

THE BIG BRITISH STRIKE.

Over 300,000 Stop Work in the English Coal Fields.

Railroads and Factories Crippled by Lack of Fuel.

A dispatch from London, England, says: The majority of the coal fields in Great Britain are idle. The grand total of men at play is about 450,000. In Durham the men to the number of 83,000 are on strike against reduction of wages, but in all the other districts the men have simply decided to take a week, fortnight or even three weeks' holiday in order to restrict the output of coal.

The collieries of Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire, North Wales and other districts are idle. The mines of Scotland, South Wales and Northumberland are working quietly.

The miners of Durham are holding enthusiastic meetings, and have resolved that under no circumstances will they yield to the proposed reduction of wages.

This movement on the part of the miners has caused the greatest disturbance in the British labor world, and in the manufacturing centers, that has been known since the American Civil War when so many hundreds of thousands of the cotton operatives of Lancashire would have starved but for a boundless charity.

The miners outside of the Durham district say that the present movement is not against the reduction of wages, but to prevent the reduction of wages at any time in the future. They are afraid from the way that the owners of collieries have been outbidding each other for the custom, especially of large corporations, a general reduction cannot be far off, and they have adopted this method of raising prices.

The latest cablegram in regard to the strike, received just before this date of the paper, went to press, stating: Fintshire, in Wales, appears to be the only place where the order of the Miners' Federation to leave off work has not been obeyed by the members of the association. The latest estimates of the number of miners who are now idle place the figure at 350,000. Owing to the closing down of other mines, the number of the strike fully 300,000 men in other employments have been thrown out of work.

The full effect of the strike will not be felt immediately. In many cases manufacturers who have large stocks, but to prevent the strike exceeds a week in duration their supply will soon be exhausted, and they will be compelled to shut down. Fifteen thousand coal miners are idle in North Staffordshire. Unless they resume work in a few days the potteries will be compelled to close down, throwing 50,000 men out of work.

The miners who have stopped work are observing the "strike" purely as a holiday. Large numbers of them are taking advantage of their idleness to leave the districts in which they work, and to visit friends elsewhere. There is no excitement whatever.

The Northeastern Railway will withdraw its passenger trains from its lines because of lack of coal. It is expected that its workshops to four days a week.

The London gas companies report that they have coal enough to last a month. The "Shipping Federation is preparing to meet the strike of coal porters, and to unload foreign coal. Agents of coal firms are negotiating in France for supplies from Pas-de-Calais companies. Cargoes of coal are being shipped from Antwerp.

The dock laborers in London and other ports are not allowed to know whether the coal came or whether it is going. In the Leeds district the strike is severely felt. Nearly all the large mills and the iron and steel works are reducing the number of their employes, or suspending work altogether.

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FIFTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

In the Senate.

22D DAY.—Mr. Vest's Postoffice Buildings bill was passed.—House bill to amend the act to provide for the performance of the duties of the President in the case of the removal, death, resignation or inability both of President and Vice-President was reported and placed on the calendar. It provides for the succession of the Secretary of Agriculture after the Secretary of the Interior.—Senate joint resolution authorizing the Librarian of Congress to exhibit at the World's Fair such books, papers, documents and other articles from the library of Congress as may relate to Christopher Columbus and the early history of America was passed.

23D DAY.—The Urgent Deficiency and Military Academy appropriation bills were passed.—Mr. Berry introduced a bill for the adjustment of the rights of the Indians in the Indian Territory, with a view of having that Territory admitted as a State. Referred.—Mr. Morgan introduced a bill to increase the facilities of the Postoffice Department for obtaining the use of buildings for postoffice purposes.

24TH DAY.—The House bill ratifying the act of the Arizona Legislature, appropriating \$50,000 in aid of Arizona's exhibition at the World's Fair, was passed.—Mr. Hale, reported a bill for the construction (by contract) of three battleships, two armored coast-defense vessels, five gun boats and eight first-class torpedo boats.—Mr. Peffer introduced a bill to create a pension fund by an income tax on millionaires to give idle laborers work on public improvements.

