

ECHOES OF THE WEEK

Canadian.

The Toronto city treasurer has received a cheque for \$5,107, being 8 per cent. of \$63,849, the street railway earnings for April. The total for the year to date paid to the city is \$18,628. The new rifle ranges, which it is expected would be paid for out of the taxation of the current year, will be paid for by the surplus of the street railway earnings for last year.

Three Indian boys, aged 7, 9 and 13 respectively, have been committed to the Supreme Court at Halifax on a charge of attempting to wreck the Western counties express, near Brazil Lake, Yarmouth. They lashed to the track a pile of stones, a sleeper and a pole. The eldest of the boys confessed. "We want to kill white men to get some money to buy candy."

About 8.30 on Wednesday morning several tons of rock fell from the face of the cliff at Quebec into Champlain street. The scene of the slide is just west of where Montgomery fell, opposite the Allan line wharf and several hundred yards west of the fatal slide of September, 1889. Fortunately in this instance there was no loss of life and but little obstruction to traffic.

American.

A Post Bradford, Pa., special says:—During a severe electrical storm a tank containing 36,000 barrels of crude oil was struck and is now burning. At Bradford a small tank filled with oil was struck and burned. Several houses were struck and a number of people shocked, but no one was seriously injured.

The Stockton, Cal., republican convention platform endorses President Harrison's administration. A revision of the naturalization laws is demanded. Improvement and enforcement of the eight-hour labor law is called for and the election of U. S. Senators by popular vote is endorsed. The platform declares against free coinage of silver and favors the restriction of coinage to the product of American mines.

A battle lasting two hours occurred the other night near Guthrie, O. T., between a band of nine horse thieves and a posse of citizens from Oraldo. A heavy storm came up, under cover of which the thieves escaped. One member of the posse named Stormer was shot and killed and the thieves left one wounded on the field and one dead horse. The posse is still on the trail of the bandits.

A combination of the Westinghouse Electric manufacturing interests with the firm of Siemens & Halske is reported as having been formed to oppose the latest Thompson-Houston Edison aggregation. The Fort Wayne, Jenney and the Bruch Company was recently launched anew with a capital stock of \$50,000,000. A war of prices, particularly in street railroad devices and decorative illuminating appliances, is predicted. President Harrison and Secretary Elkins are said to be stockholders in the Westinghouse-Siemens-Halske organization.

A special from Holly Springs, Miss., says a dastardly attempt was made to wreck passenger train No. 4, known as the Chicago limited, on the Illinois Central railroad, two miles north of there Sunday night. Piles of ties and rails were placed across the track just the other side of a curve where there is a steep embankment. The engineer saw the obstruction in time to avert a catastrophe, but not soon enough to stay damage to the engine and a severe shaking up of the passengers. While the obstruction was being cleared away a heavy freight train ran into the rear of the limited, demolishing the sleeper and setting fire to it. It was totally consumed. The Pullman conductor was seriously injured, as was also the engineer of the passenger train.

European.

It is reported the person who fought the duel with Mr. Millbank was not the Duc de Morny, but his son, the Comte de Morny.

Bombs were thrown at the mail train running from Pesth to Temesvar on Wednesday, and three passengers were injured.

The race for the two thousand guineas was run on Tuesday, and was won by Bonavista, with St. Angelo second and Carlo third.

Anna Pannelio, a seamstress, has been arrested at Czernowitz. She is a distributor of Socialist pamphlets and is suspected of being a Russian political spy.

In the House of Commons Mr. Alexander Blain, Parnellite member for South Armagh, withdrew his motion to the effect that the time had come to establish a parliament in Dublin for the control of Irish affairs.

Ravachol, who has recovered from his recent fit of dejection, now laughs at the way in which he scared the jury. He expects a verdict of extenuating circumstances in the Montbris trial, relying upon the effect of similar coercive tactics against the jury there.

