

LABOR AND WAGES.

Cleanings From the Industrial Field of the World.

The Federation of Miners which met at Bristol, England, has 127,000 members. They talk of working only five days a week.

Professor Carroll says that there are over 200,000 men in Massachusetts alone and willing to work who can get no work to do.

The differences between the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad and its trainmen have been settled. Concessions were made on both sides.

Representatives of 16,000 miners met last week in Altoona, Pa., to formulate a demand for a general increase in wages, to take effect this week.

The Louisiana Farmers' Alliance has expelled nine members, who were also members of the Legislature, because they voted in favor of the lottery bill.

The typesetters' strike in Budapest, Hungary, is over. Nine hundred men and 500 girls were involved. They demanded \$5 per week and the nine hour day, which they got.

The Austrian government has given \$1,000 to the unemployed mother-of-pearl workers of Vienna, and \$4,000 will be expended to enable them to form a co-operative factory.

The Flint and Pere Marquette railroad company employs a large number of men at Ludington, Mich., to transfer freight. The men are now on strike because the company cut down their pay from 20 to 15 cents an hour.

The railroad switchmen in all the larger cities of the Northwest have been granted an advance in wages. In the larger cities this amounts to \$5 per month. In the smaller towns the advance has not been fixed, but it will be somewhat less.

All the collieries in the vicinity of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., operated by the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, that have been idle for some time past, have resumed operations. This gives employment to many thousand men and boys.

The labor organizations of Tennessee will demand a bill from the coming Legislature making the first Monday in September a holiday for labor, as it has been instituted in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and other progressive States.

The London carpenters are at present agitating for forty-seven hours per week at 20 cents per hour; overtime to be paid double; travelling expenses on jobs over four miles from the bosses' shop; no subletting nor piece-work; suitable places to take meals.

Mrs. Marie J. Shipley, the English novelist and Christian Socialist, has arrived in this country to lecture upon the subject of Nationalism and Socialism. She claims to have discovered that Edward Bellamy's "Looking Backward" was copied in part from August Bebel's book "Woman."

Twelve hundred miners and laborers at the Rock Spring mines of the Union Pacific Railway Company in Cheyenne, Wyo., are on strike, because the company gave notice that they propose paying the day workmen by the hour. It is believed that the company intended forestalling the effect of an eight hour law, introduced in the present State Legislature, which it is likely will pass.

The eight hour agitation in Australia began in 1855. After three years the fight was won for all the trades, the bosses coming down from tea to eight hours. For over thirty years the Australian workmen have had an eight hour law, and there are almost no non-union men in the entire country. It took us a good while to get the Australian ballot—when will we have Australian conditions of labor?

The Superior Labor Council, which the French Chamber of Deputies has resolved to organize, will probably consist of ninety members, fifteen of them to be appointed from among the Senators, Deputies and national economists, and seventy-five among the presidents or secretaries of the workmen and unions of the country. In all labor questions this council is to have arbitrating power, and as an advisory board it shall suggest to the government regulations and measures for respective contingencies. The workingmen members of the council shall be paid after each session for their attendance, and are to have their travelling expenses refunded.

The latest case of a reduction of wages is a 10 per cent cut in the payment of the Pullman Car Works at Chicago. We are still looking in vain for the first instance of an increase of wages since the McKinley bill went into effect.—N. Y. World.

The situation of the discharged laborers from the Union Pacific extension to Paget Sound is growing more serious daily. There are about 1,000 of these men in Portland, Ore., and the number is increasing hourly. Most of them are destitute and

unable to get money on their time cheques, which were due December 26. A large number are being fed and lodged by the city. Owing to the inability of Messrs. J. H. Smith & Co., who had the contract, to secure money from the Union Pacific, the men are being put off from day to day. Some are discounting time cheques at 50 per cent. Mr. Smith is now at Omaha trying to get money from the Union Pacific. He telegraphed that the company promised him \$300,000 this week, and on this assurance the men have been quieted.

Parker's Velvet Slippers at \$1 are worth buying.

Extraordinary Electric Accident.

There was a curious scene in Paris the other day (writes a correspondent) just outside the Opera House. Traffic was in full swing, when a lady who was crossing the street and had got on to one of the refugees sunk to the ground with a scream. She had put her foot on a large metal plate and immediately felt an electric shock. The usual crowd collected, and the usual police arrived. But the cause was clear to all. Quite close to the scene of the accident was a standard of clustered electric lights, and the wire which supplied the current passed close to the metal plate. With great presence of mind the police sent for several electricians, keeping a cordon in the meantime round the plaque. The experts went to work quickly and cautiously. The metal plate itself was raised. It communicated with one of the subterranean passages that lead to the drainage system of the city. Then at last the cause of the accident was discovered. A workman employed in the drains wanted to emerge, and happened to push the plate at the moment the lady's foot was on it. Hence the earthquake and shock. Thereupon the crowd dispersed, the electricians went home, the police preserved impenetrable silence, and the lady decided to say as little as possible about the accident.

