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WEEKLY; ONE PENNY.

NOTES ON NEWS.

MR. O'BRIEN has got another four months, which no doubt is as little as could be expected "under the circumstances." But the circumstances are curious. A citizen is summoned before a court, and with his counsel has to fight his way *into* it; when in it, he finds that his judges are going practically to try him with closed doors, and being naturally indignant at this proceeding, takes the far more reasonable course of fighting his way *out* of it amidst the applause of everyone except the said judges. Here are strange proceedings against the respectability of a Court of law-and-order! Such things have been the immediate preface to open rebellion.

Robespierre in his time was accused of "demoralising" the guillotine by too indiscriminating use. Mr. Balfour, in his career of pasteboard-Tory-Robespierre, will have to beware of this trap of the demoralisation of punishment; or rather he has already fallen into it, and thereby won the sincere thanks of all Socialists; for, though it may be said that the Balfourian persecution in Ireland is but a game being played between two bodies of politicians, yet it must be remembered that the tortures of the prison-cell are a very palpable reality, and also that they have not been inflicted only on "gentlemen," who have duly counted the cost and accept it as part of the political game, but also on poor people who will receive but a very moderate amount of glory as a reward. The felon's punishment has been "demoralised" in Ireland, and bears with it no least shadow of disgrace, but honour rather; and the reflection of this demoralisation is spreading even to respectable England.

The *Star* and the *Pall Mall*, the two Radical prints of London, are at daggers drawn just now, and perhaps for the rest of their natural lives. This may well be thought a mere battle of the kites with the crows; though apart from the blind and obvious partyism of the *Star*, and the amusingly blatant jingoism of the *Pall Mall*, both papers have been of some service to us. But to a bystander the whole controversy anent the aldermen is a curious commentary on electioneering in general. "Fight hard," says the *Star*, "get in your Liberals while you can, you may not have another chance." "Fight soft," says the *Pall Mall*, "perhaps our opponents will remember our generosity when their turn comes, and fight soft also."

I must say that from a party point of view the *Star* seems to me to have the best of the argument; for if you go into the game, you must take the advantages of the game as they turn up, or lose them. On the other hand, that you should be obviously afraid to put up for re-election your men who have just won does not say much for the wisdom of the ballot-box. Our two contemporaries illustrate neatly the two quagmires in which politicians wade, and become so loathsome thereby. For the *Star*, reforms are means toward that great end the success of the Gladstonian Liberals, which by some unexplained magical process will at once both destroy poverty and sustain riches and make us all happy,—or if not, it isn't our business. For the *Pall Mall*, Radicalism is an enterprise for the discovery or manufacture of a moralized Toryism (under the name of democracy) whereby the British Empire, having reduced the rest of the world to starvation, shall reign supreme, with the ten Commandments of an exclusive ancient eastern tribe (glossed by modern hypocrisy) our rule of life, and a high court for the trial and punishment of amatory excesses;—or, indeed, is this also only another and less honest form of the great political maxim, "We in, you out, and the rest to the Devil"?

The *Daily News*, in an article on the O'Brien incident, says, "We disapprove of boycotting, whether it is practised by the Primrose or National League." O holy simplicity! Of the journal, too, which the other day was praising the proposal of the United States Congress for the wholesale boycotting of Socialists from the soil of America. But *Nulle fides cum hereticis servanda*—no faith need be kept with heretics.

We have had another anniversary lately; that of the fall of Khartoum and the death of the general of the Christian commercialists—Gordon, to wit. It is to be supposed that as long as it is convenient to remember him and his virtues we shall have them dinned into our ears. But whatever they may have been, or however amiable they may have made him to his friends, do not let us forget that he *was* the general of these pests of the world; and that he had to carry on war as war—that is to say by means of slaughter and destruction—and that slaughter and destruction carried on wholesale in a bad cause is murder of the worst kind: murder, the evil consequences of which are hard to foresee or measure. The Fall of Khartoum was a victory of the oppressed; and whatever Gordon might have been had he been fighting for the good of the world, as it was he fell not as a martyr to a great cause, but as an instrument of oppression whom fate at last thrust aside.

The acceptance of Boulanger's triumph as a victory for monarchism can only come of ignorance or impudence: of course the various openly reactionary factions would vote for their champion, but it is now notorious even to our middle-class press that their votes would never have returned the General; and that a great mass of Socialists have voted for him simply to be used as a stick wherewith to beat the opportunist dog, and the worse the man is the properer for that purpose, for the easier he will be to throw away when he is done with. That is their view, but undoubtedly it is a dangerous game to play; surely they had better have voted for Boulé, and thus have registered themselves definitely as revolutionists along with men like Vaillant. It is strange, too, that they should have forgotten the extra-ferocious part which Boulanger's regiment played amidst those who massacred the Commune. W. M.

Comrade Hobart, who put up as a candidate in one of the divisions of St. Pancras, deserves our sympathy. The *Star* announces that he wasn't only defeated because he was advanced, but that he was "rather too much so." This means, I suppose, that he did not drop his principles sufficiently to please the respectable householders of St. Pancras. How this goes to confirm what William Morris has always said, "that for a Socialist to get elected, it is absolutely necessary that he should get in as something else." Comrade Hobart is to be commended for his honesty; but he may be advised to drop the electioneering business for the future. He is plainly not suited for it.

Our valued contemporary, the *Star*, went into ecstasies upon the attainment of its first year of existence. With the modesty so characteristic of its eminent editor, it spent two columns in singing its own praises. Among other good things too numerous to mention, it recounts that "Thanks to our efforts, the stupid ostracism of the Socialists has come to an end; and on their side, too, Socialist organisations have abandoned much of the wild talk, the viewy aims, the impracticable methods which they inherited from German sources."

It will be news to German Socialists to hear that they are noted for "their wild talk," etc. If Socialism had come from T. P.'s own beloved country it might be understood. But how do our State Socialists relish T. P.'s assertion that "He," by the seductive blarney of a countryman of O'Connell's, has converted them from "raving revolution" to the mild paths of constitutional agitation? We can imagine indignant denials from some of them; but let that pass.

What I want to deal with particularly is the "stupid ostracism" of the Socialists by, I presume, the respectable Liberal party. We ought, it seems, to be thankful to T. P. for providing us with an introduction to respectable society. But, unfortunately, the stupid ostracism has rather intensified on the part of the respectable press. Take the *Daily News*, for instance, which boycotts the very mention of any Socialist meeting, and its example is copied by one or two Radical journals I could name.

This was not so a few years back, when the *News* and these other papers looked upon Socialism as a mild form of lunacy, to be treated

with good-natured indulgence. Now it is so formidable that it is endangering the existence of the great Liberal party, and therefore it is ostracised as much as possible.

That Socialism is becoming popular among the workmen Radicals of London cannot be denied; but for that we haven't to thank the *Star*, but the events in Trafalgar Square. The shoe's on the other foot; the *Star* tolerates Socialism because its customers want it.

I have merely cited this passage from the *Star* article as an instance of the admirable cheek of a certain able editor. It forms a splendid example of the primary art of a commercial age, the art of self-advertisement. To those who desire to become proficient in this charming accomplishment, we may recommend them to study that two columns in the *Star*.

What T. P. has done for the State Socialist party is this—He and his party have served them like Disraeli served the Whigs, stolen their clothes and left them breathless and shivering. Result, every political humbug is masquerading on the County Council as a State Socialist, while the editor of the *Star* ejaculates, "Hooray! that's one of our candidates!"
D. N.

THE MANCHESTER MARTYRS.

Those who have listened with quickened pulse to the spirited war-song "God Save Ireland" must often have wondered who were the "noble-hearted three," whose gallant death is so brilliantly celebrated in T. D. Sullivan's stirring verses. For those among us of the younger generation, and, perhaps, for some even of our elders, there is but a dim and misty recollection of an event which happened nearly twenty-four years ago. I can recall hearing much when a boy of the dreaded Fenians, whom I, in common with other middle-class lads, looked upon as a species of newly-discovered cannibal, noted for their savage ferocity; but this dread was mingled with a large amount of admiration; and when the news came of the gallant attack on the prison-van at Manchester, and later the account of how Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien boldly and calmly met their death upon the scaffold, then I, with many others, began to reverence such dauntless heroism. Election speeches and eloquent gasconade are all very well, but a brave deed under the banner of a cause which we are taught to loathe will dwell in our memories far longer than all the palaver of the mightiest orator that ever lived.

The memory of these events is well worth reviving at any time, and especially now, as only recently a very distinguished countryman of the gallant Fenians who were basely murdered by English law, has taken occasion to eulogise the murder of our Chicago comrades by the administrators of the capitalist-made laws of the United States of America, and so, by reflection, endorses the murder at Manchester. Let me tell briefly what led up to that legal murder at Manchester of the men who knew how to die for their country.

After the fiasco of '48, one or two of the refugees held still to the hope of an armed rising that should sweep alien rule out of Ireland. James Stephens and John O'Mahony studied in Paris all the methods of the more experienced Continental revolutionists, and, having done so, proceeded to put them in operation, Stephens at home and O'Mahony in America. In the south of Ireland Stephens found little subterranean fires were smouldering that afterwards broke out in the "Phoenix Society." 1858 saw the first little sputter; a few years more and there came the Civil War in the United States. Here the Irishmen saw, as they thought, a golden opportunity; not only was it a school of arms where in deadly earnest they could prepare to meet the English red coats, but at the time England was supposed to be so involved with the Southern States that the crushing of Secession would mean war with her. Into the Federal ranks poured the Irishmen in thousands; the Fenian societies spread like wildfire in Ireland and America. In 1863 the *Irish People* was founded in Dublin, and preached Fenian doctrines uncompromisingly; in September 1865 it was seized by the authorities and every Fenian arrested on whom they could lay hands. In May 1866 the Fenian invasion of Canada took place, when the grateful Republic repaid the Irishmen who had sustained it on their bayonets by betraying them to the British Government. Then it was resolved to beard the lion in his den. The whole story of the risings, the alarms, and the misfortunes of '67 is too long to tell here; our part of it begins on November 11, 1867, when before daybreak some "active and intelligent" constables noticed four broad-shouldered, muscular, but "suspicious-looking" men loitering about a clothes-dealer's shop in Manchester. Two were arrested after a desperate struggle, but two got away; those taken had tried very hard to get their hands into their coat pockets; and as they had loaded revolvers there, it is quite possible that the constables might have paid dearly for their interference. After several remands, the truth was discovered by accident, and the supposed burglars proved to be two famous Fenian leaders, Colonel Thos. J. Kelly and Captain Deasy. When first arrested they had given false names and the police could not find anything against them, but the magistrate kindly remanded them under the Vagrant Act, and on their being brought up again, and the intelligence of the police force of Manchester still not being up to time, a second remand was decreed by the Solon of the magisterial bench. The whole of this proceeding was clearly illegal, for they were certainly not vagrants in any sense of the word; but any stick will do to beat a dog with, and any law is good enough for a Fenian or a Socialist.

