

THE FARM ON THE LINKS.

Gray o'er the pallid links, haggard and forsaken,  
Still the old roof tree hangs rotting overhead,  
Still the black windows stare sullenly to seaward,  
Still the blank doorway gapes, open to the dead.

What is it cries with the crying of the curlews?  
What comes apace on those fearful, stealthy feet,  
Back from the chill sea-deeps, gliding o'er the sand-dunes,  
Home to the old home, once again we meet?

What is to say as they gather round the hearthstone,  
Flameless and dull as the feuds and fears of old?  
Laughing and frowning still, menacing and mocking,  
Sadder than death itself, harsher than the cold.

Woe for the ruined hearth, black with dust and evil,  
Woe for the wrong and the hate too deep to die!  
Woe for the deeds of the dreary days passed over,  
Woe for the grief of the gloomy days gone by!

Where do they come from? furtive and despairing,  
Where are they bound for? those that gather there,  
Slow, with the sea-wind sobbing through the chambers,  
Soft, with the salt mist climbing up the stair?

Names that are nameless now, names of dread and loathing,  
Banned and forbidden yet, dark with spot and stain;  
Only the old house watches and remembers,  
Only the old home welcomes them again.  
—Graham R. Tomson in The Standard.

PHUNNY ECHOES.

Better late than never—going to bed.  
Pat, Pat! you should never hit a man when he is down. Begorra! what did I work so hard to get him down for?

The man who doesn't love his brother on the other side of the earth doesn't love his brother on the other side of the street.

The Skeptical Aunt—What does he do, Dolly, for a living? Dolly (greatly surprised)—Why, auntie, he does not have time to earn a living while we are engaged.

Her Sister's Intended—Minnie, if you'll come and sit on my knee I'll give you a nice present. Minnie (aged five)—It's that what made you give thitther a diamond wing?

Filkins—Dr. Killum has paid five visits to our house. Bilkins—My! at ten dollars a visit! That's expensive. Filkins—It's only ten dollars. The last four he was after his money.

School Teacher—What little boy can tell me where is the home of the swallow? Bobby—I kin. School Teacher—Well, Bobby? Bobby—The home of the swallow is the stummick.

Said a revivalist the other day—I like to hear a man say that he owes a great deal to a woman, when he means his mother or his wife, but not when he means his landlady or his washerwoman.

I had to be away from school yesterday, said Tommy. You must bring an excuse, said the teacher. Who from? Your father. He ain't no good at making excuses. Ma catches him every time.

Only one word, Gladys! he pleaded. One little word! The young woman looked at the slender shanked youth on his knees before her and then she opened her beautiful lips and softly said: Rats!

Lawyer (sharply)—How is it that you know the watch has been in your family thirty years and yet cannot remember your age? Witness (slyly)—Oh, sir, the watch has kept time; I have not.

Said a Mount Vernon preacher last Sunday night: Confer, oh, Lord, your richest blessings upon this community. A critical moment approaches for our village—pardon me, oh, Lord—I mean our city.

Mrs. Lackadase (wearily)—Oh, if I only had an object in life! Mr. L. (testily)—There you go again! Object in life? Have you not got me? Mrs. L. (forlornly)—But I mean some object worth living for.

Mother (proudly)—And so you got to the head of the spelling class to-day? Little Son—Yes'm. The whole class missed on spellin' a word 'cept me. And you didn't? No'm, there was only one way left to spell it.

Young Husband—Well, my dear, did you succeed in finding a stove to suit you? Young Wife—Indeed, I did. Such good luck! I got a stove that will never cost us a cent for coal. The dealer said it was a self feeder.

A Competent Witness.

In one of our courts a nine year old boy was placed on the witness stand, but before he began to testify, the defendant's counsel objected and would not allow him to give

his evidence, asking the court to pass on his intelligence and his idea of his responsibility of an oath.

Question him on those points, was the judge's reply.

How old are you? began the lawyer. Nine years old.

Work or go to school? Do both—sell papers and flowers.

Do you know what an oath is? Tell the truth in this case, sure.

Now, if you should not state the truth and tell a lie, what would become of you in the next world?

The boy, after hesitating for awhile answered: I don't know what will become of me in this world, let alone the next.

Proceed, Mr. Attorney, said the judge; the boy seems to have more than ordinary intelligence.

A Hint to New York Property Owners.

Jacob Oppenheimer and Sam Wolf, two New York Israelites, were discussing the insecure condition of New York.

Mine Gott, Sam, did you read dot Herald in about how a man-of-war might choost anchor himself dot Coney Island off and destroy brobertry dot Forty-second street on?

