

Melstane, saying that she loved him, and all the rest of it? yet all the time she knew he had death in that pill-box.

'If she had been a strong-minded woman—'

'If she had been, my dear boy, she very likely would not have committed the crime. It is your shallow-brained people that commit most crimes. The least shock sends their weak heads of the balance, and they don't know what they are doing. In this case, however, as I've told you a dozen times, it was hereditary insanity.'

'A strange case!'

'A very strange case, and what a noble woman Mrs. Axton is! By the way, how is Mrs. Axton? I've not been to see them yet.'

'Mrs. Axton,' I replied, solemnly, 'is quite well, but is expecting an interesting event. They are going to call him Octavius after me.'

'Japix roared like a Bull of Bashan.'

'You seem pretty certain about the sex,' he observed, wiping his eyes; 'but fancy calling the first child Octavius, which means eighth. It's like a riddle.'

'And why not? The whole marriage arose out of a riddle.'

'How so?'

'The Jarchester Mystery.'

'Well, you've found out the riddle,' said Japix, coolly; 'but, as you can't guess how such a frivolous girl as Florry could commit such a clever murder, it's a riddle to you still.'

'It is! Let us put it in the form of an epigram.'

'Proceed.'

'This is a riddle! Guess it. 'Tis still a riddle!'

'Humph! Author?'

'Myself.'

'I thought so,' said Japix, rudely, and departed.'

THE END.

## LABOR AND WAGES.

### AMERICAN.

Strikers boarded a Lake Erie & Western freight train near Lima, O., dumped the fire, let the water run out, and then uncoupled all the cars.

The passementerie workers of Philadelphia are complaining of competition by women and child labor. The factory inspectors have found large numbers of children who are compelled to work overtime.

Postmaster Carroll E. Smith of Syracuse, N. Y., is charged by the labor organizations in that city with violating the law by making his clerks and letter carriers work more than eight hours per day.

Workmen are returning to Winnipeg from the Pacific coast. The labor market on the Pacific slope is overcrowded.

The glass bosses of the United States have made arrangements to import foreign workmen in large numbers to break down the Glassblowers' Union. Agents were sent to Europe to persuade men to emigrate to America.

The thirty-eight women cleaners at the Pennsylvania railroad depot in Jersey City struck last Monday on account of an order compelling them to clean the cuspidors. Later the order was rescinded and the women returned to work.

The Brooklyn Labor Lyceum Association reports a profit of about \$4,000 for the last month. The receipts last month were \$2,444.50 and \$1,988.98 were expended.

John Russitz, of New York, whose furriers are striking for nine hours cannot get any seals although he has offered \$36 per week for cutters. The men are determined to win. Strikes have also been ordered at the shops of N. Zoebel and Louis Cohen Bros.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen was organized in a little switch shanty in the Erie yards at Port Jarvis, N. Y., on Dec. 1, 1873. During the last ten years the receipts amounted to \$2,767,717.72 and \$2,704,935.99 have been expended.

Rev. W. D. P. Bliss has secured the entire building at 812 Washington street, Boston, for making it the headquarters of the labor and social reform organizations of that city. It will be known as the Wendell Phillips Union.

The strike amendments to the constitution of the Iron Moulders' National Union have been adopted by a large majority. The strike benefit will henceforth be \$7 a week to married and \$5 to single members. A new local union was chartered last month at North Adams, Mass. It is No. 300. The strike at Holyoke, Mass., still continues.

In New York State 116 labor organizations comprising 31,191 members employed in different occupations, have reduced their hours of labor in 1890.

### EUROPEAN.

A general strike was declared at a meeting of the velvet workers in Lyons as the masters had denied to maintain eleven hours as a days work. All the hands left the factories of Chatron, Chapelle, Mongeonier and Saintabec.

A threatened strike of the bakers at Copenhagen, Denmark, has been averted by timely concessions on the part of most of the bosses. Nevertheless, the men employed at eleven bakeries are out on strike.

The statistics published by the Imperial Insurance Bureau of Germany upon accidents to workmen shows that the smallest number occurs during the early hours, and that the fatalities increase as the day proceeds. Between 6 and 7 p. m., there are 443; between 5 and 6 a. m. there are 1,506.

The Labor party is now the second strongest political organization in New South Wales, Australia. It has polled 68,000 votes. The votes of the other three parties was as follows: Government party, 87,000; Opposition, 62,000; Independents, 13,000.

A labor paper, entitled the Revolution, has made its appearance in Japan. It first came out secretly under the name of Liberty, and it was produced by means of the hectograph. The new paper is printed from types made in England.

Social discontent is taking root in Japan. Organizations for the purpose of the study of the great social questions are springing up all over the empire.

The eight hour day works well in Australia. It has been proven a good law for the laboring man, who reads more, rests more, and stays at home more. Australians would not return to the long day.

The Socialists in the Berlin Common Council have introduced a bill to establish a court of arbitration with jurisdiction in trade and labor disputes.

The female Brushmakers' Society of Glasgow have secured a victory over one of their would-be oppressors. Cowan & Co. threatened the girls in their employment with 10 per cent. off, a reduction which they valiantly resisted, and under the able generalship of John Spencer, Brushmakers' representative in the Glasgow Trades Council, they have caused this firm to unconditionally surrender.

### CANADIAN.

Large numbers of ship laborers are leaving Québec to work in southern ports during the winter months.

A meeting of the Sailors' Union was held in Toronto on Tuesday, and a strike may result. Some weeks ago a meeting was held, and it was resolved to ask for an advance of wages from \$1.25 to 1.50 per day. At this last meeting it was resolved to insist on the advance to \$1.50. The men are those on sailing vessels only, those on steamboats not being included in it. The owners have not yet decided on the request of the men. They say that the present state of the shipping trade will not justify the increase at present, but something may be done in a week or ten days.

### A Yankee Prince No More.

The personality of the Hawaiian government is made up by a very curious combination of native Sandwich islanders, Americans, Englishmen and, perhaps, other foreigners. The leading financial official for some time has been a Canadian, and he succeeded in gaining very important concessions for the Canadian Pacific. The highest place, though but socially such, was, until his recent death, held by John O. Dominis, native of Boston, but nearly fifty years a citizen of Hawaii.

His rank was officially that of prince consort; that is, he was the husband of Queen Liliuokalani. When she became queen on the death of her brother Kalakaua a few months ago her rank was necessarily above that of her husband, but their relations were unaffected, for she loved him devotedly and is greatly prostrated by his death.

He reached Honolulu when a mere boy and soon became a citizen and successful merchant. In politics he took a high rank, and was at one time governor of Oahu. They have had no children, and on the death of Liliuokalani the crown will pass to Princess Kaiulani Cleghorn, only daughter of the late Princess Likelike, sister of the present queen.

Harry L. Hallock, the holder of the high jumping championship of America, keeps on improving. His chance of winning the proud title for another year is excellent. At the Manhattan A. C. games, he broke his own record, jumping 6 feet 4 inch. Four such men as Fearing, Hallock, Nickerson and Edwards would make an interesting competition. They have all cleared over six feet.

The checker championship games, 25 in all, with 15 openings, were concluded on Wednesday evening in the rooms of the Chicago Chess and Checker Club. Two games were played during the day. The first was drawn and Barker won the second with the Whiteside and Dundee opening. Final score: Barker, 5; Reed, 0; drawn, 21. Charles Barker of Boston, the winner of the tournament, defeats J. P. Reed of this city for a purse of \$1,000.

Jack McAuliffe is said to be having a run of luck just now. His bookmaking ventures have panned out \$200 a day for some time past.

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