

Confidential

The case, referred to in the sensational story told in "The Sun" in its issue of 13<sup>th</sup> Nov, or following dates, is that of Thomas Luttrell who was arraigned at the London County Sessions in April 1891, on a charge of maliciously wounding Florence Grace Johnson, & attempting to wound Isabelle Frances Anderson in Kennington. He was found to be guilty, and sentenced to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure.

This Luttrell, who lived with his mother and aunt at 14 Albert St. Kennington, escaped from the Lambeth Reformatory, (after he had been detained there for a few hours, as a lunatic) at noon on 5<sup>th</sup> March 1891. He was recaptured on 9<sup>th</sup> idem. A few weeks before this, several cases of stabbing, or "jobbing" girls behind had occurred in the vicinity, and a man named Collett was arrested, but subsequently discharged owing to faulty identification. The cuts in the girls' dresses made of Collett were quite different to the cut made of Luttrell (when he wounded Miss Johnson) who was no doubt influenced by a wild desire of morbid imitation. Luttrell's antecedents were ascertained by Ch. Insp. (now Insp.) Chiswick by Insp. Dale, and by P.S. McCarty CID - (the last named officer had been specially employed in Whitechapel at the time of the murders there, - and it was ascertained that he was born, & had lived, in Kennington all his life - His father died when he was quite young, and he was always a "spoilt" child. He had been employed as a clerk,

and traveller in the Tea trade at the  
Munich, & subsequently embarked for a District  
in the East End, during which time he bore  
a good character. He apparently contracted  
Syphilis about 1888, and, - since that time, -  
led an idle and heedless life. His brain  
seems to have become affected, and he believed  
that people were trying to poison him. He wrote  
to Lord Grenville, and others, - & also to the  
Treasury, - complaining of Dr. Brooks, of  
Westminster Bridge Rd, whom he threatened  
to shoot for having supplied him with bad  
medicines. He is said to have studied  
medical books by day, & have rambled  
about at night, returning frequently with his  
clothes covered with mud; but little reliance  
could be placed on the statements made of  
his mother or his aunt. The latter appear to  
have been of a very excitable disposition.  
It was found impossible to ascertain his  
movements on the nights of the Whitechapel  
murders. The Knif found on him was bought  
at Hornscliffe about a week before he was  
detained in the Infirmary. Cut-throat was a  
repeater of the late Sept Executive.

How the Whitechapel murderer had 5  
victims - & 5 victims only, - his murders were

(i) 31<sup>st</sup> Aug '88. Mary Ann Nichols, at Arco's Row.  
Who was found with her throat cut, & with  
(slight) stomach mutilation

(ii) 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. '88. Annie Chapman, - Humber St.  
Throat cut. Stomach & private parts badly mutilated  
& some of the entrails placed round the neck.

(iii) 30<sup>th</sup> Sept '88. Elizabeth Stride, - Berners' Street.



throat cut, but nothing in shape of mutilation attempted, nor same date

Palmer's address. Mitre Square, throat cut, very bad mutilation, both of face & stomach. 9<sup>th</sup> November. Mary Jane Kelly. Miller's Court throat cut, and the whole of the body mutilated in the most ghastly manner.

The last murder is the only one that took place in a room, and the murderer must have been at least 2 hours engaged. A photo was taken of the woman, as she was found lying on the bed, without seeing which it is impossible to imagine the awful mutilation.

With regard to the double murder which took place on 30<sup>th</sup> Sept., there is no doubt but that the man was disturbed by some person who drove up to a Club, (close to which the body of Elizabeth Stride was found) and that he then, "hordum satatus", went in search of a further victim whom he found at Mitre Square.

It will be noticed that the fury of the mutilations increased in each case, and, seemingly, the appetite of became sharpened by indulgence. It seems, then, highly improbable that the murderer would have suddenly stopped in November '88, and been content to submerge operations by merely prodding a girl behind some 2 years & 4 months afterwards. A much more rational theory is that the murderer's brain gave way altogether after his awful glut in Miller's Court, and that he immediately committed suicide, or, as a possible alternative, was found to be so hopelessly mad of his relations, that he was of them confined to

Some reasons.

No one ever saw the Whitechapel murderer; many homicidal maniacs were suspected, but no shadow of proof could be thrown on any one. I may mention the cases of 3 men any one of whom would have been more likely than Luther to have committed this series of murders:—

(1) A Mr. M. J. Drutt, said to be a doctor or of good family, who disappeared at the time of the Muller's Court Murder, whose body (which was said to have been upraised 4 months in the water) was found in the Thames on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec. or about 7 weeks after that murder. He was usually nice and from private info I have little doubt but that his own family believed him to have been the murderer.

