Notes upon the Diary of a Resurrectionist.

The late Mr James Blake Bailey, who published this diary together with much interesting information respecting the resurrection-men, referred on pages 138 and 140, and in certain other notes, to my book "The London Burial Grounds," but stated that that book did not throw light on any of the difficult names (abbreviated or slang names) used in speaking of the burial-grounds from which bodies were procured. There are, however, certain of these names which it appears to me can be recognised, and the following are some annotations upon them.

In attempting to identify the burial-grounds mentioned in the Diary, it must be borne in mind that the body-snatchers

chiefly worked in more or less isolated districts, and also that some of the private and extra-parochial graveyards which existed at the time of the closing of the London burial-grounds were not in use as early as 1811-12, when this Diary was written. They admitted that they had to bribe the Caretakers, some of whom utterly refused to allow them to enter their grounds; so that their choice of such grounds must have been still further limited, and must have depended to a considerable extent upon the individuals who had charge of them.

The following is a complete list of all the names mentioned in the Diary, some occur many times, some only once. I have added my own idea of their identity.

1. Hospital Crib.	This is probably the same as one of the three following
2. Guy's Crib.	Guy's Hospital burial-ground, Snowsfields. Now the Nelson Street Recreation-ground.
3. St Thomas's Crib.	St Thomas's Hospital burial-ground, in St Thomas Street, Borough. Partly built on.
4. Bartholomew Crib	The burial-ground of St Bartholomew's Hospital in Seward Street, Goswell Road. Now a public playground.
5. The Meeting Crib	As there were numerous meeting-houses in all parts of London, with burial-grounds attached, it is impossible to identify this one.
6. Black Crib and the Black	I have no idea which these may have been.

7. Hoxton	Probably St John's Churchyard, but possibly the ground by the Haberdasher's Almshouses.
8. Isl^{on}	Probably St Mary's Church-yard, Islington; but there were other grounds in the parish.
9. White Chappell or W^{e} Chappel.	This may have been St Mary's Churchyard or any other ground in the district.
10. Pancress or Pancrass	The burial-ground attached to the old Church, always famous for its body-snatching records. See Tom Hood's poem "Jack Hal
11. Newington	Probably St Mary's parish Churchyard.
12. Bermondsey	Probably the parish church St Mary Magdalene.

13. St George's	St George the Martyr parish churchyard, or the additional ground in the district, original the Lock Burial-Ground, but after 1809 used as the parish "poor" ground.
14. St Olives, or Olives.	Most likely the additional ground in Tooley Street belonging to the parishes of St Olave's and St Johns'.
15. St John's, St Jns.	Probably the parish churchyard of St John's, Horsely down.
16. St James's	There is nothing to idicate which this may be, but very probably it was the ground in Hampstead Road belonging to St James's, Piccadilly, then quite in the fields and also often robbed from according to contemporary recor

17. Lambeth	The parish churchyard or the burial-ground in High Street. The resurrectionists preferred grounds where paupers were buried, as they got bodies more easily from these, so that it is not unlikely that in this instance, and in others, it may be the additional ground which is referred to.
18. Bethnall Green.	St Matthew's churchyard, then with open fields on the east side.
19. Green or the Green.	This is mentioned several times. I do not think it refers to any of the "Green church=yards," some of which Mr Bailey mentions. (There were at least two others besides)

These were all in somewhat populous districts. More likely it is another name for Bethnal Green, as that ground was used, but ~~the~~ its whole name does not occur in the same entries as "the Green" only.

20. Tottenham — Perhaps the parish Church, at Tottenham. But as the same men visited Tottenham and the Borough in one night (page 176 Bailey), and the distance apart is considerable, it may have been Whitefield's Tabernacle grd in Tottenham Ct. Road, then surrounded by fields.

21. Wyggate, or Wie=gate or Weigate. — I cannot identify this at all.

22. Connolly or Conelly or Conn^{n}.	Probably the name of a keeper or owner of a burial-ground.
23. Flemish.	Carter Lane. Mr Bailey should have said part of the site of the Flemish burial-ground "now forms the approach to London Bridge Station".
24. Golden Lane.	There were three graveyards close to Golden Lane, "Thomas", a private ground; a chapel ground in Cupid's Court; and the Cripplegate Poor ground in Whitecross Street.
25. Blue Lion or B. L^{n}.	This appears from the Diary to be a graveyard, probably named after an adjoining public house.

26. Bunner fields.

27. Bunhill Row.

Bunhill Fields, the general dissenter's cemetery

This may be ~~the~~ another name for the above. But there was no entrance, I believe, at that time, to Bunhill Fields from Bunhill Row, only the gate in the City Road. It is possible that it is the Quaker's graveyard, Checquer Alley, that is meant. Here 100 years earlier much trouble was occasioned by body-snatchers. But, on the other hand the Quaker's burial-grounds were carefully and zealously guarded by resident caretakers.

28 Goswell Street.	It is not very probable that this is, as Mr Bailey suggests, the Church of St Thomas, Charterhouse. There is not any other record of stealing from a Church. Goswell Road was called Goswell Street in 1811, and most probably the burial-ground was that of St Bartholomew's Hospital - see No 4.
29. Back St Lukes	Twice mentioned thus. It may have been the "poor ground" which was at the back of St Luke's Hospital, or it may have been the back (additional) portion of the Churchyard in Old Street.

30. big Gates

Several times mentioned. The Globe Fields burial-ground did not exist in 1807, but it did soon after, possibly by 1811. It was a much crowded private ground, in a lonely position. It had, and the existing portion still has, enormous gates, far too large to be in proportion to the surrounding fence. These gates are taken notice of in "the London Burial Grounds" page 198. If the men visited this ground they are very likely to have given it such a nickname.

31. Harper's, or Harps'.

This is also mentioned several times. And in one place

it is especially recorded that the "private door" was shut. Mr Bailey suggests that Harper was the keeper of a ground. This may be — or an owner. But I am in=clined to associate it with the graveyard of St George's, Hanover Square in Bays=water Road. This was notoriously abused, as is evidently from contem=porary memorials to the Home Secretary. In 1811 the land north of it was open, and in 1810 I find that this was called Harper's Fields (see Lockie's "Topo=graphy of London"). It would be natural for the men to

go to the back door (now in Albany Mews) through this plot of land called Harper's Fields, and they may have given the name to this graveyard in their ordinary conversation.

Isabella M. Holmes

Ealing - February 25. 1899.