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[WEEKLY; ONE PENNY.]

A MASS MEETING of the inhabitants of the "Boundary Street Area" will be held near the "Birdcage," Columbia Road, Hackney Road, on Thursday, August 13th, at 8 p.m., by the No Rent League, to call upon the London County Council, who have recently awarded nearly £300,000 as compensation to the landlords of the above slum, to give "compensation" to the tenants for the murder of their children, who have died by hundreds of Typhoid Fever, Diphtheria, and other diseases produced by the horrible insanitary conditions which prevail in this collection of pestilential dens. If the County Council can compensate the privileged murderers who own this "property," surely they might compensate those who have suffered by their avarice and barbarity. If the County Council will not "compensate" the tenants, they must "compensate" themselves. Come to the Meeting and hear how it can be done.

CREAGHE'S TRIAL AND SENTENCE.

On Tuesday, July 29th, 1891, our comrade John Creaghe appeared at the Leeds assizes before "Justice" Grantham to answer a charge of libel brought against him by Wilson, the solicitor of Creaghe's landlady, for calling that gentleman a "petty-fogger at law" and a "little licensed thief" in an article in the *Sheffield Anarchist* of June 29th, in return for certain epithets lavished by Wilson upon our comrade of a "pest," "coward" and "nuisance," in an action brought against Creaghe by his landlady, for "stealing" his own furniture. With regard to this prosecution we may mention that it was proved at the trial that its real aim was to drive Creaghe from the town. A clerk of Wilson's admitted that on July 20th, Fairburn, Wilson's solicitor, said before the magistrate, "We don't care so much about bail. It will suit us just as well if we clear him out of the town, as to get him to the Assizes. It will be a benefit to everybody one way or another." This shows what terror Creaghe's teaching and action has caused among the local property owners. They would do anything to get rid of him; in this, however, they have not been successful. When Kershaw, the counsel for the prosecution, had finished, our Comrade was called on for his defence, and proceeded to address the jury, after alluding to attempts made by Kershaw to prejudice the case by bringing up Creaghe's opinions, and the charge of "stealing" his own furniture. Our comrade pointed out that he was not there to be tried upon that charge, nor upon his opinions as an Anarchist, which he was. It was true he did not pay his rent, and could not be charged with anything, as the reason he did not pay was that he was unable to do so. The owner of the house then attempted to seize all that he had. He had many other creditors depending upon him—even the furniture was bought at the expense of another man—whom he endeavoured to repay. He therefore refused to recognise the right of the owner of the house to take all and leave nothing for any other creditors, and that he should sustain legally or illegally. It was an atrocious thing to see how poor workers, who really could not pay rent from causes over which they had no control, were robbed by the law, their furniture torn from them, and were left in cold and nakedness on the floor. He again pointed out that the police court case had nothing to do with the present charge, and asked the jury to bear in mind the abuse given him by that man Wilson. In the discharge of his duty for a client, because he was foiled in getting a warrant, Mr. Wilson lost his temper and abused him in his absence, calling him a pest, and a nuisance, and a coward, and saying he should be expelled from the country. What was he to do? Was he to submit tamely to such abuse given by Mr. Wilson under protection in his business as a solicitor? Was he to submit tamely to those insults, or was he to take the law in his own hands, and strike Wilson in his face with a stick; or was

