THE LABOR ADVOCATE.

We Demand all the Reform that Justice can ask for, and all the Justice that Reform can give.

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WORK AND WAGES.

LABOR NOTES AND NEWS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Interesting Items, Facts and Figures—A Bird's-Eye View of the World of Industry

CANADA

KINGSTON stone-cutters are agitating for nine hours, with $3 per day wages.

MOIR, SON & Co., the largest bakery concern at Halifax, N S., have discharged all their soft bread bakers on the sole ground that they belong to the Bakers' Union.

THE boys in the Moncton, N.B., cotton factory have struck for higher pay. They average fifty-four cents per day of eleven hours, and want an increase of twenty-five cents. The boys will go out this week unless their demand is granted.

THE *Globe's* English correspondent telegraphs that a circular is now being issued to the steamship agents, cutting in force the new system of bonuses for emigrants actually settling in Canada. It is thought likely to produce some increase during the coming season of emigration.

AT the late meeting of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers at Pittsburg, Pa., a resolution of thanks to President Harrison was adopted, thanking him on behalf of the brotherhood for appointing Mr. W. H. H. Webster to the position of U. S. Commercial Agent at Chatham. Mr. Webster was long an honored and active member of the order.

THE Montreal *Herald* is printed by non-union labor. The following from the Chicago *Inland Printer*, which is not by any means a labor paper but an authority on the typographical art, shows how the result is regarded purely from a mechanical standpoint.—"A party connected with the Montreal *Herald*, in sending us a recent copy of that sheet, asks us what we think of its mechanical execution, and points to it as an evidence that it is independent of the members of the typographical union. To be frank, we think it is one of the most abominable specimens of typography it has ever been our lot to examine, and that the botches employed thereon have yet to learn their A B C's in a printing office. No charge."

UNITED STATES.

SAN JOSE (Cal.), carpenters work eight hours.

TWENTY-two states have Bureaus of Labor.

THE Hatmakers' International has 3,500 members.

THE Buffalo Central Labor Union wants committees paid salaries.

TEN thousand men have been thrown out of employment by the shutting down of twenty-three blast furnaces in the Shenango and Mahoning valleys near Youngstown, Ohio.

ABOUT 1000 laborers discharged from work on the Puget sound extension of the Union Pacific railroad are reported idle and destitute in Portland, Ore. A large number of them are being fed and lodged by the city.

WHEN the workmen in the window glass factories at Blossburg, near Elmira, N. Y., went to work on the 10th inst., they found the factories closed. It is said the abrupt shut-down was caused by order of the Window Glass Trust.

THE starchers and ironers in the collar factory at Lansingburgh, N. Y., of the United Shirt and Collar Co., have left work joining the striking employees. An effort made to induce the cutters to join in the strike was unsuccessful.

GENERAL Master Workman Powderly is out in a circular letter to the various industrial organizations calling upon them to fix a date for a conference. February 23, March 25, and July 29 are the dates suggested to be chosen from. Mr. Powder ly favors February 23, and hopes to see the conference formulate "a platform such as industrialists could favor at the polls." He calls attention to the report of the committee on political action at the last general assembly of the K. of L. which recorded the desire that the platform be built upon the preamble of the Knights.

THE year 1890 has been specially noticeable for the number of labor conventions held. The first of the prominent conventions was that of the Knights of Labor and Farmers' Alliance, held at St. Louis early in the year. The Federation of Trades held the largest convention that body ever held, at Detroit. The General Assembly of Knights of Labor at Denver, was one of the most important in the history of the organization. The recent Farmers' Alliance convention, held at Ocala, Fla., attracted world-wide attention. Nearly every state has held conventions of the various labor organizations. The outlook for the coming year is most favorable.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Some hundreds of men belonging to the Boilermakers' Society, employed at Messrs. Gray and Co.'s shipyards and marine engine works, West Hartlepool, have entered on their advance of wages to the extent of seven-and-a-half per cent.

THE damask weavers employed by Messrs William Coulson and Co. and James Coulson and Sons, damask manufacturers, Lisburn, Ireland, have struck work. The men, numbering in all 130, applied for ten per cent. increase and free gas.

THERE is at least one little woman in this world jealous of her husband's reputation and honor. A Scotch paper informs us that a creature who took the place of a striker was dragged off the engine by his wife, who proved in this instance the truth of the old saying "the grey mare is the better horse."

THERE is now every prospect that the series of exhibitions that have been held in London during the past five years, not the least successful of which was that of food products, popularly known as "the healthories," will be lengthened this summer by a world's labor show. One of the interesting features of the exhibition will be the experimental application of the eight hour law in the actual construction of a building within the grounds.

