ENGLISH STRIKES.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF LABOR TROUBLES DURING THE YEAR 1889

Some Important Statistics Relative to the Results of Industrial Warfare. The Numbers and Expenses Involved

The report on the strikes and lockouts of 1889, by Mr. Burnett, the Labor correspondent to the Board of Trade, has just been issued as a Parliamentary Blue Book. The report states that as far as can be gathered from available sources of information, there were in 1889 strikes in 3,764 establishments; in many cases, separate establishments engaged in a general strike are included in this total, the actual number of distinct strikes is reduced to 1,145. Of these 58 per cent were in the textile trades, 9.7 per cent in mining, and 9.34 per cent in the ship building trades, 8.6 per cent in the engineering trades, 7.5 among dock and wharf laborers, while seamen and firemen were responsible for nearly 4 per cent. These are branches of trade consequently furnished nearly 90 per cent of the whole of the strikes of 1889. The larger proportion of strikes were due to claims for advanced wages not less than 67 per cent being attributable to this cause, although in a number of cases the points of dispute were also involved. Of those for advances in wage 48.3 per cent were successful, 31.0 per cent partially successful, 10.7 per cent failed, and in the remainder

THE RESULTS ARE UNKNOWN.

There were only forty five strikes against reductions of wages, of which just over one fourth were successful, eight partially succeeded, and twenty altogether failed. General dissatisfaction with the existing conditions of labor is the reason assigned for 138 strikes, and of these 47.9 per cent succeeded, 18.7 per cent partially succeeded, 30.2 per cent failed, and the results are unknown in the balance of cases. No fewer than twenty strikes are recorded as having been due to the sympathy of one body of workers not directly involved in the dispute for those directly engaged. Of these it is of course difficult to summarise the results, but it is fair to assume that what may be termed a sympathetic strike would succeed or fail in accordance with the result of the main strike. Of the total of 1,145 strikes, 41.6 per cent were successful, 32.1 per cent partially successful, 18.1 per cent entirely failed, and of the remaining 8.2 per cent the results were not ascertained. The following table gives the relative number of persons engaged in successful and unsuccessful strikes as of importance, and his returns show that in 304

STRIKES WHICH SUCCEEDED,

no less persons were concerned, were in 273 partially successful strikes 65,000 were 177,476 involved. The number of persons engaged in 171 strikes which failed was 40 472 In 62 3 per cent of the whole number of disputes conciliation was the means by which terms of peace were arranged. In 4 2 per cent of substitution of the conciliation was the final mode of arrangement, but in 12.7 per cent there was defeat and absolute submission of the workers. In 4 3 per cent of the strikes the terms set out were finally settled by hands. So far as the number of persons engaged in strikes are concerned, and also the duration of the strikes, the returns are not complete It is, however, known that in 930 strikes there were 81 weekly involved 282 852 persons, and indirectly 61,082, making a grand total of 344,840 persons concerned in 930 strikes. The number of persons who refused to leave work in the establishmentsin which these strikes took place was 9,645

DETAILS OF DURATION

are furnished of 860 strikes, and in these the aggregate number of days lost was 38,109 There were 597 strikes of which details are given both as to number of persons affected and the duration of the strikes From these returns it appears that the number of persons affected was 200,537, and the aggregate number of days duration was 12.13.6. There was thus an average duration per strike of 19 6 days, which represents, it is believed very nearly the average time lost by each striker This gives an aggregate loss of 2,586,000 working days, which at 28 6d per day would be an aggregate loss in wages for these 597 strikes of not less than £352, 180, the loss to each individual being a little over £1 15s It must, of course, be borne in mind that this calculation is based on only about half of the total number of strikes during the year In 21 6 instances it is shown by employers whose men have been on strike that the value of fixed capital laid idle was £14 426,000, while in 109 instances the saleable value of

STOPPED BUT IDLE

was £20,581 In 233 cases the estimated outlay caused through the laying down and stopping the works on strike was £162,215

In 75 cases it is admitted that £6,512 was paid by organisations of employers in support of firms whose men were on strike On the other hand, the returns sent in by trade unionists show that in 329 strikes the amount expended in support of the men by their committees of the trade unions was £93,850. The trade union returns also show that in 416 strikes the weekly wages earned before the strike began amounted in the aggregate to £151 501, while the estimated loss of wages in 293 of these strikes was £758,175 In 416 strikes the number of trade-unionists who came out was 113,047, and of non unionists 42 530 It may be added that there were during the year sixty six lockouts of workers, in which altogether 19,667 people were involved

