

PITTSBURGH, SUNDAY MARCH 20, 1892.

SWEATING RAMPANT

In Queen Victoria's Particular Personal Laundry, and Employes

NOW THREATEN A STRIKE.

The Discipline Entirely Too Severe for the Low Wages.

TWO OLD POACHERS EXECUTED

For Killing Gamekeepers, and the Government is Criticised.

INTERESTING ITEMS FROM ABROAD

(BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.)

LONDON, March 19.—[Copyright.]—According to cablegrams which have been published here with regard to a certain inquiry proceeding at Washington, the broad United States is singularly free from the evil known as "sweating." American manufacturers and other virtuous citizens will therefore be able, without self-consciousness, to give full vent to their indignation when they learn here in THE DISPATCH that sweating is rampant in Queen Victoria's own personal laundry, and that persons employed therein decline to find, in the honor pertaining to the washing of royalties' soiled linen, compensation for long hours, low wages, and tyrannical treatment generally.

The royal laundry is situated at Richmond, in Surrey, and thither is sent washing from Windsor, Sandringham, and, in fact, all the Irish places. Richmond is a picture of rural riverside loveliness, but the lot of the laundry people is far from idyllic. They work 66 hours per week. Men in the machinery department are paid 22 to 25 shillings per week, and women, the actual washers, from 16 to 18 shillings per week. The discipline is quite military in its character, and severe, and an elaborate system of fines prevails for late arrival, without any balance in shape of extra pay for extra half hours often worked at the conclusion of the nominal 11-hour day. Entire loss of wages is the penalty invariably inflicted upon a man or woman who may fall sick, and the work people are not allowed to enjoy even the few legal holidays which occur in the course of the year.

Efforts are to be made to bring the grievances of the laundry women under notice of the Queen and Princess of Wales, and even to propose a petition to the Prince of Wales. Each course is perfectly proper, and certain to result in nothing. Bolder spirits talk of a trade union combination, and there are wild whispers of a strike, whereas royalist nerves thrill with horror, although it is not seriously maintained that the Prince of Wales would have any great difficulty in getting his shirts washed, seeing that there are hundreds of noble dames, and thousands of untitled fair ones who would gladly tuck up their sleeves for the honor and glory of pounding his royal highness' linen.

The Queen and court started for Coste-bella to-day and by the beginning of next week almost the entire royal family will be scattered about the Riviera. Now, if ever, is the time for the laundry strike, for Richmond will still have to wash the royal clothes. If the work were done in France the Queen would have to pay for it. A generous country pays for the Richmond establishment, and will defray the freight to and from the Riviera, of clean and dirty linen alike. Then, again, the average French blanchisserie, as travelers have noted since the first stranger set foot in France, is perfectly demoralized in her treatment of lingerie which, having passed through her hands too often, returns to its owner a tattered remnant of its former self.

A strike at Richmond at this juncture, therefore, would force upon Her Majesty considerations for the economy which would result in a sharp order to the Lord High Chamberlain of the gold stick-in-waiting, or whichever exalted courier may have the responsible charge of the royal wash-tubs, but the strike wages say 10 per centum all around.

Mistake of the British Miners. The British miners speedily found out that they had made a mistake. Their week's holiday had only put money in the hands of colliery owners and dealers, and before they have time to recoup themselves for the week's wages lost they will be notified of a reduction in pay. With so many coal fields now open, and better mining appliances at the command of the men, and before they have time to recoup themselves for the week's wages lost they will be notified of a reduction in pay. With so many coal fields now open, and better mining appliances at the command of the men, and before they have time to recoup themselves for the week's wages lost they will be notified of a reduction in pay.

There is a rumor that the employers themselves will return to the collieries on Monday, and thus force the men into another week's holiday against their will, but this is scarcely likely. The chief colliery owners deny it. Their private interests are against it, and their only reason for so doing would help the owners in Durham by depriving the men of a week's wages and thus prevent them from contributing to the relief of the Durham miners, for though the "holiday movement" is now at an end, the struggle in Durham continues with increased bitterness. The determination of both sides is strong, and with their growing desperation the men are getting vicious.

Rough Time for a Reporter. A reporter of the Newcastle Chronicle, who had written something which did not please the miners, was set upon by thousands of the men at one of their mass meetings. He was pelted with mud and bricks, and finally chased through a neighboring town until he found refuge in a police station. The police at the meeting were powerless to protect him.

