

THE COMMONWEAL

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WEEKLY; ONE PENNY.

NOTES ON PASSING EVENTS.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S speeches at Bradford were perhaps principally important because he said nothing very new in them. As at Dartford, he thought it necessary to wave the Jingo flag, while warning people against supposing that its waving meant anything at all; and if a Tory audience ever takes the trouble to think, the hearts of some of his hearers must have sunk with forebodings of dull times in foreign politics as far as the Tory Government is concerned. As to home politics, he began the course of explaining away his threat of three acres and a cow, which clearly lies before him. As to that notable scheme, indeed, he spoke more truth than he intended to speak when he claimed it as a Tory measure—which indeed it would be if it could be passed and enforced. He tried to reinforce his hopes of a revival of trade, based at Dartford on those two articles (not very filling at the price) pepper and quicksilver, by a conversation with a railway official. All this, however, was but half-hearted, and, as at Dartford, it was quite clear that the part of the political game which he was really interested in was the Irish question.

Of course he felt, first, that neither the Tory Government nor any other could really deal with the economical condition of Britain; and next, that the less they dealt with it the better he would be pleased; and thirdly, that he had done quite enough to give the Whig-Liberal-Radicals an excuse for supporting him: while on the other hand that, as far as Parliament is concerned, it is possible for the Government to block the way to Home Rule and the beginnings of expropriation in Ireland. Accordingly he hinted at the possibility of a new Coercion Bill, and entirely repudiated anything like concession to Home Rule, poking great fun at the *Daily News*, which he or some of his party had hounded with much success; and finally he waxed eloquent and eager over his intention of clapping the muzzle on the Home Rulers; showing by his reservation of this subject to the last that it was the one matter of real importance that he had to deal with.

He showed with much frankness how he had changed his opinion on this point; that he had resisted the application of the muzzle as unconstitutional when Mr. Gladstone proposed it, only because the small Irish party had to be dealt with; but that as he saw that the Home Rule party was growing strong, and formed at least a respectable minority, he began to be concerned, and at last saw the necessity for silencing arbitrarily an opponent who was listened to by the people at large. In short, this latter part of Lord Randolph's speech, which has not been so much noticed as it deserved to be, is a model of impudence and brutality, and implies probably a fair appreciation on the speaker's part of the qualities of the audience whom he was addressing. It was no insult to them; but it would have been a dire insult to any other audience than the rump of a ridiculous party, with no chance of sustaining their worn-out theories in practice.

And yet, cynically as Lord Randolph put his proposals, his firm resolve to carry them out shows that he has grasped the true idea of Constitutionalism face to face with Revolution; for in spite of Mr. Parnell's respectable Parliamentary methods the Irish claim is revolutionary, and will be dealt with accordingly; Constitutionalism will not put up with Revolution in its midst, and will not find it difficult to lay hand on some weapon old or new in its armoury to put it down. In all probability Lord Randolph will find himself well supported in his attack on the Home Rulers in Parliament. What will the Home Rulers outside Parliament do?

Russia seems, having counted the cost, to have made up her mind to lay hands on Bulgaria, on the grounds that no great harm can come of it, since England has now with many big words declared that the quarrel is none of hers. The stroke once struck, the "conscience of Europe" will not be very uneasy at the robbery; nor as far as any of the respectable powers go can they afford to be very sensitive, as each of the said powers would do as Russia is going to do, if opportunity served it. Certainly England with her pockets crammed with stolen goods, would cut but a poor figure as the defender of injured innocence—at any rate if she were beaten.

The three great Absolutist powers, unless they are forced to fall out, seem on the surface as strong as ever; the true development of nations,

the harmonious and free development of their varied qualities, still awaits the time when "national life" in the sense in which we now use the words has come to an end, and the setting up a standard of rivalry, striving after an approach to the monopoly of a market under the name of patriotism, will have come to be looked upon as a monstrous folly, remembered only to be ridiculed.

WILLIAM MORRIS.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

THE title of this contribution refers to two widely different classes in society—one at the top ever seeking to escape labour, and one at the bottom ever engaged in a vain search for labour. The rich unemployed, falsely styled the upper classes, have called to their aid the French word *ennui* to describe the languor bred by sheer pampered idleness; the poor unemployed find the word *starvation* express their condition. Not always the actual deprivation which gives occasion for those annual returns of death from starvation, which forms one of the strongest counts in an indictment against the present system, but the slow lingering stinting which, allied with anxiety for the morrow, brings strong men down to weakness and hurries the old, young, and weakly to premature graves. Whilst the wealthy are asking where and how to vary their pleasures, and the journals which pander to them are discussing the merits of the brothel stage-displays they affect, thousands are facing a fate in preference to which summary execution would be humane. Week by week the roll of pauper and suicide deaths mounts up, whilst the rich are canvassing the qualities of their cellars and viands, or the lachrymose details of three-volume novels.

The unemployed have at the present moment many champions, who were silent when some few years back a band of men strove to draw attention, not only to the distresses of the unemployed, but to the normal wretched state of the mass who constitute the fringe of labour, and who ought certainly to have the largest share of sympathy from the true revolutionist. The noisiest always secure the greatest attention, and the present agitation anent the unemployed receives its chief impetus from a totally different cause than that ascribed by the capitalist press, which with singular blindness attributes all the commotion to the unfortunates of our bastard civilisation, those whom they describe as "social wreckage." On the contrary, it is because the wave of commercial depression has reached a higher grade of workers that the present outcry is heard. It may be writing with bitterness, but not without truth, to state that this class has looked upon the gradual development of machinery in the hands of capitalists, and the consequent displacement of hand labour and increase of pauperism, prostitution, and crime, with great indifference. They have joined chorus in the harsh epithets which the upper thief class has bestowed upon the lower; and the often involuntary idler of their own class receives from them his full share of censure, whilst they ignore the profligacy and luxurious living of the idle rich, who prey upon all. They have passed without protest and often with approval, on the ground "that it makes good for trade," the criminal atrocities committed by our troops abroad in order to make fresh markets for the shoddy products they think are goods. But now the fear of starvation is before them, they clamour for a huge system of out-door relief in a tone that is at once pitiable and degrading.

No, sapient writers of the daily bond-grabbing press, it is the very "genuine working men" whom you are so fond of distinguishing from the "residuum," who are now your chief trouble, and who are not likely longer to bestow much attention upon your favourite dodge of erecting the meetings of coteries of ex-beer-duty, ex-fair-trade, ex-almost-everything agitators, and the renegade Socialist, into representative gatherings.

The aristocratic snob, some specimens of which are turned out fresh

from our universities, are contemptible; still more so are the snobs of the counter; but the worst of all are the contented slaves who only ask for work, work, work, however exhausting and wearisome, and regard with indifference those who are crushed by the system. This class will be readily appeased by relief works, and their revolutionary ardour will soon cool under the discipline of State-paid gangs, and the men who achieve these results, whether they belong to the possessing classes or not, will be the true saviours of society, as society stands to-day.

The fringe, the unhappy weaklings and others who cannot take part in the bitter struggle for existence as capitalist greed orders it to-day, will remain where they are, to be punished for others' failure in work-house, hospital, and prison. It is by no means the business of revolutionary Socialists to help the exploiters to save themselves for a time by "timely concessions," but by educating away the miserable prejudices and narrowness of the working class to proclaim the solidarity of all, instead of the frequent cry, "Am I my brother's keeper?"—to infuse a feeling of brotherhood and sympathy with those at the very base of society, as the result of enlightened views as to the cause of their position, and to join with the demand for work and bread, which is now heard alone, the demand for leisure, culture and refinement—in short, equality. A revolution must be accomplished by revolutionists, and is not likely to be accomplished by those who are simply discontented because an inherently rotten system can no longer afford them continuous toil. An agitation will commence not because they are unemployed but because they are ever poor, and instead of the miserable spectacle now so frequently seen in winter, of gangs of men accompanied by police asking alms of their enemies, there will be an irresistible demand for the restitution of the land and means of production, which will have a different echo to a cry for gang labour.

F. KITZ.

A WORD TO WOMEN.

WITHOUT your aid the Social Revolution will never be an accomplished thing. But so surely as you have tender and pitying hearts, so surely will your aid be ours in the great cause. There are those of you who need no teaching of the horrors that the present fearful system forces upon you. You, oh working women! have you not known what it is to toil with wearisome restlessness for a wage that barely kept you and those dear to you from starvation? You know too well how it was ere you left your parents' home to join hands with your husband; how your father was often out of work and your mother ill, and what terrible privations you all had to endure; how since then it has been one ceaseless struggle on your part. But you, oh women of the leisured classes! you have never realised all this; your hands are delicate and unsoiled; you have never known the pinch of hunger nor the sense of homelessness; but will you refrain from aiding us because the horrid system touches not yourselves with its misery, while you know full well that your sisters, less lucky than you, are being ground under its ruthless heel? You have fine robes and lovely mansions, your ears are often pleased with sweet music, and for your palate dainty dishes are prepared; but do you not know that many a woman to-day has a hard fight to keep even decent, lives on coarse food, in a miserable home, working and slaving, whilst you enjoy what her labour has given you? Walk to-morrow in your coarsest dress into some of the workers' districts of your own city, and you will see pale women hurrying along, haggard and dirty men, out of work, lounging about, glad to drown their misery in drink, little children with naked feet so pinched that the very pavement seems to shrink away from the contact; and then ask yourself why is all this. Is it, as some will tell you, because these people are careless and thriftless? No, truly, for how can they be thriftless? If they spend all they get they cannot spend much. You yourself spend much more than they, yet you are not called "thriftless." Many a man who spends more than they do is called "thrifty," simply because he has more. Therefore when you blame these poor as thriftless you are really blaming them for having small incomes, and that is a condition that is forced upon them by our system of society. Besides, they produce value for what they consume; you do not. The cause lies deeper, in the system against which we fight—the system of competition and capitalism. Look again at its fruits—starving children, women almost destitute, young girls forced to prostitution, dens that you would shudder to look at called "homes" by these workers; and if you can turn away from these things gaily, and say "It touches me not; I am comfortable; let things be, it is no matter of mine," then do you belie your nature, your heart is not a woman's but a wolf's, and this appeal is not to you. But if, on the contrary, you feel yourself thrilled with horror at the contrast between your own state and that of your sister, knowing that it is no merit in you, but the mere accident of birth, that raises you above her, and if all your true woman's heart rises in a storm of indignation that such things should be, or if your pitying eyes weep to see the sufferings of your fellows, then do we know that you are with us in battling to the death with the monster horror that is cursing the lives of so many.