SCOTTISH LANDLORDISM

How the Country Has been Depopulated by Tyrannical Proprietors. Horrible Eviction Scenes

The way the landlords of Scotland and Ireland have abused and are still abusing the powers that our present system gives them in a nation's right to abolish, at least in part, private property in land, could be based on a legitimate foundation, but, as I shall shortly point out, it is a condition of things that is unjust and unjustifiable, and one which I am sorry I am not able to describe as either radical or revolutionary. When my one reads the history of the Highland evictions during the present century, it must rouse feelings of great indignation within them as atrocities took place during the worst times that were perpetrated by the Russians in Poland, the Austrians in Italy, or the Turks in Bulgaria, they were also less defensible than either of those I have named, as the Russians and Austrians, and the Turks might attempt to extenuate their crimes by pleading that they were committed during a war of race, when such a passion were heated and excited by war and bloodshed, but this plea cannot be used by those who evicted the people of Highland territory. The evictions in Sutherlandshire were acts of cold blooded cruelty, and in heartlessness unequalled in modern history. The only occurrences in any way approaching to them in the present century were those in Ireland during the first famine when the Irish landlords imitated them, and expelled the people on the miserable excuse that they could not get their rent. The Highlanders were not evicted for non payment of rent, but were turned out of their homes, and many of them killed or murdered, because their landlords were desirous of turning their farms into deer forests and game preserves or to let them to those who were willing to afford this pleasure. This system is still going on. In the nineteenth century, in a country that boasts of its civilization and of Christianity, the people are being destroyed, or at the least, turned out of their homes that ancestors' sod to the use by many modern assertions and hallowed memories, in order that a few rich people may for a couple of months in the year have the pleasure of killing some birds, a few deer, or some hares and rabbits. I am afraid that our civilization has yet to begin, and that our Christianity is a mere cloak for cant and hypocrisy.

Sir Walter Scott, bigoted Tory as he was, raised his voice against this system of eviction. He denounced it, and pointed out that it was a danger to the State, yet we still allow it to go on. He says:

"In too many instances the Highlands have been drained, most of their superfluity of population, that is, of the whole of the inhabitants, dispossessed by an unrelenting avarice, which will one day be found to have been as shortsighted as it was unjust and selfish. Hugh Miller, the geologist, says: "The drainage of Sutherland was a process of ruin as thoroughly disastrous that it might be deemed scarcely possible to render it more complete." He says: "Between the years 1811 and 1821 15,000 inhabitants of this northern district were ejected from their snug inland farms by means for which we would in vain seek a precedent, except, perhaps in the history of the Irish massacres. A ungodly well combined system of wholesale destruction country has been converted into one wide ulcer of wretchedness and sore." Alexander Mackenzie, the editor of the "Celtic Magazine, in his history of the Highland clearances, tells us that the Sutherland evictions were carried out "South country-men were introduced and the land given to them for sheep farms over the heads of the native tenantry. These strangers were made justices of the peace and armed with all sorts of authority in the county and thus enabled to act in the most harsh and tyrannical fashion, some making them afraid; while the oppressed natives were placed completely at their mercy. They dare not even complain, for were not their oppressors also the administrators of the law. The seventeen parish ministers, with the single exception of the Rev. M. Sage, took the side of the powers that were, often setting the people to submit and abide their fate of distress, telling them that all their sufferings came from the hand of their Heavenly Father as a just punishment for their transgressions." As the lands were now in the hands of a few factor to look after, they were wasted as sheep farms, and as the people made no resistance they expected, at least, some indulgence in the way of permission to occupy their houses till they could gradually remove, and in the meantime, feed after the growing crops. The consternation was therefore great when at the May term day, a communication was made to pull down and burn over the houses over their heads. Many, of course, were aware that this could not be instantly carried out, but they knew that it would be commenced by fire or destruction. The proceedings were carried on with the greatest rapidity and the most reckless cruelty. The cries of the victims, the confusion, the roaring flames, the frantic rushing to and fro, the terrors of the cattle, and the exulting ferocity of the others, beggar all description. Many deaths ensued from shame, from fatigue and cold, the people having been instantly deprived of shelter and left to the horrors of the elements. Pregnant women were taken in premature labor and several children did not long survive their sufferings. Again, in another parish, he says: "The whole of the inhabitants of Kildonan, numbering nearly 2,000 souls except three families, were utterly rooted and burnt out and the whole parish converted into a solitary wilderness. The suffering was intense some had their reason. Several died in consequence and others became imbecile for the rest of their days." But Sutherland atrocities were not the only instances of cruelty and tyranny. Cases as bad occurred at Strathglass in 1801, at Glenelg in 1814, South Uist and Benbecula in 1847, at Glengarry in 1853, Crief evictions are going on at the present time in Skye and at Lochmaddy, in Ross shire, where an Aberdeen paper maker, named Fenwick, has got an estate and is clearing it of the population. This cruel and barbarous persecution of an unoffending people is still going on. Acts of injustice and oppression, an exhilarating place and, worst of all, an unrestrained and supreme love for gain.