During a recent storm at Sudero, one of the Faroe Islands in the North Atlantic, three French schooners were driven ashore

at a dangerous part of the coast and were soon battered to pieces. The crews made desperate efforts to reach the shore, but the sea was so heavy that no life boat could live in it, and all were lost.

The man who caused the bomb explosion near the Guise barrack, in Tours, on Sunday, and who was himself almost fatally injured, is a wealthy grocer. He is well known as a pious man and nobody would ever have suspected him of making use of bombs.

The Pope has confirmed the decision of the Propaganda in favor of the plan advocated by Ireland, of allowing American Catholic schools to be taught by state teachers, religious instructions being given after school hours, the object being to relieve Catholics of the burden of the expense of separate schools.

The dissemination of Anarchist literature in St. Petersburg is on the increase. These inflammatory publications blame the Czar and his government for the famine and its attendant miseries, and the authorities are greatly incensed at their circulation. A reward of 100,000 rubles has been offered for the apprehension of the printers, but so far the police have failed to discover them.

The German who was arrested as the supposed author of Monday night's dynamite explosion at Liege has been released, there being no evidence against him. The authorities have no clue to the identity of the authors of the dynamite outrages. This increases the terror of the population and the panic spreading to Brussels, where all sorts of alarming rumors are increasing. Numerous dynamite cartridges have been discovered in the Government offices, and there is a rumor that there is a plot to blow up the Monnaie Theatre.

It is reported that the Viceroy at Wuchang has received secret instructions to arrest Taotai Chouhan, the author of the anti-foreign placards, and the guiding spirit of the anti-foreign movement. Both the Chinese and the foreign residents are excited over the trial of strength between the Imperial Government and the Malcontents. One of the chiefs who took a prominent part in the Cheoyang rebellion, was recently captured and brought to Tien Tsin, where he was tried, found guilty and as a warning to all rebels was sentenced to be slowly sliced to death, which sentence was carried out.

A case of the legal succession in the earldom of Stamford, which has been before the House of Lords for some time, has been decided in favor of the present earl, the ninth holder of the title. The eighth earl, who died in June, 1890, left a son whose mother was a negress of Cape Colony. The Earl married the negress, but this son was born prior to the marriage. The House of Lords' decision declares that this son is illegitimate and therefore has no claim on the title. The son made no contest to establish his legitimacy. The present earl is William Grey, son of the late Rev. William Grey, brother of the eighth earl.

The Grand jury has returned a true bill against Charles Wilfred Mombroy, publisher, and David John Nichol, editor, of the Anarchist paper Commonweal, for soliciting and encouraging certain persons unknown to murder certain other persons, to wit, the Right Hon. Henry Matthews, secretary of state for the Home Government; Sir Henry Hawkins, one of the justices of the High Court of Justice, and William Melville, an inspector in the Metropolitan police. The prosecution is based upon an article that was recently published in the Commonweal in connection with the conviction before Justice Hawkins of four Walsall Anarchists.

The Way to Settle.

The present attitude of the Knights of Labor and the American Federation of Labor towards each other, while furnishing cheap amusement to the enemies of both, is the more to be deprecated because childish and uncalled for. The trouble grows out of our predisposition toward hero worship. If we can't get anything better, we set up a tin god. The quarrel is not between the Knights and the Federation, as such, but between T. V. Powderly and Sam Gompers. Like the Emperor of Germany and the Czar, they are trying to pulverize each other by grinding up their respective following.

United labor owes much, very much, to the organizing talent, the masterly executive abilities of both Gompers and Powderly; but neither is absolutely necessary for the carrying out of work that united labor has set itself to do. The wage workers were fortunate in securing such leaders, perhaps, but there were and are others as able, and whose work would not be hampered and delayed by the get even policy of the present chiefs.