25TH DAY.—In the temporary absence of Vice-President Morton, Mr. Manderson, President pro tem, of the Senate, occupied the chair.—Mr. Frye reported the Senate bill exempting American coastwise sailing vessels, piloted by their licensed masters or by United States pilots, from the obligation to pay tolls for services not rendered. Calendar.—Mr. Peffer introduced a bill to establish an electrical experimental station to determine whether electricity can be used in the propulsion of farm machinery. Referred to Committees on Agriculture.

26TH DAY.—Mr. Casey reported a bill to establish a uniform standard of wheat, corn, oats, barley and rye. Calendar.—Mr. Hawley introduced a bill appropriating \$50,000 for a postoffice and station to General W. T. Sherman in Washington. Referred.—The calendar was then taken up, and several minor bills were disposed of.

In the House.

27TH DAY.—Senate concurrent resolution was agreed to authorizing the joint committees on printing to ascertain the most suitable site for a new Government Printing Office at Washington.—The floor was then accorded to the Committee on the District of Columbia, and a number of local bills were passed.—The House then went into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Wilson, of West Virginia, in the chair on the Army Appropriation bill).

28TH DAY.—The debate on the Free Wool bill was continued, speeches being made by Messrs. Coombs, Walker, Scott, Chipman and Decker.

29TH DAY.—After the transaction of some routine business, the House went into Committee of the Whole and the discussion of the Free Wool bill was resumed by Messrs. Sayres and Bryan.

30TH DAY.—Half an hour was consumed in determining who should be the author of the digest of the rules for the present Congress. The struggle was between Mr. Smith, the former journal clerk, and Mr. Crutchfield, the incumbent. Mr. Crutchfield was victorious.—The debate on the Free Wool bill was then resumed, speeches being made by Messrs. Payne and Ellis.

31ST DAY.—There was a colloquy between Messrs. Williams and Walker concerning the latter's speech.—The debate on the Free Wool bill was continued.—The evening session considered private bills.

CALAMITY AT SEA.

Seven Sailors Asphyxiated on a Cattle Steamer.

Seven men out of fourteen who slept in the forecabin on the steamer Navarro, which had sailed from Boston, Mass., for London, England, were found dead in their bunks the second morning out. These men are P. McCata, J. McDonald, J. Gourie, William Smith, E. Gadstein, E. Perquin and A. Ford. The men were buried at sea. Their seven companions had a narrow escape from the same fate. The Navarro was comparatively a new steamer of 2515 tons register, commanded by Captain Golocobas. She loaded 404 head of cattle and a general cargo.

In addition to the crew she carried fourteen cattle men, one boat foreman and two refrigerators.

The fourteen cattle men slept in the forecabin in rather close quarters. As a rule, men do not go aboard a ship, as a cattle steamer, in the soberest condition, and the first day at sea has generally a disquieting effect physically. The Navarro's cattle men were of the ordinary variety. The first night at sea came, the cattle were fed and bedded, and the cattle men then sought the forecabin. There was a cold and stormy, the men tired and sleepy, and some one suggested that a fire be piled high with coal. This was done, and some one used the portholes. None of the men noticed the lack of ventilation until too late. The quality of the coal on the Navarro was unutterably bad.

One by one the men dropped to sleep, aided, doubtless, by the gaseous atmosphere. As the hours rolled on the gas became denser and the men in the upper bunks were enveloped in its deadly embrace. In the morning, as the men did not appear at the usual hour to attend to the wants of the cattle, the Captain ordered them roused out. The boat cabinman and some of the crew entered the forecabin and were almost overcome by the deadly atmosphere. They found seven men dead and seven almost dead.

BLIZZARD IN THE SOUTH.

The Fruit Crop Greatly Damaged by Snow.

A howling norther with a heavy rain swept over all Texas. In an hour the thermometer fell from seventy to thirty-four degrees. The clouds were heavy with an occasional fall of rain. Fruit and early vegetables escaped, but there is no doubt of everything being in imminent danger. Peaches, plums, apricots and pears were in bud or full bloom, while market gardens everywhere were far advanced.

