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THINK AND REFLECT

On the Morality of the Capitalistic
System of Industry.

(Written for THE ECHO, by Cyrille Horst.)

It is frightful to see the death of scores of men on duty in the mines, railways, buildings, at sea, and everywhere; some entombed full of life, others crushed to a jelly or scalded, while others are drowned like rats in a pit or burned alive as the Saracens of Spain were in the good old time. But it is more frightful to be a witness of the moral death of thousands every day the year round; the death, when the body so odiously continues to walk, to lead, and to move its mechanical existence, while there is already no more spirit, no manhood in this useless being. How many such deaths are occurring day by day caused by the saw mill of human spirit, bones and flesh, which is called capitalism?

Still more frightful and atrocious than all death is the manner in which generally other living men treat such morally dead and view that degenerate misfortune which kills one morally. This manner shows all the deepness of the wickedness which the eras of history, civilization, and culture could not exterminate as yet in human nature, and which, moreover, the existing universal competition sustains. Men do not, in general care for causes. They see the effects and judge from them, and that is what makes them think and feel, too often, like animals and brutes.

Look upon that great struggle for existence. All are engaged in it, and every one is unhappy. That is why men seldom pardon the unhappiness of their fellow-men. Rather than aid the wounded they seek to sharpen the pain, to frost the wounds with salt, to blow the little remnant of life out of the wounded in order that they may not hear their groans. These men are anxious to escape their own distress, and the sight of a sufferer calling for their aid and reminding them of their own suffering exaggerates and enrages them, and gives rise to the thirst for his blood.

Men, like hungry wolves, rejoice and triumph when they see their fellow-man weakening and falling. On the field of battle, we are told, the soldiers avert their eyes from the wounded and angrily abuse those whom they believe to be compassionate. They fear that compassion would weaken their power to forget their own danger and to fulfil that vandal work which they are designated for. So it is in the war field. But in the every day life, too, the same war of all against all, the old fight for existence is going on. The aim of this war is personal happiness and the means of it are all the manifestations of force, too often brutal force. The struggle for existence, the bourgeois scientists say, is necessary to humanity in order to bring about progress. But it is merely the progress of a brutal force or craftiness.

Everyone is struggling against others for his own, and against others' existence and happiness. Everyone is anxious to clear the way from all competition. If he manages to bring it about; if he by various means came as a victor out of the fight, he, according to the beautiful theory of those venal scientists, makes humanity obliged to him for his obtained power to perfect his race. The advantages, with the aid of which he becomes a victor, no matter if they consisted in the use of force or craft, or in the capability of doing something base and mean, can be transmitted now to the coming generation, those scientists say; while the faculties of the conquered may be, or not, submerged, or at least suppressed, together with their possessors, and prevented from further development. Humanity must be thankful to such victors. According to this theory the first commandment of men is to always and everywhere remain the fittest, the strongest, the survivor. Without the consumption of the life and happiness of others, for the mere purpose of strengthening their own power, there can be no progress—that is to say no subsistence, no ability for further existence—in that glorious capitalistic system.

The subjugation of the weak by the strong is consequent upon the natural relation of forces. Freedom in its exclusive and one-sided apprehension is an anarchistic principle, an Utopia. Reciprocal interest leads to the foundation of dependence. The law of development, history demonstrates, consists not in the uniform elevation of all to a general level, but in the fact that one, in order

to get upon that level, places himself upon the shoulders of another. That is the logic of the competitive capitalistic system and its scientific defenders. The fittest, the victor. The rich they surround with esteem, they love, they fear, worship and still support gladly. The weak and conquered, the poor they overload with contempt, they hate and refuse to aid. Who has will have more, who does not have will lose all he has.

Oh you pinch-penny of this world, always thirsty for gold, could you live for a moment if all the pains, sufferings, and wounds of humanity were approachable to your compassion, if you have any? The great, generous nature treats us with a certain tenderness. It makes us blind and deaf to a certain degree, and we cannot embrace with her eyes all the monstrosity of the existing wrong, nor do we hear all the cries of suffering not only at large, but in our very Christian city of Montreal, otherwise we would despair and get out of the desire to continue this life. While the church points the eyes of its faithful heavenward, the robbers take advantage of the abstraction and steal the earth.

THE RIGHTS OF CAPITAL.

If labor expects to receive fair treatment from capital, it should aid the capital that shows a disposition to effect fair play. The rock of satisfaction in making agreements with capital is uniformity; one firm must have no advantage over another from labor. It is wrong to expect a hat storekeeper to close up when his neighbors are allowed to remain open as long as they please and do a thriving business. If one-half the energy devoted to denouncing men in his position were applied to inducing the other stores to organize and close up, what beneficial results would accrue? But, it is easier to denounce than remedy. It is life and death with a firm to close while others are reaping a harvest. Can not the rules of labor be uniform, as to rates and hours? Then labor can demand its own. It is a difficult thing to maintain a high rate of wages from one employer while there are dozens around him getting labor far more cheaply. Instead of finding fault with the gentleman in question, why not advise people to refuse to buy in any store which should remain open after hours. If you make fish of one and flesh of another you will have a very unpalatable mess for a result. Labor runs too much on sentiment, and sentiment doesn't pay, neither does it fill an employer's coffers or an employee's man. Business principles must be followed in conducting labor organizations. Why not adopt business principles? Your employers, gentlemen, adopt them; couldn't live without 'em, you know. They advertise their wares and goods. Now, why don't labor unions advertise their case? Why don't they publish a list of those who are unworthy the support of union men and women? One-half the funds devoted to futile agitation could be turned to practical use. People need to be educated up to the rights of labor. We cannot blame storekeepers for remaining open while the people demand it. And who demand it but the poor? The wealthy do their shopping in daylight. The poor could do theirs within reasonable hours. By publishing your case and advertising it, you go the right way about it. Resolutions and sentiments don't effect much; your line of battle must be laid down and followed by effective means.—Abridged from the *Commoner and Glassworker*.

A Golden Wedding.

"Where are you going, all dressed up as fine as a fiddle?"
"I have been invited to attend the golden wedding of Tim Spickens."
"Did you say you were going to attend his golden wedding?"
"Yes."
"People celebrate their golden wedding when they have been married fifty years, don't they?"
"Certainly."
"Then we're not talking about the same man; for the Tom Spickens I mean is not more than thirty years of age, and he wasn't married at all six months ago."
"We are talking about the same man, but you see there are different kinds of golden weddings. I call Tom's wedding a golden wedding because the fair bride, who is a sixty-year-old widow, is said to have thirty thousand dollars all in twenty-dollar gold pieces."

WOMAN'S VOICE FOR LABOR.

What Kate Field Has to Say on the
Attitude of Capital Toward
Labor.

Kate Field is a product of the times—a woman who has advanced the proper ideas of the injustice that have grown up along with the higher development of the world, and she has the power of expressing her opinion on the subject of the wrongs of the laboring classes with mighty, sledge hammer-like blows, which ought to draw sparks of righteous fire from the iron-like hearts of some of the rich and haughty millionaires who hear them. In a late article on the attitude of capital toward labor she says:—

"The attitude of capital toward labor is a gigantic blunder, because it is opposed to Christianity, which most capitalists profess and which few of them, or any other class, practice. Heretofore labor has been the under dog in every fight in every clime, and has submitted to its fate through ignorance and cowardice. Our republic is built upon the principle that all men are born free and equal, and are entitled to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Every man, however ignorant, is given a vote, and schools are open to his children. Thus labor becomes intelligent and manly and begins to think. 'There's something wrong,' says labor. So labor strikes—sometimes wisely, often unwisely, always to the detriment of individuals, but always in behalf of the brotherhood of man. Growth arrogant by the power and traditions of centuries, capital, like the Bourbons, seems to have learned nothing. It forgets that labor is no longer abject. Labor may be unreasonable, brutal, even mad at times, but it has ceased to be afraid. It has attained the dignity of self-respect. Why does not capital see the handwriting on the wall and meet labor in the spirit of Christ? Why this church-going if it lead not to the golden rule? Labor asks for arbitration? Why not?"

Kate Field is a woman, and with the natural intuition, so-called, of her sex has grasped and expressed in a few words the pith of the labor question. It is true that labor is no longer abject. Union has removed that condition, and at the same time was the means of teaching labor that upon it even the millionaire must live, if not performed by hirelings, then by himself, or death will come. Modern Christianity has a grand object to battle for in the more complete emancipation of labor by the more thorough diffusion of the idea of the brotherhood of man, the doctrine so eloquently taught by the founder of the religion we profess. Happily the movement of Christian spirit is in this direction, and when it becomes generally accepted and the various churches unite upon it to the exclusion of the petty controversies continually going on, not only among each other, but among the individual members of each, over questions of little or no interest to the mass of human beings, then the progress towards a more Christian-like and equitable condition of the two classes of labor and capital will be rapid and gratifying. The employing class needs to be inculcated with the spirit of justice to labor, and labor needs to be taught forbearance and justice on its side and the assurance that men possessing riches and employing labor are not necessarily the enemies of the poor. How better can be taught these things than through the churches? Sermons on these living questions of the times will bring to the houses of God men who could never be induced to go to them to hear long doctrinal sermons. There is too much of the spirit of animosity existing between employer and employe, and it is by the removal of this that the relative positions of both can best be improved, and peace on earth, good will toward men, be at least in part secured.—Reading (Pa.) Evening World.

Give us a Penny.

Once again this journal feels constrained to urge on the Dominion Government the desirability of issuing a two-cent copper coin, and withdraw from circulation the five-cent silver coins. The public advantages would be very great. In the first place there would be a large profit to the public treasury, for the two-cent bronze coins would cost only about one-third of their face value, and the difference between their cost and their face value would be so much profit

for the public treasury. This, however, is only a trifling advantage, the real benefit arising from the greater exactness which would be introduced into the domestic transactions and purchases of the wage-earning classes. At present the universal price of all small commodities is five cents, and this is the case because the universal coin is the five-cent piece. If that coin were withdrawn from circulation and a two-cent bronze coin substituted, the universal price of all small commodities would be two cents, and the wage earners would be benefited correspondingly. Those who are familiar with domestic transactions in the Old Country know that the same articles which are sold for a penny in England cost five cents, or two-pence-half penny, in Canada. "Put a penny in the slot" and in England you can obtain a choice of a thousand and one useful articles. In Canada you can do nothing of the kind, for there is no penny; and the thousand and one articles, each cost two pennies and a half. The class which suffers is the wage-earners. There is no reason whatever why this should be the case. If the Dominion Government would issue a two-cent bronze coin, and gradually withdraw the silver five-cent piece the reform would be brought about unconsciously and imperceptibly, and every consumer would be benefited.—Bobcaygeon Independent.

COST OF STRIKES.

The fifth annual report of the Massachusetts State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation was transmitted to the Legislature last week. The experience of the Board has tended to prove that strikes and lock-outs are expensive methods of dealing with differences of opinion. They seem well calculated to leave behind in the minds of workmen a smoldering sense of grievances unredressed, and on the side of the employer a feeling that undue pressure has been exerted at the time when he was least able to withstand it. The strikes in that State during the past year have been almost without exception disastrous to the organizations concerned. The yearly earnings of the wage earners directly affected by the controversies of the year are estimated at \$4,056,195, and the total yearly earnings of the factories involved amount to about \$12,044,525. The total expense of maintaining the Board has been \$8,108.86.

THE WORKINGMEN PAY IT ALL.

We often hear laboring men say they pay no taxes, and yet they do not know that labor pays nearly all the taxes. The landlord may pay taxes on the house he rents to the laborer, but he includes the tax in the price of rent. The merchant pays taxes to the State, but he charges it up in the price of goods which he sells to the laborer. The banker may pay a tax to the Government, but he gets it back in his interest. The laborer may not borrow direct from the banker, but the landlord, the merchant and the contractor who does borrow it charges it up against the laborer. Therefore do not be deceived because the tax collector does not call on you in person, for he gets into your pocket in some way, and gets nearly all the taxes that are collected.

"Contentment is Better Than Wealth."

While honestly striving to better your condition, be content with your station in life and do not yield to an inordinate desire of abandoning your present occupation for what is popularly regarded as a more attractive avocation. Remember that while the learned professions are overcrowded there is always a demand for skilled and unskilled labor, and that it is far better to succeed in mechanical or manual work than to fail in professional life. Be not over eager to amass wealth, for they who are anxious "to become rich, fall into temptations and into the snares of the devil, and into many unprofitable and hurtful desires which drown men in destruction and perdition." A feverish ambition to accumulate a fortune, which may be called our National distemper, is incompatible with peace of mind. Moderate means with a contented spirit are preferable to millions without it. If poverty has its inconveniences and miseries, wealth has often greater. A small income is suggestive of abstemious habits, and abstemious habits are conducive to health, while wealth is a powerful incentive to excessive indulgence, which is the fruitful source of complicated diseases.—Cardinal Gibbons.

TRUE TO HIS WORD.

A NOVEL.

CHAPTER XXXII.

THE CAPTAIN AND HIS CAPTIVE.