(2) Kosminski, a Polish Jew, resident in Whitechapel. This man became insane owing to many years indulgence in solitary vice. He had a great hatred of women, especially of the prostitute class, and strong homicidal tendencies; he was removed to lunatic asylum about March 1889. There were many circumstances connected with this man which made him a strong "suspect".

(3) Michael Petrov, a Russian doctor, and a convict, who was subsequently detained in a lunatic asylum as a homicidal maniac.

This man's antecedents were of the basest possible type, and his whereabouts at the time of the murders could never be ascertained.

And now with regard to a few of the



inaccuracies and misleading statements  
made of the "Sun". In its issue of 14<sup>th</sup>  
Feb, it is stated that the writer has in  
his possession a fine blade of the knife  
with which the murders were committed -  
This knife (which for some unexplained  
reason has, for the last 3 years, been kept  
by Insp. Dale, instead of being sent to  
Prisoner's Property Store) was traced, & it  
was found to have been purchased in  
Hornchurch in Feb. '91. or 2 years or 3 months  
after the Whitechapel murders ceased.

The statement, too, that Cutbush "spent a  
portion of the day in making rough drawings  
of the bodies of women, & of their mutilation"  
is based solely on the fact that 2 scribble  
drawings of women in indecent postures were  
found taken up in Cutbush's room. The head  
& body of one of these had been cut from  
some fashion plate, legs were added to show  
a woman's naked thighs & pink stockings.

In the issue of 7<sup>th</sup> inst it is said that a  
light overcoat was among the things found in  
Cutbush's house, and that a man in a light  
overcoat was seen talking to a woman in  
Backchurch Lane whose body with arms  
attached was found in Prichin St. This is  
hopelessly incorrect. On 10<sup>th</sup> Sept. '89 the naked  
body, with arms, of a woman was found trapped  
in some sackings under a railway arch in  
Prichin St. The head & legs were never found  
him was the woman ever identified. She had  
been killed at least 24 hours before the remains  
(which had seemingly been brought for a doctor's)

were discovered. The stomach was split up  
in a cut, and the head and legs had been  
severed in a manner identical with that of  
the woman whose remains were discovered  
in the Thames, in Battersea Park, & in the  
Chelsea Embankment on 4<sup>th</sup> June of the  
same year; and these murders had no  
connection whatever with the Whitechapel  
horrors. The Dainton mystery in 1887, &  
the Whitehall mystery (when portions of  
woman's body were found under what is now  
his Scotland Yard) in 1888 were of a similar  
type to the Thames & Pinchin St crimes -

It is perfectly untrue to say that  
Cantank stabbed 6 ribs behind - This is  
confounding his case with that of Colicott.

The theory that the Whitechapel murderer  
was left handed, or, at any rate, "ambidexter",  
had its origin in the remark made by a doctor  
who examined the corpse of one of the  
earliest victims; other doctors did not agree  
with him.

Let's refer to the 4 additional murders  
ascribed to the writer in the See to the  
Whitechapel find:-

(1) The body of Martha Tabram, a prostitute  
was found in a common stair case in George  
Yard buildings on 7<sup>th</sup> August 1888; the  
body had been repeatedly pierced, probably into  
a bayonet. This woman had, with a fellow  
prostitute, been in company of 2 soldiers  
in the last part of the evening: These men  
were arrested, but the second prostitute failed  
to identify, & the soldiers were  
eventually discharged.

- (2) Alice McKenzie was found with her throat cut (or rather stabbed) in Castle Alley on 17<sup>th</sup> July 1889; no evidence was forthcoming, and no arrests were made in connection with this case. The stab in the throat was of the same nature as in the case of the number 4.
- (3) Francis Cole, in Swallow Gardens, n 13<sup>th</sup> February 1891. for which Thomas Sadler, a fruiterer, was arrested, & after several remands, discharged. It was ascertained at this time that Sadler had sailed for the Baltic on 19<sup>th</sup> July '89. was in Whitechapel on the night of 17<sup>th</sup> idem. He was a man of ungodly temper & entirely addicted to drink, & the company of the lowest prostitutes.
- (4) The case of the unidentified woman whose trunk was found in Prichin St: on 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 1889. which has already been dealt with.

W. Macnaghten  
23<sup>rd</sup> Feb. 1894