The great coal strike has revealed the existence in all colliery districts of deep-seated hatred of land owners and of strong determination to agitate for the abolition of the system of "mining royalties" for every ton of coal heaved and sent to bank the miner receives from 10 pence to 11 pence half-penny, and the owner of the land gets 12 pence, which is a first charge on the colliery output and has to be paid, whether the coal is sold at a loss or profit.

The miners denounce the landlord as a "blackmailer," and they want to confine his rights to the surface. At present he owns not merely the surface, but everything below it as far as a shaft can be sunk and minerals worked. This mining royalty grievance is sorely felt, and forcibly expressed by millions of workers in this country. It has become a test question put to every Parliament candidate in all colliery and most labor constituencies, and it is extremely probable that it will come up for settlement in the next House of Commons.

BOILING OVER WITH GRATITUDE

The Indiana Cheered by the Russian People and Blessed by the Friends. LIBAU, RUSSIA, March 19.—The American steamer Indiana, which brought to this port the gifts of flour and provisions sent by Americans for the relief of the Russian

JOINING AN ORDER.

Favorable Opinions on Secret Societies From Great Thinkers.

NOT INIMICAL TO GOVERNMENT.

Views of Senators Sherman, Dolph and Turple and Justice Bradley.

BISHOP POTTER FOR THE CHURCH

With a view to obtaining advice for young men who may be contemplating joining secret societies an occasional correspondent of THE DISPATCH recently sent the following questions to some leading public men:

First—Do you approve of secret orders on general principles? Second—Are they or are they not inimical to the stability and permanence of our Government, and if so why? Third—Do you think it an advantage or a disadvantage to a man in business, social and political life, to be a member of such an organization? Fourth—Which of the existing orders, if any, do you deem it most advisable for a young man to join? Among the answers received were the following:

Senator Dolph, of Oregon, an active worker among secret societies, writes: Senator Dolph Approves Them.

"I will not undertake to answer as regards secret political societies, for the reason that I have never been a member of one. I will therefore speak only with regard to fraternal and charitable secret orders, of several of which I belong. Many years ago I was a member of some temperance organization, and I am now an Odd Fellow and a Mason, as well as a member of the A. O. U. W. Even my experience in these organizations my answer to your first question must be yes. In reply to your second I must say that I have seen nothing in the societies I have named, which I believed to be inimical to good government and free institutions. They are, in my judgment, organized for proper and beneficial purposes, and all have greatly helped to bring about fraternal feeling between their members, and, of course, between members of different political parties.

"It is natural that as one grows older he should attach less importance to many of the things connected with these orders; but I have been more and more convinced by my own experience that as practical organization for relieving the wants of their members, and as a means of adding those members to the affections incident to membership in the order of Odd Fellows and the institution of Masonry are valuable organizations. In this statement lies my answer to your third question. In reply to your fourth question I can only say that it would be natural that I should feel partially for the societies of which, as I have told you, I am a member."

What Senator Sherman Has to Say. Senator John Sherman writes: "To your first question I must reply that I can see no objection to secret orders which are merely beneficial organizations for mutual aid and protection, not in any way connected with politics or religion, but enjoying respect for religious worship and morality. In answer to your second question I would say that I have never seen anything in such orders as I have described that was inimical to the stability and permanence of our Government. In reply to your third question, I think that membership in such a secret order tends to bring a young man into closer social communion with a class of men who are generally leaders, or, at least, fair representatives of the people among whom they live; gives him a place of resort where he may find respectable associates and companions, and tends to shield him from the danger of the saloon and other bad associations, and is therefore an advantage to him.

"To your fourth question, 'Which of the existing orders do you deem it most advisable for a young man to join?' I leave you to guess the answer of one whose father and brother-in-law—General Reese—were Grand Masters of the Masonic order in their day, and who himself is a member of the order of Odd Fellows, though for many years I have not been very active in that order."

Bishop Potter is a Free Mason. Rt. Rev. H. C. Potter, D. D., Protestant Episcopal Bishop of New York, is an active Free Mason, and writes as follows: "As I am myself a Free Mason, I need hardly say that I most certainly do not regard such an order as being in any way hostile to our institutions. In this statement you will find my answer to your first and second questions. I have often found membership in it a convenience, and I have personally known many instances in which it has done noble work in the cause of charity and humanity. As the result of my experience, I must say in answer to your third question that I assuredly consider it desirable for a young man to be a member of such an order.

"In reply to your fourth and last question, 'which of the existing secret orders do you deem it most advisable for a young man to join,' I can only say, as I have already stated above, that I am a Free Mason."