At 10 o'clock in the morning the northern hurricane culminated in a storm of sleet, snow and ice. Fruit trees, covered with full bloom, were coated with sleet. There was hardly any hope that anything would be saved.

It began snowing and sleeting and continued all day. The ground was covered by about three inches of snow and sleet and the fruit crop was destroyed around Jefferson, Texas. Cattle damage will result.

Six inches of snow fell at Little Rock, Ark., the heaviest known for years. Great damage is reported to the fruit crop everywhere.

The snow reached such a depth at Memphis, Tenn., that the electric cars on all the lines were unable to run. It was the heaviest fall of snow in that part of the country for many years.

OVER 100 Congressmen, embracing practically the entire delegations of Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Wisconsin, have petitioned the River and Harbor Committee to recommend an initial appropriation for the proposed twenty-one-foot channel from the lakes to the Atlantic.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

PRESIDENT CANNOT BE ONE OF THE VERY FEW.

FRANCIS M. SHREVE, of Ohio, is about to build a mansion in Washington to cost \$100,000.

EX-SENATOR EDMUNDS, of Vermont, takes only cases of importance, and his smallest retainer is \$2000.

The late W. H. Smith, the London newspaper who became a British Cabinet Minister, left \$30,000.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER'S income from his Standard Oil interests is probably nearly \$7,000,000 a year.

EX-GOVERNOR THAYER, of Nebraska, has decided to contest anew the right of Governor Boyd to his office.

BARON HIRSCH, the wealthy Austrian banker and friend of the Prince of Wales, is just sixty-one years old.

The Queen of Greece is at present in a very bad state of health and causes her husband and child to be in a precarious position.

EX-SENATOR INGALLS is reported to have declined an offer of \$10,000 a year to edit a Kansas City (Mo.) evening paper.

PRINCE GEORGE OF WALES now has an annual allowance amounting to \$75,000 a year. Previous to the death of his brother he had \$25,000 a year.

Few people are aware that the late evangelist, Mr. Spurgeon, was never ordained. He began and ended his remarkable ministry as a lay preacher.

EX-PRESIDENT CLEVELAND and Governor Flower, of New York, were guests for a few days of the New York Rod and Gun Club at their club house on Spessat Island, Md.

BISMARCK sprinkles his conversation, which is at all times interesting and sometimes epigrammatic, with choice and pertinent extracts from Shakespeare, of whose works he is especially fond.

ONE of the largest salaries received by any man in this country is drawn by C. A. Grison, the Chief of the International Navigation Company, of Philadelphia, Penn., who receives \$60,000 a year.

WILLIAM WALTER FRIELDS, the United States Minister, returned to Berlin, Germany, from his trip to Egypt, enjoying splendid health. He says he feels in good form for work after his vacation.

ALEXANDER RIBOT, the new French Premier, is just two weeks over fifty years of age. He is sometimes called a youthful Titan, and he has had a meteoric career in politics during the last ten years.

THE United States Army now carries on its retired list thirty-two Brigadier Generals and four Major Generals. The quartet of Major Generals is composed of John Pope, S. S. Carroll, J. C. Robinson and Daniel E. Sickles.

CONGRESSMAN STONE, of Kentucky, owes his life to his wife, who, when a young girl, found him lying dangerously wounded after one of the battles of the Civil War, and taking him to her father's house nursed him back to health.

MRS. HARRISON, wife of the President, is reported to have made great progress in her art studies, to which she has devoted much time during all her occupancy of the White House. She has become especially skillful in water-color work.

SENATOR VOORHEES, of Indiana, is a devoted admirer of art, and is often to be seen in the Corcoran Gallery, in Washington, standing before some favorite painting or statue with an evident delight. He is also an able critic in the matter of art, and quite a connoisseur.

ANDREW CARNEGIE, the Pennsylvania iron manufacturer, has been talking very frankly to the San Francisco newspaper men. He rates himself as worth from \$30,000,000 to \$50,000,000, and says he will spend every cent of his money before he dies. He is an agnostic, and declares he will never give a penny to a church.

