11 grown people and children, ascended into the second-story loft, and, in a manner, fished all movable belongings up after them.

"Yes," admiringly said old man Lovell, the head of this gipsy house, after I had

just witnessed the sprawling donkey hoisted into his cage for his rest and provender.

"Hus jess hall goes hur inter hour 'ole by night, an' 'ole winter haunt."

The east and district local called "The Mint," where London's ancient mint was located, is another favorite haunt of gipsies in winter.

From Lant street in the borough to Blackfriars' road are more than 100 almost impenetrable lanes and closes. This region was the former haunt and home of Jack Shephard and Jonathan Wild, and from the same locality have sprung many of the noted prize fighters of our time. Billingsgate porters, the most jaunty and rollicking of all London costermongers, and a class of gipsies who are noted for their fistic prowess, are the sole inhabitants. Into this savory region one must come well introduced; but when once known as a true friend of any inhabitant, progress through the quarter is attended often with even embarrassing greetings and familiarities.

I found the gipsies of this locality, who number perhaps 50 families, which means 1,000 or more, objects of those who ply their various vocations at country fairs and all huge gatherings, such as the Derby, and London holiday "outings" at Epping Forest and the like. They are a portion of that vast horde of least winsome but most picturesque English gipsies who, casually seen, nearest represent the fakirs of our American country fairs, our circus followers and the bawling nickel ventriloquist of such summer and seaside resorts as Coney Island, the Coney, the "Punch and Judy" shows are getting into their hands. They are beginning to exhibit freaks and control the merry-go-rounds. All the fruit and nut stands at fairs are now in their hands, and they are beginning to exhibit freaks and control the merry-go-rounds. All the fruit and nut stands at fairs are now in their hands, and they are beginning to exhibit freaks and control the merry-go-rounds.

Genuine Gipsies in the Suburbs.

But the genuine drom rajahs or gipsies of the road whose vocations of to-day are really honorable, thrifful and distinguished by downright hard work and fair dealing, though still full of genuine gipsy traits and bearing in a mild form the gipsy taint of dicker and dinking (for want of a better name) are the gipsies who, in their extended winter London tarrying, retain most the manner of the summer road life. I should think there could be found from 10,000 to 20,000 of these in the suburbs of London, from November until March. These are entirely exclusive of several thousand more who never leave London, but travel in endless circles about the outer edges of the great city, intermingling with Bedouins of all cutting and coloring (from the red and purple of the desert to the blue and lavender of the summer, and hoppers in the autumn, and scavengers in general the remainder of the year. They camp where they work, and though often reduced to abject wretchedness are a kindly and cheery set of men and women.

The road gipsies generally retain and occupy their vans, carts and tents. Out Southwark way, over in Surrey, are large communities. Many of them are round about Esher and Woking. The Chelsea marshes are another winter haunt; while Epping Forest, depths and edges, are full of them. With these summer thrift is never exchanged for winter idleness. Many of the stout gipsy lads get employment in gentlemen's and public stables. The men hunt the horse markets and weekly suburban markets and buy, sell and trade horses and carriages. Many of them rove about the poorer districts of the city telling fortunes for whatever they can get. Those too old for these jaunty mind the pots, kettles and little ones against the wanderers' nightly return. Old men and lads and lasses remaining at home are never idle. Rude mats, market baskets, stable and street brushes, by the hundreds of thousands, are their annual handwork, and the millions of skewers in use at the London meat stalls are every one whittled out by busy gipsy hands.

EDGAR L. WAKEMAN.

Took Enough to Stock a Farm. Robert Walters, of Sharnburg, had J. W. Anderson, of Richland township, arrested yesterday for larceny. According to Walters, Anderson is no ordinary thief, as he took two horses, six hogs, two cows and other property, valued at \$51.78 of Walters' money to his own use. Anderson gave bail for a hearing on Monday before Alderman McNierney.

THOUSANDS OF FINE

Overcoats, Ulsters, Suits and Pants at Wonderfully Low Prices for Friday and Saturday Sale—F. C. C. C. Corner Grant and Diamond Streets.

