

**Walt Whitman in New York.**  
 Notwithstanding his residence in Washington, his stay in New Orleans, where he did some good newspaper work, and not counting his long vegetation in Camden, N. J., Walt Whitman is in every fiber a thorough New Yorker. Why not? He was born, seventy-two years ago, in a little village over on Long Island, and like most Long Islanders, naturally drifted to this town. My old journalistic friend remembers him here thirty-five years ago, when he first put out his "Leaves of Grass." This city was comparatively small then, and Walt Whitman was as conspicuous a citizen as any—knew everybody and everybody knew him. He was a marked figure on Broadway—a most manly man, as vigorous and virile as his own poetry. His very personality impressed itself upon all passers by, and men, and even women, turned around to look at him. He was almost the first to make the now fashionable fad of the flannel shirt in summer his all the year round convenience and comfort, and the broad collar was turned over a silk American flag. His ordinary wear was a neat suit of workingman's clothes. Whatever he might be called, a Democrat or a Republican, he prided himself upon being "one of the people." Brady, then famous as a photographer, was the first to capture Whitman, and thereafter every photographer in town displayed colored pictures of Walt, especially to show his American flag scarf.

There were omnibuses in those days—"stages," they called them—and every driver knew Walt Whitman; and up and down Broadway the poet was prominent, often for hours, beside a driver on the box. The lively street was his studio in which he made his pictures of the people and his studies of humanity.—New York Cor. Brooklyn Times.

**The Development of Siam.**  
 The Siamese sovereigns have usually been men of considerable ability and in energy and enlightenment are superior to most Asiatic potentates. The late king of Siam and his successor have done what they could to introduce the forms of western civilization. Bangkok, the capital, has the electric light, tram cars and government offices of European architecture, and the present king has also shown himself a reformer of abuses, especially of the worst of Siamese social evils, the universality of serfdom and the prevalence of slavery.

Further and much needed reforms are expected from him, but even were the political and fiscal administration of the kingdom very much better than it is the Siamese, a lighthearted nation of Buddhists, fond of amusement and accustomed to frequent holidays, are little fitted to develop the great resources of their country.

The internal trade is chiefly in the hands of Chinamen, who, with the Malays, add some millions more to the estimated population of 6,000,000. Railways are being constructed and Europeans have been encouraged by the policy of Siamese royalty to settle at Bangkok and to develop the external trade of Siam.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

**Explosives in Mines.**  
 It has been claimed that the use of modern explosives in mines leads to the production of such poisonous fumes that a grave danger to the workmen is thus incurred. A short time ago a committee was appointed by the Durham Coal Owners' association, consisting of representatives of both masters and men, to consider this important question. Careful experiments having been made, the committee came to the conclusion that the fumes produced are not more dangerous than those from gunpowder; that carbon monoxide—the irrespirable gas which is produced by the combustion of charcoal, and which has led to so many deaths—is present only in traces; that an interval of five minutes should be allowed to elapse before the men re-enter the gallery in which the charge has been fired; and that as they find a portion of the deleterious gases are due to the fuse employed, the charges should be invariably fired by electricity.—New York Telegram.

**A Unique Social Organization.**  
 The latest departure in clubdom is the formation of the Annie Lynch Botta Conversation club, a purely social organization of literary and artistic men and women, founded in memory of Mrs. Botta's famous Sunday evenings. The topic of the evening's conversation is known only to one person, who selects it but does not announce it until after the company has assembled, which precludes all possibility of preparation and secures the charm of spontaneity to the talk.

The person who selects the topic is called the "director," and leads the conversation. This office is not held by the same person on consecutive evenings. Membership to the club is obtained only through the medium of friendship with those already admitted to its privileges.—New York Sun.

**A Successful Drummer.**  
 A. B. Cummings, who was famous in the gentlemen's furnishing trade throughout the country and was regarded as in some respects the most brilliant salesman in New York, is dead quite suddenly from an attack of the grip. He was able to command a salary of \$10,000, besides handsome commissions on his sales, and he earned more money selling neckties than a majority of the bank presidents receive in salary, or nine-tenths of the lawyers here gain in practice at the bar.—New York Letter.

**One Year's Patents.**  
 Some months ago the American patent office had its 100th birthday, and the last half of the century has witnessed wonderful strides in that direction. In the first fifty years only 12,412 patents were issued, but last year there were 22,060.