Yah, dot vash tam pad, replied Wolf. Pad! I should schmile, ven I own brobertry dot Thirty-sixth street on. I would lose all mine brobertry mit dose pompshells.

I say Schacob, ven you vash afraid you loses your brobertry vy don't you put it in your vife's name?

Not as Attentive as They Might Be.

At one little schoolhouse among the mountains an old fashioned Irish schoolmaster was once employed who kept his boys grinding steadily at their tasks, but gave them permission to nibble from their lunch baskets sometimes as they worked.

One day, while the master was instructing a class in the rule of three, he noticed that one of his pupils was paying more attention to a piece of apple pie than to the lesson.

Arrah, there, said the master; Jack Bales, be listenin' to the lisson, will ye? I'm listening, sir, said the boy.

Listenin', is it! exclaimed the master, then it's listenin' wid one ear ye are an' atin' poi wid the other.

Who Made the Fuss?

Four-year-old Frances and her mamma got into a heated controversy about wearing a certain garment which mamma wanted to put on the baby and which the latter objected to. Finally, after the affair had distressed the entire family and the garment was safely on, amid much wailing and scolding, mamma asked:

Now, darling, would it not have been better for you to obey mamma in the first place, and so served all this fuss and worry? But, mamma, came the plaintive reply, how was I to know in de first place oo was goin' to make all dis fuss and worry?

Why He Accepted Salvation.

So old Grabhard, the miser, has got religion? Well, well, wonders will never cease. It must have been an eloquent tongue that reached his heart. Who was it that led him to embrace Christianity?

Nobody. It was a hymn converted him. A hymn?

Yes. He was passing the church one evening when they were holding a praise meeting and he heard them singing "Salvation is Free." He could not let anything go that could be got for nothing, so he went right in and got religion at once. You don't catch old Grabhard letting anything pass him that's free.

Earning His Money Easily.

A Scotch laddie delivering milk was stopped the other day on his rounds by two police officers who asked him if his employer ever put anything in the milk.

Oh, ay, was the innocent answer. The officers, thinking they had a clear case of adulteration, offered the boy sixpence if he would tell them what was put in it.

Ah, said the boy with a grin, ve wadna gie's the sixpence though I tell't ye.

Oh, yes, we will, said the officers. Gie's it then, said the little fellow.

The sixpence was duly handed over with the question, Now, what does your employer put in the milk?

Why, said the boy with a cunning look, he puts the measure in every time he tak's any out.

Organization and Wages.

Labor Commissioner Peck, of New York, is preparing a work on the effect organized labor has upon wages. Mr. Peck proves by statistics that as a rule the trade most thoroughly organized reaps a share of the benefit of any improvement in its own line, and is the last to suffer from a depression. He also shows that where organizations have not been thorough or effective wages have not increased, and where there was no organization wages have decreased.

Mr. Peck's book promises to be a good propaganda for the unions to scatter.

LABOR AND WAGES.

CANADIAN.

Grain shovelers at Kingston are making from \$16 to \$20 per week.

There is still no prospect of a settlement of the Hamilton moulders' differences with the foundrymen.

Twenty men in the Grand Trunk shops at Brantford were discharged lately, making 60 in all with the last batch.

The lumber yards of Buel, Orr, Hurdman & Co., Ottawa, were the scene of another strike on Monday morning, over fifty men refusing to begin work when the six o'clock whistle blew. The cause of the trouble is due to the shippers and yardmen being asked on Saturday evening to begin work at six instead of seven o'clock in the morning, thus working eleven hours each day instead of ten hours, as they did last season. When six o'clock came Monday morning all the men were at the yards, but only a few obeyed instruction and began work. The men were asked why they did not obey orders, and in reply they said that they would not work until seven o'clock unless they got an increase in their wages. When the usual hour to begin work arrived they all took off their coats, but the foreman told them that if they persisted in working a ten hour day their wages would in consequence be reduced from \$7.50 a week to \$6.50. At this intimation the men became furious and congregated together, marching in a body to the firm's office, around which they gathered in full force, crowding the sidewalk and the street. There they remained in a body till about ten o'clock, when they began to separate in small companies, where they loudly talked about the situation. In conversation the strikers said that they would not give in to their employers' terms. To work for \$6.50 a week was a thing they would never consent to. The firm say they will close down unless the men give in.

AMERICAN.

At Detroit Bricklayers and Stonemasons' Union No. 1 has decided to give the striking bakers a boost by helping the boycott.