Read our remarkably low price list for today and to-morrow. Good, reliable and fashionable clothing never was sold so cheaply as now. Every item guaranteed just as represented or money refunded. F. C. C. C. Men's elegant fall overcoats, black, blue, Oxford, brown, silk faced and lined, worth \$18, at \$6.50. Fine storm ulsters, made up of chinchilla and Shestian, great coat, worth \$15, at \$5.50. Men's blue and black double-breasted tweeled cheviot suits, sizes 34 to 42, worth \$18, at \$6.50. Men's fine, cassimere cloth lined, worth \$12, at \$4.50. Men's all-wool cutaway suits, elegant patterns to choose from, all sizes, worth \$15, at \$5.50. Men's blue and black double-breasted tweeled cheviot suits, sizes 34 to 42, worth \$18, at \$6.50. Here's a striking example of how cheaply we sell goods: 500 men's long cut cassimere overcoats at \$3.40. Men's elegant kersey overcoats, melton and cassimere, lined with cloth and lined, worth \$25, at 9.90. Now read the following. It's a plain proposition to the people. Good only for Friday and Saturday:

When all the above coupons have been properly counted, sorted and arranged according to the newspaper from which they have been cut, and presented on presentation as being the best advertising medium in Pittsburgh.

More men's overcoats and suits priced:

Men's heavy beaver and chinchilla overcoats, fine goods, black, blue and brown shaded, worth \$25, at \$9.90. Men's very high grade chinchilla overcoats, short or long nap, worth \$30, at \$10.90. Men's fine overcoats, melton, worth \$20, at \$7.90. Men's elegant dress suits, plain black goods, worth \$15, at \$5.50. Men's elegant dress suits, melton, worth \$15, at \$5.50. Men's elegant dress suits, melton, worth \$15, at \$5.50. Men's elegant dress suits, melton, worth \$15, at \$5.50.

Present this coupon at our

cashier's desk and you will receive one silver dollar. F. C. C. C. Clip this out.

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TWO WOMEN'S LOVE.

After a Happy Life Together, Death Results in a Will Contest.

WINDING UP THE SUPREME COURT.

Illegal Liquor Selling Cases Tried in the Criminal Court.

DIVORCES GRANTED FOR DESERTION

A hearing was commenced before Judge Hawkins in the Orphans' Court yesterday in the contest of the will of the late Miss Harriet L. Vance, of Pittsburgh. The case reveals an unusual instance of friendship between women. Miss Vance died June 10, 1892, aged about 44 years. Two days before her death she signed her will which bequeathed all her estate to Miss Betta J. Woods. The will was as follows:

I give all I possess of this world's goods and all my money to Miss Betta J. Woods.

H. L. VANCE.

Witnesses—E. J. LADNEY, JENNIE McCUNE.

Miss Vance and Miss Woods were friends when both attended the same seminary. When they graduated, neither having any home, they decided to live together, and have done so ever since excepting about nine months. Miss Woods supported herself as a bookkeeper, and Miss Vance received an income from an estate in Kentucky she owned. For the last four or five years Miss Vance had been saving nearly all her income to purchase a home for the two. She often declared, "Two days before her death she signed her will, which bequeathed all her estate to Miss Woods to have all her property."

When her will was offered for probate it was contested by her brother and several nephews. They alleged testamentary incapacity and that undue influence and fraud were used. At the hearing yesterday the subscribing witnesses testified that the will was written by Jennie McCune, one of them. It was then taken into the room of dicker and dinking (for want of a better name) are the gipsies who, in their extended winter London tarrying, retain most the manner of the summer road life. I should think there could be found from 10,000 to 20,000 of these in the suburbs of London, from November until March. These are entirely exclusive of several thousand more who never leave London, but travel in endless circles about the outer edges of the great city, intermingling with Bedouins of all cutting and coloring (from the red and purple of the desert to the blue and lavender of the summer, and hoppers in the autumn, and scavengers in general the remainder of the year. They camp where they work, and though often reduced to abject wretchedness are a kindly and cheery set of men and women.

THE SUPREME COURT NEARING THE END

Its Session in Pittsburgh—Markie Paper Company Suits Argued—Lost Her Husband at a Railroad Crossing.

The Supreme Court will rise to-day, after being in session six weeks. There were nine cases disposed of yesterday. The case of J. W. Johnston and others against the Markie Paper Company and the appeal of Margaret Ann McMaster were heard on the same case, all arising out of the failure of the Westmoreland county concern, were argued. The action was brought by creditors of the Markie Paper Company to force the payment of unpaid subscriptions for stock.

WILL RISE TO-DAY.

The appeal of the Equitable Gas Company from the judgment of Common Pleas Court No. 1 was argued. It is a case in which Sarah E. Wilson secured \$30,000 damages for the construction of a main from the Mur-

rayville district through her property on Spenser avenue.

There was an argument in the case of Julia McGill against the Pittsburgh and Western Railway. Edward McGill, the plaintiff's husband, was a teamster and was killed at the grade crossing at the bridge from East Ohio street to the station at Allegheny, on July 24, 1890, by an express train on the Western road. The case was non-suited in the lower court by Judge White and the plaintiff appealed.

