

SOCIAL HALL OF THE BEGGARS

They're Organized in Bands Now and Work Their "Graft" Scientifically.

Toward the close of the World's Fair in the fall of 1893, when the police of Chicago drove the professional beggars and hand-pickers out of the West, they flocked to New York in droves. This immigration resulted in the introduction here of new, unique and energetic methods of extracting donations from more or less willing givers.

of the day, told funny stories, related incidents in which they figured as persons much abused, and had fun at the expense of each newcomer.



THE "JUMP" PAYING DIVIDENDS.

counts of New York, sharing and taking the lead in all of the latter's expeditions in search of "graft" in this big town.

sign announced that Scotty was blind and sorely in need of help.

It was shortly after the Western beggars reached here that they got down to systematic methods of grafting. They organized in bands, each band electing a boss or leader, known as the "jump."

statement printed on his beggar sign "that his sight had been ruined by powder during the war of the Rebellion."

Each band has its own headquarters or assembly room for the transaction of "private business." They also have, aside from this, a common place of meeting for "social entertainment," as one of them put it.

Other questions brought out the information that a "Sammy" in beggar parlance means a beggar wearing the uniform of one of Uncle Sam's army or navy.

Square, with a hallway entrance from the street and another from the barroom. Hop Hall has not a great deal of floor space, but there is enough room for ten tables, where drinks are served, five or six persons sitting at a table.

One of New York's largest bands of pretended blind beggars.

A BANANA TRADE INCIDENT. One Million Bananas Thrown Away Because a Ship Got in Late.

his observation. When he did speak men jumped to obey Mabel. Her graft, it was explained, was in getting money by telling strangers that she had lost her pocketbook containing twenty-three cents, all she had for car fare.

who dropped in removed linen bandages from their arms and faces, carefully wrapping the linen in paper and leaving it with the bartender for the next day.

In the rear room, seated at a table near the wall, two lame men were having a glorious time with two women who were not of the type usually found at midnight in the vicinity of Chatham Square.

At another table an elderly man wearing green goggles was seated with a good-looking young woman who seemed infatuated with him.

In this manner he showed the professional beggars of New York that they could raise more ready cash than by having two or more blind men go over a route on the same day, or two more lame men go over the same territory.

This style of working among the beggars is known as "flogging." It was adopted by the various beggar leaders, or "jumps," all around town.

He also devised the plan of dividing the city into beggar districts, so that he could send a blind man over a route on the route after the deaf man had milked the route dry, and next a lame man over the same route.

Among those who were quick to see the advantage of the "flogging" system was Hugo, the chief of the "jumps." This man has succeeded in wielding a remarkable influence over the other beggar leaders of New York.

Once the first programme of the season is given, the most important task in the arrangement of the circus is the allotment of the performers to the time and place in which they are to appear.

There are never thirteen idle minutes for anybody in a Barnum & Bailey programme.

So the disconcerting importation had to take two weeks' salary and his passage home.

Before the first programme of the season is given, the most important task in the arrangement of the circus is the allotment of the performers to the time and place in which they are to appear.

It seems easy enough to say that four into two hundred goes fifty times, but leaving fifty performers for every ring, but there are many important details.

There are all kinds of acts for instance, and they must be so distributed that the spectators see no monotony in the programmes.

All this planning must be done before the first performance, for, strangely enough, there is no dress rehearsal for the big circus.

But James A. Bailey, who attends to this important part of the circus, smilingly says that he would need any rehearsal.

Before the performers engaged for the circus season have started from Europe, he has arranged the programme for the circus, and that is used until the last performance given in the autumn.

Mr. Bailey has had so much experience in making circus programmes that he is able now to calculate the length one will last to within a quarter of an hour, before he has even a single performer, and he is going to take part.

At the Garden always hold the watch on him at the first performance to see whether there will be a reduction from the time he set when he allotted the turns to their places two months before.

And they have never yet been able to do so far down, but merely contented to no home.

Organization Society got after him. Then he was compelled to drop his route to become a "flopper" or all-around grafter who one day posed as a blind man, the next day as a deaf man and at other times as either lame or armless.

