

IMPENDING SLAVERY.

WE ARE DRIFTING INTO SUCH A CONDITION.

The Progress Which Has Been and the Progress Which Still Must Be, Bring Us Face to Face With a New Peril to Liberty.

The New York Voice came out last week with editorials that have in them the true Populist ring. Lord! how this Brooklyn strike has stirred up the eastern editors against corporate greed. They are punching around to discover the "cat under the meal," and oftentimes hit close to bruise the hide. If the editors will keep at the good work success will crown their efforts.

The editor of the Voice came near hitting the right spot when he said last week:

In all the progressive nations of the world, civilization is to-day rocking amid the throes of industrial revolution. What is the matter?

In America, in England, in Germany, in France, and in other countries the story is the same—a persistent, unceasing, tumultuous grapple between labor and capital. The nineteenth century, which was ushered in amid the tumult and storm of political revolution, seems likely to go out as it came in, except that it is social and industrial rather than political revolution that the world has now to confront.

The Anglo Saxon race is one that has achieved its world-wide dominance by fearlessly looking issues in the face, and not by shutting its eyes and speaking softly and pretending that the issues do not exist or are not serious or will soon pass away.

Here is the stern and solemn truth that confronts the world to-day. We are drifting steadily and swiftly into a condition of industrial slavery.

Let us state the case in a few words. The development of steam and electricity in the last half century has revolutionized nearly every form of industry. To-day, the first requisite of success in any branch of industrial activity is a costly outfit of machinery. It takes capital to buy it. In Massachusetts alone machinery is doing the work of 100,000,000 men. It is fast becoming impossible for men without extensive capital to remain their own masters. The little tradesman becomes swallowed up in the mammoth store, and exchanges his independence for the position of an employee. The artisan of skill and intelligence who might have hoped in former years by the acquisition of a few tools to become his own "boss," now must confront himself with being a factory "hand" or a mill "hand," with the prospect of never attaining any other relation to his work. The concentration of capital goes on in a geometric ratio, capitalists unite in corporations, corporations unite in trusts, and anything like close personal relations between employer and employee becomes impossible. The employer class becomes more and more contracted; the employee class becomes more and more extensive. The hope of independence becomes a vain hope for a larger and larger proportion of people, and the inspiration that goes with that hope is lost. The sense of individual responsibility is lost also in large measure both by the capitalist employer and the wage-earning machine that calls itself an employee.

Now, what does all this mean? It means just this: That swiftly and surely we are coming to the pass that all the avenues through which men can earn a living and keep body and soul together here upon earth are to be controlled by capital. Those who own the capital can alone purchase the machinery; and those who own the machinery control the labor which is applied to it. Herein lies the secret of the struggle going on all over the world—a struggle on the part of labor against the absolute control by capital of all the opportunities of earning a livelihood.

What is labor contending for? For better food, for better clothing and better shelter? No! the fight is not primarily for these things. The laborer of to-day is better housed, better fed and better clothed on the average than ever before, and it is where he is the best fed and the best clothed that this struggle is the fiercest. Why, then, this intense, deepening feeling of resentment? The answer brings us to the very core and center of the whole struggle. The fight is not one for higher wages or shorter hours or better material conditions, but it is for liberty, industrial liberty—emancipation from the absolute dominion of aggregated capital. The negroes of the south were, we dare say, better fed, better clothed, and better housed on an average in the days of slavery than they are to-day. But their craving for themselves and children was deeper and diviner than the desire for these things; it was a craving for freedom. It is so of the wage earners of to-day. Raising their wages and shortening their hours will not alone cure or even diminish their restlessness or discontent. The craving which is rocking civilization is deeper than is sometimes expected even by the workingmen themselves. It is an instinct planted by God in man's very heart of hearts, the love of liberty.

Men and women of America, we must face the situation that we have been brought into by the progress of civilization. We must look beyond the turmoil and confusion of the immediate conflict, beyond the strikes and the lockouts, beyond the vexations, the blunders and even the wickedness of the combatants on both sides, and realize the ultimate purpose of labor's conflict and the spirit that sustains it. That ultimate purpose is emancipation from the impending despotism of capital.

tal. That spirit is the same spirit of liberty that has in times past hurled political despotism from all the thrones of Europe and has planted republics and constitutional monarchies in their place. The despotism of kings is no more to be feared than the despotism of capital.

What, then, is the best way to avert this impending despotism? What is the solution? What is the remedy?