The case of Mrs. Malone vs. Malone and Lizzie Huchel against the Lake Erie Railway Company were argued. On June 17, 1890, the two women went to a picnic at Allegheny. Mrs. Malone had her watch stolen, and the following day, hearing where her timepiece was, she and Miss Huchel went to the picnic. The women bought excursion tickets and were ejected from the train on the return trip, the conductor claiming the tickets were not good on his train. Mrs. Malone got a verdict for \$700 and her companion \$225 in the lower court. The cases were appealed by the railway company.

The appeal of Rea Bros. & Co. against Isaac S. Van Voorhis, an action to recover \$15,000 on stock transactions, was the last case argued.

IN THE CRIMINAL COURT.

A Number of Illegal Liquor Selling Cases Heard Yesterday.

In the Criminal Court yesterday James Gilderman, Harry Thompson and Charles Smith pleaded guilty to assault and battery on Joseph Blumer, of Allegheny. Gilderman and Thompson were each fined \$15 and costs and Smith \$25 and costs. Gilderman was acquitted of the larceny of a watch from Blumer.

Christ Livingston, of Buena Vista, was convicted of assault and battery and fined \$5 and costs.

Samuel Friedman and Abram Frank, of Tom's Run, were acquitted of the charge of selling liquor without license, but were directed to pay the costs.

Henry Vogel, of Braddock, charged by C. A. Stuenkel with selling liquor without a license, was found not guilty and the costs divided.

John Pickart, of Chartiers borough, was found guilty of selling liquor without a license. He was a driver for Fred Hampe, a wholesale liquor dealer, and sold direct from the wagon.

John Menzer, of Chartiers borough, was convicted, and Christ Schmidt, of Baldwin township, pleaded guilty to selling liquor without a license.

Executions Issued Yesterday.

The following executions were issued yesterday: J. C. Low & Co. vs. J. A. and S. A. Roth, \$1,538.26; Adler Roedelshelm & Co. vs. same, \$604; Whitesell & Sons, for use of Fred Maul, vs. the Peck, Phillips & Wallace Co., limited, \$800; John H. Sraun vs. John Bauerlein, \$625; W. K. Sample, for use of H. E. Sample, vs. same, \$1,732.80; John Bauerlein, Sr., vs. John Bauerlein, Jr., \$1,785; Wilson, Bailey & Co. vs. O. P. Frisz and William Spital, \$1,104.96; John Frisz vs. J. F. Thompson, \$1,405.35.

Two Divorces Granted.

Divorces were granted yesterday in the cases of Annie M. Cohen against Emil Cohen and John E. Crooks against Agnes Crooks. Desertion was the charge in both cases.

Arguing the Point Bridge Case.

An argument was heard before Judge White yesterday on the exceptions to the

master's report in the case of the Point Bridge Company against the West End Electric Railway Company to restrain the defendant from running its cars over the bridge.

The master found that the railway company should use the bridge upon making certain alterations and pay \$5,000 per year for the privilege. The bridge company filed the exceptions. Major Brown appeared for the bridge company and D. T. Watson for the railway company. A decision was reserved.

The Hum of the Courts.

The case of J. R. Collins & Co. against Schoemaker & Co., an action for debt, is on trial before Judge Ewing. In the case of T. A. Wightman against H. E. Bateman, a suit on account, a verdict was given for \$98 77 for the plaintiff.

A Verdict of \$419 for the plaintiff

was given in the case of Ernest Hauch against the obligor, an action to recover for beer sold to the defendant.

A verdict for the defendant was given

in the case of Erhart Whistler against Morris Walsh. Whistler was knocked down and injured by a horse owned by Walsh, and sued for damages.

QUARANTINE TO BE MAINTAINED.

Steerage Passengers Won't Have a Pleasant Time of it Next Year.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—In view of the still lingering possibility of a fresh outbreak of cholera in European countries, in the early spring, and the consequent danger of its introduction into the United States, the officials of the Treasury Department have determined to maintain the utmost vigilance in guarding our ports against the entrance of people or merchandise that might possibly convey the germs of the disease.

According to official construction, all alien coming to this country for permanent residence will be regarded as such, whether traveling in cabin or steerage. The admission of these will be restricted as far as possible, but bona fide tourists simply visiting for a few days in this country will be admitted without restriction.

TAKE Bromo-Seltzer for Insomnia

Before retiring—100 a bottle.

Good Old Fashioned

Gingerbread.

1 cup molasses, 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 1/2 sugar, 1 cinnamon, 1 1/2 butter, 1 tablespoon ginger, 1 1/2 flour, 1 1/2 eggs, 1 1/2 salt.