Unless brigands are pursued they are not apt to be in a hurry, any more than other fine gentlemen who have time to spare and no mechanical profession; and the morning was far advanced before the camp on the hill top began to stir itself. This was a great advantage to Walter, who had fallen asleep at last under the warm rays of the sun. When he awoke he found Il Capitano Corrali sitting on the ground at his feet, with pens, ink and paper placed on the turf before him, and with quite a businesslike expression of countenance.

"I have a little matter to arrange with you, signor," said the captain affably; "it will only demand a scratch of your pen."

"What! before breakfast?" inquired Walter jocosely, for he had already discovered that it was well to fall in with brigand humor.

"As you please," replied the other.—"Boy!" He made some gesture signifying food, and the youthful brigand was beside them in an instant with a cabbage—apparently frost-bitten—some garlic and a sausage, black and of an intense hardness. There did not happen to be any bread in the encampment, and the coffee was represented by some melted snow, which had been found in a sort of natural ice house on the hill top. Walter's appetite was keen, and he wished to appear much at his ease and without apprehension. The captain watched the sausage disappear.

"You take matters easy, signor," said he softly; "doubtless you are pretty confident of soon returning to your friends."

"I have no friends to return to in this country, Captain Corrali," answered Walter frankly; "but as to my cheerfulness there is a proverb that a man with empty pockets is not cast down by falling among thieves."

"That may be so in England, signor," returned the captain; "but with us brigands it is different; when we cannot take a man's purse we take his life. Now, listen and be sure you do not tell me a lie. At what hotel are you staying in Palermo?"

"At no hotel; I cannot afford their charges. I have been residing for the last few weeks at Signor Baccari's, on the Marina."

"A very good house," remarked the captain.

"That is as people think."
"Oh! doubtless you are accustomed to much better lodgings in England, where they give large sums to artists for pictures."

"I am sorry to say you are mistaken, captain. It is possible that some day I may win a name and command good prices for my handiwork, but at present I am ill off enough; I have not even what every Englishman of property possesses when he comes abroad—a banker. You may find out that for yourself. All the available cash I have in the world is in a table drawer of my bedroom at Signor Baccari's. It is about eighty pounds—not five hundred ducats."

"Bah!" answered the captain incredulously. "You are down here"—he pointed to the paper—"for three thousand; and I seldom make a mistake in my valuations. This is the place for your signature."

"I cannot sign what I have not read," said Walter quietly.

An ugly look crossed the captain's face, a look that gave an insight into the nature of the man, between which and his prisoner had hitherto been kept up a screen of courtesy and good humor. "Do you know," he began, in a harsh voice, "that you are just the sort of person one sometimes burns?—Well, read it."

Walter took the paper, on which was written, in a sprawling hand, a few words of Sicilian, so ill spelled that he found it very difficult to discover in his pocket dictionary for what they were intended:

"I am in the hands of Corrali; he requires three thousand ducats for my ransom, which, if not sent within a few days, I shall be in danger. The sum must be paid in gold, and in such a manner as you shall be informed of. If my life is dear to you, hasten this."

"I have no objection to sign the paper," observed Walter calmly; "but I give you my word that I have not this money, nor any means of procuring it."

The captain smiled incredulously as he put the pen in his hand, and Walter wrote his signature in the place indicated.

"You told me you had no friends among your fellow-countrymen here, signor; had you not better reconsider that statement? Do not lie to me twice; it is sometimes for the second lie that I shoot a man."

"I am not in the habit of lying, Captain Corrali," answered Walter firmly. "I

told you I had no friends 'to return to,' and that is true. There are four English persons in Sicily with whom I am acquainted; but, as it happens, they are not even aware of my having left London. You can verify this for yourself if you have a mind, for two of them are, I believe, in your custody. When I was taken up by your carriage on the road yonder I told you as-much."

"I thought you might have forgotten it," said the other. "It is not every one who has so good a memory about trifles. It is unfortunate that half your acquaintances should be in the same boat as yourself. Now for the other half. Who are they?"

"I am acquainted with Sir Reginald Selwyn and his wife, who are at present stopping at the Hotel de France, on the Marina, but who go to day by the steamer to Messina."

"Not they," said the captain smiling. "However, this looks like truth. I should have been sorry to have had to kill a lad like you. It was touch-and-go though, let me tell you, for my temper is but short and I was getting angry. Well, then, instead of addressing this little note to your landlord, it will go to Sir Reginald Selwyn; he is rich, and will never let a fellow-countryman be put under ground before his time, for the sake of three thousand ducats."

"Captain Corrali," cried Walter earnestly, as the brigand stooped down to write, "I adjure you not to do that. This gentleman, although he is acquainted with me, is not my friend; nay, worse, he is my enemy. I would rather die—if death must be the alternative—than make appeal to such a man."

"How droll!" exclaimed the brigand, finishing the address. "You would rather be shot than ask a favor, would you? Well, I have nothing to do with these fine feelings, you see, though at the same time I admire them. This English milord will perhaps pay for you, in order to put you under a humiliating obligation. I am sorry, but I have only to look to my own interests and that of my comrades."

"He will not pay one ducat for me," said Walter confidently.

"Then I shall be still more sorry for myself, and also for you. This is no child's play, signor, that I am proposing," added he. "I will have your gold or your blood, I mean it. This letter will reach Palermo before sunset; and if within ten days"—

"Look yonder, captain; the soldiers!"
It was the sentinel who spoke, and at the same time handed his field glass to Corrali.

The high road on which Walter had been captured on the previous night could be seen winding like a narrow ribbon at their feet, though at a great distance; in one part of it could now be seen, like ants upon the march, certain small dark masses moving. The next instant Walter was thrown to the ground.

"Do not stir or you are a dead man," whispered a stern voice, that of his guard Colletta, in his ear. All the other tenants of the encampment had prostrated themselves; those who were near the edge of the hill were talking rapidly to their companions, probably giving them notice of what was passing; but they spoke in some sort of argot, which for Walter had no meaning. No one seemed alarmed, but every one transported with fury. Even Santoro—the mildest of the gang—looked towards his captive menacingly.

"If your Englishman has done this, sir," cried Corrali, white with passion and pointing to the troops, "you are right, indeed, to deem him your enemy; for if harm should come of it, he has signed your death warrant and that of others also. I have never yet shot a woman, but there is no knowing to what one may not be forced."

Walter knew that this wretch was referring to Lillian. Was it possible that Heaven could permit such a deed? But, alas! were there not martyrdoms in the world now as of old; tyrannies, oppressions of the gentle by the strong; sufferings of the innocent, inexplicable to the believers in dominant good!

"If your gentleman moves, Santoro," observed the captain, to whom such indications of passion were probably not unfamiliar, "shoot him."

These ebullitions of bad feeling on the part of the brigands manifested themselves, for the most part, within a very short space of time, and lasted only so long as the cause of them—namely, the soldiers—remained visible. As these latter pursued their eastward march and disappeared along the road, the general excitement became allayed. The troops were obviously not in sufficient force to surround the mountain (even if they had known the position of their enemies) and to cut off the band from their supplies, and this was the only danger the brigands really dreaded. Those who

were not on guard proceeded with their morning meal or, having finished it, began to gamble. What the game was Walter could not quite determine; it seemed a sort of "odd and even" of the simplest kind, but the stakes were considerable—indeed, there was nothing played for under gold coin—and the voices and temper of the players were at least as high as their stakes. Corrali alone—though, as he afterwards showed himself, a most desperate gambler—took no part in their amusements. He was for ever turning his field glass in the direction which the troops had taken, although it was scarcely possible, by reason of the configuration of the country, that they should again come into view. Walter acquired him of any apprehensions upon his own account, and rightly concluded that his anxiety was excited for the safety of the other portion of the band, in whose custody were his more valuable prisoners. Impeded by Lillian's company, it was probable, notwithstanding some hours of "start," that they had not attained a position so safe and advantageous as the camp upon the hill, which, indeed, had not been reached without great toil and trouble.

Presently, after long and apparently deep cogitation, the captain shut his glass and joined the throng of revellers. His brown face, if no longer smiling, had at least lost its scowl, and the voice that could be so short and fierce was once more courteous in its tone as he addressed his prisoner: "You know this English milord and his daughter, it seems?" he said.

"I am acquainted with them, although, as I told you, they are not even aware of my presence in this country."

"You must have a deep regard for them, however, to run twelve miles of road, in order as you foolishly imagined) to bring them succour by calling out the troops."

"I have a deep regard for them, Captain Corrali."

"Which involves your knowing their private circumstances," observed the captain quickly.

"Not so. I know, of course, that Mr. Brown—he is no milord at all, but a plain merchant—is a wealthy man; but as to the actual extent of his means I can say nothing."

"Or will not, eh?" replied the other incredulously. "You are an obstinate lad; but I have known others equally determined whose mouths I have found means to open."

"I am quite aware I am in your power," said Walter calmly; "but I can only tell what I know."

After a long pause: "What is a ship such as the Sylphide worth?" asked Corrali abruptly.

"I am a landsman and can give you no information on that head for certain," replied Walter. "Perhaps twelve thousand ducats."

"The income of a man who keeps such a vessel for his amusement must therefore be very large—ten times that sum at least."

"It is very unlikely. There are not many men, even in England, who possess such a fortune as that."

"If a man gives that sum for a pleasure boat, what would he give, think you, for a ransom for his daughter?" asked Corrali.

"He would give all he had to spare, no doubt, so long as she was alive; but if you kill her—it is no matter whether by accident or design; so delicate a creature might perish of one night's exposure to the cold"—A shadow flitted across Corrali's face; and Walter felt that the arrow he had aimed at a venture had gone home.

"I say, if she died upon your hands, it would raise every man's hand against you, mine for one—yes, I say, in that case you had better kill me also, Captain Corrali, for should any evil happen to her I would never rest till I had avenged it."

"Let us confine ourselves to business, Signor Litton," answered the captain. "Emotions are out of place here; and as for the luxury of revenge that is not for captives, but for him who holds them at his mercy. We were speaking of Milord Brown and the ransom."

"Yes; I was about to say that if his daughter's health should give way, by reason of this rough mode of life, you would miss your mark, besides raising the whole country against you. Existence would not be worth purchasing to the old man if you once deprived him of his child."

"You think it would be killing the goose with the golden egg, do you?" said Corrali. "Perhaps you are right. It is better to look at these matters from all sides. I suppose this young lady, being so rich, has had a first-rate education; knows foreign languages—Italian, for example?"

"I believe so. She told me on one occasion that she had studied it."

"And her father?" This question was put with an indifferent air, but Walter noticed that the captain's eyes here regarded him with particular intensity.

"I should think Mr. Brown knew little of Italian—much less of Sicilian. Indeed, I may positively state that he is unacquainted with any tongue beside his own." The captain frowned and looked per-

plexed. "Corbara!" cried he, after a minute's thought, and beckoned to the man who acted as his lieutenant. This was a stunted fellow, with a bull neck and arms as long as those of an ape. He had been unlucky at his "odd and even," and, as he rose to his feet, cast a look at Walter, as though he would like to make his prisoner's life pay for his own ill fortune. The captain and this worthy conferred for several minutes in low tones, the former pointing once or twice to eastward, in the direction of the sea, and then Corrali, taking his gun from the place where the arms were stacked, went down the hill alone. Whither he was gone or on what errand, Walter, of course, could only guess, but he felt pretty certain that his departure was connected with Lillian and her father. The questioning to which he had just been subjected gave him extreme anxiety, for why should the captain have inquired as to Lillian's knowledge of Italian (since he had certainly been in her company), unless she were too ill to speak? Would he have been so moved too by Walter's hint at the delicacy of her constitution unless she had already shown some signs of its giving way? As to his inquiries about the old merchant, it was probable that Corrali had suspected him of pretending ignorance of the language, in order to avoid debate upon his ransom. Was it not likely that he (Walter) should be employed as an interpreter between the brigands and his captives? Even in the evil case in which he stood, he felt his heart beat high at the thought of his seeing these companions in misfortune.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

BRIGAND DISCIPLINE.

Within one hour of Corrali's departure Walter Litton had his sketch book out, and was pencilling the picturesque surroundings of his prison, not without some sense of pleasure in the employment. Curiously enough, the brigands had robbed him of nothing, but only convinced themselves that he carried no weapons of offence. He knew that this forbearance was not usual with them; that in ordinary cases his watch and chain would have at once been added to the profuse adornments of his captors' persons, and that this had not been done gave him additional disquiet, for it showed that Corrali & Co. were bent upon some great coup, in which all minor considerations were merged as of no account. That this project could not be connected with himself alone was certain; for even if the amount which the chief had set his ransom at could be forthcoming, it was but a small sum, as Santoro went; and indeed that would have been only another reason why they would have taken all they could. He had an idea too that, considering their slender expectations from his capture, he had been treated with unusual tenderness and consideration. However, now that he was at work with his pencil, all these reflections were in abeyance; he was only thinking what a fine model Colletta would have made in Beech street, where he could not have shifted his position three times a minute, as he was now doing, as he watched the gamblers. He was a magnificent fellow, with a long pointed beard, and except for an expression of interest now lighting up his soft black eyes as the gold clinked, might have been elder brother to Francisco. He was by far the tallest of the band, and probably, except Corbara, the most physically powerful.

