

IS FROM WHITECHAPEL.

JACK THE RIPPER IS CONFINED IN A MADHOUSE.

The Story Told by Dr. Forbes Winslow as to the Identity of the Man who Terrified All London—Said to be a Medical Man with Homicidal Mania.

Mention was made in PROGRESS last week, that Jack the Ripper, the Whitechapel murderer, was said to be confined in an English Lunatic asylum. Since then, a long interview of Dr. Forbes Winslow by a New York reporter has given some of the particulars of the story. Dr. Winslow is a well known specialist, now on a visit to America. The doctor holds the theory that the assassin was a well to do man suffering from religious mania. Many theories had been started, and met with more or less favor. The general opinion was that the murderer was a cattle butcher visiting the slums of Whitechapel and committing a murder every time his ship came in. On the body of Mary Jane Kelly, who was murdered on Nov. 9, 1888, a woman's hat was found in addition to her own. Every body then said that the 'Ripper' was a woman. Nothing was proved, however, and the police were still at fault, though working most assiduously. The first definite clue was obtained on Aug. 30, 1889, when a woman with whom Dr. Forbes Winslow, was in communication (for he had never stopped working on the murders) came to him and said that a man had spoken to her in Worship street, Finsbury, who wanted her to go down a court with him. She refused to do so and together with some of the neighbors whom she told, followed him, walking at a little distance behind. They saw him go into a house out of which she had seen his coming some days before. On the morning of July 17, she saw him washing his hands at the pump in the yard of the house referred to. He was in his shirt sleeves. She particularly remembered the occurrence because of the very peculiar look on his face. When the house was searched the man had gone, nothing being known about him except that the description of him given by the other tenants tallied with that given by a lodging house keeper, with whom he lived a year before. This lodging house keeper, whose name was Callahan, called on Dr. Winslow several days afterwards and gave him some most important information.

He said that in April, 1888, a gentleman looking man called in answer to an advertisement. He took a large bed and sitting-room, and said that he was over there on business, and might stay a few months or perhaps a year. Before he came there he told them that he had occupied rooms in the neighborhood of St. Paul's Cathedral.

The proprietor and his wife noticed that whenever he went out of doors he wore a different suit of clothes to what he did the day before, and would often change them three or four times a day. He had eight or nine suits of clothes, and the same number of hats. He kept very late hours, and whenever he returned home his entry was quite noiseless. In his room were three pairs of rubbers coming high over the ankles, one pair of which he always used when going out at night.

On Aug. 7, the date of the second murder, the lodging-house keeper was sitting up late with his sister, waiting for his wife to return from the country. She was expected about four a. m. and the two sat up till then. A little before four o'clock the lodger came in, looking as though he had been having rather a rough time. When questioned he said that his watch had been stolen in Bishopsgate, and gave the name of a police station at which he had lodged a complaint.

On investigation this proved to be false, as no complaint had been lodged with the police. The next morning, when the maid went to fix his room, she called the attention of the proprietress to a large bloodstain on the bed. His shirt was found hanging up in his room with the cuffs recently washed, he having washed them himself. A few days later he left, saying that he was going to Canada, but he evidently did not go, because he was seen getting into a horse car in London in September, 1888.

While he was in the lodging-house he was regarded by all as a person of unsound mind, and he would frequently break out into remarks expressing his disgust at the number of fallen women in the streets. He would sometimes talk for hours to the proprietress of the lodging-house giving his views upon the subject of immoral women in the streets. During his leisure time he would sometimes fill up fifty or sixty sheets of footcaps writing upon religious matters connected with morality. These he would sometimes read to the proprietress, who says that they were very violent in tone and expressed bitter hatred of dissolute women.

At eight o'clock every morning he attended service at St. Paul's cathedral. All this information Dr. Forbes Winslow gathered privately, and added to the clues he had already obtained. As soon as he heard the description of the habits of the man who had lived at Callahan's, he said instantly:

"That's the man."

If he had constructed an imaginary man out of his experience of insane people suffering from homicidal religious mania, his

habits would have corresponded almost exactly with those told him by the lodging-house keeper.

The conception that the doctor had formed of the way the entire series of murders had been committed was corroborated almost exactly by the evident propensities of the mysterious lodger. Dr. Winslow had said that the murderer is one and the same person; that he has committed the crime suffering from homicidal mania of a religious description, and laboring under the morbid belief that the delusion entertained by him has direct reference to the part of the bodies removed. That under that delusion and desiring to directly influence the mortality of the world, and imagining that he has a certain destiny to fulfil, he has chosen the immoral class of society to vent his vengeance upon.