It was the afternoon of September 8th when the two prisoners Kelly and Deasy were placed in a police-cell, after their remand, to wait for the prison-van which was to convey them to the City Jail, Belle Vue. About three o'clock the van was drawn up to the front of the police-court to remove all the prisoners, and among them the two Fenians. At this time the police noticed two men hanging about the court whom they suspected to be Fenians. They attempted to arrest them, but on the display of a revolver and bowie-knife by these dangerous persons, the police thought better of it, and allowed them to get off with very little difficulty. This appears to have caused some slight alarm among the police-court officials, and Kelly and Deasy were put in irons, and other precautions also were taken. Seven policemen accompanied the van, in addition to the driver and Sergeant Brett—three riding with the van and four in a cab following; Sergeant Brett was seated in the corridor inside the van. Besides the two Fenians, one woman and three or four boys were inside the van as prisoners. The van started; but it was not noticed by the sage police authorities that beside its guard of police it was preceded by several Fenians in a cab.

About midway between the city and the jail the van had to pass under a railway arch, which crosses the Hyde Road, adjacent to which are a number of clay-pits. There is a large hotel near the railway bridge, called the Railway Hotel, where a number of military-looking men were gathered. As the afternoon drew on, the number of these men increased, and at three o'clock more than fifty had collected. Amongst them was one taller than the rest; he was a fair-complexioned man, wore a black coat and cap, and seemed to be the leader. This man was afterwards identified as William Phillip Allen. At about four o'clock these men seemed to get restless and excited; they kept walking across the roadway in front of the hotel, and from the summit of a high bank of clay looked intently towards the city. At length Allen took up his position on the clay bank, and one by one, ten or twelve men gathered around him. The rumble of the prison-van was heard in the distance; Allen held up his hands, and from different points men glided towards him. The majority of these men were either mechanics or people evidently belonging to the middle-class; very few of them were poorly dressed.

When the van came in sight, Allen held up his hands, and two revolvers glittered in the light. His comrades followed his example. The few spectators of the scene noticed that they were all armed with new revolvers. The moment the van approached the arch, Allen stepped forward, and presenting a revolver at the driver, called on him to stop. He had scarcely spoken before a volley of pistol-shots were fired at the van. Then followed a wild scene; one of the horses was shot, and began plunging; the other, frightened, turned aside; and from that moment Allen and his friends were masters of the situation.

When the pistol-shots were fired the officers on the top of the van scrambled down as quickly as they could, and the driver was knocked off with a large stone. One of the leaders climbed up to the top of the van, and at a signal from him about twenty labourers, who had been hiding in a clay-pit, climbed up after him. The armed men formed a circle round the van and menaced all who approached with loaded revolvers. Those on the roof were supplied with huge stones, and battered at the roof, which was too strong for them. Allen then directed some labourers armed with hatchets and crow-bars to burst the door in. The constables, aided by some tavern loafers and a few other English slaves, eager to do a good turn for a policeman, with the snobbish servility of their class, attacked the brave Fenians; but a few revolver-shots quickly sent them to the rightabout. It was found impossible to force the door, and one of the party discharged a pistol through the lock. The policeman Brett, who refused to get out of the way, and applied his eye to the keyhole of the door at the critical moment, got a bullet through his head for his stupidity. His keys were taken from him, the doors unlocked, and the prisoners released. As Deasy was borne from the van, Allen clasped his hand and exclaimed, "I will die for you, Deasy!" He kept his word. Their object effected, the Fenians dispersed; but unhappily Allen and a few others were captured by the police and their toadies. Other persons to the number of twenty were afterwards captured in the general hunt for suspects that followed, and five men with eighteen others were placed on trial charged with the killing of Brett.

The Government appointed a special commission to sit at Manchester for the trial of the prisoners, and on the 27th of October Mr. Justice Blackburn and Mr. Justice Mellor arrived in that city, and the commission was opened on the next day.
D. J. NICOLL.

(To be continued.)

LONDON PAUPERISM.—The number of paupers in London, exclusive of lunatics in asylums and vagrants, on the last day of the second week in January, was 103,685, as compared with 104,618 on the corresponding day of last year, 101,114 in 1887, and 96,228 in 1886. The vagrants relieved on the same day numbered 1,090, of whom 943 were men, 132 women, and 15 children under 16 years of age.

THE UNEMPLOYED AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL.—The Social Democratic Federation have convened a meeting of the unemployed at Cleopatra's Needle, Thames Embankment, for Thursday, 31st, at two p.m. It is proposed to send a deputation from the meeting of the unemployed to the meeting of the new London County Council at Spring Gardens, to "call upon the member of that Council to use their utmost efforts, collectively and individually, to organise the labor of honest workers, who demand justice, not charity, on artisans' dwellings, embankment of the Thames, improvements of the streets, the erection of baths, washhouses, public halls, improved latrines—such as have been built in the city—and other useful public works."

REVOLUTIONARY CALENDAR.

WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 9, 1889.

3	Sun.	1757. Volney born. 1769. Wilkes expelled from House of Commons for publishing "No. 45." 1794. Trial of Alexander Scott for sedition. 1813. Leigh Hunt tried for seditious libel. 1837. Sir Henry Maine died. 1888. Interspersion in the French Chamber on the decoration swindle.
4	Mon.	1555. Rogers burnt at Smithfield. 1615. Porta, physician, died. 1793. Trial of James Smith and John Mennon for sedition. 1794. National Convention abolishes slavery in all French colonies. 1811. Trials of the Caravats and Shanavests. 1861. Southern American Confederacy formed. 1878. Trial ends of 193 Russian Socialists for carrying on their propaganda: sentences—13 to mines, 20 to settlement in Siberia, 30 acquitted but banished by administrative order; the "trial" had lasted three years.
5	Tues.	1781. Lord George Gordon tried for high treason. 1799. Galvanni died. 1820. Dr. Drennan died. 1846. Johann Joseph Most born. 1872. Five months' strike of the Brussels marble-workers began. 1878. Vera Zassulich attempts the life of General Troppoff, chief of police at St. Petersburg, by whose order Bogoluboff had been flogged. 1881. Thomas Carlyle died.
6	Wed.	1649. House of Lords abolished. 1778. France acknowledges the independence of America. 1804. Dr. Priestley died. 1813. Hugh Fitzpatrick tried for publishing Scully's <i>History of the Penal Laws</i> .
7	Thur.	1633. William Prynne tried before the Star Chamber. 1649. Monarchy abolished in England. 1803. Trial of E. M. Despard for high treason. 1812. Charles Dickens born. 1828. Robert Taylor sentenced for blasphemous libel. 1849. Charles Gavan Duffy tried for high treason. 1868. Arrest of the Fenian "Captain Mackay" at Cork. 1870. Barricades thrown up in Paris. 1877. J. F. O'Mahony died. 1879. Strike-riot at Liverpool Docks. 1879. Osinsky, Sophie Leshern, and others make armed resistance to arrest; for which Osinsky afterwards hanged and two sent to the mines. 1885. Reinsdorf and Kuchler beheaded.
8	Fri.	1576. Robert Burton born. 1849. Karl Marx tried at Köln for provocation and rebellion. 1870. Street fighting continues in Paris. 1886. Unemployed riots in West-end of London. 1887. Anniversary meeting "proclaimed" but held; labour riots in Blantyre same day.
9	Sat.	1574. Vallée burnt for crime of heresy. 1849. Proclamation of Roman Republic. 1874. David Friederich Strauss died.

Sir Henry Maine.—Born 1822; died Feb. 3, 1887. Was educated at Cambridge, where in 1842 he took a brilliant degree. He was after Tutor of Trinity Hall, and in 1847 became Regius Professor of Civil Law. Three years later he was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn and also at Middle Temple, in 1854 was appointed Reader of Jurisprudence at the Temple, when he resigned the Cambridge chair. In 1856 he wrote "Roman Law and Legal Education" in the "Cambridge Essays," followed, in 1861, by the larger and profounder work on "Ancient Law." In 1862 he was made a law member of the Supreme Council of India, and after a long stay in India, returned to become professor of jurisprudence at Oxford (1870). A year later he was made a member of the Council of the Secretary of State for India and K.C.S.I. In the same year appeared his published lecture on "Village Communities in the East and West." In 1877 he was elected Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. In following year he resigned his Oxford professorship. His principal works, besides those already named, were "The Early History of Institutions" (1875), and "Dissertations on Early Law and Custom" (1883), and "The Popular Government" (1885). Most of them are but parts of a great enquiry into a science of law, which he did not live to complete, but which is of material service to later students.—S.