"It is wonderful!" said a musical voice beside him; "I have seen nothing like it since I beheld the altar piece at Termini."

The speaker was Santoro, who, peering over his shoulder, was regarding his little sketch with a look of intense admiration. "It would be better worth your attention if your friend would stand still," said Walter smiling. "Why does he not join the game, like the others?"

"We are forbidden—he and I—to do so."

"Oh, I see! for fear I should give you the slip."

"Yes, signor; you see (this apologetically) one is obliged to obey orders. Would it be asking too much, when you have done with Colletta, if you would do a picture of me?"

"By all means," answered Walter good naturedly. "Never mind Colletta; if you will stand quiet, or, better still, sit down, I will do it at once."

"I must trouble the signor to sit down also," replied the other hesitatingly. "You see, one is obliged."

His sense of duty, struggling with the desire to conciliate, was most amusing to behold; nor did it escape Walter's quick eye that, in taking up his position, the brigand took care to present his face in profile, so that the scar which disfigured one half of it was scarcely to be discerned.

"This portrait is for your lady love, I presume?" said Walter.

"Yes, signor; for Lavocca," answered the other, in grave low tones, and with an uneasy glance over his shoulder at his companions.

"And who is Lavocca?" asked Walter, not so much from curiosity as to secure a good sitting; he had now guessed the case, son of Santoro's exceptional reserve and si-

lence—for when they were not absolutely menaced with danger the brigands, as a rule, were as noisy as boys just let loose from school; this gentleman was consumed by the tender passion.

"Lavocca is the attendant of Joanna, signor, and her dearest friend."

"And who— Hold your head a little less stiffly, my good fellow." Walter felt a kindness for this poor sufferer, charged with the task of shooting him if he ran a yard, who had tender hopes of his own, with perhaps as slender chances of their fulfilment as himself. "And who is Joanna?"

The question was evidently as extraordinary to Santoro as though some benighted being, on hearing mention of the Pope, had inquired: "And who is the Pope?"

"Joanna—surely the signor must have heard—is the captain's sister; the handsomest woman I ever saw, save one; but"—Here he threw his hands up instead of finishing the sentence.

"Ah, with a devil of a temper, I suppose?" said Walter. "Some handsome women are troubled in that way."

His tone was careless, but in reality he had become greatly interested; for, from what Francisco had told him about this woman, it was probable that Lillian herself might at this moment be in her custody.

"Temper, yes. Why, the captain himself is at times afraid of her. How Lavocca can put up with it astonishes me, but she says her mistress has a good heart; indeed, she is both kind and generous, and there is no doubt that she has been cruelly tried. When one is young, and things go hard with one, that makes the blood run wrong for the rest of one's life, you see."

"It is too likely, Santoro. But would you mind telling me her story?"

"Lavocca's story, signor?" inquired the other with simplicity and a blush upon his dishonest cheek.

"No, no; I wish to hear about Joanna and this captain of yours, of whom everybody knows the history, it seems, but myself."

"Well, the captain—though you would never imagine it from his grand airs—was at one time but a poor farm servant. Much intercourse with gentlemen such as yourself, who have been his guests from time to time, as well as his own high position, have made him what he is; but at nineteen he was just a farmer's boy, such as one may meet any day in the fields down yonder, except that he had a noble soul."

"That is a fine thing to have," observed Walter.

"True, signor; it makes one independent of everything; a man who possesses it is a king, and knows himself equal to kings. Whereupon it came about that Rocco Corrali fell in love with his master's daughter. He was not to blame for that, you will allow; if he had been of the same rank, nobody would have blamed him; but as it was, complexities arose. The brothers of the girl beat him, and left him for dead."

(To be Continued.)

A SERIOUS AND FATAL FIRE.

A few days ago some of our daily papers gave a brief account of "a house badly gutted by fire and one life lost." The writer, anxious to obtain particulars, visited one of the boarders who narrowly escaped death, and from him gleaned the following:

"Fred was one of the boarders, and slept on the same flat with me. He was awakened as soon as I was, but seemed to have lost time in dressing and in trying to save his effects. I urged him strongly to seek refuge and leave all behind, as the fire was fast gaining on us, and the smoke was very dense. My warnings and entreaties were of no avail, and I was obliged to save my own life."

The writer, moralizing seriously, came to the conclusion that this brief story might prove a warning to thousands to-day who are in positions of danger and peril.

That there are thousands in our land to-day who are placed in positions as perilous as was the victim of the fire referred to, cannot be denied. The treacherous and deadly foe of disease has already been kindled in the bodies of many Canadians, in the form of overworked and tired out brain, unstrung nerves, a used up feeling, sleeplessness and headaches. Allow these symptoms to run on unchecked, and the fierce, sharp flames of morbidness, paresis and insanity will soon follow, which will almost surely put an end to life.

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What time is it when the clock strikes 13? Time to have it repaired.

ANOTHER GREAT STRIKE.

SIXTEEN THOUSAND WORKMEN OUT.

Bitter Struggle Between Capital and Labor in Pennsylvania.

PITTSBURG, Pa., February 10.—Despatches from the Connellsville coke region report the strike of coke workers and miners general. All the plants have closed and the only employees still on duty are the pumpers and watchmen. Order prevails and no trouble, for the present at least, is apprehended. Over 16,000 men are idle.

It is expected that the strike will, in many respects, be the hardest fought battle between labor and capital in the history of Western Pennsylvania, where contests involving great interests have for a generation been common. On one side are ranged the coke operators, strong with the profits of a prosperous decade and headed by the representative of Andrew Carnegie. On the other hand seventeen thousand workmen, compactly organized and led by men who have the confidence of the miners of the whole country. The employees demand an increase of wages of twelve and a half per cent., that scales shall be located at every mine, and that one of their representatives be permitted to stand at these scales to see that just weight is recorded for each car. The operators insist that instead of an advance in wages the workmen shall accept a reduction of ten per cent., and they decline to discuss the other propositions. These are the apparent grounds for the contest. Underlying them are issues vastly more important. For the workmen the stake is a measure of industrial independence, which has long been denied to them, and for which they have made a long and temperate struggle. The employers see an opportunity to undo the work of years of agitation, and to restore a condition of things which would double their wealth. The history of the development of the great Connellsville coke region is without a parallel. Fifteen years ago, when the coke trade was comparatively in its infancy, the native or naturalized employees, who had been working for starvation wages, inaugurated a strike. After a long period of idleness, Hungarians were imported to take the places of the strikers. The newcomers were only half civilized, accustomed to live in hovels and in the coarsest form, and the low wages paid to them by the coke operators were fortunes in their eyes. They spread out over the whole region and held possession until 1885, when the rapid increase in the demand for coke made room again for workmen born in the United States, or those who had come to this country with the intention of assuming the duties of citizenship. Among the new comers were not a few shrewd fellows, who were quick to discover causes for complaint and ingenious enough to devise what they considered a fair remedy. They found the wages of miners and all others employed in the production of coke so low that the man who could get employment as a day laborer in any other section was considered lucky. They also found that it was considered fair to compel a man to load 2500 pounds of coal in a car in the pit and credit him with only 2000 pounds; that at every plant the employees were expected to patronize the company stores, where exorbitant prices were charged for inferior goods, and that what was left of the overman's pay, after the store bill was paid was required to defray the expense of keeping his tools in order and to secure the light which enabled him to work underground. The remedy they conceived was organization. It was slow work to bring the Hungarians to an understanding of how they might better their condition, but the organizers were patient, and in January, 1877, the operators were presented with a demand for increased wages. Nothing was said of other grievances, because the leaders who had worked so long did not want to lose everything by asking too much at once. The operators were ignorant, apparently, of the strength of the organization, and refused the demand. Then followed a strike, during which the savage nature of the Hungarians who had been imported to break the first strike asserted itself. After a few days of idleness they threw off all restraint and marched from mine to mine destroying property. At the end of two weeks the demand for increased wages was granted, and a new power was fairly established in the coke region. Nearly all the leaders of the strike of 1877 have disappeared, but the organization of the coke workers has been maintained and strengthened until it is more compact than the union of any other body of coal miners in the country. Each year some new concession has been obtained from the operators, and only once has work been suspended, and that only for a short time. For two years past work has gone on under agreements running for 12 months from February 10. Under these agree-

ments the operators have been saved the annoyance of strikes for trivial causes, all differences arising during the year being settled in conference between committees of the employees and their employers; wages have been based on the selling price of coke and the company store evil has practically been abolished. But one of the most important questions was held in abeyance until this year, viz., whether the employees shall have a guarantee that at each mine they are credited with the true weight of all the coal mined. There is a law on Pennsylvania's statute books providing that check weighmen selected and paid by the miners shall be stationed at each mine, but this has never been enforced in the Connellsville region. This year the workmen felt themselves strong enough to demand the privilege of exercising their rights in this respect. In presenting their demands under the terms of the agreement on the 10th of January they stipulated that wages should be increased twelve and a half per cent.; that scales should be placed on every "tipple," and that their representatives be permitted to check the weights as the law provides. The clause providing for increased wages was presented in order that there might be something to compromise in. What they want, and what they strike for, is a guarantee that the coal they dig will be weighed honestly. The operators at first met the demand of the men with the claim that trade was depressed, that for this reason they could not grant any increase in wages, and that they could not afford to incur the expense of placing scales under each tipple to weigh the coal. In the last days they have taken a stand not only against the introduction of scales, but for a reduction of ten per cent in wages. But this is not a new idea, and that the operatives have for some time been preparing for a strike is evident, because many thousands of tons of coke have been "stocked" at various points during the past sixty days. The general belief is that the battles of 1876 and 1887 are to be fought over again. The first was won by the operators, and they had their own way for eleven years. The second resulted in victory for the miners. The third will determine whether the last and most important of the reforms for which the workmen began to strike in 1885 shall be secured, or whether the conditions that followed the introduction of Hungarian labor into the region shall be restored. The coming of the contest is viewed with great apprehension. It is likely to be long, because the supply of coke is large, and because the operators are willing to suffer heavy loss if they can break up the Miners' Union. The miners are fairly well supplied with money of their own and will draw on the funds of the United Mine Workers of America when necessary. J. B. Rae, the president of the United Mine Workers, will direct the strike. He is conservative and has striven hard to secure an amicable settlement. But he is a hard fighter, and, work once suspended, he will be the last man to advise surrender to the operators. The danger lies in the turbulence of the Hungarians, which caused havoc four years ago, and which is no less pronounced to-day. In view of the general understanding that the workmen are willing to withdraw all their demands except that for weigh scales, their position is popular in this centre of trade unionism. It is not disputed, however, that the operators are more strongly entrenched than ever before. Therefore no careful man pretends to be able to say where the victory will finally rest.

ESTABLISH READING ROOMS.

It is the duty of every trades union to have a reading room in connection with its rooms. The intellectual advancement of men should not be neglected, and perhaps there are none who need this more than trade unionists. They are called upon to deal with questions of no small intricacy, and cool heads and sharp intellects are needed to arrive at a satisfactory understanding. The need then of knowledge is apparent, and in order to be really fair and impartial our knowledge must transcend our environments. The more we know of every subject the better able we will be to handle a particular one. Labor unions are doing much to educate men; their meetings are prolific of suggestions and thoughts, but there arises occasionally little differences caused by personal interests that sometimes cloud the judgment. In a reading room or club conflicting interests will be absent, and its members can issue forth more largely informed and better men. The laboring men are the leaven which will soon move the mass of society; how necessary, therefore, that the leaven should be intelligent, and should be able to move without overthrowing the mass or lump. By all means, boys of every trade, form your literary club and see how you like it in a few months. Linen Goods, in all makes, at very reasonable prices, can always be had at S. Carsley's,

DEATHS FROM MINING EXPLOSIONS IN 1890.

In the course of last year it appears that no fewer than 285 lives were lost by explosions of gas in the coal mines of Great Britain, and nearly all of these took place during the first six months. Of the total deaths stated it appears that 273 took place in the South Wales mining district, and in nearly every instance resulted from the use of naked lights or blasting. The first fatal explosion took place in January at the Glyn Colliery, near Pontypool, when five workmen were killed, owing to a naked light igniting the gas. On February 6, 176 lives were lost at the Llanerch Colliery, near Newport, Monmouthshire, where the operations were carried on with naked lights. The coroner's jury returned a verdict to the effect that the explosion was caused by an outburst of gas, adding, however, that the officials and men had no reason to believe that it was dangerous to work the pit with naked lights. At the Morfa Colliery, near to Aberavon, Glamorganshire, on March 10, there was an explosion, resulting in the loss of 87 lives. The jury came to the conclusion that blasting was the cause of the explosion, but stated "such shot firing has been carried on in accordance with the rules of the Mines Regulation Act." Two lives were lost in the discharging of new explosives, and two men were killed at the Abernaut Colliery, near Aberdare, in May, by a light igniting an explosive mixture. In the second half of the year the deaths from explosions in mines were comparatively trifling. The first took place in September, when one miner was killed at the Butterworth Colliery, near Rochdale, owing to the deceased carrying a naked light. After hearing the evidence the jury returned a verdict of "accidental death," and recommended that safety lamps should be used in the future. In the same month two men were killed at the Hepburn Colliery, near N. Weaste, by the igniting of a quantity of gas, and a lad at the Snab Pit, Bowness, Scotland, was unable to escape with others on the occasion of an explosion, and was only reached three days after. The last explosion of the year took place on December 8 at Abertillery, Monmouthshire, in the sinking of a shaft, when three men were killed, owing to some shots fired by electricity not going off altogether as was expected.