Just as soon as his clue became certain Dr. Winslow told the police all he knew and suggested a plan whereby the lunatic could be captured upon the steps of St. Paul's cathedral.

To his great surprise the police refused to co-operate. The rubber shoes, which he took possession of were covered with dried human blood. They had been left behind by the murderer in his rapid departure from the lodging house. In addition to the rubbers three pairs of lace shoes were left behind and a quantity of bows, feathers and flowers such as are usually worn by women of the lower class. Some of the latter were stained with blood.

Dr. Winslow was severely criticised for informing some of the London newspapers of his clues. The publication of the doctor's information, showing how closely hemmed in the murderer was and how dangerous if not impossible any more murders would be, evidently frightened 'Jack the Ripper.'

No more murders were committed after the news of the doctor's researches. The specialist says that the maniac most probably left the country for a time.

The murderer was described as being of slight build, active, with a rather small head, delicate features and a wealth of light brown hair. He frequently boasted of his knowledge of anatomy, and said that he had achieved considerable distinction at college. Several months after the publication of Dr. Winslow's discoveries, a young man was arrested for attempted suicide, and when examined by the police surgeon was proved to be hopelessly insane. He was committed to a government asylum, as it befitted one so young; so the Whitechapel murders were still fresh in people's minds, and the asylum authorities noticed that his description tallied with that given as 'Jack the Ripper' in Dr. Winslow's published statements. His complaint was a despondent madness breaking out at times into violent homicidal mania.

Investigations were at once set on foot, resulting in the discovery that the mysterious lodger, 'Jack the Ripper' and the unfortunate inmate in the asylum were one and the same man. He was found to come of a well-to-do and respectable family, and evinced considerable ability in his college career. His specialty was anatomy, and he studied so hard that his mind, never very strong, gave way under the strain. Always of a religious turn of mind, he became afflicted with religious mania.

Dr. Winslow says that lunatics often act up to the Scriptural maxim, "If thine eye offend thee pluck it out." This was the murderer's idea, and he imagined that it was his destiny to wipe a social blot from the face of the earth. His name or the asylum in which he is confined, the doctor refuses to divulge. The police, however, admit that the lunatic now in the asylum is 'Jack the Ripper.'

Now that the facts concerning his methods are known, much of the speculation concerning the marvellous way in which he escaped arrest is set at rest. He was a young man of quiet appearance and not likely to attract any undue attention, while his constant change of clothing would prevent the remote contingencies of anyone becoming familiar with his appearance in Whitechapel. He was extremely active, and when shod with the noiseless rubbers, could make his escape where another man less adapted for the work would have failed.

Dr. Winslow says that a sane man however active, would have been caught very soon. Constant experience has convinced him that the lunatic's cunning and quickness of action cannot be equalled by a man in the full possession of his mental faculties.

After the authorities had convinced themselves that the man they had was the actual perpetrator of the terrible deeds of the preceding year, they decided to make no public statement. The man was violently insane and could not be punished, therefore it was considered best to quietly confine him in the asylum and not re-open the harrowing details of the murders.

He is still living in the asylum, and is subject to occasional outbreaks of homicidal mania. Neither the police nor Dr. Winslow can be said to have actually run the maniac to earth, but he was undoubtedly frightened away by the publication of the doctor's clues showing what his habits were, where he had been and where he was likely to be.

The identity of the man's disease, for it was really nothing else, with the diagnosis formed after the early murders by Dr. Forbes Winslow, is indeed a remarkable tribute to modern science of criminology and the scientific study of the insane.

Doctoring Made Easy.

Some amusing yarns are told about sea medics. One captain, having consulted his book about medical instructions, found that a strong dose from number six bottle was the proper remedy for a sick sailor standing before him. But number six was empty, so the captain, not to be beaten, made a mixture from bottles numbered two and four, which, after all, he thought came to pretty much the same as taking the whole from number six.

It is related that a lieutenant of a gunboat found the responsibility of a medicine chest too much for him. Immediately he was off soundings the gallant officer mustered all hands and divided the contents of the chest equally!

A man-of-war doctor had a simple method of locating a man's ailment and alleviating it. He used to tie a piece of tape round the waist of the sufferer, and then bade him declare whether his pain existed

above or below the tape. If above, an emetic; if below, a dose of salts followed, as a matter of course.

SOCIETY LADIES WHO TIPPLE.

Some of the ways in which they imbibe the Hard Stuff in England.

A dipsomania specialist gives some interesting information to London Tit-bits. Among other things he says:

I have had patients, ladies of high rank in society, who, denied of alcohol by persons about them, have actually disguised themselves, and gone into the tap-rooms of common taverns to drink; but these cases are unusual. The general thing is to obtain drink by means of some device. For instance, some ladies will have secret stores, and carry small quantities about with them in ostensible scent-bottles. Holding the bottle in a handkerchief and the handkerchief to the nose, they can easily drink the contents of the bottle without even the person sitting next to them being any the wiser.