he to take advantage of the paper coming out, to mention Wilson as being one of a class which he maintained, lived by fraud, and lying, and stealing; and mention him as he would mention any man that belonged to a band of robbers? For they might say as they liked, and people might charge him there, because it was not the fashion to speak the truth, but everybody admitted that the trade of a lawyer was to evade the law, by every means to make the worst appear the better reason to defend a client whether he was right or wrong. As Peate said, "The best barrister is one who makes a bad case appear a good one, or a good case appear a bad one; and, therefore, the best barrister is the worst citizen." He did not attack this man personally; he did not enter into his private life in any way, and he knew nothing about him; but he did know that Mr. Wilson was a member of a class which the whole world admitted lived in the way he had told them, and he mentioned him as such in a jocular, sneering way. But that was not the real reason why he was being prosecuted was very clear, and the jury would perceive that it was not, from the remarks made by Mr. Fairburn to the Stipendiary at the Sheffield Police Court. Mr. Fairburn, in his hearing, said that his client was not so much interested in having him sent to the Assizes as he was having him cleared out of the town. "But," continued our comrade, "who is this man Wilson who would have me turned out of the town because of my opinions? Who is there behind him? He must be the agent of someone else, or he would not have persecuted me in this way." Our comrade denied that he intended to make any charges against the prosecutor personally, because he really knew nothing about him. He, however, believed that every member of the profession was guilty of this system of scheming and cheating; their object was not to see the law carried out, but to evade it; and their whole stock-in-trade consisted of chicanery, lying, and cheating. Those members of the profession who did not possess this stock-in-trade could not be successful. He spoke of this man (Wilson) as one of those who robbed the workers; and he spoke of this class of robbers the same as they would speak of any other class of robbers. He would give them an instance of what he meant. He had the honour of the friendship of a thorough honest Yorkshireman at Sheffield, but a man who lived by the profit made on his business. When the census paper was taken to that man he was required to fill in an answer to the question what was his employment, and he put down, "I buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest, and I pocket the difference. I call that stealing, and therefore I am by profession a thief." After all that had been said and written about the evils of society, he and others were beginning to act, to speak plainly what thousands only thought. But for this hypocritical society in which they all lived people would say what they thought and what was true. But out of respect for that society which deserved nothing but contempt, they pretended that things were what they were not. And he was bound to be there that day, at great loss of time to himself, and great expense, because he refused to respect that society, because he had dared to speak the truth. The province of a lawyer was to advocate right or wrong for gold; every lawyer who had risen had done that successfully. Let them look at the great and illustrious Sir Charles's Russell's on the one side, and Sir Edward Clarke's on the other, feed and re-feed, refreshed and refreshed again and again with gold by their backers. What were they but clever gladiators or pugilists fighting for the verdict and not for justice and truth. And what a spectacle to see this same Sir Charles Russell coming into court in order to whitewash a man like Verney, while the papers reported every word for the education and moral teaching of the youth of our land. What a large amount of gold was required to retain the services of this talented whitewasher. These men were all licensed thieves; everyone knew it and privately said it, and yet he was to be punished for saying it openly. He asked the jury not to let "this man Wilson" have all his own way, for if he had had his real deserts he would have been standing there in the dock instead of him. Let them before finding their verdict consider what an atrociously exaggerated punishment the law provided for this so-called offence against private property. If they found him guilty they placed him at the mercy of a judge who was famous, or he should say infamous, for the ferocity of his sentences for offences against private property. He hoped they

would not be led by the nose by any judge; and that they would say that he had not done anything which was wrong."

The middle-class jury however found our comrade "Guilty," and then the world was astonished by an unexpected display of "clemency" on the part of "Justice" Grantham. This gentlemen merely bound Creaghe over in his own recognisances of £25, to come up for judgement when called upon; informing Creaghe at the same time that he would be liable to pay the costs of the prosecution. We shall see about that. But what has come to Grantham? This is rather different from the sentences he passed in the days when he sent Mowbray to prison for nine months for telling starving men at Norwich to help themselves to food. Is Grantham also among the converted, or is he striving for popularity? We shall have Sir Peter Edlin letting off strikers who are charged with intimidation next. The fact was, that he was "upset" by Creaghe's epithet of "infamous;" when that awful word was uttered Grantham turned pale, and the "wood-headed idiots" of the jury looked "scared." It was quite evident that Grantham was quite "demoralised" during his address to the jury, and though he did not forget to sum up strongly against our comrade, yet he was too "cowed" to impose a severe sentence, it would look too much like personal malice. Once more it has been proved that a bold course is the best, and Creaghe's courage has even made Grantham "lenient." Meanwhile the case has made an immense amount of propaganda, reports of two or three columns, with extracts from the libel of July 3rd, appearing in all Yorkshire papers. Mr. Wilson may be congratulated on his success in advertising Anarchism, at considerable personal inconvenience and expense, for which we fear he will be very inadequately remunerated. If Creaghe can't pay rent we are sure he can't pay "costs."

THE AIMS OF SCIENCE.