William Drennan.—Born at Belfast, May 23, 1754; died same place, Feb. 5, 1820. Educated at Glasgow, where he took his M.A. in 1771; then went to Edinburgh to study medicine, taking his M.D. in 1778. During his stay at Edinburgh he was noted as one of the foremost students of his time, distinguishing himself in philosophy as well as medicine, becoming a favourite pupil and personal friend of Dugald Stewart. He practised two or three years in Belfast, and then moved to Newry, where he began to study with great interest the political and social movements of the period. His writings, signed "Orellana, the Irish Helot" (1784), attracted wide attention. In 1789 he moved to Dublin, where he gained a good practice and a conspicuous place in the really brilliant society of the capital. He was one of the celebrated "Monks of the Screw," and a friend of Lysaght and Curran and their like. At the same time his interest in political affairs grew ever deeper; he belonged to the club founded in 1790 by T. A. Emmett and Peter Burrowes; and in June 1791 he wrote the original prospectus of the United Irishmen. He was one of the moving spirits of the United organisation, and wrote for it most of its earlier addresses and proclamations. Among them were: the Test of the Society of the United Irishmen of Dublin, Nov. 1791; Circular specifying objects of the Society, Dec. 30, 1791; Address to the Society on proceedings being taken against their secretary, J. Napper Tandy, Feb. 28, 1792; Address to the Friends of the People in London, setting forth the state of the representation in Ireland and operation of the Penal Code on Catholics, Oct. 26, 1792; Address to the Delegates for promoting a Reform in Scotland, Nov. 23, 1792; Address to the Volunteers of Ireland, signed by Hamilton Rowan, chairman, Dec. 2, 1792 (this was the address beginning "Citizen Soldiers," for distributing which Rowan was convicted); Address to the Irish Nation, William Drennan, chairman, Jan. 25, 1793 (for this Drennan was tried for sedition, and acquitted, June 26, 1794, after splendid defence by Curran); Resolutions adopted by the Society of United Irishmen as to the imprisonment of Oliver Bond and the Hon. Simon Butler—Bagenal Harvey in the chair, Thomas Russell, secretary (five years later, the chairman and secretary were hanged, Bond was condemned but died suddenly in prison, and Butler was banished); Address of the Society to their Catholic countrymen, June 1793; Address to Dr. James Reynolds, on refusing to be examined on oath before a committee of the House of Lords, Henry Jackson, chairman, Aug. 14, 1793; Address to Oliver Bond and Hon. Simon Butler, John Sheares, chairman, Aug. 16, 1793; Address to Thomas Muir, Bagenal Harvey, chairman, Nov. 22, 1793; and others. He wrote constantly for the *Press*, and afterwards in the *Harp of Erin*, contributing songs and poems and some striking articles. In 1791 appeared his poem "The Wake of William Orr"; in 1795 "When Erin First Rose"; in 1798 "The Wail of the Women after the Battle" and "Glendalough." These poems are those by which he is now best known, but they by no means represent his whole work even in this one part of it. He was the first to call Ireland the "Emerald Isle," which he did in "When Erin First Rose." After 1798 his political career closed; while his opinions were unchanged, he thought their

realisation hopeless. Feb. 3, 1800, he married an English lady of some wealth, and in 1807 left Dublin for Belfast, where he quietly remained till his death, devoting himself entirely to literature. He founded the Belfast Academical Institution, and started the *Belfast Magazine*, to which he contributed largely. He was carried to the grave by six Catholics and six Protestants. As a poet he was possessed of much power, but has been overshadowed by the better-known Moore, to whom some of his pieces have been ignorantly ascribed. His published works are: *Dissertation... de Venesæctione in febribus continuis*, *Edinburgh*, 1778, 8vo; *Essay on the moral and political state of Ireland*, in a letter to Earl Fitzwilliam, *Dublin* 1795, 8vo; 3rd edition, *London* 1797, 8vo; *A Letter to... W. Pitt (On the Contemplated Union of Great Britain and Ireland)*, *Dublin* 1798, 12mo; *A Letter to... C. J. Fox (on the means to ameliorate the condition of the Irish People)*, *Dub* in 1806, 8vo; *Fugitive Pieces in prose and verse*, *Belfast* 1815, 16mo; *The Electra of Sophocles (translated by W. D.)*, *Belfast* 1817, 8vo; *Glendalough and other Poems*, 2nd edition (with a memoir), *Dublin* 1859, 8vo.—S.

John Francis O'Mahony.—Born at Kilbenny, county Cork, in 1816; died in New York, Feb. 7, 1877. Son and nephew of two who had been "out" in '98, he did not want from his earliest boyhood for rebel influences. He studied at Trinity College, Dublin, but did not take a degree, his course of reading by no means coinciding with that prescribed for him; he became an accomplished Gaelic scholar, acquired a thorough knowledge of Greek, Latin, and French, and a passable acquaintance with Hebrew and Sanskrit. In 1843 he interested himself in the Repeal movement; afterwards attached himself to the Young Ireland party, and in 1848 was one of those who took the field with O'Brien at Ballinacorney. He managed to escape to France, and lived in Paris for several years, where he supported himself by journalism and the teaching of Greek and Latin. In 1854 he joined Mitchel in New York and took a prominent part in various Irish organisations. In 1857 he published a translation of Keating's *History of Ireland*, the earlier part of which is largely taken up with the deeds of the ancient Fenians. While at work on this he no doubt first thought of applying the old name to the new secret military organisation he had planned with Stephens at Paris, and which started in the United States about 1859. In 1861 came the great Civil War, and the Fenians flung themselves by tens of thousands into the war on the side of freedom. O'Mahony was colonel of the celebrated 69th New York, mainly made up of Fenians, who also formed the bulk of Meagher's Irish Brigade, the Corcoran Legion, and other regiments with records. The Fenian, or Irish Republican, Brotherhood (I.R.B.) was reorganised at conventions in Chicago (1864) and Cincinnati (1865). O'Mahony threw up his commission even before the close of the war, so largely did the society grow, and gave himself wholly to the task of organising. Although he had many differences with Stephens and the Central Council on matters of policy, he remained president for some years. He did not take a personal part in the invasion of Canada (1866), when his comrades were betrayed by the United States Government to that of England, nor in the rising in Ireland (1867), but kept on steadily at what he held to be the more pressing duty for him—organisation. The latter part of his life passed in continual toil for a livelihood, amid ill-health and poverty. Of him it was said: "He had friends who were willing to sacrifice anything for him; yet he was often in need of a dollar, and when his poverty was discovered he declined to receive assistance in any shape or form. One way or another, he always managed to earn his own living. He seemed, however, to care nothing for success in life, his whole mind being absorbed with one idea—rebellion in Ireland. A ten-dollar greenback over and above his immediate wants was a fortune to him, but one he held a loose hold of, for any person who approached him with a woeful story was sure to get it out of him." His body was brought home to Ireland and buried at Glasnevin, with the honours of a public funeral.—S.

WHITE-LEAD WORKERS' WOES.

IN Burdett Road, Mile-end, E., there is a white-lead factory which is owned by a Mr. Johnson, who recently stood as the Tory candidate for the County Council in the Limehouse division. The white-lead industry is a notoriously unhealthy one, even when conducted with the most careful precautions against danger; and its unhealthiness is increased manifold when, as in Johnson's factory, even the mild degree of care compelled by law is not strictly regarded. Last week a number of the men employed at this factory came out on strike, and a *Star* reporter gathered from them some details as to the nature of their work and the special grievances of which they complain in this particular case. The manufacture of white-lead is a simple enough process. Ordinary lead is first melted down in huge cauldrons, and when melted is run off into crates, each weighing 3lb. These are then rolled four together, and the masses of 12lb. each are stowed in pots with acid and a covering of tan. They are left here for three months, at the end of which time they are taken out white-lead. The most unhealthy part of the work is the removing of these from their receptacles. The tan is rotting, and—especially in raw weather—sends up a poisonous steam, and the lead is covered with a fine dust that flies about at the least disturbance. Respirators covering the mouth and nose should be worn by the men employed in removing the lead, to prevent the poisonous dust penetrating into their throat and lungs. The grievances which at Johnson's factory intensify the danger of the work are several. First, as to hours of work and rate of wages. The working day, except on Saturday, is 10 hours; the pay is 4½d. an hour; the average wage, if a man worked his full time, would reach about 24s. Then as to the conditions under which the work is done. While the lead is being moved, it is the custom to saturate it in order to abate the dust; but, as it would make more labour to water the tan, this precaution is neglected in Johnson's establishment. The respirators supplied by the firm are extremely defective. They are simply little bags of thin linen with cord attached at opposite sides to be tried round the head. A handkerchief tied loosely over the mouth would be a better protection, for the respirators are of such a shape that they become damp with the men's breath, and the dust sticks to them and gets into the mouth. Many of the men suffer from lead-poisoning through this; they are often ill, and the unsightly eruptions that cover their hands and break out over their bodies tell but too plainly of the lack of proper care. The joints of the fingers become rotten; the hands, blotched with sores, lose all power. A doctor is supposed to inspect the factory three times a week; as a matter of fact, the men complain that his visits rarely extend themselves beyond an exchange of courtesies with the manager in the office. He never speaks to the men, and very seldom ventures into the factory itself. In some mysterious way, the master always seems to know when the inspector is coming, and things are carefully prepared beforehand. One of the worst grievances is the driving conduct of the foreman. Meanwhile, although the men have come out on strike, they are without organisation or means of carrying on a prolonged struggle. They allege that women have been set to the work they had left. If so, Mr. Johnson has rendered himself liable, for the employment of women at this particular branch of the work is illegal. Not that the illegality of it much matters these days, for to sweat his men in that fashion is so profitable that he can afford to pay a few fines. The only present hope of the workers lies in publicity and the boycott the publicity may bring; their only lasting hope is in Socialism.



HAVE YOU NOT HEARD HOW IT HAS GONE WITH MANY A CAUSE BEFORE NOW? FIRST, FEW MEN HEED IT; NEXT, MOST MEN CONTEMN IT; LASTLY, ALL MEN ACCEPT IT—AND THE CAUSE IS WON.

Communications invited on Social Questions. They should be written on one side of the paper, addressed to the Editors, 13 Farringdon Rd., E.C., and accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication.

As all articles are signed, no special significance attaches to them because of their position in these pages. None to be taken as more than in a general manner expressing the views of the League as a body, except it be so explicitly declared by the Editors.

Rejected MSS. only returned if a stamped directed envelope is forwarded with them. Subscriptions.—For Europe and United States, including postage, per year, 6s. six months, 3s.; three months, 1s. 6d.

Business communications to be addressed to Manager of the COMMONWEAL, 13 Farringdon Road, E.C. Remittances in Postal Orders or halfpenny stamps.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. H. (New Cross).—Will advertise your books next week.
 WILL BE USED.—G. McL. (The Kirk's Alarm); H. D. (Free v. State Communism);
 J. H. W. (The End of a World); G. S. (A Utopian Nightmare).
 J. B. L. (Islington).—Will reply by post.