The first thing to be done is to secure a popular understanding of the nature of the conflict and of the real issues involved, and to that end the Voice proposes to address itself in the future more assiduously than it has ever done in the past. The rights of opportunity must be made as sacred as the rights of property. We cannot then back the hands upon the dial of time. We cannot arrest the progress of science and invention, and begin a backward march toward barbarism. But we can recognize the fact that the progress which has been, and the progress which still must be, bring us face to face with a new peril to liberty.

The Right of Revolution Remains.

The railway employees of Kansas who helped "redeem" that state last fall, will be fully repaid for their patriotism. A bill for their benefit has been introduced in the state legislature and recommended for passage. Behold:

Section 1 of the bill reads: "If any locomotive engineer, conductor, fireman or brakeman, or any other people employed in the running of any train, shall willfully and maliciously abandon his locomotive or train upon any railroad at any other point than the regular schedule destination of such locomotive or train, he shall be fined not less than \$20 nor more than \$100 and confined not less than twenty days nor more than ninety days in the county jail." The next section provides that "any person or persons who shall willfully obstruct the regular operation of the business of any railroad company or other corporation, or of the regular running of any freight or passenger train, or the labor and business of any corporation, firm or individual, shall, on conviction thereof, be punished the same as provided in section 1."

There you are, boys. Just what you voted for. There is no longer any doubt that Kansas is "redeemed." And the fellows who redeemed it for the railroads and money lenders, are going to fix railroad employees so they will be quiet hereafter. Say, boys, tell the truth—don't you feel just a little foolish about helping "redeem" Kansas? It is the same way all over this glorious land of liberty. The great landslide back to the republican end of plutocracy has given the most experienced pirates one more chance. And they will use it in every case to pass such stringent laws against the wage workers as to bind us down completely. But let them twist the screws—the right of revolution remains, even though plutocracy should take away our vote.

More Strikers Than Pullmans.

That there are men even now among capitalists who believe that the struggle between labor and capital will have a different ending from what it has heretofore, is shown by the remarkable letter which lately appeared in the Tribune, written by a man who is himself a large employer of labor, having thousands in his service. He concludes his letter with the following paragraph:

"To-day it may be possible for men like the Brooklyn presidents and Mr. Pullman to calmly suppress all appeals and arguments by denying that there is anything to arbitrate. There are, however, only two presidents to 6,000 trolley men, and one Pullman to 10,000 employees. Does there never cross the minds of the presidents and Pullmans the faintest shade of suspicion that the day will come when the thousands will be their masters, and that these thousands will, in even fewer words, decline to arbitrate, but subject their former masters to a harsher treatment Gal 13.—Populist

than they are themselves to-day receiving?"

Notes.

The President recommends 50-year bonds, payable in gold, to enslave the next generation.

What is this country coming to, when a tool of Wall street dictates legislation?

And now it is a predicament. We asked an old soldier what he thought of the President's special message, and he answered: "The most cold-blooded piece of villainy ever proposed on American soil."

Grover is serving the bankers faithfully—and great has been his reward. The government don't need a dollar of gold to pay anybody but traitors, who deserve hanging.

The gold reserve must be abolished before it wrecks the government. They are discussing the money question, eh? Wouldn't pay any attention to the Populists a couple of years ago when we proclaimed that the paramount question.

The gamblers are selling options on gold in New York.

Whatever is done or left undone, by the next congress, more bonds will be issued and the greenbacks destroyed.

There is a surplus of money in the treasury for the payment of current expenses—yet the President wants more bonds.

Though Ramsey, the defaulting cashier of Illinois, is dead, he has charged up against him on the other side of the river \$500,000—and worse than that, he was a grand old party whooper, one of the kind who denounce Populism.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Officials of eastern lines have apparently given up all attempt to stem the freight rate demoralization.

Whipple Post, G. A. R., will put an American flag on every school house in Kane county, Illinois, on Memorial day.

Anna Gould was married to Count Boniface de Castellane in New York, less than 100 intimate friends being present. Both civil and religious ceremonies were performed.

Bernhard Meuser, a business man of Beardstown, Ill., disappeared Feb. 27, and it is feared he has met with foul play.

Editor Weaver of Bristol, Ind., has brought suit for damages against three wealthy residents, alleging libel and slander.

Five thousand people fought for an opportunity to witness the ceremonies attending the burial of a murdered Chinese man at Los Angeles.

Mrs. Alfred H. Hines rushed into the pulpit of a Rochester church and said she had been commanded in a vision to preach.

Animated by Lawrence Gronlund's preaching, Californians have formed an organization similar to the famous Fabian society of London.

River and railroad miners of the Pittsburgh district decided to refuse to work for less than 60 cents a ton.

Detroit's new health board secured possession of the department quarters by strategy and forcibly removed Commissioner McLeod.