We Anarchists know well that there are but two of the race Artist left, they having been saved by our movement (we never boast—well, hardly ever). But we turn our eyes in another direction. Why! Look at Science! Carnegie talks of triumphant democracy, look at triumphant science; it knocks democracy into a dustbin. Why! what greater triumph of the age is there than the killing of four strapped-down criminals (!) at Sing Sing by electricity. The poor fellows had no pain at all—at any rate they did not say they had—they weren't given the chance of saying how they liked it. Science has triumphed over democracy entirely—the improved machines on a scientific basis are warranted to lock out an industry in a few years, minus a few that look after the machine. Science, yes science, great science, has made a new gunpowder, quite smokeless, by which battles may become bloodier; torpedoes—to save the expense of killing men retail—which kill wholesale. Fast ships and trains, warranted (not always) to run each other down, which enable people to take brown paper boots to where they are not wanted, and coal to the colliers, warm clothing to the tropics, water to the sea, and strawberry ices to the Esquimaux. You have scientifically planned chimney stacks which make a heavy canopy to keep out the furious glare of the sun in mid-winter, and to keep the perfumed air of our cities from being wasted over the country. A scientific drainage system is also in force, which carefully pollutes our rivers and prevents the fish from plaguing us any longer, and so running up the prices of sea and foreign fish. Good old science! There is another science which transfers tuberculosis into patients suffering from consumption of the non-tubercular kind, and syphilis, and other nice diseases to children's arms to stop their getting small-pox. This last and triumphant science saves us a lot of scavengering work, and enables a lot of poor journeymen doctors to get work.

But as yet I have only said what science has done; now I say what the aims of science in the future should be; not being a scientist myself, I recommend all of that class to try these puzzles or inventions; I give them the ideas for a mere royalty on the profits if they should be successful in their inventions—let us say 97½ per cent. That will leave a sufficient margin almost to pay the patent duties.

First we must have an invention of a machine man, warranted to require no pay, not to strike, not to spread Anarchist ideas; he must be able to work from 26 to 32 hours a day, Sundays included, yet go to church, Y.M.C.A. meetings, turn out to cheer any blackguard such as Stanley, Wales, William the second-hand and little.

Next we must have a digestive syrup, which will enable the unemployed and the rest of the workers to live comfortably on bricks, refuse, back numbers of Liberal newspapers, etc.

Also we must have a patent editor, who will tell the truth; there is a large demand for these, in America especially.

Next, a patent steam parson, warranted to twist the bible to any damned thing you like; intemperance or teetotalism; royalism or republicanism; Anarchy or absolute monarchy.

A soothing syrup for the masses. A Trades Councillor not open to bribery. A ballot-box warranted to return nothing but Tories and Social Democrats. A policeman paralysed. A machine to provide funds for the Anarchists; a ditto to tell you which soap it is that won't wash sins.

The Irish also demand an "Edison Evictor," the Welsh a "Two-penny Tithe Collector," the Scotch a "Deer Forest Desolator," the English a "German Royalty Provider."

Walk up gentlemen inventors! Walk up capitalists with the brains! Your class has produced all the great useful inventions; we know Arkwright was born in broadcloth, Watt in a palace, Robbie Burns in

a carriage and pair, and all the rest of them in luxury! None came from our class, of course not; your class was born with the brains; you never employ school masters at Eton, Harrow, and Rugby; you don't want brains made for you; Comrades Geddes and Bell find their college classes full of the ignorant workers, who can't even spell *Commonweal* backwards! No rich man ever had need of a University Professor to teach him; nor even went to a Technical College to learn elementary French, or German, or Spanish, in order to become a civil engineer! Wake up, gents! wake up!

CYRIL BELL.

THE NECESSITY FOR A NO RENT CAMPAIGN.

THE shameful condition of the slums in which the working people dwell, has been a topic of discussion that has frequently turned up in the press and on the platform for many years. Royal Commissions have sat and have heard evidence with grave faces concerning the horrible dens in which the people live, all the while having great difficulty to keep from laughing at the farce in which they were prominent actors. For nothing, of course, has ever resulted either from the discussion or from these royal commissions. It is true slums have been pulled down, and warehouses, and sometimes "model dwellings," erected in their place, in which, needless to say, the slum-dwellers have not found refuge, the warehouses being intended for the storage of the goods of the wealthy capitalists and merchants, and the "model dwellings" for the respectable working classes, slummers not being wanted. Of all these commissions, the one which interests us most was that which sat in 1884 and 1885 which, being near our own time, presents a picture of slum life, which in its main features undoubtedly closely resembles that which prevails at present. In the autumn of 1883, it became evident to many who had not hitherto given much thought to the condition of the people, that we had a social question in England. The Irish land question, the growing Socialist agitation, and the enthusiasm with which the English working classes had received the theories of Henry George, had alarmed the privileged classes, and there was a general inclination to inquire into how the workers lived, and whether the affair was really so bad as these "agitators" declared they were. It was then that a little pamphlet written by some missionaries belonging to the London Congregational Union, startled the public by revealing to the eyes of the rich and comfortable classes the hideous abysses of poverty, vice, and crime, which lie everywhere beneath the splendour and the wealth of modern civilisation.