FRED HENDERSON.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE GLASS BOTTLE MAKERS.

As soon as the Trades' Unions were established, we had every reason to believe that these associations which made such rapid progress in so short a period, would take in hand the cause of labour in all its aspects, and pave the way for Revolution. Unfortunately, however, we were soon disappointed in these our expectations; the individualistic spirit that prevailed from the very beginning among these working-men's associations, and the selfish tendencies which made themselves conspicuous among them, soon transformed them into reactionary institutions, incapable of solving a question so far-reaching as that of the organisation of labour, and disqualified them for bringing about in the future the triumphant realisation of Socialistic ideas.

Modern Society presents a strange picture; it shows us the working classes involved in a predicament full of contradictions, brought about too by the natural course of scientific and industrial development. On the one hand, in their hearts and minds, we find tendencies and longings growing ever stronger and stronger towards equality, dignity, and liberty; on the other, in actual fact, we have inequality growing ever more marked, pauperism growing ever more menacing, slavery growing ever more base and disgraceful. Here is a new anomaly, not less astonishing at first sight than that of the growth side by side of pauperism and wealth. When human intellect exclaims, "Progress and Freedom," economical fatality answers, "Decay and Servitude!" Clearly, a ruinous abyss underlies such a situation. To escape this, there are but two courses; the one, which is so extolled by the privileged class, would be that of arresting the intellectual tendency towards equality and liberty in order to make room for the economical tendency towards misery, a course as foolish as brutal, for then to be logical, science must needs be checked; and consequently also the progressive march of industry, the growth of riches, and the accumulation of capital, involving therewith the ruin of the capitalist himself. It would, in short, be imperatively necessary to stop the development of the human mind, and change the entire course of Nature itself, which everywhere shows us in the unbroken chain of being, in the successive formation of organisms, more and more perfect and complex, from the sea-weed to man himself, the great law of progress.

The other form tends to develop an intellectual disposition towards liberty, equality, and dignity, nay, to restrain that economical tendency which results in misery, a method as reasonable as humane, since the aim no longer is to hinder the cerebral development of men or impede the working of natural laws. Its only object is to bring into play on behalf of labour all the economic forces which serve now solely for the profit of capital. To attain that end it suffices to modify the relations of capital and labour, to bring henceforth capital and labour again into coalescence on an equal footing, so that every labourer shall be a capitalist, and every capitalist a labourer, every producer at the same time also a consumer, and every consumer a producer—in other words, it is to strive towards effecting the pure and simple abolition of wage-slavery.

To promote and to advance the popular tendencies towards liberty and equality, for the present to support labour in all its struggles against capital, and in view of the future to create adequate institutions to effect the transformation of social organisation—such ought to have been the mission, such ought to have been the vocation of the trades' unions, and this mission, this vocation, they have not as yet grasped.

To reach this consummation, which is simply to make the economical revolution a reality, it would, above all, have been necessary to internationalise the trades' unions, which have always been, so to speak, cantoned into purely national and even local associations. All the efforts that were once made by the General Council of the International Association of Working-men with the object of uniting these operative bodies with their comrades of the Continent, proved themselves vain and fruitless. And further, at the recent Paris Congress of trades' unions, the English delegates abstained from voting for the third resolution, in which the necessity of reconstituting an international society among the working-men of all countries came into question. This, however, does not prove that there are no intelligent men among the unionists, endowed with clear minds and generous aspirations, who long ago saw that if the trades' unions wish to maintain their right of existence they must range themselves under the banner of Socialism. In a masterly piece of popular literature, our comrade Thomas Binning, who is a unionist himself, said a short time ago:—

"I call upon the unionists frankly to recognise their mission, and to make common cause with all those whose fundamental principle is that the brotherhood of labour should be the basis of society. The emancipation of labour is neither a local nor a national, but a social problem. Labour is of no country. The interests of the workers are everywhere identical. Whatever political party be in power, whether the form of government be republican, constitutional-monarchical, or absolutist—everywhere the workers have to contend with the same evils. The cause of all social misery is the economical subjection of the labourer to the monopoliser of the means of labour, whereby the masses of the people are compelled to sell themselves by a kind of Dutch auction to the capitalist classes in order to obtain the wherewithal to maintain a bare existence. There is absolutely no hope for the workers but in the utter abolition of wage-slavery, and the reconstruction of society on a labour basis. Everything that has been put forward as a panacea and for the purpose of keeping the people in a fools' paradise has been tried and failed, and left them in even a worse condition than they were in before.

Surely they must be blind indeed who do not perceive that neither free trade nor improvements of machinery, no appliance of science to production, no increased means of communication nor new colonies, emigration, opening of new markets, nor all these things put together, can do away with the miseries of the industrious classes; but that whilst society remains on its present false base, every fresh development of the productive powers of labour can only tend to deepen social contrasts and to embitter and accentuate the class struggle."

And again, he says:

"The paramount duty of the trades' unions seems to me to be clearly defined. It is to make plain to all men that they have no part nor lot with those who would maintain the existing unjust social arrangements, but that they recognise the absolute identity of their interests with those of the opponents of class privilege and domination. The trades' unions have hitherto kept commendably clear of party politics, but there appears some danger at present that they may be 'got at' by the professional politicians, and may be induced to turn aside from their proper work to waste their efforts in parliamentary pottering. The unions should steadily reject all alliances with any of the present political parties; they should refuse to take part in those disgusting farces termed royal commissions; and above all, they should guard against being cajoled by the blandishments which are being craftily bestowed upon some of the weak-kneed 'representatives' of labour. The attention of trades'-unionists ought to be solely directed to the social question. Nothing short of an economic revolution can emancipate labour, therefore no amount of legislative tinkering is of any use, so long as private property in the sources of life is permitted."

Not only are there individual unionists who understand that the only way to their salvation is through Socialism, but we are happy to state that an entire *trades' union*—viz., that of the glass-bottle makers—has just entered upon the same path.

The Glass-Bottle Makers' Union held an international conference in London from the 16th to the 19th of October last, in which glass-bottle makers from England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Austria, and Denmark, were represented. To manifest the feeling of international solidarity with which they were animated, the representatives of this important branch of industry in their first sitting unanimously passed the following resolution, which the Socialistic papers of Belgium have already published in their columns:

"The International Conference of Glass-Bottle Makers, held in Farringdon Hall, London, on the 16th of October, expresses to their fellow-comrades of Belgium their sentiments of deepest sympathy and of international brotherhood, shares their sufferings, encourages them in their work, and wishes that comrades Falleur, Schmidt, and all the other fellow-workmen who were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment for having sustained the cause of the workers, may be annested without delay, as this is the only means of doing justice to the Belgian workers.—On behalf of the Conference, CHRISTOPHER SWEETING, Chairman; JAMES HUNTER, Secretary."

Knowing that the local and national efforts of the glass-bottle makers had proved themselves thus far of no avail, they established an international union, and they did not shrink from setting forth at the head of the statutes of their new union principles which were thoroughly Socialistic. The Secretary-General of the Council recently elected to hold office for one year, has been entrusted with the drawing up of an address, which is to be translated into all the principal languages, and which will proclaim to the working men of all countries the constitution of the International Union, its aims, and its methods.

VICTOR DAVE.

(To be concluded).

LITERARY NOTICES.

John Swinton's Paper, in its issue of October 10, announces the beginning of its fourth year of publication. In October 1883, when sturdy John Swinton cast himself loose and sailed in on the side of labour, there were none who imagined the vast progress in American labour matters shown since then. To him and his live paper much of that progress is due. All friends of labour should honour its birthday with the toast, "May it live until it is useless and then die respected."—S.

Few publishers of "popular editions" have the courage of John W. Lovell and Co. (16 Vesey Street, New York), who have included in their marvellously cheap series, "Lovell's Library," several very advanced books on labour and social questions, including Marie Howland's 'Papa's Own Girl.' They also publish "pirate editions" of a great many English copyright books.—S.

The only real difference between the robbers of ancient times and the monopolists of to-day is the mode of operation. The former robbed the producers by force of arms and carried their plunder into their castles, and defended it by private armed soldiers. The monopolists of to-day rob by class legislation and corruption of courts and officials, and keep their victims at bay by means of Pinkerton cut-throats. The robbery is precisely the same in both cases so far as the victim is concerned.—*Industrial News*.

The independent movement in State politics this year is sure to be a success. It may not succeed in electing its candidates, but the movement will be a success notwithstanding. It will succeed in showing those who have come into labour organisations for the purpose of securing the votes of such organisations for either of the rotten old parties that they cannot do so. It will succeed in showing the bosses of those parties that the labour-vote cannot be secured by buying a few of the self-appointed leaders or by getting a few of their henchmen into the ranks. What is still more important, it will succeed in permanently inaugurating a party that is squarely and unequivocally a labour party—one that will harbour none of the enemies of labour reform. This will drive the opponents of our cause into a union, and draw all of our friends out of both of the old parties. This is what can be accomplished by this movement, and to any friend of the principles of the K. of L. these are results worth working for.—*Hartford Examiner*.