Parker, the East End Shoe Man, is selling VELVET SLIPPERS suitable for Presents, cheap at 1351 St. Catherine street. Call and buy a Pair at 75c or \$1. or a Pair at \$1.25, worth \$1.75

PERSONAL.

An Oriental statesman, lionised in London society, was asked by a lady why his people did not abolish the plurality of wives.

"Well, you see," he replied, "we have to roam over many Oriental woman to find the elements of perfection centred in one of those I see around me." This cuts more ways than one. Twenty Oriental women in one London lady!

The new musical corset, a Yankee invention, is a stay so made that the slightest pressure produces a curious sound that can be heard in the adjoining room.

A British guardsman's bear skin decoration costs £75. A line soldier gets machine-made boots at 4s. a pair.

An American official school-grammar declares that "you was" is correct, in speaking to one person only, and that "you were" is a vulgar Englishism.

It is announced that Mr. Balfour has changed his mind, and that he will not carry out the programme previously mapped out by himself of delivering a service of speeches in January through the province of Ulster.

Mme. Patti a few days ago gave a dinner to 1,000 poor and unemployed in the neighborhood of Craig y Nos, and she also provided tea for 1,200 school children later. She and Nicolini were received by her guests with great enthusiasm.

The French Senatorial elections will be held on Jan. 4. Seventy-nine Senators are to be elected. Of those retiring, sixty-three are members of the Left and sixteen belong to the Right. The Republicans expect to return members to replace all of those retiring who belong to their party and to gain six representatives.

A letter from Cardinal Lavigerie has been received in Paris, in which the Cardinal announces that he will defend the singing of the "Marseillaise Hymn" in the Catholic mission schools in Algiers, Malta and Jerusalem.

The grand Duke Constantine, the Czar's uncle, is dying.

If you wish a suitable Present these hard times buy a Pair of VELVET SLIPPERS from S. H. Parker, 1351 St. Catherine street.

A Codicil—... I bequeath to my faithful valet, Phillip, 2,000 empty wine bottles, the contents of which he enjoyed during my life-time.

"HE COMES!"

The following beautiful lines were written by a young lady of sixteen, who looks with earnest hopefulness to the fulfilment of the gospel of the coming Christ:

They cry, "He comes!"
The signs are sure, the mystic number is fulfilled,
"He comes!"

We answer, "Oh, that He would come!
We want the Christ!"

We want a God to burn afresh
The truth upon the forehead of the world;
We want a Man to walk again
Among the wrangling Pharisees, and drive
The beasts and money changers from the
Temple courts,

To bring the gospel back again and prove
How all unlike the churches are to Christ—
We want that Christ to tell again
The saints their sins;

That they were sent to bless the poor,
And they have sold themselves unto the
rich;

That they were sent to preach the word of
peace,
And they have filled the world with war of
words

That they were sent the messengers of love
And they have driven love out of their
creeds;

That they were sent to teach men not to
lie,
Nor tremble when their duty leads them to
death—

Ah, for Christ again!

Again the Christ is coming.
Hear ye not the footfalls of the Lord?
He comes, the leader of a riper age,
When all that is not good and true shall die.
When all that's bad in custom, false in
creed,

And all that makes the poor and mars the
man
Shall pass away forever. Yes, He comes
To give the world a passion for the truth,
To inspire us with a holy human love,
To make us sure that ere a man
Can be a saint, he first must be a man.
—Christian Commonwealth.

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- Knitted Shawls at 25c upwards.
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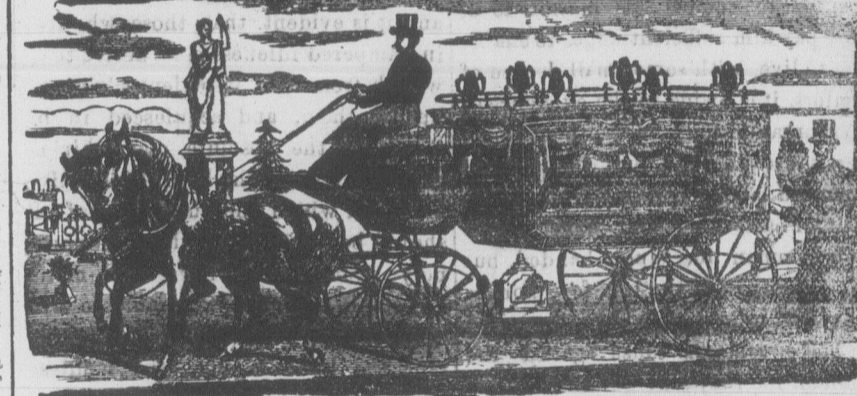
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