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Periodicals received during the week ending Wednesday January 30.

ENGLAND	ITALY
Justice	Turin—Nuova Gazzetta Operaia
Labour Elector	Turin—Il Muratore
Labour Tribune	Rome—L'Emancipazione
Norwich—Daylight	Milan—Il Fascio Operaio
Postal Service Gazette	Cremona—L'Eco del Popolo
Railway Review	SPAIN
Social Demokrat	Barcelona—El Productor
Worker's Friend	Seville—La Solidaridad
NEW SOUTH WALES	Madrid—El Socialista
Hamilton—Radical	PORTUGAL
Sydney—Australian Star	Lisbon—O Protesto Operario
INDIA	AUSTRIA
Bankipore—Behar Herald	Wien—Gleichheit
Madras—People's Friend	Brunn—Volksfreund
UNITED STATES	HUNGARY
New York—Der Sozialist	Arbeiter-Wochen-Chronik
Frelidelt	ROUMANIA
Truthseeker	Jassy—Muncitorul
Jewish Volkszeitung	DENMARK
Alarm	Social-Demokraten
Workmen's Advocate	WEST INDIES
Boston—Woman's Journal	Cuba—El Productor
Chicago—Knights of Labor	
Vorbote	
FRANCE	
Paris—Cri du Peuple (daily)	
Le Parti Ouvrier (daily)	
La Revoltte	
La Revue Socialiste	
HOLLAND	
Hague—Recht voor Allen	
BELGIUM	
Ghent—Voorsit	
Antwerp—De Werker	
Liege—L'Avenir	
SWITZERLAND	
Arbeiterstimme	
GERMANY	
Berlin—Volks Tribune	

WENDELL PHILLIPS.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT is not an agreeable thing, because it murders men haphazard. If it was applied impartially to all men at the age of thirty, there would be some use in it. As a rule, men become useless lumber after reaching thirty years, so far as their fellow-beings are concerned. If you wish for truth, hope, courage, honesty, generosity, enthusiasm, go to the young. If you seek for selfish cynicism, rotten morality, mischievous plottings, and deceitful humbuggery, seek among the men of years, who "know the world." There are some splendid exceptions to this sad rule nevertheless. Wendell Phillips was the most splendid exception of all. "Age could not wither, nor custom stale" his youthful ardour for justice, truth, liberty, and progress. He belonged not to the tinpot band of social reformers who possess only strength to advocate, or mind to conceive, some petty cause of the hour. All "arrows of the chace" met in the flashing eye of Phillips a sympathetic glance. From the day of his birth in Boston, on Nov. 29, 1811, to the day of death in Boston on Feb. 2, 1884, he was always the soldier of human freedom, and made Boston a beacon-light to all the oppressed souls of earth. The son of the first mayor of Boston, of a family for generations the pride of the town, and himself always the darling of the city, it was yet Wendell Phillips' chief delight to gird at the Yankees. Not the Yankees of London penny-a-liners—

anything from an Esquimaux to a Patagonian—but the real Yankees, the New Englanders, the race which has dominated so much the Western world as to overshadow all other peoples. Yet Wendell Phillips was of the sanctum sanctorum of Yankeeedom. But just as his cousin, Oliver Wendell Holmes, has administered a famous home slap in his phrase "the Hub of the Universe," so Phillips chastened what he loved, and exemplified the same characteristic which has made the English race the imperial race, the fact that they are able to have "a searching of heart," and to know and denounce their own faults as no stranger can denounce them. It was comical, a few months ago, to see the strange incapacity of a Frenchman to understand how an English playwright could savagely satirize his own race to the advantage of a foreigner. No man but an Englishman or a Yankee can understand this proud pre-eminence. No real Englishman or no real New Englander ever boasts about the achievements of his people. It all speaks for itself. It is their swarm of penurious parasites of all nationalities who, in both the Old and the New worlds, do all the bombastic parading of achievements they are only able to mar and not help, and do not understand. It was this love of criticism of his own people which made Wendell Phillips such a power for good. If there was a wrong to be redressed, he denounced every traitor to his ancestry who in New England condoned the offence. It would have been waste of breath for Wendell Phillips to have addressed a less sensitive or more ignorant constituency, as William Lloyd Garrison found when he tried to teach human rights to the illiterate muckworms of Maryland. Wendell Phillips once remarked that "brains rule the world, and it will be a sad day when brains cease to rule it." This was his guiding principle. He was determined that the brains of lazy permitters of injustice should not rest. In chattel slavery, in wage slavery, in social corruption of all kinds, Wendell Phillips found a life work for his surpassing oratory. It should be the joy of every toiling slave that the most perfect oratory the world has ever known (even Demosthenes and Grattan pale before Phillips) was wholly devoted to his cause. Unlike many famous orators, notably Edmund Burke, Phillips was as great to the favoured ones who had his oratory hot from the mouth as to the student who pores over his recorded utterance. Wendell Phillips, with a visage and person like a Grecian statue, with a voice no favourite of the theatre possessed the equal of for melody and flow, and, above all, with a perfect possession of his whole reasoning faculties at any emergency—with all these splendid attributes Wendell Phillips might have been the idolised pet of all the rich and powerful of earth, and had poured into his lap every gift which a corrupt aristocracy can lavish upon the advocates who sell their genius to the cause of oppression. Instead of this, Wendell Phillips made a free gift of his finest efforts to the cause of the toiling poor. The son of aristocracy he renounced his class, and gave to democracy his life-strength, his courage, and his commanding talents. As a mere youth he hurled into lasting ignominy the cowardly apologists of the murder of Lovejoy. In his early prime he, above all other, made New England too warm for a scurvy politician of any rank who dared advocate the doctrine of human slavery. Giants like Daniel Webster and Edmund Everett, men the equal of whom for forensic strength in pleading any cause which had a shred of argument to cover it could not soon be found, were yet hustled from the pedestals they had disgraced. Nor when mere chattel-slavery went down on the terrible blood-dripping altar, piled with a million of human victims, was Wendell Phillips' life-work yet half accomplished. For the last twenty years of his life his daring tongue sent forth again and again stinging attacks upon the infamies of the wage-slavery system which had replaced the horrors of chattel-slavery. No social question was treated by Wendell Phillips except in the most truth-telling and thoroughly educated spirit. Superficial critics spoke of his arguments as "brilliant" and "apparently convincing"; for they possessed no power to answer them, and wished to lead the mob to infer that these arguments were only for effect. As a fact, a record of Wendell Phillips utterances on the labour question is a text-book of scientific exactness and permanent value. Above all things, Wendell Phillips repudiated officialdom and mere political place-hunting. He was a democratic communist of the natural type, and a thorough-paced advocate of individual liberty and responsibility. He never would take an office himself, and probably formed the only instance of a man for whom the officials of his country suspended their labours in honour of his death, when he had never been ought but a private citizen. Perhaps the most important factor in Phillips' usefulness to humanity was the beauty of his private life. The wife of his youth, who had inspired and sustained him in his noblest purposes, became in age a confirmed invalid, entailing long years of the most chivalrous yet enslaving devotion from the great orator. He who above all others broke the forced shackles from humanity, yet presented the most heroic picture of that ennobling slavery which comes from devotion to those we love.

L. W.

THE SOCIAL PIPE.—Somebody who is not particularly pressed for time has been making a lot of tobacco statistics. He says the total consumption of tobacco in Europe may be put down at an average of 2½ lb a head. In the Netherlands the proportion is a little over 7 lb., in Austria-Hungary 3½ lb., in Denmark 3½ lb., in Switzerland 3½ lb., in Belgium 3½ lb., in Germany 3 lb., in Norway 2½ lb., in France 2½ lb., in Sweden nearly 2 lb., in Spain 1½ lb., in Great Britain and Ireland 1½ lb., in Italy 1½ lb., and in Russia 1½ lb. In the United States the proportion is greater than that of any European country except Holland; it amounts to 4½ lb. The largest revenues derived from tobacco are those of France, Great Britain, Austria-Hungary, and then Spain and Italy.

INTERNATIONAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

Bou langer has, of course as was expected, been returned for the Seine Department, and by a big majority too. All the Republicans, together with the sham Socialists of the *Parti ouvrier*, have not been able to avert from Paris the ominous threat of Caesarism. We do not know what he is likely to do, but certainly the 17,000 men who have voted for Boulé, as representing Social Revolution, are not going to allow the wholesale murderer of the Communards in 1871 to have his own way towards dictatorship and reaction. At any rate the contest has already done this much: the Floquet ministry is near its death, and the Premier and his colleagues informed the President that they were prepared to resign, should M. Carnot consider their departure from office a step calculated to improve the chances of overcoming the difficulties which might be apprehended. The first difficulty France will have to face will be the dissolution of the Chamber, which may be the first step towards Revolution. If so, then all is well that ends well.

GERMANY.

A bit of fun comes from Germany. In the neighbourhood of Offenburg, where an election for the Reichstag took place some days ago, the burgomaster of a small village posted on the walls of his little kingdom the following announcement: "All those who shall vote in favour of the Socialist candidate, Adolf Geck, will be fined one thousand marks, or be imprisoned for six months!" That burgomaster is much more of a statesman than Bismarck, he knows best how to get rid of these unpleasant people. He is a contributor to the *Kladderadatsch*, or to the *Kikerikiki*, no doubt!

At Magdeburg, several arrests of Socialists have been made during the last fortnight. Hundreds of revolutionary leaflets have been distributed, and those arrested have been caught whilst doing their deservng work. In some other places of the "beloved Fatherland," thousands and thousands of leaflets have found their way to the reader without any mishap to the distributors.

At Kottbus, comrades Flassig and Haidle were sentenced to six and four months of jail respectively, for having distributed a quantity of electoral leaflets, which were merely announcements for the Socialist candidates. *Lieb Vaterland, magst ruhig sein!*

BELGIUM.

Our Belgian comrades, Georges Defuisseaux, Laloi, Maroille, and others, are still in jail, waiting till the magistrates have finished their shameful work of "constructive" plot against them. Nothing has been found until now to construct a plot with, but since the Nupkins have been ordered to make discoveries, they will no doubt at last come forward with some flimsy indictment good enough at any rate to make safe once more "religion, order, family, property," and all the rest of bourgeois institutions. Whilst they are busy at work, they generously distribute weeks and months of imprisonment among the "minor" offenders of the last strikes.