THE LORD OF BURLEIGH.

(FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF HIS DISAPPOINTED RIVAL.)

(Continued from p. 243.)

He let me say out my say to the end, but well I could see
He was gazing the while at Annie, nor thought for a moment of me;
Then just with the least little trace of a faint satirical smile,
As of one who will yet make answer, although it is scarce worth while,
He gracefully, daintily said that he certainly never had meant
To do any harm, we must kindly acquit him of evil intent;
And as for the cattle, why, yes, he had seen some beasts go through,
But they seemed, he thought, by their manner to know what they had to do,
And the flies were teasing them sadly, he thought it was just as well
They should try a change of quarters, and how could he possibly tell
That they were not allowed to go? he had noticed a look in their eyes
As though they knew what was best, and certainly fewer flies
Had been there since the cattle had gone; but if he had only known,
He ne'er would have been so careless, and what could he do to atone!

This much in excuse he said, and at first seemed trying to find
A suitable coin in his pocket to gild it, but changed his mind
As he gazed upon Annie, I saw; for the delicate roseate trace
Of a blush fluttered out on her cheeks; and he kept his eyes on her face,
Till the dull dead coal of his heart was slowly but surely lit
By the spark of a smouldering flame devil-brought from the nethermost pit;
And his pale lackadaisical face and his lustreless eyes took fire,
And burned with the passionate heat of the glow of an ill desire.
Alas, I saw it well, and it made me mad, and I said
I know not what in my anger, but cast loud words at his head,
Loud words thrown out like curses, instinct with a taunting scorn,
To sting him out of the mask his manners had ever worn,
And make him as rude as I; for the contrast of his restraint
Still vexed me more than the mischief whereof I had made complaint.

Yet though I abused him soundly, I utterly failed in this;
For he did but politely repeat his regret to have been so remiss;
Asked how he could best make atonement, and might he come with us and
try

If he could assist in the hunt; and a twinkle of mirth in his eye
Showed just what he thought of the errand—a lord on the hunt for a cow—
But I, seeing clearly the purpose it was not his plan to avow,
And knowing full well from his face that all he wanted to see
Was Annie's sweet little self, and neither the cows nor me,
Made answer short and stern that we would not give him the pain,
Although he had lost our cattle, of trying to find them again.
And I turned on my heel, and left him; but Annie followed behind
More slowly and ill at ease, and seemed to be troubled in mind,
Because I had spoken harshly, and been, as she thought, so rough
To a man who had done us harm, it was true, but was ready enough
To do what he could to amend it, and no one could well do more;
And it was not right to bear malice; she never had known before
That my temper was quite so short, but 'twas well to be made aware
Of the state of the case henceforward, and she must take very good care
To study my whims and my humours—and more in the same light strain,
Half jesting and half in earnest; but I was scarce in the vein
For making so light of the matter; the man's ill eyes as he gazed
On the eyes of my Annie had hurt me, and I was in secret amazed
That she had not taken offence, and been angrier yet than I.
But little she knew of the meaning that might in an ill look lie,
And how could I tell her my thoughts? I answered I know not what;
I own I was worried and weary and cross and peevish and hot,
For the hill-side stretched away, and the cattle were not to be seen,
And the sun had scorched the herbage to every colour but green,
And we knew not whither to turn, and behind us a-lounge in the shade
Lay the careless lazy scoundrel who all this mischief had made,
While far and wide we must wander with eyes and wits on the stretch,
And he lay idly lolling, or making a scrawl of a sketch.

Alas, I had lost my temper, and felt so jealous as well,
That the earth I had thought pure heaven seemed now grown liker to hell.
And instead of comforting Annie, I let my tongue run wild,
Bewailing my own discomfort, as peevish as any child,
And abusing the lazy lord, who, it seemed, had just come down
To the country for change of air from his palace in London town,
And was one of the rascally rich who grind the face of the poor,
And lay on their bowed bent backs great burdens they will not endure
To touch with their own fair fingers, the fingers they keep so white,
And nice, and tender, and neat—'Twas thus I vented my spite.
On the luckless lounging lord, as we climbed the hill in the heat,
In words that had served before, and will serve again for the feat
Of abusing behind their backs the lords who are lazy and rich.
Till Annie was sick of my story, and said that she felt a stitch
In her side, and was tired of climbing, and she would sit down, while I
Went just to the top of the ridge, to get a look-out and spy
If the cattle were hid in the hollow. To go was the least I could do;
But I went with no good grace; and from such slight cause there grew
A coolness between us twain that we never had known before.
And still as I climbed the ridge, I wondered more and more
Why Annie had not resented the fellow's insolent stare,
Little knowing 'twas nought but my folly and rude imperious air
That seemed to put him in the right who had nothing but wrong on his side.

J. L. JOYNS.

(To be continued.)

In order to get a broad view of the great problems of the times, you must rise out of the mud and mire of personal and selfish motives and let all private and personal projects give way to the general welfare of all. The man who cannot do this is always a stumbling-block.—*Industrial News*.

Jay Gould wants to know upon what terms he can join the Knights of Labor. Were he to give all his plunder back to his victims and then spend a couple of hours in a red-hot crematory, his admission would not make a "jar" that would seriously injure a well-managed assembly of Knights.—*Industrial News*.



"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. can only be returned if a stamped directed envelope is forwarded with them.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NOTICE TO ALL SOCIALISTIC NEWSPAPERS.—The *Commonweal* will be regularly sent to all Socialistic Contemporaries throughout the world, and it is hoped that they on their side will regularly provide the Socialist League with their papers as they may appear.

FR. SCHR.—Thanks for letter; shall be glad to receive communications from time to time.

R. N. LUCAS (Bacharach).—Not of sufficient interest.

M. COLEMAN (Bundaberg).—Too long.—We shall be glad to receive briefer notes on labour matters. Have sent MS. to address given.

Periodicals received during the week ending Wednesday November 3.

ENGLAND	Denver (Col.) Labor Inquirer	SWITZERLAND	Zurich—Sozial Demokrat
Justice	Cleveland (O.)—Carpenter	ITALY	Milan—Il Fascio Operaio
Norwich—Daylight	Toledo (O.)—Industrial News	SPAIN	Madrid—El Socialista
Anti-Sweater	Springfield (Ill.)—Voice of Labor	CADIZ—El Socialismo	Barcelona—El Grito del Pueblo
Club and Institute Journal	New Haven (Conn.)—Workmen's Advocate	PORTUGAL	Lisbon—O Protesto Operario
Church Reformer	Chicago (Ill.)—Vorbote	Voz do Operario	Villafranca de Xira—O Campino
Leicester—Countryman	Roll Call	AUSTRIA	Brunn—Volksfreund
National Review	Paterson (N.J.)—Labor Standard	HUNGARY	Arbeiter-Wochen-Chronik
Persons' Rights Journal	Salem (Oreg.)—Advance-Thought	ROMANIA	Bucharest—Fruncu Roman
Ploughshare	Portland (Oreg.)—Avant-Courier	Jassy—Lupta	
To-Day	Milwaukee (Wis.)—Volksblatt	NORWAY	Kristiania—Social-Democraten
Freethinker	FRANCE	SWEDEN	Stockholm—Social-Demokraten
Freedom	Paris—Cri du Peuple (daily)	DENMARK	Social-Demokraten
INDIA	Le Revolte		
Allahabad—People's Budget	La Revue Litteraire		
Ahmedabad—Praja Mata	Gauche—Le Devoir		
Madras—People's Friend	Lille—Le Travailleur		
CANADA	HOLLAND		
Toronto—Labor Reformer	Hague—Recht voor Allen		
UNITED STATES	BRUSSLS		
New York—Volkszeitung	Brussels—Le Chante-Clair		
Freiheit	En Avant		
Truthseeker	Liege—L'Avenir		
Der Sozialist	Antwerp—De Werker		
John Swinton's Paper			
Boston—Woman's Journal			

WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE PRIMROSE LEAGUE?

THIS question, which forms the title of a leaflet circulated by the patriots of the Primrose League, "has often been asked" so the leaflet informs us, "through the last twelve months, especially by working men." This increase of intelligent curiosity on the part of the working classes is very satisfactory, for in former times the British workman, as in the case of Wordsworth's Peter Bell, was apt to be somewhat dull and unobservant on such points:

"A Primrose by a river's brim
A yellow Primrose was to him,
And it was nothing more."

But now it appears that the Primrose League is something more, and that the demand for further information has resulted in the publication of this explanatory leaflet. We learn that the Primrose League, so far from being devoid of principles, is the happy possessor of no less than four, which we will now proceed to enumerate.

"The first principle is to uphold"—No, reader, it is not what you and I were both expecting. Like a clever tactician, the writer of the leaflet reserves to the last the true, real, essential motive of the League, and first introduces us to two highly respectable, yet merely preparatory, principles, which are calculated to throw some venerable dust in our eyes and pave the way for the acceptance of the real thing. "The first principle is to uphold Religion." In these modern days, when, as the leaflet says, "bold bad men make a mock of all forms of worship," the members of the Primrose League (the followers, be it noted, of the mild, good Beaconsfield) feel it incumbent on them to stand forth and raise a protest. We will not attempt to dispute the fitness of the Primrose League to champion the cause of religion; so we

bow the head in respectful acquiescence, and pass on to principle the second.