He graduated from the "flopper" school to become leader or "jump" of the blinks.



THE "FLASH" AT WORK.

to arrest professional beggars, the "King of the Blinks" is wealthy, owning one house in Chrystie street and two big tenements in Forsyth street.

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STAGE-MANAGING THE CIRCUS

PROBLEM OF DIVIDING 300 ACTORS AMONG FOUR RINGS

And of Making One Turn Follow Another with Precision—Method of Constructing the Circus Programme—Changed Duties of the Ringmaster.

Have you ever sat comfortably in the Madison Square Garden, watched the great kaleidoscope of life and color shift from this to that through the theatre? You have all this vast and complicated machinery was created without the slightest mishap? One turn—and they're all good turns this year, like those in the proverb—follows another with the precision of clockwork.

One literally fades away as another comes into view.

Take the seventy hours, for instance, after they have revolved on the pedestal that turns through the theatre. They center at full speed down the outside ring, run through the great open gates and should, in accordance with every human probability, run down the troupe of acrobats who are just at that minute coming into the amphitheatre.

But nothing of the kind happens. The two parties keep on their way undisturbed and thus for three hours, the circus moves swiftly and exactly through every one of its eighty-five separate acts.

And how complicated all this vast mechanism is nobody fully realizes until some principles of the way in which a circus programme is arranged are made clear to him.

Action is just as much the keynote to the successful circus as to the successful play. Nothing must drag.

A time limit is fixed on every act, whatever its nature may be, and that is rigidly adhered to, even if the performer be one of the corps of clowns or the most expensive woman rider ever imported from Germany, where most of them are trained.

No turn is allowed to continue more than seven minutes.

The day before the circus opened, a sad Englishman returned to his home after a stay of only a week here. He had been engaged until next November at a salary of \$250 a week.

But he took him ten minutes to reveal his fun, and he could not do it in less time try as he might. That went thirteen minutes over the allowance.

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CUTICURA

Itching, Burning, Scaly Eczema, Psoriasis, Tetter, Ringworm, Instantly Relieved and

SPEEDILY CURED BY CUTICURA.

The agonizing itching and burning of scaly eczema, the frightful scaling, as in psoriasis; the loss of hair and crusting of the scalp, as in scalded head; the facial disfigurement, as in pimples and ringworm; the awful suffering of infants, and anxiety of worried parents, as in all kinds of eruptions of the skin, all demand a remedy of almost superhuman virtues to successfully cope with them.

Complete local and constitutional treatment for every humor of the skin, scalp, and blood, with loss of hair, may now be had for one dollar. Bathe freely with hot water and Cuticura Soap to cleanse the surface of crusts and scales, and soften the thickened cuticle. Dry, without hard rubbing, and apply Cuticura Ointment freely, to allay itching, irritation and inflammation, and soothe and heal.

ART IN LONDON'S EAST END. It is Developing a Sense of the Beautiful There—Dual Remarks Thereon.

LONDON, April 1.—Just about the time when the chance-down daffodil, as Whittier calls it, charily begins to reveal its golden secrets to the rustic laborer mourning in the moisture-laden soil of England, spring pictures are bursting open in the gray old city of London.

In the English country nature's chances is apt to be more happy, though perhaps less lucky, than man's set purpose in the town. The daffodil, being ploughed up by the simple rustic, dies. The picture show, however cut up by the sophisticated critic, stubbornly survives.

It is no wonder, therefore, that the selection committee of the Royal Academy of Arts this year.

Conscientiously to select from this vast number the small percentage which the walls of Burlington House will accommodate—a large amount of space being reserved for Royal Academical effort—is practically impossible in the allotted time without a different method of procedure.

So the Royal Academy has for some time been endeavoring to wake up and do something or other—deal in any way with this virulent and progressive plague.

At present each Academician is entitled to hang eight of his works. Each outsider is allowed to submit a single picture.

The average number actually hung by the former works out at three or four. But the average number accepted from the outsider is a fraction of one picture.

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