

A PHOTOGRAPHIC
MISCELLANEA

containing items of interest from the
Graham Ovenden
collection

Volume 1

Garage Press 2005 **RECORDING ANGELS**



Boston USA *Unknown Child* Daguerreotype 75/63 mm c1848



J S Blot *Unknown French Child* Daguerreotype 77/63 mm 1844



J Stinson of Maryville *Unknown Girl* Daguerreotype 94/65 mm
c1850



Mathew Brady *Unknown Girl* Daguerreotype 76/64 mm
c1848



Anon *American Group* Hand Tinted Daguerreotype 95/130 mm c1850



Anon *American Group* Daguerreotype 82/108 mm c1855



Anon *Hand tinted Daguerreotype* 76/62 mm c1847



Richard Beard *Miss Gibson* Daguerreotype 93/68 mm 1848



Lord Craven *Unknown Girl* Albumen Salt Print 135/105 mm 1853



Anon *Amy & Grizella* Salt Print 1849



Trotter ? Group of Errand Boys & Kindling Wood Vendors, Manchester 103/78 mm Albumen Prints c1855

Admitted October 16th, 1876.

Aged 11 Years.

Height, 3-ft. 10-in.

Color of { *Hair, Brown.*
Eyes, Brown.

Complexion, Swarthy.

Marks on body—Scar on Right Cheek.

If Vaccinated—No.

If ever been in a Reformatory or Industrial School? No.



SECOND REPORT—Oct. 14th, 1876.

I beg to report that I have made further enquiries respecting the children Thomas and Elizabeth Tovey, living at 19, Garth Street, Shadwell. When I called at the house I was informed they were out running about the streets. The landlord, Mr. May, told me they generally go out the first thing in the morning and don't return until it is time to go to bed. I called upon Mrs. Duthie, 10, Garth Street, who keeps a board and lodging house for sailors, and where the eldest girl, Sarah Ann, is at work. Mrs. Duthie sent her in search for them, and in a short time returned with them; they looked in a deplorable and wretched condition, filthy dirty, and in rags. The boy Thomas had an old jacket and an old pair of trousers, pinned on him. The girl Elizabeth had an old thin cotton frock on. They both looked pale and half-starved. They stated that all the food they had had that day was a piece of dry bread which a woman gave them. I visited the room they live in again, and found it in the same dreadful dirty state as described in my previous report. When the door was opened the stench was horrible. I find that all the children have to eat is what is given to them by the neighbours, or what they can pick up.

Mrs. Bush, 20, Garth Street, and Mrs. Faith, grocer, of 115, High Street, Shadwell, and several other persons spoke of the dreadful state the children are in, stating that it would be the greatest charity if something could be done for them, as nothing but the workhouse or a prison was before them. I was unable to find where the eldest brother William is, as he has not been seen since last Wednesday week. I also made strict enquiries respecting Mrs. Duthie, and find nothing against her moral character.

J. KLAIBER.

ELIZABETH TOVEY.
GOVERNOR'S REPORT

On the date of Girl's admission.

These children are brother and sister of a family of five complete orphans. They were brought to the Home by a woman named Duthie who claimed no connection with them beyond the fact that she was a neighbour, and her heart had almost bled on account of their pitiable and indescribably destitute circumstances. They were living at No. 19, Garth Street, (late Dean Street) Shadwell, in a small room at the top of the house, which had no pretensions to furniture of any kind. Their father, it is stated, was a blacksmith, and worked at Reed and Berry's, Gould's Hill, Ratcliff, but died two months ago of dropsy, in the London Hospital. The mother also died two years since of consumption, at Cherry Garden Street, Bermondsey. The eldest of the family of five is a young man of 21 years of age, who has been working as a blacksmith, but who, for some time past, has not been able to obtain employment of any kind. The next is a young woman of 18, who, on account of having nothing but rags to cover her, has not been successful in procuring a situation. Mrs. Duthie had taken compassion on her and given her food for a week or so. The next is a lad of 16, who also is out of work, but trying to pick up odd jobs by the water side. The remainder are the two children for whom application is made.

The appearance of these children was of the most saddening and heart-rending description. Their faces were blanched, pinched and wan, and the only covering to their emaciated frames were a few odd rags pinned together. Neither of them know of any living relatives.

In addition to the careful and diligent enquiries of our beadles, we paid a personal visit to the house 19, Garth Street, and inspected the miserable and pestiferous hole which formed the only dwelling place and shelter of this family of five children. The result was, we discovered, to our great astonishment and sorrow, that sad as the case had been reported to be, the half had verily not been told.

Garth Street is comparatively decent looking for Shadwell, which, to say the least, is notorious for narrow, dirty streets, and houses of ill repute of the lowest type.