A FIEND STRANGLER.

His Death Hastened by the Hangman Pulling at His Legs.

Frank Schneider, who with his wife, assaulted and murdered many servant girls, has been executed at Vienna, Austria. Schneider was gibbeted after the Austrian manner.

He was entirely broken down as he was led from the cell to the scaffold. As he saw the stake and spike, from which he was to be hanged, rising above it, his pallid face turned a greenish hue, and he had almost to be carried to the spot. The stake had fixed in the top of it a spike about six inches long.

There were three steps to lift the doomed criminal up. He was lifted to the spike, and the back of his neck and close to it. Then a cord was passed around his neck, fastening it tightly to the spike, and he was strangled to death.

To hasten his end the executioner pressed his arms around the neck and nostrils of the dying criminal, while one assistant held and pulled Schneider's arms, and another pulled his legs. The wretch died in four minutes. The body was left suspended to the stake.

PERHAPS JACK THE RIPPER.

A Startling Discovery Made in Liverpool, England.

The police of Liverpool, England, acting on clues brought forth by the news that Arthur Williams had been arrested in Australia for the murder of his wife, formerly a Miss Maher of that city, searched the house occupied by Williams in the Liverpool suburb of Rainhill last July, previous to his marriage, to Miss Mather. The bodies of the children were found beneath the fireplace, two having had their throats cut, and the oldest, a girl of twelve years, having apparently been strangled to death.

The body of a dark woman, identified as a visitor to Williams, was also found in the Hotel in Liverpool, was also found beneath the floor, with a dead babe in her arms. The bodies were supposed to be those of a former wife of Williams and her children.

The police of London say that the visits of Williams to England have corresponded to the murders of "Jack the Ripper," and the alleged description of the London bugaboos corresponds with that of Williams, who is said to be one Arthur Curtis, who lived in Sydney, Australia, in 1889, with a woman of a description corresponding to that of the body found in Rainhill.

CULTIVATION OF HEMP.

A Census Bulletin Showing the Acreage and Yield.

A Census Bulletin shows the total acres of land devoted to the cultivation of hemp in the United States in 1889 to have been 25,054 acres, and the production of fiber 11,511 tons, valued at \$1,102,692. The average yield per acre is 1029 pounds and the average value per acre \$44.01 or \$95.79 per ton. Kentucky produced 95.77 per cent, of the total hemp crop of the country. Illinois produced 4.83 per cent, and the remaining six States from which hemp was reported had an aggregate yield of only 161 tons.

Although the crop of 1889 was more than double that of 1879, hemp production is regarded by those engaged in it as a declining industry, a condition which they attribute to foreign competition and to some extent to their own lack of improved machinery for breaking and cleaning the fiber.

RAPERS in Oregon and Washington report that fur-bearing animals are very numerous this winter, the beaver especially.

WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

FIVE acres of space in the Midway Place.

have been reserved for a nursery exhibit. The Custer Mining Company, of Idaho, is making a very extensive collection of ores for exhibition at the Fair.

FOREIGN participation in the Fair so far as ascertained up to the present, embraces seventy-two nations and provinces.

CANADA has been given 65,471 square feet of space in the various buildings, and 100,000 feet of space yet to be granted in the agriculture and live stock departments.

THE Suffolk Horse Society, England, has offered two gold medals, of the value \$50 each, for the best Suffolk horse and mare or filly exhibited at the World's Fair in Chicago.

THE Women's Christian Temperance Union wants to put up a building, 70x100 feet, in the Exposition grounds, in which to exhibit the entire system of its work and to conduct a cafe for the sale of temperance drinks.

THE city of Cincinnati wants to erect a building at the Exposition, to be used both as a club house and receptacle for a municipal exhibit. It is willing to expend \$30,000 in the undertaking.

LEUTENANT BAKER, of the Marine Section of the Department of Transportation, has secured a promise from the Detroit Dry Dock Company for an exhibit of a perfect model in stucco of the entire ship-building plant of the company, both at its Detroit and Wyandotte yards.