Comrade Paul Gille has been sentenced by the Court of Assize at Brussels to six months imprisonment for the mere utterance of his opinion towards the police, for his sole offence has been to have shouted, "A bas la police!" The police, of course, had as usual interfered with the right of public gathering and knocked down some Socialists, who were parading through the streets as they had a perfect right to do. But since Bismarck reigns supreme in Belgium, once so proud of its sense of freedom, all liberties are trampled under foot by the livery-men of the Iron Chancellor.

The Executive Council of the *Parti ouvrier* has issued a circular to all their branches and affiliated bodies, convening them to their annual general Congress, which is to be held at Jolimont, in the province of Hainault, on 21st and 22nd of April next.

Besides the *Parti ouvrier*, numerous Anarchist groups are formed throughout Belgium, especially at Brussels, Louvain, Antwerp, Liege, Verviers, and other places, and very interesting discussions are carried on between the Socialists and themselves, *La Révolte* every now and then giving information about these meetings.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

No less than two hundred and thirty newspapers are now prohibited in the land of the reactionary Hapsburgs, namely, sixty-seven written in the Italian tongue, forty-eight in German, twenty-nine in Servian, twenty-four in Hungarian, twenty-two in Roumanian, three in Russian, and one in Turkish. Most of these publications are either Socialistic or advanced Radical.

Since our Austrian comrades have held their Congress at Hainfeldt, numerous arrests have taken place. At Finflaus ten Socialists have been arrested, as we told our readers last week; seventeen at Ottakring, five at Prague, two at Brünn, etc., etc. As a set-off, comrade Adler, editor of *Gleichheit*, and three other Socialists, against whom a charge of secret conspiracy had been constructed, have been dismissed.

RUSSIA.

In spite of all that has been said by the bourgeois press regarding the dreadful railway accident of Borki, where the Russian autocrat and his family have "wonderfully escaped death through the benevolence of Almighty God," whose magnanimity, however, did not extend to thirty-seven persons of the imperial suite who were killed, the "accident" has now proved to have been the result of a Nihilist attempt. Accordingly, the officials of the railway, who at first were only dismissed, and the authors of the inquiry, who simply concluded their report by attributing the whole affair to a mere accident, have been arrested. But the Nihilists connected with the attempt have not been found out, and it is already stated that the principal organiser of the conspiracy has happily passed the frontier of his despotic fatherland. We wish the same good luck to all those concerned in the holy work of freeing Russia.

V. D.

SPAIN.

CUBA.—HAVANNAH.—Propaganda for the freedom of labour goes on with a certain briskness in this region. A "section of working shoemakers," for instance, issues a sturdy and enthusiastic manifesto to their fellow-workers, on the occasion of their own successful strike in this city, followed by one in the same trade in the neighbouring town of Guanabaoa. Among several sensible remarks on the present position and future of labour, the circular points out that co-operation is not the end-all, be-all, to be tried for: and that in England, where it has gained so distinct a position, the workers as a whole are pretty much where those of other countries are. The co-operation and organization of the workers as a means towards the one especial end, they of course advocate warmly, and are trying to stir up their comrades in the island to a similar feeling of *esprit de corps*.

M. M.

SOCIALISM IN SOUTH AMERICA.

You will be glad to hear that in this country the workers have begun to bestir themselves. Until about two months ago the capitalists in general lived in a fools' paradise, always repeating that, whatever might occur elsewhere, we were ages away from strikes or anything of the sort in Buenos Ayres. But any one who directed the slightest attention to the matter knew well that the condition of the workers had become unbearable. Everything was booming for the exploiters, while the wages of the workers had risen nothing, and the paper money was depreciated to the extent of 45 to 50 per cent. Rents at the same time had risen enormously, and a tremendous increase in municipal taxation on food (!) had made meat, it was said, as dear as in London,—this in a country where meat is looked upon as almost worthless.

But suddenly the skilled workers of the Southern Railway (an English company) declared that they were no longer able to bear it, and demanded that their wages should be paid in gold, and as the company, ever since the depreciation of the paper money, now about five years, had charged for everything at the price of gold, it seemed reasonable they should do so after being robbed of 40 or 50 per cent. for five years. They were refused, of course, and went out on strike. They met to consult among themselves in a public square, and were clubbed and about 120 of them taken prisoners. The constitution of this "free" country of course guarantees the right of public meeting; naturally it must be on a level in everything with the most advanced countries, as they say, but somehow or another the police have orders to disperse by force any meeting, notice of which has not been given twenty-four hours previously, and permission obtained to hold it!

Well, after great reluctance, and all the while declaring that the masters had the welfare of the workers deeply at heart, the company agreed to give an increase of 25 per cent., and the workers accepted it. Since then, however, it has been a scene of fresh strikes every day, and at present the capitalists are in a most pleasing state of annoyance and even fright, for the matter had not gone far when they found out that there were large numbers of Socialists among the workers, and now the theme of eloquent leading articles of the most powerful "organs" is the injury done to the workers by the Socialists who have induced them to strike! As if starvation was not good enough incentive!

The Germans have a club some years established, and I believe it has a good number of members, though the Germans are few compared with other nationalities in Buenos Ayres. A public meeting was called last Sunday at the German Club, in order, as the announcement stated, to discuss the question of strikes. It was attended by workmen, Socialists and non-Socialists, of all nationalities, and also by some members of a masters' association, called the Industrial Club.

The discussion was opened by our comrade Enrique Malatesta, who is a thorough and active Anarchist, and who has tried twice to establish a paper in Buenos Ayres in the last four years. He spoke so well that even the capitalists present learned something, and they confessed in their papers next day that he was not quite a raving maniac, but seemed to have some reason for what he said. He was followed by others in Spanish, French, and Italian, many of whom spoke out vigorously the language of Anarchism. The members of the Industrial Club found themselves, as they thought, in a hornets' nest; the air smelt of dynamite. They hastened to clear out, and now every day the capitalist papers are doing good propaganda work by raving at us like wild bulls—or asses. On Tuesday last *La Prensa*, which disputes with one other paper here (*La Nación*) the place of the *Times* of this Republic, came out with a leader attacking Socialists and workmen all round in the most furious style. It said that all was the work of the Socialists, and that all the latter were foreigners without one exception, as it was impossible for any one to become Socialist on the soil of this country; also that if workmen turned Socialists they would all be turned out of the country and that capitalists in any case would soon get so disgusted if striking continued that they would withdraw their capital and go to speculate!!

Perhaps you will scarcely believe that the ignorance of the writer could go so far, but so it is written, and I preserve it in the original for future reference. I have written to the paper showing what a fool the writer is, but I feel certain my letter will not be published. I told him, among other things, the fact that I am acquainted with many Argentines who understand Socialism, and among them one of the few literary men the country can boast of has written a pamphlet entirely Socialistic in spirit, and has declared himself to me to be a Socialist.

On the other hand, *El Correo Español* which is the "organ" of the Spaniards, adopted a very different tone. It admitted that there was abundant reason why workmen should combine to try and improve their condition, as they were not able to live at present, and that the condition of the workers here, with all that the other papers are so constantly saying of their happiness, was actually worse than in Europe,—at least, it said, it could answer for Spain.

Since writing the above, I have seen Malatesta, and he tells me the chief of police sent for him a few days ago and said that for the future the meeting of the Anarchists which is held every week would be attended by a policeman! This is liberty as understood in this Republic!

Malatesta desires me to send his fraternal salutations to Dr. Merlino and Kratopkin, with whom he has been a fellow soldier in the Cause.—Yours fraternally,

JOHN CREAGHE

(Physician and Surgeon).

Lujan, Provincia de Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic, Nov. 30, 1888.

OUT OF WORK MEMBERS.

Two painters, one labourer, and a carriage trimmer (Hammersmith Branch).

One member who would be glad of odd jobs, another in want of situation as bootmaker (Clerkenwell Branch).

THE SYNDICATE SYSTEM OF "SKINNING THE LOUSE."—A Workington correspondent writes to the *Glasgow Herald*, January 26th:—"It is reported that a London Syndicate have made important offers to Cumberland mine-owners for the sale of their iron ore mines in the West Cumberland district, and that for one property £130,000 has been offered, and for another £100,000. These offers are now under consideration of the respective firms."

THE LABOUR STRUGGLE.

BRITAIN.

The Lurgan hem-stitchers are still out, and show no signs of yielding.

RAILWAYMEN.—At Killylea Station on the Great Northern of Ireland, the station-master gets 16s. per week, less rent and superannuation.

DUNDEE MILLWORKERS.—At a meeting on 24th of January, of the Dundee mill and factory operatives, presided over by the Rev. Henry Williamson, it was agreed to request the employers to grant another advance of 5 per cent. on wages.

STRIKE AT GREENOCK.—The holeborers engaged in the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. Caird and Co., Greenock, have struck work for an increase in the rate of wages. The carpenter's labourers in the employment of Messrs. Russell and Co. have also demanded an advance of wages.

SMITH'S WAGES ON THE WEAR.—The smiths employed in the Wear shipyards have lodged a notice with the secretary of the Wear Shipbuilders' Association, claiming an advance of 3s. on time wages and 12½ per cent. on piece prices. The matter will be dealt with by the Conciliation Board.

FALKIRK PIPE-MOULDERS' STRIKE.—The strike of the pipe-moulders in and around Falkirk still continues. It has now lasted ten weeks, and some of the strikers have to appear in a court of "law"—not justice—for accompanying a few "scabs" on their way from work with singing and hooting.

YORKSHIRE MINERS.—The strikers at Church Lane Colliery, Dodworth (1,000), Gawthorpe Colliery (150), Stanley Colliery (about 250), are still holding out against the bosses' refusal to grant the generally conceded 10 per cent. They are receiving strike pay from the Association, and also the result of a voluntary weekly levy of 3d. per member throughout the county.

DUNDEE AND LEITH SEAMEN.—Four seamen arrived at Dundee last week to join the American Arrow Line steamer "Crystal." They had engaged at £4 per month, which is 5s. less than the wages demanded in Dundee. On their arrival they were met by the officials of the Dundee Sailors' Union, who treated them to breakfast and persuaded them to return to Leith. Later in the day, however, four "rats" were secured at Montrose at £4 per month.