The following is of gross injustice and legal robbery came under my notice during the month of August. I was spending a week with my brother in law, who had taken a farm house to rent for a couple of months. The farm's name is Lewis Hamilton, the name of the farm is Ardlui, it is situated at Inverarnan, near Loudoun the chief village in the island. While I was there Mr Hamilton's lease expired, and Mr Lewis Hamilton and his family called to look at the farm. It was a farm of about 15 acres of very good land, bleak moorlands, the rest was hill pasture, or 1.18 a year. The tenant had had a lease from Mr Paul wick, the Dukes factor, for 19 years, and with the trustee's permission had paid off from the proceeds of it and built a decent farm house. He hoped to get a reduction on his rent, as the Duke's forest and rabbits had eaten up nearly all the green crops in the spring, and he would have very gut as much out of the land as he had put in. Instead of getting a reduction on his rent he had it raised to £80 a year, and my friend's lease was refused. He must remain as a tenant at will. So poor Mr Lewis Hamilton must pay an impossible rent, or have the substantial house he built 15 years ago legally stolen from him by the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, the present owner of Inverarnan last year man is known to be guilty of no crime but to a Dissenter and he is suspected to be guilty of another he is supposed to have voted for the Liberal candidate at the last election. He is one of the Dissenting Churches of Scotland, the United Presbyterian church, has petitioned the Duke of Hamilton for a site for a church, but this highly moral and religious landlord will not allow them to have one on the island. *D. B. Clark, M. D.*

[In a was written before the passage of the Scotch Crofters Act. Ed.]

BOOTH'S SCHEME

Referring to Gen. Booth's scheme to ameliorate the condition of the outcast population of Great Britain a writer in the Baltimore Sun says:

The disciples of Karl Marx and of Henry George from different points of view will agree in condemning any scheme founded on the idea of parching and rendering our landlord and capitalist system instead of encouraging a new system of industrial co-operation and social equality.

"As long as the land and capital of the country are monopolized by the idlers so long will the workers have to slave to make up for the idleness, and so long exists a vast thousand of paupers and criminals.

"And for every pauper rescued in Booth's another will take the place.

"For the members of his colonies must either be employed in producing useful articles for themselves or for the outside community. If they merely prey on for themselves the rest of the world will be unaffected and go on manufacturing paupers and criminals as heretofore. If they produce for the outside market then you will at once find that either millions and a fresh lot of unemployed and starving people will be thrown on the streets.

"Gen. Booth hopes to abolish poverty and avoid degradation by an ingenious application of the annual interest of £1,000,000. It is likely that the restitution to the workers of £35,000 a year can compensate for the annual theft of £900,000,000?

AIR SHIPS.

A Scheme for Aerial Navigation. The Expert Next to be Tried in Chicago.

"Within three weeks we will sail the Chicago in the front of our air ships, declared E. P. Pennington at the Grand Pacific hotel this morning.

Mr Pennington, who is the principal inventor of the air ship soon to be tried for the first time, had come to Chicago to confer with the directors of the stock holders of the Mount Carmel Aeronautic Navigation company, which contemned at the hotel early this afternoon. It is virtually the first meeting of the stockholders of the new organization which, it is said, is already paid up capital of $20,000,000. It is proposed to invest this great sum in the manufacture of ships for travelling in the air.

At to day a meeting of prospects of the enterprise were discussed to detail. Mr Pennington a neatly dressed mid agent, and studious looking man of apparently about thirty with dark hair, in which are two or three small patches of gray was the center of attraction. He lectured, and his account of the progress of the work was listened to with close attention. He explained that the first of the ships, with which it is proposed to navigate the air at a rate of speed surpassing that attained by ocean steamers, is now near its completion, and that the plans for a trial trip over the country had already been completed. The trial will occur in about three weeks. The ship will start from the place of its manufacture at Mount Carmel, and travel to St Louis a distance of 1.6 miles. From St Louis it will sail up to Chicago, and from here to New York. In addition to Mr Penning ton and his associates in the invention, H Bailey, there will be half a dozen news paper men aboard, and the inventor to day also invited any of the stockholders who desired to accompany him on the journey.

