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WEDNESDAY MORNING, FEB. 10, 1886.

A Great Nation Gripped by a False Theory.

We learn from cables that the terrible distress existing among English workmen constitutes a more urgent appeal to the hearts of English law-makers than the Irish question. A personal enquiry in districts lying at the east and of London shows that on an average 40 per cent of highly-skilled workmen are unemployed. In one street it was found that as high as 60 per cent were idle. The workhouses of the metropolis are full to overflowing with respectable artisans, who, through the extreme dullness of trade, have been forced for the first time to seek parish relief.

Another despatch says that the defeat of the government is expected to happen before June, and may occur earlier on the budget proposals. This is only the ugliest stage in the way of the English state of affairs. The financial deficit reaches several millions of pounds, and this is a most perplexing weight with which to meet on the horizon. Trade is continually growing worse, and the temper of the country is very forcibly expressed against any further increase in the income tax, which is about the only thing the government can now recourse to.

Why should it be said that an increase of the income tax is about the only thing to which the government can resort as a means of meeting the deficit? There is another and a better way, and that is by taxing imports from abroad. At present, while many British workmen are idle, iron for construction purposes is being imported in large quantities from Belgium, some of it for government works. While carpenters and other workmen in wood can find nothing to do, finding wood-work comes in duty-free from Norway, and is believed also from the United States. French clocks, kid and silk fabrics of all kinds, and articles of luxury without number, come in duty-free, whereas British statesmen have committed themselves to the false theory of free trade, and shrink from making open confession of the tremendous mistake they made when they opened to foreign markets the immensely valuable British market, without securing a fair trade in return. Nor is it only in the free importation of articles of luxury, purchased by the rich only, that British workmen foreign artisans while their own artisans beg for work and bread. French and Belgian, and German woolen goods are piled up on English shelves, and are professedly displayed on counters and in shop windows, while English woolen goods are short time. Miserable imitation of Sheffield cutlery is made in Germany, imported free, and sold at prices nominally cheap, but really dear to those who buy the articles. Thus the work and the bread that should be provided for the British workmen go to foreigners instead, without anything from the latter to make the exchange a fair one.

It is likely that the new voters in the manufacturing districts will have something to say about this before long. The grievous wrong from which British artisans now suffer will have to be righted. But as yet free trade in high and influential positions have the mastery; and the fatal theory of free trade holds the country in fetters, and keeps it powerless to help itself in the present time of financial deficit and prevailing distress.

Young Men, Don't be an Office Seeker.

The man who seeks employment under the government should remember that fortunes are not made in the public service, and that the salaries paid subordinate officials are not equal to those paid by corporations and business houses. A government clerkship is not a proper ambition for an ambitious young man, as he is not likely to rise above it, and to be at first assigned to it, and further the moment he enters the service that moment he loses his independence as a citizen. He is ever harassed by the thought that he may be "dismissed" or "unemployed" at the whim of the working head of the department he is connected with, and he must "stand by" with the head of the party in power if he hopes for a paltry increase of salary, although such increases are supposed to be regulated by the civil service act, which is practically a dead letter. At no time does he feel that quiet and content which do those engaged in the ordinary industries of life. Yet in the face of these facts is he become almost a paragon with most men to hold a government place.

The man who has spent years in the civil service, has all interest in calling out of it, and becomes unfitted for an active business life. He has no confidence in himself, and virtually becomes dependent on the government. Should he be ousted, he makes but a sorry figure in his attempt to battle with life. He is but a poor government clerk, and knows nothing outside of the routine of the department in which he so long labored.

Our young men had better commence life in a vigorous way. The foundations of a successful industry or business may be solidly laid in half the time that is now devoted by hundreds looking after a soft government berth.

The West demands a Flattery Treaty. The belief that if there is anything fishy going on "Blaine of Maine" is sure to have a finger in it seems to be pretty well founded. The advance sheets of his forthcoming book show that he regards President Cleveland's suggestion upon the fishery question as a "bold stroke of statesmanship to 'cast an anchor to windward' of the voice of the fishermen of Maine. The fact seems to be that he has not written a history, but a campaign brochure, which may bring home to him in 1888 as some of his previous writings did in 1884. His object is to create among his fishing friends the impression that their interests are not safe in Cleveland's hands, just as steel works into a co-operative concern, in every case.