"Our second principle is to maintain the *Constitution*"; for under this constitution the people enjoy more "personal liberty" than in any other country on the face of the globe. The Primrose League is deeply enamoured of the liberty of the subject; and working men will doubtless be quick to perceive that by supporting the Primrose League they are helping to prolong the existence of the present admirable system of free competition, under which they enjoy such complete freedom that they are in no danger of being interfered with, even if they should take it into their minds—to starve. This is the constitution that has made England what she is, the "foremost among nations, powerful, independent, and free."

The third principle is "to keep the *Ascendency of the British Empire*." This looks more like business; we are now beginning to get clear of the respectable old buffer-principles, and come into proximity with the real thing at last. A critical reader might perhaps be tempted to enquire why other nations may not also be allowed to be "powerful, independent, and free," instead of sacrificing those privileges in favour of the ascendancy of the British Empire. But that would be a petty and insular consideration. "Look at the map of the world," continues our leaflet, waxing eloquent in the warmth of its Jingoism; and seizing our atlas we learn with an imperial thrill of patriotism that "over a great part of Asia, Africa, and America, the whole of Australia and New Zealand, our Empress-Queen holds sway." "Shall we give up this glorious inheritance?" asks the leaflet. "No," is the indignant answer; "let us rather bind our colonies closer to us in the bonds of mutual interest." That interest is at stake in this matter we are not disposed to deny; but whether the interest be mutual or one-sided is a question of some importance, on which we can hardly take the word of the Primrose League.

From Jingoism to Capitalism is a natural and easy transition. We are therefore not surprised to find in the fourth principle the conclusion of the whole matter, the true and genuine *raison d'être* of the Primrose League. "Last" (but not least), "we would preserve the *Rights of Property*." The rights of property—that is the natural and appropriate battle-cry of those well-to-do gentlemen and ladies who feel a conscientious call to come to the rescue of religion and the British constitution. But even here they cannot make a candid avowal of their dominant principle without having recourse to subterfuges worthy of Mr. Pecksniff himself, who, by the by, would have made a fine specimen of a Primrose knight. "And this," they continue, "we advocate in the interest, not of the few, but of the many." The Primrose League is in arms not for the security of the rich man's wealth or lands, but to save "the poor man's deposit in the savings-bank," "the tradesman's stock," aye, and "the very tools of the workman." We confess that our breath is almost taken away by this insight into the lofty piety and noble disinterestedness of an aristocratic organisation. There is no parallel in history for so complete an abnegation of self-interest on the part of a dominant class. They unhesitatingly rush to the support of a religion which supplies the poor with such an abundance of spiritual consolation as to render any material remedies superfluous. They courageously rally round a national constitution which is carefully framed for a perpetuation of social inequality. They pledge themselves to maintain the ascendancy of the British empire—i.e., the inferiority of other races. And, finally, by a supreme effort of unselfish heroism, they band themselves together to preserve those "rights of property" (or shall we call them rather "wrongs of usurpation"?) under which they themselves happen, by the merest coincidence, to enjoy a monopoly of the comforts and luxuries of life. "These are the principles of the Primrose League," triumphantly concludes the leaflet; and our final reflection is that a more convenient set of principles has seldom been made to order for a very unprincipled class.

H. S. S.

COPYRIGHT AND "PIRACY."

ONE of the standing grievances for general discussion in the literary world is the state of legislation, especially international, affecting copyright, and every other while one hears of a congress of authors and publishers, and men who are neither, to debate and agree upon what they shall recommend for adoption by the several governments of the civilised world.

Even as people, otherwise irreproachable, consistently defraud railroad, gas, and water companies, or the imperial revenue, so also do they indulge in "pirate editions," and smuggle them, in despite of the laws against such "nefarious transactions." In all cases the doing of any one of these things is an unconscious protest against restrictive tariffs and grasping monopoly. We Socialists are frequent offenders in thus "cheating an author of his rights," and folk who do not understand the question are apt to imagine that in so doing we desert our principles and "deprive a man of the fruits of his own labour." There may, perhaps, be hardship inflicted upon some individual author by an evasion or infringement of the Copyright Acts, just as there may be hardship inflicted upon some individual landlord by a refusal to pay rent, but the hardship or apparent wrong in either case does not prove the monopoly itself to be a rightful one.

We are prone to think and speak of copyright as though it were in the nature of things universal and could not be dispensed with. It is most emphatically a growth of the present system, and will end with it. The first Copyright Act was 8 Anne, c. 19 (1709), which fixed the term at 14 years from date of publication, and 14 years more if author

were alive at the end of first period; penalty for infringement, 1d. per sheet and forfeiture of illicit copies. The two following Acts (41, George III., c. 107, 1801, and 54 George III., c. 156, 1814) increased the penalty to 3d. per sheet in addition to forfeiture, and the term to 28 years from publication, or, if author was alive at its end, to the close of his natural life. The Act now in force (5 and 6 Victoria, c. 45, 1842) repealed previous ones, and made the copyright of books published during lifetime of their author extend to the term of his natural life and seven years beyond, if such period expire before 42 years it shall continue till 42 years are made up. For books published after an author's death the copyright is for 42 years from date of publication. This is quite consistent with the present system, and is very necessary so long as the system lasts. So long as it is made inevitable for each man to depend upon "individual enterprise" in an all-embracing scramble, it is impossible to do without some safeguard to his "rights." Where access to all the means of producing wealth is under the control of a class, where production is wholly regulated in the interests of that class, where producer and consumer are separated by men who live upon what they can wrest from either, it is necessary for all producers to combine who are in a position to do so, and in some way limit the exploitation they cannot wholly avoid. Viewed in this way copyright and factory legislation are akin, but in copyright is something more. Copyright as we now know it is also one of the many forms under which a man for something done is accorded the power of taxing other people's future labour for a term or in perpetuity. Royalties paid to an author have no essential relation to labour performed, and are paid for access to information in like fashion that profit is paid for access to the means of production or transit, and rent for access to land.

To every man is due the fruit of his labour, no more and no less. Working in association with his fellows it is impossible for each to tell what his exact share of production is; men working together under conditions which allow of their doing so, find it advantageous to adopt and work upon the formula, "From each according to his power, to each according to his need." An author has no special patent of exemption or heaven-granted grace, by virtue of which he may claim to rule his affairs differently from other men. Whatsoever the labour expended upon his book be worth to the community, to that he is entitled in return. If he be working in common with his fellows he will receive all he needs, whether his work be embodied in a book or in a chair.

Under a Socialistic state of Society it is very improbable that there will be men whose only work will be the writing of books. Where bodily labour is a delight, as it invariably is to a healthy man working amid pleasant surroundings, and unimpelled by force outside himself, men are loath to let any portion of their share of it go into the hands of another. The extra pleasure which lies in the consumption of the result of one's own handiwork, delight in the employment of one's creative faculties, these will impel men of sound body and mind to learn some craft and exercise it for the satisfaction of their material needs.

Those who think that an author or artist should do no "common" work, and that in some way other people must be compelled to support him, have yet to learn the truth that there is no really necessary work that is "common or unclean." Whatsoever is degrading, whatsoever is loathsome in any necessary task to-day, is traceable wholly to surrounding circumstances, and is not essential to the task itself. When the weight of unnecessary work is lifted that is imposed upon us to sustain idlers, it will be an agreeable task to provide "our daily bread." Then the keen delight a true man feels in expressing himself and his love of life will be an enduring reward for all ideal work, upon which is lavished the riches of his abundant leisure and unwearied powers. Released from the sordid fear of want which so cripples our highest energies, men in such days would have time and inclination to seek always that which is true, that which is beautiful, and every addition to the available store of knowledge would be eagerly received and gladly rewarded.

Secure of comfort as the outcome of moderate exertion, having to fear the frown or crouch for the smile of no master, each would give out all that was in him and be happy in so doing. Free from the sordid anxiety of to-day none would seek to retain to himself any exceptional advantage accruing from power of mind or body above the average, and would welcome whatsoever deepened his influence and widened its range. With the system which has made it necessary, copyright will vanish utterly. Like all other restrictions it will be flung aside when humanity demands free way to the heights of advancement that rise before it, inconceivable in their sublimity.

H. HALLIDAY SPARLING.

All accumulation of personal property, beyond what a man's own hands produce, is derived to him by living in society; and he owes, on every principle of justice, of gratitude, and of civilisation, a part of that accumulation back again to society from whence the whole came. This is putting the matter on a general principle, and perhaps it is best to do so; for if we examine the case minutely, it will be found that accumulation of personal property is in many instances the effects of paying too little for the labour that produced it; the consequence of which is, that the working hand perishes in old age, and the employer abounds in affluence. It is, perhaps, impossible to proportion exactly the price of labour to the profits it produces; and it will also be said, as an apology for injustice, that were the workman to receive an increase of wages daily, he would not save it against old age, nor be much the better for it in the interim. Make, then, society the treasurer to guard it for him in a common fund; for it is no reason, because he might not make a good use of it for himself, that another shall take it.—*De Tocqueville.*

SEWING THE SHROUD.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."

MEEKLY o'er silks and satins chained and bent,
They stitch for the lady tyrannous and proud—
For her a wedding gown—for them a shroud.
They mend and mend, but never mend the rent
Torn in life's golden curtains. Glad youth went
And left them alone with time. If blind and bowed
With burdens they should sob and cry aloud,
Wondering, the Rich would look from their content.

And yet this glimmering life at last recedes
In unknown, endless depths beyond recall.
And here at the end of ages is this all—
Is this the flower of all our cults and creeds—
A white face floating in the whirling ball,
A dead face plashing in the river reeds?