It was the silly season; Parliament was not sitting, and there was no other events of a sufficiently important character to divert public attention from this common topic of discussion. For weeks London rang with it, prominent newspapers sent "Special Commissioners" to explore the mysteries of life in the slums. Cabinet Ministers and ex-Cabinet ministers wrote articles in magazines, in which they explained their various plans for housing the poor. From the public platform flowed a multitude of suggestions, and writers to magazines and the public journals joined in the general outcry. Some of these schemes were at once damned by the respectable public by having that dreadful label "Communitic" attached to them. It is, of course, needless to say that these were only plans that promised the slightest way out of the difficulty. Finally a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into what was ironically called "The Housing of Working Classes," and this Commission, having inquired, drew up a report, which proved that the indictment against the slum landlord and house farmer by the author of the "The Bitter Cry" and the "Special Commissioners" of the daily press was in substance quite accurate. The Commission proved that the working classes were shamefully rackrented by the owners of the horrible dens in which they were forced to live. It also proved that the pulling down of old rookeries for Metropolitan improvements, or even for the erection of artisan's dwellings upon the Peabody system, had intensified and increased the over-crowding and rackrenting in other slums, and that rents, high as they were, were still rapidly rising.

It may be as well here to produce the statement of the Commissioners with regard to rack rents in the slums. They say, in their report:—"Mr. Marchant Williams, inspector of schools for the London School Board, has given valuable evidence upon this point. From personal investigation of parts of the parishes of Clerkenwell, St. Luke's, St. Giles, Marylebone, and other poor quarters of London, he finds that 88 per cent. of the poor population pay more than one-fifth of their income in rent; 46 per cent. pay from one-fourth to one-half; and only 12 per cent. pay less than one-fifth of their weekly wages in rent. These figures are gathered from an inquiry extending over nearly a thousand dwellings, taken at random in different poor parts of the metropolis. Among these 3s. 10½d. is the average rent of one room let as a separate tenement, 6s. for two-roomed tenements, and 7s. 5½d. for three-roomed tenements. Rents in the congested districts of London are gradually getting higher, and wages are not rising, and there is a prospect, therefore, of the disproportion between rent and wages growing still greater. Corroborative evidence is not wanting to show that the witness just quoted has erred, if at all, on the side of moderation. In South St. Pancras, for instance, 4s. 6d. was paid for one room 10ft. by 7ft., at 19, Prospect Terrace; the same was the case at 3, Derry Street. At 22, Wood Street, 5s. was paid for a single room, and if cheaper quarters were needed an underground kitchen must be sought, which commanded a rent in this neighbourhood of 2s. 6d. a week. At 9, Stephen Street, Tottenham Court Road, 5s. a week was paid for a single room in a state of great decay. In Chapel

Row and Wilmington Place, Clerkenwell, 3s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 5s. were the rents for single rooms. In Spitalfields the average rental for one room was from 4s. 6d. to 6s. a week. In Notting Hill 4s. or 5s. was said to be the rent of furnished rooms, and in the Mint 4s. 6d. for the same accommodation; but the character of the furniture is, as a rule, in its wretchedness beyond description. Instances might be multiplied from Metropolitan evidence, but enough has been quoted. It is only necessary to add that many of the tenements are the dwellings which have been referred to as instances of extreme overcrowding." (Page 17 "Report of Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes.")

