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GIPSY SIMON SMITH

(Truro News.)

Gipsy Simon Smith was reared in an English forest, among the gipsy tribes. His father died when he was quite a lad. Anxious to help his mother he came to Canada and worked on a farm in Ontario, afterwards he became a horse trader in Texas and Mexico, but eventually owned a livery stable in London. He then commenced to study for the ministry, was accepted by that well-known society the London City Mission, for which he labored six years. He soon became widely known as a speaker and was very successful in repeat tours through Great Britain. He resigned this position to become a free evangelist, and is now conducting mission in churches of all denominations, not being sent or paid by any society.

Last winter, Gipsy Simon Smith was in the Maritime Provinces holding very successful evangelistic services, returning to his home in England in the spring. He was not idle in the Old Country, after going back, you may depend.

Mr. Smith having decided to take up his work permanently in Canada, embarked on the S. S. Royal George at Liverpool, and landed in Halifax a few weeks ago, direct to Truro, which he will make his headquarters.

After arriving in our town and getting comfortably settled he started an evangelistic campaign in the Immanuel church.

Mr. Smith's services are strictly un denominational and doubtless his labors in our fair land will bring large results for good.

Following is the substance of an address given at Queen Hall, London, England, before five thousand people, Sir Ernest Tritton Bart presiding at the meeting.

The subject of his remarks was—
MISSIONARY TOLL IN THE WORLD'S METROPOLIS
Scenes and incidents in Somers Town, London.

Its a big jump to Queen's Hall platform from the gipsy camp whence I came.

This Society has played a wonderful part in the history of my people. Many years ago one of its agents carried on a good work among the gipsies of Notting Hill, and my father was one of the many who heard him tell the story of Jesus, the Saviour of the world. Some years later a gipsy's boy was surprised to see a band of men at Barnett Fair, and he never forgot their visit. He met them again at Epsom races, and when he slept that night in the stable, the words "Come unto Me, and I will give you rest," kept ringing in his ears. By divine mercy that young man is before you this morning.

When I first became a missionary five years ago, the Secretary's last words to me were these, "Do not forget to let the people know what you were." I never forget it, indeed, I can hardly recognize myself behind the respectable Mr. when I get into a field I think of the time when I was a bare-foot boy, and stand for a few moments to enjoy myself. I was born in a field—anybody can be born in a house. I commenced on wheels and I have been going ever since.

I was first appointed to Somers Town, with its cellars and attics, fried fish and stewed-ree shops, stalls and old clothes, and smells which abound. All missionaries know the hard reception you get at first. You are taken for the tallyman, the insurance agent, the sewing machine man, and you hear the boys say, "Billie! here's a 'tec" (detective). Graduated in Somers Town where Monday is ladies' day, where pawnshops are filled on Mondays, where the back yards are in the front—they hang the washing on the front railings—that is the place where I left the dicky of a hansom cab to become a missionary. I assure you that missionary work is far more difficult than driving a hansom cab.

A MODERN DEMONIAIC.
I will tell you of one or two cases. We have heard of the man who was possessed with demons. I saw that story repeated at Somers Town. Walking along the street I saw a poor fellow the worse for drink. He told me they had taken his wife to the hospital, so I led him back to the

one room where he lived. When I tell you there are 400,000 persons living in single rooms in this city, the effect upon health and morals needs no comment of mine. This man was an old soldier. When he was possessed with drink he was possessed with demons. "Where's the tea?" said I. "I'll stoke up 'nd make you some, then you'll feel better. While I was making the tea, the poor fellow threw himself against the wall, and cut his head against the stove. Soon his clothing was torn into shreds, and grasping a chair, he commenced fighting Zulus and other imaginary foes. I did not want to be struck in four places at once, so I took the chair away; he quieted down a bit, and I thought he was all right, but judge of my horror when he seized a knife and tried to cut his throat. I put him on the floor again. Now, I thought, I had been doing this business in my own strength, and while I had the fellow on the floor and was kneeling upon him, I asked the Almighty to cast the demons out of him. An hour after I heard this man say, "Oh, Lord, cast the devil of drink out of me." He came to himself and said, "I have to go to work at the Midlands Station." "Do you think you are all right? I will go with you." He said he was, and proved it, for he walked as straight as I could, and from that day to this he is a new creature in Christ Jesus.

THE LIGHT AND SHADE OF LONDON LIFE.
I was speaking to a crowd at an open-air meeting at Somers Town. I have heard of vocalists having bouquets thrown at them, but these people threw the pots as well! They did not believe in doing things by halves—they even forgot to take the roots out and the dirt! On the occasion I was feeling very tired and discouraged, and a great big fellow came to the door when I knocked and talked about pushing my head. I told him it would not be the first time it had received such attention. I was just thinking that after all mission work was very interesting, and I had been going from one room to another until I reached the top floor. Knocking at that door, a woman who was cleanly in appearance, who hailed from the country, came out, and I discovered that she and her children were starving—no fire, no food, husband out of work. I knelt down and prayed with her, and in a moment or two a neighbor came in with some coals. That was the first answer to my prayer. I then tried my abilities at begging, and very soon groceries and coal found their way to that top floor. This woman confessed she had tried to cast herself into the canal she was in such despair. She subsequently gave herself to the Lord Jesus, and today she is a bright star in that dark slum.