THE North Eastern Railway Company of England have averted a threatened strike by a conference held at Newcastle-on-Tyne. Mr. Tennant, the manager, met the men's representatives and offered concessions, including a reduction of the hours of the men engaged in the passenger department from sixty to forty-eight hours per week, and the counting of Sunday duty double time to the men employed at the central station. Concessions were also offered to other classes. These were accepted, and the dispute satisfactorily settled.

A RECENT cable despatch states that, during the past few days, there have been several minor accidents on the railroads, said to be due to the inexperience of the new hands employed in place of the strikers. The Caledonian railroad is now fully manned with new men. At Motherwell, Hamilton and Palmadie, where men have been reinstated upon accepting the terms of the railroad company, the strikers are giving the greatest trouble. At Motherwell a few of the new hands have deserted. The railroad officials intend to make a temporary reduction of the passenger service so as to enable them to overtake the work. The position of the North British [illegible] and it seems more than probable that this railroad will lose a considerable portion of its traffic.

EUROPEAN AND GENERAL.

FRENCH printers get $4.25 a day on week work, and piece-workers make from sixty to eighty cents.

A GENERAL strike has broken out at the Johnsdorf coal mines in Upper Styria, in consequence of the dismissal of some men for belonging to a political club. Troops have been sent to the scene from Judenburg.

THE Legislature of Canton Neufchatel, Switzerland, has passed a bill providing that apprentices must not be employed in factories or workshops unless written permission be given by the authorities. Employers violating the law will be fined from $5 to $100.

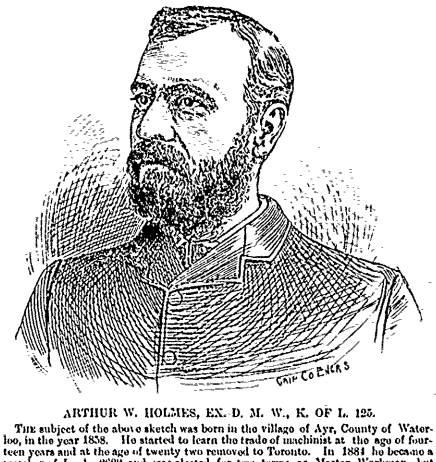
THE New South Wales Government will probably appoint a commission to enquire into the relations of Capitalism and Labour. If good men are put on it it will do good; if the ordinary drivelling commentators, Premier Parkes might save himself the trouble.

THE basement of a house in course of erection at Rome suddenly collapsed, burying three workmen in the ruins. King Humbert, hearing of the accident, hastened to the scene and directed the work of rescuing the entombed men. All three of the workmen were rescued. Two of them will live, but the third is in a critical condition. King Humbert was warmly cheered.

THE introduction of the modern capitalistic system in Japan has brought about the same results as elsewhere. Capital is concentrating in a few hands, and the masses are becoming poorer and poorer. In 1880 there were 1,800,600 citizens entitled to vote, and in 1887 this number had decreased to 1,458,107, owing to the fact that the suffrage belongs only to those possessing a certain amount of property; and the number of paupers during the same time increased from 6,017 to 15,199

GREAT distress prevails throughout Italy, owing to the continually increasing numbers of the unemployed, who are loudly agitating for assistance from the Government. Deputations were sent to Rome from Ravenna, Bologna, and Ferrara, to wait upon Signor Fonili. At Milan two hundred of these unfortunate class went to lay their grievances before the Prefect, who referred them to the municipal authorities. Naples is daily witnessing the most lamentable scenes, owing to the numbers and sufferings of the unemployed, thousands of whom are without food or lodging.

THE National Congress of Belgian miners has been held at Louviere. The meeting, which was composed of one hundred members, representing seventy-four societies and unions, first proceeded to read M. Defues' report on the organization of the Belgian miners, which concluded with a vigorous protest against the financial oligarchy which legislates for the working classes. M. Defues, secretary of the congress, moved that in all industries is necessary if the Chamber does not accept the proposal of revision, either during the present session or in the month of April. This resolution was carried by [illegible] twelve. A demonstration will take place on the 1st of May, 1891, in favor of the eight-hours' day.



ARTHUR W. HOLMES, EX. D. M. W., K. OF L. 125.

THE subject of the above sketch was born in the village of Ayr, County of Waterloo, in the year 1858. He started to learn the trade of machinist at the age of fourteen years and at the age of twenty two removed to Toronto. In 1881 he became a member of L. A. 2622 and was elected for two terms as Master Workman, but before the expiration of the second term he resigned to assist in organizing George Stephenson Assembly (machinists), No. 9005, of which he is a charter member and the first M. W. He served three successive terms in this capacity. Bro. Holmes has been a delegate to the D. A. almost since its inception, and was elected two successive terms as D. M. W. He was chosen as one of the delegates to represent D. A. 125 at the Trade and Labor Congress held in London, Ont., also the one held in Montreal, and represented L. A. 9005 (machinists) at the session held in Ottawa. He has been a member of the Executive Board of the D A for the last three years. Bro. Holmes is a sterling labor Reformer, and, as his record shows, has the entire confidence of the order in which he has taken so prominent a part, as well as of the labor bodies generally.