The variety of patented articles is really wonderful, and American ingenuity seems to be in no danger of exhausting itself. Every year shows a larger number of inventions than the

**ALL ABOUT GYPSIES.**  
 THEIR ORIGIN, MANNERS, CUSTOMS AND METHOD OF LIVING.

**The General Impression Regarding the Race is Wrong—Most of Them Are Industrious in Their Own Way—They Do Not Like Civilization.**

A reporter has had the novel pleasure of passing an evening with a family of genuine full blooded gypsies at their home in this city.

To the average reader this statement will not appear particularly startling nor interesting, for the average reader is probably not sufficiently conversant with gypsies and their ways to be interested in a family of them which journeyed across the water to make a new home in the United States.

It is safe to say that the popular idea of gypsies is far from being correct. All have seen our wandering nomads traveling along our highways or bivouacking in their filthy tents and still more filthy camps. Ask ten people what a gypsy is and six of them will substantially say: "People who travel about the country and exist by doing as little work as they can and by stealing all they can lay their hands upon."

This impression is all wrong and there are few, very few, genuine gypsies in this country.

Gypsies are a distinct race and nationality in themselves, as distinct as the Germans are from the Chinese or the Russians from the Americans. They are supposed to come, as their name indicates, originally from Egypt. They have a language of their own, the Romancee chik, or "Gypsy tongue," which is still preserved and spoken almost as purely as it was centuries ago. It is made up of the Egyptian, Hindoostanee, Romanian and other languages.

Gypsies are scattered over all Europe and there are today over 70,000 of them on that continent. It is not known when first they left their native country and began to make their appearance in Europe. They entered Germany in 1132 and as early as 1581 many of them were in Scotland, following the occupations of actors and dancers and tinkers. They are known to this day in Scotland as "tinklers." The better and more progressive class of gypsies seem to have adopted Great Britain as their home. While the men have as a rule followed horse trading as a business, and the women fortune telling and basket making, they have turned their hands to nearly all trades and occupations.

**NEITHER POOR NOR LAZY.**

Gypsies have figured as engravers, metal and iron workers, actors, artists, musicians, clergymen, evangelists, carpenters, physicians and so on. Working upon iron and metals appears to have been their forte, however, next to dealing in horses. In 1726 they cast a large bell at Edgell, and at about the same period they practiced engraving on pewter, lead and copper. Gypsies also conducted an iron foundry near St. Andrew's. In Hungary, in 1496, they made bullets and cannon balls.

No one should for a moment think that gypsies are either poor, careless as to their personal appearance or shunned socially by the people with whom they come in contact. Many gypsies are very "well fixed" financially, and few if any in Europe or on the Continent are not well supplied with all the necessaries of life. They own valuable horses, fine wagons and caravans, comfortable tents and furnishings. In return, they have been entertained by kaiser and pope on the Continent, and by dukes and earls in England.

One Charles Bosworth, a gypsy "king," lived and flourished at Rossington in Yorkshire in 1709. According to all accounts Charles was a roistering blade and enjoyed himself to the utmost. History informs us that he "was a mad spark, mighty fine and brisk, keeping company with a great many gentlemen, knights and esquires." An idea of the social standing of the gypsies can be formed when in 1750 the Prince and Princess of Wales journeyed to Norwood to visit "Queen" Margaret.

Like the Jews, the gypsies have for centuries been a greatly oppressed race, and great injustice has been done them. As late as 1872 forty-seven of them were arrested in Germany upon various charges and imprisoned. When they came to trial not one of the charges could be sustained and they were all released.

**HOW THEY LIVE.**

As a rule the gypsies are superior to many of the people whose countries they pass through. They are bright and extremely courteous.

They remain frequently several weeks in one camp. Reaching a town they hire a camping ground, which is usually a large field affording sufficient pasturage for their horses and donkeys. The tents are pitched, the camp made and then the men begin to buy and sell horses—this in England and Scotland is called "coping," it being difficult to cope with a gypsy on horse dealing—and the women devote their spare time to basket making and fortune telling. There is a throng of visitors about their camp the greater portion, of the time, and a tribe usually takes more money out of a town than it brings in.