Labor is Capital.

Shakespeare gives an account of what a true laborer is in this way. He says in "As You Like It," and puts it into the mouth of a laborer: "I am a true laborer; I earn that I eat; get that I wear; owe no man hate, envy no man's happiness, glad of other men's good, content with my harm." Well, then, I claim for labor (and the skill which is always acquired by labor) the rights of capital. It is capital in the truest sense. Now, our Saxon ancestors used to call what we call cattle "live money;" and we are told that what we call chattels, and cattle, and the Latin word "capita," are one and the same thing—that is, "heads of cattle," or workers or serfs. This was "live money." And so is the labor, the strength, and the skill in the honest workman "live money." It is capital laid up in him; and that capital is the condition of production. For capital which is in money, which I will call dead capital or dead money, receives its life from the living power and skill of the laborer. These two must be united. The capital of money and the capital of strength and skill must be united together, or we can have no production and no progress. And, therefore, "labor and capital must," as the book I quoted from before puts, "ride on the same horse," and that book says, in a sort of mother-wit way that "when two men ride on a horse, one must ride behind." It says that capital rides before. Well, now, if they cannot ride side-by-side, they ought to walk hand-in-hand. Whatever rights, then, capital possesses, labor possesses.—Cardinal Manning.

PHYSICAL ASPECTS OF AUSTRALIA.

In Australia of the present what attracts the stranger most in the physical aspect of the continent is the weird novelty of the mountain regions. Yet to these regions the stranger gives doubtless too much importance. Outside of the mountains the well settled portions of Australia are simple charming and comparatively unimpressive. There is indeed the vast interior desert region, whose desolation is said to be impressive enough. But the traveller of ordinary inclination sees little of that. What he sees near the coast, in the cultivated parts of Victoria and New South Wales, is a fair and generally fruitful land sleeping under kindly skies, amid conditions of climate which remind him of California. Far off blue hills, seen against the horizon, remind him that there are wilder regions not far away. But all about him vineyards and pastures indicate prosperity; and the optimistic settlers, men plainly not as reckless nor as restless as the California population, but active and hopeful, assure him, with all the well-known loyalty and vehemence of English colonists, that this remote region is the best on earth for comfortable homes.

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MONTREAL, February 14, 1891.

THE CONSPIRACY LAW.

Quite recently, in the British House of Commons, a bill was introduced to amend the Conspiracy Law, which was thrown out on a second reading by the small majority of thirty-six votes, a Government majority which testifies to the influence of the labor question in levelling party ties. From the Conservative side of the House the bill was denounced as being designed to assist Irish tenants in their crusade against the landlords, but that this was a mistaken view was amply testified to by the fact that very few of the Irish members voted on the measure. Had they done so the result would have been different and the Government defeated. What gave rise to the present bill was a recent decision of the Plymouth Recorder in a case brought before him arising out of a strike and which was commented on in THE ECHO at the time. The decision was agreed on all hands to be a violent straining of the law as it at present stands, and under which, as one of the promoters of the bill stated, the action of two brothers who worked in concert and tried to prevent their sister from entering upon a marriage of which they disapproved would be punishable. Until this decision by the Plymouth Recorder was given the people were not aware that "intimidation" could be so construed. It had not occurred to anybody that what one man may do a hundred may not do, or that a body of servants cannot do that which their employer may do with impunity, and it may readily be believed that there are few employers of labor who are not open to the charge of "intimidation" under the present law. It was curious to notice that the principal argument of the opponents of the bill was that the Recorder's decision might be had in law, was open to appeal, and therefore that there was no necessity for amending the act in the meantime. It was solely on this ground that the bill was outvoted. One feature of the debate was the extraordinary doctrine advanced by the Solicitor-General that it was a good thing to keep the law of conspiracy vague to prevent people from injuring themselves. It is clear that if the decision is to be upheld the House of Commons stands committed to a reformation of the conspiracy laws.

GOING WITH THE STREAM.

During the past decade the progress of the labor movement throughout the world has indeed been remarkable, and an impartial review of the events which have taken place in Great Britain, on the Continent, and in America must convince any one that the day of its ultimate triumph cannot be far distant, and that the time will soon arrive when labor will be given its proper place in the social and political life of the world. And this

result has been brought about, not by the efforts of any one individual, but by the intelligently directed and combined efforts of the working classes themselves. It is quite true that individuals have directed the thoughts of the multitude in the direction which it is desirable to travel, but the present result has been achieved by the resistless pressure onward of the organized workers. Not so very long ago the labor question was tabooed by the press, and members of trade-unions were looked upon with abhorrence by the monied class, thundered against by preachers of all denominations, while the mere mention of trades unionism to some people was like shaking a red flag at a bull. Unionists were classed with Anarchists and Socialists, their every act was looked upon with suspicion, and if perforce they had to be endured, under no circumstances were they to be encouraged. To-day the press—we mean the capitalistic portion—is forced to recognize the power behind organized labor, and every recurring election testifies to this in the servility with which they approach the workmen for their votes. The pulpits of our churches, too, are swarming with men who dare to proclaim themselves in sympathy with trades unionism, and many there are who feel they cannot proclaim the true religion of Christ without at the same time preaching the doctrines held by trades unionists and Socialists. Everywhere, in every country, changes are taking place that raises the workman on a higher plane and nearer to the status he should occupy. Trades unions and labor organizations are now regarded as necessary adjuncts of our modern civilization and are so treated, and the employer who refuse to treat with them betrays an ignorance of the existing condition of things which can only react upon himself.

PROFIT SHARING.

Many business firms throughout the States are now adopting the system of profit sharing with their employees, and from the success which has attended its introduction, it appears to be steadily growing in favor with large business concerns. Although not possessing such inviting possibilities to the employees as the system of co-operation, its results have been uniformly more satisfactory. The failure of many co-operative concerns is attributable to the lack of natural aptitude and careful business training on the part of the shareholders, which placed them at a disadvantage in competing with old-established firms. This, combined with looseness in management, which brought on internal squabbles, has been the means of driving to the wall many co-operative concerns started under most favorable circumstances. The advantages to the employers of organizing their business on a profit-sharing basis are so palpable that they scarcely require to be pointed out. The workman's interest becomes identical with the enterprise in which he is engaged and puts a premium on intelligent and earnest effort to produce, with the least possible expense and with the greatest amount of care, the best possible results in the quantity produced. Not the least advantage of the scheme is the good feeling generated between employer and employee. The Nelson Manufacturing Company, of St. Louis, some five years ago, adopted the profit-sharing system with its employees and its success has been phenomenal. Since the system was inaugurated there has not been a single case of disagreement between master and man. Besides this, what was formerly a wheatfield and orchard, has been converted into a thriving village, each of the employees being the owner of his own home by simply devoting a percentage of his earnings to a common purchase fund. At a social gathering of the co-partners, the president of the company in the course of his speech, said: "Nine

hours constitutes a day's work in this house, with full pay. Believing that ten hours is too long a day's work, we shortened the time, first to fifty-seven hours a week, and later to fifty-four hours. During the past busy season—for about four months—the hours were, by unanimous consent, made sixty a week. When orders were pressing it seemed sound policy to try to meet them. The dividend of the past year, as verified by your representative, is ten per cent., for which stock certificates will be handed you in due time."

Several other instances might be given where the experiment has been tried and resulted successfully, but the above is a very fair illustration of the many. With a wider application of the scheme there would be fewer strikes and lock-outs and less cause for discontent.

NOTES OF THE WEFK.

In the Toronto City Council, Ald. Boustead has given notice of the following motion:—"That the following question be submitted to a vote of the duly qualified ratepayers at the earliest possible date: 'Are you in favor of the city operating the street railway as a civic undertaking by a commission or otherwise?' and that the said question be published and voted upon in the same manner as near as may be as money by-laws are." Here is a wrinkle for some of our aldermen. Why not take a plebiscite of the ratepayers of this city on the question of the Corporation acquiring and running the Street Railway. Under Corporation control the service could not be any worse than it is, and the citizens would have the remedy in their own hands.

The Hon. Peter Mitchell has gone down to Northumberland to try and persuade the electors to again return him as their representative. From all accounts he will have a hard row to hoe, as some of his principal supporters are said to have turned dead against him. This is hardly to be wondered at, as the hon. gentleman's political career has been such a chequered one, and the people are sick of politicians of his stamp. Of course, when he goes upon the stump he will be careful to keep in the background his treatment of the workmen in his own employment, but in the face of facts to be presented to the electors of the Maritime County, he will find it a difficult matter to explain his private practice with his public professions of interest in the welfare of the working classes.

When Ald. P. Kennedy rose in his place in the City Council and stated there was no destitution in Montreal at the present time he spoke without a full knowledge of the facts or is willfully shutting his eyes to what can plainly be seen around him. But we are afraid the motive underlying Mr. Kennedy's assertion is his jealousy of the Mayor's popularity and a desire to thwart any measures he may take to fulfil his pledge to the workmen that work would be provided for all those in distress. Following up his pledges, the mayor brought the question of work for the unemployed before the Road Committee, and succeeded in getting them to apply for an appropriation of \$15,000, and it was hardly the thing for Alderman Kennedy to oppose by imputation such a reasonable request. If the alderman desires to find out just how many are "out of work" let him advertise a vacant situation, however menial, in the daily papers and he will be overwhelmed with applicants, the number of which will surprise him.

The sister city of Quebec has been again visited by another awful calamity which will enlist the sympathy of the whole of the Dominion in her behalf, and which should take practical steps in prompt assistance to the sufferers of

those who have been bereft of husband and father. By the explosion of a boiler in the Quebec Worsted Company's factory at Hare Point a large number of persons have been killed outright, or so horribly mangled and injured, as to render them helpless for some time to come. Twenty deaths have so far been the result, but the roll is not yet complete, as several missing persons are believed to be amongst the debris of the ruined factory.

Detected by the official analyst in the practice of selling a substance known as "chewing gum" adulterated with fifty per cent. of paraffine wax, an English shopkeeper set up a curious defence. The summons against him was taken out by the inspector under the Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, but the vendor of the falsified chewing gum contended that this is neither a drug nor an article of food. In evidence of the latter fact he pointed to the wrappers it was sold in, which bore the words, "This is not to be eaten. Wild Rose. For chewing only." Chewing no doubt is part of the process of eating: but can a man be said to eat something which he does not swallow? This is the point that has "given pause" to the magistrates, who determined to take a week to consider the case.

A member of the Whiskey Trust named Gibson has been arrested in Chicago on a charge of inciting to blow up Shuffeldt's distillery with dynamite. The distillery in question has been fighting the Trust for years and an attempt was made some time ago to destroy it. Gibson tried to work a gauger named Demar to carry out the plot, but the latter, while apparently undertaking the business, gave the whole thing away to his superiors, and when the plot was ripe for execution had Gibson arrested. He declined to make any statement, and was afterwards released on \$10,000 bail. Had Demar fallen in with the plot it is probable that something like 150 lives would have been sacrificed.

The monarchs of the principal European governments, including Germany and Austria, will meet to devise ways and means to prevent the spread of socialism. It looks very much as if the effete old institutions of Europe were rapidly drifting toward the social revolution.

The German Socialists have introduced a bill in their Reichstag, providing that the Government shall undertake the exclusive manufacture of drugs and medicines and sell them at cost. They hold that the health of the people is an affair of state.

It is a pitiful spectacle for the friends of Ireland to behold the two great leaders of the Irish party slinging mud in such quantities at each other. Nothing can be gained by this, and it were far better for them to unite and turn their guns on the common enemy.

Subscribers, who have not already done so, will oblige by remitting at their earliest convenience.

MONTREAL

Typographical Union.

THE ADJOURNED MEETING

OF THIS UNION

WILL BE HELD

T-O-N-I-G-H-T

(SATURDAY, 12th INST.)

to take into consideration the answer from the Reform Association re the Herald

T. F. O'CALLAGHAN,

Secretary.

JOHN MURPHY & CO.'S
ADVERTISEMENT.

"Clearing Sale Continued."

BOYS' DEPARTMENT.

During the last two weeks we have been kept busy in this department.
"Our Pocket Knives in Great Demand."

"GIVEN AWAY."

