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Fresh Groceries always on hand, the best to be had.

BUTTER, EGGS AND FOWL WANTED

ROBERT BURNETT



NOTABLE HANGMAN.

How They Are Paid and What They Have Done.

In spite of his gruesome calling, John Ellis, the man who hanged Crippen, has earned the esteem of a very wide circle of acquaintances in Rochdale, where he carries on very successfully a hairdressing and news-agent's business. Ellis is a quiet, unassuming man, who rarely betrays his interest in crime. He would much rather talk to you about football, of which game he is an enthusiastic follower, or discuss musical entertainments. In his early days he earned his living by singing, while on a tour through Lancashire, and still possesses a good baritone voice. And privileged visitors are allowed to make the acquaintance of his dogs, cats, and chickens, the pets of his four children.

Ellis has assisted in over sixty executions, and has personally carried out seven, amongst others who met death at his hands being Douglas, the Moat Farm murderer. It was through acting as assistant to Billington that Ellis became chief executioner, and it is an extraordinary fact that when the post becomes vacant the Home Office is inundated with applications for the appointment.

Indeed, when Marwood, who succeeded Calcraft in 1883, retired, no fewer than 12,000 persons sought the post, Berry being appointed.

Calcraft, who retired in 1874, was paid one guinea a week by the Corporation of London for retaining the post and an extra one guinea for each execution. He had besides, from the county of Surrey, five guineas annual retaining fee, one guinea for each execution, and ten guineas for an execution in the country.

Nowadays about \$50 is paid to the hangman for every execution he carries out. Berry, who succeeded Marwood, was engaged in over 200 executions in nine years, and carried 134 sentences into effect. According to his own statement, he earned over \$500 in the first four months of 1890. At one time, it might be mentioned, the hangman received as perquisites the convict's clothes, which he usually sold for a good price to showmen. These, however, are now burnt.

It was quite by accident that Marwood became Calcraft's successor. The story goes that he met Calcraft one morning as the latter was going to an execution, and, seeing that the old man was ill, undertook to do that particular job for him. The offer was accepted, and so Marwood first obtained an introduction to his future calling. When Calcraft retired Marwood was retained by the London sheriffs at a fee of \$100 a year, and on the strength of this engagement he contracted with provincial sheriffs to carry out any executions for which they might be responsible. Calcraft had been described as a mild-mannered man, devoted to fishing, while Marwood was not without repute as a local preacher.

The most notable hangman of the earlier holders of the office was Derrick, who gave his name to the special kind of crane known as a derrick, and Jack Ketch, who executed amongst others William Lord Russell and the Duke of Monmouth, and who bequeathed his name as a nickname to his successors for nearly a couple of centuries. Then there was Dennis, who was almost hanged himself for taking part in the "No Popery" riots, and Thomas Cheshire, known as "Old Cheese."

Perhaps the most extraordinary executioner of all, however, was the celebrated "Lady Betty"—what her real name was no one seems to know—who at the beginning of last century officiated as hangwoman for a number of years in Ireland.

Actor, Dramatist, and Politician, Too.

One of the most versatile of men, Sir John Benn, who has been figuring in the Law Courts lately, was wont, in his younger days, to deliver lectures on literary and social subjects, which he illustrated with lightning cartoons. Of late years he has turned his attention to play-writing as well as politics, and has appeared as author, producer, and actor in a play presented to an audience at his own house which included about sixty of his late colleagues in the House of Commons and the London County Council. Sir John is also a humorist. Of the House of Commons he has said: "It was like one of the ancient clocks in the Guildhall Museum—a splendid piece of old work, which excites the admiration of everyone, but useless for modern timekeeping. It wants a new mainspring and the latest improvements to make it go."

A Royal Exile's Reception.

In the memoirs of Princess Murat there is an indignant description of the reception accorded Napoleon I. in England in 1871: "When the Emperor went to Windsor by the Queen's invitation, accompanied by the Duc de Bassano and the officers of his suite, he found that only a small pony carriage had been sent to meet him—all that was thought necessary for a fallen sovereign. The Emperor was loud in expressing her outraged feelings. Lord Granville and Mr. Gladstone were, I know, horrified when they heard of the blunder. I think that an apology was sent to his majesty, blaming some official of the court for the tactless incivility."

Sandy Was Willing.

An old farmer and his wife were paying a visit to an exhibition in Glasgow and were deeply interested in the wonders which they saw. Overcome at the sights, the old woman dropped into a chair and exclaimed: "Oh, Sandy, this is just splendid; I could sit here a' me days." "Aweel," said the farmer, "jist sit still, Jeanie, wumman; I'll no grudge the shilling."

The Police System.

The police system, being almost entirely municipal in its character, has gradually developed with the growth of cities. In London a night watch was appointed in 1253 to proclaim the hour with a bell before the introduction of clocks. The old watch system was discontinued and a new police on duty day and night commenced Sept. 29, 1829.

THE PRIVY PURSE.

The Secrets of the Payments of King George's Expenses.

Those who imagine that King George, like the monarchs one reads of in fairy stories, has only to dip his hands into a bag of gold whenever he desires to possess himself of anything, would be sadly disillusioned if they could but enter the office of the Keeper of His Majesty's Privy Purse, the old-fashioned title of the King's chief accountant.