The Grecian Government has agreed to make and send to the Exposition casts of the principal works of ancient art now in Greece, together with maps, diagrams and photographs. To these will probably be added casts, and perhaps copies of the originals of specimens of classic Greek art which are now distributed throughout Europe.

SEVEN of the World's Fair buildings are now so far advanced that they are fast assuming the appearance of finished structures. These buildings are the Woman's, Horticulture, Transportation, Mines, Administration, Forestry and Fisheries. Five more—the Government, Fine Arts, Agriculture, Dairy and Illinois State—are erected to the roof lines. The Electricity, Manufactures and Machinery buildings are being advanced rapidly.

A JOINT bill has been introduced in Congress, carrying an appropriation of \$18,000. "To procure, prepare, compile for publication and publish a history of the moral, intellectual and industrial progress of the colored people of the United States from January 1, 1863, the date of emancipation proclamation, to January 1, 1893, as a part of the Government exhibit, the same to illustrate the growth of liberty, morality and humanity of the United States."

ENGLISH women are active in preparation for their participation in the Exposition. At a meeting of the woman's committee in London, on March 3d, it was announced that Queen Victoria had promised specimens of her own work in spinning and knitting, done when she was a girl, also some of her embroidery, fine drawing and water-color painting. Princess Louise will contribute some clay modeling, Princess Beatrice several paintings, and Princess Christian some embroidery.

THE Maryland World's Fair Board is planning to show in the Maryland building a reproduction of the surrender of its commission by George Washington. The report of the Board to the Legislature asking for an appropriation of \$100,000 states: "It has been suggested by His Excellency the Governor, and a suggestion has met with much favor, that the old Senate Chamber of the State House be reproduced in our building, and that a group of thirty-two figures be made to represent the surrendering British in the South, and the British in the North, in the historic hall. Such a tableau would attract many visitors and serve as a feature of great interest."

GRAND DUKE LUDWIG IV.

The Ruler of Hesse-Darmstadt and Son-in-Law of Victoria Dead.

The Grand Duke Ludwig IV. died a few nights ago at Darmstadt. Three of his daughters and Prince Ernst Ludwig, his heir, were at his bedside at the time of his death. The city is in mourning. In the English quarter, where the Grand Duke was especially popular, many houses are draped.

The Grand Duke Ludwig IV. was the nephew of his predecessor on the throne of Hesse-Darmstadt. He was born on September 12, 1857, and married, in 1870, the Princess Alice, second daughter of Queen Victoria. She died six years later after bearing him five daughters and one son, the present Grand Duke. In the war of 1866 he commanded a brigade in the Hessian contingent, and in 1870-71 the Twenty-fifth Infantry division of the Ninth army corps. He distinguished himself by his bravery at Gravelotte and in the fighting on the Loire. In June, 1877, upon the death of his uncle, Grand Duke III., he ascended the throne. In 1881 he married Frau von Kolumbe, nee Countess Caspka, but was divorced from her shortly afterward. He was liberal in his political views, and despite his tendency toward Englishmen and English ways, was a much more popular ruler than his son is likely to be.

KILLED BY ROBBERS.

Mexican Bandits Capture a Safe With 10,000 Silver Dollars.

One of the heaviest and boldest robberies ever committed in Mexico took place a few days ago near Durango. C. W. Brittain, manager of the Vacas mines, left Durango for the mines with 10,000 silver dollars in an iron safe in a wagon. He was accompanied by J. H. Herndon, a young American, and three Mexican guards. When within seven miles of Constantia, fifty-five miles from Durango, about twenty-five men rode up from behind and commenced shooting. Juan Castaneda, one of the guards, was killed, and Herndon was severely wounded. The fire of the bandits was returned by Mr. Brittain and his guard, and one of the robbers was killed.

The lash was put to the horses, but the robbers gained rapidly on the wagon, taking it and the money captive. Mr. Brittain escaped into the chapparal with Mr. Herndon in his arms. They made the way to Constantia, where they notified the military authorities. A detachment of troops went at once to the scene of the robbery, but when they arrived at the spot they found that the safe had been broken open and robbed.

