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# Scranton Tribune

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SCRANTON, PA., MONDAY MORNING, AUGUST 13, 1894.

TWO CENTS A COPY.

## THE TRIBUNE HAS A LARGER BONA FIDE CIRCULATION AMONG SCRANTON BUSINESS MEN THAN ANY OTHER MORNING PAPER

### STATE AGAINST PULLMAN PARTY

A Petition in Court to Declare the Company's Charter Void.

### BLOW AT HEARTLESS SYNDICATE

Attorney General Moloney Files Papers Declaring that the Pullman Corporation Has Usurped the Powers of a Municipality and Has Exceeded Its Rights--The Fight Against the Soulless Corporation Will Be Determined and Unyielding.

CHICAGO, Aug. 12.—At 1:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon Attorney-General Moloney appeared in the office of the circuit clerk of Cook county and filed a petition covering sixty pages of type-written legal paper asking for a bill in equity against the Pullman Palace Car company, and calling upon it to show cause why it should not be prohibited from doing further business under the laws of the state.

It is charged by the attorney-general that the Pullman company is doing a score of things which are things that it is not empowered or authorized to do. It is to own and maintain the big Pullman building on the lake front in which the headquarters of the Department of the Missouri of the United States army is situated is directly attacked. It is further charged that in violation of law the Pullman company is operating enterprises, including theaters, hotels, water works, electric light plants, and gas works; that it is conducting real estate enterprises by building, owning, leasing and renting dwelling houses and that by acquiring in one or all of these enterprises it is exceeding the power and authority conferred upon it by the act of legislature under which it is operating.

The powers which the state has conferred upon the Pullman Palace Car company are expressed in section 4 of its charter, which are set out in the attorney-general's petition, reading: "The said corporation shall have power to manufacture, construct and purchase railway cars with all convenient appendages and supplies for persons traveling therein, and the same may sell or use, or permit to be used in such manner and upon such terms as the said company may think fit and proper."

RESTRAINTS UPON ITS POWER. The restraints upon its powers are contained in section 6 of the charter, which is:

"It may be lawful for the company hereby incorporated to purchase, acquire and hold such real estate as may be deemed necessary for the successful prosecution of their business, and may have power to sell and convey the same."

The company, the attorney-general says, practically has usurped all the powers and functions of a municipality. The making and selling of gas, the establishment of water works, and all the powers usually attaching to cities have been assumed, it is charged, without warrant or authority of law. Another thing attacked is the ownership of stock in the Union Foundry and Pullman Car Wheel works, its charter, according to the petition, giving it no power to own stock in other corporations. It is charged that the Pullman company furnishes power to the Allen Paper Car Wheel works, which is no part of the business of a company incorporated to construct and run railway cars.

The petition concludes: "The attorney-general for and in behalf of the people of the state of Illinois prays the court here for leave to file an information in the shape of a quo warranto against the said Pullman company, and that it be required to appear at a set day, and by what warrant it has assumed its powers and franchises, and by what warrant it has assumed, and still assumes, to exercise the aforesaid powers, privileges, and liberties and franchises, and to show cause why its charter should not be revoked."

The action taken by Attorney General Moloney, it is said, means a "fight to the finish." The attorney general left the city as soon as the petition was filed and no information was given out at his office as to his whereabouts. A hearing on the petition will be had a week from next Wednesday, Aug. 22, but it is not determined what judge will hear the case.

### MCCURDY JOINED THE FIGHT.

And Died on His Way to the Hospital from Stab Wounds.

CAMDEN, N. J., Aug. 12.—After spending the evening drinking with some companions, John R. McCurdy, aged 27, a resident of Cramer hill, started for home shortly after midnight, but unfortunately for himself in passing a notorious house at 102 Mechanic street, kept by Mrs. Butt, his attention was attracted by the noise of a fight going on within. McCurdy had drunk enough to be quarrelsome and he forced his way into the house with the avowed intention of joining in the row. He found several men fighting and he took a hand in the fray and was speedily thrown out of the house. Shortly afterward he was found bleeding on the sidewalk, and while being taken to the hospital died.

### HUNDREDS ARE ENTOMBED.

Terrible Fate of the Tolders in Polish Coal Mines.

WARSAW, Aug. 12.—The extensive coal mines near Dombrowa, government of Gradow, have been burning since yesterday afternoon. The fire was started by an explosion of gas when the full force of men was underground. The main shaft was wrecked, and comparatively few miners have been rescued. The latest report is that several hundred men are entombed in the mines, and that all hope of saving them has been abandoned. The mines are owned by the Franco-Italian bank.

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The excuse given for turning strikers out of their homes is that the houses are needed by new workmen who have taken the places of strikers. There are now nearly 400 vacant houses in the various kinds in Pullman, as many as will be needed by new men for some weeks.

Should the company carry out its programme in this regard, and there is little doubt that every striker who does not go to work will be put out of the town of Pullman would be almost wholly depopulated. It would be, say those who have watched the course of the whole trouble, the most cruel eviction this country has ever seen, if not one of the most heartless recorded in history.

It seems inevitable that no less than 5,000 men, women and children will be turned into the streets. At least 1,500 strikers are tenants of the buildings of the company, most of them men with large families. Few, if any, of them have paid a dollar of rent since the strike was declared. Most of them are on the point of starvation and so poor they could not pay an expressman for hauling their goods out of town.

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