While our clearing sale lasts we give a Pocket Knife with every suit or overcoat over \$3, and apart from giving the pocket knife free, our prices are acknowledged by all to be the lowest.

Boys! See and get your mothers to buy your suits and overcoats at

JOHN MURPHY & CO.'S.

Remember, a Pocket Knife given away with every suit and overcoat over \$3.00.

The Knives we are given away this week are made by the celebrated maker, Jonathan Crooks, Sheffield, England, and as nothing is so popular with the boys as a good pocket knife, we are sure to please them.

Large lines of Boys' Suits and Overcoats, at sweeping reductions

Boys' sailor suits, at 70c.
Boys' tweed suits, at \$1.20.
Boys' overcoats, at \$1.00.
Boys' reefers, at \$1.40.
Boys' navy serge kilt suits, \$1.00 \$1.10, \$1.20, \$1.35, \$1.50, \$1.65, etc.

Hundreds of Boys' Suits in all the latest styles and all cheap, at

JOHN MURPHY & CO.'S.

LADIES' JERSEYS.

We are headquarters for Ladies' Jerseys, and as our stock is heavier than usual, we have made large reductions, and at the reduced prices we are pleased to say that the demand is large.

Ladies' Jerseys, only 88c, worth \$1.75.
Ladies' Jerseys, only \$1.00, worth \$2.00.
Ladies' Jerseys, only \$1.25, worth \$2.50.
Ladies' Jerseys, only \$1.50, worth \$3.00.
Ladies' Jerseys, only \$1.75, worth \$3.50.
Ladies' Jerseys, only \$2.50, worth \$4.00.
Ladies' Jerseys, only \$3.50, worth \$5.50.
And hundreds of others at greatly reduced prices.

JOHN MURPHY & CO.,
1781, 1783

Notre Dame street, cor. St. Peter.

Terms Cash and Only One Price.

MR. BLAINE
AND
ANNEXATION.

When the autocrat of the United States Republican party "looked over" Canada a few years ago, he was much struck with the spotless purity and freshness of the linen worn by the gentlemen of this country. The

TROY
STEAM
LAUNDRY

is well known to turn out the very best work that can be done. No pains are spared to develop to the utmost the skill and experience at the disposal of the management.

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Telephones—Bell 666; Federal 542.

Central China Hall.

Will Remove to Store
formerly occupied by
Rae & Donnelly, oppo-
site present premises.

2046 Notre Dame St.

GEO. EADIE,

(SUCCESSOR TO L. DENEAU.)

CAMPAIGN JOTTINGS.

CLEANINGS FROM THE POLITICAL WORLD.

Believing the time favorable, Montreal Typographical Union decided at its regular meeting, held on Saturday evening last, to send a deputation to the meeting of the Reform Association in session at the Windsor and endeavor to obtain their assistance in reclaiming the Herald from the position of a "rat" office to one employing union labor. The deputation were well received and a respectfully worded communication from them was read to the meeting. A short discussion followed the reading of the document, and finally a motion that the president and committee interview Hon. Mr. Mitchell, president of the Herald Company, in relation to the matter was carried, an answer to be forwarded the deputation immediately after the interview had taken place. The answer has come to hand and a special meeting of the union to consider it will be held to-night.

A special meeting of the Trades and Labor Council, called for the purpose of considering the political situation, was held in their hall last Sunday afternoon. There were a large number of delegates present and President Boudreau occupied the chair. After a very warm discussion the council decided to endorse the candidature of Mr. Lepine in the eastern division by a vote of 39 to 32. Consideration of the claims of candidates in other divisions of the city was left over until the answer of the Reform Association to a deputation from Typographical Union No. 176 had been received.

An adjourned meeting was held on Tuesday night, when the question of candidates for the Centre and Western divisions of the city was taken up. A long discussion followed a motion to endorse Mr. Wm. Darlington as a labor candidate in opposition to Sir Donald Smith. The motion was afterwards met by an amendment to endorse Mr. Ed. Earl, marble cutter. On the two candidates names being put to the meeting the result was that Mr. Earl received a majority of votes cast, but as so many blank ballots were deposited the president ruled that another ballot was necessary. Before this could be taken a motion to adjourn was made and carried. There will be another meeting on Thursday evening next, when it is expected that some action will be taken. Mr. Edmund Guerin, a rising young lawyer, has received the unanimous nomination of the Liberal party against Mr. Curran in the Centre division. A meeting of Mr. Guerin's friends was held in the office of Mr. J. N. Green-shields on Wednesday night, at which Mr. Hutchinson presided. Mr. Guerin delivered a telling address and met with an enthusiastic reception. Requisition papers on his behalf are being largely signed and the work of organization is rapidly going on.

The friends of Mr. Curran are actively pushing matters on his behalf and the requisition will be presented to him to-day. It is claimed that the papers have been signed by a large majority of the manufacturers and merchants of the division.

A requisition, containing over 1,300 signatures, was presented to Sir Donald Smith in the Temple building on Thursday afternoon. The names of most of the prominent manufacturers appear.

Sir Joseph Hickson has been prominently mentioned as a probable candidate to represent the Western division against Sir Donald Smith, and in the event of his declining it is believed the choice of the Liberal party will fall upon Mr. James S. Evans or Mr. William Darlington, the latter of whom, it is believed, would carry almost the entire workingman vote.

Both parties are said to have barrels of money to carry on the campaign, and it is felt that as election day draws near the fight will be a bitter one. There are no end of stories going around, one to the effect that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company had subscribed \$50,000 to the Conservative election fund, while National Policy manufacturers are said to be subscribing all the way from \$1,000 to \$25,000.

The headquarters of Hon. Mr. Chapleau, who has charge of Montreal district in the Conservative interest, are at the Chateau de Ramezay.

Hon. Mr. Mercier had a consultation with Mayor McShane at the City Hall on Thursday on the subject matter, it is believed, of the elections.

The campaign has been inaugurated in Jacques Cartier. The Liberal candidate has invited Mr. Girouard to a public meeting at Lachine this evening.

The city is being flooded with campaign literature, the Liberals being the more active in this respect, large quantities arriving here from the Liberal headquarters in Toronto.

Hon. Mr. Laurier has been enthusiastically received in Quebec and Three Rivers.

Two thousand unemployed workmen marched through the streets of Toronto under a black flag inscribed with the motto "Work

or Bread." The Empire denounces the demonstration as a Grit fake, organized by Grit heelers, and that the honest workmen who took part in it were imposed upon.

The Toronto World is assured that Hon. Edward Blake will not run in this election.

Mr. H. J. Cloran is stumping the County of Prescott, where he is said to be warmly received, although at a convention of the Liberal party held previously he failed to secure the nomination.

MONTREAL NEWS.

In the beginning of the year a new manager was appointed in the establishment of Messrs. R. Mitchell & Co., Montreal Brass Works, and as a consequence several "reforms" have been introduced. Amongst these is the employment of female labor in some of the departments, and as several men have been laid off, those remaining are considerably excited over the matter. Our informant says that one of the hands discharged was an old man who had been in the employ of the firm for about thirty-five years. He also stated that the men were to hold a meeting to discuss the position of affairs, as it was generally believed throughout the shop that a general cutting down was sooner or later to take place. The work, more particularly in the buffing shop, he maintained, was not suitable for women to be engaged in, being alike uncleanly and unhealthy, and several of the girls, after a week's experience in this department, had left disgusted.

A man named Joseph Fournier, of Point St. Charles, kissed his housekeeper, a married woman, during her husband's absence, and had to pay a fine of \$20, the Recorder assessing the market value of each kiss at \$5, and Fournier had stolen four of them.

The Corporation intends to appeal from the judgment in the Lepine water tax case, the reason given being that it might serve as a precedent in other suits that might hereafter be brought against the city.

Mr. Swenson, the well-known jeweller of Craig street, is reported to have disappeared mysteriously, and fears for his safety are entertained, as he was in the habit of carrying a large amount of money and jewellery upon his person. When his store was entered, everything was intact. The stock is a valuable one.

ECHOES FROM THE POINT.

What's the matter with the Point this year? The Argyles are making things hum, ain't they? Four prizes out of a possible five in a field of fifteen starters, representing all the city clubs!

Mason, Steel, Kell, with one between the latter and Gentleman, was the order in which the Argyle boys filed into the Club House gate last Saturday, victors in the great steeplechase.

Bobbie Steel is the coming man on the snowshoe track. He is yet in his teens and has the speed.

The G. T. Reading Room was crowded to the doors on Monday evening, the occasion being a concert given by the choir and young people of Grace Church, assisted by Captain Lydon's Highland Cadets, in aid of the building fund for their new church. The programme consisted of several tableaux by the cadets and others, also songs by several of our leading lady and gentlemen soloists.

Workingmen, the Dominion elections are around again. Don't be influenced by your employers to vote for the man who will look after his interests and leave yours slide; but study for yourselves who will be most favorable to the toiler.

The Grand Trunk Dramatic Club are to produce "Monte Cristo" shortly.

The Argyle Club's last ladies' night for the season was held Friday evening, and was a grand success. The annual dinner takes place shortly.

The G. T. R. shops are having a busy season at present. Nearly all hands are working till ten o'clock three nights a week.

The subway is greatly improved by the addition of an incandescent light. Thanks to Ald. Malone.

There is a rumor going around among the men that there is to be several changes in the management of the G. T. R. shops shortly.

When is work to be resumed on the Tail Race bridge? Summer will be here, and no suitable bridge.

Come now, representatives, agitate for a public park for the Point at the other side of the crossing while the Council have the money to be derived from the loan on hand.

The strike of the shoemakers of the P. Cox Shoe Co., of Rochester, N. Y., which has been in progress since May 1, 1890, is at last settled. The men have won a signal victory; all the strikers are to be reinstated, and no strike or lockout to be called before January 1, 1892. The men are to exercise their right to join trade unions and all disputes are to be settled by arbitration.

ANOTHER QUEBEC HORROR.

A Boiler Explosion Kills and Mangles Many People.

QUEBEC, February 12.—Early this forenoon the city was shocked by a report that the Quebec Worst Company's factory at Hare Point had been blown up by a boiler explosion and that a great number of the hands had been killed or badly injured. The report proved unfortunately only too true, for, although not quite so bad as at first reported, it was terrible enough and many families have been deprived of their breadwinners through death or injuries that have reduced strong men to helpless cripples. The factory, which is owned by the Sherbrooke company, is a three storey brick building, 450 feet long by 60 feet broad, and employed 210 hands. It was shut down last Saturday week for repairs to the engine and boiler, which had not been running satisfactorily. The company were about to put in 150 looms. Up to the present they have only been working in yarns for Paton & Co., of Sherbrooke, and for knitters. The repairs to the 800 horse power double engine were entrusted to Carrier, Laine & Co., of Levis, and a local company had the contract for repairing the boiler.

Carrier, Laine & Co.'s men brought over the pieces of the engine last night, and it was hoped that the engine would be in running order this morning. In this expectation the employees were notified to be on hand and ready to start work at 7 a. m. Joseph Samson, Government inspector of engines; Arthur Twiddle, of Levis, and John Lee, of Montreal, engineers, were present to inspect the work. Some delay took place, and it was after 9 o'clock before the engine was ready for work, and in the meantime the employees had been sent home for the day. Instead of going away, however, some seventy of them remained in the building and twenty or thirty of them, mostly girls, gathered around the engine room looking in through the windows to see what was going on. Daniel Sharp, the foreman, went out and told them to go away or something might happen, and the greater number followed his advice. The engine was started about this moment and the next instant the boiler blew up, killing nearly all the men around and carrying away about 200 feet of the eastern end of the building, a large portion of the roof being carried nearly as far as the road.

The shock was so great that the earth shook as if from an earthquake. The clerks in the office, which is situated in a detached building at the west end of the factory, rushed out just in time to see the eastern portion literally blown to fragments. Fortunately, the western portion, though oscillating in a dangerous manner, stood firm, and the employes in that part of the building succeeded in getting out unhurt, though half dead with fright. To add to the horror of the situation, the debris caught fire, and when the clerks attempted to telephone for the fire brigade they discovered that the wires had been torn away and broken. The alarm reached the city in some way, and a section of the fire brigade was shortly on the spot and extinguished the fire. Chief of Police Vohl, who had arrived with the firemen, sent out a general alarm in order to secure the assistance of the whole brigade and police force, and also telephoned the Mayor asking him to call out the military. In a very few minutes there was a large force of men on the ground, including many residents of the vicinity, working hard with pick and shovel, endeavoring to rescue the unfortunate people who were buried below the debris.

Within an hour twenty persons were taken out, but it was next to impossible with most of them to discover whether they were dead or alive. Faces were scorched and blackened, limbs broken and flesh torn and mangled in such a way that it seemed impossible that the slightest spark of life could still remain.

The following are the names of the dead who have been identified:—

- John Lamontagne,
- Arthur Twiddle,
- Wm. Francour,
- Joseph Michaud, all of Levis.
- Pierre Giroux,
- Pierre Clement,
- Amanda Mercier,
- William Forest,
- Amanda Hamel,
- Henri Laliberte,
- Joseph Dufresne,
- Gustave Blouin,
- Arthur Roussin,
- Alfred Hanley, all of Quebec.
- Wm. Adams, Hedleyville,
- John Lee, Montreal.
- Charles Villeneuve.

