

It was related of her, in later years, that she died two deaths. The first occurred in her own home, and when the breath had ceased in her, her husband brought out a bottle of gin and shared it with some of the neighbours, either to celebrate his release from, her or to sustain him in his loss. It is recorded that as be poured~ out the drink he glanced at the corpse upon the bed and remarked,~ sententiously: "Black Sal, thee's sarved me many a trick in thy~ time but never thee's sarved me a trick like this." But Black Sal, half-way to Gehenna, smelled the gin, hastened back, and finished the bottle. After this first death she survived for many years, until at last, becoming destitute, she was taken to the workhouse where among other <u>indignities she suffered that of being</u> forcibly washed. This killed her: and the chilly hard-hearted Institution provided no bottle of gin to lure her back to life.

<u>1851-c51043</u> Nelson Alley Thomas Evans; 42; Lab; Kemerton

## March 1854 born Susanna Evans

1861-1871 mother had two more husbands

1890: *Susan Evans, Alias " Black Sal",* Of Comptons Alley, Barton St. - 7 Days Hard Labour For Stealing A Nightdress, Value 8d.

1891 Susan Evans; Wife's Sister; Single; 36; Housekeeper; b. Tewkesbury

<u>1894</u> Stealing a piece of pork value 1s education *Imp* 1 month hard labour aged 40 5'2.5" black hair, charwoman, 2 previous convictions ref last 961/13a released 2 Feb 1894 £5.14

## 1904 prison for hawking clothes w/o a licence

1911: general servant boarding in Longs Court

**<u>1926</u>** – ejected from home in Glovers Alley

<u>Register 30-4-1927 p3/6</u> Susannah Evans aged 73 choked by a piece of meat during her supper of cold roast beef; lodging at 3 Double Alley for 3 weeks; attended by Dr. Devereux. Post mortem found a piece 2.5" c 1.25" – asphyxia agreed by Coroner [burial ref: 6480 alone]

## **Conclusion**

- Double Alley's laughter, in fact, was one of the ancient sanctions of democracy;
- "Wot's 'e got 'imself elected for?" was her most devastating question; for say what you will about Double Alley, there wasn't much wrong with its sense of values.