—CHARLES EDWIN MARKHAM.

ANOTHER FAGIN GANG.

WE have received a copy of the draft prospectus, shortly to be published, of another Fagin League now being formed to help on our work. It is good indeed when rogues and their friends come forward to proclaim themselves:

"THE LOYAL AND ANTI-SOCIALIST LEAGUE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND."

"Council: Duke of Manchester, K.P., Viscount Lewisham, Lord Rossmore, Lord Poltimore, and Baron De Worms, M.P.

"Director: Major W. N. Persse.

"Bankers: Cox and Co., Charing Cross.

"Owing to the constant efforts of Socialistic and kindred societies to spread disaffection amongst the less well-to-do classes, and their openly avowed determination to subvert the very foundation of social existence, and destroy the rights of property—rights which have been recognised from time immemorial—the period has arrived when all loyal and patriotic subjects of Her Majesty should combine, without reference to party or creed, to resist and suppress by all possible legal means, the spread of these evil doctrines, which, if not effectually stopped—and at once—will assuredly result in the speedy outbreak of crime, and in the intensification of the poverty existing among the very class these unscrupulous agitators seek to delude.

"To oppose such purposes this League has been founded, and the Executive appeals to all those possessing property, and professing the slightest interest in their country's welfare, and the maintenance of her pre-eminent position among nations, to assist in carrying out the object of the League, whose greatest claim to support is that, at the present time, there is no organisation in existence to uphold the rights of property owners, and combat advocates of revolution.

"In the metropolis, and in our large towns, local organisations are in course of formation, and the Council will be pleased to hear from any gentlemen willing to take charge of divisions, and otherwise assist in the work.

"The immediate objects of the League are as follows: To unite all loyal subjects of the Queen for the purpose of upholding the Constitution, and the integrity of the Empire; also to render, if necessary, active assistance to the civil authorities in the suppression of riot and tumult, having for its object the destruction of property and plunder.

"No engagement is required, but the request to be enrolled as a member would be regarded as implying a willingness to assist as far as possible in promoting the objects of the League.

"Further particulars may be obtained on application to W. A. Scott (late Lieut. 79th Cameronian Highlanders), Secretary. Temporary Office, 13, King Street, St. James's, S.W."

[Here follows form of application.]

Dr. Talmage's idea that if what working-men spend in drink were saved they would have houses, gardens, broadcloth, and silks, recalls the suggestive question of the confirmed smoker. "How many cigars do you smoke in a day?" asked the non-smoker. "Ten," was the answer. "How much do they cost you and how long have you smoked?" was the next question. "They cost me an average of 1 dol. a day and I have smoked for thirty years." "Well, do you know that if you hadn't smoked you might now have a fine house as the result of your abstinence?" persisted the non-smoker. "Perhaps so," said the smoker, "but how many cigars do you smoke in a day?" "I have never smoked in my life," the non-smoker replied. "Where is your fine house?" asked the smoker. Dr. Talmage, like a great many other well-meaning men, must learn that wealth results from production and not from saving. This is not a sermon in favour of drinking, or smoking, or against saving. It is only intended as a reminder that while some working-men may make themselves comfortable by saving so long as the masses of their fellows do not save, the comfort of the masses is to be attained not by saving but by freedom of production. The more economically the mass of people live the more economically they will be compelled to live. For workingmen as a class to discard a luxury is to make it easier for their employers to reduce wages.—*Spread the Light.*

There is no more accurate test of the progress of civilisation than the progress of the power of co-operation. What makes all savage communities poor and feeble? The same cause which prevented the lions and tigers from long ago extirpating the race of men—incapacity of co-operation. All combination is compromise. It is the sacrifice of some portion of individual will for a common purpose.—*John Stuart Mill.*

INDUSTRY WITHOUT REWARD.—The saddest aspect the decay of civic Society can exhibit has always appeared to me to be this, when honourable, honour-loving, conscientious diligence cannot, by the utmost efforts of toil, obtain the necessaries of life; or when the working-man cannot even find work, but must stand with folded arms, lamenting his forced idleness, through which himself and his family are verging to starvation, or, it may be, actually suffering the pains of hunger.—*T. Carlyle.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LATE CONGRESS IN PARIS.

Mr. A. Smith has published a report of the International Trades Congress held at Paris from August 23rd to 28th, 1886, in which he gives an extract of my speech containing some serious errors. Mr. A. Smith promised to send me if possible a proof of my speech before sending it to the press, but perhaps being prevented, he did not do so. As I have now no other means at my command, I feel compelled to put those errors right in this way:—

1. On page 11 on the bottom he makes me say something which I really never said at the Congress, but which I mentioned to him in a private conversation; and what I said in this private conversation he reports wrong. I really said this, that in Germany we have had for about 20 years, "Special Trade Courts" for the purpose of settling matters between employers and workers, and these Courts did not prove to be of very great benefit to the workers, simply because there is not and cannot be a friendly understanding between Capital and Labour. Yet the English trade unionists are just now going to fight for a similar institution, demanding working-men magistrates, so they are in my opinion behind.

2. In a similar way I spoke about factory inspection, as in my opinion this institution is not worth much in the present corrupt Society, where the all-powerful money is everything. But this was all private conversation. At the Congress I simply said that in Germany there are some institutions preferable to English and vice versa.

3. Page 12, nearly to the bottom, he reports, "He was an ardent advocate of trades' unionism." I never said that, what I said was "I am not against trades' unions when their aim is making recruits for Socialism, but I am against them when there is no other purpose than strikes, or out of work benefit, etc., because these modern weapons are only blunt instruments in the struggle between Capital and Labour."

4. On the same page he further reports: "For five and a-half years he had worked as a cigar-maker. During the whole time he belonged to the Union," etc. This whole remark is wrong, and this is the most serious error because any cigar-maker can prove it to be untrue when he reads the report, and I emphatically repeat, I never said it. I was only a member of my union about six or eight weeks, when I became included in a strike. We then reported the facts to the board of our Union, and we received such a remarkable answer that I at once decided not to be a member any longer, and since then I remained outside.

5. On page 12, 2nd column, 5th line from the bottom, the report runs: "In his trade the cigar-makers only work 8½ hours." This remark should stand behind the words "8-16 hours" in the very bottom line. By this alteration everybody will see that it then belongs to what I said about England, and not as it now reads to Germany.

I hope you will excuse me for trespassing on your valuable space, but considering the fact that what is said at such gatherings as the Congress at Paris must be correct and the full truth, and considering further that the 'Report' might have a large circulation, and for what is stated I might be held responsible on another occasion, I trust you will allow me sufficient space to contradict the 'Report' as far as necessary in my case. Hoping that all labour papers, and others who have taken an interest in the proceedings at Paris, will take notice of the above contradiction, I remain, yours faithfully,
HENRY RACKOW.

London, September 29, 1886.

[NOTE.—This letter should have been published before, but owing to the editor's absence was inadvertently overlooked.]

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST AND LABOUR NEWS.

BRITAIN.

Winter troubles are beginning already. The trade-union of lacemakers at Nottingham have resolved not to submit to a further reduction of wages which the employers proposed to make, and a strike is therefore imminent. A number of winders at the Govan factory have struck against a reduction of ten per cent. in their wages, and in Lanarkshire the miners have restricted the output to four days in the week.

In Dunfermline a number of miners have been assessed in damages to the amount of 5s. per day for restricting the output by not working more than five days a-week, and in addition to pay the full expenses of the court. The action was brought by the masters, and the judgment, the first of the kind ever given in Scotland, will affect some 6000 men.

The wages of the colliers in South Wales have been reduced 2½ per cent.

The colliers in Lord Lonsdale's coalpits at Whitehaven have decided to lay the pits idle in consequence of a dispute between themselves and their employer.

The society for the winter help of painters and decorators has been driven to seek aid for its funds in a benefit at Drury Lane, which it has begged the public to patronise. Hitherto it has been self-supporting, but the last two winters have drawn so heavily on its funds for the support of the unemployed, that without begging help from outside it must go to pieces. This is one of the signs of the times, which is of course not isolated, and is a token of the present condition of labour in the face of over-production, and extreme cheapness of necessaries, which cannot be set aside by any amount of figures and averages of good for the comfort of the well-to-do.

The United Kingdom Railway Officers and Servants' Association, under the patronage of the Prince of Wales, and with Sir Julian Goldsmid, Bart., M.P., for President, begs help of the general public, and notes that in 1884 while only 31 passengers were killed in the United Kingdom, "an army of 546 railway servants were killed and 2319 injured." At first sight it seems either owing to astonishing stupidity that the railway companies allow such statements to be published, that they do not in terror buy up such an association at any expense somewhat less than what would provide for the orphans and cripples they have made; stupidity at the first sight, but at the second impression, assurance in the stupidity of the public whom they tyrannise over. And after all, if the general public can be bled they should be, since

those from whom anything can be expected are all more or less guilty of wearing out the lives of men in the service of their idleness or uselessness.

THE SKYE CROFTERS have during the past week been subjected to the regulation amount of harrying and hunting. On Friday October 29 an expeditionary force, consisting of sixty marines and twenty policemen, under the direction of the notorious Sheriff Ivory, was engaged on Lord Macdonald's estate at Snizort, Skye, in making a search for the ringleaders in the defiance of a sheriff's officer the preceding Tuesday. The expedition was delayed for two hours for want of a guide to point out the houses of the law-breakers. Constables in plain clothes were posted throughout the townships to stop the flight of any crofters who might endeavour to escape into concealment. The search resulted in the capture of eight men, one boy, and a woman carrying an infant. They were lodged in Portree Gaol.

