

LABOR AND WAGES.

Cleanings From the Industrial Field of the World

At the labor parade in Pittsburg on July 6 it is expected 20,000 men will be in line. The grave of Thomas Armstrong will be decorated.

The Brownsville, L. I., branch of Operators and Cloakmakers' Union No. 1, of New York, is growing in strength. Fast as the bosses transport their shops out of New York to the village the operators are taken into the union.

The Gysstermen's Unions of New York, Brooklyn, Albany, Seaford, Del., and Norfolk, Va., have agreed to accredit delegates to a national convention looking to the formation of a national organization.

W. E. Wilkes, secretary of Typographical Union No. 16 has been called to the position of managing editor of the Memphis Unionist.

Last week 400 negro miners, with their families, arrived at Stone Siding, a small station on the Northern Pacific about fifty miles from Seattle. The negroes were marched immediately to the coal mine of the Oregon Improvement Co. at Franklyn. A posse of Pinkertons remain on the spot.

All business at the harbor of Ashtabula, O., is at a standstill on account of a strike of coal and ore handlers. Nearly 1,000 men are out.

E. E. Potter, a public school teacher in Newark, N.J., is agitating among workmen. He spoke last Monday to the striking carpenters, who enthusiastically cheered his prophecy of the speedy abolition of wage slavery.

The Switchmen's Union is reported to have withdrawn from the Supreme Council of Federated Railway Employees on account of the refusal of the trainmen to stand by the switchmen in their trouble with the Northwestern.

Scuth American railroad engineers receive \$500 per month. The firemen are paid from \$250 to \$400 per month.

Tom Man's co-operative scheme introduced by him at the London docks is reported to be working satisfactorily. At the Victoria docks the men are said to receive 19 cents per hour.

Frank Cotton, the labor candidate at East Sidney, Australia, was defeated at the recent elections by only 314 votes.

The number of children employed in the factories of Saxony, Germany, has increased 9,815 since 1874.

The national congress of the Netherland Bakers' Union which met at Amsterdam in the middle of May adopted resolutions in favor of universal suffrage, besides the eight hour day.

The entire issue of May 2 of *Die Glocke*, the official organ of the Austrian Mine Workers' Union, has been confiscated by the Austrian police because the paper contained reports of the recent International Miners' Congress at Paris, with the speeches there delivered and in which the statement occurred that the capitalist class was driving the working class to riot and revolution.

The Argentine Federation of Labor has memorialized the Government setting forth the cause of Labor upon strict Socialist lines and demanding drastic reforms.

The following announcement appears in a *Schwerin*, Mecklenburg, paper: "Employers wishing to engage Chinese (coolie) laborers during the year 1892 will please notify the undersigned. Fees, 200 marks per head on ten years' contracts."

The marble cutters of the firms of J. W. Tafts and A. Puffer & Sons, manufacturers of soda water fountains, Boston, have gone on strike because their firms had accepted orders from John Matthews & Sons, New York, whose employees are out against a reduction of wages.

The strike of the German compositors against the Buffalo Democrat and the Buffalo Freie Presse is assuming the character of an extensive boycott against the two papers owing to their importation and employment of young Canadians—14 and 18 years old—to do scab work. Circulars have been distributed by the workmen throughout the town stating the facts.

The employees of the surface roads in Grand Rapids, Mich., have been "asked" by their employers to sign a contract whereby they shall indicate their readiness to work more than 10 hours a day without extra pay and formally to waive the privileges intended to be granted to them by the recent ten hour law; they were also to agree to allow the employers to make whatever deductions these chose from the wages for uniforms and such matters, and, at the employer's pleasure, to discharged anyone who joined a union. And yet, in the last report of the Michigan Bureau of Labor the cheering statement occurs that labor is quiet in the State and is likely to continue quiet.