There can be no doubt that, not only from the evidence before the Commission, but from that which comes from other sources. Mr. Marchant Williams has "erred on the side of moderation" in his estimate of the rents charged for single rooms. We should say that the average was nearer 4s. 6d. than 3s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and there can be no doubt that since this inquiry the rents, which were even then "gradually getting higher," have advanced considerably. In February, 1889, the Rev. Price Hughes stated, at a Liberal meeting in St. James's Hall, that there were people living in single rooms in Soho, "the rent of which varied from 5s. 6d. to 8s. a week" and there can be no doubt, at the present time, that in the central districts of London 4s. 6d. is a "moderate" rent for a single room, 5s. being the usual price paid. But, to get a fair idea of the enormity of these rack rents, we have to consider what is the income of the people inhabiting these wretched dens. This we are also able to give from the report of the Commission, in which we are told that "a large class of the persons whose earnings are at the lowest point are the costermongers and hawkers, whose average appears to be not more than 10s. or 12s. a week. This represents continuous toil, and although the occupation is a most precarious one, yet it is not rendered so by days and seasons of idleness—as is the case of occupations about to be mentioned—but it is dependent upon the state of the market. The average of labourers' wages among the residents in Clerkenwell is said to be about 16s. a week; and this, of course, means that there are many who earn less." To these we must add the docker with his 13s. a week (at the time the Commission was sitting he earned some 8s. or 9s.) and the slum landlord has since taken advantage of his unwonted "prosperity" to raise his rent. With what joy the people earning these starvation wages must behold 4s. 6d. or 5s. of their scanty pittance—hardly sufficient in itself to provide even a small family with sufficient food—going weekly into the pockets of the slum landlord!

The condition of the dwellings in which the people live who pay these exorbitant rents is also worthy of attention. We have a vigorous picture of these horrible dens in the "Bitter Cry," a picture which was terribly confirmed by many of the facts elicited by the Commissioners, and by other independent inquiries into the subject. No vision of hell by poet, fanatic, or prophet could be more fearful or horrifying. Say the writers of this pamphlet:—Few who will read these pages have any conception of what these pestilential human rookeries are, where tens of thousands are crowded together, amidst horrors which call to mind what we have heard of the middle passage of the slave ship. To get into them you have to penetrate courts reeking with poisonous and malodorous gases arising from the accumulations of sewage and refuse scattered in all directions, and often flowing beneath your feet; courts, many of them, which the sun never penetrates, which are never visited by a breath of fresh air, and which rarely know the virtues of a drop of cleansing water. You have to ascend rotten staircases, which threaten to give way beneath every step, and which in some places have already broken down, leaving gaps that imperil the limbs and the lives of the unwary. You have to grope your way along dark and filthy passages swarming with vermin. Then, if you are not driven back by an intolerable stench, you may gain admittance to the dens in which these thousands of beings herd together. . . . Eight feet square—that is about the average size of very many of these rooms. Walls and ceiling are black with the secretions of filth which have gathered upon them through long years of neglect. It is exuding through the cracks in the boards overhead; it is running down the walls; it is everywhere. What goes by the name of a window is half of it stuffed with rags or covered with boards to keep out wind and rain; the rest is so begrimed and obscured that scarcely can light enter or anything be seen outside." That this frightful picture is hardly exaggerated the evidence given before the Commission and the recent County Council report concerning the Boundary Street Area proves only too well.

(To be continued.)

NOTES.

As we stated last week, Labouchere's account of the revolt of the Coldstreams is the correct one. He declares in *Truth* for August 1st, that his original narrative has been verified by full inquiry, and he demands an official inquiry which would only confirm the truth of what he has published. But of course the Government won't grant anything of the kind; the Government is not anxious to prove what infernal liars the "military gentlemen" were who supplied the papers with that lying account. We learn also from *Truth* that the Coldstreams not only threw a bench at the head of the serjeant-major, and demanded the release of their comrades, but they further "threatened to release them by force" if their demands were not conceded. After this threat the officers gave in, and at once released the prisoners. As the *Star*

points out: "the Coldstream's mutiny was obviously a more serious affair than that of the Grenadiers. It shows that not only are the men insubordinate, but that their officers are AFRAID of them.

But why are the officers afraid? Because they know that if the Coldstreams had carried out their threat, and released their imprisoned comrades by force, there is not a single regiment in London whom they could have depended upon to put down the revolt. Thus far has Anarchist and Socialist propaganda brought the troops. So frightened are the authorities that they dare not bring the brave Guards to London, who first set the example of revolt to all the army, for fear the great public reception they would have from the working people would induce the whole army to rise in rebellion. So the Guards are sent to Dover and kept out of the way of the people. It is possible though for Anarchist leaflets to reach them even there.