Noble work this for the protectors of "law and order"! The preservers of society, after beating dogs to death and getting up sham obstructions to stop free speech, have now surpassed themselves by the heroic capture of "a woman carrying an infant"! If the people ruled themselves, how long would they allow their "servants" the police to be used as an engine for the extortion of rack-rents from the oppressed producers!

THE "RIGHTS OF PROPERTY."—Any one who doubts the truth of the statement that in England property is much more firmly protected than life, has but to glance at the police reports from week to week and he will find out his mistake. At the Durham Quarter Sessions an old man, for stealing a cotton shirt, was sentenced to five years' penal servitude! At the Borough Police-court another man, aged 67, was awarded twenty-eight days' hard labour for "stealing" a handful of potatoes and a few turnips when he and his mother (87) were starving. A former sentence was proved against him for "stealing" a few pieces of coal that had fallen from a wagon. What amount of assault and battery could not one indulge in for the same amount of punishment? That is, if committed on a worker.

AMERICA.

A few days ago a colossal statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World" was unveiled at New York, a present from the French to the American Republic. France, that has imprisoned Kropotkin and Louis Michel, joins in a hypocritical hymn of praise to the bourgeoisie goddess with that other republic that has condemned innocent men to death at Chicago! Madame Roland's pathetic words come to mind: "O Liberty, Liberty, how many crimes are committed in thy name!"—U.

Mrs. Lucy Parsons, wife of Albert Parsons, under condemnation of death as an Anarchist, is making a tour of the country in the hope of raising means to support the orphans of the condemned, all of whom are poor men. She is reported to have made a thrilling speech to a crowded meeting in New York recently, devoting little time to the trial, but dwelling on the wrongs of the workers with a grave eloquence that often overcame her hearers.

One result of the George campaign in New York has been the formation of a Jewish Pedlars' Union, which already numbers 240 members. The "Jewish Working Men's Union" is working hard, and a large Jewish vote is anticipated for Henry George.

The southern coloured delegates to the Knights of Labor General Assembly have formed a bureau to procure accurate statistics relative to the condition of coloured people and their relation to white labour and to their employers, their wages, cost of living, and general treatment.

A resolution has been passed by the Knights of Labor to set aside ten thousand dollars every three months for the purpose of putting into effect practical co-operation. A standing committee on conspiracies against the people is also provided for.

The post-office clerks, letter-carriers, etc., in New York, have formed an Assembly of the Knights of Labor with a membership over 1000 strong.

CHICAGO, Nov. 1.—Six thousand beef-killers on the farms of Messrs. Swift and Nelson Morris went out on strike this morning against the ten hours' working day.

FRANCE.

PARIS.—For those who are still doubtful of the inefficacy of the Organisation of Public Relief, we have collected authentic information which will strengthen our readers in the conviction that the offices are made for officials and not officials for the offices. Take for example the 7th Arrondissement, which is one of the richest in Paris. The Central Administration assigns to those with large families orders for bread according to the number of children, i.e., for three children 12 orders, for four children 16 orders, and so on. But in the 7th Arrondissement, whether a poor man has three children or ten, he can only hope for 4 orders (worth 1fr. 20c.) for the whole of a month, and one knows the number of humiliating applications that must be made to obtain this ridiculous pittance. In the 7th Arrondissement, the administration, through the carelessness of the officials, is left to the religious sisters, who naturally take advantage of the days of distribution to proselytise, and of course are responsible for the grossest hypocrisy among the poor wretches who would damn their souls if they believed in them, for bread wherewith to drag on life a day or two longer.—*Cri du Peuple*.

The local committees for the supervision of child-labour in France are a glaring farce, and the law of 1874 interdicting the factory-labour of children under thirteen is thus absolutely a dead letter at the present time. The local committees are supposed to consist of five members at least, yet the annual reports show that a large number consist of only one or two members. Now, as each committee is allowed a sum of 200fr. for general expenses, and as its expenses cannot be heavy judging from the amount of work got through in the year, this little sum is absorbed by individuals very softly and easily. At Sceaux, for instance, the committee for the supervision of women's factory-labour consists of two ladies who are notorious for the energy and perseverance with which they abstain from visiting the factories, their annual reports being "composed" at the Prefecture of Police. Sixty committees are inscribed for the Seine Department, of which at least thirty, says the *Cri du Peuple*, have no real existence. 6000 francs thus melts into thin air.

CALAIS.—There is an enormous number of workers without work in this industrial locality, and revolutionary ideas are spreading rapidly, the propagandists having been very active lately in organising public meetings and demonstrations.

LILLE.—A few days before the last elections, some of the employers warned their men that if Republicans were returned for the district they would exchange their French workers for Belgians. What one admires

about these gentlemen is the entire absence of all futile fine language and hypocrisy from their natures: they lay bare their souls with a frankness that touches one almost to tears.

AMPLEPUIS.—The secretary of the strike at Amplepuis writes to the *Cri* that the masters having reduced the diminished tariff which first caused the strike, that same strike has now become general.

ITALY.

COMO.—A skilful and industrious silk weaver working for the firm of L. Taroni in this town, was lately fined 6 lire or so for the most trivial and insufficient reasons, it being intimated to him at the same time that if he objected to losing the sum of money "he was at liberty." At the same time the overseer made him wait over twelve days for his work, with now one excuse and now another, the poor man in the meantime being in actual want. A foreman in whose house he lodged, expostulating against this treatment, was threatened with dismissal for taking his part, and was fain to be silent.

ALESSANDRIA.—The working-class element here is in such extremities that it is feared with good reason that a conflict is inevitable between exploited and exploiters. Our agitation is chiefly directed against work "a cottimo" (bargaining for the whole price), and our various associations are strenuously seeking a remedy for this evil, which is truly the ruin of the worker, and the "cocaigue" of the masters.—*Fascio Operatio*.

MONZA.—We hear of a strike in a hat factory at Monza, in which the strikers have acted with much unanimity, energy, and promptitude.

MILAN.—Emilio Kerbs, former editor of the *Fascio Operatio*, has been exiled from Italy under the accusation of being one of the leading propagandists of the Labour Party in that country. The Italian Government is really very complimentary, and attaches a great deal of weight and importance to the members of a revolutionary body which has the modesty to think itself rather poor in numbers at present—though certainly it is not poor in spirit and activity.

BELGIUM.

An immense demonstration, organised by the Working People's League to demand universal suffrage and amnesty for those convicted of rioting during the strikes at the beginning of the year, took place at Charleroi on Oct. 31. As early as nine o'clock the people began assembling at the neighbouring towns of Roux and Jumet, with red flags and placards borne on poles, and in an hour's time some 12,000 persons had come together. A procession was then formed, and led by 500 women dressed in mourning, proceeded, to the strains of a funeral march, past the glass factory, where a sanguinary encounter occurred on March 27th between the troops and the strikers. The crowd of onlookers at this point was enormous, and the aspect of the solemn and perfectly orderly procession appeared to evoke much sympathy. The people next marched to Charleroi, where the greatest excitement prevailed. The Civic Guard was under arms, and the magistrates and communal authorities were assembled at the Town Hall. The procession, on reaching the town received a large accession to its numbers, and marched through the streets, many of the bands playing the Marseillaise, and as the demonstration passed the offices of the Glass Workers' League, shouts were raised of "Vive le suffrage universel!" and "Vive l'Amnistie!" By this time the procession had assumed colossal proportions, its numbers being estimated at 35,000, but nevertheless the most perfect organisation was maintained, and there was no sign of disorder. Ultimately the people dispersed quietly. The inhabitants of Charleroi were favourably impressed by the demonstration.

AUSTRIA.

BRUNN, Oct. 23.—The situation of the labourers in Austria is even more miserable than in other countries. When the factory-inspector of Brünn speaks of a 12-18 hours working day; when the inspector for the two archduchies on the Danube states that in an Austrian mill he had found a 33 hours working time in the space of 48 hours; when the Galician inspector has to report officially of "petroleum slaves coming naked into the hospital"; when we consider that in the winter of 1885 there were often more than 40,000 unemployed in Vienna alone,—nobody, we think, will gainsay the above opinion. What does the Government do against these evils that cry to heaven. The Government issues firstly a law introducing the eleven-hours' normal working day—a law published indeed, but not everywhere completely executed; they forbid the labourers' assurance societies to form branches; they appoint factory-inspectors in such a number that they inspect in a year not even one per cent. of the industrial establishments; they make the Reichsrath pass a law determining that every man being found unemployed shall be punished as a vagabond! Such is the social reform of our governing classes, announced with a great noise, relating to economical affairs. And relating to political affairs, connected so closely with the economical ones? We do not exaggerate: except Russia perhaps, Austria has the happiness of being governed by the most reactionary government in all Europe. Our working men possess in reality no right of forming societies, of assembling in public meetings, without permission; no right of printing freely their minds. They are represented by no deputy in the Reichsrath; they are totally under state of siege. This month the bourgeois Opposition has submitted a project of law, creating labour chambers with the right to send nine deputies into the Reichsrath—nine labourers by the side of 353 representatives of landlordism and capital! All these fine things will be, when the said law passes and workers will be chosen; for the suffrage is open, not secret. No word is to be heard of the universal, equal and direct suffrage, such as aimed at by us.

The handicraftsmen and small landowners (peasants) are suffering severely under the present conditions. It is a good symptom, I state with satisfaction, that they—especially the latter—begin to perceive their situation and to proceed independently of the other parties in some regions, as in Lower Austria. They will, we certainly hope, soon know that their interests can be defended only by an alliance with the working-men movement.