The mine operators of Ottumwa, Ia., are carrying out their plan to import negroes to take the place of striking miners. The Phillips Coal Company imported fifty and put them to work in their mines at Diamond-

The same policy is contemplated for the mines at Foster, Mystic and other places where this company has interests.

The striking brickmakers of Trenton, N. J., have asked the Building Trades' Unions of the State to refrain from handling bricks made by non-union men.

The K. of L. Assemblies whose members are working at the shirt industry in New York, have formed a joint board which is said to represent 5,000 operators, men and women.

At Stockholm, 1,800 tailors are on strike because of the refusal of the employers to renew the annual contract under which the work was done.

The quarrymen are out in Port Deposit, Md., Granite Bend, Mo., New Bedford, Mass., and Milford, Mass. All quarrymen are requested to keep away from these places until a satisfactory settlement can be reached.

The strike of the velvet weavers in the Richmond Manufacturing Company, at Crompton, is extending; nor is the nature of the demands of the firm likely to induce the men to surrender in a hurry. Fines as high as 80 per cent are imposed for work claimed to be imperfect, and experience has shown the operators that the fine will be imposed upon the slightest pretext or no pretext at all. In fact the fine system in the Richmond Manufacturing Co. is what it is in most of the firms who resort to it—a trick to lower wages—i. e., to increase profits.

The Union Mill Corporation of Fall River has been fined in the District Court in two cases of violation of the law regulating the employment of minors in workshops.

Eight thousand London tailors are on strike against the middlemen.

A compromise between the Indiana Midland railroad managers and the strikers has been signed.

Trouble between the builders and bricklayers of Boston is brewing over a question of three cents an hour for front work.

On Wednesday all the section men on the Wheeling and Lake Erie railroad, 250 in number, went out on strike for an increase of wages. They had been paid \$1.10 a day, but demanded \$1.25.

The plumbers of Winnipeg last week made a demand for \$4 per day of eight hours, which was conceded.

The French Chamber of deputies, by a vote of 406 to 3, adopted a motion to limit the hours of labor of the employees of the public conveyance companies to 12 daily, and rejected, by a vote of 465 to 83, a proposal to extend the regulation to all workmen.

The trial of James Hughes, the Grand Master Workman, for extortion, is being held at Rochester. Mr. Wile, of the firm of Adler Brothers & Co., was recalled by the prosecution. Mr. Wile told of Hughes' visit to their firm in June last, and as to the amount of money Hughes said it would be necessary to have paid to the labor organization before the boycott could be lifted. Mr. Hughes told us that unless the matter was settled our trade would be destroyed; that he himself had traveled all over the Pacific coast following the salesmen, getting the countermands of all the orders which the salesmen secured; that the same proceedings would be taken against our firm unless the difficulty was settled that day. Afterward he said his order was very powerful, and could expend as much as \$200,000 without embarrassing it at all, and would expend that amount unless we settled the matter. He refused \$250 to settle the trouble.

A Great Responsibility.

Between now and the end of the century there will be placed upon the workers of all lands a tremendous responsibility. The enemies of the people are trying by all means within their power to goad sections of the workers into open revolt for the purpose of playing reaction's game, and retarding the upward progress of the workers as a whole. Men who care for the future of labor will work for it best by disappointing its open and secret enemies. In England the results of education are being shown, and as our May Day celebration passed off without trouble, and as we enjoy what other countries lack, the right of free speech and assembly, so is the measure of our duty and responsibility. We must lead the labor movement of the world first in the direction of a shorter working day, and then through the organization, discipline and unity secured by that agitation, up to those larger social problems that are ripe for solution.—John Burns.

A wrestling match between Greek George and Charles David, the German champion, for \$250 a side, will take place on Monday night next at the Stapleton Turn Hall, Stapleton, Staten Island. The conditions of the match are best two out of three falls Greco-Roman and catch-as-catch-can style. There will also be a match decided on this occasion between Louis Scully and John Graham, amateur lightweights, for a handsome trophy.

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