There is a curious parallel in dates between the revolt of the French Guards in 1789, and the mutiny of the Coldstreams. The revolt of the French Guards occurred on Sunday, July 12th, 1789, when they fired into Lambesc's dragoons who were returning from slaughtering the people; the revolt of the Coldstreams happened on Monday, July 13th, 1891. Perhaps the day will come when the Coldstreams will also send a volley of lead among the butchers of the poor. It is a notorious fact that the heartiest cheering always came from the Coldstreams when the labour processions marched by the barracks. Perhaps this was the reason the Government asked their "dear friends," the labour leaders, to alter the routes of their processions. They incited the troops to mutiny you see, and that must be stopped. Eh, Messrs. Shipton, Mann, & Co.?

Our labour leaders are "not revolutionists." Oh dear no, if they were, there would not be thousands of people starving down at the docks at the present time. If they were "revolutionists" the present system of society, which is ripe for rottenness for destruction, would not last much longer. There are some more curious parallels between present events and those of the French Revolution. When the King and the Court, alarmed at the progress of the revolutionary movement, wished to calm the tempestuous waves, which threatened to overwhelm them, they bribed the Mirabeaus and the Dantons to preach "moderation." It looks very much as if the capitalists were playing the same game with the leaders of the people, not only in England, but in other countries also.

Still we should like to ask Mr. Tom Mann, who sits on the Royal Labour Commission, and is "not a revolutionist," whether it is true that there are more people starving at the docks now, than even in 1886, that frightful hunger year famous for "Black Monday." We should also like to ask the people who gave their money so freely to benefit the casual docker, whether they are aware that the result of the "tactics" of the leaders pursued since the strike, has been to improve the "condition" of the casual docker by crushing him out of the docks altogether, his place being taken by "blacklegs" (permanent men) from the country and Central London. Thanks to this arrangement, Mr. Hankey, the Chairman of the East and West India Docks Company, was able to announce at the meeting of shareholders on Tuesday, July 28th, that thanks to their "considerable staff of permanent men" and "registered labourers" i.e., all blacklegs, they had been able to reduce the number employed from between 8,000 and 9,000 to 6,000. This has been very beneficial to the Dock Company, as their expenditure has decreased by £70,000, and as a result their profit showed an increase of £32,000, although there has been a considerable decrease in the number of ships entering the docks. Glorious news for pot-bellied directors and shareholders. We wonder that they did not move a vote of thanks to Messrs. Mann and Tillet for preventing a strike by sacrificing the casual docker last November. Whether the starving men who have had their homes broken up and can see their wives and children grow thin and haggard with hunger, feel equally grateful is another question.

But if a strike had occurred at the docks last winter, there might have been disturbances and riot. The people might have been shot down by the troops or middle class volunteers, and East London might have been illuminated by the glare of burning warehouses fired by desperate men. Thanks to the leaders all this has been prevented. The Government has done well to put Mr. Tom Mann on the Royal Labour Commission. But take care, gentlemen of the middle classes, you may see blazing mansions in the West End this year, and not all your "Royal Labour Commissioners" will help you. Even the casual docker will not always starve in quiet. N.

IS IT ANY DIFFERENT HERE?

THE baccarat scandal has furnished food for thousands of vigorous articles in the American press in condemnation of English monarchy. It has been very justly pointed out that the Prince of Wales and his boon companions are the products of the monarchical system under which an idle class are encouraged to imagine that the world was made for them, and that the rest of society only exists for the benefit of the privileged classes. American public opinion is practically a unit in condemning monarchy as a system which, by exalting one family above

the rest of the community and placing enormous wealth at their disposal while relieving them from the responsibilities attaching to ordinary citizens, furnishes them with every incentive to lead lives of uselessness, luxury, and debauchery. The surprising part of the matter is that while every amateur moralizer and cross-roads journalist can see that the Prince of Wales' evil courses are due to a vicious system by which he is maintained in luxury on the labour of others, hardly any of these sapient critics, who are so keenly alive to the demerits of monarchical institutions as tending to foster vice and profligacy, can follow out the matter to its logical conclusion. The Prince of Wales is probably not a bit worse than the average man of wealth and leisure. "Society" in both Europe and America abounds in just such individuals, who, having ample means, no useful occupations, and a natural tendency towards vicious pursuits, spend their lives in the pursuit of pleasure and devote their days and nights to eating and drinking, gambling and debauchery. Obviously, if the vices of the Prince of Wales are chargeable against the monarchical system, the equally reprehensible habits of the "Four Hundred" of New York, the "pleasant vices" of the men and women of the privileged classes everywhere, are equally due to the social system which enables some to live on the labour of others. It ill becomes Americans to throw stones at Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, and his dissolute companions of the British aristocracy, while they at the same time uphold a system which in every large city is rearing by the thousand men and women who imitate the vices of European courts, and who, if they are not called princes, lords or ladies, enjoy practically the same privileges of living simply to enjoy themselves as parasites upon industry.