Creditors and officers of the Ballou Banking company of Sioux City, Iowa, have agreed on a receivership to wind up its affairs.

Michigan homeopaths will fight the plan to amalgamate the departments of medicine at the university.

Ice gorged in the Susquehanna at Fort Deposit and the residents were forced to flee to the hills.

Hugh T. Galen, a millionaire mine owner and politician of Helena, Mont., was secretly married to a Seattle school teacher.

A. M. Jelleff, a business man of Franklin, Ind., turned on the gas in a theater box and lay down to die.

Engagement is announced of Mary Leiter, daughter of the Chicago millionaire, to O. Curzon, M. P., son of Lord Searle.

It has practically been decided to hold an international mining exposition in Denver in 1898.

Extra guards have been placed about the glass works at Martin's Ferry, Ohio, to guard against a possible attack by union men.

The steamship Aurania reached New York from Liverpool with a million and three quarters in gold on board.

Telegraph operators of New York have formed a union which is intended to be national in its scope.

Lulu Harrington, a belle of Lincoln, Neb., has brought suit for breach of promise against Philip Manger of Booneville, Mo.

John A. McClelland is rapidly growing weaker and the aged warrior has given up hope of recovery.

The store of the Northwestern Chandler company at Toledo, Ohio, was entered by a miscreant, who destroyed everything of a fragile nature.

Reckless squandering of agricultural college funds has been discovered by the legislature of Oklahoma.

Relatives of Grace Vaughn, the actress, who sought to obtain her release from an Ohio insane asylum, found she has escaped.

Dun's trade review states that there is very little activity to be discovered in any line of business.

David B. James, a pioneer merchant of San Francisco, is endeavoring to incite the western states to secede from the union.

Matthew Roland of Mont Clair, N. J., has fallen heir to an estate left in Australia by an uncle, valued at \$3,000,000.

Bank clearings of the principal cities in the United States show a total decrease for the week of 7.3 per cent.

Missionaries on the coast of Labrador state that there is great suffering and starvation among the Nasceape Indians.

Eastern passenger officials failed to induce western agents to alter their plan for handling immigrant business.

Stock company has been formed to build an electric freight line connecting Valparaiso, Ind., with Chicago.

Railroad officials, who met at Omaha to agree upon coal rates in Kansas, adjourned abruptly without a settlement.

Officers were elected and prizes distributed by the National Butter and Cheese Men's association at Rockford, Ill., Thursday.

J. Hamburgh & Co. of New York, importers of leaf tobacco, have made an assignment. Liabilities are nearly \$200,000.

Cattle shipments from Texas will show a heavy falling off this year, but will be continuous instead of bunched within a few months.

Refreshing sleep has come to David Jones of Elwood, Ind., after 152 days and nights of wakefulness.

LATEST MARKET REPORTS.

CHICAGO.	
CATTLE—Common to prime.....	\$1.25 @ 5.21
HOGS—Shipping grades.....	2.90 @ 4.40
SHEEP—Fair to choice.....	2.25 @ 4.45
WHEAT—No. 1 red.....	92 @ 53
CORN—No. 2.....	43 @ 43
OATS—No. 2.....	27 @ 27 1/2
RYE—No. 2.....	62 @ 62
BUTTER—Creamery.....	23 1/2 @ 62
EGGS—Fresh.....	20 1/2 @ 20 1/2
POTATOES—Per bu.....	53 @ 62
BUFFALO.	
WHEAT—No. 2.....	50 @ 60
CORN—No. 2 yellow.....	45 @ 45
OATS—No. 1 white.....	32 @ 32
CATTLE.....	3 7/8 @ 5 1/2
HOGS.....	4 3/4 @ 4 1/2
SHEEP.....	2 1/2 @ 4 1/2
PEORIA.	
RYE—No. 2.....	54 @ 55
CORN—No. 3 white.....	40 @ 40 1/2
OATS—No. 2 white.....	30 1/2 @ 30 1/2
ST. LOUIS.	
CATTLE.....	\$5.00 @ 5.00
HOGS.....	3.95 @ 4.05
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	91 @ 51 1/2
CORN—No. 2.....	40 @ 40 1/2
OATS—No. 2.....	26 @ 26
KANSAS CITY.	
CATTLE.....	1.90 @ 5.50
HOGS.....	3.00 @ 3.85
SHEEP.....	2.00 @ 4.00
NEW YORK.	
WHEAT—No. 2 red.....	98 1/2 @ 58 1/2
CORN—No. 2.....	32 @ 32 1/2
OATS—White Western.....	28 @ 28 1/2
WHEAT—No. 1 red.....	11 @ 21
TOLEDO.	
CORN—No. 2 Mixed.....	33 1/2 @ 33 1/2
OATS—No. 2 Mixed.....	21 @ 21
RYE—No. 2.....	51 @ 51
RAILY.....	2 @ 2

FOREIGN.