Many dipsomanics will have little contrivances made for them. The other day I saw one of my patients, right under my very nose, refresh herself out of an article which had every appearance of a purse. As a matter of fact, it was nothing more than a silver flask made in the shape of one of those long purses so much favored this season, and carefully enamelled to represent leather. At one end it had a small valve, which opened when pressed. Thus, you see, my patient could be ostensibly holding her purse against her lips, as ladies often do when contemplating articles in shop-windows, but would in reality be opening the valve by pressing it against her teeth and imbibing the contents.

I dare say you have seen, if not tasted, those bon-bons filled with different kinds of spirits, rum and whiskey principally. Well, they are in great favor with dipsomanic. It is apparently quite a harmless matter to take a few bon-bons into one's box at the theatre, yet it is really a serious matter. I have seen ladies at the theatre munching, if I may be excused the expression, these diabolical luxuries all the evening, and they contain considerably more liquor than one would think. I have known persons to become completely intoxicated by eating them.

Some of the first ladies in the land obtain drink at their dressmaker's, secretly. In some cases this fact is much more the reason of their constant visits than ordering or fitting on. I could mention three first-class dressmakers' establishments where I know for a certainty ladies obtain drink—not tea, but spirits.

When a woman is determined to obtain drink there is no stopping her. She has so many articles with her daily, that it is easy to devise a method of carrying drink about with her. A very common method in America, where dipsomania is even more rife than it is here, is to carry a flask in a muff. With both hands in a muff a woman can remove the screw stopper from the flask, and then, holding the muff to her face, which is a habit with ladies, she can drink whatever the flask contains without anyone suspecting the fact.

Ladies have often come and implored me to cure them, and a few minutes later have been drinking again. A lady whose name, were I to mention it, would startle you, came to me one day, and with tears in her eyes asked me to cure her, but all the time she was talking she was sipping whisky from a scent-bottle she carried in her handkerchief. Others have come to me and imbibed the liquor secreted in the handles of their umbrellas whilst I have been talking, and all with an air of perfect innocence.

I will tell you, in conclusion, a strange case I undertook. No one knew how she obtained her drink; all the servants had strict injunctions not to supply her with any, and all the spirits in the house were kept under a lock, the only key of which the husband had. We had the lady followed to see if she obtained drink outside; but, no. A search of the house was made in her absence to see if she had a secret store; but, no. There was no doubt that she did obtain drink, for she was frequently under the influence of it, but no one could discover how.

One day, when I had almost abandoned hope in the case, as she was leaving her house I noticed on the hall table a pile of books which had just been brought by a messenger from a certain library. Whether it was from inspiration or mere inquisitiveness I cannot say, but I turned the books over, and looking at their titles I saw there were two volumes of the same work I undid the strap, took the two books in my hands, and behold! the mystery was clear to me. One volume weighed twice as much as the other, and although a perfect representation of a book, was nothing more than a case which contained a large flask of spirits.

I went back to my patient, and with her husband demanded to have the matter explained. Poor woman! she sobbed like a guilty child when she saw that I had discovered her device, and confessed everything, even to having bridled the library messenger to get her the drink. We snowed her how low she had stooped, and worked upon her mind to such a degree that today, although her case was once desperate, she is one of the most abstemious women in London.

Care of the Home.

How many homes there are in which more care is lavished upon expensive adornments than upon the free, every-day comforts and blessings of nature! There are many women who, with the best intention for the care of their houses and their children, still commit one heinous, hygienic sin by what may not be imputed called "furniture worship," and so careful are they of carpets, sofa coverings, and curtains, that some rooms in their houses are maintained in cellar-like darkness except for short intervals when they are thrown open for "company." If one thing is more certain than another, it is the fact that all sorts of microscopic

growths love the darkness. One has only to search a dark spot in the forest to find myriads of them, and dark sunless closets and corners come a close second with molds, and, if we examine carefully, a dust filled with spores.

REV. J. C. MORSE, D. D.

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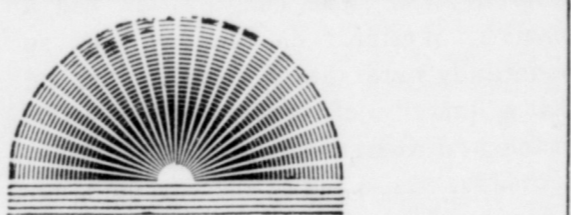
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