

POLICE.

UNACCOUNTABLE DEPRAVITY IN A "YOUNG LADY."—At the Mansion house, on Saturday, Mahomet Abraham, a jet-black blind beggarman, who is usually led through the streets by a brown dog, and Eliza —, aged twenty-three, the daughter of a gentleman who resides in London, were brought before the Lord Mayor by Major, an officer of the Mendicity Society. The male prisoner was a peculiarly revolting object, his head being covered with long matted hair, and the covering upon his limbs tattered and filthy in the extreme. The female was a small-sized, pretty-faced girl, presenting a remarkable contrast to the wretched creature who accompanied and was cherished by her. The Mendicity officer said that he saw the two prisoners together in Bishopsgate street. They had come from Halifax street, where they live together, and the girl fastened a petition to the man's breast, and placed him and his dog in an attitude of supplication. As soon as she had deposited him to her satisfaction against the wall, she retired from him. He saw him receive a penny and then apprehended them both. He had traced them to their very bed, and had been particularly informed of their habits. Captain Wood, of the Mendicity Society, said the case was the most extraordinary he had met with in all his experience, and read the following letter he had received from the young woman's father:

"I beg to submit the following distressing case to your sympathies, and to solicit from you the advice and assistance which I am led to understand is kindly afforded by your society in extraordinary cases out of the pale of parental authority. By birth and education a gentleman, I married in the year 1829 a lady in the same sphere of society, by whom I had issue two daughters, the eldest of whom (the unfortunate subject of this application), now twenty-three years of age, was from the age of three months brought up and educated in the first style by her maternal grandfather and grandmother. At their decease, about seven or eight years since, she became an unwilling inmate of her parents' dwelling, from which she contrived to get away with a married man, and was not heard of (having eluded the efforts of the police to trace her for many months) until the receipt of a letter in the 'Times' newspaper, from Mr D'Arcy, our solicitor, at Newton Abbott, in Devonshire, in which paper a detailed and humane account of the distressing condition of a young lady then lying at St Luke's workhouse appeared, under the assumed name of Elizabeth Allen. This account, as regarded my daughter, abounded with the most atrocious falsehoods, as detailed by herself to the board of guardians of St Luke's. My wife (having a cousin of the name, to whom the solicitor suggested it might apply) went to St Luke's and found our daughter to be the person whose case had been detailed in the 'Times,' and on her being brought before them and her mother, was there and then convicted of deliberate falsehood and fraud, and handed over to her mother. Exertions were then successfully made to get her cured of a complication of loathsome disorders at Bartholomew's hospital, from whence, after being brought to a state of convalescence, and robbing some of the nurses of small sums of money, she escaped, and again was lost sight of for many months, when a gentleman, a friend of the family, saw and gave her into custody of the police, who restored her once more to her afflicted parents. Her conduct from this period was infamous in the extreme, and on her coming of age she threw off all restraint, and having a small house property in Devonshire, subject to her parents' interest, but which was waived in her favour, she left us, nor did we know of her whereabouts until, about ten months since, I met her in the streets of Whitechapel, in the last stage of destitution, filth, and rags, singing ballads. My humanity once again led me to speak with her and to remonstrate, the result of which was that we took her home, cleansed, clothed, and cared for her. This lasted but a short time, and her recurrence to her former habits again precluded all knowledge respecting her, until, a few days since, we received a letter from our solicitor, saying he had heard from our daughter, as the wife of a Mr Abraham, desiring the sale of her property, and requesting him to take the necessary steps—one of these, and the preliminary step, being our signatures and consent. My first impulse was to visit the locality specified in the solicitor's letter, '7 Little Halifax street, Whitechapel,' and there, in one miserable room, cohabiting with a black blind beggar who perambulates the streets with a brown dog, this wretched girl is to be found. The parties who live in the same house say that she has been cohabiting with this monstrous loathsome being for two months, and that they live most luxuriously. Her mother, who has had an interview with her, states that she boasts of this man's bringing her home from the West end frequently 15s. per day, and on an average 7s. or 8s. per diem. She stated herself to have been married to him seven months since at Whitechapel church, which, on careful inquiry, I find to be false, having examined the church books, and seen the officials on the subject. These latter circumstances induce me to think that the humanity and exertions of your society may be made available for the suppression of so much vice, and the salvation of this unfortunate child."

The Lord Mayor inquired of the young woman whether she could have any respect or affection for the miserable creature at her side?

—The female prisoner: Yes; I have both respect and affection for him. I have no idea of leaving him. We can do very well together (and she laid hold of the tatterdemalion's greasy black paw.) The Mendicity officer: The man has been begging about for several years, and I have no doubt is well able to keep a woman in great luxury. I am convinced that the girl has been attracted by the excellent living with which he indulges her. They have been in the habit of getting the best, and she does not deny it. The female prisoner: Well, I can't go home and I won't go home. The black said he had been dogged through the streets of London for eight years, that there could be no mistake about his blindness, and if any one knew how a blind man was to support himself except upon the kindness of those who were not blind, he would be much obliged to be informed in what way. Both prisoners were remanded. A large sum of money was found at their lodgings. On Wednesday the beggar and the girl were again brought up before Alderman Hooper. Mahomet Abraham was first put to the bar. His hair had been before he left the Compter combed and brushed, and his face and hands looked as if they had been well mopped. His dog, which walked up stairs before him, took a turn round the crowd, but very soon smelling out his master seemed determined not to stray away from the scent, which many of the spectators seemed not to relish half so much. After the Mendicity Society's officer had given some further evidence relative to the prisoner's begging avocations, he was questioned by the alderman as to the term and nature of his acquaintance with the girl. He replied as follows:

"I went out one night to buy some victuals for my dog. It was late, and I called out to the people I heard passing by, where can I get any dog's meat? At last Eliza heard me, and she came and took me to a cat's-meat shop, where I got what I wanted, and I asked her to come home and take a cup of tea with me, and I would try and make her comfortable. So she agreed to come home with me, and we had our tea, and then she said as it was a quarter to eleven o'clock she was shut out, and she did not know where to go. I told her whenever she was shut out to come to me, and she should have what she wanted. And she has lived with me ever since."

Mr Coleman, of the office of the Registrar-General of Seamen, stated that the defendant could as a Malay be sent back to India, and at the close of his examination Alderman Hooper said he should remand him for a week in order to make arrangements for sending him back to his own country. The girl, who was next examined, gave a similar account of her first acquaintance with the black, and the result in her case also was that Alderman Hooper said he should communicate with those who had it in their power and inclination to send her away from this scene of her disgrace, and he should consign her to the care of proper parties for a week, in which time preparations would be made for her departure.