our own somewhat esteemed Dalton has bent all his energies to show that Sir John A. Macdonald is prepared to sell or give away the navy rights of Canada. He complains that the arguments against monopolist fortunes and his acquisition of great wealth by every legitimate available means. The Pittsburgh Times suspects that he means what he says, but that his policy has not yet developed itself. Many shrewd observers surmise that his object is not to found a wealthy family, nor to play the philanthropist by building cottages at a Peabody, nor to endow a university, but to initiate a great scheme of cooperation in various lines of enterprise. Should he do this, he will do more for the best interests of the working classes than was done by Peabody or even by Peter Cooper. Co-operation presents itself as the only possible solvent of the puzzle of modern civilization, with the very rich and extremely poor, in few demoralizing affluence and its many still more demoralizing pauperism. Mr. Carnegie should not delay. Death never delays when it comes. He can frustrate the best laid plans of mice and men. When a millionaire dies with a great benefaction upon his mind, his heirs are apt to pay little respect to his intentions, and then the lawyers come and the money goes.

Our Chicago contemporary takes a much more reasonable view of the fishery question than do most of its competitors. It affirms that Alfred Gallatin and Richard Bush, who acted for the United States in the negotiation of the treaty of 1818, were men of undoubted ability and unquestioned integrity, and the treaty of 1818 "made absolute surrender of the right to take, dry or cure fish within three marine leagues of the Canadian coast, with certain specified exceptions. Under the unscrupulous treaty of 1854, American fishermen were restored to the right to fish in Canadian waters, agreed for ten years by the treaty of Washington in 1871." This puts the history of the question in a nutshell, and is a complete though brief answer to all the long-winded stories that we often read about the rights and wrongs of the New England fishermen, whose real grievance is that they are not allowed to do as they like upon our coasts. The New voices, "the feeling in the wise west" that the country should be protected from the dangers involved in leaving this an open question. The self-interests of New England are not higher than the peace of the nation." We feel satisfied that the vast majority of our neighbors only to inform themselves fully of the facts to render an equitable arrangement feasible. The trouble is that for every citizen of the United States who will read up the actual history of the case, a thousand citizens will derive their misinformation from such partisan pleading as Blaine's. Is the duty of every patriotic Canadian to say or write nothing that will weaken our position, sustained as that position is by the record, or to embarras the minister to whom hands may fall the delicate task of averting all unpleasantness with the great people to the south of us. This is the case wherein the "Canada first" ought to play a prominent and practical part.

Arnold Morley, M.P. for Nottingham, whose house was badly wrecked by the socialists of London, owes this distinction to the fact that he bears Mr. Burns, their leader, at the late election. His house made a whip of the Liberal party lately. No doubt his house is replete with objects of art and curiosities from all lands. He is a son of the millionaire lace manufacturer of Nottingham, Mr. Samuel Morley, a leading philanthropist and principal owner of the London Daily News. His eldest brother, Mr. Hope Morley, is a director of the bank of England. Mr. Arnold Morley was in Toronto on a visit to Government house four or five years ago, and was one of the party sent in 1872 to accompany the team of English and Canadian Members of Parliament and the States. Mr. Samuel Morley will be remembered as having held a gigantic meeting of Methodists at his magnificent seat at Easton a few years ago at which several Torontonians, including Mr. John Macdonald, were present. Mr. Morley is not connected in any way with John Morley, the new Irish secretary.

Such stories as that about the devil attacking a blasphemer out of Pennsylvania are little better than blasphemy itself. The power of light and of darkness has something better to do than smiting drunken revellers and dirty bawlers who can be safely left to work out their own destruction. No infidel with a brain bigger than a morsel would venture to do such a thing. The hostility against him among the colored people in Carondelet was so strong that he was transferred to School No. 3, Belgrave, and Biddulph Street. He remained there only one year, having been found guilty of disobedience and of changing the figures in his reports to the supply committee. The figures were changed to his favor, and he was sent to New Haven, where he married a Chicago woman. He then went to Kansas City and obtained a position as principal of a public school there. His record was investigated by some enemies there, and he was soon forced to leave. He came to St. Louis, he had married a girl in Cleveland, and he brought her only six feet in height, and is muscular and splendidly proportioned—with graceful bearing. His skin is as black as coal. He has a thorough education, and when he applied for a position here in June, 1878, he stood the principal's examination with flying colors. He came to St. Louis from Canada, where he had taught in Kent and Essex counties, and at Guelph, Ontario, and at 1872 accompanied the team of English and Canadian Members of Parliament and the States. Mr. Samuel Morley will be remembered as having held a gigantic meeting of Methodists at his magnificent seat at Easton a few years ago at which several Torontonians, including Mr. John Macdonald, were present. Mr. Morley is not connected in any way with John Morley, the new Irish secretary.

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