STAFFORDSHIRE MINERS.—After speaking of the improved trade here, the *Labour Tribune* correspondent goes on to say that some of the pits "are so full of men that in some cases they cannot get 2s. a day. One man has worked six days for 7s. I know of one case where four men, personally known to me—men who can do a day's work with most men—earned for twenty turns' work the magnificent sum of £2 12s., charge less 2s. 9d., leaving a total to be divided among the men of £2 9s. 3d."

COLLIERY ENGINE-KEEPERS.—At a largely attended meeting of colliery engine-keepers in the Cambuslang and Rutherglen districts, after discussing their low wages (3½d. and 4½d. per hour), their long hours and the great responsibility placed upon them, it was unanimously agreed to approach the managers and solicit an advance of 3d. per shift. The Fife colliery engine-keepers have resolved to enter into negotiations with the engine-keepers of the West of Scotland and the Lothians with a view to amalgamation.

GLASGOW TRADES' COUNCIL.—At last week's meeting the delegate of the Seamen's Association reported that the demands of the men had been granted, and the strike had consequently terminated. Mr. Elliot moved a motion demanding the resignation of Mr. Broadhurst, M.P., as secretary of the Parliamentary Bills Committee, on account of his refusing to put a question in Parliament regarding an accident in one of the public works in England at the request of Mr. Champion, which was discussed and adjourned.

SAILORS.—The National Amalgamated Sailors' and Firemen's Union is going ahead. A few days ago it was 7,000 strong; since then two more branches have been formed—one at Cork, the other at Hull—and the membership has risen to 11,000. The increase is going on at the rate of 1,700 per week, and in every port at which it has been established sailors have gained the union rate of wages. This wonderful growth leads us to hope that it will not long remain a merely national organisation, but have to put International to its name.

IRISH TRADE UNIONISTS.—An association known as "The Irish Federated Trade and Labour Union," has issued a circular to all the labour associations in Ireland, in which its objects are stated to be: 1. To unite the various trade and labour organisations in Ireland into one organisation governed by a central body, holding congresses annually, or bi-annually, for the better protection of their interests, and the interest of Irish manufactures generally. 2. To establish a journal having for its sole purpose the furthering of the views of the governing body, by whom it shall be directly controlled. 3. To procure representation in Parliament and in local governing bodies. 4. To establish a bureau of correspondence, to which a list of contracts about to be competed for may be supplied; so that the governing body shall be able, if circumstances permit, to bring public opinion to bear on the manner in which such contracts may be disposed of. John Ward is chairman and T. J. O'Reilly and P. Belton are hon. secretaries. The committee rooms are at 33 Denmark Street, Dublin.

MIDLAND IRON AND STEEL WAGES BOARD.—The award has been made by Sir Thomas Martineau, president of the Board, with regard to the latest application for higher wages, saying that by an award dated October 5, 1888, it was directed that from October 20 puddlers' wages should be 7s. 3d. per ton; that wages of mill and forge men should be regulated by the same rate; and that award should be subject to one month's notice, to be given at the end of any week by either side of the Board; that about November 2 the operatives' secretary duly gave notice that the operatives would require the Board to reconsider the wages fixed by said award, with the view of an advance. In consequence of notice, negotiations took place between representatives of employers and operatives, but they failed to agree, and accordingly it was remitted to the president as arbitrator. A meeting took place before him at the Council House, Birmingham, on Monday January 7, when the operatives claimed that puddlers' wages should be increased 7½ per cent. Having carefully considered the subject, on the 21st the president made his award as follows: 1. That puddlers' wages shall continue at 7s. 3d. per ton until the 2nd day of February 1889. 2. That from and after that date until the 30th day of June 1889, puddlers' wages shall be 7s. 6d. per ton. 3. That wages of mill and forge men shall be regulated by the above rate in the same manner as heretofore. 4. That from and after the 30th day of June, 1889, the above award shall be subject to one month's notice, to be given at the end of any week by either side of the Board.

LONDON COMPOSITORS DECLARE FOR EIGHT HOURS.—The compositors of London have been polled on the eight hours question. The secretary sent out 5,075 papers asking the question, "Are you in favour of an eight hours working day?" There were 3,984 papers returned; 2,201 votes were given in favour of the proposition and 1,411 against it, while 372 remained neutral. There were 1,062 papers unaccounted for and 29 were informal. To the question, "Are you in favour of it being obtained by Act of Parliament?" 1,578 answered yes, 561 no, and 672 were neutral.

SHOE TRADE.—Delegates representing 18,000 shoe riveters and finishers of the National Trade Union held a conference at Leicester on 21st, to consider course to be adopted owing to increasing introduction of machinery. Delegates from London, Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool, Glasgow, and other large towns took part in a protracted discussion. Special reference was made to the difficulties created by the Union rules, owing to their prohibiting payment by the day except over an entire establishment, and the desirability of making them more elastic, so as to suit the special requirements of increased machinery, was pointed out.

SCOTCH COLLIERIES.—The movement throughout Scotland amongst the colliers for an advance of 6d. a day on their present wages is marked by a weak yammering feverishness. The associated masters in the west have conceded 17½ per cent. in all from the bottom rates; but it must be remembered that the Scotch colliers, before the upward movement, had been punished with a break of 7½ per cent., which their fellow-workers in England did not get; and even now the highest paid of the Scotch colliers are just about equal to the lowest paid colliers in England. There is only one district in England which works longer hours than Scotland. The want of unity amongst the Scotch miners is visited on them by the masters with a corresponding refusal to concede the advances in wages which the price of their product, even under the present unjustifiable burdens, warrants. Meetings amongst the miners in all the districts are numerous, but jealousy amongst the leaders paralyses any force of action the present favourable opportunity germinates. An advance of 6d. per day, which is equivalent to 10 per cent., has been conceded to the Airdrie miners. This makes 20 per cent. advance to them since November last. The men at Eaton Colliery, belonging to the Morningside Coal Company, struck for a few days, and received an advance of 6d. on their day. Threats of "drastic measures" if the 6d. a day be not conceded forthwith have been uttered by the men of the Mid and East Lothian Miners' Association, the Lanarkshire miners, the Stirlingshire miners, the Ayrshire miners, and the Clackmannanshire miners. The Fife men were showing some signs of probable action lately, but they have now succumbed on the masters promising an increase of 10 per cent. to take effect on 9th February. This gives the Fifers a total advance of 15 per cent., leaving them still behind all other districts in Scotland.

IN THE UNITED STATES.

OWEN BROWN, son of John Brown, of Ossawatimie, and last survivor of the Harper's Ferry insurrection, died last week and was buried at Pasadena, Cal., on January 12th. He was 74 years old. The last part of his life he lived like a hermit on a remote summit of the Sierra Madre Mountains, known as Brown's Peak.

The great "Q" strike of last year is settled at last. The basis of the settlement is that the company will not blacklist any of the engineers and firemen who were concerned in the strike, and will assist all those who have not been guilty of violence, or any other so-called improper conduct, in finding employment.

The last kick against T. V. Powderly's Knights of Labour has been dealt. Four of the surviving five of the original seven founders of the order have issued a manifesto against Powderly, and call upon all honest Knights to save the labour movement from destruction through corruption.

The "clearing house" scheme of the railroads, which I reported in detail in a previous letter, seems to have been impracticable. All the shareholders, the managers, and other officials of the American railroads, are yearning for concentration, for a trust. But as there can in one trust only be one leading mind, so the different presidents are fighting for this "elevated" position. All chances, of course, are that if the organisation is perfected, Jay Gould will be the ruling spirit. On the 10th inst., New York leading bankers, and the presidents of most of the railroads of the United States, met in New York city, and a plan was drawn up for an organisation embodying as its cardinal principles the maintenance of rates and the arbitration of disputes among the railroads west of Chicago. The new plan is similar to the "clearing house" scheme. At the same meeting the presidents of the Eastern roads resolved to form a similar association. The next day the presidents met again, and agreed to appoint an advisory committee of five to exercise a general supervision over the railroad traffic of the country, one member to represent the Eastern trunk lines, one the Western roads, one the Southern roads, one the North-western roads, and one the South-western roads. It is said that this committee is not to have any executive power, but is expected to exert a strong "moral" influence on the roads. One of the greatest difficulties the railroad men will have to meet in forming their trust, is the arrangement of a system of uniform classification. Under the present system the tariffs are of a rather chaotic nature, and changeable from day to day. But I am strongly of opinion that before this year is ended, the combination of the United States railroads will be completed, and then we will be confronted with the most gigantic monster organisation.

Claus Spreckels, jun., the California sugar king, has won his case against the Eastern Sugar Trust, ostensibly fought in the interest of the people of the State of New York. On the 9th inst., Judge Barrett, of the New York Supreme Court, decided that the North River Sugar Refining Company had forfeited its charter for having sold out to the sugar combination. He also pronounced the sugar trust illegal, justifying this action by saying: "It (the trust) comes as near to creating an absolute monopoly as is possible under the social, political, and economical conditions of to-day. If allowed to thrive and become general, it must inevitably lead to the oppression of the people and ultimately to the subversion of their political rights." The lawyers in the interest of the sugar trust are trying to get a stay of proceedings. The object of this is to prevent the appointment of a receiver to wind up the affairs of the North Side River Company, until the defendants have time to appeal to the Court of Appeals and get a decision. Great is the rejoicing among the faithful, i.e., the petite bourgeoisie and the aristocrats of labour over this decision. They exclaim, piously screwing up their eyes heavenward: "There are judges yet in America!" This is all nonsense. It is foolish to fight against combination. We are and must be

going fast in the direction of combination, competition having proved to be a wasteful mode of production. It is just like fighting against evolution to fight against the trusts. Fighting against them will do no good, but we must expropriate the owners of trusts and begin working combined capital in the interest of the community. There is one thing I have not been able to find out as yet, and that is, "Why did Judge Barrett declare trusts in general as illegal?" I know the sugar trust was combated in the interest of Claus Spreckels, jun., but this is not a complete explanation of the judges action. Some people say he did it in the interest of public morals. That's idiotic indeed, because public morals in the States are identical with—

Boodle. Perhaps in my next letter I shall be able to clear up the mystery. The *Chicago Times* is continuing its able and brilliant attack on the Chicago police. Bonfield has now also been drawn into the controversy. All the eastern newspapers never mention the affair at all. Mum is the word for them. The *Indianapolis Sentinel*, a capitalistic paper *par excellence*, says in an editorial: "Bonfield is a brute who has no more conception than one of the Czar's jailers of the nature of a free government. His campaign against Anarchy has been a crusade of fraud and false pretences, conducted with a view solely to his own glorification and without any regard for private rights or the public welfare. It was to his precipitancy and bloodthirstiness that the Haymarket slaughter was chiefly due, and the part he played in the prosecution of the men accused of complicity in that affair ought to cover his name with infamy for all time to come. Bonfield will find that fighting the *Chicago Times* is a very different matter from fighting a few penniless and friendless foreigners. We have no doubt that the *Times* will bring his inglorious official career to a speedy period." Well, is "our silence going to be more powerful than our speeches have been"?