Slowly but surely the workers' movement recovers from the blow occasioned by the discord in the party. The alleged "Anarchist plot" was lately discovered, a "plot" accompanied by such suspicious proceedings that the Austrian comrades suppose in it a manoeuvre of the Government to obtain support for a new coercion-law against the Social Democrats. A "conspirator," sculptor Liegel, once was an inmate of a lunatic asylum. More and more the opinion spreads among the Austrian workers that "the emancipation of the labourer cannot be the result of a sudden attack, but only owing to thoroughly organising labour in its political and economic relation."

Since October 6, we have in Brünn a new German labour-paper, *Arbeiter-*

stimme ("Voice of the Labourer"). A new paper will be soon published at Vienna. The party publishes now three papers also in the Cheskian (Bohemian) language: *Rovnost* ("Equality") in Brünn (Moravia); *Hlas lidu* ("Voice of Men") at Prossnitz (Moravia); *Věk svobody* ("Eternity of Freedom") at Prague in Bohemia. All these papers are published semi-monthly, owing to the reactionary press-law. Perhaps a project of a press-law lately submitted to our Parliament will remove the annoyances we labour under here. The editors of the *Volksfreund* have this year published a German labour-calendar, from which I have taken the data given in the first part of this letter.

All the symptoms show that the Austrian proletariat has awakened from its long sleep to renewed action. We are assured that the movement will continue on its way, will grow stronger and stronger, and achieve finally a brilliant victory over the corrupted bourgeoisie.—Fr. SCHR.

At Buda-Pesth not long ago the police were searching for vagrants, when they suddenly came across about thirty persons of both sexes who were lying undressed in a dirty but warm stream of water that flowed out of a mill. The water was shallow, and the poor creatures had got into it for warmth. They had taken stones for pillows, and had prepared themselves to spend the night comfortably in this strange bed. Some of them stated that they had had no other resting-place than this since the cold weather set in.

RUSSIA.

REPORTED REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT IN WARSAW.—Our Odessa correspondent telegraphs: There are rumours here of impending political disturbances in Warsaw. The Government, it is stated, has received information of an extensively organised revolutionary movement. Recent events in South Europe, it is believed, led the leaders to build confidently on Russia being seriously entangled, and hence the conspirators were less reticent. I have been unable to obtain any particulars of the movement, which in the present position of affairs the Government will not if possible allow to transpire. During the five months from May to September inclusive, 11,735 persons were sent from the central prison at Moscow to Siberia and Saghalien.—*Daily News*.

ALGERIA.

CONSTANTINE.—Socialism is in an embryonic condition in most of these territories at present, but it will not be long before it makes rapid progress, considering the great number of workers who arrive from all parts, leaving their own impoverished countries in the hope of procuring an easier livelihood. In short, whether in Europe, in America, or in Africa, in every part of the so-called civilised world the same misery attacks the "disinherited." The evil, therefore, being general, the remedy cannot be local or partial.—*Le Récolte*.

THE SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

OFFICES: 13 FARRINGTON ROAD, E.C.

Notices to Members.

A Social Reunion of the League will be held in London on Monday, December 27 (Bank Holiday). Suggestions, subscriptions, or offers of help will be gladly received by the Committee appointed to arrange and carry out. Address Reunion Committee, at office of the League.

Branch Subscriptions Paid.

Mile-end, to June 30. Birmingham, Bradford, Clerkenwell, Dublin, Hackney, Leeds, Merton Abbey, North London, Norwich, to August 31. Bloomsbury, Croydon, Hammersmith, Manchester, Marylebone, to September 30. Hoxton (Labour Emancipation League), Oxford, to Dec. 31.

Executive.

At the usual weekly meeting on November 1, the Council resolved that on Bank Holiday, December 27, a Social Reunion of the League be held, to which all members of the League, who can possibly attend, be invited. Mrs. Mainwaring, Mrs. Wardle, Blundell, Chambers, and Lane were appointed Committee to arrange and report. It was also resolved that a Christmas entertainment should be given to the children as was done last year. Sparling gave notice of resignation of secretaryship, resignation accepted, and resolved that successor be appointed in a fortnight.

BRANCH REPORTS.

(Reports and Notices should be addressed to the printer, and to insure insertion in the current issue must reach the office not later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday.)

BLOOMSBURY.—On Friday, October 29, F. Lessner opened a discussion on "Socialistic Tactics." He advised Socialists to help on all progressive movements. Many members afterwards spoke, leaning rather to the views of Lessner.—W. A. C.

CLERKENWELL.—Successful open-air meetings have been held during the week. On Sunday, October 31st, Chambers and Utley addressed a good audience on "The Unemployed Question"; a good discussion followed. Fair sale of *Commonweals*. Collected for the Propaganda Fund, 1s. 6¹/₂d.—W. B., sec.

CROYDON.—Last Sunday, J. L. Mahon gave an interesting lecture on "The Late Trades' Congress at Hull." He gave a short sketch of the scope of the Congress, and described the various meetings arising out of it. One new member made; good collection and sale of *Commonweal*.—A. T., sec.

FULHAM.—We held our usual open-air meeting at Walham Green on Sunday. The speakers were comrades Sparling, Tochatti, and Tarleton, who spoke to an audience of over 400. Received some spirited opposition, which was ably dealt with. The audience was in thorough sympathy throughout. Sale of literature good. The Property Defence League were selling literature in opposition. In the evening, H. H. Sparling lectured to a good audience on "What we want, and how to get it," at our rooms, 338, North End Road, which was followed by a good discussion. Two new members made, and every prospect of forming a strong Branch here.—F. McCORMACK, sec.

HOXTON.—On Thursday evening, Pope, Davis, and Barker addressed a good audience. On Sunday morning at our outdoor station, the above-mentioned speakers again spoke to a very large and sympathetic meeting. In the evening, T. Binning lectured on "The Irish Question," the lecture being most interesting. Our regular outdoor work has now practically ceased, and we commence work indoors on Sunday morning next, when comrade Westwood will lecture on "Whigs and Reformers."—H. A. B., sec.

HYDE PARK.—A very successful meeting was held here on Sunday afternoon, when comrades Mainwaring, Donald, Chambers, and Banner addressed a large and enthusiastic audience; comrade Blundell sang "The Starving Poor of Old England" and a parody on the "Red, White, and Blue," and the choruses of

both were heartily taken up by the audience. The collection for the Defence Fund amounted to 7s. 5½d. The meeting closed with a call for three cheers for the Social Revolution, which was heartily responded to by the large audience, who were thoroughly in sympathy with the views put forward by the speakers. The *Commonweal* was sold out.—H. G. ARNOLD.

MERTON AND MITCHAM.—Our meeting upon the Fair Green was the largest yet held. F. Kitz lectured upon the "Shams of Christianity," showing how those who extol the blessings of poverty took care of this world's goods and left such blessings to the exploited workers. A crowded meeting was held in the Merton club-room at night. The Mitcham comrades came over to assist, and F. Kitz lectured on "Socialistic Experiments." Sale of literature good; several new members joined in both Branches. We continue to receive the solicitous attention of the police. One of these "guardians of the peace" assured some of our members that if he only "ad an 'orse" and a sword he would delight in slicing us up. Perhaps some tradesman in the toy line would furnish the requisite tools.—F. KITZ and C. HARRISON, secs.

BINGLEY.—At our usual meeting on Tuesday evening it was resolved to change our meeting on Monday nights for the future, as Tuesday was an inconvenient day for most of our members.—J. W. L., sec.

DUBLIN.—A meeting was held on Sunday, October 31st, at 102, Capel Street, to take into consideration our prospects and settle our plan of propaganda for the winter months. There was a good attendance and full discussion, and a general agreement as to the tactics to be adopted. The following resolution was proposed and carried unanimously:—"That we protest in the strongest manner against the tyrannical action of the London police authorities in attempting to deprive a number of citizens of their undoubted rights, and that we approve of the contemplated action of our comrades of the S.D.F. on the 9th of November, and trust that they will carry out their programme in face of all opposition."—K.

GLASGOW.—On Monday evening, comrades Downie and Glasier addressed a large open-air meeting at Parkhead Cross. On Saturday evening, comrade R. F. Muirhead gave a lecture in the Southern Christian Literary Institute on "The Moral and Economic Aspects of Socialism." The lecture gave rise to an exceedingly lively discussion, the friends of Socialism having alike in debating power and the approval of the audience decidedly the best of it. On Sunday morning, comrade Mavor delivered a lecture in the Rams Horn Assembly Rooms (Secularist Hall), on the "Evolution of Industry." The lecture, which was an exceedingly thoughtful one—many passages exhibiting much original suggestion—traced the growth of industry from its infancy, and showed in a highly interesting way the evolution of the habits and forms it has assumed in modern times. The lecturer concluded with an earnest appeal for Socialism, which was well received. At the same time, comrade Glasier addressed a large and sympathetic audience on the Green, when a number of *Commonweals* were sold. In the afternoon another open-air meeting was held on the Green, at which comrades Greer, Downie, Warrington, and Adams spoke, the audience manifesting great interest in their exposition of Socialism. In the evening in our rooms comrade Mavor gave a lecture on "Political Economy." The lecturer in a very able way defined the present method of production and distribution of wealth. An animated discussion followed, especially concerning the exact nature of interest.—J. B. G., sec.

HAMILTON.—A meeting was held in the British Workman, on Thursday, when comrade McLean, of Cambuslang, gave a very interesting lecture on "The Social Condition of the People of Jamaica." The lecturer had been in Jamaica for over three years, and had thus been able to see that the introduction of our civilisation, with its shoddy goods and swindling officials, has been a curse to the people there. The lecture was listened to with the greatest attention. A brisk discussion followed, and McLean's reply evoked considerable applause. Comrades McQueen and McLeary, and J. E. Glasier, of Glasgow, afterwards addressed the meeting. A fair sale of *Commonweal* and pamphlets.—W. M., sec.