The camp is a model of picturesque neatness. The tents are small affairs, the grassy soil being the floor, generally covered with dry leaves gathered from the neighboring hedgerows. In front from a tripod hangs a large kettle, and the women wearing dresses and shawls of bright gay colors combine to make the scene a most cheery one. The gypsies are great tea drinkers and brew the beverage in a way that would have delighted the heart of "Sairy Gamp."—New York Recorder.

**Benzie Takes Out Paint.**

To remove paint, fold some soft cloth several times and lay the soiled article on it. Wet the spots with benzie and rub with a woolen cloth. Pour on more benzie and rub again. Repeat as often as may be necessary.—Good Housekeeper.

**A Novel Mesmeric Trial.**

Once more the Wolverhampton magistrates have adjourned the hearing of the case against Harry Moores, alias "Dr." Vint, the mesmerist. Moores gave an exhibition in that town of his alleged powers of hypnotizing, but, according to the charge of the town clerk, who is conducting the prosecution, the whole business was a fraud concocted between the accused and certain confederates. One of the hypnotist's subjects deposed that he went every night and received payment for his performances. A journalist who was present deposed that he saw hypnotized persons lying on the floor who "winked at each other," and a police constable stated that when he proposed to stick a pin into one of these supposed unconscious persons "to see if he was really in a mesmeric sleep," the operator threatened "to have him locked up."

On the other hand, Dr. Vint's legal adviser proposed, by way of a practical test of his client's powers, to give an exhibition in court with one who had been mesmerized before. When this was declined he offered then, and there to mesmerize the magistrate's clerk—a proposal which, though it caused laughter, appears to have been deemed equally unacceptable. The case is exciting much interest in the town on account of its novelty. The town clerk himself has observed that he did not know whether there had ever been a similar case in a court of justice, but Wolverhampton, he added, is noted for legal precedents.—London News.

**Fell Seventy-five Feet and Lived.**

When the Owl train on the West Penn railroad left Blairsville Monday evening Conductor Jim McNulty had among his passengers one Alfred Anderson, who lives near Social Hall bridge, about two and a half miles west of town. When nearing the flag station at the bridge Mr. Anderson arose from his seat, went to the platform of the car and stepped off before the train had come to a stop. The rear car had not fully cleared the bridge, and when Anderson landed from the moving train he could not recover from the impetus given him and went over into the Conemaugh river below, dropping fully seventy-five feet.

Fortunately for him the river at this point is deep, there being about fifteen feet of water. The trainmen and passengers were horrified. Conductor McNulty and brakemen Kelley and Beaty went back to look for him. Brakeman Charley Beaty held his lantern aloft and called into the darkness below, not expecting to receive an answer. To the surprise of everybody present, Anderson answered that he would be all right just as soon as he could swim out. He reached the shore and scrambled up the bank, none the worse except for a slight scratch on one of his wrists.—Indiana Gazette.

**The Ice Men.**

The wholesale dealers in ice are again worried, as they have been off and on for the past ten years. Their experience of two years ago has taught them that if ice does not make in the Hudson that the 1st of January it is not likely to make at all during the season. The agents of these companies are scouring the entire country to the far north of New York and New England and have contracted for ice privileges on Saratoga, Lake Champlain and Lake George, and have been compelled to pay pretty stiff prices therefor.

Meanwhile the making of artificial ice flourishes, and at the great hotels and offices of the railroad companies, which are beginning to use it, it is giving greater satisfaction than natural ice, partly because there is less wastage, partly because it comes in blocks of ascertained weight and partly because it is made of distilled water. Some of the natural ice dealers are of the opinion that it will ultimately supplant natural ice harvesting, and it is sure to do so if the climatic change toward mildness of season is to be regarded as permanent.—New York Cor. Philadelphia Press.

**Methods of London Thieves.**

At the next assizes in London the trial of a new kind of thieves promises to be interesting. Their method was to visit unoccupied houses in the outskirts of the city in the daytime. They drove up in an elegant carriage, and when they found nobody at home the house was marked. In the night they came in a wagon, broke into the house and carted off their booty. When it turned out that they were mistaken and that parties were in the house they simply offered to sell photographs and albums. One of the members rode a bicycle and took his notes of the houses that were good for robbing. Mr. and Mrs. Clarke were the leaders of the gang. They lived in one of the suburbs, were highly respected by all their neighbors and were extensively invited to tea parties, dinners, etc.—London Letter.