William Adams was only six months married, and his wife is in a critical condition. It was deemed best to hold back the news of his death.

Alfred Auger had a very narrow escape. He was lying asleep on a bench, and near him were seated Pauline Hanley and Thomas Enright. He was awakened by the shock, and a shower of bricks fell around him, one of them cutting his under lip badly and bruising his face. The girl was uninjured, but Enright was buried in the ruins, and when the other two dug him out they found his head and body badly lacerated.

CARSLEY'S COLUMN.

LACE DEPARTMENT.

NEW CHIFFON NET
NEW CHIFFON NET

Just arrived, large stock New Fancy Chiffon Dress Net, \$1.15 a yard.

NEW CHIFFON TRIMMING
NEW CHIFFON TRIMMING

Large stock New Chiffon Trimming, Plain and Embroidered, from 17c yard.

S. CARSLEY,
Notre Dame street.

NEW CHIFFON FRILLING
NEW CHIFFON FRILLING

Large stock Chiffon Frilling, with Velvet spot, suitable for either Neckwear or Dress Trimming, \$1.15 per yard.

FISH NET
FISH NET

Beautiful stock Fish Net in all the latest shades for evening wear, from 21c yard.

S. CARSLEY'S,
Notre Dame street.

\$1.50 Only \$1.50

\$1.50 Only \$1.50

Splendid line Men's Gloria Silk Umbrellas, with oxidized silver handles, \$1.50 each.

\$2.00 Only \$2.00

\$2.00 Only \$2.00

Special line Ladies' Silk Umbrellas, with oxidized silver handles, \$2 each.

S. CARSLEY,
Notre Dame street.

LINENS! LINENS!

Linen Huck Towels, extra large, 14c.
White Bath Towels, extra large, 23c.
White Bath Sheets, extra large, \$1.40.
White Bath Sheets, extra large, \$1.70.

S. CARSLEY.

ROLLER TOWELLING!

Dundee Crash, 6c
Aberdeen Crash, 7 1/2c.
Imperial Crash, 9 1/2c.
Barnsley Crash, 12c.

Linen for Butchers' Aprons.

Butchers' Linen, 36 in., 25c.
Butchers' Linen, 36 in., 28c.
Butchers' Linen, 44 in., 29c.
Butchers' Linen, 54 in., 38c.

Navy Blue Butchers' Linen, Twilled Satin Finish, 36 in. wide for Butchers' Smocks, 80c per yard.

S. CARSLEY.

Damask Tablecloths in Dark Fancy Colors, 45c a yard.

Pink and Blue Checked Linen Doilies, 14 inches square, only 38c per doz.

Sideboard Covers in Fancy Stripes, 1 1/2 yds. long, 75c; 2 yards long, 85c.

S. CARSLEY.

All Linen Damask Napkins, only 5 1/2c per dozen.

Just to hand, a further consignment of Fancy Flannelettes, latest designs, to be offered at 6 1/2c yard.

Still remaining, a few pieces of the White Cottons we have been selling at \$2.50 a piece.

S. CARSLEY.

CLAPPERTON'S SPOOL COTTON.

Always use Clapperton's Thread.

Then you are sure of the best Thread in the market.

Clapperton's Spool Cotton never breaks, never knots, never ravel, and every spool is warranted 300 yards. Always ask for

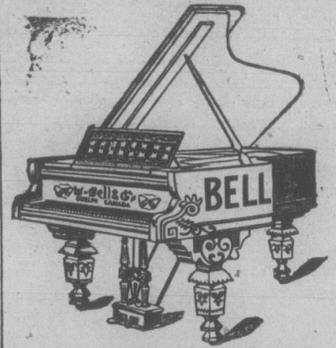
Clapperton's Spool Cotton.

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NOTRE DAME STREET, MONTREAL.

CARSLEY'S COLUMN.



THE BELL PIANOS AND ORGANS are the first great success in the manufacture of Musical Instruments in Canada. The best and wisest of Canada's loyal sons and daughters now exchange their American Pianos for BELL PIANOS, as was long their wont in Organs. Sole Agents for Central Canada: **WILLIS & CO.**

1824 Notre Dame St.
(Near McGill street, Montreal.)

FELT & CLOTH BOOTS

Shoes & Slippers,
Moose Moccasins,
German Felt Shoes.

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NEXT THE FIRE STATION.

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It will pay you to advertise in THE ECHO. It circulates extensively in the homes of the most intelligent workingmen in the City of Montreal and other Towns and Cities throughout the Dominion.

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JOS. PAQUETTE, - - - SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Meets in the Ville-Marie Hall, 1623 Notre Dame street, the first and third Thursdays of the month. Communications to be addressed to GEO. S. WARREN, Corresponding Secretary, P. O. Box 414

RIVER FRONT ASSEMBLY,
No. 7028.
Rooms Weber Hall, St. James street. Next meeting Sunday, Feb. 15, at 7.30. Address all correspondence to J. WARREN, Rec. Sec., P. O. Box 1458.

DOMINION ASSEMBLY,
No. 2436 K. of L.
Meets every FRIDAY evening at Eight o'clock in Weber Hall, St. James street. Address all communications to JOHN WILKINS, R.S., No. 232 St. Antoine street.

PROGRESS ASSEMBLY,
No. 2852 K. of L.
Meets every First and Third Tuesday at Lomas' Hall, Point St. Charles.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

European.

A St. Petersburg correspondent declares that the only result of the memorial to the Czar, adopted at a meeting held in the Guildhall, London, to protest against the treatment of the Jews in Russia is redoubled persecution of the Jews. The memorial sent to the Czar on January 22 regarding the treatment of the Jews was returned to Lord Salisbury, through the ambassador, without comment.

William O'Brien has issued a long statement on the Irish situation. He says: "In an otherwise difficult position the delegates to America had the advantage that they were free from the heat of partisanship and could offer themselves as mediators. The experience of the past five weeks, gathered from personal interviews, letters and newspapers of all sides, completely confirms the conviction that only a hearty reunion can save the Irish cause. It is my duty to solemnly declare that no difficulty has existed which a little more sacrifice of personal feelings on both sides might not have surmounted." Both Mr. Dillon and Mr. O'Brien have withdrawn from further negotiations with Parnell. In an interview Mr. Parnell declared he would not recede from his position, which he said was consistent. He would not submit, he said, to dictation of Mr. Gladstone and the priests. He believed the general elections would not be held for two years yet.

A sensation has been caused in financial circles in Paris by the disappearance of a well-known banker who is known to have left debts to the amount of twenty million francs. The banker is Victor Mace, who had a private bank in the Rue Cadet. Mace opened the bank five years ago and began business by offering to pay high interest for deposits, this interest in many cases averaging 10 per cent. monthly, or 120 per cent. a year. He sent out piles of circulars all over the country and fitted up his offices in elegant style. Mace was a gentleman of the most pleasant address. His plausible offers, punctuality in fulfilling business engagements and the promptness with which he paid the high interest promised, gradually drew the bank a numerous clientele. It is estimated he had names of 20,000 depositors on his books. The real name of the swindler is said to be Berneau. Among his clientele were about 6,000 priests, and the Pope recently sent to him the Papal benediction and a photograph of His Holiness bearing his autograph.

American.

Fighter Fitzsimmons will be an actor, too. He has signed a contract to travel with a play called "The Australian," but this did not suit him, as he "wanted a drama written expressly for himself, in which he would have a chance to make a horseshoe on the stage." His new manager will have a drama written for Fitzsimmons with a blacksmith shop built into it.

A collision occurred on Wednesday at Ingleside, on the Wabash road, between an extra and a freight train. Both engines and tenders of the freight train were wrecked. Brakeman Bush and Keefe, of the Northwestern train, were killed. Conductor Broderick and Fireman Conley, of the Wabash, were seriously injured. Two tramps were hurt.

The First National and the North Middlesex savings banks of Ayer, Mass., have closed their doors, and ugly rumors are afloat concerning them. H. E. Spaulding, cashier of both institutions, has been missing from town since Monday evening. Where he has gone no one knows. The exact financial condition is not known.

Joseph Kristoff, chief revenue collector of Lossenau, in the province of Regisung, Austro-Hungary, was arrested on his arrival at New York for embezzling funds from his office for a period covering six years. The prisoner admitted his guilt. The amount of his embezzlement, he said, was several thousand dollars. Kristoff had an examination before United States Commissioner Shield and waived a further hearing. He expressed his willingness to return to his native land.

An unusual surgical operation has been performed at the Cincinnati hospital, the object of which is to reclaim a child from idiocy. The patient was four years old. She cannot talk and has all the appearance of confirmed idiocy. A sister 16 years old is an idiot. It was found that the skull was abnormally compressed and prematurely ossified. The physicians decided to remove a portion of the skull so as to allow the brain to develop. The operation was successfully performed, a strip half an inch wide and five inches long being removed, and the scalp neatly joined over the space. The child rallied and appears to be doing well.

Stanhope Turnbull (white) is a member of a reputable family, with influential connections in Louisiana and Mississippi. Two weeks ago Turnbull married in New Orleans a mulatto woman named Charity Hampton. There is no law against this in

Louisiana, but there is in Mississippi; so when Turnbull took his bride to his home in Woodville he was arrested for violation of the laws, but was discharged on a technicality. He had hardly left the court house before he was seized by a mob, stripped off his clothes, soaked in tar and rolled in a bag of feathers. He was then placed on a rail and ridden through the town, couriers preceding the mob warning ladies to keep indoors. Turnbull was then taken to the State line and charged never to return to Woodville or he would be killed. He promised to heed the warning. The woman was not molested.

A Washington despatch says:—An important feature of the programme for the future treatment of the Indian question is the scheme now being prepared by the War department for the enlistment of a number of young bucks for service in the ranks of the army. It is proposed to enlist 2,900, including 600 or 700 scouts. A separate regiment, composed entirely of Indians, will not be organized, as at first proposed by some of the army officers, for the reason that it is not regarded perfectly safe to bring such a large number of uncivilized and treacherous people together. Separate companies, however, will be organized and attached to each of the infantry and cavalry regiments serving in the West. These companies will be officered by officers specially selected for their knowledge of Indians and their habits. The plan is strongly recommended by Gen. Miles, who believes that future peace among the Indians can best be secured by this method of employing the young bucks, who would otherwise make it incumbent upon the army to exercise the keenest vigilance to keep them out of mischief.

A rumor gained credence here to-day that an attempt had been made to dynamite a distillery which had refused to join the whiskey trust, and later in the day certain arrests verified it. The distillery which was to have been blown up is "Shuffeldts," a large concern which has been fighting the whiskey trust. An attempt was made to destroy this distillery with dynamite two or three years ago. Gibson, a member of the trust, by degrees led Gauger T. S. Demar up to the proposition to destroy the place. He told Demar that as he had access to the establishment he could easily place a dynamite machine under the big tanks, fire the fuse and escape. Gibson paid many visits to Chicago and at last details of the plot were perfected. The machine was prepared and secreted in the city, and Gibson came to arrange the final details. The machine, the materials to make it effective, letters and a contract between Gibson and Demar were in a satchel which Gibson carried at the time of his arrest. Gibson was released on \$10,000 bail. He declined to make any statement. There is no evidence that any other member of the trust was concerned in the plot.

Canadian.

No less than sixteen marriages were celebrated in St. Sauveur, Quebec, one morning this week.

The Quebec corporation will exempt from taxation for ten years any company which may be formed to ship cattle from this port. Mr. Botterell, one of the largest boot and shoe manufacturers of Quebec, has notified all his hands of his intention to retire from business.

The Masons of Manitoba will convene on the 20th inst. to arrange for the construction of a grand Masonic temple at Winnipeg.

W. G. Thompson, engineer of the Sault Ste. Marie canal, says the work is progressing rapidly, there being over 125 men engaged all winter.

Charles Lanctot, secretary of the Montreal Bar, and member of the law firm of Marceau & Lanctot, Quebec, has been appointed law clerk of the Legislative Assembly with a salary of \$2,000, vice Pariseau, who retires on an allowance.

It is understood that McLaren & Co., of Ottawa, will purchase the Gilmour property on the Hull side of the river directly opposite the site of the buildings destroyed and erect a new mill thereon. The Hull shore is easily accessible for the handling of logs, and presents, besides, greater facilities for piling grounds, while it is also claimed that a mill could be erected there in half the time it would take to rebuild the one destroyed Sunday.

Last Saturday Intercolonial Railway Police Inspector Skeffington received a despatch from John A. Grose, of the Canadian Secret Service, Montreal, to keep his eye open for Herbert Taylor, express agent at Connors, Kansas, as he was a defaulter for \$2,000. Taylor was shadowed and arrested at Hillsboro, Albert county, where he belongs. Little money was found on him. He denies the charge. The arrest was made at the instance of the Montreal Guarantee Company.