On the 11th inst. Bonfield sent the following letter to the *Times*:

"To the *Chicago Times* and J. J. West, its editor-in-chief, and Joseph R. Dunlop, one of its editors.—For several days past the columns of the *Chicago Times* have contained articles charging me with gross corruption in my official position in the police department of this city. In reference to these charges I have invoked the courts of the country to determine their truth or falsity. I have been attacked not only as a man and a citizen, but as an officer of the municipal government, and therefore not only my own individual right, but to a great extent the interests of the community are involved. J. J. West and Joseph R. Dunlop have this day waived an examination which would have disclosed the real truth. In the nature of things the decision of the court cannot be rendered in all probability for several months. I now, therefore, propose to you that the question of my individual guilt or innocence of corruption charged against me in each and all of your articles since the third day of January, 1889, be submitted without delay to three judges of the Circuit Court of Cook County. I propose that the three judges be named for the purpose indicated by all the judges of that court; that the three judges hear all the testimony which may be adduced on either side and render their decision. If their decision or that of two of them has the effect of sustaining any one of your charges of receiving stolen property or assisting or colluding or conniving with any member of the police force in receiving or of concealing stolen property, or in attempting in any way to suppress any evidence of such receiving by any member of the police or any other person, or of any collusion with gamblers, or any other criminal class, or any criminal, or of any taking of bribes or bribe under any guise, or of any dishonesty, or any dishonest act or action in my official position, then I will at once dismiss each and every civil suit in which I am the plaintiff now pending in the Circuit Court and will recommend to the State's Attorney to enter a *notae prosequi* as to the criminal charges against J. J. West and Joseph R. Dunlop now pending in the Criminal Court of Cook County. I await your answer.—JOHN BONFIELD. I join in the above letter and make the same proposition for myself which Mr. Bonfield makes as to himself.—MICHAEL J. SCHAACK."

Bonfield had evidently studied the Parnell investigation babble. But the *Times* was not to be caught napping. In an editorial it says: "It would be the height of folly to permit a subterfuge of this character to betray the paper into a free-for-all, go-as-you-please contest for the police to corral and intimidate proposed witnesses, and without a tribunal legally constituted to try the case. The plan proposed seeks to stop the investigation of the *Times* at this point, while every day accumulates new and important facts substantiated by reliable witnesses." When the case of Bonfield *v.* the *Times* was called in the police-courts the lawyers of the paper waived examination and so the matter will go to a higher court.

Newark, N.J., January 15, 1889.

HENRY F. CHARLES.

THE MEETING AT MILAN.

Of late the whole energy of the Labour movement has been absorbed by the agitation for the European peace and disarmament. After a great number of demonstrations all over the country, a monster meeting was held on the 13th of January, at Milano, in the Theatre Dal Verne. It was not international as intended, as there were only French delegates, but it was at any rate imposing on account of the number of adherents. More than seven hundred Italian and French societies, mostly of working men, had sent their representatives. It is therefore to be regretted that the revolutionary idea did not dominate the resolutions, though it found vent in many speeches and an enthusiastic reception in the assembly. The chair was taken by Pantano, a Radical member of the Italian Parliament, with socialistic leanings, and our comrade Cipriani; and as honorary presidents, Anatole de la Forge, Liebknecht, and Saffi were nominated. The resolution arrived at demands: the suppression of the military system, international simultaneous disarmament and international arbitration, and calls on the nations to oppose by all means the criminal conspiracies of those who desire and prepare for war. What these means are, the Radical leaders of the concern wisely and cautiously did not state. To their great dismay, some Socialist speakers however pointed them out forcibly, as well as the inconsistency with which these soft-fighting Republicans ask for peace amongst the nations, whilst they do not object to the continuous murderous warfare that is going on in our present society. Those who deny this war, or declare it inevitable, and protest at the same time their love of peace, are either idiots or hypocrites.

The Milan meeting was at any rate a new proof of the goodwill existing between the working classes of all nations, and an indignant expression of disgust of the Italian workers at the infamous part that their government is disposed to play in the forthcoming monarchical war against republican France.

H. SCH.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE LEAGUE.—Propaganda Committee meets on Tuesday, February 5th, at 8.30 p.m., to further consider Samuel's leaflet, "A Straight Talk to Working-men," and other important business. *Elocution Class.*—At the conclusion of business of the Committee, Brooks will open a discussion on "The Great French Revolution of 1789." All members who are interested in the propaganda are asked to attend.

D. J. NICOLL.

THE SPIRIT OF REVOLT.

FROM A SONG OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR.

Want a weapon? Gather a brick,
Club or cudgel, or stone or stick;
Anything with a blade or butt,
Anything that can cleave or cut.

Anything heavy, or hard, or keen!
Any sort of slaying machine!
Anything with a willing mind
And the steady arm of a man behind.

Want a weapon? Why, capture one!
Every soldier has got a gun,
Belt and bayonet, bright and new;
Kill a soldier and capture two!

Shoulder to shoulder, son and sire!
All! call all! to the feast of fire!
Mother and maiden, and children brave;
A common triumph or single grave.

THE SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

OFFICES: 13 FARRINGTON ROAD, E.C.

The Offices of the Socialist League will be open for the sale of *Commonweal* and all other Socialist publications from 8.30 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day except Sunday. The Secretary will be in attendance from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Library.—The Library is open to members of the Socialist League and affiliated bodies. LIBRARY CATALOGUE, containing the Rules, 2d. D. J. NICOLL and W. BLUNDELL are the Librarians.

Executive.—At Council meeting, Jan. 28th, upon a discussion *re Commonweal*, it was decided to get the opinion of the members at their next London meeting on 4th inst.

Annual Conference.—The Annual Conference will be held on Whit-Sunday, June 9th. Place of meeting and other particulars will be duly announced.

Notice to Branch Secretaries.—Membership Cards can now be had by the Branches at 9d. per dozen from Central Office.

The Article, published in No. 152 of *Weal*, Dec. 8th, 1888, addressed to "Working Women and Girls," is now being issued by the Propagandist Committee in leaflet form for distribution, at 3s. 6d. per 1,000.

London Members' Meeting.—The next monthly meeting of members will take place on Monday, Feb. 4, 1889, at 13, Farringdon Road, at 9 o'clock sharp.

Branch Subscriptions Paid.—1888:—Clerkenwell, to December, 1888:—Leicester, to January, Mitcham and North London, to February.

Notice to Branch Secretaries.—Please, remit, to Central Office, your Branch Capitation fees as soon as possible. A list of Branches in arrears will appear.

Notice.—All letters on League business, except those intended for Editors of *Commonweal*, to be addressed to me. No other person is authorised to sign any official communication.

FRANK KITZ, Secretary.

"COMMONWEAL" PRINTING FUND.

W. Morris (Coleford), 5s.; A. Schey, 4s.

"COMMONWEAL" GUARANTEE FUND.

The following further sums have been received towards this fund:—Nicoll, 6d.; Mrs. Schack, 6d.; Knifel, 6d.; J. Presburg, 6d.; H. Davis, 6d.; Blundell, 6d.; J. Lane, 5s.; Tilley, 1s.; Seglie, 6d.; Solomon, 6d.; R. Turner, 6d.; J. Turner, 6d.; Leatham, 6d.; Morris West, 1s.; Kitz, 6d.; J. Morris, 7s.; B. W., 6d.; and Samuels, 1s.

Guarantors of Provincial Branches are requested to send up their lists at once.

REPORTS.

LONDON OPEN-AIR PROPAGANDA.—*Regents Park*—Parker and Cantwell spoke. Good sale of *Weals*. *Hyde Park*—Nicoll, Parker, Cores, and Hicks spoke. Large audiences. Songs went off well. March in procession to Clerkenwell Green, escorted by police. *Clerkenwell Green*—Parker, Brookes, and McCormack spoke. After which comrades and friends adjourned to 13, Farringdon Road, to hear lecture.

CLERKENWELL.—On Sunday evening, at 8.30 p.m., Cores in the chair. J. Turner lectured on "How to obtain Anarchist Socialism without the aid of Parliamentary Government." Very good discussion followed of members and visitors, which were very ably answered by the lecturer. *Commonweal* sold well, and 2s. 6d. collected.—S. P.

HAMMERSMITH.—Good meeting at Latimer Road, Sunday morning, at 11.30. Speakers, Dean, Fox, Bullock, Davis, Maughan, and A. J. Smith. Choir sang during meeting. Good meeting also at Weltje Road in evening at 7. Speakers, Lyne junr., Dean, Bullock, and Beasley. Choir assisted. Morris lectured at Kelmscott House, at 8, in place of advertised lecturer, who was ill.—G. M.

NORTH LONDON.—On Friday a good debate on "The Social Democratic Programme," took place between Samuel (S.L.) and White (S.D.F.). There was a good attendance and much interest shown.

ABERDEEN.—At indoor meeting, on 21st, Leatham read lecture on "The Modern Revolution," Cooper in chair, and discussion carried on by Barron, Duncan, and Slater. In spite of miserable weather, usual meeting held at Castle Street, Saturday night, Duncan and Leatham addressing large and boisterously-enthusiastic crowd. Several questions at close. Choir sang several songs.—L.