THOUGHTS FOR LABOR REFORMERS.

WHAT constitutes a state?
Not high-raised battlement or labored mound,
Thick wall or moated gate;
Not cities proud, with spires and turrets crowned,
Not bays and broad armed ports;
Where, laughing at the storm, rich navies ride;
Not starred and spangled courts
Where low-browed baseness waits perfume to pride.
No! Men, high-minded men,
With powers as far above dull brutes endued
In forest, brake and den,
As these excel cold rocks and brambles rude.
Men who their duties know,
Know too their rights and knowing dare maintain,
Prevent the long aimed blow,
And crush the tyrant while they rend the chain—
These constitute a state.

—*Sir William Jones.*

MONOPOLY above and competition below are the upper and nether millstones between which the toiler is crushed.—*Politics of Labor.*

How suddenly all nonsense might be stopped if ministers, editors and writers would get into the habit of telling the exact truth.—*San Francisco Freethought.*

SUPLING Reform iz no longer a thing to be dezeird, but unatainabel — a "kon sumashon devoutli to be wisht." It is a result in the hef and dail praktis ov a larj number ov persons in everi kuntri where the Inglish langwej iz spoken.—*Josiah Priman.*

CHRISTIANS look with pity upon the Hindoos who worship images of Buddha covered with a great wealth of gold and silver and precious stones, but the former bow down to and worship images of Mammon, called bankers, brokers and millionaires, and fill their vaults with great riches.

THERE is no homeless, poorly-paid unemployed, hungry workman in this country but knows that his ill-fortune was brought upon him and perpetuated through class legislation. The manufacturer and capitalist have prospered, amassed a fortune of billions and used the laws of the land as a lever against the poor.—*Journal of the K. of L.*

THE millionaires and speculators of this generation are the blossoms of the competitive and "practical" era that is passing away. The panicky feeling in all the principal centres of the world presages the coming storm in which the false commercial and financial systems will decay, to give birth to something better and more equitable.—*Universal Republic.*

IF the principle on which we found our government is true, that taxation must not be without representation, and if women hold property and are taxed, it follows that women should be represented in the State by their votes. . . . I think the State can no more afford to dispense with the votes of women in its affairs than the family.—*Homeiß Daily Ov [illegible]*

LITERARY NOTES.

ARCHDEACON FARRAR has written a two volume novel about early Christianity, with the title "Darkness and Dawn."

MR. BENJAMIN R. TUCKER, of Boston, has published the first English translation of Count Tolstoi's latest work, "The Fruits of Culture." This book, like "The Kreutzer Sonata," has never been published in Russia. It is a two fold satire on "Culture" and Spiritualism. The follies of the so called "cultured" classes are exhibited in a humorous picture of their fashions, "fads," and mental freaks, and the story hinges upon the effect of modern spiritualism on an aristocratic family in Russia.

THE London (England) *People's Press* announces that "Mr. A. W. Wright, chief of the National Labor Bureau in the United States, promises a history of labor legislation," and proceeds to pay a deserved tribute to Bro. Wright, as a hard worker and a graceful writer. Our excellent English contemporary is evidently laboring under a misapprehension, and has confounded Bro. A. W. Wright, of the National Executive Board of the K. of L. with Col. Carroll D. Wright, of the U.S. Bureau of Labor. It is the latter who is preparing the volume on labor legislation, with the able assistance of Lawrence Gronlund, author of the "Co-operative Commonwealth."

"INQUIEBNO ISLAND," by Hudor Genone, has been received from the Twentieth Century Publishing Company, New York. It is a neatly printed book of 333 pages, purporting to be the narrative of a castaway, wrecked on an inhabited but hitherto undiscovered island in the Atlantic. At an early stage of the story the reader of ordinary penetration will discover that the description of the opinions, customs and ceremonies of the Inquirendians are an elaborate satire upon the formulas and creeds of the churches and the generally received principles of Biblical interpretation. The idea is well worked out, and, while the author has cleverly hit off many absurdities and shams in connection with ecclesiastical systems, there is nothing in the book contrary to the genuine spirit of Christianity. The principal fault in the book is that it is a good deal too long for the ground it covers. A satire of this kind, to be effective, should not be tedious, as the points made lose force by too frequent repetition. The plot of the story, though slight, is interesting, and, on the whole, the book is one that will be keenly relished by thoughtful and receptive minds. To those interested in theological matters, whatever their opinions, it will certainly afford food for thought.

WILL some of the howling demagogues please inform us why the Government should not loan money to the farmer at 2 per cent, a year as to the banker at 1 per cent. Be honest, gentlemen, and explain the whyfores.—*The Great West.*