

A Sharp Smuggler—How he fooled a Custom House Officer.

There is a very important traffic carried on in diamonds over the various European lines to this country, and as the duty upon them is ten per cent, ad valorem the sharp-est watch is kept upon those suspected to be engaged in it. By means of agents abroad the Collector's office has often information by cable of the departure from the various ports of suspected diamond smugglers, and is prepared to intercept them. In nine cases out of ten the stones are concealed upon the persons of the passengers. When this becomes a certainty, or what is supposed to be a certainty, the passenger is arrested and taken to the searcher's bureau in the Custom House. Here if found necessary, the party is stripped to the skin and his clothes examined inch by inch and seam by seam; the heels are taken from his boots his hair and beard are combed, and every means taken to discover the hiding place of the secreted treasures. Once this mode of search used to be tolerably successful, but now it rarely serves any purpose except in the case of raw recruits to the smuggling ranks. An old bird is caught with chaff but once.

A New York Jew, who was reputed to be in the business of smuggling diamonds, used to cross the water on the Cunard line from three to four times a season. Two years ago, in the early part of the season, he was seized upon his arrival and taken to the searcher's room. Nearly a thousand dollars' worth of precious stones were found secreted in the lining of his boots. He returned to Liverpool by the same steamer, and four weeks afterward again landed upon the company's wharf on North River. He was again seized and subjected to the same rigorous search, but with no success. The Jew took it smilingly and philosophically. When he took his leave he said: "Better luck next time, gentlemen. I shall go back by the same steamer on business, and when I return you can try it again."

The officers mentally determined if he did they would try it again. Upon inquiry it was found that he really had engaged a return passage, having held his stateroom for that purpose. Two hours before the sailing of the steamer he was driven down to the pier in his carriage, his wife and daughter with him to see him off. When they returned they carried with them over ten thousand dollars' worth of diamonds which had been secreted in his stateroom during the whole time the steamer had remained in port. Before his return to New York the Collector was notified by one of the revenue agents abroad that "Max Fischer would return by the— which would leave Liverpool, August 25, with several thousand dollars' of diamonds." In due time the Jew arrived, and for the third time was escorted before the searcher. He was evidently not prepared for such persistent attention. He seemed nervous and agitated, and finally attempted to compromise. He was politely informed that that was out of the question. He was again put through the searching process. His pocketbook, which was first investigated, revealed a memorandum showing the purchase of eighteen diamonds of various sizes and prices, amounting in all to about \$12,000. When this came to sight the Jew begged with tears to be allowed to compromise. A deaf ear was turned to his entreaties. His coat was removed and the lining examined. Nothing there. Then the waistcoat. As the searcher passed his practiced fingers along the lining his heart gave a tremendous thump as he recognized the "feet" of something pebbly, like little rows of buttons. The garment was hastily ripped, a strip of chamois skin withdrawn and unrolled, and there lay, one, two, three—eighteen!

All there. "You can put on your coat and waistcoat again, Mr. Fischer," said the searcher, blandly. "Good day."

Without a word the Jew departed, took a horse car home, kissed his family, ate a rousing dinner, repaired to the bath room, and after soaking a rather capacious plaster across the small of his back for a few minutes in warm water, peeled it off, and with it "eighteen diamonds, of various costs and prices." What the searcher and collector may have said or thought when they found their seizure to be nothing but clever glass imitations worth from ten to thirty cents each, nobody knows; for although the seizure was loudly heralded, the finale was never made public. A lady in Boston, moving in fashionable circles, wears a valuable diamond which was imported in the cavity of a double tooth, said tooth being in the mouth of an Israelitish gentleman of New York. It was placed in its rather unromantic hiding place in London, and safely covered with bone filling, which was displaced after the arrival in New York.

A woman with a baby under one arm and a dog under the other entered a crowded car near Concord, N. H., the other day, made for a seat where an old man was sitting alone, and was proceeding to stow herself, child and dog into the vacant seat, when the man, who has a great aversion to dogs, blandly remarked to the lady: "Madam, I have no objection to one baby in this seat, but I have most decided objections to twins." The woman found another seat.