The new Irish land bill was presented in the British house of commons by Secretary Morley.

A battalion of Spanish regulars was routed by Cuban rebels near Manzanillo. The defeat and death of Gen. La Chaurbe are confirmed.

Premier Ribot favors participation by France in the international monetary conference proposed by Germany.

Fifty rebels captured by government troops in Colombia were shot. An attack on canal property is feared.

Mgr. Khirmirian, the Armenian patriarch, says 11,000 of his countrymen were butchered in the Sassoun district.

The seventeenth anniversary of the coronation of Pope Leo was celebrated at the Vatican with much ceremony.

M. Percher, one of the editors of the Journal des Debats of Paris, was killed in a duel with M. Le Chevalier.

Government troops have captured the whole insurgent band in Cuba. The prisoners have been taken to Matanzas for trial.

Count Oyama, of the Japanese army, reports two engagements with Chinese troops, 200 of whom were killed in one battle.

Guatemala will retain lobbyists in Washington to secure the interference of the United States in case Mexico declares war.

Except in Manchester, where the bimetallic feeling is very strong, Great Britain is opposed to the monetary conference.

An excursion train jumped the track on a mountain side near the City of Mexico, forty-two persons being killed and thirty or more seriously injured.

Insurrectionists in Colombia have renewed their activity, and an engagement is said to be imminent near Cucuta.

One soldier and one policeman were killed by Cuban insurgents in an engagement at Buenavistas.

Hercules Robinson, formerly governor of Hong Kong and other places, has been appointed governor of Cape Colony.

OBITUARY.

W. C. Coup, of circus fame, died of pneumonia in a hospital at Jacksonville, Fla. He was 62 years old.

Elisba E. Lloyd, ex-captain of police, died at his home in Chicago after an illness of several months.

Joseph Hopkins Martin, one of Chicago's early settlers, died at his home from the effects of a stroke of paralysis.

John A. Dadd, a pioneer of Milwaukee and a well known pharmacist, died of congestion of the brain.

Sir Geoffrey T. P. Hornby, admiral of the fleet and first ad-d-camp to Queen Victoria, is dead.

Richard O'Gorman, the Irish nationalist, scholar and orator, died at his home in New York city, aged 55 years.

Mary Marshall, aged 108 years, dropped dead at her home in Port Fulton, Ind. She was born in Virginia in 1787.

Adjutant General Charles L. Eaton of Michigan fell dead with apoplexy of the heart while attending a Detroit funeral.

George D. Boyden, a commission merchant and an active member of the Chicago board of trade, died at the Union League club.

John Mason Prayman, ex-governor of Idaho, one of the oldest masons in the United States, died at Kansas City, aged 81.

Roger Ryan, a pioneer of Christian county, died from a stroke of apoplexy while sitting in his carriage at Pana, Ill.

Mrs. Lydia Ann Sinclair, nee Hicks, widow of James Sinclair, one of Chicago's pioneers, died at Ravenswood, aged 89.

POLITICAL.

Municipal elections were held in Iowa cities and towns, party lines being drawn in but few cases.

Utah's seventh constitutional convention met at Salt Lake City. The republicans have a majority of the delegates.

A combination has been effected in the Idaho legislature which ensures the reelection of Senator Shoup.

Gov. Matthews of Indiana returned the legislative apportionment bill to the house with his veto.

The enrolled anti-winter racing bill was stolen at Indianapolis, but a new one was prepared and signed by the governor.

A bill looking to the licensing of bicycle manufacturers and repairers has been introduced in the Illinois house.

In the Illinois legislature a bill has been introduced calculated to suppress vile and sensational publications.

In the South Dakota legislature the divorce bill, a most important measure, was defeated by one vote.

Resolutions have been introduced in the Minnesota legislature asking for an investigation of Public Bank Examiner Kenyon.

Illinois legislators are considering a proposition to investigate official corruption in the Chicago city council.

Wisconsin legislators have agreed to appoint a committee to investigate all of the institutions under state control.

Both branches of the Michigan legislature passed a bill providing for registration in the City of Detroit.

A conference of prohibitionists of Illinois was begun at Springfield, Samuel Dickie of Albion, Mich., delivered an address.

George W. Prince of Galesburg was nominated for congress by the republicans of the tenth Illinois district on the 1,476th ballot.

