

9. The Treadmill. An apparatus which was commonly used in prisons, as a means of forcing prisoners to perform hard labour.

the Poor Law. A body of laws which provide for the relief or support of the poor by public funds.

anonymous. You wish not to have your name mentioned ?

10. facetious. Jocular.

links. Torches.

a Gothic window. A window with a pointed arch, characteristic of the Gothic style of architecture.

brazier. A pan for holding burning coals.

misanthropic. Uncongenial; out of sympathy with mankind. The opposite of *philanthropic*.

Mansion House. The official residence of the Lord Mayor of London.

11. Saint Dunstan. A celebrated English monk who lived in the tenth century. In addition to his other accomplishments, St. Dunstan was a worker in metals. According to legend, in order to tempt him the devil appeared to him in the form of a beautiful woman; but St. Dunstan, who was working at his forge, seized a pair of red hot tongs ("his familiar weapons"), and "nipped the Evil Spirit's nose."

mumbled. Bitten. *To mumble* is to bite gently without much use of the teeth.

God bless you, etc. The beginning of a well-known Christmas carol.

half-a-crown. A coin worth about sixty cents of our money.

12. Cornhill. A busy street in London.

Camden Town. Originally a village near London; now a part of the city.

13. corporation. Officials.

livery. Servants.

livid. Black-and-blue, the colour of lead.

14. pigtail. The queue, in which it was the fashion to wear the hair in the eighteenth century.

You may talk, etc. When the Act of Parliament is so loosely framed that people can evade it, we speak jokingly of being able to drive a coach-and-six (horses) through it.

splinter bar. The cross-bar supporting the springs.

a locomotive hearse. A moving hearse.