Beat 5 cups of flour—work in four, then add cautiously. Stir in sugar, molasses and spice together to a light cream. Beat in eggs one by one. Beat eggs well, then add to the warmed mix-

ture, milk, soda, and last four. Beat by hand for 10 minutes and bake at 350° for 40 or 50 minutes.

THE NEW SHORTENING,

Instead of BUTTER.

It will make the cake better, and impart a rich, delicate flavor, the same as in our Grandmother's Gingerbread.

COTTOLENE is a vegetable product; new to the world, yet already famous as a perfect, wholesome and economical substitute for lard and butter in all kinds of cooking. One trial will convince you of the superior merits of COTTOLENE.

Your grocer has it.

R. K. FAIRBANK & CO., Sole Manufacturers, CHICAGO.

PITTSBURGH AGENTS: F. SELLERS & CO.

ALASKA SEAL

Loose Front COATS,

With large sleeves, high shoulders and storm collar—70 of them—as per list below—of sizes and lengths. This was a spot cash purchase made last week under special circumstances, and we propose to sell them at so small a profit and at such prices as will further demonstrate that these new and largely extended Cloak Room and Fur Departments mean business, and propose to get large amounts of new business—and we're getting it every day—but only one way—this way—large and choice collections, good qualities, best styles and LESS PRICE:

4—Bust 34, Deep 30.

5—Bust 36, Deep 30.

10—Bust 38, Deep 30.

6—Bust 34, Deep 32.

6—Bust 36, Deep 32.

5—Bust 38, Deep 32.

2—Bust 40, Deep 32.

1—Bust 42, Deep 32.

1—Bust 34, Deep 34.

6—Bust 36, Deep 34.

8—Bust 38, Deep 34.

3—Bust 40, Deep 34.

1—Bust 42, Deep 34.

1—Bust 36, Deep 36.

1—Bust 38, Deep 36.

3—Bust 40, Deep 36.

2—Bust 42, Deep 36.

1—Bust 40, Deep 38.

Prices on above are \$150 AND \$175.

If you want to save twenty-five to fifty dollars on your Seal, you now have the opportunity.

BOGGS & BUHL,

ALLEGHENY.

THE ONLY REASON

For the continued increase of THE DISPATCH adlets is that they give satisfactory returns.

CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED.

If Dr. Schenck's treatment and cure of Consumption were something new and untried, people might doubt; but what has proved itself through trials as old as our grandfathers, means just what it is.

A Specific for Consumption

and for all diseases of the Lungs. No treatment in the world can place man's permanent cure of Consumption to its credit as Dr. Schenck's. Nothing in Nature acts so directly and so surely on the membranes and tissues, and so quickly disposes of tubercles, congestion, inflammation, colds, coughs and all the seeds of Consumption as

Dr. Schenck's Pulmonic Syrup

When all else fails it comes to the rescue. Not until it fails, and only after faithful trial, should any one despond. It has turned the hopeless to life and health. It has turned the despair of ten thousand homes into joy. It is doing it now, and will continue to do it throughout the ages. Dr. Schenck's Practical Treatise on Consumption, Liver and Stomach Diseases, mailed free on application. Dr. H. B. Schenck, 609 N. Philadelphia, Pa. no-50-77

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

HARDY & HAYES.

"Full many a gem of purest ray serene The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear."—Gray.

RINGS AND PENDANTS

FOR BRIDAL GIFTS.

A jeweled pendant makes a very appropriate present from groom to bride. The bride would be glad to have one, whoever it came from. We have some exquisite pendants with single stones or thickly studded with gems of "purest ray serene" in

ALL DIAMONDS, ENAMEL & DIAMONDS, PEARL & DIAMONDS, EMERALD & DIAMONDS, OPAL & DIAMONDS, Etc., Etc.

Read above again, but read "rings" instead of "pendants." The gem combinations are about the same. Here are ring style ideas—

MARQUISE, SCROLL, FLEUR DE LIS, TEAR DROP, CLUSTER, Etc.

Perhaps you'd rather give the bride something useful as well as ornamental—something that will be of utility to her in her new home. We can show you a thousand and one articles for such a purpose. See them in our new ART ROOMS. Take elevator.

HARDY & HAYES,

529 SMITHFIELD STREET.

B. & B.

ALASKA SEAL

Loose Front COATS,

With large sleeves, high shoulders and storm collar—70 of them—as per list below—of sizes and lengths. This was a spot cash purchase made last week under special circumstances, and we propose to sell them at so small a profit and at such prices as will further demonstrate that these new and largely extended Cloak Room and Fur Departments mean business, and propose to get large amounts of new business—and we're getting it every day—but only one way—this way—large and choice collections, good qualities, best styles and LESS PRICE:

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