About sixty composers employed by J. B. Lyon, State printer, Albany, went out on strike on Tuesday. The cause of the trouble is the discharge of a union man.

All the lumber shovers on Chequamegon Bay, Wis., struck Monday for an increase of 10 cents per hour, having been getting 40 cents. The lumbermen granted their demand.

The Employees' Relief Association of the Baltimore & Ohio Road has 22,303 members. During the eleven years it has been in operation over \$3,000,000 have been distributed in benefits.

More than half the journeymen plumbers of Boston who asked for an eight hour day on Monday have had their request granted, and it is expected the others will be successful in a day or two.

The Detroit Free Press has contracted for fourteen Mergenthaler type-setting machines to be used in the composing room. Keyboards have been received and are being practiced upon by the men.

The bakers of Detroit and Cleveland have struck for the abolition of night work, but up to the present have not made much headway. Scab workmen from other cities are gradually filling up the vacant positions and it looks like a losing battle.

Samuel Gompers has issued circular letters to all the hodcarriers' and builders' laborers' unions in the country for the purpose of bringing about a national union in that occupation. He has also done the same among the 'longshoremen and vessel unloaders.

A convention of cloakmakers, including operators, pressers and finishers, met in New York to form an international organization. Delegates were present from New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago and Brooklyn, representing about 18,000 cloakmakers. The convention proposes, among other things, to abolish the sweating system, to open a national strike fund, to organize a central executive board and to appoint general organizers.

The strike of carpenters, stonemasons, and bricklayers' helpers at Scranton, Pa., is in full force. When the men returned to work they asked their employers for an increase of wages and a nine hour day. They were informed that no concessions would be made, and immediately went on a strike. There are now about 1,000 carpenters and stonemasons out. The painters have been on strike for two weeks, and the bricklayers will certainly go out before the end of the week. The plasterers met and decided that they will do no work unless the material is furnished by union men. They are also after a nine hour day.

Owing to the strike of the street cleaners at Havana, the streets are dirty and an epidemic of typhus fever is feared.

The Union Silk Mill at Catasaqua, Pa., has been closed because fifty-one weavers struck for higher wages; 170 employees are affected.

At a conference of delegates from the labor unions on the Pacific Coast recently held in San Francisco, it was decided to carry the question of the constitutionality of the eight hour law to the United States Supreme Court.

In 1872 Denmark had 3,000 members of labor organizations. There are now over 50,000. When candidates for the Riksdag were nominated in 1872 they received 315 votes in five districts. In 1890 ten candidates received about 17,000 votes, and three were elected.

John Goode, the millionaire cordage manufacturer, has broken with the National Cordage Trust. He has a big plant at Ravenswood, L. I., where the rope output is 10,000 pounds daily, and also has works in Brooklyn for the manufacture of rope and twine machinery. He employs three hundred men.

The strike of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers which was inaugurated at Lebanon, Pa., on the 18th of last July, and continued ever since, has been declared off, and the men are now at liberty to resume work wherever they may get it. The benefits of single men were cut off by the National Association which led to this action on the part of the three lodges in Lebanon.

There are eleven trades union men who are members of the Ohio Legislature, and their work is demonstrated by the passage of a number of laws generally regarded as being in the special interest of labor. Among the bills of this character that passed were those to protect the use of the union label, creating a penalty for disobeying a factory inspector's orders, to protect building trades workmen by scaffold guards, and regulating the employment of convicts.

The cigar manufacturers claim that they cannot raise the wages of their employees because of the high duty placed on Sumatra leaf tobacco. Before the McKinley bill passed the duty was thirty-five cents per pound; it is now two dollars. Yet they can get no more for their cigars. If the higher tariff thus compels the manufacturers to pay low wages how would it have been if the tariff had been abolished altogether and the tobacco admitted free? By their own reasoning, they could have afforded to pay higher wages. How, then, does "protection" protect American labor?

Crazy Monarchs.

King George III is the only British monarch who in modern times has been placed under restraint and deprived of his authority for insanity. Similar measures were on the point of being adopted at one time with regard to his son William IV, whose conduct while on the throne was characterized by an eccentricity that bordered on lunacy.

Czar Paul, who reigned in Russia at the beginning of the present century, was a dangerous mania, so much so, indeed, that the members of his household who assassinated him with the connivance of his sons, were regarded as public and national benefactors rather than murderers and traitors. A similar fate overtook that gloomy fanatic Abbas I, of Egypt, the record of whose insane cruelties constitute the darkest pages of Egyptian history.—New York Tribune.

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