Journal of the Knights of Labour.

A MESSAGE FROM PRISON.

OUR Comrade John Most sends the following eloquent denunciation of the capitalistic Republic of America from his prison cell. We quote it, as it shows our comrade's courage is undaunted by his cruel and shameful imprisonment:—

"TO THE WORKING PEOPLE ASSEMBLED IN COOPER'S INSTITUTE,
NEW YORK.

Friends and Comrades: You have assembled to finally begin a campaign that must no longer be delayed if the enslavement of the people is to be prevented without resorting to all possible means of resistance. It behoves us, in defence of the most natural and fundamental of all rights—the right to think and communicate our thoughts to others—to take action in behalf of free speech that is in danger. The tools of the robber and murder classes that by cunning and force have transformed these United States into their private property and the masses of the people into vassals, heap shame upon shame and crime upon crime. The best representatives of the oppressed they choke to death on the gallows or take their lives by means of the club, revolver, or bayonet. They drag strikers and boycotters to the dungeon. They use their power to transform this so-called "republic" into a huge penitentiary. Their own constitution they trample upon. Their tyranny knows no bounds.

My own case is only a symptom in the development of infamy, but it nevertheless shows vividly to what degree the infamies of these capitalistic banditti have progressed. They tend, as it appears, to create in the thinking portion of the working population, that hatred, courage, energy, and enthusiasm that are essential to successfully operate against the ruling mob and banditti.

This consciousness makes it easy for me to bear with pride the injustice I have been subjected to at present. It is with enthusiasm that I shall later on put myself into your ranks again, to give truth its due with all my power and relentlessly to participate, in the warfare against all that enslaves us, against the political scoundrels and social exploiters, against Church and State, and for perfect liberty and Communism.

Comrades, forward against the enemy with vehemence! Yes, it is time to check the capitalistic conspirators! Act, before it is too late. Hurrah for the Social Revolution!

JOHN MOST.
Tombs, June 19th, 1891."

Readers of the *Commonweal* in the United States can obtain it weekly from Comrade Metzkw, P.O.B. 29, Mount Oliver, Alleghany County, Pa.

WANTED 100 to 1000 comrades to join and strengthen the Anti-Broker Brigade. For particulars apply to W. G. C., office of this paper.

A SEVERE WINTER is inevitable, therefore advertiser is making preparations accordingly. Anyone wishing to join him in forming a Help Yourself Brigade should apply to T. P., office of this paper.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS AND EXCHANGES.

The 'COMMONWEAL' being now the property of the newly-constituted London Socialist League, all communications should be addressed, "The Secretary, 273, Hackney Road, London, N.E.," and remittances made payable at Post Office, Hackney Road.

NOTICES.

LONDON.

Commonweal Club.—273, Hackney Road, N.E. Lectures every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Admission free. Membership: 1s. entrance fee, and 6d. per month subscription.
Club Autonomie.—6, Windmill Street, Tottenham Court Road. Young Anarchists meet every Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.
International Club.—40, Berner Street, Commercial Road, E. Discussion Class every Tuesday evening at 8.30.
South London.—Comrades willing to help in forming a South London Group of the Socialist League should communicate with G. Atterbury, Clayton House Manor Place, Walworth Road, S.E.

PROVINCES.