Not long ago I was transferred to Kingsland, where I decided to hold a midnight meeting. I painted a board with the words—
WANTED!
200 of the worst men in Kingsland.

People assured me that none of them would come, but I went to the lodging houses and drink shops, and gave the men a personal invitation. Result—the place was packed. We gave them refreshments first, and then preached Christ to them as a mighty Saviour. There were two good samples there of the "Weary Willy" type. One poor fellow was too far gone even to eat—literally starving and near the brink of the river. Next day they picked him up in the street exhausted, and before they reached the infirmary he died. His

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Mr. G. W. Pratt, of 15 Broadway Avenue, Toronto, Superintendent of the Riverview Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, writes: "Both in personal use and in first-aid work I have proved Zam-Buk to be of great value. I have used it for the past five years, and do not believe there is any other balm to come up to it."

Mr. Geo. H. Westmore, of 127 Yonge Street, Toronto, Divisional Superintendent of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, also writes: "I am pleased to report that the members of this Brigade use Zam-Buk when on public duty, and it is very useful. It is a wonderful healer. Personally, I constantly use Zam-Buk in my calling as a chiropodist, and find it very helpful in healing sore feet, and as a dressing for corns and bunions after treatment and extraction."

Surely a balm that is worthy of a place in the wallet of an ambulance officer should find a place in your home! You may not require it today or next week, but as accidents don't give warning, be prepared. Zam-Buk is compounded on the latest scientific lines. It is at the same time soothing, healing and antiseptic; keeps good. Zam-Buk is a sure cure for skin diseases, eczema, piles, old sores, cuts, burns, poisoned wounds, ringworm, abscesses, aprons, scalds, boils, ulcers, blood-poison, etc.

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One of our best workers is a woman who recites at our temperance meetings. She visits the public houses and invites her neighbors to the mission. Her home was a sample of the drunkard's home. I will read from one of her letters, "Although my husband is not a Christian, he can tell you my swearing habits have gone, and that I do not stand in the public house now; I am a different creature." Her home is completely altered. I received this letter two years ago. It was quite a surprise to me. She came in at a midnight meeting and not only signed the pledge, but laid hold on Eternal life. A short time back she gave me 26s. that I might provide the poorest children with a free tea. That is what I call doing "works meet for repentance."

It is in this way that the Mission has been feeling the spiritual pulse of the masses for the last seventy-five years. That humanity is weary and heavy laden goes without saying. The crushed hearts and ruined lives that we meet with daily might well make the heart ache and the eyes swim with tears; but we go forth with the proved and precious remedy: "The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth us from all sin."

AMENDMENT TO HOMESTEAD REGULATIONS.

Edmonton, Alta., Sept. 12.—Hon. William J. Roche, minister of the interior, who is making a tour of western Canada, announced in Edmonton that the homestead regulations will be amended so that settlers in the timber districts may raise livestock instead of cultivating their lands to prove up their claims, also that the federal government will abolish the stipulation that at least \$300 be expended upon a dwelling on the homestead. Less time, too, will be allowed for proving up pre-empted lands. Dr. Roche said also that the Hudson Bay railroad, constructed by the federal government, will be completed and in operation within eighteen months, and that good roads will be built in the farming districts. Ten million dollars has been set aside this year for agricultural purposes, the minister added, and the department will do everything in its power to improve farming and ranching conditions in the west.

THE COST OF WAR.

Sir Felix Schuster, of London, whose word in such matters is respected by financiers the world over, estimates that the recent losses of the Balkan war amount to \$1,200,000,000. The figure means nothing other than it represents an amount beyond human conception. And the end is not yet. What if the great European Powers were to be drawn into the whirlpool? What if such mighty nations as England, Russia, France, Austria, Germany and Italy were to try the arbitration of the sword? What would the figures be then? To think of it stupefies the mind. It would be such a calamity as would cause the world to stagger under the awful burden for long years to come. Nor is the pressure confined to the Balkan States. The money market the world over has reflected the crimson glow of conflict.—Messenger, St. Alban's, Vt.

THE FIRST POLITICAL CABINET.

George I. is said to have been responsible for the word "cabinet" as it has long applied to politics in English speaking lands. When he was King he could not take part in the deliberations of his own private council because he knew no English. British statesmen did not speak German. So the ministers who served this first of the Hanoverian sovereigns of the United Kingdom used to meet in the King's private room or cabinet—derived from the French cabinet or little room—while he was absent. Afterward they informed him of the result of their discussions. It followed naturally, that the part of the private council which was supposed to be in particular favor with the King and especially close to him, came to be spoken of as his cabinet council.

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Berwick, Sept. 14.—A meeting of the ratepayers of Berwick was held Friday evening in Foresters Hall to discuss installing a water system in the town. After much discussion the Commissioners were empowered to secure a surveyor to find out where the best supply of water could be obtained from and also the cost of having it installed. It was decided that the committee who had drawn up the Act be authorized to make amendments to it so that it can be altered at the next session of the Legislature.

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