A general description of this aerial vessel has already been published. The one with which the first trial is to be made will be 200 feet in length, furnished with a cabin in which will be every convenience for the comfort of passengers. The cabin will be made of aluminum a metal the value of which has been recently greatly enhanced by the discovery of its adaptability for this purpose.

Mr Pennington's account of the progress of the work possessed the other stockholders that it was intended to proceed with the construction of the buildings at Mattoon for the manufacture of the ships. These buildings and the machinery to be placed therein will cost $50,000, or so.

Mr Pennington expressed the supreme confidence in the success of his scheme for aerial navigation. In fact, he did not seem to think the possibility of its proving a failure was worthy even of a thought.

The principle upon which the machine is constructed said he, "are too well established to admit of question. Every thing is computed with mathematical precision and I have no more doubt of its complete success than I have in the ability of the locomotive to haul me back to Mattoon."

"Are you going to have the ships on exhibition at the world's fair?

"Oh, yes, we do believe will but we are not thinking of that matter just. By that time the enterprise will be well known and in common use. *Chicago Mail*

SOCIALISTS AND TRADE UNIONS

A writer in the capitalist press states that "nothing stands between modern society and Socialism but the trade unions of the American type, and that the "extreme school of English Socialists have, therefore, the most powerful motives for breaking up British trade unionism. Such a statement can only be described as gross ignorance or mischievous calumny. There are no Socialists and no Socialists' societies who have entrusted their opinions *to this country*. The writer might well have said that Socialists had assailed the trade unions on account of their conservatism, apathy towards the bulk of their fellows, but the single quoted above is incomplete because of the fact that of every hundred unions formed within the last year or two probably ninety are have been initiated, worked up, and carried on by avowed Socialists. We know only too well that many of these can scarcely survive the next commercial crisis, but with Socialists as with others the heart will at times prove master of the head, and we spring eagerly forward to assist in some intelligent plan the workers' lot even while we know it to be but a temporary gain at best. We can fairly claim that we have never troubled trade unionism any more than who have tested the political waters, and we do not fear to speak the truth, even though trade unionism be too powerful that the more ugly section of the capitalist press seeks to chloroform it with flattery and applause. *Justice*

LIFE IN RUSSIAN PRISONS.

Mr Felix Volkhovsky, who has passed seven years of hard life in solitary confinement in various Russian prisons, and eleven other years as an exiled Siberian prisoner, writes an awful paper on his experience. The account which he gives of the treatment of women on their way to Siberia is horrible in the extreme. He says:

"I know that women convicts are looked upon and treated, even by the police and many of the escorting soldiers, as legitimate property, and under such conditions, these poor creatures could protect themselves from the male convicts, when they come into contact with them at the same etape, I am at a loss to imagine. In fact, they do not attempt the impossible.

Nor is not only female convicts who are subjected to these outrages.

"Soldiers' wives, he says, who wish to join their husbands, are sometimes forcibly detained at the etapes. Even women and girls, who for any reason have to be sent to their parents or husbands from one part of the country to the other. There is no reason to suppose that these innocent creatures are treated better than their hardened sisters, indeed, reason points to a more diabolical conclusion."

The most striking picture in his paper is the account which he gives of the effect produced upon his mind by solitary confinement in a cell in the fortress of St Petersburg. Where he was brought out he says:

"I suffered terribly through the change, but the sufferings were such as those few who have been almost from to death and are living restored to life, warmth and freedom. The intense tingling agony is but transitory. And so I suffered from fits of nervous irritation, during which I felt I could commit murder."

THE PROSTITUTE PRESS

The following scathing indictment of the capitalistic press by W. H. Hurlbert says is just as applicable to Canadian daily journalism as to the leading newspapers of the United States as can be seen by the course of the recent trial of the late Toronto dailies on the Dominion Day question.

Money has no conscience, no honor, no patriotism no sympathy with truth, right, and decency and never has had it, it loves and seeks but one thing upon earth. Whatever will make the paper sell goes into it, right or wrong, true or untrue, slanderous or just, clean or unclean it is all the same to money. Whatever will make the greatest sensation, whatever will fetch the most dirty pennies from clutching pockets, whatever will make the most sensational publishment and call for more sensational counter statement in the next issue, goes in. And this is called good journalism among us.