SPORTING NOTES.

In the regatta at Cannes the American yacht Dacotah won the Ordon goblet and James Gordon Bennett challenge cup No. 2.

Griffio secured the verdict over Leeds in a twelve round go at Coney Island. Solly Smith and Denning fought a ten round draw.

The Interstate league was formally organized at Bloomington, the cities represented being Joliet, Aurora, Bloomington, Terre Haute, Fort Wayne and Lafayette.

Representatives of Chicago and New York water polo teams have arranged for three games for the United States championship, to be played in New York in April.

Billy Smith and Joe Walcott fought a fifteen round draw before an audience of 4,000 at the National Sporting club of Boston.

Indiana senate has passed the bill forbidding winter racing in the state. The measure is to suppress the Roby races.

The National League of Baseball clubs adopted a playing schedule and voted to reinstate Fred Pfeffer.

CASUALTIES.

Property valued at upward of \$200,000 was destroyed by Saturday's fire at Salina, Kan.

A million dollars' damage was caused by the fire which originated in Simpson's dry goods store in Toronto.

Fire partly destroyed the Hotel Boyer at Pittsburgh. Twenty of the employees had a narrow escape from cremation.

Two men were killed and two injured by the explosion of a tank of sulphuric acid at McKeesport, Pa.

The British steamer Venetian, which struck on a ledge in Boston Harbor, is a total wreck. Two of her crew were badly scalded by escaping steam.

John Williams of Franklin, Wash., while engaged in a friendly wrestling bout, received injuries causing his death.

Five persons were badly injured in a collision between Sixth avenue elevated trains in New York, due to carelessness.

Two buildings in New York city fell, causing the death of four men. Twenty-one other employees were seriously injured.

Investigation of the wreck of the Interoceanic railroad, near the City of Mexico, shows that 104 persons were killed.

Homer Hinshaw, aged 14, was killed with a gun while playing with Robert Holaday, a boy friend, at Wilmington, Ohio.

While Thomas Meadows and his wife of Glenville, Ala., were attending a dance their four children were burned to death.

CRIME.

A. Moses of Chippewa Falls, Wis., was shot by two would-be robbers, to whom he had just sold a revolver.

Mary Wagner, a school teacher of Rockport, Ind., is in jail, charged with forgery and securing money by false pretenses.

John Schronbrink and wife of Ai, Ohio, were tortured by masked robbers until they revealed the whereabouts of \$2,200.

Tom Graves, a mountain desperado, was fatally shot by officers in a running fight in the streets of Richmond, Ky.

Levy Bruster and Abraham Turpin, colored waiters in a Terre Haute, Ind., hotel, exchanged shots and the latter was fatally wounded.

At Decker, Ind., the home of C. A. Bennett, a constable, was wrecked by dynamite. The occupants escaped unhurt.

Omaha's police board has suspended the chief, and will investigate charges of corruption against the force.

Two masked men held up a train near Antelope, Cal., but were beaten off by the engineer and fireman.

Daniel Hirston and wife of Alton, I. T., were fatally injured by white robbers disguised as negroes.

The wife of Rev. Isaac Aldrich, pastor of the Congregational Church of Wayne, Mich., has been arrested, charged with immorality.

At Franklin, Ind., James Truebeck, Thomas Kirk and Lee Martin were sentenced to six years' imprisonment for grave robbery.

"Bill" Dolan and his band are surrounded by a posse of marauders in a cave in the flatiron country, Oklahoma.

A 13-year-old girl is under arrest at Terre Haute, Ind., for setting fire to her adopted mother's barn.

David Miller, of Osnaburg, Ohio, was fatally shot by two negro highwaymen, whom the villagers threaten to lynch who caught.

It has been discovered that hundreds of forged naturalization papers were used at the election in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania.

Joe Dean was hanged at Fairburn, Ky., for murder. George Mege was executed at Frankfort for a similar crime.

WASHINGTON.

Both houses of congress adjourned Monday. Little business was transacted in the final hours.

Ex-Speaker Reed and two of his friends refused to vote for a resolution thanking Speaker Crisp for his fairness.

Appropriations made by the congress just adjourned aggregate \$59,225,250, about \$7,000,000 less than those of the Reed congress.

Members Crisp, Culberson and Hitt will be the house delegates to the international monetary conference.

United States supreme court decided American patents expired with those in foreign countries. Telephone, telegraph and electric light inventions are involved.

Bonds for \$300,000 issued by Perry county, Ill., to aid in railroad building have been held valid by the supreme court.

A new trial of the Coffins, convicted of wrecking the Indianapolis