Aberdeen.—Revolutionary Socialist Federation. Meetings are held in Oddfellows Small Hall, Crooked Lane, on Tuesday evenings at 8.
Dundee.—Anarchist-Communist Group. For information apply to Wm. Reekie, 15 Ann Street.
Edinburgh.—Scottish Socialist Federation. Club Rooms, 333 High Street, Edinburgh. J. Pearson, Secretary.
Glasgow.—The Socialist League meets every alternate Friday at 20 Adelphi Street, S.S. Lectures and Discussions.
Hull.—Club Liberty, 1 Beets Court, Blanket Row.
Leeds.—Socialist League Club, 1 Clarendon Buildings and Front Row, Victoria Road. Open every evening. Business meeting Fridays at 8.—International Educational Club, near St. James's Hall, York Street. Open every evening. Lectures every Saturday at 4. All kinds of Socialist literature for sale at both clubs.
Leicester.—Room No. 7, Co-operative Hall, High Street. Members meet on Friday at 8 p.m. Lecture in the Spiritualist Hall, Silver Street, every Sunday at 6.30.
Manchester.—Socialist League Club, 60 Grosvenor Street, All Saints. Open every evening. Weekly meeting on Tuesdays at 8.
Nottingham.—Socialist Club, Woodland Place, Upper Parliament Street. Club contribution, 1d. per week; Dancing every Wednesday, 8 till 10.30—fee 3d.
Norwich.—Members' meeting held every Tuesday at 8.30.
Oxford.—Temperance Hall, 25½ Pembroke Street. First Friday in every month, at 8.30 p.m.
Sheffield.—Socialist Club, 47 Westbar Green. French Class, Tuesday at 8.30. Discussion Class, Wednesday at 8.30.
Walsall.—Socialist Club, 18 Goodall Street, Walsall. Meetings every night.
Yarmouth.—Socialist League Club, 56 Row, Market Place. Open every evening Business Meeting, Tuesday at 8. Singing Practice, Wednesday at 8.30. Discussion Class, Thursday at 8.30. Elocution Class, Friday at 8.30.

OPEN-AIR PROPAGANDA.

London.—Sunday: Regent's Park and Hackney Triangle at 11.30; Hyde Park and Victoria Park at 3.30. Saturday: Hyde Park at 7.30.
Aberdeen.—Sunday: Castle Street, at 6.45 p.m.
Edinburgh.—Sunday: Leith Links at 2; Meadows at 6.
Glasgow.—Sunday: Paisley Road Toll and St. George's Cross at 5 p.m.
Leeds.—Sunday: Market Gates, Kirkgate, at 11.30 a.m. and 7 p.m.
Leicester.—Sunday: Russell Square, at 10.45 a.m., Market Place at 6.15, and Hummerstone Gate at 8 p.m.
Liverpool.—Landing Stage, Sundays at 11.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Manchester.—Saturday: Middleton market ground, at 7 p.m. Sunday: Philips Park Gates, at 11; Stevenson Square, at 3. Monday: Market Street, Blackley, at 8.
Nottingham.—Sunday: Sneinton Market, at 11 a.m.; Great Market, at 7 p.m.
Norwich.—Saturday: Haymarket, at 8. Sunday: Market Place at 11, 3, and 7.30.
Sheffield.—Sunday: Monolith, Fargate, at 11.30; West Bar, at 11.30; Newhall Road, Attercliffe, at 11.30; Grimsthorpe, at 11.30; Rotherham, at 3; Woodhouse, at 3; West Bar, at 8; Attercliffe Road, at 8.
Yarmouth.—Sunday: Priory Plain, at 11; Fish Wharf, at 3; Hall Quay, at 7.

Comrades and friends in Sheffield willing to support the Sheffield Anarchist School, please communicate to Cyril Bell, at 47, West Bar Green. Adults and children of either sex admitted. Fees voluntary.

The Anarchist Conference was very successful. Crowded meeting; great interest and enthusiasm shown by all our friends who were present. Full report next week.

MONOPOLY: or, How Labour is Robbed. By William Morris. 10th Thousand, Price One Penny.

USEFUL WORK v. USELESS TOIL. By William Morris. Price One Penny. To be obtained of all Anarchist Groups.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST SCHOOL, 19, Fitzroy Street, Fitzroy Square, W. Conducted by Louise Michel and A. Coulon. Free Education in English, French, and German. Any friend taking an interest in the School can now obtain a portrait group of teachers and scholars on application to A. Coulon, Secretary, at above address.

TO LET, for Trade Union Meetings, Lectures, &c., three nights a week, the Large Hall of the London Socialist League, 273, Hackney Road. For particulars apply to the Secretary.

Remittances to the Secretary should be sent in postal orders or halfpenny stamps.

Comrades and Sympathisers can each do something to help the Cause, and those unable to help otherwise can subscribe to our Fund for the propagation of Anarchist Communism in the Army and Navy. Subscriptions addressed to the Secretary will be duly acknowledged in the *Commonweal*.

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