Hon. David Turple, of Indianapolis, the junior United States Senator—in point of service—from Indiana, contributes a letter of approval. Powderly Has no Objections. Hon. T. V. Powderly, the head of the Knights of Labor, is a high authority on the subject under discussion, and special consideration is merited by his view expressed below: "In reply to your letter I would say that so far as secret societies are concerned I can see no harm in men belonging to organizations which work in secret. I must therefore answer your first question in the affirmative. In answer to your second, I may say that I know of no reason why secret orders should be inimical to the stability and permanence of our Government. So far as your third question is concerned, I think that membership in some of the existing secret orders is often a very great advantage. Your fourth question every man must determine for himself, and the answer to it must depend largely upon the individual circumstances by which he is surrounded, his needs, preferences, etc."

Favorable Report From Knoch Pratt. Enoch Pratt, of Baltimore, is widely known as one of the wealthiest American citizens of our time, and the Lord Bountiful of the Monumental City. He is the founder of the Enoch Pratt Free Library there—an institution which is one of the noblest of its kind in this country. His letter on the important topic under discussion is appended: "In answer to your first question I answer yes, and if I had my long life to live over again I think I should join both the Masons and the Odd Fellows. Secret orders whose only object is to promote fraternal feeling and mutual help and kindness among their members, not only cannot be hostile to our Government, but are directly fostering the spirit of our free institutions by inculcating the principles upon which they are based. It can not fall to be an advantage to a young man to be a member of such an order. I deem such organizations of great use, and from long experience among their members I am convinced that they are excellent institutions and do great good."

A Voice From the Grave. The following letter was received from the late Hon. Joseph F. Bradley, Justice of

THE PLAN FOR THE CARNEGIE LIBRARY AS NOW MODIFIED BY THE ARCHITECTS.

Herewith will be found a reproduction of the last authorized design for the Carnegie Library building. It was sent from Boston and published first on Thursday in a New York engineering paper; and while there are no remarks accompanying the cut as given in the New York paper, the understanding is that it is the latest rearrangement by Longfellow, Alden and Harlowe of their plans.

The points of difference between this plan and that accepted by the commission from the competition of architects are numerous and marked. Prominent among them is the substitution of one large tower for the two originally intended. A section of the interior is said also to be dispensed with, saving space. These modifications of the plan have caused considerable talk among the people interested in the original competition. It is contended that the terms of the competition contemplated a choice from the designs as presented, and that an opportunity to alter or modify them was not allowed to other architects such as Cooper, Buntan and Coolidge and others, whose designs were in favor among many visitors, and also with some of the commission. There has likewise for sometime past been an expression of adverse opinion as to the proposed substitution of pompous brick for granite, which it has been reported is intended.

Chief Bigelow of the Public Works Department was seen yesterday by a DISPATCH reporter, and asked what he knew of the modified plan; also as to the time for the beginning of the work. The chief said the new plan as above presented was a very handsome one, though not the same as chosen in the competition. He had not been apprised officially about the matter, nor did he know when the work was to begin. The commission as a body had not passed yet upon these matters. He was disposed not to favor the substitution of brick for granite. The Chief, as is well known, takes a great interest in everything connected with Schenley Park, which he did so much to secure for the city, and he is desirous that the library building, in all respects, shall be an ornament to the entrance. He says, however, there has been very little, if any, communication lately on the library building with the city authorities; but he supposed that as the spring opens up the commission will prepare for a start. No meeting of the commission has yet been called.

THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT, ONLY A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO HIS LAST ILLNESS.

"In reply to your questions I would say, first, that I certainly do approve of secret societies on general principles, as I know of nothing against the right of men to hold secrets among themselves. There is no violation of moral or legal right in their doing so. Second, I do not think there is anything inimical to the stability and permanence of our Government in the tenets or practices of any of our American secret orders such as the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Elks, American Mechanics, United Workmen, and almost countless others. The objects of all these organizations are charitable, fraternal and social, while the purposes of some of them also include the preservation of our institutions and resistance of all attempts to interfere with them. This being the case, they cannot possibly be hostile to American liberty."

"Third, I deem it of great advantage to a young man to be a member of such an order, though I have never joined one. They all inculcate the strictest morality, and the general obligations required of their members are as rigid as those of church membership. They afford attendance and aid in sickness, protection from enemies and countless other advantages. Fourth, my father and grandfather having been Masons, my preference would be for that order."

The views of a number of men equally, or perhaps more, prominent in the world of thinkers than those quoted to-day will be published in these columns next Sunday.

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