

admire  
Please ~~obtain~~ the following:

It should be observed, that while the Rommany Ballads will be attractive to students of languages, the English versions would, of themselves, constitute a piquant and extremely amusing work. Mr Leland, author of "The Breitmann Ballads," has here shown himself as much at home in singing the rollicking, frolicking Gipsy as when among German free-lances; while Professor Palmer ably maintains his reputation as one who has rendered the Arab poets into exquisite English measure. It may be added, that among Miss Tuckey's Rommany ballads will be found several touching on the tenderer incidents of Gipsy life, which cannot fail to be generally admired.

I believe we have got every thing Gipsy into the book that we know. Alex Cypres beat his wife to death last week and the 2 Misses Ripley robbed their mamma of all her money - but this occurred since the MS went to press - or I believe Palmer and Miss Tuckey would have had humorous and tender ballads on these little incidents too.

I wonder if I can be serious after such nonsense. But seriously my dear Mr Trübner - I hope this book will succeed for a good reason. You said one that Miss Tuckey ought to get above teaching little children and so she ought, for she is as earnest hard-working, regular scholar as any body living. She loves literature for its own sake and deserves to love it. Cyclopaedia writing is the hardest in the world, and not long ago she wrote a really erudite Cyclopaedia article. They answered it was more than 3 times as long as it ought to be - but she had made it so interesting that they put it all in and paid her more than the price agreed. This book if it gets talked about will introduce her as a clever poet and scholar and help her very much indeed. 67M29

Hastings ca. 1875



My dear  
WRS  
TRÜBNER

I dare say that that deceitful Nickel has not confided to you at all - or if he has it has only been a trifling dried crumb of a confidence, about the great work in which we are all so vitally interested. This work of works which no family should be without is the

### ENGLISH GIPSY BALLADS.

As you have probably not as yet given your mind to it, permit me as a friend to call your serious

attention to this charming book which cannot fail to soothe the mind, ameliorate the heart --

I am getting on rather too fast -- for I don't believe your heart could be ameliorated. The truth is that: --

MESSRS TRÜBNER & CO. will shortly publish a work entitled "ENGLISH GIPSY BALLADS," consisting of Poems in the Rommany tongue, with accurate metrical English translations. The lyrics in question were written by E. H. PALMER, Professor of Oriental Languages at Cambridge; CHARLES G. LELAND (author of "The English Gipsies," &c.); and Miss JANET TUCKEY. A few Gipsy Poems are added from other sources, Mr HUBERT SMITH, author of "Tent Life in Norway," having kindly contributed rhymes and subjects for rhyme.

This is an extract from a circular intended to promote the sale. That I am doing my best appears from the following facts. Every day I stand on the Pier here and distribute said circulars from 10 A.M. till 5. I give one to every nursery maid -- put two into every child's perambulator -- ask all the policemen the way to the Castle -- and then with an engaging smile say: "By the way here's a little thing that may interest you" -- and then run away before they can arrest me; (there is a dreadful Notice to Vagrants and gipsies stuck up out side the St. Leonard's Gate.) Then I go home and write to every body I ever heard of, inclosing a circular. I have already got one subscriber in Yorkshire -- and immediately sent him my photograph. When I tell you that Mrs Leland has positively pro-

posed to subscribe also, you will see that there are hopes of getting all England. But as this is contingent on my Good Behaviour -- whatever that may be -- I am afraid her 7s. 6d. are not quite so certain as sunrise.

With one or two exceptions, every poem in this collection is founded on some real incident of Gipsy life, or embodies what is strongly characteristic of the people, while the language, it is believed, is accurate, simple, and free from all conventional expressions. Every word used has been verified by Gipsies, and all of the ballads, which have been tested in their tents, have been promptly appreciated and admired. It is believed that there are very few phases or characteristics of the real Rommany which have not been set forth in this work. Any person will find it an easy matter to learn Anglo-Rommany in a few weeks, even with this book alone, as it contains a Glossary, Rules for Pronunciation, and a list of the most familiar rhymes.

Yesterday I met a tramp and listened to his whining tale of piety, &c. -- when he had got through I asked him if met the Coopers to tell them the Rommany represented his regards. First he said he didn't know what I meant -- but having received a penny he said "Lov's bless you Sir I knows 'em all. Coopers, Leas Chilcotts and Grays. An I can talk a little Gipsy too. But yours a ~~be~~ gipsy of a different class from any I ever come across."

As the number of copies issued will probably be limited, the Publisher requests that those who wish to possess the work -- which is, as he believes, the most curious and entertaining of its kind -- will at once forward their names.

This my dear Mrs Trübner is the point of my letter. As I am sending the circular to everybody I know, including even my best friends, I thought you might feel hurt if I left you out. You may forward your name to Nicolans.

I suppose you think I'm  
crazy - but the delightful idea  
of carrying the war home to  
Nicolaus was too much for  
me - I thought I had gone to  
the last length when I got  
Belle to subscribe! - and then  
it occurred to me that you were  
still left. (Bina I suppose  
is not old enough yet to sub-  
scribe!)

We like Hastings very  
much, the climate is lovely  
and I take immense walks.  
Belle and Mrs Fisher send  
their love with all their  
hearts - in which I cordially  
join with same to Mr Friebner.

Very truly indeed your  
friend

Charles G. Leland