After Many Years.

Mrs. O'Naherty—Your sister has another child, Pat.

Mr. O'Flaherty—Is it a boy or a girl?

A girl.

Huroo! I'm an aunt at last.—Life.

LABOR AND WAGES.

Cleanings From the Industrial Field of the World.

The strike of the telegraphers and conductors on the Chicago and Erie Railroad ended last week in a defeat for the men.

After some months of short hours the Pennsylvania Railroad shops in Altoona, Pennsylvania, are again being run on full time. Two thousand men are benefited.

The strike at the Wamsutta mills, in New Bedford, Massachusetts, has been settled, the mill manager agreeing to take the men back on the old schedule of working hours.

The rail department of the Joliet rolling mills at Joliet, Illinois, started up last Monday, the men agreeing to go to work on last year's basis till the new scale can be agreed upon.

The total output of the coal mines of the State of Washington for 1889 was 907,437. For 1890 it was 1,860,587. No better indication of the wonderful development of the State named could be given.

The granite cutters of Reading, Pa., has presented a new scale to their employers, calling for \$2.75 per day of nine hours. The employers show no indication of granting the demands and a big strike may result.

Returns of the Maine assessors to the Valuation Commission show that during the decade from 1880 to 1890 the number of spindles in cotton mills in that State has been increased from 640,566 to 860,800, or a gain of 219,234 spindles.

A correspondent, writing to the Irish World from Dravesburg, Pennsylvania, says that the miners' strike for the one half cent advance per bushel is still on in that vicinity. There is no sign of an agreement, and many miners are leaving.

The Merriam and Monitor collieries, at Ashland, Pennsylvania, after three weeks' suspension, resumed work last week, giving employment to 700 men and boys. The North Ashland and other collieries are expected to start in a few days.

The Operative Plasterers' Mutual Protective Union of Philadelphia, at a crowded meeting last week, followed the lead of the Bricklayers' Union a few days ago, and passed a resolution that, on and after June 1, a working day shall comprise but eight hours with the rate of wages unchanged.

The Granite Cutters' Union of Reading, Pennsylvania, has made a demand on the employers to adopt a new scale of wages, to take effect on April 1, that nine hours be agreed upon as the length of time for the men to work in summer, and that they be paid according to the number of feet of granite cut.

The strike of the employees of the United Shirt and Collar Company of Troy, N. Y., was ended last week by an agreement. A uniform schedule of prices is to be established for all the factories in Troy, Albany and Glenn Falls. Both sides made concessions. The girls will return to work at once.

On the 16th of February next a conference of marble cutters will be held in New York, and an effort to secure uniformity of wages will be made. New York City is now 50 cents ahead of all other cities in wages paid for marble cutting. The average wages paid wherever a union is in existence is \$3 per day.

There is a serious strike at the Albert docks, London. Open acts of violence are only prevented by the presence of a large force of police. Work on the cargoes of the steamships Sorrento and Lydian Monarch has been stopped by the union dock laborers and stevedores, who are charged with having broken the agreement with the companies.

President O'Neill, of Potters' District Assembly, has issued a circular to the Knights announcing that the Executive Board has ordered an assessment of fifty cents a week on all potters, to assist the sanitary pressers of Trenton, N. J., who are now locked out. The assessment is to be continued indefinitely. There is a movement now on foot by the locked out men to start a co-operative sanitary pottery in that city.

Nearly all the shop and yard employees of the Pittsburg and Western Railroad have quit work and the road is practically tied up. The men say they have not received their pay for two or three months. The officials admit this, but say the trouble will soon be over. The Baltimore & Ohio road, which secured control of the company last week, is not in formal possession yet. The strike will probably hasten the transfer.

One of the great railway undertakings of the year will be the extension of the Great Northern Line from the summit of the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific coast at Seattle on Puget Sound. Already 125 miles of the extension from Assiniboine, N.W.T., to the summit are completed, having been opened during the year just closed, and the contract has been let for building the exten-

sion across the mountains to a point beyond the Kootenay river. About 500 miles are yet to be built.

Complaints are heard from Chicago that the city has been filling up for several months with workmen attracted by the reports of unlimited opportunities for employment by the World's Fair. It is believed the labor contractors have reaped a profitable harvest in bringing men to the city without any thought as to how soon they may get work after coming, and it is said there are over 5,000 of those alien workmen in the city unemployed and many in serious distress. The mayor and police authorities have been besieged with applications for assistance and for transportation for disappointed men back to their homes. It is not probable that very extensive work will be put under way until spring opens, and in the meantime there are fears entertained of great suffering, and the police are instructed to be unusually vigilant to prevent disturbances.

The Central Labor Federation, at its meeting in New York on Monday, received another accession, the United Brotherhood of Tailors, with a membership of 2,500, having joined their body. Ida Van Etten advocated for half an hour the bill introduced by the Working Woman's Society for the proper protection in mercantile establishments of women and children. The cloakmakers' strike was discussed and declared justifiable. A letter received by Lucian Samuel from John McBride, of Columbus, Ohio, in which the writer advises the Socialists of New York to hold any money they had collected to aid the Ohio miners on strike until after the miners' convention in Columbus had met, was read. The bill presented to Congress by the Junior Order of American Mechanics, proposing to limit citizenship, was announced as a "Know Nothing" measure.

Marble cutters of Chicago in the employ of Davison, of New York and Chicago, have just returned to work, after having been out on strike against an increase in the hours of labor. They had been working eight hours and Mr. Davison demanded that they work ten. After they had been out a few days he offered to share the profits with the men for the extra two hours on the basis of their daily wages. Forty of the men accepted the offer and returned to work. They have been suspended from the union in consequence. As soon as President Arthur B. Smyth heard of the strike he directed a committee of New York men to call on the Davison firm there and request them to ask the firm to withdraw their demands which they had imposed upon the Chicago men. When the firm saw that New York and the rest of the country were ready to support Chicago, it withdrew its demand.

There is a good deal of complaint down at Black Rock among the brass finishers and braziers about the manner in which the Alien Contract Labor Law is being evaded. It is asserted that the National Harness Company, which some time ago absorbed the Iron and Brass Bedstead Company, is importing English artisans under contract to do work which should go to American workmen. These importations are no whit the superior of American workmen but they are willing to accept cheaper wages. It is said that some of them, finding that they have been tricked in their contracts and that they could earn more money were they not bound by contract, are talking very freely. There is a general desire that the matter be brought under the attention of the proper authorities. There is also much feeling with regard to the competition of labor from the Canadian side. It is said to be more rampant than ever. Every morning sees great crowds of Canadians coming across the river to work, and every man of them has a lunch with him. Every night they go back over the river home. They earn their wages here and don't spend so much as the price of a ham sandwich. For the work they are doing there are at least five Americans to each Canadian eager to obtain employment. This is what riles.—Buffalo Sunday Truth.

DOMINION TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL.

A deputation of the Ontario branch of the Executive of the Dominion Trades and Labor Council, comprising Messrs. J. T. Carey, Robt. Glocking, John Armstrong, Alex. Macdonald (of Ottawa), and George W. Dower, had an interview lately with Premier Mowat and Hon. Richard Harcourt, to urge upon them legislation in the interest of wage-earners. The deputation first drew attention to the defects of the Mechanics' Lien law, and asked that it should be amended so as to give labor a first lien to the amount due the wage workers, as by limiting the amount to a percentage of the total figure of the contract, small sub-contractors were enabled to escape the operation of the act. The Premier promised to enquire into the matter. Attention was drawn by Mr. Armstrong to the hardships sustained by lumbermen, owing to non-payment of wages, and the extension of the act to these cases was asked.

The deputation then brought forward the recommendation of the Congress in regard to compulsory education, free school books, cumulative voting, and the ballot in all school-board elections. They also urged the doubling of the present legislative grant for school purposes, and equal division of rural school sections territorially with an equal share of the funds for each school. Mr. Mowat promised that these matters should receive due attention. As to free school books, he doubted whether public opinion was at present far enough advanced to justify such a step, though he admitted it was rapidly moving in that direction. Mr. Dower asked the Government to pass a measure giving authority to municipalities to provide for scaffold inspection, and the Premier expressed himself favorably in a non-committal way to the proposal.

The Changes of Time.

"Strange how marriage changes women."

"How?"

"This morning, after a visit to an old school friend just wedded, she told me she wanted a full set of six new chairs and a sofa like hers, and when I was courting her I don't believe she knew or cared whether there was more than a single chair in her father's parlor."

A Problem.

Mathematicians figure that a man sixty years old has spent three years buttoning his collar. How much time has been consumed by a woman of 45 in putting her hat on straight?—Life.

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THE TRYSTING TREE.

The winds are here, the woods are sere,
The swallows south have fled,
The beech tree in the whitethorn lane
Is robed in ruby red,
The dear old beech, beneath whose boughs
We lingered, love, and told
Our first fond love and mutual vows,
Ere green had changed to gold.

The kiss you gave, your whispered word,
None marked, and no one knows,
None save the little singing bird,
The wild bird and the rose,
The rose that clambered o'er the hedge
And blushed to see you blush,
What time we plighted love's long pledge
That golden even-hush.

I bore away a leaf to-day
That burned beneath the beech.
Perchance of you in days to be
'Twill find a fairy speech.
Some day when fortune's frown is black
'Twill woo me with your voice
To that sweet summer trysting back,
And make my heart rejoice.

Sure other flowers of other hours
The memories will recall;
But this red leaf may wake 'mid grief
That dearest day of all,
That day 'neath the trysting tree
In summer weather blue,
When you, love, gave your heart to me,
And I gave mine to you.

PHUNNY ECHOES.

Miss Prue—How do you hold on when tobogganing? Miss Rappid—Why, on to the man.

First Amateur Photographer—Did that expert show you how it was done? Second Amateur Photographer—Yes, but he didn't show me how to do it.

The oyster is a placid sort of a creature—observed Mrs. Dinwiddle, as she swallowed one. Don't know about that, replied Dinwiddle, I've often seen it in a stew.

President Harrison invited the whole world to come to Chicago in 1893. It will be noted with much satisfaction that Mr. Jay Gould, the principle owner thereof, has interposed no objection thus far.

Valetudinarian—But tell me, now, really, is Makewell's Specific good for anything? Drug Clerk—Good for anything! I should say it was, decidedly. Why Makewell has made \$100,000 out of it in less than five years.

Mamma, if we can't go to heaven now, can we move to Philadelphia? Why, child, what put that notion into your head? My book here says that Philadelphia is noted for its cleanliness, and in another place it says cleanlin-ss is next to godliness.

Well Tommy, said a visitor, how are you getting on at school? First rate, answered Tommy. I ain't doing as well as some of the other boys, though. I can stand on my head, but I have to put my feet against the fence. I want to do it without being anywhere near the fence, and I guess I can after awhile.

Edith (aged ten)—My grandfather was an English lord, and mamma says I'm not to play with you. Carrie (aged six, very indignant)—I'll let you know I've blue blood in my veins, too. My grandfather was one of the pilgrims that came to this country in the ship Sunflower, and landed on Plimpton rock.

Sanso—How did you get all the stones picked off your lot and scattered over your neighbor's property? Rodd—Do you see that tree at the bottom of the lot? Sanso—Yes, Rodd—Well, I tied a stuffed squirrel in the top of it, and let half a dozen boys see it.

Secretary of the Relief Society—Are you the wife of the laborer Muller? The rich Mr. Knickle has just called on me to represent your destitution and to ask that we should do something for you. He says that you are to be turned out if you do not pay your rent within a week. That is true. And who is your landlord? The rich Mr. Knickle.

In Peck's Footsteps.
Hicks—You must not pull the dog's tail, sonny. You know what becomes of bad boys, I suppose?
Boy—Oh, yes. They gets to be Governors out West.—Munsey's Weekly.

An Appalling Prospect.
Von Boomer—Yes, sir; I tell you Chicago is going to shoot right ahead now. She has just caught her second wind.
Eastern Man—Great Scott! When did she lose her first?—Puck.

Wanted to Have It Right.
Seedy Actor—You stated in your paper yesterday that the great tragedian, Mr. Sock-Buskin, has just returned from a successful starring tour.
Editor—Yes, I believe we did. Was there anything wrong about it?
Seedy Actor—Yes; and I wish you'd correct it. The word "starring" should have been "starving."—Judge.

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS

To PREPARE HASH OR TOAST.—Take small bits of cold meat, one pint of hot water, thicken with two tablespoonfuls of flour, a good-sized piece of butter, pinch of salt. Turn over roasted bread and serve immediately.

RICE GRIDDLE CAKES.—One-half teacupful of rice, simmered in one pint of milk until tender; add a piece of butter the size of a walnut, and a little salt; add three eggs and sufficient milk to thin it, and flour enough to make a thin batter.

To MAKE ENGLISH RELISH.—Put bread crumbs into a sauce-pan, with cream, salt and pepper; when the crumbs have absorbed all the cream or milk, add a small piece of butter, a little grated cheese, break in a few eggs, and then fry as an ordinary omelet.

