

FROM INSPECTOR
THOMAS BYRNES, ROYAL CANADIAN
247 PROFESSIONAL
CRIMINALS OF 1900 - C
AMERICA
173

CORR
PUB.
(1886)

EDWARD LILLIE, alias HENRY A. WATSON.

CONFIDENCE MAN, FORGER, AND BOARDING-HOUSE THIEF.

DESCRIPTION.

Sixty-five years old in 1886. Born in United States. Sailmaker. Married. Slim build. Height, 6 feet 1 inch. Weight, 166 pounds. Black hair, turning quite gray; gray eyes. Wears a gray chin whisker. Has a sloop and owl in India ink on right arm; spots of ink on left arm.

RECORD.

ED. LILLIE is one of the most notorious confidence operators in America. He does not confine himself to that particular branch of the business, as he has done service for forgery and robbing boarding-houses. He is known in a number of the large cities of the United States and Canada, and is considered a very clever man.

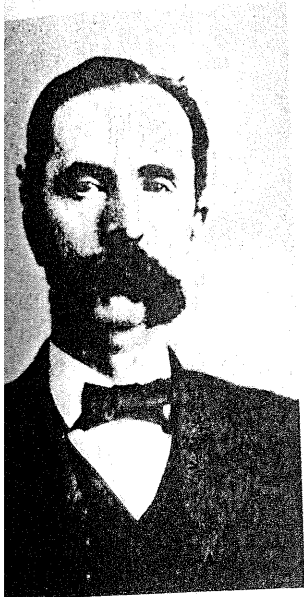
He was arrested in New York City on November 25, 1876, under the name of James H. Potter, charged with purchasing from George C. Flint, of West Fourteenth Street, New York City, \$600 worth of furniture, and giving him in payment therefor a worthless check for \$750 on the National Bank of Newburg, N. Y. The bank's certification on the check was forged, and he received \$150 in change. In this case Lillie pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to two years and six months in State prison, on February 2, 1877, by Judge Gildersleeve. He was arrested again in New York City on July 28, 1879, in company of one John Hill, alias Dave Mooney (173), charged by Mrs. Lydell, who kept a boarding-house at No. 46 South Washington Square, with entering the room of one of her boarders and stealing \$575 in money, three watches, two chains, and a locket, altogether valued at \$1,000. In this case he was discharged for lack of evidence.

Lillie was arrested again on board of a Galveston steamer, lying at the dock in New York City, on January 9, 1881, charged with obtaining \$50 from Miguel S. Thimon, a Texan, by the confidence game. In this case Lillie was sentenced to two years and six months in State prison, on January 12, 1881, by Judge Cowing. He was again arrested plying his vocation along the river front in New York, in June, 1884, and sentenced to six months in the penitentiary, charged with vagrancy. He obtained a writ, and was discharged by Judge Lawrence, of the Supreme Court, on June 13, 1884.

He fell into the hands of the police again in New York City, on February 27, 1885, charged by Benjamin Freer, of Gardiner, Ulster County, N. Y., with swindling him out of \$250 in money. One David Johnson, of Catasauqua, Pa., also charged him with swindling him out of 102 English sovereigns on January 2, 1885, on board of an Anchor Line steamer, while lying at the dock in New York City. Johnson was on his way to Europe. Lillie was tried for swindling Johnson, and sentenced to five years in State prison on March 9, 1885, by Recorder Smyth, in the Court of General Sessions.

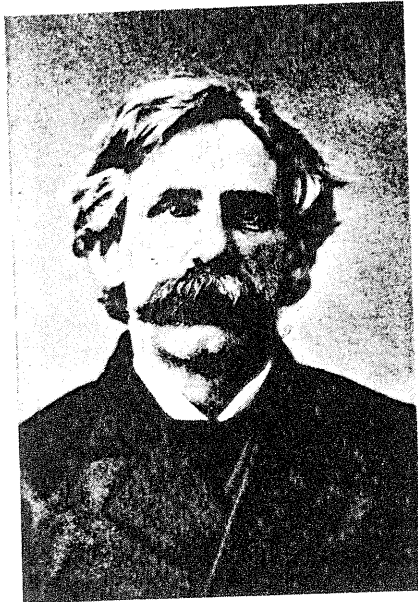
Lillie's picture is an excellent one, taken in November, 1876.

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ALEXANDER C. BRANSCOM,
FORGER AND CONFIDENCE MAN.

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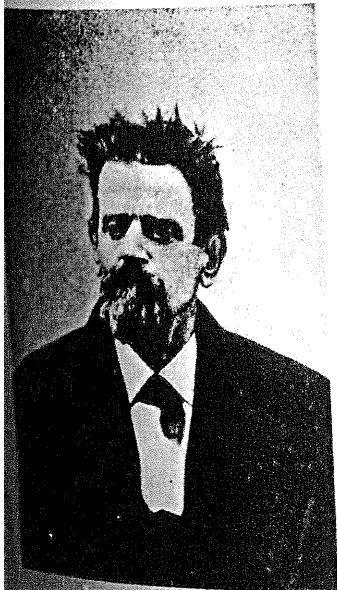
FRANKLIN J. MOSES,
ALIAS EX. GOV. MOSES,
SWINDLER.

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DAVID SWAIN,
ALIAS DAVE SWAIN
CONFIDENCE.

100



EDWARD LILLIE,
ALIAS WATSON,
CONFIDENCE.

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JOHN CANNON,
ALIAS OLD JACK,
HOTEL THIEF.

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EDWARD LYMAN,
ALIAS NED LYMAN,
PICKPOCKET AND CONFIDENCE MAN.