A CRY FOR FOOD.

Twenty Million People Dying of Starvation in Russia.

The following piteous appeal has been cabled from St. Petersburg to this country by the committee of American citizens sent to Russia: "If the American people knew the extent of the suffering in the famine districts of Russia they would everywhere come to the rescue. Twenty millions of people are affected and in danger of death from starvation. Typhus fever rages in many provinces, and horses and cattle are perishing of hunger.

Does this not appeal to the hearts of those able to help?

Russia is deeply grateful to the American people for what they have done.

The distribution of supplies is under the direction of the American Minister and an excellent committee. Nothing will be wasted. Every particle of food will be properly distributed. Help us, Rudolph B. Biddis, Jr., J. J. Hazel, Jr., Alexander W. Biddle, Committee.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON FOR MARCH 27.

Lesson Text: "The Blessings of the Gospel, Isaiah xl, 1-10 (Quarterly Mission Lesson)—Golden Text: Isaiah xl, 5.—Commentary.

1. "Comfort ye, comfort ye, My people, saith your God." This chapter begins the second section of this great prophecy, which is so frequently quoted from by the New Testament writers as words of Isaiah the prophet that every believer should be perfectly satisfied that the same Isaiah way for the Spirit, the whole book. See Math. viii, 17; xli, 17; Luke iv, 18, 19.

2. "Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her that her warfare (appointed time) is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned." This is Jerusalem, the throne of Jehovah, the principal city in the Holy Land, representing God's people in the days of Israel, Judah and Israel; and these words are for their hearts, with special reference to days yet future, when the appointed time of deliverance shall come, and the iniquity of the land shall be removed in one day. (Zech. iii, 9.) Gabriel spoke of this to Daniel in the revelation of his seventy weeks which should end in the bringing in of everlasting righteousness, and making an end of iniquity, transgression and sin. For the seventieth week or period we still wait. (Dan. ix, 24-27.)

3. "The voice of Him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." From Math. iii, 3; Luke iii, 4, 5; John i, 23, we have no difficulty in locating the application of this verse, or, at least, its proper application, for many prophecies have a double horizon, a nearer and a more remote.

4. "Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low." All hindrances shall be removed or overcome, and all things restored to Israel which the prophets have foretold; but in Acts iii, 21, we read that this shall be when Christ shall come a second time. When John the Baptist came in the spirit and power of Elijah he was rejected by the rulers, and so also was the Christ (Luke i, 17; Math. xi, 18, 19; xvii, 12, 13). He plainly told Israel that they knew not the time of their visitation, and that they would not see Him again until they could be ready to weep and mourn over Him (Luke xxi, 41-44; Math. xxiii, 39).

5. "And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." When Jesus came the first time it was in His glory, not in glory (Phil. ii, 6-8), and His glory was seldom seen, and by but a very few, as on the Mount of Transfiguration, and at the marriage in Cana (John i, 14; ii, 11; I Pet. i, 16, 17). But when He shall come in glory bringing His saints with Him, every eye shall see Him (Math. xxv, 31; Col. iii, 4; Rev. i, 7). Our lesson does not therefore describe the blessings of the Gospel as now preached to gather out the church from all nations (Acts xv, 14), but the blessings that will be when after Christ's second coming Israel shall be the missionaries to the whole world.

6. "The voice said, Cry, and he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is the flower of the field. We see the meaning of this verse by comparing Psalm ciii, 15; James i, 10, 11. Verse 17 of this chapter explains it. Man can do nothing toward his redemption. Salvation is of the Lord (Isaiah ii, 9) from beginning to end.

7. "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people are grass. He leaned upon Egypt or Assyria, to put confidence in man and worship idols, the works of men's hands, was Israel's sin. To desire a king like other nations, when God wished them to be separate from all nations and let Him be their King, was a great sin against God.

8. "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the word of our God shall stand forth. Man and his glory shall fade away