MANCHESTER.—We held our usual open-air meeting on Sunday morning, but the attendance was not so large as usual owing to the unsettled state of the weather. Unwin and Prince spoke. The audience seemed interested, and evidently regard Socialistic views with favour.—R. U.

NORWICH.—Our comrade Fred Henderson is down here for a week's campaign. On Sunday he addressed a very good meeting at St. Faith's. Parson Ballance was, as usual, present, and liberally scattered anti-Socialist leaflets amongst the audience, which, however, was entirely with the speaker. On Sunday afternoon, comrades Mowbray and Fred Henderson addressed the largest crowd that has ever gathered to hear our speakers. Our six quires of *Commonweal* were sold out before the end of the meeting. The audience was enthusiastic in its agreement with our comrades. In the evening our hall was crowded out to hear a lecture on "The Socialist Ideal" by Henderson. Some new members were made. A series of meetings have been arranged for the coming week at the schoolrooms through the city. At our market-place meeting we passed a resolution of sympathy with the S.D.F., in carrying out the unemployed demonstration.—C. W. M., sec.

ROCHDALE.—Comrade Unwin lectured in the Secular Hall on Sunday night, on "Early Communism, and what it teaches." There was no opposition.

LECTURE DIARY.

London Branches.

- Bloomsbury.**—Communist Club, 49 Tottenham Street. Friday Nov. 5, a sociable evening will be held. All members with their wives are invited. Coffee will be set at 8 p.m., to be followed by music and readings.
- Clerkenwell.**—Hall of the Socialist League, 13 Farringdon Road, E.C. Sunday Nov. 7, at 7.30 p.m. W. B. Robertson, "Over-production and Over-population." Wednesday November 10, at 8.30 p.m. P. Barry, "The Bankruptcy of Capital."
- Croydon.**—Royal County House, West Croydon Station Yard. Sunday at 7.30 p.m. Mrs. C. M. Wilson, "The Revolt of the Workers of the Nineteenth Century."
- Fulham.**—1 Shorolds Road, opposite Liberal Club.
- Hackney.**—Kenton Coffee House, Kenton Road, Well Street.
- Hammersmith.**—Kelmescott House, Upper Mall, W. Sunday Nov. 7, at 8 p.m. J. L. Mahon, "Socialism, and How to Attain it."
- Hoxton (L. E. L.).**—Exchange Coffee House, Pitfield Street, opposite Hoxton Church, N. Sunday November 7, at 11.30 a.m. C. Westwood, "Whigs and Reformers." At 8 p.m. H. Davis, "The Unemployed."
- Merton.**—11 Merton Terrace, High Street. Club Room open every evening. Committee meets every Thursday.
- Mitcham.**—Corner of Merton Lane and Fountain Place. Club Room open every evening from 7.30 till 11.
- North London.**—Business Meeting at 32 Camden Road Fridays at 8 p.m.

Country Branches.

- Bingley.**—Coffee Tavern. Every Monday evening at 7.30.
- Birmingham.**—Carr's Lane Coffee House. Every Monday evening, at 8.
- Bradford.**—Scott's Temperance Hotel, East Parade, Leeds Rd. Wednesdays, at 8.
- Dublin.**—102 Capel Street. Sunday at 7.30 p.m.; Thursdays at 8 p.m.
- Edinburgh (Scottish Section).**—4 Park Street. Meets every Thursday at 8 p.m.

Glasgow.—Reading-room of the Branch, 84 John Street, open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m. every day. On Saturday afternoon members will assist Hamilton comrades at their open-air meeting to be held at the New Cross, Hamilton, at 6 o'clock.—On Sunday open-air meetings on the Green at 11.30 and 4.30; and on George's Square at 12.30. In the evening, in our Rooms, at 7 o'clock, lecture by Archibald McKechnie on "Capital and Interest."—On Monday evening, open-air meeting at Parkhead Cross at 7.45.

Hamilton.—Branch meets every Thursday evening at 7.30 in the British Workman Meeting Room. On Thursday first comrade Wm. Geer of Glasgow will lecture on "The Robbery of Labour." Discussion after lecture.

Hull.—11 Princess Street, off Mason Street and Sykes Street. Reading-room open every night, 7 to 11 o'clock. Lectures on Sundays at 7 p.m. Any one wishful to help towards furnishing the rooms should write to E. Teesdale, 20 Shakspeare Street, or J. Devlin, 11 Princess Street.

Ipswich.—"George Inn," Woodhouse Street.

Leeds.—New Fleece Inn, Pemberton Street, Dewsbury Road. Thursday Nov. 11, at 8 p.m. Comrade Allworthy, "Socialism: Will it Benefit the People?"

Leicester.—Radical Club, Vine Street. Tuesdays, at 8 p.m.

Manchester.—145 Grey Mare Lane, Bradford, Manchester. Club and Reading Room open every evening. Business meeting every Thursday at 7.30 p.m. prompt. Lecture with discussion at 8 o'clock.

Norwich.—No. 6 St. Benedict St. Lecture and discussion every Sunday and Monday at 8 p.m. Reading-room open every day from 8.30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Oldham.—Mrs. Wrigley's Coffee Tavern, 9 Old Market Place. Wednesdays, 7.30.

Oxford.—Temperance Hall, 25½ Pembroke Street. Thursdays, at 8.30 p.m.

Open-air Propaganda for the Week.

Date.	Station.	Time.	Speaker.	Branch.
Sat. 6.	Harrow Road ("P. of Wales")	8	...The Branch	N. London.
	Mile-end Waste	8	...J. Allman	Mile-end.
S. 7.	Hackney—"Salmon and Ball"	11.30	...Charles & Mahon	Hackney.
	Cambridge Heath Road			
	Hammersmith—Beacon Rd.	11.30	...The Branch	Hammersmith.
	Mile-end Waste	11.30	...W. Chambers	Mile-end.
	Mitcham Fair Green	11.30	...H. H. Sparling	Merton.
	Regent's Park	11.30	...Somerville	N. London.
	St. Pancras Arches	11.30	...T. E. Wardle	Bloomsbury.
	Walham Green, opposite Station	11.30	...The Branch	Fulham.
	Hyde Park (near Marble Arch)	3	...Arnold	Marylebone.
	Victoria Park	3.30	...J. Lane	Hackney.
	Clerkenwell Green	7	...T. E. Wardle	Clerkenwell.
Tu. 9.	Euston Road—Ossulton St.	7	...D. J. Nicoll	N. London.
	Mile-end Waste	8	...W. A. Chambers	Mile-end.
	Soho—Broad Street	8	...H. Graham	Bloomsbury.
W. 10.	London Fields—Broadway,	8.30	...W. Morris	Hackney.
	opposite "Sir Walter Scott"			
Th. 11.	Hyde Park—Marble Arch	7	...T. E. Wardle	Bloomsbury.

PROVINCES.

- Leeds.**—Hunslet Moor, 11 a.m.; Vicar's Croft, 7 p.m., Sundays.
- Manchester.**—Corner of Gorton Lane and Ashton Old Road, Sundays at 11.30.
- Norwich.**—St. Mary's Plain, 11 a.m.; Market Place, 3 p.m.—Sundays.
- Oldham.**—Curzon Ground. Sundays, afternoon and evening.

WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, Gt. Ormond Street, W.C.—Saturday November 6, at 8.30. H. S. Foxwell, M.A. "Money and Trade."

HAMMERSMITH CLUB, Grove House, The Grove.—Sunday Nov. 7, at 8 p.m. Members' Concert. Tuesday 9th, at S. Mrs. Webster, "Free Education."

"THREE KINGS' TAVERN," Clerkenwell Close.—Sunday November 7, at 8.30. George Martin, "Free Education, and the London School Board."

CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST SOCIETY, Industrial Hall, Clark's Buildings, Broad Street, Bloomsbury.—Wed. Nov. 10. Percival Chubb, "The Inner Spirit of Socialism."

SOCIALISM IN NEWCASTLE.—A Society for the discussion of Socialism has been formed in Newcastle. The secretary is Edward R. Pease, 29 Claremont Road.

LITERATURE OF THE SOCIALIST LEAGUE.

- The Manifesto of the Socialist League.** Annotated by E. Belfort Bax and Wm. Morris. An exposition of the principles on which the League is founded. 1d.
- For Whom Shall We Vote?** Addressed to the Working-men and Electors of Great Britain. 8pp. or. 8vo. For distribution, 2s. per 100. ½d.
- Trades' Unions.** By E. Belfort Bax. 1d.
- The Factory Hell.** By Edward Aveling and Eleanor Marx-Aveling. 1d.
- The Commune of Paris.** By E. B. Bax, Victor Dave, and William Morris. 2d.
- Organised Labour: The Duty of the Trades' Unions in Relation to Socialism.** By Thomas Binning (London Society of Compositors) 1d.
- Art and Socialism.** By William Morris. Bijou edition. 3d.
- Chants for Socialists.** By William Morris. 1d.
- The Labour Question from the Socialist Standpoint.** By William Morris. 1d.
- Useful Work v. Useless Toil.** By Wm. Morris. 1d.

SOCIALIST LEAGUE OFFICE, 13, FARRINGTON ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

THE PRACTICAL SOCIALIST.

AN EXPONENT OF EVOLUTIONARY SOCIALISM; BUT DISCUSSION OF ALL ASPECTS INVITED.

EDITED BY THOMAS BOLAS.

MONTHLY, ONE PENNY.

W. REEVES, 185 FLEET STREET.