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RAILROADS.

PHILADELPHIA AND READING R. R. SUMMER ARRANGEMENT. Monday, June 15th, 1874.

TRAINS LEAVE HARRISBURG AS FOLLOWS: For New York, at 3.25, 8.10 a. m. and 2.00 p. m. and 7.40 p. m. For Philadelphia, at 5.25, 8.10, 9.45 a. m., 2.00 and 3.50 p. m. For Reading, at 5.25, 8.10, 9.45 a. m., 2.00, 3.50 and 7.40 p. m. For Pottsville, at 5.25, 8.10 a. m. and 3.50 p. m. and via Schuylkill and Susquehanna Branch at 2.40 p. m. For Allentown, at 5.25, 8.10 a. m., 2.00 and 3.50 and 7.40 p. m. The 5.25, 8.10 a. m. and 2.00 p. m. trains have through cars for Philadelphia.

SUNDAYS: For New York, at 5.25 a. m. For Allentown and Way Stations at 5.25 a. m. For Reading, Philadelphia and Way Stations at 4.50 p. m. TRAINS FOR HARRISBURG, LEAVE AS FOLLOWS: Leave New York, at 8.00 a. m., 12.40, 5.30 and 7.40 p. m. Leave Philadelphia, at 9.15 a. m., 3.40 and 7.15 p. m. Leave Reading, at 4.30, 7.35, 11.20 a. m., 1.50, 6.10 and 10.20 p. m. Leave Pottsville, at 5.55, 9.00 a. m. and 4.30 p. m. and via Schuylkill and Susquehanna Branch at 8.05 a. m. Leave Allentown, at 2.30, 5.50, 8.50 a. m., 12.25, 4.30 and 8.55 p. m. The 2.30 a. m. train from Allentown and the 4.30 p. m. train from Reading do not run on Mondays.

SUNDAYS: Leave New York, at 5.30 p. m. Leave Philadelphia, at 7.15 p. m. Leave Reading, at 4.30, 7.35 a. m. and 10.20 p. m. Leave Allentown, 2.30 a. m. and 8.55 p. m. J. E. WOOTTON, General Superintendent. *Via Morris and Essex Rail Road.

Pennsylvania R. R. Time Table.

NEWPORT STATION. On and after May 31, 1874, Passenger trains will run as follows:

WEST. Pacific Express, 5.15 A. M. (Flag) daily. Way Pass. 9.10 A. M., daily. Mail, 11.30 P. M., daily except Sunday. Mixed, 6.50 P. M., daily except Sunday. Pittsburgh Express, 12.35 A. M., (Flag)

EAST. Mail, 7.05 P. M., daily except Sunday Harrisburg Accom 12.22 P. M., daily " Sunday Cincinnati Express, 9.37 P. M., daily (flag) J. J. BARCLAY, Agent.

DUNCANNON STATION.

On and after Sunday, Nov. 2nd, 1873, trains leave Duncannon, as follows: WESTWARD. Pacific Express 4.45 A. M. (flag) daily. Way Passenger, 8.44 A. M., daily. Mail, 2.16 P. M., daily except Sunday. Mixed, 6.50 P. M., daily except Sunday.

EASTWARD. Harrisburg Accom 12.55 P. M., daily except Sunday Mail 7.37 P. M., " " W. M. C. KING, Agent.

Stage Line Between Newport and New Germantown.

STAGES leave New Germantown daily at four o'clock a. m. Landsburg at 7.30 a. m. Greenpark at 8 a. m. New Bloomfield at 9 1/2 a. m. Arriving at Newport to connect with the Accommodation train East. Returning leaves Newport on the arrival of the Mail Train from Philadelphia, at 2.30 p. m. Z. RICE, Proprietor.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Administration on the estate of William John, late of Juniata township, Perry county, deceased, have been granted to the subscriber residing in Saylorsburg. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims to present them duly authenticated for settlement to JOHN HEMONTON, Administrator. June 23, 1874-6t

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