As to any trouble betwixt their followers, it should be settled at once, the hatchet buried, with Messrs Gompers and Powderly as chief mourners. This consummation, most devoutly to be wished for by the best informed and most earnest and useful men in the Knights and Federation, can best be done by the resignation of both leaders.—Fort Wayne Labor Herald.

LABOR AND WAGES.

AMERICAN.

All the paving cutters at Grantville, Vt., have struck for an advance in wages.

The cloth hat and cap makers of Boston have demanded a nine hour work day without a reduction in wages.

Work was suspended in all the Quincy, Mass., quarries on Monday on account of a disagreement on the question of wages.

Wood carvers of Boston and vicinity have decided to request their employers to reduce their hours of labor to 54 hours per week.

Two hundred men on the Kentucky Central and Louisville & Nashville roads have struck on account of a reduction in wages from \$1.35 to \$1.25 a day.

About four hundred house carpenters are on strike in Baltimore to enforce acceptance of their demand for eight hours for a day's work, the wages to be as heretofore.

Plasterers' Union of Boston discussed the eight hour day. Many speeches were made in favor of the movement, and an informal ballot was taken. It was decided to advocate its adoption at an early date.

Nearly a thousand workmen employed in the quarries in and near Stony Creek, Conn., are on strike for an increase of pay. Their demand is for an increase of one cent per hour over the rates now paid, 22 cents.

A conference between committees from the Boiler Manufacturers' Association and the Boiler Makers' Union will be held at the offices of the Atlantic Boiler Works, East Boston, to consider the question of a nine hour work day.

The general strike of the granite cutters in the Cape Ann, Mass., quarries, which has been anticipated for some time, was begun on Monday. Over 2,000 men are out. The demand is for 25 cents per hour and nine hours instead of ten.

The Executive Committee of Cigarmakers' Union 97, of Boston, have adopted the following resolution: Resolved, That as citizens of this city and State, we are in favor of biennial elections, as frequent elections are educational and give the people an opportunity to retire objectionable lawmakers, whether city, town or state.

Caledonian Hall, Boston, was the scene of considerable excitement last Wednesday, when walking delegate Tom Kyle, of the Bricklayers, reported that convict labor was being employed on the Charlestown Prison annex. It was decided to appoint a committee to thoroughly investigate this matter and endeavor to have the convict labor abolished.

At a meeting of the Boiler Manufacturers' association of Boston on Tuesday it was voted to refuse the demands of the Boiler-makers' Union for a nine hour day and it was further decided that should the men vote to strike the employers would combine and lock out every union man. The workmen will meet to-night to decide what action they will take.

On May 16th the clothing pressmen of New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Baltimore, Boston and other large cities will demand an advance in wages and a reduction in their hours of labor from ten to nine hours per day. In New York the men will demand an advance of 25 per cent., the Boston pressmen will ask for a 15 cent. increase, and in other cities the advance demanded will range from 15 to 25 per cent.

Work on the manufacturers' building at the World's fair grounds was brought almost to a standstill on Tuesday by a hundred out of a hundred and twenty-five iron workers going on strike for thirty-five, instead of thirty, cents an hour. The iron workers on the administration building were more successful. They went out for the same demands and returned to work within four hours, the contractors granting the advance.

At a meeting of Boston Garment Workers' Union a delegation was appointed to attend the convention of the Lasters' Protective Union and request that the label of the United Garment Workers receive the convention's endorsement. Complaint was made that the wages of operative tailors were altogether too low, and a committee was appointed to devise ways and means for securing them an advance in pay. It being asserted that many of the clothing contractors were forcing their employees to work on Sunday, a committee was appointed to bring violations of the law to the attention of the police.

EUROPEAN.

At a meeting in Glasgow of union seamen and firemen engaged in the North Atlantic trade, it was resolved to strike against a proposed reduction of wages.