GLASGOW.—On Wednesday evening Dan McCulloch read his paper on "Education, what it is, and what it should be," to the Maxwell Parish Church Literary Society. A discussion followed, which showed that there is a deal of heathenish notions on social matters surviving in the minds of those spiritually-minded young Christians. On Sunday, at 2.30, Glasier and Joe Burgoyne spoke on Jail Square, and at 5 o'clock Burgoyne, Glasier, and Gilbert spoke at Paisley Road Toll. There were good audiences at both meetings.

NORWICH.—Sunday afternoon open-air meeting held in Market Place for a while, and then adjourned to the Gordon Hall to consider whether arrangements could be made for Mowbray to stay here; several suggestions made. In evening a general meeting of members was held, a large number turned up; lengthy discussion took place upon report of a Special Committee appointed to consider the causes of the dissension existing in the Branch. Good sale of *Commonweal*.

YARMOUTH.—A good meeting held on Sunday afternoon; questions asked and answered to the satisfaction of the audience. On explaining that we should have assistance from Norwich but for expense, the people immediately made a collection to cover railway fare of a speaker.

LECTURE DIARY. LONDON.

Olerkenwell.—Hall of the Socialist League, 13 Farringdon Road, E.C. (4-minute from Farringdon Station, 1 minute from Holborn Viaduct). Members who cannot attend are requested to send in their subscriptions due, with card, to branch, if they can do so without inconvenience to themselves, or otherwise communicate with secretary. Committee meeting every Sunday at 7.30 p.m.
Fulham.—8 Effie Road, Walham Green. Committee meetings on Sunday evenings at 7 o'clock sharp. All members are earnestly requested to attend. Sunday February 3, at 8 p.m., Graham Wallas (Fabian), "The French Revolution of 1848."
Hackney.—Secretary, E. Lefevre, 14 Goldsmiths Sq., Goldsmiths Row, Hackney Road.
Hammersmith.—Kelmascott House, Upper Mall, W. Sunday February 3, at 8 p.m., G. B. Shaw (Fabian Society), "National Wealth." Wednesday 6th, at 8 p.m., Rev. Stewart D. Headlam, "Christian Socialism."
Hoxton.—12, Basing Place, Kingsland Rd. Business meetings held every Friday evening at 9 o'clock.
London Fields.—All communications, etc., to Mrs. G. G. Schack, 26 Cawley Road, South Hackney.
Mitcham.—Meets every Sunday, 3 Clare Villas, Merton Road, at 11 a.m.
Mile-end and Bethnal Green.—95 Boston St., Hackney Road.
North London.—6 Windmill Street, Tottenham Court Road. Meets every Friday evening at 8 o'clock. Friday February 3, Discussion.
Walworth and Camberwell.—Committee meeting every Monday, at 7.30 p.m., at 3 Datchelor Place, Church Street, Camberwell Green.
Whitechapel and St. Georges in the East.—International Club, 40 Berner Street, Commercial Road.
Wimbledon and Merton.—All those desirous of helping in and around Wimbledon and Merton, should communicate with F. Kitz, 3 Clare Villas, Merton Road.

PROVINCES.

Aberdeen (Scottish Section).—Secretary, P. Barron, 14 Ann Street. Branch meets in Oddfellows Hall on Monday nights at 8. Choir practice at 46 Marischal Street on Thursday evenings at 8.
Bradford.—Read's Coffee Tavern, Ivegate. Meets Tuesdays at 8.
Carnoustie (Scottish Section: Forfarshire).—Meeting every Wednesday, at 8 p.m., in the Carnoustie Restaurant. Samuel Wilson, Secy.
Dundee (Scot. Sect.).—Meetings every Sunday in the Trades Hall, opposite Tay Bridge Station.
Dublin.—Dublin Socialist Club, 16 Dawson Street. All persons desirous of joining are requested to communicate with A. Coulon at above address.
Edinburgh (Scottish Land and Labour League).—35 George IV. Bridge. Meetings for Discussion, Thursdays at 8 p.m.
Galashiels (Scot Sect.).—J. Walker, 184 Glendinning Terrace, secy.
Gallatoun and Dysart (Scottish Section: Fife).—Meet every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Gallatoun Public School. Secretary, A. Paterson, 152 Rosslyn St.
Glasgow.—84 John Street. Reading-room (Draughts, Chess, etc.) open 10 a.m. till 10 p.m. daily. Weekly meeting of members on Thursday evenings at 8. French Class meets every Sunday at 11.—SPECIAL NOTICE.—William Morris will lecture on "The Society of the Future" in the Albion Hall, on Sunday 10th February, at 7 o'clock. Admission: body of hall, collection at door; gallery, 6d.
Kilmarnock.—Secretary, H. McGill, 22 Gilmour St. Branch meets on every alternate Tuesday.
Leeds.—Clarendon Buildings, Victoria Rd. and Front Row. Open every evening. Business meeting Saturdays at 8 p.m.
Leicester.—Hosiery Union Offices, 11a Millstone Lane. Fridays at 8 p.m.
Norwich.—Friday 1st, at 8.30, Members' Meeting: comrades are requested to attend for important business, election of officers. Sunday, at 8, Gordon Hall. Monday, Hall open from 8. Tuesday, at 8.30, Members' Meeting. Wednesday Thursday, and Friday, Hall open from 8 until 10.30. Saturday, 8 until 10.30, Co-operative Clothing Assoc.
Oxford.—Temperance Hall, 25 1/2 Pembroke Street. Wednesdays, at 8.30 p.m.
Walsall.—Lecture Room, back of Temperance Hall. Mondays at 8 p.m.
West Calder (Scottish Section).—Sec., Robert Lindsay, West Calder.
Yarmouth.—All desiring to join branch in course of formation here should communicate with C. Reynolds, Row 45, George Street, who is acting as Secretary pro tem.

All persons who sympathise with the views of the Socialist League are earnestly invited to communicate with the above addresses, and if possible help us in preparing for the birth of a true society, based on equality, brotherhood, and freedom for all.

OPEN-AIR PROPAGANDA.

(Weather permitting.)

SUNDAY 3.

11.30...Latimer Road Station ...Hammersmith Branch
11.30...Regent's Park ...Nicoll
11.30...Walham Green, opp. Station...The Branch
3.30...Hyde Park ...Parker
7.30...Broad Street, Soho ...The Branch
7.30...Clerkenwell Green ...Cores
7.30...Weltje Rd., Ravenscourt Pk.Hammersmith

Tuesday.

8.30...Fulham—back of Walham Green Ch. ...Branch

EAST END.

SUNDAY 3.

Leman Street, Shadwell 11 ...J. Turner.

PROVINCES.

Aberdeen.—Saturday: Castle Street, at 7.30 p.m.
Glasgow.—Sunday: Glasgow Green at 2 p.m.; Paisley Road at 5.30.
Leeds.—Sunday: Hunslet Moor, at 11 a.m.; Vicar's Croft, at 7 p.m.
Norwich.—Sunday: Market Place, at 3.
Yarmouth.—Priory Plain, at 3 every Sunday.

THE SOCIALIST CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATION.—The Committee will meet at 63 Lincoln's Inn Fields, on Saturday Feb. 1 at 7.30 p.m. Members please send their subscription cards to the Secretary for audit.

LEICESTER.—A course of lectures on "Socialism, its Aims and Principles" is being delivered in Leicester Secular Hall. The sixth lecture will be delivered on Sunday February 10th by Annie Besant—subject, "Industry under Socialism."

EAST-END PROPAGANDA.—Please note.—A united meeting of members of the Hackney, London Fields, and Mile-end and Bethnal Green Branches will be held at 26 Cawley Road, South Hackney, on Sunday February 3rd, at 4.15 p.m.

SOUTH LONDON.—Friends who will help to establish a Branch of the Socialist League in South London will please place themselves in communication with C. Henze, 41 Bolton Street, Thomas Street, Kennington Park, S.E., or by letter to H. Hopkins, 17 Gairloch Road, Shenley Road, Peckham, S.E.

DRUM AND FIFE BAND.—Next meeting will be held at 13 Farringdon Road, Sunday February 3, at 7 p.m. Contributions in aid of the funds are urgently needed, and should be forwarded to E. Turner, treasurer, care of F. Kitz, 13 Farringdon Rd. Any comrade capable of taking the post of instructor to the Band is requested to communicate with G. Cores, Secretary pro tem., Farringdon Road.

IPSWICH LABOUR REFORM LEAGUE.—Pioneer Club, Theatre Yard, Tacket Street.—A good discussion was opened here last Sunday by Creed, on "Has Machinery Lessened Labour?" There was a fair attendance and a very good discussion, in which Thomas, White, Spinks, Brown, Riches, Woodhouse, the Steward, and F. Charles (of London, in the chair) took part. The new ideas are steadily and surely making headway here. Next Sunday a debate between Thomas and Spinks on "Is a Representative Government Necessary?"

NOTICE.

Subscribers who find a red mark against this notice are thereby reminded that their subscriptions have expired and must be renewed immediately if they wish to continue to receive Commonwealth.

SOCIALIST LEAGUE LITERATURE.

- Chants for Socialists. By William Morris. 1d
Organised Labour: The Duty of the Trades' Unions in Relation to Socialism. By Thomas Binning (London Society of Compositors). 1d.
The Commune of Paris. By E. Belfort Bax, Victor Dave, and William Morris. 2d.
The Aims of Art. By Wm. Morris. Bijou edition, 3d.; Large paper, 6d.
The Rights of Labour according to John Ruskin. By Thomas Barclay. 1d
The Tables Turned; or, Nupkins Awakened. A Socialist Interlude. By William Morris. In Wrapper 4d.
The Manifesto of the Socialist League. Annotated by E. Belfort Bax and William Morris. An exposition of the principles on which the League is founded. 1d.
True and False Society. By Wm. Morris. 1d.
Useful Work v. Useless Toil. By William Morris. 1d.
"All for the Cause!" Song. Words by William Morris; Music by E. Belfort Bax. 4to, 4 pp. 6d. per dozen, 4s. 6d
"Vive la Commune!" Cartoon by Walter Crane. Best paper. 2d.
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