The house to which we wended our way is a crazy, rickety structure, crumbling to pieces with age and neglect. This is tenanted by a poor woman with a large family, who depends upon charring for daily food. After a few questions, which were answered readily and satisfactorily, we asked permission to go upstairs, but were strongly advised not to do so. At first it seemed a matter of improbability whether we should be able get up at all, as we had to bend ourselves nearly double in order to mount the dark low-roofed staircase, which threatened to give way beneath us. On entering the room the atmosphere was suffocating and pestilential in the extreme, in fact our breath was fairly taken away, and it was some little time before we could recover ourselves. The dimensions of this hot bed of contagion could not have been more than seven feet square—certainly it was not above seven feet in height, and yet for nearly twelve months a father, two sons and three daughters had ate, slept and even existed in this coffin of corruption. Furniture there was none, beyond a few pieces of board, forming a temporary table, two old wooden chairs, and an ancient four-post wooden bedstead, minus sacking—minus everything, save the vermin that chased over it. The only bedding was a filthy piece of carpet and a quantity of loose flock in a box, which we were told was spread out on the floor at night and gathered up in the morning.

The walls were literally alive and crawling, and the whole sight was one of the most sickening and never to be forgotten description.

The woman occupying the house had already made arrangements to cast the few sticks and rags into the streets, and as we looked at the two youngest children, their wan and starved appearance filled our hearts with pity, and we lost no time in seeking to rescue them from a position which seemed worse and more horrible than death.

Orders were given that the elder sister should bring the two children to the Home, where our agreement forms were signed, and the children admitted, photographed, bathed and made more comfortable than they had been for many a week.

Our beadle was instructed to make close investigation into the case, and to report upon it forthwith.

BEADLE'S REPORT.

The parents of these children are both dead. The mother, Sarah Tovey, died about two years ago of consumption, and the father, Benjamin Tovey, a blacksmith, died last June in the London Hospital, of dropsy. There are five children, William 21, is a blacksmith, has been out of employment for six weeks. Sarah Ann 18, is with Mrs. Duthie, 10, Garth Street, Shadwell, who gives her food and clothes, but no wages. Mrs. Duthie informed me she is only keeping her until she is able to obtain a situation for her. Benjamin 16, is out of employment. On making enquiries respecting this lad's character, I was informed that he is a lazy fellow, nearly always out of work, and when he does get work of some kind, he is too lazy to keep his place. Thomas 14, and Elizabeth 12, are chiefly supported by the neighbours. From enquiries I made I find that after the father's death the children were chiefly supported by the eldest son, Thomas, but about six weeks ago he fell out of work, and since then the younger ones have been almost entirely kept by the neighbours, who gave the son Thomas a very good character, striving hard, when in work, to support his younger brothers and sisters. They rent one small upstairs room, paying 1/6 per week, where the three boys and two girls live and sleep together. I found it to be one of the worst places I ever entered. The landlady, Mrs. May, persuaded me not to go up, as the room was not fit to go into. When the girl opened the door the stench was so great that it defied all description. The only furniture it contained were two old chairs, two old tables, one box, the frame of a wooden bedstead and a few old dirty rags and flocks in a corner. There were no bed clothes of any kind, it seemed as if the room had not been cleaned for weeks. The landlady stated she was determined to get them out of her house, as they were in arrears with their rent, and she could not see them all sleep together in one room.



Robert Crawshay *Beggar Children* Carte dv 1876/7



Lewis Carroll *Lorina Liddell* Albumen print 1859



Lewis Carroll *Alexandra Kitchin (Xie)* ALbumen Print 23/3/1874



Lewis Carroll *Dorothy Kitchin* MPOP from the original negative 25/5/1880



Fred Hollyer *The Daughters of Jane & William Morris* Albumen print 1868



O G Rejlander *Isobel Somers-Cocks* Albumen print 1862



Lady Clementina Hawarden *Unknown girl* Albumen print c1859

Lady Clementina Hawarden *The Photographers family* Albumen print 1859/61



Braud *Unknown girl* Albumen print c1860



P H Emerson *Peeling Osier Sticks* Gravure print 1888



A W Hill *Little Mothers* Bromile print 1918



Jacob Riis *Little Susie at her work* Silver print 1880



R B Bennet *Nellie who delivers fish for her father* CB POP 1891



F M Sutcliff *Fisher Lassie, Whitbey* c1890



Eveleen Myers *The Photographer's Daughter* 90/120 mm Platinum Print 1894

Eveleen Myers *Portrait, Miss ?* 240/190 mm Platinum Print 1891



R Bennet of Oxford c1905



Marcus Adams *Mary Farr* Carbon print c1890



Unknown Dutch Child & Photographer Autochrome c1910