In the days of his predecessors, the Georges, the royal finances were conducted in a very go-as-you-please fashion, with the result that when Queen Victoria came to the throne everything was in a state of considerable confusion. The process of straightening out the royal finances was a lengthy and tedious operation. Some of the tradesmen's bills had been paid for years; some had gone overpaid; and the labor of going into these petty details and settling accounts was enormous.

It was really only when, on the death Queen Victoria, King Edward took matters personally in hand that a thoroughly satisfactory settlement was arrived at. All the royal investments were carefully examined, and, on the advice of experienced financiers, many changes were made. The royal properties were revalued, and the pictures, books, china, furniture, and jewels, the personal property of the sovereign, were scheduled by a professional appraiser.

An office, run on up-to-date business lines, was instituted to deal with revenue and expenditure, the staff of clerks was augmented, and books were kept on more elaborate lines and periodically balanced. As a natural consequence, when King George, who is himself exceedingly accurate, business-like, and methodical, came to look into matters he found, unlike his royal father, that everything was in apple-pie order.

The office of the Keeper of the Privy Purse is no light one. The duties are many and varied. The royal estates are numerous and of considerable extent, and a whole army of workpeople of various grades are employed. At Sandringham, Windsor, and Balmoral there are gardeners, coachmen, footmen, farmhands, gamekeepers, beaters, motor and electric light mechanics, blacksmiths, carpenters, dairymaids, locksmiths, tailors, grooms, wagoners, forest rangers, veterinary surgeons, hydraulic engineers, and a veritable army of miscellaneous workers, who may be conveniently included in the all-embracing term, "odd men." No account is taken here of the purely domestic servants, who alone form a miniature army. The wages and pensions of this huge body occupy the attention of several clerks.

A "Death or Glory Boy."

Viscount Tredegar, who has given \$25,000 to the Welsh National Memorial to the late King, which takes the form of a crusade against consumption, is one of the most notable survivors of the Balaklava Charge. As a young man he rode with the Light Brigade, and on its return found himself—then a lieutenant in the 17th Lancers—in command, all his senior officers having been killed or wounded. A hundred times he was as near death as a man could possibly be. A few years ago, on the jubilee of Balaklava, he was officiating at a distribution of prizes at a girls' school. Suddenly he stopped in the middle of a speech he was making. "Girls," he said, after a pause, "do you know where I was fifty years ago to-day?" taking out his watch. "Fifty years ago I was in the Valley of Death with the Six Hundred." Needless to say, the incident made a deep impression on the gathering.

A Blustering King.

Of King George IV. Thomas Creevey, who lived in the early part of the nineteenth century, tells this story:

"The King had appointed the bishop of Winchester to administer to him the sacrament on one of the Sundays about Easter. The bishop was not punctual to his time, and when he arrived the King, in a great passion at having been kept waiting, abused and even swore at him in the most indecent manner, on which the bishop very coolly said he must be permitted to withdraw, as he perceived his majesty was not then in a fit state of mind to receive the sacrament, and should be ready to attend on some future day, when he hoped to find his majesty in a better state of preparation."

Dr. Syntax.

On the English coast, at Land's End, there stands a curiously formed bowlder with a profile resembling that of a human face. It is supposed that once the rocky head was held proudly erect and could look out over the blue sea, but during some period of disturbance the huge bowlder was thrown forward, so that now the forehead of the man rests against a neighboring rock. All these rugged and massive pieces bordering the coast are fine granite. Locally the curious bowlder is known as Dr. Syntax.

Thanksgiving.

The first national Thanksgiving may be said to have been the one offered up at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, September, 1538. The English settlers in this country naturally adopted the custom of their native land, and at an early period in our colonial history Thanksgiving became quite common. The institution may be said to be the natural outgrowth of human nature and has probably existed in some form or other from the earliest times.

English Law of Arrests.

No arrests may be made in England on a Sunday except for treason, felony or a breach of the peace, and freedom from arrest at any time on members of the royal family and their servants, bishops, peers and peeresses and members of Parliament during the sitting of Parliament and forty days before and after each session.

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JAMES R. GUN, Town Agent; J. TOWNER, Depot Agent.

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We have just put into stock a nice lot of Hosiery, women's and children's.

Children's in plain black, pink, cardinal, blue, tan and white. Embroidered in black and white.

Ladies', embroidered in white and black, and plain black and tan.

Our wear-well for women, girls and boys are what their name means; you will not be disappointed in them.

Ladies' Summer Vests, with-out sleeves, with short sleeves and long sleeves.

We have a few Ladies' Waists left—only 25c. If you want one don't delay.

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Men's White Shirts, Outing and Working Shirts, Men's Bal-brigan Underwear, Men's Summer-weight Wool Shirts, Men's Cotton half Hose, Men's Cash-mere and Wool Hose, Men's and Boy's Straw Hats.

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In great variety, made by the best makers in Ontario, in the newest patterns of cloth, in the newest cut. We have also a fine selection of cloths and can have a suit made for you on short notice.

See the \$9.89 Suit.

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In straw and felt, in the newest styles. Straw Hats in the newest styles 50c. each, worth \$1.25. Felt Hats 99c., worth \$2.00; while they last. They are selling very fast and the assortment will soon be broken. Buy early.

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The stock is full in all lines. A fine selection of Wash Dress Goods, a pretty stock of Fine Dress Goods, the newest to be gotten. Come and have a look through.

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In great variety, made in the newest designs on easy fitting lasts.

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A fine selection of Carpets, Rugs and Linoleums; Window Curtains in the newest designs; Wall Paper in the most approved patterns.

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