The power of the Press often made the subject of eulogy. That is one side of the theme. There is another. It is also an object of dread. By it a lie can be made to travel round the world while truth is still putting on its boots. A slander can be published in a day which a libelled man cannot refute in a year. A falsehood may be told which it will take a whole generation to correct. Conscious that it has the power to do this, and that no one can call it to account, the Press has become reckless and unscrupulous in the use of it. Thousands of times a day it wantonly destroys the peace of families, the confidence between friends, the credit of merchants, the character of innocent women, the reputation of statesmen, the hopes of politicians, and inflicts agonies which are indescribable and immeasurable. And all for what? For the profit of the proprietor. Not infrequently, too, for the interest of some party or faction which he wishes to serve. Accountable to no human power, he is tempted to make his paper interesting regardless of truth, and to boast of its enterprise in securing exclusive information, which often turns out to be false. Every day he sins against light and knowledge in the recklessness of his statements, in the choice of his subjects, in the cruelty of his comments, in the pertness of his criticisms, in the poisoning of his pictures. Occasionally he may stumble upon a truth, but he cares nothing for truth as truth. He is a moral agent without conscience, and he is the most dangerous power in the world. He is the terror of politicians, the corrupter of public life, the tyrant of private life, the demoralizer of literature, the blighter of art, the foe of religion, the patron of vice, the opponent of reform, the real libeller of mankind, the constant slanderer of virtue, the persistent defiler of innocence, the consummate hypocrite, the shameless liar, the omnipresent scoundrel, the ubiquitous demon, the all pervading corruption, and finally the gigantic coward. He has all the vices and all the weaknesses, and he has no check upon him, and only the interposition of Providence which he seeks at last can protect us against him from these things. And this is good journalism.

THOUGHTS FOR LABOR REFORMERS

The intelligent Knight of Labor will welcome to the Nationalist, as to the Knights, things which in him the Knights platform of Nationalized Industries, and find an ally most thoroughly equipped for the educational campaign. They common believe in reaching the trade man wealth through education of the head as well as the hand. They in common continue the superiority of the finer forces the moral as well as material world. They both plead for equity and justice rather than for charity and almsgiving. They learn in common

Knowledge is power but *Love* is stronger.

Charity comes with a crust and a smile. *Justice* comes grave but firm, and conquers.

Making good Mother Earth brighter and while *Education and Labor*

We distribute our respect here a there and space the past entirely, proud it all but exempt to be dead. But I must upon being alive we attack it and endeavor to kill it. *Victor Hugo*

To us the intelligent men are few as I can find that the industrial question is the fundamental question of the country and who do not look forward to its settlement with more or less apprehension. *Christian Union*

The land of every country belongs to the people of that country. No man made the land. It is the original inheritance of the whole species. *John Stuart Mill*

Of all wastes, the greatest waste possible to commit is the waste of labor. *Ruskin.*

The highest virtue of which man is capable, and the last at which he arrives is sense of justice. *Dr Arnold*

So quickly sometimes has the shortest road found that tasty a man has lived to enjoy the benefit of that charity which his own piety projected. *Horne*

THERE can be no friendship where there is no freedom.—*Penn.*

EMPLOYMENT, which Galen calls "Nature's Physician," is so essential to the happiness that indolence is justly considered as the mother of misery. *Burton*

IF any one time looked upon labor unkindly with suspicion, but a long study of the history of labor has convinced me that not *only are they the best friends of the workman*, but that the best supporters of the country and the public, and to the extension of these associations statesmen and political economists must look for the solution of some of the most pressing and difficult problems of our time. *F Thorold Rogers M P*

TAKING SIDES.

Come children, and listen; I'll tell you a story

A story of something that happened on these

There was a war in the land, and each brave heart beat high

And many went forth for their country to die.

But words fail to tell of the fear and despair When swept the awful village of W— one day

When the enemy's army marched into the street

And their own valiant soldiers were forced to retreat

Such a rising, sorrowful song, and trembling, with fear!

When what in the midst of it all a child appear!

But Grandmother Gregory feeble and old Coming out from her cottage courage and bold.

She faced the intruders who marched through the land,

Shaking at them the poker she held in her hand.

"How foolish" her friends cried, growing it is true

"With treasure other what did you think you could do

"Not much, answered grandma, but one they were gone

I could do where them which and I am a

Now, children I've told the story to you

It meant I was of something the weakest a die

There is always a right 'tween the right

And a wrong

And the best of the battle is bound to be strong.

But no matter how small or meek be

Or how feeble or grandma the weapons a wield

If all not until the last enemy's gone

To stand up and show them which side we are on.

ANNA E. HAMILTON.

The Trades and Labor Assembly, of St Paul, has established a labor lyceum at which important questions relating to labor are discussed every Sunday afternoon

THE reason why "great leaders are scarce is that the enthusiastic supporters of great principles are so few.—*New Life Force.*