**Texas Who Wear Big Hats.**

Speaking of the dress of congressmen brings the reflection that the hats of the Texas delegation are two sizes bigger and broader than they were last session. Grouped together they would cover a good sized lawn. The biggest hat of the lot belongs to Mr. Bailey, a young giant 6 feet 2 inches tall, whose jim swinger coat reaches near to the top of his No. 11 gaiters.—Cor. Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer.

**Cure for Frost Bite.**

If the feet become frost bitten, soak them for one-half hour in a strong solution of alum water, and if one application is not enough two will be a cure.—New York Journal.

One of the most interesting exhibits at the World's fair will be the models now being made by the Smithsonian institution showing the various phases in seal and walrus catching and killing in Alaskan waters.

Rubinstein lives in shabby furnished apartments in Dresden, but owns a magnificent residence, which is entirely given up to his wife and son. He is nearly blind from cataract.

**THEY WILL BE DONE.**

Not in dumb resignation  
 We lift our hands on high,  
 Not like the nervous fatalist  
 Content to trust and die,  
 Our faith springs like the eagle  
 Who soars to meet the sun,  
 And cries exulting unto Thee,  
 O Lord, Thy will be done!

When tyrant feet are trampling  
 Upon the common weal,  
 Thou dost not bid us bend and writhe  
 Beneath the iron heel,  
 In Thy name we assert our right  
 By sword or tongue or pen,  
 And even the headman's ax may flash  
 Thy message unto men.

Thy will! It bids the weak be strong:  
 It bids the strong be just,  
 No lip to fawn, no hand to beg,  
 No brow to seek the dust.  
 Wherever man oppresses man,  
 Beneath Thy liberal sun,  
 O Lord, be there Thine arm made bare,  
 Thy righteous will be done!

—John Hay in Harper's.

**The Jews on the Malabar Coast.**

The house of the British resident at the Court of Cochim stands on the island of Balghatty, in the midst of the lagoon, and it is easy to visit from it both the native and the British town. The most curious thing in the former is the very ancient Jewish settlement, which goes back far beyond all authentic record, and is in possession of a deed engraved on metal which may well be as old as the Seventh century A. D., much older, that is, than any existing manuscript of the Old Testament. How the Jews came there is a mystery, but it is perfectly possible—may, even probable—that there were commercial dealings between the ports at the head of the Red sea and the Malabar coast at an immensely remote period.

The pepper trade, which has its main center between Calicut and Tellicherry, rather to the north, must be one of the oldest in the world.—M. E. Grant Duff in Contemporary Review.

**CONSTIPATION.**

Afflicts half the American people yet there is only one preparation of Sarsaparilla that acts on the bowels and reaches this important trouble, and that is Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla. It relieves it in 24 hours, and an occasional dose prevents return. Write for permission to C. E. Elkington, 125 Locust Avenue, San Francisco. J. H. Brown, Petaluma; H. S. Winn, Geary Court, San Francisco, and hundreds of others who have used it in constipation. One letter is a sample of hundreds. Elkington writes: "I have been for years subject to bilious headaches and constipation. Have been so bad for a year back have had to take a physic every other night or else I would have a headache. After taking one bottle of J. V. S., I am in splendid shape. It has done wonderful things for me. People similarly troubled should try it and be convinced."

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**A Severe Law.**

The English people look more closely to the genuineness of these staples than we do. In fact, they have a law under which they make seizures and destroy adulterated products that are not what they are represented to be. Under this statute thousands of pounds of tea have been burned because of their wholesale adulteration.

Tea, by the way, is one of the most notoriously adulterated articles of commerce. Not alone are the bright, shiny green teas artificially colored, but thousands of pounds of substitutes for tea leaves are used to swell the bulk of cheap teas; ash, sloe, and willow leaves being those most commonly used. Again, sweepings from tea warehouses are colored and sold as tea. Even exhausted tea leaves gathered from the tea-houses are kept, dried, and made over and find their way into the cheap teas.

The English government attempts to stamp this out by confiscation; but no tea is too poor for us, and the result is, that probably the poorest teas used by any nation are those consumed in America.

Beech's Tea is presented with the guarantee that it is uncolored and unadulterated; in fact, the sun-cured tea leaf pure and simple. Its purity insures superior strength, about one third less of it being required for an infusion than of the artificial teas, and its fragrance and exquisite flavor is at once apparent. It will be a revelation to you. In order that its purity and quality may be guaranteed, it is sold only in pound packages bearing this trade-mark:

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