KISS PUDDING.—1 qt. milk, 3 tablespoon corn starch, yolks of 4 eggs, ¼ cup sugar, and a little salt; put part of the milk, salt and sugar on the stove and let it boil; dissolve the corn starch in the rest of the milk; stir into the milk, and while boiling add the yolks. Flavor with vanilla.

SPICED OYSTERS.—Strain and boil the liquor put in the oysters for a short time, then take them out and place them in a coarse cloth, and spread another over them, skim the liquor, add spice and vinegar to taste; mace, black pepper, allspice and cloves. Boil five minutes, and when cold, mix with the oysters.

How to SUGAR POP-CORN.—Put into an iron kettle one teaspoonful of butter, three of water, one cupful of pulverized sugar. Boil until ready to candy, then throw in three quarts nicely popped corn; stir briskly until the sugar is evenly disturbed over the corn. Take care the corn does not burn. Take the kettle from the fire and stir until it has cooled a little.

MINCEMEAT PATTIES.—Make some fine pastry; roll it thin. Line small patty-pans with it, and in the centre of them put a mound of rich mincemeat. Pour over them a teaspoonful of sherry or port wine. Moisten the margins and lay on neatly cut covers. Press the covers of the margins together (not the edges.) Brush the patties over with the white of egg; sift a little sugar over them; make a small slit in the centre and bake them a pale brown.

TURKEY SOUP.—With the remains of a baked turkey from which most of the meat has been cut off it is easy to make a very appetizing soup. Break up the carcass, and put it with whatever stuffing, bits of meat and skin may be left in enough water to cover. Cook slowly for two hours. Let the soup get cold, then skim and strain. Heat a pint of milk in a saucepan and thicken it with two tablespoonfuls of flour and one of butter. Put the soup over the fire again; when hot add the milk. Let the whole boil up and then remove it from the fire.

TERRAPIN SOUP.—Make a strong stock of veal or beef. It should be a jelly when cold. Remove all the fat from the stock. Boil three terrapins for one hour, pick them carefully, reject the entrails and be careful not to break the gall-bag. Cut the meat into pieces an inch square. Add it to the stock, with some finely chopped ham, half a teacupful of mushroom catchup, and pepper and salt to taste. Let it boil two hours very gently; then add one teacup of sherry wine, half a slice of lemon, and the yolks of four hard-boiled eggs mashed fine. Serve very hot.

FRUIT CAKE.—One pound flour, one pound sugar, three-quarters pound butter, ten eggs. First beat the yolks and sugar together, then add the flour and butter, beaten to a cream. Lastly, mix in lightly the whites of the eggs beaten to a froth; then have one and one-half pound raisins, stoned and chopped, two pounds currants, well washed and dried, one pound citron cut in strips, mace and nutmeg, each one-half ounce, one-half pint brandy. Strew half pound flour over the fruit, then stir them well into the cake. Line the tin basins with buttered paper; fill them two inches deep, and bake in a moderate oven three or four hours.

To Cook EGGS.—It is the common way to boil eggs only about five minutes and call them hard. They are then very "hard of digestion." Boil ten minutes and they are still hard and soggy. Boil them twenty minutes and they become light and mealy, and may be easily mashed and seasoned. To boil eggs so that they shall be "soft," drop the whole eggs carefully into boiling water, and boil steadily three and a half minutes by the watch. This is a common method; though the white is hardened, the yolk is scarcely cooked at all. Another method is to lay the eggs in a warm basin or saucepan and cover with boiling water. Let them remain without boiling, but where the water will keep hot for ten minutes. Both yolk and white will be cooked soft.

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OUR BOARDING HOUSE

Reflections on Current Events by
the Boarders.

"I'm kind of curious to know," said Brown, "how the workingmen of Canada will vote at the coming elections. Some years ago they were hard and fast Protectionists, but since then they must have found out that the N. P. is not all that it was cracked up to be. Manufacturers, of course, are in favor of it, because it enables them to rob the consumer to exactly the amount of what the duty on the manufactured article amounts to, and they of course will try to coerce their men to vote the Conservative ticket, but I am much mistaken if they'll succeed."

"I don't think they will," said Phil, "and I'll tell you why. In the first place, the laborer knows that his class furnishes the largest number of consumers; he knows that a protective tariff reduces the purchasing power of his dollar in so far that it compels him to pay not only the price of the article but also the duty on it, because the Canadian manufacturer, no matter how low the cost of production, will always charge as much as the tariff will allow him to do. In the second place, the laborer knows that protection has not increased his wages; they are governed by the law of supply and demand, and so that the supply may always exceed the demand and employers be enabled to secure their labor cheap, the present Government has done all it could to induce laborers to come here, actually taking them out of old country poorhouses and throwing them upon our labor market. The laborer knows this, and neither the threats of his employer or yet the buncombe of the oily-tongued politician will induce him to longer support a policy which robs him both as a producer and consumer."

"Well, I can't see why manufacturers should support Sir John and his restrictive policy which gives them only a small patch of a market," said Brown, "in preference to Laurier and unrestricted reciprocity which gives us the finest market of the world. They must know that the days of large profits are past; this is the day of small profits and quick sales. To successfully compete with the outside world, even with our present high tariff, the Canadian manufacturer finds that he must produce in large quantities, and for this purpose his market is much too small. It does not warrant him in making use of expensive machinery which would reduce the cost of production to that point where he could successfully compete with any country in the world, because, thanks to our insane policy, what is not absorbed by our home market is left on his hands, whereas if you would but give him room he could prove that Canada could produce as cheap and cheaper than her Yankee cousin."

"Our manufacturers to save themselves from destruction will be compelled to adopt unrestricted reciprocity," said Phil. "It is because of our protective policy that Canada is at present the slaughter market of the United States. As Brown correctly stated, the cost of production is greatly reduced by manufacturing large quantities. The American manufacturer produces in large quantities and therefore produces cheaper than the Canadian. He sells in his own market for a higher figure than that which our manufacturer gets here, but what he cannot dispose of he sends to Canada to be sold at actual cost price. Our manufacturers cannot compete with him, because manufacturing in smaller quantities, the cost of production is greater than the difference of cost, with duty added, on the American article. But had we but unrestricted reciprocity the American could not sell at such ridiculous low prices in Canada, because we could take their goods into their own market and undersell them

there, unless, indeed, they were prepared to sell to everybody at actual cost price. But the American wants to make money the same as the rest, and will not sell much without making a profit. If he found Canadians taking his own goods to St. Louis or Chicago he could not afford to sell cheaper in Canada than he does at home, and if he be forced to adopt one price list for the whole continent then we need not fear him. Between the McKinley bill and our own precious tariff we are being ground to dust. Our only salvation rests in free trade."

"Our manufacturers don't think so," said Sinnett. "They are frantically trying to reduce the cost of production by employing women and children, instead of securing a larger market and producing larger quantities. They forget that if Americans adopted the same means they could, in a commercial way, wipe us off the face of the globe inside of twelve months. They know very well that at present they cannot compete with the Yankees; they understand the reasons well enough, but they would like our Government to build a wall around Canada as high as McKinley's so that the people of Canada would be completely at their mercy. I don't doubt but what Sir John and the rest of the gang would be willing enough to do that only that they are afraid that such action of theirs would create a political cyclone such as swept the States a few months ago; it would hurl them from power."

BILL BLADES.

ABOUT WOMEN.

Miss Emily Howland is a director of the First National Bank of Auburn, N. Y., and when a man has a reputation for ill-treating his wife or refusing to buy her neat bonnets he knows that he has no chance of getting his paper discounted at that establishment.

One of the graduates at the Westminster Cooking School, an Irish lady, Mrs. Jeanette Miller, a woman of good family and social position, has adopted the profession of cookery, and goes to private houses to prepare company breakfasts, luncheons and dinners.

Mlle. Bonheur's love for and loving study of animals have given her strange control over them. It is now some years since she gave to the Jardin des Plantes a beautiful lion and lioness, which to this day recognize her if she approaches their cage and thrust their heads through the bars for the touch of her sympathetic hand.

The Woman's Medical College of Georgia was organized last year at Atlanta. It was the only medical college exclusively for women, south of Baltimore, and it has met with strong support and patronage, many of the students coming from States quite distant. At the opening of the second term recently, about 25 students were enrolled, who came from every part of Georgia and the South. The wives and daughters of clergymen and old soldiers are admitted on payment of half the regular tuition. A training school for nurses is connected with the college, and furnishes additional opportunities to women.

The number of women in America employed in remunerative occupations is 300,900, or nearly 30 per cent. of the total female population. In the previous decade the percentage was only 21.33 per cent. of the whole. Out of the eleven classes of occupations women have increased comparatively in nine, viz., government service, professional and domestic service, trade, agriculture, fisheries, manufactures, and as apprentices, while they have decreased comparatively as laborers and in personal service. In 1875 there were nineteen branches of industry in which women were not employed; in 1885 the number was reduced to five.

Cost of Wars of the United States.

The revolutionary war cost the United States \$135,193,713. The colonies furnished, from 1775 to 1783, 395,064 troops.

The war of 1812 cost the United States \$107,159,003. The number of troops engaged is estimated at 471,622.

The Mexican war cost the United States \$100,000,000. The number of troops engaged was 101,282.

The rebellion cost the United States \$6,189,929,900. The number of Federal troops was 2,859,132.

Disgusted With the Mormons.

A party of fifteen who became converts to Mormonism, and went out to Utah from Pennsylvania last spring, reached their native State a few days ago, penniless, hungry and ragged. They declared themselves to be disgusted with Mormonism and all the customs that go with it.

EIGHT HOURS FOR MINERS.

The mine operators of the country are to have nearly three months' time in which to discuss and take action on the question whether or not they will accede to the demand of the organized miners for a reduction of the working hours to eight per day. They cannot at least make the assertion as an excuse for refusal of the demand that they were taken unfairly and not given sufficient time to adjust their business to the proposed system, nor can they very consistently plead that their margin of profits is so small that they cannot afford to run on the eight hour system, for the eight hour plan has been successfully tried by many operators here as well as in England, and besides such a claim would hardly be consistent with the well-known fact that a committee of the leading corporations have been time and again empowered to order a general suspension of mining for weeks at a time, and an increase in the price of coal, to suit the convenience of the corporations. It can hardly be denied that if the operators endeavor as earnestly to consult the interests of the miners as they have been accustomed to foster their own there would be little difficulty in coming to an amicable agreement long before the 1st of May, the date to be fixed for the demand to go into effect.

A national convention of the United Mine-workers' Organization is to be held in Columbus, Ohio, on the 10th of next month to take action on this demand and to make preparations for its enforcement. Present indications point to a widespread suspension of work as the result of the demand being made, notwithstanding the fact that the executive officers of the Miners' Union and of the Federation of Labor, by which organization they are being sustained, are opposed to strikes except as a last resort. The operators in the Southern mines have manifested a determined opposition to the labor organizations, and are not very likely to consent to a general reduction of hours unless considerable pressure is brought to bear upon them and they are brought to feel that it would be useless and unprofitable for them to resist the demand. The question for the men in the Columbus convention to consider well before committing themselves finally to a peremptory ultimatum of "eight hours or strike" is, whether they are sufficiently well organized and financially prepared to face such a conflict. There will be no question as to the sympathies of all organized labor and of the masses of people everywhere being with the miners, but the carpenter and building trades will be deeply involved in carrying out their programme begun last year, and other trades will have special calls upon their members, and the contributions necessary for such a test of strength where possibly 100,000 men may be on strike together cannot be successfully raised by any mere appeal to public sympathy. No pains should be spared by the well-informed and responsible executive officers and trusted leaders in the Columbus convention in impressing the cold facts of the situation upon the impulsive rank and file, for experience has repeatedly shown that those who are most impulsive and reckless in ordering a strike are often amongst the first to weaken in presence of a low treasury and a doubtful victory. The question is a serious one for both sides, and it is earnestly hoped that an amicable settlement may be effected before the time announced for the new arrangement to go into effect.—Irish World.

Slaves of the Bureau.

Some time ago a leading manufacturing firm advertised for two young women to take temporary places in their rebate department. A down-town employment bureau, managed by elderly women, agreed to furnish the girls. The salary determined upon for each was \$10 a week. Every Saturday the employment bureau sent a messenger for the girls' wages. At last one of the firm became suspicious, and questioned the girls as to their relations with the bureau. For a time they gave evasive answers, and seemed so much intimidated that they couldn't be induced to say a word against the women. It was only upon the closest questioning that the girls burst into tears and admitted that they were the veriest slaves of the two women who controlled the bureau. They said out of \$20 a week each of them received only \$3 for herself.

The following week the firm paid each girl her \$10, and refused to recognize the messenger. This prompt and effectual action brought several angry communications from the women of the employment bureau, and when these failed of their result, a letter came from a lawyer threatening to sue the firm for the money. It never amounted to more than threats, and the girls continued to receive their salary in full as long as the work lasted.—New York letter.

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1,500 doz. WHITE LINEN COLLARS, only 5c, worth 15c.
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