At a meeting of the workmen's delegates in London on Sunday night letters were read from Lord Salisbury and Mr. Balfour saying they could not promise to receive a deputation to set forth their claims for the establishment of an eight hour day. A letter was also read from Mr. Gladstone. He said he would carefully consider the

statement of the views of the Trades Unions Council, but he considered that the question was not yet ripe, and he hoped to be advantaged from a conversation from which no advantage could at present be derived. A delegate proposed that Gladstone's letter be consigned to the waste basket.

CANADIAN.

A Calgary despatch says that the carpenters there have struck. The men demand a working day of nine hours and \$2.70 and \$3.00 per day.

A strike of weavers employed at the Stormont Cotton Company's mill, Cornwall, took place last week through one of their number being discharged, it is said, because he belonged to the Union. The weavers positively refuse to resume work until the suspended weaver is reinstated. It is stated that unless the workers submit the management will pay all hands off in full to-day and the mill will be closed down, the material on hand being shipped to Dundas and that that mill will be opened. One of the overseers stated that had the strike occurred a couple of months ago it would have been a serious drawback to the Company; but at the present time it is immaterial to them when the weavers return.

The mill hands on the Chaudiere are dissatisfied with the advance of \$1 per week conceded by the mill owners and held out for a reduction of two hours as well, the terms offered calling for eleven hours. There was a large meeting of the hands, a large majority of whom now belong to the K. of L., the other night and a committee was told off to wait on the mill owners. The result is that several of the employers have granted a further reduction of two hours per week, shutting down at four o'clock Saturday afternoon, which has been accepted. To obtain this concession a strike occurred at Thackeray's mill, but was only of short duration, an amicable settlement having been arrived at. After Mr. Thackeray signed the agreement for shorter hours, the men had an impromptu meeting and passed votes of thanks to the various employers in the city for granting them the two hours on Saturday.

The journeymen brickmakers of Toronto have inaugurated a strike, which, if it continues for a lengthy period, will seriously affect the building trades in the city. According to time-honored custom the men were to have commenced their season's work on Tuesday morning, but owing to the action of the Brick Manufacturers' Association in refusing to pay the rates in force last year for handling machine-made bricks they did not do so. All the men in Toronto and vicinity, numbering 1,000, have refused to accept as great a reduction as that proposed, which they claim would lessen their earnings between 50 cents to \$1.05 per day. Consequently all the yards, with a single exception, are idle. The manufacturers claim that they were obliged to reduce wages in order to clear expenses, and that there are on hand in the various yards about 7,315,000 bricks, nearly enough for the season, for which there is no market, and little prospect of selling. The men claim that there never was a greater demand for bricks than at the present time, and that in previous springs there have been a greater number of bricks in stock, and, though the capacity of the yards combined has been over 35,000,000, there has never yet been an over-supply. The men are well organized, and have great hopes of gaining their point.

Something New in Trades Unionism

Trades unionism is extending even into that land of dreams and mysticism, India. The latest from there is that the Nautch girls of one of the Hindoo temples have struck because their wages were reduced. The dancers at the temple hold a somewhat peculiar position. It is their occupation to dance in the many ceremonies of the priests and this they do with great art. But though their services, so far as dancing is concerned, belong exclusively to the temple which employs them, they do not radiate any superfluous sanctity. Indeed, they do not in the least feel bound to live up to the code of morals recommended by the priests whom they assist in religious rites. They are great favorites, and so it has come about that the emolument paid them has grown from year to year till it is out of all reason.

Recently the priests of one of the greatest temples tried to cut down this enormous expense. But the results were disastrous. The fair Nautch girls struck in a body, and right at the time of an impressive and important ceremony. Dancing there had to be, and the priests had to loosen up their joints and make an attempt to imitate the light footed strikers, but the manner in which their efforts were received was not reassuring, and the consequence was some ribald laughter. The temple seemed likely to suffer a boycott unless the popular strikers were taken back at their own figure. This was done, and the Nautch girls exit and pirouette, conscious of an unconditional victory.—Omaha World-Herald.

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